

Research Studies Board. FUN

Practical Skills in Laboratory Animal Science, MEPFFV1

1.5 credits

Third cycle

General information

This is a course focusing on practical skills within laboratory animal science.

Language of instruction

Swedish or English

Aim

The aim of the course is to provide practical skills in handling two selected kinds of animal within laboratory animal science. The skills element of the course is integrated with theoretical arguments and principles within laboratory animal science. The course is compulsory for students planning to include animal experiments in their research.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the participants shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- describe different aspects of species-specific management, including checks of environment, living conditions, enrichment, diet, health status and disease.
- identify species-specific manifestations of discomfort, pain, suffering and distress in selected laboratory animals.
- describe appropriate principles and different methods of euthanasia for selected laboratory animals.

Competence and skills:

- handle and restrain selected laboratory animals in accordance with established practice.
- perform or simulate minor interventions, such as injections (dosage), on selected laboratory animals.
- demonstrate the required skills to kill selected laboratory animals.

Judgement and approach:

- discuss principles and concepts concerned with the handling of laboratory animals in accordance with established scientific practice.
- demonstrate a respectful and considerate approach to laboratory animals and their tissues.

Course content

The students will complete the practical component of the course in an animal testing facility where the teaching will take place. The teaching will deal with handling, restraint, dosage, blood sampling and euthanasia for selected laboratory animals.

Course design

The course is designed as an oral and practical overview of basic skills in laboratory animal science at a facility for laboratory animals. Students will receive immediate feedback and supervision in the context of the practical components.

Assessment

The theoretical knowledge is assessed through a written exam. The skills component is assessed after an oral introduction and an opportunity for practical exercise, individually or in a group. The student must have passed the course *Swedish legislation and ethics for laboratory animal science* and a species-specific laboratory animal course to be allowed to take the examination.

Grades

The grades awarded are Pass or Fail.

Admission requirements

The participant must be admitted to third-cycle education at the Faculty of Medicine or the equivalent and have passed the course *Swedish legislation and ethics for laboratory animal science*, MESLEF1.

Reading list

The reading list mainly consists of online study resources and a compendium of texts made available when the student applies for the course.