



DVM Curriculum Overview

A background in common medical principles and the treatment of animal diseases, on an organ system basis, represents the fundamental basis of the core curriculum (see curriculum table below). Students are required to successfully complete 167 credits (125 core and 42 elective) in the professional curriculum in order to graduate.

VME I	Course #	First Year Curriculum Course Title	Credit Hours
Autumn Semester	VM 6510	Veterinary Preventive Medicine I: Introduction to Epidemiology & Population Systems	2.5
	VM 6520	Gross Anatomy I (Dog, Cat, Pig)	3.5
	VM 6525	Introduction to Veterinary Diagnostic Radiology	1
	VM 6530	Comparative Structure and Function of Tissues	2.5
	VM 6540	Structure and Function of Cells (Cell Biology)	2
	VM 6614.01	Professional Development I-A	1
	VM 6618	Clinical Pathology	4
	VM 6641	Introduction to Animal Behavior	2
Spring Semester	VM 6616.01	Veterinary Clinical Skills I-A	1.5
	VM 6521	Gross Anatomy II (Horse, Cow)	4
	VM 6550.01	Comparative Biology of Disease 1: General Pathology and Immunology	3
	VM 6550.02	Comparative Biology of Disease 2: Animal Pathogens	3
	VM 6561	Principles of Veterinary Pharmacology	2
	VM 6570.01	Introduction to Clinical Veterinary Medicine	1
	VM 6607	Musculoskeletal System	2.5
	VM 6614.02	Professional Development I-B	1
VM 6616.02	Veterinary Clinical Skills I-B	1.5	
Various	Electives	2 (recommended)	
VME II	Course #	Second Year Curriculum Course Title	Credit Hours
Autumn Semester	VM 6602	Urinary System	2.5
	VM 6603	Nervous System	3.5
	VM 6604	Endocrine System	2.5
	VM 6605	Reproductive System	3
	VM 6614.03	Professional Development II-A	1
	VM 6646	Veterinary Preventive Medicine II: Zoonotic Diseases	2
	VM 6616.03	Veterinary Clinical Skills II-A	1.5
	Various	Electives	3 (recommended)
Spring Semester	VM 6565	Introduction to Animal Welfare	1
	VM 6600	Cardiovascular System	3
	VM 6601	Respiratory System	3
	VM 6606	Integumentary System	3
	VM 6609	Digestive System	3.5
	VM 6610.01	Clinical Veterinary Parasitology	1
	VM 6614.04	Professional Development II-B	1
	VM 6616.04	Veterinary Clinical Skills II-B	1.5
Various	Electives	4 (recommended)	

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VME III	Course #	Third Year Curriculum Course Title	Credit Hours
Autumn Semester	VM 6570.03	Clinical Reasoning and Decision-Making	2
	VM 6610.02	Applied Clinical Veterinary Parasitology (enrollment based on Lab Group)	1
	VM 6614.05	Professional Development III-A	1
	VM 6612	Introduction to Comparative Veterinary Ophthalmology	2
	VM 7562	Introduction to Veterinary Anesthesia	2
	VM 7563	Introduction to Surgery	2
	VM 7613	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Medicine	2
	VM 7615.01	Small Animal Operative Practice (reflected on Spring transcript)	4
	VM 6616.05	Veterinary Clinical Skills III-A	1.5
	Various	Electives	5 (recommended)
Spring Semester	VM 6610.02	Applied Clinical Veterinary Parasitology (enrollment based on Lab Group)	Cont.
	VM 6611	Veterinary Preventive Medicine III: Emerging Diseases and Public Veterinary Practice	3
	VM 6614.06	Professional Development: III-B	2
	VM 7526	Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging	3
	VM 7564	Clinical Microbiology and Pharmacology of Antimicrobial Agents	1
	VM 7615.01	Small Animal Operative Practice	Cont.
	VM 6616.06	Veterinary Clinical Skills III-B	1.5
	Various	Electives	5 (recommended)
	Course #	Fourth Year Curriculum Course/Rotation Title	Credit Hours
	VM 7700.01	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Community Practice	2
	VM 7700.02	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Shelter Medicine and Surgery	2
	VM 7700.03	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Small Animal Internal Medicine	2
	VM 7700.04	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Small Animal Surgery - Soft Tissue	2
	VM 7700.05	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Small Animal Surgery – Orthopedics	2
	VM 7700.06	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Farm Animal Medicine and Surgery	2
	VM 7700.07	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Large Animal Field Services	2
	VM 7700.08	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Equine Medicine	2
	VM 7700.09	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Equine Surgery	2
	VM 7700.10	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Equine Field Service	2
	VM 7700.11	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Equine Emergency and Critical Care Medicine	2
	VM 7700.12	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Radiology	2
	VM 7700.13	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Clinical Anesthesiology	2
	VM 7700.14	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Applied Pathology	2
	VM 7700.15	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Small Animal Critical Care	2
	VM 7700.16	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Small Animal Emergency	2
	VM 7700.17	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Ophthalmology	2
	VM 7700.18	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Dermatology	2
	VM 7700.19	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Cardiology	2
	VM 7700.20	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Small Animal Neurology	2
	VM 7700.21	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Small Animal Oncology	2
	VM 7700.22	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Theriogenology	2
	VM 7700.24	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Preventive Medicine	2
	VM 7700.26	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Surgical Oncology	2
	VCS 7700.99	Applied Veterinary Medicine: General Rotation (Holiday) – Required for all students	1
	Various	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Elective Rotations - (CAE dependent)	5-10
(27 credit hours CORE rotations and 22 credit hours Career Area of Emphasis and other elective rotations)			

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Core Preclinical Courses

The first portion of the core curriculum includes the scientific knowledge, intellectual, and technical skills necessary for a student to launch an intensive study of animal health and disease on an organ system basis. Students then learn about animal diseases that affect each organ system. Courses develop the particular anatomic, physiologic, pharmacologic, pathologic, microbiologic, parasitologic, and clinical science knowledge necessary for students to understand normal and abnormal structure and function, and their relation to basic treatment and prevention of diseases for that system. The third year is devoted to development of surgical and technical skills as well as elective courses in problem solving that address the diagnosis and treatment of species-specific diseases. Throughout the curriculum, emphasis is also placed on helping students develop the communication and interpersonal skills necessary for personal and professional success, and fostering the skills and practices of clinical work. The office of Professional Program Support will register students for their core courses

Elective Preclinical Courses

Students are required to have successfully completed a minimum of 19 elective credit hours prior to entering their clinical year. Students who have and maintain at least a 2.5 GPA or higher by the spring semester of their first year are eligible to register for elective courses. The curriculum is designed to incrementally increase the time available for students to take electives from the first to third year of the professional program of study.

Veterinary students self-register for their elective preclinical courses through Ohio State's online academic center <http://buckeyelink.osu.edu/>.

Clinical Courses

Students are scheduled throughout the clinical year into clinical rotation blocks, most of which last two-weeks in duration. The block schedule is posted in advance to clinical year for student scheduling convenience. The office of Professional Program Support coordinates a scheduling lottery during the third year of the preclinical curriculum to facilitate the planning of each students' clinical rotation schedule based upon their selected CAE (Career Area of Emphasis). Each rotation is a separate course (core or elective) for which the student will be registered through the University Registrar by the office of Professional Program Support. Students seeking scheduling changes after the semester change deadline may incur change fees per the University policy.

2020-2021 Temporary Clinical Curriculum Changes

In order to manage the COVID-19 global Pandemic, several changes were made to the fourth year curriculum for the 2020-2021 school year.

First, the core rotations required of all students were adjusted to accommodate a shortened period of in-person clinics and to provide flexibility for increased rates of student absence. These adjusted core rotations include: (1) 2 weeks of Small Animal Internal Medicine OR Small Animal Emergency, (2) 2 weeks of Equine, (3) 2 weeks of Farm Animal Medicine & Surgery or Large Animal Field Service, (4) 2 weeks of Community Practice or Small Animal Externship, (5) 2 weeks of Shelter Medicine & Surgery or Small Animal Externship, (6) 2 weeks of Anesthesia or Shelter Medicine & Surgery.

Second, all students are expected to complete 49 weeks of clinics. However, in extenuating circumstances students may be temporarily excused from clinics and have some of those required weeks waived. In these cases, a student must have written approval from a college official (Associate Dean for Professional Programs, Assistant Dean for Student Success, Professional Programs Director) that the time missed from clinics does not need to be made up. If a student misses more than 11 weeks for any reason, any additional time missed must be made up (for an absolute minimum of 38 completed weeks). This may result in a student not graduating at the same time as the rest of their class.