

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2021

BVSc (08130005)

Department Veterinary Science Dean's Office

Minimum duration of study 6 years

Total credits 835

NQF level 08

Programme information

This programme is accredited with the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC), Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) and the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council (AVBC).

Each student must apply immediately after registration at UP, to the Registrar of the South African Veterinary Council for registration as a student in Veterinary Science. Registration is compulsory and must be renewed annually for the duration of the study.

After the degree has been conferred, graduates are required to register with the South African Veterinary Council as veterinarians before they may practise in South Africa in this capacity.

After completing the degree a Compulsory Community Service (CCS) year is required by the state. Graduates will be employed for one year of Compulsory Community Service by the national Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD). More information can be obtained from DALRRD.

Also refer to the General Regulations and Rules.

Admission requirements

- The Faculty offers the following undergraduate programmes:
 - Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc)
 - Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (BVetNurs)
- Both undergraduate programmes in this Faculty include selection procedures, which are based on merit within different categories.
- The following persons may be considered for admission:
 - applicants who are currently in their final school-year and have applied with their final results of the preceding year of schooling (Grade 11 or equivalent);
 - applicants who have completed their final school-year, but have not yet commenced further studies;
 - applicants who are in possession of a certificate that is deemed by the University to be equivalent to the required National Senior Certificate (NSC) with university endorsement. This certificate must be certified by Universities South Africa (USAf);
 - applicants who are currently enrolled for tertiary education;
 - applicants who are graduates from another tertiary institution, or have been granted the status of a graduate of such an institution; and
 - applicants who are graduates of another faculty at the University of Pretoria.

- In order to retain conditional admission applicants need to comply with the minimum subject requirements based on their final school-year examination results.
- South African school-leaving applicants enrolled for the NSC or IEB who have forfeited their placement and who still comply with the minimum requirements will automatically be considered in the second round of selection in January.

Selection categories

School-leavers

- A valid NSC/IEB or equivalent qualification with admission for degree purposes.
- Subject requirements and the required Admission Point Score (APS) are indicated in the table below. The APS is calculated from the achievement levels obtained in the six 20-credit subjects of the NSC.
- Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.
- Conditional admission is based on Grade 11 final examination results, or equivalent, being the final results of the year preceding the last year of schooling, final admission on NSC/IEB or equivalent performance in Mathematics, English and Physical Sciences, as well as the Veterinary Science Value Added Form (VSVAF).
- Additional admission criteria may be used including an interview and additional selection tests.

Applicants with previous higher education exposure

- There is an opportunity for students with previous higher education experience to also apply for the BVSc programme. Placement in either the first or second year of the BVSc programme will depend on, among others, merit and subject choices.

International students

- A small number of international students are admitted to the programme, including those from neighbouring Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries.
- Applicants who are accepted receive a letter of confirmation from the University, which will facilitate their application for a study permit.
- A valid study permit, obtained in the country of origin, is a prerequisite for registration.
- International applicants must comply with all UP's and the Department of Home Affairs' regulations related to international students.
- Please consult the International Cooperation Division's **Newcomer's Guide** for more information: [click here](#)

Conditional admission

- Conditionally admitted applicants will forfeit their placement if they do not comply with the relevant conditions.

Minimum requirements

Achievement level

English Home

Language or

English First

Additional

Language

English Home		Mathematics		Physical Sciences		APS
NSC/IEB	AS Level	NSC/IEB	AS Level	NSC/IEB	AS Level	
5	C	5	C	5	C	35

* *Cambridge A-level candidates who obtained at least a D in the required subjects, will be considered for admission. Students in the Cambridge system must offer both Physics AND Chemistry with performance at the level specified for NSC Physical Sciences in the table above.

* *International Baccalaureate (IB) HL candidates who obtained at least a 4 in the required subjects, will be

considered for admission. Students in the IB system must offer both Physics AND Chemistry with performance at the level specified for NSC Physical Sciences in the table above.

Additional requirements

Refer to the undergraduate admission regulation of the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

Examinations and pass requirements

The following rules apply to undergraduate programmes in the faculty, with the exception of pass requirements of service modules presented by other faculties:

Also refer to UP General Regulations and Rules

- i. Attendance of all lectures, practicals and clinical duties is compulsory. Absence must be justified by submission of a medical certificate or valid documentation, within three working days after returning. Failure to comply may lead to examination refusal.
- ii. Students in all undergraduate programmes in the faculty must register for all modules in a particular year of study and may not deregister modules.
- iii. A student who fails one or more modules fails the particular year of study and must repeat the failed module(s) before being promoted to the next year of study.
- iv. In addition to clause iii., a fourth, fifth or final year student in the BVSc programme or a second year student in the BVetNurs programme who fails a module or modules, has to repeat, all the modules for that particular year of study, except modules which were passed with a final mark of 65% or more, for which full exemption is granted during the repeat year.
- v. For students repeating the fourth, fifth or sixth year of the BVSc programme, or the second year of the BVetNurs programme, exemption from the examination is granted for a module that was passed in the previous (failed) year if all lectures, practicals and/or clinical duties were attended and a year/semester mark of at least 50% was obtained in the repeat year.
- vi. The semester/year mark and examination mark contributes 50% each towards the final mark for all modules with examinations.
- vii. A student is required to obtain a minimum semester/year mark of 40%, a minimum of 40% in the examination as well as a final mark of at least 50% to pass a module. A subminimum of 40% in subdivisions of theoretical and/or practical examinations may be required as stipulated by the Dean in consultation with the head of department concerned, and as set out in the study guide.
- viii. The content, format and duration of the supplementary, extra-ordinary, and/or special examination will be similar to that of the examination, except for oral examinations, where the supplementary, extra-ordinary, and/or special examination may be in a different format.
- ix. Semester tests and examinations are conducted as stipulated in the Faculty Calendar.
- x. A student applies for admission to an extra-ordinary assessment using the Faculty's relevant standard operating procedure which is managed by student administration.

Exclusion

- xi. A student who is not permitted to re-register in terms of UP General Regulation G3.2 a) and b) is automatically excluded at the end of the academic year.
- xii. A student who fails a particular year of study for the second time is automatically excluded.

Re-admission and dismissal

- xiii. A student who has been excluded may apply online by the specified deadline to the Faculty Appeals Committee for consideration for re-admission, failing which the student is dismissed.
- xiv. The Faculty Appeals Committee has discretion to either readmit an excluded student, or to deny the appeal, in which case the student is dismissed.

Practical/clinical/internship information

Clinical experience (including practical work)

Proof of satisfactory completion of prescribed clinical and practical components of the programme as prescribed in the relevant study guide(s) must be submitted to the relevant Head of Department : prior to the commencement of the examinations. Failure to do so may lead to examination refusal.

Pass with distinction

The BVSc degree is conferred with distinction on a student who has obtained a cumulative weighted average of at least 75% over the last three years of study. The cumulative weighted average is calculated as the average score of the weighted averages per year of the last 3 academic years as indicated on a student's academic record.



Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 126

Fundamental modules

Academic information management [111](#) (AIM 111) - Credits: 4.00

Academic information management [121](#) (AIM 121) - Credits: 4.00

Language and study skills [110](#) (LST 110) - Credits: 6.00

Academic orientation [108](#) (UPO 108) - Credits: 0.00

Core modules

Biometry [120](#) (BME 120) - Credits: 16.00

Chemistry [151](#) (CMY 151) - Credits: 16.00

Introductory genetics [161](#) (GTS 161) - Credits: 8.00

Molecular and cell biology [111](#) (MLB 111) - Credits: 16.00

Medical terminology [180](#) (MTL 180) - Credits: 12.00

Physics for biology students [131](#) (PHY 131) - Credits: 16.00

Veterinary professional life [101](#) (VPL 101) - Credits: 4.00

Mathematics [165](#) (WTW 165) - Credits: 16.00

Animal diversity [161](#) (ZEN 161) - Credits: 8.00

Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 132

** VPL 122 is not included when calculating credits: this is the online version of VPL 101 only applicable to students admitted to the BVSc programme in the second year.

Core modules

Animal production systems and principles of breeding 200 (VAP 200) - Credits: 8.00

Veterinary comparative anatomy 201 (VCA 201) - Credits: 28.00

Veterinary microbiology 210 (VEM 210) - Credits: 6.00

Veterinary ethology 202 (VET 202) - Credits: 18.00

Veterinary immunology 220 (VIM 220) - Credits: 6.00

Principles of animal nutrition 224 (VKU 224) - Credits: 12.00

Veterinary physiology and histology 200 (VPH 200) - Credits: 33.00

Veterinary professional life 122 (VPL 122) - Credits: 4.00

Veterinary professional life 201 (VPL 201) - Credits: 5.00

Pasture science 213 (WDE 213) - Credits: 12.00



Curriculum: Year 3

Minimum credits: 128

Core modules

General surgery 310 (GNS 310) - Credits: 7.00

General and organ pathology 300 (GOP 300) - Credits: 30.00

Introductory veterinary diagnostics 300 (IVD 300) - Credits: 20.00

Veterinary toxicology 300 (TOX 300) - Credits: 14.00

Veterinary infectious diseases 300 (VIP 300) - Credits: 14.00

Ethnoveterinary medicine 310 (VME 310) - Credits: 3.00

General veterinary pharmacology 300 (VPH 300) - Credits: 14.00

Veterinary professional life 301 (VPL 301) - Credits: 6.00

Veterinary parasitology 300 (VTP 300) - Credits: 20.00



Curriculum: Year 4

Minimum credits: 132

Core modules

Anaesthesiology 420 (ANV 420) - Credits: 8.00

Clinical pathology 410 (CLP 410) - Credits: 7.00

Diagnostic imaging 400 (DIM 400) - Credits: 16.00

Diagnostic pathology 401 (DPT 401) - Credits: 12.00

Veterinary epidemiology 420 (EPL 420) - Credits: 10.00

Equine medicine and surgery 410 (EQM 410) - Credits: 14.00

Small animal medicine and surgery 410 (SAS 410) - Credits: 21.00

Small animal medicine and surgery 420 (SAS 420) - Credits: 21.00

Veterinary professional life 401 (VPL 401) - Credits: 7.00

Veterinary reproduction 400 (VRP 400) - Credits: 16.00



Curriculum: Year 5

Minimum credits: 161

Core modules

- Diagnostic pathology 511 (DPT 511) - Credits: 12.00
- Porcine health and production 510 (PHP 510) - Credits: 5.00
- Poultry health and production 510 (PLY 510) - Credits: 5.00
- Ruminant medicine and surgery 510 (RUM 510) - Credits: 24.00
- Ruminant production medicine and herd health 511 (RUM 511) - Credits: 16.00
- Veterinary core practice 520 (VCP 520) - Credits: 52.00
- Veterinary elective practice 520 (VEP 520) - Credits: 8.00
- One health 510 (VOH 510) - Credits: 4.00
- Veterinary public health 510 (VPH 510) - Credits: 14.00
- Veterinary professional life 511 (VPL 511) - Credits: 8.00
- Veterinary research report 520 (VRE 520) - Credits: 8.00
- African wildlife management and conservation 510 (WMC 510) - Credits: 5.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 160

Core modules

[Veterinary core practice 610](#) (VCP 610) - Credits: 52.00

[Veterinary core practice 620](#) (VCP 620) - Credits: 52.00

[Veterinary elective practice 610](#) (VEP 610) - Credits: 24.00

[Veterinary elective practice 620](#) (VEP 620) - Credits: 16.00

[Veterinary research report 600](#) (VRE 600) - Credits: 16.00

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.