
University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

MSc Option: Veterinary Epidemiology (Coursework) (08251009)

Duration of study 3 years

Total credits 240

Programme information

This programme is offered by the Department of Production Animal Studies.

This degree programme provides training in the principles of and methods used in veterinary epidemiology, including training in selected more specialised tools used in the discipline. It caters for the needs of candidates who wish to be trained as epidemiologists, health officers or researchers involved in the investigation and control of diseases in animal populations and who would like to gain relevant knowledge and develop specific technical skills.

The curriculum consists of compulsory and elective modules as well as a mini-dissertation. It is primarily a web-based modular degree programme.

At the discretion of the HOD and supervisor, a student may be granted exemption from the modules VRM 811 (Veterinary research methodology) and/or EPL 851 (Basic veterinary epidemiology) if equivalent module(s) have successfully been completed. The MSc degree is conferred by virtue of the successful completion of prescribed modules in the curriculum and a mini-dissertation.

Coursework: 50%; Mini-dissertation: 50%.

Also consult the General Regulations. Students are required to confirm whether a module will be presented in any particular year. This enquiry should be directed to the relevant head of department according to the syllabi information provided in the list of modules in this publication.

Admission requirements

Subject to the stipulations of the applicable General Regulations, a BVSc, BScHons, four-year BSc in natural sciences or agriculture or an equivalent degree is required.

Additional requirements

In certain cases, it remains the prerogative of the Head of Department to require, in addition to the entrance requirements already mentioned, the conduction of an interview and/or the successful completion of an admissions test before registration. Students must be proficient in English and may be required to pass a proficiency test prior to admission. Admission is also subject to the identification of a suitable research project and the availability of a supervisor. Prospective applicants should therefore make enquiries well in advance.



Examinations and pass requirements

If a student fails a module, he/she will have to repeat the module the following year.

Research information

Consult the General Regulations.

A research project of limited scope must be undertaken on an appropriate topic, depending on the field of interest of the student and the availability of a suitable supervisor, and written in the format of a mini-dissertation. The research topic is determined in consultation with the supervisor and head of department, and the research project must be approved according to Faculty guidelines.

Before or together with the mini-dissertation, a student must submit at least one draft article for publication in an accredited scientific journal, failing which the degree will not be conferred. The draft article must be based on the research for the mini-dissertation and must be acceptable to the supervisor and meet subsidy requirements.

Pass with distinction

The degree is conferred with distinction on a student who has obtained at least 75% for the mini-dissertation and a cumulative average of at least 75% for the core and elective modules.



Curriculum: Year 1

Core modules

- Basic veterinary epidemiology 851 (EPL 851) - Credits: 10.00
- Biostatistics in veterinary science 852 (EPL 852) - Credits: 20.00
- Analytical veterinary epidemiology 853 (EPL 853) - Credits: 20.00
- Animal health information management 855 (EPL 855) - Credits: 5.00
- Scientific reasoning in veterinary epidemiology 856 (EPL 856) - Credits: 5.00
- Mini-dissertation: Veterinary epidemiology 890 (EPL 890) - Credits: 120.00
- Research methodology 812 (VRM 812) - Credits: 9.00

Elective modules

- Pathology: Wildlife 806 (PAT 806) - Credits: 28.00
- Necropsy technique and interpretation 807 (PAT 807) - Credits: 28.00
- Ophthalmological pathology 808 (PAT 808) - Credits: 20.00
- Selected infectious diseases: Pigs 815 (SID 815) - Credits: 15.00
- Veterinary industrial pharmacology 800 (VIP 800) - Credits: 50.00
- Veterinary public health: Meat hygiene 881 (VPH 881) - Credits: 40.00
- Veterinary public health: Poultry food hygiene 882 (VPH 882) - Credits: 40.00
- Veterinary public health: Veterinary milk hygiene 883 (VPH 883) - Credits: 40.00
- Veterinary public health: Environmental health and biosecurity 884 (VPH 884) - Credits: 40.00
- Advanced fundamentals of pharmacology 876 (FAK 876) - Credits: 30.00
- Clinical pharmacology 877 (FAK 877) - Credits: 30.00
- Reproductive physiology 801 (GSK 801) - Credits: 20.00
- Assisted reproduction 802 (GSK 802) - Credits: 30.00
- Female infertility 803 (GSK 803) - Credits: 20.00
- Male breeding soundness and andrology 804 (GSK 804) - Credits: 20.00
- Reproduction: Capita selecta 805 (GSK 805) - Credits: 20.00
- Small stock health 801 (SSH 801) - Credits: 40.00
- Ruminant health 801 (RUM 801) - Credits: 40.00
- Bovine herd health 801 (BHH 801) - Credits: 40.00
- Poultry health and production 871 (PHP 871) - Credits: 32.00
- Veterinary toxicology: Organ/systems toxicology 801 (TOK 801) - Credits: 30.00
- Mechanisms of disease 871 (PAT 871) - Credits: 20.00
- Histology 800 (HIS 800) - Credits: 20.00



Curriculum: Final year

Core modules

- Basic veterinary epidemiology 851 (EPL 851) - Credits: 10.00
- Biostatistics in veterinary science 852 (EPL 852) - Credits: 20.00
- Analytical veterinary epidemiology 853 (EPL 853) - Credits: 20.00
- Animal health information management 855 (EPL 855) - Credits: 5.00
- Scientific reasoning in veterinary epidemiology 856 (EPL 856) - Credits: 5.00
- Mini-dissertation: Veterinary epidemiology 890 (EPL 890) - Credits: 120.00
- Research methodology 812 (VRM 812) - Credits: 9.00

Elective modules

- Pathology: Wildlife 806 (PAT 806) - Credits: 28.00
- Necropsy technique and interpretation 807 (PAT 807) - Credits: 28.00
- Ophthalmological pathology 808 (PAT 808) - Credits: 20.00
- Selected infectious diseases: Pigs 815 (SID 815) - Credits: 15.00
- Veterinary industrial pharmacology 800 (VIP 800) - Credits: 50.00
- Veterinary public health: Meat hygiene 881 (VPH 881) - Credits: 40.00
- Veterinary public health: Poultry food hygiene 882 (VPH 882) - Credits: 40.00
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- Reproduction: Capita selecta 805 (GSK 805) - Credits: 20.00
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- Histology 800 (HIS 800) - Credits: 20.00

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.