

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)

Instructional Periods 1 and 2; August - December

V_BSCI 5500	Veterinary Anatomy with Laboratory	4
V_BSCI 5502	Veterinary Microscopic Anatomy with Laboratory	3
V_BSCI 5504	Veterinary Physiology	5
V_BSCI 5506	Veterinary Molecular and Cellular Biology	4
V_BSCI 5100	Veterinary Neuroscience	2
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 6072	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 5991	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 6001	Topics in Veterinary Medicine	2-6

V_M_S 6413	Wentzville Specialty Service Elective Rotations	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 Clinical or Research Rotation	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.asp>

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.