CHARACTERIZING SUCCESS OF THE UF AQUATIC ANIMAL MEDICINE CERTIFICATE

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Aquatic Animal Medicine

- A subspecialty of the American College of Zoological Medicine

- Includes components of fish & invertebrate medicine, marine mammal medicine and other "charismatic megavertebrates"

- Can involve production medicine, zoo medicine and conservation or environmental medicine
Aquatic Animal Health
Program – History

- 2000 - funding Florida state statute
  “For training on the care, treatment, and rehabilitation of marine mammals”

- Expanded student training beyond marine mammal

- Stranding, rehabilitation, environmental concerns

- NAVMEC
Aquatic Animal Medicine Certificate

- 15 credits
- For UF veterinary students only

Core Required – 9 cr
- Diseases of Warm Water Fish (3 cr)
- Sea Vet Clinical Training (3 cr)
- Topics in Aquatic Animal Health (1 cr)

Choice of either:
- Externship (2 cr)
- Research project (2 cr)

http://aquatic.vetmed.ufl.edu/education/programs/aah-certificate/
Aquatic Animal Medicine Certificate

Elective Courses

Face to face:
- Marine Mammal Medicine (Fall, Sr yr.)
- Diseases of Warmwater Fish Lab (Sum)

Online:
- Aquatic Wildlife Health Issues (Spr)
- Manatee Health & Conservation (Sum)
- Aquatic Animal Conservation Issues (Fall)
- Fish & Invertebrate Histology (Spr-odd yrs)
- Intro to Aquaculture (Spr)
AAM Certificate Students

Ave 89%
Ave 76%
Ave 41%
AAM Certificate Students

82% Mean Completion Rate
AAM Certificate Students

Student Applications, Certificate Awarded, Aq Prof

Student Numbers

- Applications
- Certificate Awarded
- In Aquatic Profession
Topics within the classes

- Diversity of species in Primary Electives
  - 9 invert lect (shell fish, shrimp, and corals)
  - 9 reptile lect (crocs and sea turtles)
  - 3 amphibian lect (frogs)
  - 2 aq birds
- Critically evaluating literature
  - Topics in Aq An Hlth (moved to core)
- Preventative Med
  - DWWF, Intro Aquaculture, SeaVet
New items to potentially implement

- Exit survey
- Non-technical training
  - communication (difficult dialogs),
  - team work
  - time management
  - More active learning (vs. exam only)
- More structured mentoring
  - More effective tracking
  - Improved relationships
Questions?
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