DVM in Veterinary Medicine

Objectives and Summary of the Professional Curriculum

The primary objective of the DVM curriculum is to provide students with the knowledge and technical skills necessary to be competent entry level veterinarians. We prepare our students for general veterinary practice, for entry into graduate or specialty training programs, or for careers in regulatory medicine. The overall objective of the first two years of the curriculum is to provide students with a solid foundation in basic biomedical sciences. The courses in the preclinical professional curriculum include anatomy, physiology, cell and molecular biology, pathology, pharmacology, microbiology, virology, and toxicology. The fundamentals of the clinical disciplines are also taught during this time and include anesthesiology, clinical pathology, radiology, public health, medicine and surgery.

The organizational scheme of the professional curriculum differs from that of other schools in that the first two academic years are divided into eight-week instructional periods and our academic year runs from August through June. The students have a summer break between the first and second years and second and third years of instruction that is approximately seven weeks in duration. The overall objective of the clinical curriculum is to solidify basic knowledge and practice clinical skills in the Veterinary Health Center, VMDL, and external preceptorships. This portion of the curriculum is organized into 12 clinical blocks that begin in October of the third year of professional instruction. These clinical blocks are six to eight weeks in duration and may be divided into 1, 2, or 3 clinical courses. The required clinical rotations are listed below and organized by duration:

Required Clinical Rotations

**Full Block Rotations**: Food Animal Medicine and Surgery; Equine Medicine and Surgery; Diagnostic Pathology and Special Species Medicine.

**Third Block Rotations**: Theriogenology; Ophthalmology; Small Animal Internal Medicine; Oncology; Soft Tissue Surgery; Orthopedic Surgery; Neurology and Neurosurgery

**Half Block Rotations**: Clinical Radiology; Clinical Anesthesia; Small Animal Community Practice; Shelter Medicine; Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care

Note that students are required to complete four credit hours (four weeks) of external evaluated preceptorships as part of the required curriculum. Students also select 10 credit hours of elective rotations (cardiology, nutrition, production medicine, special imaging, etc.). In addition to required and elective blocks, students are allotted two blocks as "free time." Most students utilize their free time to study for licensing examinations, complete preceptorships at practices, or interview with prospective employers. A total of 154.5 semester credit hours are required for graduation. Most students accumulate a higher number of credit hours as a result of enrollments in extra didactic or clinical elective courses.

**VM-1 Required Courses (Instructional Periods 1-4)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructional Periods 1 and 2; August - December</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V_BSCI 5500 Veterinary Anatomy with Laboratory 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>V_BSCI 5502 Veterinary Microscopic Anatomy with Laboratory 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>V_BSCI 5504 Veterinary Physiology 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>V_BSCI 5506 Veterinary Molecular and Cellular Biology 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>V_BSCI 5100 Veterinary Neuroscience 2</td>
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**Instructional Period 3; January - February**

| V_BSCI 5011 Veterinary Anatomy 3 |
| V_BSCI 5020 Developmental Anatomy 0.5 |
| V_BSCI 5503 Veterinary Microscopic Anatomy 2 |
| V_BSCI 5051 Veterinary Gastrointestinal Physiology 2 |
| V_M_S 6005 Clinical Skills 0.5 |
| V_M_S 6140 Nutrition with Laboratory 1.5 |

**Instructional Period 4; March - April**

| V_BSCI 5012 Veterinary Anatomy with Laboratory 3 |
| V_BSCI 5021 Developmental Anatomy 0.5 |
| V_BSCI 5052 Veterinary Endocrinology and Reproductive Physiology 2 |
| V_PBIO 5511 Veterinary Immunology 1.5 |
| V_M_S 6006 Clinical Skills 0.5 |

**VM-2 Required Courses (Instructional Periods 5-9)**

**Instructional Period 5; May - June**

| V_PBIO 5512 Veterinary Immunology 1.5 |
| V_PBIO 5552 Veterinary Bacteriology with Laboratory 3 |
| V_PBIO 5575 Veterinary Pathology with Laboratory 3 |
| V_PBIO 5579 Veterinary Genomics 1 |
| V_M_S 6135 Foundations of Financial Success 1 |

**Instructional Period 6; August - October**

| V_PBIO 5553 Veterinary Bacteriology II 2.5 |
| V_PBIO 5554 Veterinary Virology 2.5 |
| V_PBIO 5557 Veterinary Parasitology with Laboratory 3 |
| V_PBIO 5576 Veterinary Systemic and Special Pathology with Laboratories 3 |

**Instructional Period 7; October - December**

| V_BSCI 5507 Veterinary Pharmacology with Laboratory 3 |
| V_PBIO 5558 Veterinary Public Health 2 |
| V_PBIO 5555 Epidemiology and Biostatistics with Laboratory 2 |
| V_PBIO 5577 Veterinary Systemic and Special Pathology II with 3 |

**Instructional Period 8; January - February**

| V_BSCI 5508 Veterinary Pharmacology 2 |
| V_PBIO 5578 Veterinary Clinical Pathology with Laboratory 3 |
| V_PBIO 6010 Laboratory Animal Medicine 1.5 |
| V_M_S 6020 Veterinary Radiology with Laboratory 2 |
| V_M_S 6130 Fundamentals of Veterinary Business Management 1 |

**Instructional Period 9; March - April**

| V_BSCI 5509 Veterinary Toxicology 3 |
| V_M_S 6030 Veterinary Anesthesiology with Laboratory 2 |
| V_M_S 6040 Companion Animal Medicine with Laboratory 4 |
| V_M_S 6060 Small Animal Surgery with Laboratory 2 |

**VM-3 Courses (Instructional Periods 10-11)**

**Instructional Period 10; May - June Required Courses**
V_M_S 6050  Small Animal Medicine  2.5
V_M_S 6071  Small Animal Surgery  2
V_M_S 6073  Fundamental Surgery Laboratory  1
V_M_S 6081  Food Animal Medicine and Surgery  2.5
V_M_S 6151  Equine Medicine and Surgery  2

Instructional Period 10; May - June Electives
V_M_S 6672  Optional Surgery and Anesthesia Laboratory  1

Instructional Period 11; August - October
V_M_S 6082  Food Animal Medicine and Surgery  2
V_M_S 6090  Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care with Laboratory  1
V_M_S 6110  Theriogenology  3
V_M_S 6120  Veterinary Ophthalmology  1
V_M_S 6152  Equine Medicine and Surgery  1.5

Instructional Period 11; August - October Elective Courses
V_PBIO 6991  Introduction to Avian Medicine  1
V_M_S 6986  Advanced Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery  1
V_M_S 6987  Problem-Based Learning Clinic Preparation  1
V_M_S 6988  Small Animal Clinical Nutrition  1
V_M_S 6989  Advanced Oncology of Animals  1
V_M_S 6990  Zoological Medicine  2
V_M_S 6991  Advanced Equine Lameness with Laboratory  1
V_M_S 6993  Advanced Veterinary Anesthesia  1
V_M_S 6994  Advanced Techniques in Small Animal Surgery with Laboratory  1
V_M_S 6995  Clinical Cardiology  1
V_M_S 6996  Advanced Dermatology  1
V_M_S 6997  Food Animal Diagnostic Exercises  1
V_M_S 6998  Small Animal Behavioral Medicine  1
V_M_S 6999  Food Animal Surgery Laboratory  1

VM-3 and VM-4 Required Clinical Rotations (October - Graduation)
V_M_S 6010  Evaluated Veterinary Preceptorship  2-12
V_M_S 6400  Food Animal Medicine and Surgery I  6
V_M_S 6411  Small Animal Internal Medicine  2
V_M_S 6412  Small Animal Primary Care/Community Practice  3
V_M_S 6414  Shelter Medicine  3
V_M_S 6420  Equine Medicine and Surgery I  6
V_M_S 6432  Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery  2
V_M_S 6434  Small Animal Orthopedic Surgery  2
V_M_S 6436  Veterinary Neurology/Neurosurgery  2
V_M_S 6441  Clinical Radiology I  3
V_M_S 6442  Clinical Anesthesiology I  3
V_M_S 6450  Theriogenology I  2
V_M_S 6460  Clinical Ophthalmology I  2
V_M_S 6490  Small Animal Specialty Medicine I  2
V_M_S 6820  Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care  3
V_PBIO 6647  Pathology and Laboratory Diagnostics  8

Elective Clinical Rotations
V_M_S 6601  Topics in Veterinary Medicine  2-6
V_M_S 6413  Small Animal Behavior and Dermatology  2
V_M_S 6700  Food Animal Medicine and Surgery II Elective  2-6
V_M_S 6710  Small Animal Medicine II Elective  2-6
V_M_S 6711  Small Animal Internal Medicine Elective  2
V_M_S 6712  Private Practice Small Animal Internal Medicine Elective  2
V_M_S 6714  Shelter Medicine Clinical Elective  2-6
V_M_S 6720  Equine Medicine and Surgery II Elective  2-6
V_M_S 6732  Small Animal Soft Tissue Surgery II Elective  2
V_M_S 6733  Small Animal Surgical Oncology Elective Rotation  2
V_M_S 6734  Small Animal Orthopedic Surgery II Elective  2
V_M_S 6736  Veterinary Neurology/Neurosurgery-Elective  2
V_M_S 6741  Clinical Radiology II Elective  2-6
V_M_S 6742  Clinical Anesthesiology II Elective  2-6
V_M_S 6743  Radiology - Special Imaging Elective  2-3
V_M_S 6750  Theriogenology II Elective  2-6
V_M_S 6751  External Food Animal Service and Theriogenology Teaching Program  2-6
V_M_S 6760  Small Animal Nutrition  2
V_M_S 6800  Clinical Ophthalmology II Elective  2-6
V_M_S 6810  Cardiology II Elective  2
V_M_S 6821  Small Animal Emergency Critical Care Elective  2
V_M_S 6830  Food Animal Production Medicine  6
V_M_S 6850  Clinical Oncology  2-6
V_PBIO 6676  Laboratory Animal Medicine and Management Elective  4-6
V_PBIO 6678  Epidemiology and Community Health  2-6
V_PBIO 6679  Diagnostic Pathology and Special Species Medicine  2-6
V_PBIO 6684  Research Techniques in Veterinary Pathobiology  2-6

Preceptorships

Missouri students are encouraged to use free blocks for preceptorships to increase exposure to veterinary practice and to meet the requirements of the Missouri Veterinary Medical Practice Act. The University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine does not have the authority to approve the use of student free block time or the veterinarians with whom they gain experience to meet state requirements.

Approved preceptorships may be found by contacting the Office for Student and Academic Affairs.

Preceptorship requirements and forms required by the Missouri State Veterinary Medical Board can be found at their website: https://pr.mo.gov/veterinarian

The level of supervision required by preceptors is detailed at: https://pr.mo.gov/boards/veterinary/VetSupervisionChart.pdf

The Missouri State Veterinary Medical Board preceptorship form may be found at: https://pr.mo.gov/veterinarian-application-forms.asp
Licensing Examination

Professional Licensing Information

In addition successfully completing a professional veterinary education, most states require state and national licensing examinations to meet requirements to practice. Please visit the International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA) and the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB (https://www.aavsb.org/)) websites for further information.