Message from the Dean

The Faculty of Veterinary Science is unique in South Africa and thus has an essential role in training veterinary and para-veterinary professionals. Our graduates and research programmes are vital in enhancing public and animal health, promoting biosecurity and welfare, and ensuring our production animals and pets are safe and sound.

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 and thereby enhancing food security and economic development of livestock owners.

The quality and scope of our training is such that graduates from this Faculty are able to enter postgraduate programmes at universities across the world. We are also passionate about meeting the needs of South Africa and are striving to ensure that our curriculum will meet the growing need for primary animal healthcare, where veterinarians can assist rural communities and smallholder farmers.

The Faculty's campus compares favourably with the best in the world. It has five academic departments, an Equine Research Centre and a Centre for Veterinary Wildlife Studies. The Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH) provides state-of-the-art facilities for the clinical departments and is the focus of the Faculty's clinical service-rendering activities to the surrounding community. In addition it provides a national referral service. We are also proud of recent new additions to the Faculty, which include a multidisciplinary laboratory, skills laboratory, student centre and offices for student administration and service.

The new, modern student accommodation that was officially opened on our campus in 2012 has contributed significantly to the University's plans to expand the Faculty while more additions were completed towards the end of 2014. We believe that a healthy and safe living environment is conducive to an excellent study environment and enhances the academic experience of students.

However, life here is not only about studying and we know how to have fun, with a wide variety of social activities on and off campus. The Faculty is known for the unique spirit among its students to excel, compete and ultimately be successful in what they do. It is a vibrant place where you will be empowered to start an exciting career as a well-balanced professional person.

We look forward to welcoming you as a new student to our campus.

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Undergraduate programmes

Important information on undergraduate programmes for 2017

- All programmes in this Faculty include selection procedures, which are based on academic merit, the result of the National Benchmark Test (NBT) and a Value-added Questionnaire, among others. Applicants, who indicate BVSc (Bachelor in 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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<td>BVSc (Bachelor of Veterinary Science) [6 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May</td>
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The NBT and the Value-added Questionnaire are compulsory components of the selection process. Applicants with an APS between 30 and 32 will be considered for access into the BSc – Extended programme for the Biological and Agricultural Sciences. Candidates in this category are admitted into the second semester of the first year of BVSc, after successful completion of the first three semesters of the BSc – Extended programme.

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.

PLEASE NOTE: The University plans to offer a three-year Veterinary Nursing degree, which may be introduced in 2017 (pending CHE accreditation).
Faculty highlights

- The Faculty of Veterinary Science is currently the only veterinary faculty in South Africa and the second oldest in Africa.
- Graduates of the Faculty are held in high esteem nationally and internationally, and its BVSc degree is recognised for registration purposes by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (London) and the Australasian Veterinary Boards Council.
- The Faculty trains veterinarians at undergraduate (BVSc degree programme) and postgraduate level (Masters and PhD programmes) and also offers a Diploma in Veterinary Nursing.
- The Faculty has 17 specialist laboratories rendering routine and specialist services to the Faculty and the community.
- A new skills lab was opened in 2015 to ensure that veterinary science students are able to perform proper diagnostic procedures. The lab is making use of various special simulators and models that are commercially available but is also creating its own models and practice stations. This, however does not replace practical training on live animals but enhances the skills and confidence levels of our graduates.
- The Faculty’s Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital (OVAH) has world-class facilities, internationally accredited clinicians and skilled support staff.
- Its Equine Research Centre (ERC) is conducting research that will improve and promote the health and welfare of horses and the horse industry in South Africa.
- Community engagement programmes are fully integrated into the training programmes of the Faculty at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The Faculty has a very strong clinical focus in its training and a period of 18 months clinical training follows on theory and practicals in the BVSc degree programme.
- The Faculty collaborates with universities abroad and, among others, has a longstanding cooperation agreement with Utrecht University in The Netherlands. It has also developed close links with faculties of veterinary science in Africa, especially those in the Southern African Development Community (SADC).
- Increasing numbers of professionals from abroad join the Faculty’s clinical and preclinical programmes and the postgraduate student body reflects a strong mix of South African, African and European students.

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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 in Veterinary Science)
The Diploma in Veterinary Nursing to be phased out once the new Veterinary Nursing degree programme is introduced.

Postgraduate

BVSc (Hons)
MMedVet (21 specific study fields)
MSc (Veterinary Science)
MSc (Veterinary Industrial Pharmacology)
MSc (Veterinary Epidemiology)
MSc (Veterinary Reproduction)

MSc (Ruminant Health)
MSc (Veterinary Public Health)
MSc (Tropical Animal Health)
PhD
DVSc

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.

Students admitted to the BSc – Extended programme for the Biological and Agricultural Sciences, spend the first 18 months in the BSc – Extended programme, after which they join their fellow students in the second semester of the first year of the BVSc programme. The first year is spent on the Mamelodi Campus, the second year on Hatfield Campus and the remainder of their studies at Onderstepoort.

Applications for the BVSc programme close on 31 May.

Application and admission requirements for 2017

The BVSc programme is highly popular since the number of places available in the programme is limited. 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. 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.
- A completed National Benchmark Test (NBT).
- A completed Value-added Questionnaire.
- Additional selection requirements may include 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.
Veterinary Science (BVSc)

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.

Selection of applicants
A total of 190 students are admitted to the BVSc programme (in batches, over the period of a 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, group work, practicals and clinical work. The latter is offered mainly in the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic Hospital, its satellite facilities and community clinics, but also include exposure to private practices and state government 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 will also enable the graduate to enter a number of postgraduate programmes. Registration with the SAVC is a prerequisite for practising as a veterinarian in South Africa. The University’s BVSc degree is also recognised in the United Kingdom and Australasia. Compulsory community service for new graduates commences in 2016 and the graduate must complete a period of 12 months’ service within an 18 months period.

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.

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 2017/18 subject to approval. The last intake of students into the Diploma in Veterinary Nursing programme will therefore be in 2016/2017, 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. Additional requirements include the NBT and a completed Value-added Questionnaire. 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, the NBT and a completed Value-added Questionnaire, among others.

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.
Veterinary Nursing/Postgraduate programmes

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.

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.

Postgraduate programmes

Honours in Veterinary Science BVSc (Hons)
The honours degree provides students with a broad scientific background in the theoretical aspects of various disciplines. The degree will enable the student to apply this knowledge in the workplace or towards completion of the MMedVet degree. Please note that this is only applicable to MMedVet degrees in the CACS department. A candidate must have a BVSc or an equivalent professional veterinary degree to enrol for the BVSc (Hons). The minimum duration for this degree is two years.

Master of Veterinary Medicine (MMedVet)
The master's degree in Veterinary Medicine is a specialist professional degree that equips the student with a broad scientific background in the theoretical aspects and specific practical skills in the chosen field of study. The MMedVet degree allows the graduate to register with the SAVC as a veterinary specialist.

MSc (Veterinary Science)
The MSc degree in Veterinary Science is a research degree offered by all departments over a minimum period of one year and a maximum of two years and may be completed in, but is not limited to, some of the following areas: Bacteriology, Ectoparasitology, Helminthology, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Parasitology, Protozoology, Virology, Veterinary Toxicology, Veterinary Public Health, Veterinary Pathology and Phytomedicine.

MSc (Veterinary Industrial Pharmacology)
This is an MSc degree programme offered by the Department of Paraclinical Sciences to equip candidates with the appropriate knowledge and skills required by the veterinary pharmaceutical industry.

MSc (Veterinary Epidemiology)
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.

MSc (Veterinary Reproduction)
This degree programme will be suitable for veterinarians with an interest in reproduction and an interest in doing research in the field of reproduction, irrespective of the species in which their interest lies.

MSc (Ruminant Health)
This degree programme underlies the major health and production considerations in domesticated ruminants.

MSc (Tropical Animal Health)
The overall objective of this programme is to follow an integrated One Health approach linking animal and human health, with a focus on the relationship between infectious and parasitic diseases of animals and humans (zoonoses), diseases and ecosystem health in order to improve disease control strategies, ecosystem sustainability, food security and rural development.

Philosophiae Doctor (PhD)
The PhD degree is offered by all departments. The degree is conferred on the basis of the successful completion of a thesis. An oral presentation is also required.

Doctor of Veterinary Science (DVSc)
The DVSc degree is conferred on the basis of scientific publications.

General information

Visit www.up.ac.za > 'Study at UP' > 'Undergraduate students' 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 Tuks
- Change or add a programme
- National Benchmark Test (NBT)
- Application status
- Prepare to study at Tuks
- Registration and start of the academic year

UP Open Day

Date 21 May 2016
Time 08:00–14:00

The following persons should attend the UP Open Day:
- Learners in Grade 12 who already received confirmation that they are provisionally admitted to UP
- Learners in Grade 12 who meet the admission requirements and wish to hand in their application forms
- Learners in Grade 11 who are fairly certain they will apply at UP
- Parents of the above learners
- Faculty Open Day information: www.veterinary.up.ac.za