



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

University Diploma Veterinary Nursing (08120002)

Duration of study 2 years

Programme information

This programme may be phased out in due time and be replaced by a three-year degree programme pending approval and accreditation.

Check Faculty website for notification in this regard.

The University retains the right not to admit students in the old programme as from 2015.

Admission requirements

- All study 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 form. Applicants who indicate BVSc or DipVetNurs as their first choice will be given preference. In order to retain provisional admission candidates should still comply with the minimum subject and Admission Point Score (APS) requirements based on their National Senior Certificate (NSC) results.
- In order to register for the University degree or diploma NSC/IEB/Cambridge candidates must comply with the minimum requirements for degree studies as well as the minimum requirements of the study programme.
- Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Minimum requirements for 2016																
Achievement level																
English				Mathematics				Life Sciences				Physical Science				APS
NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS-Level	A-Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS-Level	A-Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS-Level	A-Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS-Level	A-Level	
4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	24

NBT compulsory as part of the selection process.

A valid NSC with university admission is required for all school-leavers who do not have tertiary experience. The APS is calculated from the achievement levels obtained in the six 20-credit subjects of the NSC. Minimum admission requirements appear above. Additional requirements include the NBT and a completed value-added form.

Additional requirements

Students are admitted annually after selection according to the approved procedure.

Each student must apply, immediately after first admission, to the Registrar of the South African Veterinary Council for registration as a student in veterinary nursing. Registration is compulsory and must be renewed



annually for the duration of the study.

After the diploma has been awarded, diplomates are required to register with the South African Veterinary Council as veterinary nurses before they may be employed in South Africa in this capacity.

Examinations and pass requirements

The stipulations of General Regulation G.10.1 regarding satisfactory attendance, preparation, as well as the payment of class fees, apply to examination, promotion and attendance modules. In addition, attendance at all the prescribed lectures, practicals, clinics (including holiday clinics) and excursions is compulsory. Absence with good reason from any of these must be substantiated by a medical certificate or other acceptable proof, failing which admission to the examination could be refused. Failure to comply with General Regulation G.10.1 will also result in examination refusal.

In order to pass an examination module, a student must obtain a subminimum of 40% in the examination and a final mark of at least 50%. In promotion modules, a semester or year mark of at least 50% is required to pass. The theoretical part (i.e. written and/or oral) and the practical part (where applicable) of the examinations contribute an equal amount (i.e. 50:50) in the calculation of the final mark.

If the examination includes a practical as well as a theoretical part, a sub-minimum of 40% is required in each section.

An examination mark of 50% is required to pass a supplementary examination. The semester or year mark is not taken into calculation.

Supplementary examinations may be granted to a student in an unlimited number of modules in the first year of study, but not in the second year of study.

A student must pass all the modules of the first year of study in order to be promoted to the second year of study. A single further examination will, however, be allowed for students who have only one of the following modules outstanding at the end of the academic year, provided the final mark is at least 40%:

- AVP 111 General nursing
- FAK 120 Pharmacology
- GSV 120 Reproductive nursing
- LTG 120 Laboratory technique
- MBI 111 Microbiology
- MVP 120 Medical nursing
- PAR 120 Parasitology
- TPR 120 Theatre practice
- VET 110 Veterinary ethology

Supplementary examinations in the first year

Subject to the provisions of Regulation V.13 (d)(i), students who obtain a final mark of between 40% and 49% in General nursing 111, Microbiology 111 or Veterinary ethology 110, may be admitted to a supplementary examination immediately after the first semester examinations. The provisions of Regulation V.13 (d)(v) also apply.

Supplementary examinations in the final year

A student in the final year of study may be granted a maximum of two supplementary examinations.

A head of department may require from a student who has been admitted to a supplementary examination, to do additional prescribed work for a specified period of time before he or she may take the supplementary examination as approved by the Dean.

Special examination



A student who has failed one or two modules and who has not been admitted to a supplementary examination, or who fails the supplementary examination(s), may be allowed to take a special examination after having worked full-time in the department/s concerned for a period determined by the head/s of department and with the Dean's approval. If he or she fails the latter, the Dean will determine when a further examination may be taken.

Repetition of the final year of study

A student who has failed more than two modules at the time of the Examination Commission meeting, must repeat the last two semesters of the curriculum with due cognisance of rule V.13 (e), unless the Dean decides otherwise.

General pass requirements

In addition to the stipulations of General Regulations, G.3.2(b), a student will not be allowed to repeat the same year of study twice.

A student who has to discontinue his or her studies in terms of stipulations (e) and (g) above, may request the Dean in writing to consider his or her application for re-admission to the Faculty in terms of prescribed procedures as stipulated in Application of General Regulation G.3 and Faculty Regulation V.1.c(ix) in the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria as approved by the Faculty Board.

Promotion to next study year

A student, who fails one or more modules in the first year of study, is subject to selection once again. A limited number of four students will be re-admitted to the first year of study. If re-admitted, the student has to repeat the first year of study. Students may apply for exemption from the examination in modules already passed, provided that a year or semester mark of at least 50% is obtained in the relevant modules in the year during which first-year studies are repeated and the requirements of V.13 (c) have been met. For modules passed with a final mark of 65% or more, full exemption of lectures and examinations is granted.

Practical/clinical/internship information

Clinical experience (including practical work)

Proof of satisfactory completion of prescribed clinical and practical components of the programme as prescribed below, must be submitted to the Head: Student Administration of the Faculty, prior to the commencement of the final examinations. Failure to do so may lead to examination refusal.

In state control of stock diseases and administration: experience at an approved institution as approved by the Dean.

Practical and clinical experience at the Faculty and at approved private practices as well as other institutions as approved by the Dean.

Clinical skills training in the first year

Clinical skills training must be completed at various clinics of the Veterinary Academic Hospital throughout the year and during the December holidays, and also on a rotation basis at Outpatients, Isolation Ward and Intensive Care Unit after-hours and over weekends.

Clinical skills training in the final year

Clinical skills training must be completed in various clinics of the Veterinary Academic Hospital. Students also have to work on a rotation basis at Outpatients, in the Isolation Ward and the Intensive Care Unit after hours and over weekends and holidays.

After-hour duties are also required in the Equine Clinic, Ambulatory Services and the Reproduction Clinic.

Students are also required to gain experience at the following institutions for two weeks each: an approved



veterinary institute, private practice or clinic of their own choice at the Veterinary Academic Hospital. Additional rotations must be done at the Veterinary Academic Hospital during the April holidays.

Pass with distinction

The diploma is awarded with distinction to a student who has obtained at least 60% in each module throughout the programme, and an average of at least 75% in the final year.



Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 129

Fundamental modules

Academic orientation 108 (UPO 108)

Module credits	0.00
Language of tuition	Double Medium
Academic organisation	Vet Sc Dean's Office
Period of presentation	Year

Core modules

General nursing 111 (AVP 111)

Module credits	14.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 practicals per week, 5 lectures per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Production Animal Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Professional ethics, human relations, responsibilities towards the employer, the patient and the clients. Disinfection and hospital hygiene. General safety aspects and preventative measures during observation, hospitalisation, basic nursing procedures and treatment of patients. Administration and record keeping. Reporting to the veterinarian using correct medical terminology. Arrangements regarding the transportation of patients.

Reproductive nursing 120 (GSV 120)

Module credits	5.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week, 10 Clinical periods
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Production Animal Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 2



Module content

Fundamental reproductive physiology and endocrinology of the male and female domestic animals. The oestrous cycle, monitoring thereof and principles of oestrus control. Artificial insemination of the cow, ewe and bitch. Physiology and endocrinology of pregnancy, pregnancy diagnosis and care of the pre- and post-partum animal and neonate. Normal parturition and care of the animal during parturition and puerperium. Basic obstetrics and reproductive emergencies. Basic principles of collection, examination and storage of semen. Infertility of female and male animals.

Laboratory technique 120 (LTG 120)

Module credits	11.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	6 lectures per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Companion Animal Clin Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Specimen collection and dispatching, maintenance and handling of laboratory equipment, quality control, record keeping, basic haematology, elements of transfusion medicine, uninalysis, coprology, basic cytological principles, aspects of clinical chemistry.

Medical nursing 120 (MVP 120)

Module credits	6.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1.5 lectures per week, 10 clinical practicals per semester
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Companion Animal Clin Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Theoretical aspects of intensive care nursing, including fluid therapy, cardiovascular and pulmonary resuscitation, nutritional therapy, recognition and treatment of shock. Monitoring of patients.

Parasitology 120 (PAR 120)

Module credits	8.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per week, 6 Practicals
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Veterinary Tropical Diseases



Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Elementary helminthology, ectoparasitology and protozoology. Theoretical and practical studies on the most important parasites of domestic animals, the diseases they cause or transmit and methods to control them.

Theatre practice 120 (TPR 120)

Module credits 6.00

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 10 clinical practicals per semester, 1.5 lectures per week

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Companion Animal Clin Studies

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Theatre ethics.

Basic principles of aseptic techniques. Types of surgical infections and their causes. Theatre management, hygiene and routine. Care of patients in the theatre. Lectures are offered by various departments.

Veterinary ethology 110 (VET 110)

Module credits 16.00

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 6 lectures per week, 3 practicals per week

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Companion Animal Clin Studies

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to veterinary ethology.

Applied ethology of companion animals (dogs, cats, horses) and applied production animal ethology (cattle, sheep, pigs), including livestock, breeds, behaviour, breeding, feeding and care of each species.

Lectures are offered by the departments of Companion Animal Clinical Studies and Production Animal Studies.

Anatomy 104 (ANG 104)

Module credits 24.00

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 5 demonstrations/4 lectures per week, 1 demonstration/3 lectures per week

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Anatomy and Physiology

Period of presentation Year



Module content

Basic anatomy, histology and embryology of the dog, including applicable comparative anatomy of the horse and ruminant. Offered for DipVetNursing students.

Pharmacology 120 (FAK 120)

Module credits	7.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Paraclinical Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Fundamental principles of Pharmacology required by veterinary nurses. The basic study of groups of functional, systemic and chemotherapeutic drugs used in domestic animals. Regulatory requirements, control and use of veterinary medicines by veterinary nurses.

Microbiology 111 (MBI 111)

Module credits	10.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	5 lectures per week, 5 practical sessions per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Veterinary Tropical Diseases
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to the viral, bacterial and fungal agents that cause diseases in animals and introduction to the most important infectious diseases of domestic animals. Elementary knowledge of immunology, theory and effects of antiseptic techniques, zoonoses and epidemiology. Transmission and prevention of these diseases.

Physiology 104 (FSL 104)

Module credits	22.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	Semester 2: 3 lectures per week, Semester 1: 8 lectures per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Anatomy and Physiology
Period of presentation	Year



Module content

An elementary module in the physiology and physiological chemistry of the most important physical systems of domestic animals.



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 163

Core modules

Surgical nursing 200 (CVP 200)

Module credits 38.00

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time Semester 2: 5 clinical weeks per semester, Semester 1: 6 lectures per week, Semester 1: 1 clinical week per semester

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Companion Animal Clin Studies

Period of presentation Year

Module content

The classification, complications and treatment of inflammation, wounds, bleeding, fractures and dislocation. Healing of wounds. Healing of different types of tissue. Surgical terminology. Examining a traumatised patient. Ocular emergencies.

General surgical conditions and procedures of the thorax, abdomen, head and neck, skin, vertebral column and motor system. Nutrition of surgical patients. Surgical nursing of companion and production animals. Bandaging large and small animals. Dental hygiene. Physiotherapy. Pre-operative and post-operative nursing. Lectures offered by various departments.

Reproductive nursing 200 (GSV 200)

Module credits 11.00

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time Semester 1 :25 Clinical period per sem, Semester 2: 1 clinical week per semester

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Production Animal Studies

Period of presentation Year

Module content

Clinic management, practical instruction, patient care and nursing procedures in the reproduction clinic.

Medical nursing 200 (MVP 200)

Module credits 74.00

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time Semester 2: 7 clinical weeks per semester, Semester 1: 2 clinical weeks per semester, Semester 1: 6 lectures per week



Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Companion Animal Clin Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Emergency treatment and nursing care of companion animal and production animal patients. Assisting with and performing diagnostic procedures. Lectures are offered by the departments of Companion Animal Clinical Studies and Production Animal Studies.

Anaesthesiology 200 (NAR 200)

Module credits	16.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	Semester 1: 25 clinical practicals per semester, 1 clinical week per semester, Semester 1: 3 lectures per week

Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Companion Animal Clin Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

The physiology and signs of anaesthesia.
Anaesthetics, methods and apparatus of anaesthesia. Anaesthetising and monitoring anaesthesia. Preparation and after-care. Anaesthetic emergencies.

Theatre practice 200 (TPR 200)

Module credits	12.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	Semester 1: 25 clinical practicals per semester, Semester 2: 1 clinical week per semester, Semester 1: 3 lectures per week

Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Companion Animal Clin Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Principles of sterilisation and disinfection. Surgical instruments, equipment, accessories and its maintenance and care. Suture materials and suturing. Professional responsibility.

Radiography 200 (RAV 200)

Module credits	12.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	Semester 2: 1 clinical week per semester, Semester 1: 25 clinical practicals per semester, Semester 1: 3 lectures per week



Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Companion Animal Clin Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Generating röntgen rays and their properties. Protective measures. Manipulating exposure factors. Positioning. Purpose and maintenance of accessories. Films, contrast media, development and evaluation of the quality of röntgen photographs. Basic principles of diagnostic ultrasonography.

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.