



Pre-Veterinary Science

Pre-Professional Program

Students desiring to become veterinarians should recognize that no university offers a “major” in pre-veterinary medicine. Pre-veterinary students pursue a course of study to fulfill requirements for entry into a veterinary school. Students may opt for declaring a major of their choice and work toward a bachelor’s degree, but that major must include the pre-veterinary requirements. The major that best fits the veterinary science program is Biology with a Biomedical Science Concentration; however, other science and non-science majors are acceptable. All courses for a pre-veterinary curriculum are available at UW-La Crosse

Most students who are residents of Wisconsin opt for admission to the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. Residents of other states (i.e., Minnesota) will apply to the school of veterinary medicine in their home state. Minor changes in the curriculum shown below will help those students fill their pre-veterinary requirements. The following pre-professional course requirements for UW-Madison and the equivalent UW-La Crosse courses are listed on the back of this page.

Applicants must complete a total of 60 semester credits of college course work, but most applicants to veterinary school complete an undergraduate degree before enrolling. The 60 credits include the required 40-43 credits of course work listed on the back, plus a minimum of 17 credits of elective course work left to the student’s discretion. The 17 elective credits allow the student to meet personal and academic goals and objectives while preparing for admission to veterinary school. How the elective course work contributed to the student’s academic goals and objectives will be considered in the application process. All course work must be completed no later than the end of the spring term prior to admission to the program.

Most students have obtained a college degree prior to admission or are entering veterinary school after 3 years of pre-veterinary training. It is unusual for students to enter veterinary school without having completed a college degree.

Students should note that admission to veterinary school typically requires the completion of the GRE or other entrance examination.

Veterinary schools are extremely selective, accepting a smaller fraction of their applicants than many medical programs. Veterinary schools also weigh experience with animals and work in a clinical setting very heavily in the admissions process, so considering how summer jobs, volunteer positions, and hobbies can provide you with animal care experience is advised.

For additional requirements of other schools of veterinary medicine or for further information, students should see the pre-veterinary advisor. Early advising avoids problems prior to the application deadline.

Pre-professional veterinary science advisor:

Dr. Bernadette Taylor
3033 Cowley Hall
(608) 785-6990
taylor.bern@uwlax.edu

**UW – Madison School of Veterinary Medicine
Requirements****UW – La Crosse Courses to Meet
Requirements**

	Semester credits		Semester credits
General Biology or Zoology	5	Bio 105 General Biology	4
		Bio 210 Animal Biology*	4
General and Qualitative Chemistry	8	Chm 103 General Chemistry I	5
		Chm 104 General Chemistry II	5
Organic Chemistry	3	Chm 300 Survey of Organic Chm	5
Biochemistry	3	Chm 325 Biochemistry*	4
Genetics or Animal Breeding	3	Bio 306 Genetics	4
General Physics	6	Phy 103 Fund. Physics I*	4
		Phy 104 Fund. Physics II*	4
Statistics	3	Mth 145 Statistics	4
English Composition	3-6	Eng 110 College I	3
		Eng 303 College Writing II*	3
Social Science/Humanities	6	Any elective courses in Social Science or Humanities	6

* Other courses can be substituted in place of these listed courses. The courses listed here are the minimum requirement for admission to veterinary school. Your advisor will help you to choose the appropriate course for your chosen major that will fulfill your requisites.