Day One

Introduction (10 min)

- Introduction of speakers, and explanation of course materials and format

Introduction to Wildlife Medicine, Regulations, Ethics & Euthanasia (1 hr)

- What is wildlife medicine?
- Different branches of wildlife medicine
- Wildlife Rehabilitation Medicine
  - What it is; Who does it / working with rehabilitators; Professional
  - Organizations; Ethics; Legalities; Triage overview; Release considerations

Approach to wildlife patient (1 hr)

- Stress; Restraint; Triage; Physical examination; Anesthesia (brief)

Critical care, bandaging, fluid therapy, wound management (brief overview of each) (1 hr)

Lunch…

Wet lab (3 hr)

- Assorted mammal & avian carcasses
- Students work individually or in pairs
  - Species identification
    - Physical examination & Anatomy
  - Fluid therapy/injection sites
    - SQ, IM & IV injections; SQ, IV, IO, IC, and PO fluid administration
  - Bandaging / Fracture immobilization
    - Wing wraps, leg splints, thermoplastics; Species considerations
  - Anatomy/necropsy
    - Necropsy procedures; Organ identification; Description of lesions
    - Identification of parasites found; Comparative anatomy

Day Two

Captive management (1/2 hr)

- Stress
- Nutrition
  - Temporary vs. long–term; Dealing with emaciation; Refeeding syndrome
  - Approximating natural diets in the wild; Vitamin supplementation
- Housing
Emphasis on temporary housing, i.e., what is appropriate for an animal when it is 1st brought to a veterinarian, and also considerations for animals in rehabilitation. Conditioning prior to release.

Orphan care (1/2 hr) –

- Returning/reuniting/fostering young to the wild
- Identifying infants truly in need of care
- Temporary care (fluids, heat, diet, etc., until rehabilitator is located)
- Emphasis on mammals and birds

Diseases (2½ hr) – Turtles (30min); Birds (1 hr); Mammals (1 hr)

- Infectious (viral, bacterial, fungal, parasitic, prion)
- Zoonotic (emphasis on careful housing and hygiene
- Toxins (heavy metals, pesticides, botulism, environmental; dealing with a large-scale toxic event or individual animals)
- Common injuries

Lunch…

Case studies (what to do if…) (1hr)

- Common problems and diagnostics
- Interactive to get students thinking: history provided and students generate differentials, diagnoses, and treatment options

Lab (2 hr) Solving the Mysteries!

This activity consists of stations, each of which contains a case history and a “clue.” Working individually or in groups, the students use the information provided in the history, together with the physical article (a radiograph, a preserved sample in a jar, a specimen under a microscope, an animal artifact, a photo, etc.) to answer a series of questions. Some questions may address diagnostic steps, others may address treatment options, while others may address disease pathophysiology or transmission. The workshop ends with a short review and discussion of each case. The information provides the students with a course of action to treat and rehabilitate the animal (bird, mammal, or herp) mentioned in each case.