

**VETERINARY MASSAGE
AND
REHABILITATION THERAPY**



PROGRAM

Copyright 1999-Infinity; Healing Oasis Wellness Center, LLC
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a
retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic,
mechanical photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written
permission of the copyright owner
Revised October 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Table of contents	2
Letter to the prospective students:	3
Mission Statement & Philosophy of School	4
Information about the founders & staff:	4
Information about the center:	5
Nondiscrimination law information:	5
Licensing information:	6
Approval:	6
Confidentiality of records:	6
Admission requirements:	7
Academic curriculum:	8
Financial information:	9
About the program:	9
Performance Evaluation:	10
Classroom conduct:	10
Complaint Procedure	11
Attendance requirements:	11
Withdrawal from program:	11
Career opportunities:	12
Library:	12
Directions:	12

Dear Professional Student:

The Healing Oasis Wellness Center welcomes your interest in expanding your knowledge of integrative therapies for animals. It is a well accepted fact that the public's demand for competent practitioners of alternative / complementary therapies have been increasing in recent years. The Healing Oasis Wellness Center is unique in providing treatment modalities in both conventional and alternative therapies, drawing from both western and eastern philosophies. Our co-founders have over 35 years combined experience in delivering and teaching these services.

As of today, the veterinary medical and veterinary technician schools have not met the need or demand for these modalities. However, there has been an increase in week or weekend courses given to lay people, which are trying to meet these demands. Even though this is commendable, it is our belief that the public would be better served (as well as protected) if knowledgeable licensed health care professionals are the ones providing these services.

We know that our course curriculum will meet and exceed the demands for knowledge in these modalities. The small class size will give you and us the very best educational experience in a caring and nurturing environment. As in any post-graduate professional school, you would not only learn from the instructors, but the instructors and classmates will benefit from your experience and knowledge as well.

We hope that you are ready to expand your knowledge and horizons in these modalities. Although it will be a long and arduous journey, once conquered, you will feel that it was a very worth while journey.

Sincerely;

Pedro Luis Rivera, D.V.M.
Program Director, Faculty and Owner

Michelle J. Rivera, M.T.,V.D.T.
Program Director, Faculty and Owner

MISSION STATEMENT AND PHILOSOPHY FOR THE HEALING OASIS WELLNESS CENTER

The Healing Oasis Wellness Center (HOWC) is an educational institution dedicated to the advancement and teaching of the knowledge base (both theoretical and practical) in Veterinary Spinal Manipulative Therapy; Advance Neurology in Veterinary Spinal Manipulation and Veterinary Massage and Rehabilitation Therapy. The Healing Oasis Wellness Center is also committed to providing up to date continuing education on different aspects of the above said programs. The HOWC will strive and search for approval by higher Educational Boards at the state and national level.

ABOUT THE CO-FOUNDERS:

Dr. Pedro Luis Rivera graduated from Nuestra Señora del Pilar High School in Puerto Rico (1979) and Purdue University, School of Veterinary Medicine in 1986. He has been practicing holistic veterinary medicine for the last 10 years. He has successfully completed the certification program from the Options for Animals Veterinary Chiropractic Center, which is approved by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association (AVCA). He has also completed all requirements for the Diplomat program sponsored by the AVCA. He was an instructor at the Options for Animals Veterinary Chiropractic Center from 1993 to 1999. Dr Rivera has also attended the advance neurology classes offered by the Carrick Institute. He was an active participant in the Alternative / Complementary Therapy Modality Committee from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) which was activated in 1996 and 1999. He has also successfully completed Level I and II from the New England School of Homeopathy. He offers chiropractic, massage, physical therapy, Chinese herbology, western herbology and glandular therapy modalities to all of the patients that seek his help. He is an international speaker on the topics of chiropractic, massage, rehabilitation therapy, western herbology and glandular (organ therapy) modalities. Co-owner of the Healing Oasis Wellness Center.

Michelle J. Rivera, V.D.T., Graduated from SUNY at Farmingdale and received her massage therapy training from The Chi Energy Center, in Madison, WI. She successfully finished the Chinese herbology course work from the Wisconsin Institute of Chinese Herbology and has added these modalities to the array of services that she and Dr. Rivera have been offering to their patients and clients at their veterinary hospital since 1993. She was an instructor at the Wisconsin Institute of Chinese Herbology Veterinary Herbal Course and she is currently the main instructor at the Veterinary Chinese Herbology classes from the Healing Oasis Wellness Center. Michelle has also been practicing Feng Shui for the last 8 years. She follows the Black Hat Tantric Sect

philosophy as taught by Professor Lin Yun. In 1998 she traveled to Beijing, China and completed a clinic and lecture certificate program in Chinese herbology at the China-Beijing International Acupuncture Training Center. Co-owner of the Healing Oasis Wellness Center.

ABOUT THE STAFF:

The staff and co-founders 45 years of combined experience in their field of special interest, will allow the students to take advantage from an array of knowledge and clinical experiences that is second to none.

ABOUT THE CENTER:

The Healing Oasis Wellness Center in Sturtevant, Wisconsin, is an accredited educational institution offering Post-Graduate Professional Certification Program in Integrative / Complementary Therapy Modalities and to the best of our knowledge, the first of its kind in the North American Continent. The course consists of 138 hours of post-graduate training that is designed to meet and exceed not only local but national standards as well.

The Center is located in a small town in the Southeast part of Wisconsin. It has easy access to the “interstate” system and there are plenty of hotels and stores within a 2 mile radius. **The physical location of the Center is 2555 Wisconsin St., Sturtevant, WI, 53177 (262-898-1680; 262-886-6460Fax).** It consists of a 7000 sq. ft. building, with 3500 sq. ft. of those being used as a holistic veterinary hospital, 2000 sq. ft. of lecture facility and the rest is divided between the snack room, kitchen room and restrooms services.

The class size will be kept small so that a more personal and relaxed learning environment is maintained.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Healing Oasis Wellness Center is in compliance with all requirements imposed by or pursuant to *Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964* and the regulations issued thereunder, to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, sexual preference or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity sponsored at this institution

LICENSING OF INTEGRATIVE / COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES:

To this day, there is no governmental body that oversees any of the alternative / complementary therapies offered to non-human animals.

It is up to the ethical values of the individual to pursue the best post-graduate program to her / his knowledge.

In the near future, The Healing Oasis Wellness Center will become involved at the national and state level to make the state boards, licensing boards, national and state organizations (both on the veterinary medical field and licensed health care field) aware of the minimal requirements that should be included in the curriculum of any institution or program that is being offered to professionals regarding these modalities.

SCHOOL ACCREDITATION AND APPROVAL:

The Healing Oasis Wellness Center is ACCREDITED by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education) and all of the programs offered at the school are approved by the Educational Approval Board of the State of Wisconsin.

The school has also received other approvals by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards – RACE (for CE; ID#87) and by other national associations.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS:

The Healing Oasis Wellness Center is aware of the confidential nature of student's records, both personal and academic; therefore, the school exercise's extreme care and concern in recording and maintaining information. Such information will not be released to unauthorized persons or agencies without written consent from the student. The Center recognizes the student's right to access her or his own records. The school maintains attendance, examination and teacher progress reports on all students. These will be held for 5 years. After the 5 yr. period only transcripts are kept.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

The following requirements are the minimum necessary that the staff feels would allow a student to pursue a successful path in this field.

1. Must be a licensed / registered or certified: Veterinarian, Veterinary Technician, Massage Therapist, Nurse or Physical Therapist
2. Professionals registering from outside the North American continent please provide copy of the pertinent Visa, Diploma and proper governmental licensure of the country that you are licensed and currently practicing
3. All applicants must include:
 - a. Copy of your current (not expired) state / provincial or governmental license or certification
 - b. Copy of your diploma
4. Two character reference letters, one from a non-family member and one from an employer
5. Two passport photos
6. All applicants must include a letter stating that you understand your states rules and regulations as they apply to integrative / complementary veterinary modalities
7. Include a **\$200.00** dollar deposit with the application form. The remaining of tuition (\$2,600.00) to be paid during the interview (**total of \$2,800.00**).

The application deadline is 3 weeks prior to the beginning of the scheduled classes.

A deposit of \$200.00 must be included with the application and the remaining tuition (\$2,600.00) due on the first day of school (for a total tuition of \$2,800.00). A non-refundable application fee of \$100.00 is included in the total tuition of the program. Since the school is not approved to provide financial aid, the remnant of tuition is due the first day of class.

The student will receive a letter (via USPS or email) confirming their reservation for this post-graduate training. **PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE ALL APPLICABLE ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS.**

A brief interview is required before the program is started. **The interview will be on the first day of the first module.** Interviews will be conducted on a first come, first serve basis.. **The Healing Oasis Wellness Center will offer no advanced standing for participants in weekend seminars, video taped seminars, correspondence seminars, “gained” experience or any type of seminars**

CORE CURRICULUM:

Anatomy: Review the names, location and function of each bone and muscle in the non-human animal body

TOTAL: 17HRS

Neurology: An essential part of massage is to understand and maintain a functional nervous system. This class will emphasize the function of the central nervous system and the peripheral nervous system.

TOTAL: 9 HRS

Physiology of Inflammation: This class will help the students understand the importance of the inflammatory process and how, even though it is a natural reaction of the body, can cause damage to the affected areas

TOTAL: 8 HRS

Rehabilitation Therapy and Massage Therapy: This class will be the core of the massage and rehabilitation training program. Students will learn the movements, techniques and treatment protocols for relaxation, therapeutic massage and therapeutic rehabilitation techniques (including exercise, electrical stimulation and ultrasound) used in both small and large animals.

TOTAL: 55 HRS

Reiki: A Japanese technique that focuses the practitioner's energy to balance the patients energy. Rather than manipulation of the body, it involves specific techniques in the laying of hands

TOTAL: 2 HRS

Shiatsu: A Japanese technique that is also known as acupressure. This technique utilizes the finger tips to stimulate specific acupuncture points to alleviate neuro-muscular problems

TOTAL: 2 HRS

TCM basics: The basic of traditional Chinese medicine, Tao, Taoism, Yin and Yang, triple warmer and some herbs will be discussed

TOTAL: 4 HRS

Nutrition: Nutrition plays an essential part in not only the healing but the functional mechanisms of the body. Various nutritional supplements and diets, their pro's and con's and how they work will be discussed in detail.

TOTAL: 4 HRS

Myology: This class will address all the changes that occurs not only at the cellular level during normal function, but will address pathological changes that the practitioner must always keep in mind.

TOTAL: 4 HRS

Biomechanics: This class will explain all the biomechanical changes that occur when the body performs not only normal functions, but while under stress, or as a compensatory changes after a massage

TOTAL: 6 HRS

Ethics and Legalities: This class will prepare the students to deal with the every day legal issues that are faced in conventional or integrative / complementary practice.
TOTAL: 5 HRS

Tui Na: This ancient Chinese form of massage which utilizes not only hands on but energy work, will be studied as it applies to animals
TOTAL: 2 HRS

Alternative / Complementary Therapy Modalities: Basic introductory lectures will be given, so that the practitioner will have the basic understanding of the what, when, where and how of some of these health care modalities
TOTAL: 9 HRS

Animal Handling: Basic animal handling (restraint) techniques will be reviewed to maximize the safety of both patient and practitioner so that effective massage techniques can be performed
TOTAL: 3 HRS

Case Management: Ideas and standard operating procedures will be given, so that case intake will become second nature and proper therapeutic protocols and a realistic prognosis can be achieved and communicated to the owners of our patients
TOTAL: 8 HRS

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

TOTAL COST FOR ENTIRE PROGRAM is \$2,800.00.

Payment is expected in full during registration day, interview day or first day of the first module.

Students will have a list of suggested textbooks (from which material will be utilized throughout the program) that can be purchased at the Center or through any bookstore.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

The curriculum consists of a total of 138 hours of supervised instruction. There would be homework that will be given during each module. It will consist of answering questions regarding specific readings. This homework will be reviewed and returned to each student by the end of the following module. Each student must present a total of 15 cases. A "case" constitutes either a patient that has been brought or referred to you for massage / rehabilitation therapy care; their primary complaint, objective findings, physical findings and treatment / progress plan.

A total of 4 modules will encompass a curriculum. Each module consists of 3 1/2 days beginning Thursdays (8:00am - 12pm, 1pm - 6pm), Friday (same

hours), Saturday (same hours) and Sunday (8:00am-12:00pm). Depending on the module, longer hours would be required.

The scheduled dates for the individual modules are as follows:

***PLEASE CONTACT OUR WEB SITE
(WWW.HEALINGOASIS.EDU) OR CALL OUR OFFICE (262-898-1680) FOR
CURRENT DATES AND SPACE AVAILABILITY***

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

Students are evaluated by a variety of methods that include written test, oral presentations, take home tests, and individual reports.

To successfully finish the program, a 76% minimal grade must be attained. Grading is as follows:

A = 93 - 100% B = 85 - 92% C= 76 - 84%

Fail = less than 76%

CLASSROOM CONDUCT:

As in any other professional school, professional standards are upheld:

1. No smoking on premises
2. No talking during lecture time
3. Respect each other's rights to have an education.
4. Respect each others belief and knowledge
5. Under no circumstances will any abuse or rough handling of animals be tolerated
6. Dishonesty is not tolerated (includes vandalism of school property)
7. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs in any part of the classroom or grounds at any time will not be tolerated or allowed
8. Disrespectful use of language or physical contact with individuals while involved in school related activities will not be tolerated

Any student, who doesn't comply with the above simple rules, can and will be dismissed.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURE:

All complaints regarding conduct, grading or any concerns; should be given in writing to either Dr. Pedro L. Rivera or Michelle J. Rivera, V.D.T. If the attendee doesn't feel that the complaint was dealt with correctly, then the next step would be to contact the Wisconsin Educational Approval Board at: c/o Mr. Pat Sweeney; Wisconsin Education Approval Board, 30 W. Mifflin St.; 9th Floor, Madison, WI 53708-7843 and / or the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training website and download Document 49.1 and follow the instructions (www.accet.org). ACCET's address is 17722 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

ATTENDANCE:

A 100% attendance is required for the lecture and technique classes. A student will be considered tardy for class if more than 20 minutes late. If a student is tardy 3 consecutive times, it will count as an absence. If a student knows they will be absent or tardy prior to class, they must call or inform the center for an excused absence.

Although leave of absence is not encouraged, there are certain extraordinary cases, such as death in the family or a severe illness, that will cause the student to miss classes. Extra tutorial time (at \$150.00 per hour) and make-up reading assignments and quizzes will be assigned to complete the missing work.

There are NO probational periods, students must complete all the required work.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PROGRAM:

If, for any reason, the student withdraws or is dismissed by the school prior to attending classes, there will be no charge to the student. All moneys except the application fee of \$100 will be reimbursed to the student.

The student will receive a full refund of all money paid (minus the deposit of \$100.00) if the student cancels within the first three days of the first module of the program.

A student who withdraws or is dismissed after attending at least one class, but before completing 60% of the program in the current enrollment period, is entitled to a pro rata refund as follows:

<u>AT LEAST</u>	<u>BUT LESS THAN</u>	<u>REFUND OF TUITION</u>
1 UNIT	10%	90%
10%	20%	80%

20%	30%	70%
30%	40%	60%
40%	50%	50%
50%	60%	40%
60%	NO	NO REFUND

As part of this policy, the school may retain a one time application fee of no more than \$100. The School will make every effort to refund prepaid amounts for books, supplies and other charges, as long as they have been returned in good condition. A student will receive the refund within 30 working days of termination date. If a student withdraws after completing 60% of the instruction, the school may refund a pro rata amount; if withdrawal is due to mitigating circumstances beyond the student's control, a written notice of withdrawal is not required.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

Upon graduation from the school students will be exceptionally qualified to offer a variety of professional services that can be used to enhance the quality of our pets and companions. All licensed health care professionals (licensed veterinary professionals and licensed health care professionals) will have to comply with their individual bylaws and regulation of the state that they are licensed to practice under.

The school will offer ethical and business lectures on how to use and how to market the newly acquired knowledge.

The Healing Oasis Wellness Center does not guarantee employment to any of the participants during or after the program. However, employment assistance will be offered through a job placement bulletin board and utilizing a referral list of students that have successfully completed the program.

LIBRARY:

The school has a book store which will have all of the suggested reading materials, and other "suggested" references and articles available to all of the students.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CENTER:

From Chicago, take I94 North (West) to Wisconsin. Take exit #335 (Hwy 11) and at the stop sign, take a right (going East). Go about 2.1 mile and you will see Wisconsin St. Take a left on Wisconsin St (going North) and 1/4 mile down the road (on East side or right side) you will see the Center.

From Milwaukee, take I94 South (East) to Hwy 20 (exit #333) and at the stop sign make a left (going East). Go about 2.5 - 3 miles to 96th St or Wisconsin St (Volkswagen Dealership on SE corner) and take a right (going South). The building would be on the East side (left side) of the road about 1/4 - 1/2 mile down the road.