Make today matter
Message from the Dean

The Faculty of Veterinary Science is unique in South Africa. It is the only institution responsible for training veterinarians and veterinary nurses. Our graduates and research programmes are vital in enhancing human and animal health, promoting biosecurity and welfare, and ensuring our production animals, wildlife and pets are safe and in good health.

The quality and scope of the Faculty’s training is such that our graduates are able to enter postgraduate programmes at universities across the world and can practice in many countries without the need to first write registration exams. We are also locally relevant and passionate about meeting the needs of South Africa. This not only applies to commercial farming but also to primary animal healthcare, where veterinarians can assist rural communities and smallholder farmers.

Similarly, it is essential for the future of the veterinary profession in South Africa that black learners, particularly from rural areas, apply to study veterinary science. There is a widespread belief that many black African learners are unaware of the profession and the work undertaken by veterinarians. It is indeed the aim of a publication such as this one to assist in promoting the veterinary profession on a broader scale among all learners regardless of race, creed, or gender.

A veterinary career is wide-ranging, involving wildlife or exotic animals, farm animals and pets and encompassing careers in private practice, research, government or industry. Through controlling animal diseases and promoting livestock production, veterinarians contribute to increasing the profitability of commercial and small scale farming enterprises, thereby enhancing food security and economic development of livestock owners.

The Faculty’s campus compares favourably with the best in the world. Apart from its state-of-the-art facilities, it has five academic departments, several research centres (for horses, wildlife and crocodiles) and a new Skills Laboratory. Its Veterinary Academic Hospital is the focus of the Faculty’s clinical service, rendering activities to the surrounding community.

Here we promote an excellent study environment and enhance the academic experience of students. However, life on campus is not only about studying and we know how to have fun through a wide variety of social and sports activities on and off campus. It is a vibrant place where you will be empowered to start an exciting career as a well-balanced professional person.

At the Faculty we are committed to making a difference and changing our world – one student at a time – and through them to better our country and the world. We look forward to welcoming you as a new student to our Campus.

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Email vetdean@up.ac.za
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Undergraduate programmes

Important information on undergraduate programmes for 2018

- All programmes in this Faculty include selection procedures, which are based on academic merit and a Value-added questionnaire.
- Applicants, who indicate BVSc – Bachelor of Veterinary Science or the Diploma in Veterinary Nursing as their first choice, will be given preference. In order to retain provisional admission candidates should comply with the minimum subject and Admission Point Score (APS) requirements based on their final school-year examination results.
- The following persons will be considered for admission: a candidate who is in possession of a certificate that is deemed by the University to be equivalent to the required Grade 12 certificate with university endorsement; a candidate who is a graduate from another tertiary institution or has been granted the status of a graduate of such an institution; and a candidate who is a graduate of another faculty at the University of Pretoria.
- Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

University of Pretoria website  www.veterinary.up.ac.za
National Benchmark Test website  www.nbt.ac.za

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<th>Programme</th>
<th>Minimum requirements for 2018</th>
<th>Achievement level</th>
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<td>Mathematics</td>
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<td>NSC/IEB HIGCSE</td>
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<td>BVSc – Bachelor of Veterinary Science [6 years]</td>
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The NBT is no longer a compulsory component of the selection process of the BVSc degree, but the Value-added questionnaire remains a compulsory component of the selection process.

Careers: Veterinarians in private practice, research, academia or state veterinary services. Veterinarians can also work in the following fields: diagnostic laboratories, veterinary public health (milk and meat hygiene, control of transfer of disease), technical services, research and product development in pharmaceutical and food industries, consultancy, laboratory animal management, wildlife management, poultry and pig production and animal welfare.

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<td>NSC/IEB HIGCSE</td>
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<td>Diploma in Veterinary Nursing [2 years]</td>
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The NBT and the Value-added questionnaire are compulsory components of the selection process of the Diploma in Veterinary Nursing.

Careers: Veterinary nurses can be employed by the following institutions: private veterinary practices, veterinary academic hospitals, the pharmaceutical industry, the animal food industry, animal welfare societies, zoological gardens, game parks, laboratory animal units, rehabilitation centres, research centres, animal boarding establishments, organised agriculture, dairies and farming operations.

Please note: The University plans to offer a three-year Veterinary Nursing degree, which may be introduced in 2018 (pending CHE accreditation).
“I chose to do veterinary nursing because of my love for animals. I am dedicated to helping the sick get healthy, and although I love all animals my goal is to get into wildlife rehabilitation when I graduate. That is my real motivation behind studying nursing. There are too many animals being orphaned or injured by poachers and not enough people to help them. If you really want to get involved in the healing process and be hands on with patient care then veterinary nursing is the way to go. You need to be caring and compassionate and have a lot of patience but it is worth every second.”

Jacky Spiby (Diploma in Veterinary Nursing)
Email jackyspiby@gmail.com
General overview/Veterinary Science (BVSc)

General overview

The Faculty structures provide for the following divisions, departments and centres:

Student administration
- Provides full logistical support to academic departments, students and staff for all undergraduate and postgraduate degree and diploma programmes.
- Provides a wide range of student and academic administration support services in collaboration with similar service providers on the Hatfield Campus of the University.

Academic departments
- Anatomy and Physiology (anatomy, embryology, histology and physiology)
- Companion Animal Clinical Studies (medicine, surgery, anaesthesiology, diagnostic imaging, and clinical pathology)
- Paraclinical Sciences (pathology, pharmacology, toxicology, veterinary public health, and phytomedicine)
- Production Animal Studies (food animals such as cattle, small stock, pigs, poultry, and wildlife and the reproduction of all species)
- Veterinary Tropical Diseases (infectious and vector-borne diseases, parasitology, zoonoses and veterinary professional life)

Faculty administration
- General administration
- Finances
- Human resources
- Onderstepoort Teaching Animal Unit (OTAU)
- Marketing, communication and fundraising

Centres
- Equine Research Centre (ERC)
- Centre for Veterinary Wildlife Studies (CVWS)
- Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (VGL)

Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH)
- A state-of-the-art facility for year-round clinical and referral services
- Satellite community clinics
- Experiential work-integrated training of students

Academic programmes

The Faculty currently offers the following programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate level:

Undergraduate
BVSc – Bachelor of Veterinary Science
Diploma in Veterinary Nursing

Postgraduate
MMedVet (19 specific study fields)
MSc Research (Veterinary Science)
MSc (Veterinary Industrial Pharmacology)
MSc (Veterinary Epidemiology)
MSc (Veterinary Reproduction)
MSc (Ruminant Health)
MSc (Veterinary Public Health)
MSc (Tropical Animal Health)
MSc (Wildlife Health, Ecology and Management)
PhD

Veterinary Science (BVSc)

The BVSc programme is only offered by the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria, the only faculty of its kind in South Africa, at the Onderstepoort Campus on a full-time basis. The core-elective programme of the six-year BVSc is an internationally recognised and recommended approach in which all candidates complete a core curriculum over four and a half years (nine semesters). The training concludes with 18 months of work-integrated training in the core and chosen elective components.

The first year of the programme is a basic science year and is presented at the Hatfield Campus, with the remaining veterinary specific years at the Onderstepoort Campus. The language of tuition in this Faculty is English. A well-developed student support system is in place, including mentoring, tutoring and academic support.

Applications for the BVSc programme close on 31 May.

Application and admission requirements for 2018

Entry into the BVSc programme is highly competitive due to popularity of the programme and limited available spaces. Selection is based on merit. The Faculty does not determine specific selection cut-off values as these are determined by the strength of the applications in a particular year.

School-leavers
- A valid NSC/IEB/Cambridge qualification with admission for degree purposes.
- Subject requirements and an Admission Point Score (APS) as indicated in the table on page 1 in this brochure.
- Entry into the BVSc programme is highly competitive due to popularity of the programme and limited available spaces.
- Subject requirements and an Admission Point Score (APS) as indicated in the table on page 1 in this brochure.
- Final selection on National Senior Certificate performance in Mathematics, English and Natural Sciences, as well as the Subject requirements and an Admission Point Score (APS) as indicated in the table on page 1 in this brochure.
- Value-added questionnaire. Additional selection criteria may be used including an interview and a portfolio of evidence, among other things.

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 may be admitted to the programme, including those from neighbouring Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries. Once applicants have been accepted for this programme, they will receive a letter of acceptance 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. The National Benchmark Test (NBT) may be required from international applicants.
VETERINARY SCIENCE (BVSc)

Selection of applicants

A total of 190 students are admitted to the BVSc programme every year. The Faculty endeavours to meet the veterinary needs of the country and the region, as well as the specific requirements of higher education legislation through the selection of applicants. The recruitment and selection process is therefore structured in such a way that it will address diversity, excellence, equity, gender and geographic distribution.

The procedure will be reviewed on an annual basis, but typically makes provision for the following categories of students:
- School-leavers
- Students with previous higher education exposure
- International students
- Students nominated by bursars (eg the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the South African Police Service and the South African National Defence Force)

The programme consists of a combination of lectures, electronic learning opportunities, discussions, demonstrations, seminars, assignments, and group work, practicals and clinical work. The latter is offered mainly in the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital and its community clinics, but also include exposure to private practices and state veterinary services.

A graduate who successfully completed the programme will have received broad-based training with a limited elective programme to cater for specific interests. It is regarded to be at the Higher Education Qualifications Standards Framework (HEQSF) level 8, which means that it will enable the graduate to enter postgraduate programmes at the Master's level. Registration with the SAVC is a prerequisite for practising as a veterinarian in South Africa, which can only commence after completing a period of 12 months' Compulsory Community Service (CCS), which is administered by the National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF). The University's BVSc degree is also recognised in the United Kingdom and Australasia.

More information about the BVSc curriculum can be found on the Faculty's website at www.veterinary.up.ac.za.

Career opportunities in veterinary science

Veterinary science offers rewarding and wide-ranging employment opportunities for new graduates.

State veterinary services

A significant number of veterinarians are employed as state or provincial veterinarians in government service. They render essential regulatory services related to the diagnosis, surveillance, monitoring, control, prevention and eradication of notifiable diseases. State veterinarians are also responsible for matters related to the import and export of animals and animal products as well as for food safety and security. In regions where there are no private practitioners, state veterinarians may also provide clinical services.

Private practice

The majority of veterinarians in the country are gainfully employed in private practice, either in their own practices, in partnership, as assistants or as locums.

There are several avenues of private practice: rural practice, providing veterinary services to the livestock farmer (cattle, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry and game), companion animal practice (dogs, cats, horses, cage birds, etc) and mixed practice (pets/production animals/wildlife). The services provided by the private practitioner include, among others, clinical services, disease prevention strategies, advice and a whole range of consultative services on nutrition, management, production, reproduction, and biotechnology.

Research

Research can be conducted in a wide spectrum of areas (veterinary, agricultural and biomedical sciences), attending to problems related to both animals and humans.

Academia

Graduates can teach at veterinary, medical, agricultural and natural science faculties, conduct research, participate in community engagement projects and provide clinical services.

Private, state and provincial diagnostic laboratories

Graduates can provide routine or forensic diagnostic services involving disciplines such as pathology, clinical pathology, microbiology and toxicology.

Veterinary public health

Food security and the production of food that is safe for human consumption are very important fields in which the veterinarian plays a key role. Veterinarians are responsible for ensuring the maintenance of meat and milk hygiene in abattoirs and milk processing plants, in addition to their role in the maintenance and improvement of animal health on farms. Veterinarians involved in the field of veterinary public health play an important role in the control of zoonotic diseases (ie diseases transferred from animals to humans).

Commerce

The veterinarian is involved in research and product development in the pharmaceutical and feed industries, as well as in the provision of technical advice in sales and management.

Consultancy

The veterinarian can provide specialised or specialist services to the farm animal and pet industries, for example, as a consultant in the pig and poultry industries, feedlots or specialist practices (such as surgery, internal medicine, ophthalmology and dentistry). In the case of a specialist practice, the practitioner will need to have the appropriate postgraduate qualification and be registered with the SAVC to practise as a veterinarian and a specialist.

Laboratory animal science

The veterinarian is an essential member of the team involved in the welfare of laboratory animals, monitoring the utilisation of animals for experimental purposes and giving advice on ethical issues.

Wildlife management

The veterinarian may pursue career opportunities in wildlife ranching, conservation and at zoological institutions. However, posts in these fields are limited and well sought after.

Poultry production

The poultry industry provides large volumes of animal protein for human consumption and veterinarians play a pivotal role in terms of food security.
Veterinary Science (BVSc)/Veterinary Nursing

Animal welfare
The veterinarian is intimately involved in animal welfare in the provision of clinical services and advice, and in management at welfare organisations. Veterinarians are involved in general matters pertaining to the welfare of animals through the promotion of appropriate husbandry practices, nutritional practices, disease prevention strategies and sound production systems.

International employment
Graduates from the Faculty enjoy wide national and international recognition and the BVSc degree of the University of Pretoria is recognised in the United Kingdom, as well as by the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council. We also have numerous memoranda of understanding with fellow Veterinary Schools on the continent and elsewhere in the world.

General
For a young person who likes working with people, is interested in animals and a career in biomedical sciences, veterinary science provides a spectrum of wonderful opportunities. Like many similar career options, veterinary science may perhaps be considered a ‘calling’ and the decision to become a veterinarian involves both the head and the heart. While a love for animals may be a component of the decision to pursue veterinary science as a career, a deeper empathy will be required, coupled with a sense of compassion and caring.

The course is demanding and requires dedication and hard work. It is a career with long and often irregular hours and will certainly test tolerance levels. Whatever field of the profession the graduate chooses to pursue, the ability to work with both people and animals is essential.

The South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) controls the ethics and standards of veterinary education and practice. All graduates must register with the Council before being allowed to practice in the country, and are subject to its rules. The veterinary profession in South Africa has a proud tradition of service to the community, which has been built on the high quality of the training provided and the professional service rendered.

Veterinary Nursing
Studies in Veterinary Nursing, as a recognised profession, are offered by the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria. The Diploma in Veterinary Nursing is currently still a two-year diploma programme and is offered on a full-time basis. The Faculty intends to introduce a three-year veterinary nursing degree programme in 2018 subject to approval. The last intake of students into the Diploma in Veterinary Nursing programme will therefore be in 2017, after which it will be phased out as the degree programme is introduced.

Application and admission requirements
The closing date for all Veterinary Nursing applications is 31 May.

A valid NSC/IEB/Cambridge qualification with university admission is required for all school-leavers who do not have higher education experience. The APS is calculated from the achievement levels obtained in the six 20-credit subjects of the NSC excluding Life Orientation. Minimum admission requirements appear on page 1 of the brochure. All years of study are presented at the Onderstepoort Campus of the University of Pretoria.

Selection of candidates
A total of 50 students will be admitted to the programme. The Faculty endeavours to meet the veterinary nursing needs of the country and the specific requirements of higher education legislation through the selection of applicants. The recruitment and selection process is therefore structured in such a way that it will address access, diversity and excellence.

The procedure is reviewed on an annual basis and makes provision for the following categories of students:
- School-leavers
- Students with previous higher education exposure
- International students
- Students nominated by bursars (for example the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

Selection is based on academic performance.

A limited number of international students may be admitted to the programme. Equivalency of academic credits will be taken into account. Once applicants have been accepted for this programme, they will receive a letter of acceptance 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.

Academic programme
The diploma programme currently requires two years of full-time study. This will change to three years once the degree programme is introduced. The language of tuition is English. The first year of the diploma is devoted to basic modules in anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, ethology, microbiology, parasitology, laboratory techniques and general nursing. It also includes modules in medical nursing, reproductive nursing and theatre practice.

The second year of the diploma is devoted to medical nursing, reproductive nursing, theatre practice, anaesthesiology, radiography and surgical nursing. It also includes a semester of clinical training at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital and approved private veterinary facilities.

Career opportunities in veterinary nursing
Veterinary nursing is recognised by the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) as a para-veterinary profession and all qualified veterinary nurses are registered with the SAVC. Registration is a prerequisite for practising as a veterinary nurse in South Africa. Veterinary nursing opens up a wide range of rewarding and satisfying career opportunities. Wherever there is employment for a veterinarian, there is also a career opportunity for a veterinary nurse and graduates are well sought after in the veterinary profession.

Veterinary nursing requires a dedicated and motivated person with a special interest in working with animals and their owners. The veterinary nurse is a member of a professional team that includes veterinarians, and is expected to show a high degree of responsibility, organisational skills, patience and good human relations. Self-discipline, honesty, dedication and a sense of humour are recommended attributes.
Veterinary Nursing/General information

Among others, the following employment opportunities are available:

- Private veterinary practice that could range from urban and rural, to mixed general, or species-specific. The veterinary nurse assists with anaesthesia, operating theatre management, intensive care, radiography, laboratory analysis, animal patient care and nursing, disease prevention, administration and practice management.

- Employment in the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital, as well as in the pharmaceutical and animal food industries, offers further opportunities. Veterinary nurses are also employed in animal welfare societies throughout South Africa.

- Zoological gardens, game parks, laboratory animal units, rehabilitation centres, research centres, boarding establishments, organised agriculture, dairies and farming operations also offer gainful employment.

General information

Visit www.up.ac.za/admissioninfo for information on the following:

- Study information
- Calculate your Admission Point Score (APS)
- Closing dates
- Fees and Funding
- Special offer for top academic achievers
- Apply at UP
- Change or add a programme
- National Benchmark Test (NBT)
- Application status
- Prepare to study at UP
- Registration and start of the academic year
DISCLAIMER: While every effort has been made to ensure that the information provided on this map is current and accurate, the University of Pretoria does not guarantee its accuracy. The University of Pretoria, its employees, officials, students, and/or representatives shall not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by the user, whether direct, indirect or consequential, or for any expense of any nature whatsoever resulting directly or indirectly from reliance on the map.

Onderstepoort S 25° 38' 52" E 28° 10' 54"

Main Entrance Hoofingang

UP Buildings

UP Residences / Accommodation

Other Buildings

Ander Geboue

Ring Road

Ringpad

Walkways

Vaatpad

Roads

Paad

Parking

Parketting

Visitors' Parking

Besoekersparkerting

Parking for Disabled Persons

Parkerjing vir Gestremde Persone

Student Parking

Studenteparkering

Sports Fields

Sportveld

Animal Enclosures

Dierekampe en-krale

Vehicle Access

Voertuigtoegang

Pedestrian Entry

Voetgangerstoegang

UP Information Desk

UP-inligtingstoonbank

Public Toilets

Openbare Toilette

Toilets for Disabled Persons

Toliette vir Gestremde Persone

Retail and Dining Facilities

Kleinhandel- en Eetfasiliteite

UP Residences / Accommodation

UP-koshuise / Akkommodasie

Koshuise Blok C tot F

Ablusiegeriewe by Sportterrein

Toilets for Disabled Persons

Toilets vir Gestremde Persone

UP-inligtingstoonbank

UP Information Desk

UP EMERGENCY NUMBER:

012 420 2310

UP-NOODNUMMER:

012 420 2310

UP Residences Block A to T

Onderstepoort Houses no 1 to 9

UP-koshuise / Akkommodasie

UP Residences / Accommodation

UP EMERGENCY NUMBER:

012 420 2310

UP-NOODNUMMER:

012 420 2310

Kaart soos bygewerk in Mei 2016

Onderstepoort: Wiewe nie deel van UP nie

UP Residences, UP-koshuise, huis ouerswoning, klubhuis, en koshuise blok C tot F is nie deel van UP nie.

UP Residences, UP-koshuise, huis ouerswoning, klubhuis, en koshuise blok C tot F is nie deel van UP nie.