



Post-Mortem Course Outline



Thank you for your interest in our Post-Mortem course! In this course outline you find more information about what this course entails. The PM course was designed by Dr Ulf Tubbesing.

Why this course?

Doing a Post-Mortem (PM) on a fresh carcass dramatically improves the chances of getting a correct diagnosis concerning the cause of death of an animal. This knowledge helps you to improve the general herd management, and possibly prevent a disease from spreading. Since Namibia is such a vast country, getting a vet in is not always practical. This PM course is designed to teach non-veterinarians the basic principles of doing a thorough and systematic PM, including sample collection and for possible further laboratory evaluation.

This course is meant for both livestock and game farmers as well as other interested people. After this course, you should be able to perform a basic PM and take appropriate photos as well as diagnostic samples. You can then send us the pertinent patient information, PM findings as well as samples and photos. We will examine them and, depending on need, send samples to a lab for further analysis. Once all the information is at hand, we interpret the results and will discuss the findings with you and provide you with treatment and management advice. In addition to helping you identify and manage animal diseases on your farm, your participation will also improve our general knowledge of diseases in Namibian wildlife/livestock.

The course is presented by wildlife veterinarian Dr Ulf Tubbesing and wildlife para-professional Mariska Bijsterbosch.

1



PM Course at Erindi; lecturing and performing a PM on a deceased African wild dog

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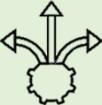
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Course schedule

In this 1.5-day course, mostly consisting of PowerPoint lectures, we will cover various topics relating to a PM examination. The course is concluded with a practical part where the participants do an actual PM.

A summary of the course schedule (note this may be subject to change):

Day 1:

Topic	What?
 Introduction to basic pathology	In this first lecture everybody introduces themselves, and can share some experiences. We clarify some definitions, and explain when you should NOT do a PM yourself. How to handle and dispose of a carcass will also be discussed.
 Anatomy and Physiology	Back to school! We will teach you (in a basic manner) where the organs are located, and what they do. When you understand the importance of different organs, you will also understand why sample collection is so important. We also explain which samples you should take.
 PM changes	When an animal dies, the body starts rotting. This process causes organs and tissues to change. Here we teach you how you can differentiate abnormal lesions, from lesions caused by the rotting process.
 PM Photography	Taking good photos is more difficult than it seems. We often get blurry, unclear photos with the question 'why did my animal die?'. We briefly discuss some basic photography tips, and then show you step by step how to take proper PM photos. Remember, you are our eyes, so the better your photos, the better we can help you. Besides this quick lecture we also practise taking photos.
 Basic PM kit	In this short lecture we explain what you should have ready when you want to conduct a PM.
 Diagnostic sample collection	Doing a PM is one thing, but your eyes cannot see everything. Under the microscope we can see so much more - proper sample collection is very important. In this lecture we explain and show you how to collect samples from a carcass. We will also practise how to make blood smears.
 Specific organ lesions	This is a "heavy" lecture, where we show many slides of all kinds of organ lesions and diseases you may encounter while doing a PM. Chances are you will get answers to quite a few things you observed but did not know what they mean.
 Case discussions	Depending on time and interest of the participants, we can discuss a few PM cases that you have encountered, and some interesting cases we have seen.

You learn about:

-  When (not) to do a PM – your safety first!
-  Carcass handling
-  Applied anatomy and physiology (where are the organs, what do they do etc.)
-  Components of a Basic PM kit
-  Doing a systematic and comprehensive PM
-  Sample collection (e.g. formalin, sterile swabs, blood smears, faecal impression) and handling
-  Proper reporting on patient history and PM findings
-  Basics of medical/forensic photography
-  Lesion identification and significance
-  Short intro to poaching and crime scene handling
-  Practical content: taking proper (medical) photos, making blood smears, PM demonstration



PM Course at AfriCat; external examination of an oryx

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Day 2

Topic	What?
 Poaching and crime scene handling	In this short 'teaser' lecture we explain what do (and NOT to do) to when you discover your animal is poached. In our 'Animal crime scene and evidence handling course' we explain this vast topic more in detail.
 The PM procedure	In this lecture we show and explain you step by step how a systematic PM is conducted.
 PM practical	After the lectures the participants will conduct a PM examination where we will assist you step by step. There will be plenty of time for questions. We also show you a document we made that will guide you through a PM when you do it yourself (we will give you a basic and extended 'how to do a PM' guide on a USB stick).

Venues

The course will be presented at two different venues:

SAROA Lodge 09 – 10 July

The course is held at SAROA Lodge, which is in the Nina district. The farm is about 155 km from Windhoek and 12 km from Nina. The lectures are given in the lapa of SAROA lodge. The practical training is done around the lodge.

You will be accommodated in rooms with en-suite bathroom.

3

In the mornings there will be a breakfast, followed by a light lunch, and dinner in the evening. Cool drinks and alcoholic beverages can be bought at the bar of the lodge. If you have any dietary requirements, please inform us to see if it is possible to cater for you. If not, we kindly ask you to bring your own special food.



Time: We start Saturday 09 July 09:00, and finish Sunday 10 July around lunch time. There is a possibility to sleep over the night before the course starts.

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Kifaru Bush Camp 11 – 12 May

The course is held at Kifaru Bush Camp, about 32km outside of Outjo. The lectures are given in a big hall, the practical training will be around the bush camp area.

You will be accommodated in rooms with an en-suite bathroom.

In the mornings there will be a breakfast, followed by a light lunch, and dinner in the evening. Please bring your own special (cool) drinks and alcoholic beverages. If you have any dietary requirements, please inform us to see if it is possible to cater for you. If not, we kindly ask you to bring your own special food.



Time: We start Wednesday 11 May 09:00, and finish Thursday 12 May around lunch time. There is a possibility to sleep over the night before the course starts.



You can combine this course with the **Animal crime scene & evidence collection course**, which is held directly after this course from 13-15 May. Click [here](#) to view the course outline.

4

Once you sign up for the course, we will give you a detailed route description to the venue.

What to bring with?

Besides a good mood and interested mind, we advise you to bring to following with:

- 🐾 Camera, spare batteries, charger
- 🐾 Notebook, pencil
- 🐾 Old clothes for the PM demonstration
- 🐾 Own special (soft)drinks and alcoholic beverages
- 🐾 Face mask



COVID-19

During the course we will respect and adhere to the ruling COVID-19 regulations as set out by the government. We kindly ask you to bring your mask. Should new Covid-19 developments prevent us in doing the course, we will reschedule the course for a later date. If you have already paid and the new date does not suit you, we will refund you the fees.

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Costs

Course fee

The course fee you can find in the table below. This is inclusive of the lectures, the lecture material (you will get the PPT's and extra useful material in a PDF form on a USB stick), and a practical PM demonstration. When you complete the course, you will receive a certificate.

Accommodation fee

Since Namibia is such a vast country, there will be an opportunity to sleep over the day before the course starts. In the table below you find the accommodation costs. These costs are including use of the accommodation and catering (1 night: 1x breakfast, 1x lunch, 1x dinner and coffee and tea; 2 nights: 2x breakfast, 1x lunch, 2x dinner and coffee and tea in between).

We highly recommend you to make use of the accommodation, as there will be time to discuss cases and share experiences. And as you know, all the good stories are told in the evenings 😊 We also would like to start early on the final day.

SAROA Lodge		Kifaru bush camp	
Course fee	N\$ 1,700. -	Course fee	N\$ 1,700. -
1 night (arrive 09, depart 10 July)	N\$ 850. -	1 night (arrive 11, depart 12 May)	N\$ 750. -
2 nights (arrive 08, depart 10 July)	N\$ 1600. -	2 nights (arrive 10, depart 12 May)	N\$ 1,400. -

Prices are excl. VAT

Only fully paid-up fees prior to the start of this course will be allowed participation. We will send you an invoice, please pay according to that invoice and send the proof of payment to mariska@wildlifelivetsnamibia.com.

5

More information

If you have any questions or you want more information, please do not hesitate to contact us!

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