

The WSU CVM Diagnostic Challenge

Master Timeline



1st Year

Introductory Module: This module is an interactive educational resource for incoming 1st year students! It was designed to answer the most common introductory questions surrounding the DC Experience.

Spring Semester

Clinical Reasoning Course: The Clinical Reasoning Course is offered during spring semester of your 1st year of veterinary school. This course will introduce you to some important concepts that will be beneficial to you both during the DCs in your second year of school and throughout your medical career. You will learn how to obtain accurate medical information confidently, as well as be introduced to the various methodologies of clinical reasoning and a Problem-Based Medical Record, otherwise known as POMR.

2nd Year

Summer Between 1st & 2nd Year

Create-A-Case Assignment: The Create-A-Case assignment will be introduced to you during the summer following your 1st year of school, sometime in late July or early August. You will be creating two clinical cases based on two different diseases that relate to your first few class subjects in the Systemic Pathology course. Notably, one gastrointestinal disease and one liver disease. The specific diseases will be assigned to you. Don't worry, you will be able to pick your species preference for your clinical cases via an online survey.

Fall Semester: September

Systemic Pathology Course: The Systemic Pathology course offered during fall semester of your 2nd year, helps prepare you for the DCs. Therefore, some of the Systemic Pathology assignments contribute to your overall performance grade in the Diagnostic Challenge.

Create-A-Case Presentations: The Create-A-Case presentations give you a chance to share the clinical cases you came up with during your Create-A-Case assignment. Throughout the fall you will be assigned two specific Systemic Pathology lab sessions to present your gastrointestinal and liver cases to your lab group.

SOAP Practice: SOAP stands for subjective, objective, assessment and plan and is used to develop a medical record. You will have the opportunity to practice your SOAPing skills before your DCs. In the fall you will be given access to the Problem Oriented Medical Record (POMR) module which will help guide you through a SOAP practice assignment. You will receive valuable feedback on your practice SOAPs before your DC adventure begins.

Species Preference Survey: Throughout this process, you will receive an online survey via email which will allow you to rank your species preferences for both DC#1 and DC#2. Your clinical case teams are assigned based on this survey and most students will be placed in their 1st or 2nd species choice. You will also get the opportunity to state any species you **do not** want to be assigned to.

Fall Semester: October

Pre-DC1 Exercises: Before the start of your DC #1 experience, you will work through the interactive DC Orientation Module which is designed to help familiarize you with the DC student website and give you a detailed idea of what to expect during DC week.

The week before the start of DC1, you will assemble into your predetermined clinical student teams where you will work through various group activities that focus on highlighting your individual strengths and help your team set overall expectations for the upcoming week.

Diagnostic Challenge #1

The DC is a week-long experience where you will work as a team of 5-6 other students with a client and veterinary facilitator volunteers to work through a diagnostic case. This week ends with Grand Rounds where each student team will present their case to their classmates and volunteers.

Post-DC1 Exercises: Immediately after both DC1 and DC2, you and each of your clinic teams will be expected to assemble, either in person or virtually, to give each other verbal and/or written feedback about your performance as a team member and your work with your client. You will be given the opportunity to use a point grading system to evaluate each of your teammates individually and anonymously – after all this is a team effort! These points will be used as part of your overall DC grade.

Fall Semester: November

Pre-DC2 Exercises: Much like the Pre-DC1 exercises, you will assemble into your newly assigned DC#2 teams to work through some group activities - this time focusing less on highlighting your individual strengths but more on your team's impact on client communication and interaction.

Diagnostic Challenge #2

The DC is a week-long experience where you will work as a team of 5-6 other students with a client and veterinary facilitator volunteers to work through a diagnostic case. This week ends with Grand Rounds where each student team will present their case to their classmates and volunteers.

Post-DC2 Exercises: see above under “Post-DC1 Exercises” for more information.

3rd Year

Summer Between 2nd & 3rd Year

DC Summer Internship: Summer DC interns will work closely with faculty to complete various projects aimed at improving student, client and facilitator learning and engagement during the DCs training process and beyond. This summer internship is a competitive, **part-time, paid position.**

DC Case Development: Not only can you work on DC modules, but you can also apply to develop your very own DC Case. A handful of students will be selected for the opportunity. This position comes with a one-time **stipend** for your efforts! It is an excellent chance to engage in the DC program, expand your knowledge base, and work alongside an advisor.