Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

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www.RossU.edu/veterinary-school/apply

Send Supporting Documentation to:
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Date of Issue: April 2016

Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (RUSVM) admits students without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, disability, or age to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally made available to students at RUSVM. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, age, political affiliation or belief in administration of its educational programs and other RUSVM-administered policies, or employment policies.
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# POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

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RUSVM AT A GLANCE

Year Founded: 1982

Locations:
St. Kitts: Main campus; pre-clinical Doctor in Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program and postgraduate programs

Affiliated Schools: DVM clinical training occurs at one of the more than 20 RUSVM-affiliated American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)-accredited schools of veterinary medicine in the United States, Canada, Australia and Ireland.

Facilities: Pre-clinical training and postgraduate programs are conducted at RUSVM’s main campus in St. Kitts. Built on a multi-level site, the 50-acre campus features high-tech classrooms, highly developed small and large animal surgery suites, and a hands-on gross anatomy lab equipped with progressive multimedia technology, closed-circuit cameras, and display monitors.

Campus Facilities Include:
- Large Animal Teaching Center
- Two Surgery Teaching Laboratories
- Large Animal Hospital with recovery stalls
- Large Animal Diagnostics/ Techniques Room
- Student study space, conference rooms, offices
- Extensive large animal paddock and kennels, with more than 350 animals
- Approximately 20-acres of pasture land
- Two large classrooms, seating approximately 180 students each
- Two auditoriums, seating approximately 150 students each
- Diagnostic Imaging and Pathology labs
- Clinical Skills Laboratory
- Multi-disciplinary Laboratory
- Interactive small group study rooms
- Necropsy facility
- Museum of Anatomical Specimens
- Veterinary Clinic
- Learning Resource Center with Library, Exam Center and 24-hour Reading Room
- Simulation Laboratory
- Research Laboratory
- Simulated Exam Rooms, reception areas with technology and video equipment for communication and problem-based learning capabilities

Faculty Members: Approximately 70-member faculty; the majority hold Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and/or PhD credentials and many are board certified in one or more clinical specialties.

Degree Programs:
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine:
Pre-Clinical Curriculum: Seven semesters (28 months) on the St. Kitts campus, emphasizing practical, hands-on experience that includes exposure to clinical patients and surgery.
Clinical Training Curriculum: Three academic semesters (45 weeks) in the U.S., Canada or international location at an accredited veterinary school affiliated with RUSVM.

Licensing: RUSVM graduates are eligible to practice in all 50 US states, Canada and Puerto Rico upon successful completion of the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination® (NAVLE).

Enrollment: More than 1,400 students; 98% are from the US or Canada.

Graduates: More than 4,000 alumni.

Postgraduate Studies:

Master of Science by Coursework in One Health: Requires 41 credits, obtained through coursework and a project, leading to the submission of a thesis. Students are required to undertake specified core courses amounting to 23 credits.

Master of Science by Research: The Master of Science by Research degree program is based on supervised research over a period of one year full-time (3 semesters) or a maximum of 24 months part-time (6 semesters).

Doctoral (PhD) by Research: The Doctoral by Research degree is based on supervised research over a period of three years full-time (9 semesters) or a maximum of 72 months part time (18 semesters).

Waitlist: Established when the number of students accepted into the DVM program exceeds the number of students who can be adequately accommodated in a class. Waitlisted students are automatically accepted for the following semester. There is no need to reapply.

Financial Aid: Accepted and current students enrolled in the DVM program may be eligible for financial assistance programs available through the U.S./Canadian government and private loan programs. RUSVM postgraduate programs are not eligible for U.S. federal loans or financial aid.

Housing: First semester DVM students live in on-campus housing. A wide range of housing options are available for all other students within a short distance of the campus.

Learn More: Visit our website, www.RossU.edu/veterinary-school, to obtain more information, apply online or learn about the next Information Seminar near you.

DVM Program: admissions@rossu.edu or call +1-855-ROSS-VET (855-767-7838)
Postgraduate Degree Programs: postgrad@rosvet.edu.kn

For comprehensive consumer information, please visit www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/student-consumer-info.cfm.
MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Welcome to Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, where becoming a veterinarian is so much more than a Doctor of Medicine (DVM) degree—it’s an experience. It’s an opportunity to begin an exciting, challenging adventure to fuel your passion for veterinary medicine, become engaged, and open yourself up to a unique world of new ideas.

Because at RUSVM, we recognize the power of ideas. Whether you join our accelerated, AVMA-accredited DVM program, Master of Science (MSc) by Coursework in One Health, Master of Science (MSc) or Doctoral (PhD) by Research degree programs, our team of accomplished teachers and renowned researchers are committed to your success. From your first moments on the island to your graduation day, and into your veterinary career, we are here to support you—to help you turn today’s ideas into tomorrow’s solutions.

At RUSVM, we strive for more than just teaching excellence—our goal is to make an impact on you, your future, and the veterinary profession. We strive to connect our students to a rigorous academic and research environment, but also to a diverse cultural environment that helps make them more adaptable as veterinarians. Our goal is to give our students the transferable skills necessary to pursue a wide selection of careers in clinical practice, academia, industry, business, or elsewhere in tomorrow’s global society.

This is an exciting time to be considering your education at RUSVM, as we continue to build on our tradition and vision: to further train our graduates to address the most pressing challenges in human and animal medicine—One Health. RUSVM’s geographical location in the Caribbean within the Federation of St. Christopher and Nevis allows our students to pursue knowledge and understanding of public health aspects of all species, scientific methodology, and the control and prevention of disease.

If you’re ready to unlock the doors to a bright future in veterinary medicine, we are ready to help get you there.

Guy St. Jean, DVM, MS, DipACVS
Interim Dean Professor of Surgery
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
ACADEMIC CALENDAR

RUSVM operates on a three-semester calendar year. The DVM pre-clinical semesters are 15 weeks each, including final exams. The DVM clinical program is a minimum of 45 weeks. The DVM program is a total of 150 weeks. Program hours for the postgraduate degree programs vary by degree. The start date for each semester is the day classes begin. Mandatory orientation for first semester DVM and Veterinary Preparatory (Vet Prep) program students is conducted each semester, during the week before classes begin. There are a total of seven weeks of semester break each calendar year. Traditionally, there are two weeks in the April/May break, two weeks in the August/September break and three weeks in the December/January break. Each semester, RUSVM has a one-day, mid-semester break.

2015-2016 Academic Year

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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Finish Date</th>
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<td>Fall Term</td>
<td>September 7, 2015</td>
<td>December 17, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Term</td>
<td>January 11, 2016</td>
<td>April 21, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Term</td>
<td>May 9, 2016</td>
<td>August 18, 2016</td>
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2016-2017 Academic Year

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<th>Semester</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Finish Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Term</td>
<td>September 5, 2016</td>
<td>December 15, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Term</td>
<td>January 9, 2017</td>
<td>April 20, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Term</td>
<td>May 8, 2017</td>
<td>August 17, 2017</td>
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The academic calendar for the clinical portion of the DVM degree program varies by the individual clinical affiliate. Visit the clinical affiliate web sites for information.
RUSVM ADMINISTRATION

Guy St. Jean, MS, DMV, DACVS
Interim Dean
Veterinary School: University of Montreal
Additional Degree: The Ohio State University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, (ACVS)

Carmen Fuentealba, MSc, DVM, PhD
Executive Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning
Director, Center for Research and Innovation in Veterinary and Medical Education
Veterinary School: Universidad Austral de Chile
Additional Degrees: Universidad de Chile (MSc), University of Liverpool (PhD)

Juan Samper, MSc, DVM, PhD, DACT
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and Professional Opportunities
Veterinary School: National University, Colombia
Additional Degree: University of Minnesota (MSc, PhD)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACT

A. Lee Willingham, BSc, PhD, DVM
Associate Dean for Research and Postgraduate Studies
Director, One Health Center for Zoonoses and Tropical Veterinary Medicine
Interim Head of Research
Veterinary School: University of Georgia
Additional Degrees: University of Georgia (BSc), Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Denmark (PhD)

Charles Wallace, MS, DVM, DACVS
Interim Associate Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs
Professor of Large Animal Medicine and Surgery
Veterinary School: The Ohio State University
Additional Degree: The Ohio State University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

Eric Pope, MS, DVM, DACVS
Department Head, Clinical Sciences
Veterinary School: Auburn University
Additional Degree: Auburn University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate: ACVS

Sean Callanan, PhD, MVB, MRCVS, DECVP
Department Head, Biomedical Sciences
Director, Center for Integrative Mammalian Research
Veterinary School: University College Dublin
Additional Degrees: University of Glasgow (PhD)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate ECVP
Darryn Knobel, BVSc, MSc, PhD
Director, Center for Conservation Medicine and Ecosystem Health
Veterinary School: University of Pretoria
Additional Degrees: University of Pretoria (MSc), University of Edinburgh (PhD)

Ray Francis, BSc, MSc
Campus Administrator and Director of Finance
Degree: The University of the West Indies (BSc), University of Warwick (MSc)

Jodi Peeler, BA, MBA, CFRE
Director of International and External Relations
Degrees: North Carolina State University (BA), Campbell University (MBA)

Hazarie Ramoutar, BSc, FCCA
Director of Student Experience
Degree: The University of the West Indies (BSc)
Specialty Certification: Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, UK

Nathalie Mather-L’Huillier, BSc, MPhil, PhD
Director of Teaching and Learning
Degrees: Edinburgh Napier University (BSc), University of Nottingham (MPhil), University of Edinburgh (PhD)

Daniella Hickling, BA, MA
University Registrar
Degrees: The University of the West Indies (BA), University of San Diego (MA)

Grace Carr, BSc, MLIS
Director of Library Services
Degrees: Northern Caribbean University (BSc), The University of the West Indies (MLIS)

Jennifer Bradtke, BA, MA, PsyD
Director of Counseling Center and Clinical Psychologist
Degrees: Purdue University (BA), Illinois School of Professional Psychology (MA, PsyD)

Anne Nichols, MSN, NP
Manager of Student Health Services
Degrees: Gwynedd Mercy College (AND, BSN), Widner University (MSN, CRNP)

Matthew Haga, BSc, MCSE
Director of Information Technology
Degree: Emory & Henry College (MCSE)

Kim Mundy-Castle
Interim Director of Facilities

Felix Alejandro, BA, MHRM, MBA
Director of Human Resources
Degrees: Brooklyn College (BA), Cornell University (MHRM), Keller Graduate School of Management (MBA)
RUSVM FACULTY

Elpida Artemiou, BSc, MSc, PhD
Instructor of Communications
Degrees: McGill University (BSc, MSc), University Ambrosiana (PhD)

Christine Barron, MSc, DVM
Clinical Instructor
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: Texas A&M University (BSc), Texas Tech University (MSc)

Amy Beierschmitt, BSc, DVM
Assistant Professor
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degree: University of California, Davis (BSc)

Don Bergfelt, BS, MS, PhD
Associate Professor of Biomedical Sciences
Degrees: University of Wisconsin-Madison (BS, MS, PhD)

Larry Betance, BSc, DVM
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: University of California, Davis (BSc)

Pompei Bolfa, MSc, DVM, PhD
Assistant Professor of Microanatomy, Pathology and Anatomy
Veterinary School: University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Additional Degrees: Radiology and Clinical Veterinary Medicine, University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj-Napoca, Romania (MSc, PhD)

Pamela Boutilier, MVSc, DVM, DACVIM
Assistant Professor of Veterinary Therapeutics
Veterinary School: Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island
Additional Degrees: Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan (MVSc)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM

Patrick Butaye, DVM, PhD
Professor of Microbiology
Veterinary Degree: Ghent University
Additional Degree: Ghent University (PhD)

Sean Callanan, PhD, MVB, MRCVS, DECVP
Professor of Anatomic Pathology
Veterinary School: University College Dublin
Additional Degrees: University of Glasgow (PhD)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate ECVP
Tracey Challenger, DVM
Assistant Professor of Ambulatory Services
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

Aspinas Chapwanya, BSc, BVSc, MVM, PhD
Assistant Professor, Theriogenology
Veterinary School: Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Zimbabwe
Additional Degrees: University of Zimbabwe (BSc), Trinity College Dublin (PhD)

Anne Conan, DVM, MSc, PhD
Post-Doctoral Fellow
Veterinary School: Nantes Atlantic National College of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (MSc),
Pierre and Marie Curie University, France (PhD)

Luis Cruz-Martinez, DVM, MSc, PhD
Assistant Professor of Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Degree: National University of Costa Rica
Additional Degrees: University of Minnesota (MSc), University of Calgary (PhD)

Andre de Almeida, BSc, MSc, PhD
Associate Professor of Animal Production Science
Degrees: University of Evora (BSc), Technical University of Lisbon (MSc), Chemical and
Biological Technologies Institute of the New University of Lisbon (PhD)

Michelle Dennis, BS, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Associate Professor, Anatomic Pathology
Veterinary School: Purdue University
Additional Degrees: Purdue University (BS), Colorado State University (PhD), The University of
Sydney (Graduate Certificate in Higher Education)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVP

Wencke du Plessis, BVSc, MMedVet, DMedVet, DECDI
Associate Professor of Diagnostic Imaging
Veterinary School: Free University of Berlin
Additional Degrees: University of Pretoria (MMedVet)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ECDI

James Dundas, MVSc, DVM, DACVS
Assistant Professor, Spay Lab
Veterinary School: Michigan State University
Additional Degrees: Western College of Veterinary Medicine (MVSc)
Specialty Certification, Diplomate, ACVS

James Fairs, BVSc, MRCVS
Director of the Ross University Veterinary Clinic
Clinical Assistant Professor
Veterinary School: University of Liverpool
Robin Farrell, BA, DVM  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Skills  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine  
Additional Degree: University of Delaware

Hilari French, DVM, PhD, DACT  
Assistant Professor in Theriogenology  
Veterinary School: Louisiana State University  
Additional Degrees: Louisiana State University (PhD)  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACT

Carmen Fuentealba, MSc, DVM, PhD  
Professor of Veterinary Histology and Anatomic Pathology  
Veterinary School: Universidad Austral de Chile  
Additional Degrees: Universidad de Chile (MSc), University of Liverpool (PhD)

Christa Gallagher, BSc, DVM, MPH, DACVPM  
Assistant Professor of Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine  
Additional Degrees: State University of New York Albany (BSc), University of Iowa (MPH)  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVPM

Souvik Ghosh, BVSc, MVSc, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Infectious Diseases  
Veterinary School: West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, India  
Additional Degrees: West Bengal University of animal & Fishery Sciences, India (BVSc, AH, MVSc), National Institute of Cholera Enteric Diseases, India (PhD)

Bernard Grevemeyer, DMV, DECVS  
Professor of Large Animal Surgery  
Veterinary School: University of Munich  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ECVS

Maria Guerra, BSc, MSc, PhD  
Instructor of Microbiology and Food Safety  
Degrees: University of Evora, Portugal (BSc), University of Lisbon (MSc, PhD)

Rebecca Hall, BS, DVM  
Assistant Professor and Clinician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine  
Additional Degree: Eckerd College (BS)

Lesroy Henry, DVM  
Assistant Professor of Ambulatory Services  
Veterinary School: University of the West Indies  
Additional Degrees: Diploma in Public Health, University of Guyana

Clayton Heyliger, MSc, PhD  
Professor of Physiology  
Degrees: University of Manitoba (MSc, PhD)
Jennifer Huck, BS, DVM, DACVS
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Surgery
Veterinary School: The Ohio State University
Additional Degree: Bates College (BS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

Oscar Illanes, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Professor of Anatomic Pathology
Veterinary School: Universidad Austral de Chile
Additional Degree: University of Liverpool (PhD)
Specialty Certificate: Diplomate, ACVP

Patrick Kelly, BVSc, MSc, PhD
Professor of Small Animal Internal Medicine
Veterinary School: University of Pretoria
Additional Degrees: University of the Witwatersrand (MSc), University of Zimbabwe (PhD)

Jennifer Ketzis, MSc, PhD
Assistant Professor of Parasitology
Degrees: Cornell University (BSc, MSc, PhD)

Liza Köster, BVSc, MMedVet, DECVIM
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: University of Pretoria, Ondersteopoort
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ECVIM

Darryn Knobel, BVSc, MSc, PhD
Associate Professor, Epidemiology and Population Health
Veterinary School: University of Pretoria
Additional Degrees: University of Pretoria (MSc), University of Edinburgh (PhD)

Brady Little, BSc, DVM
Clinical Instructor
Veterinary School: Kansas State University
Additional Degree: University of Nebraska Lincoln (BSc)

Erika Little, MSc, DVM, DACVS
Assistant Professor of Clinical Sciences
Veterinary School: Kansas State University
Additional Degrees: Colorado State University (BS), Auburn University (MSc)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

Jill Maney, VMD, DACVAA, CVA
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology
Veterinary School: University of Pennsylvania
Additional Degree: Pennsylvania State University (BS)
Specialty Certifications: Diplomate, ACVAA, Certified Veterinary Acupuncturist (CVA)
Mary Mauldin Pereira, BS, DVM
Assistant Professor of Parasitology
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degree: Clemson University (BSc)

Gleeson Murphy, DVM, MPH, PhD, DACVPM
Assistant Professor of Preclinical Veterinary Sciences
Veterinary School: Louisiana State University
Additional Degrees: Louisiana State University (BS, PhD), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (MPH)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVPM

Rajeev Nair, BVSc, MS
Clinical Instructor
Veterinary School: College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, India
Additional Degree: University of Tennessee, Knoxville (MS)

Rodolfo Nino Fong, MVZ, MSc, PhD
Assistant Professor of Veterinary Anatomy
Veterinary School: Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon, Mexico
Additional Degrees: Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon (MSc), University of Western Ontario, Canada (PhD)

Andrea Peda, BSc, DVM
Assistant Professor and Clinician
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degree: West Chester University (BSc)

Erik Peterson, DVM
Clinical Instructor, Large Animal
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degree: Virginia Commonwealth University (BS)

Eric Pope, MS, DVM, DACVS
Professor of Small Animal Surgery
Veterinary School: Auburn University
Additional Degree: Auburn University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

Sreekumari Rajeev, BVSc, PhD, DACVM, DACVP
Associate Professor of Veterinary Bacteriology
Veterinary School: Kerala Agricultural University
Additional Degree: University of Tennessee, Knoxville (PhD)
Specialty Certifications: Diplomate, ACVP, Diplomate, ACVM

Marcelo Ratto, MSc, VMD, PhD
Associate Professor of Animal Reproductive Physiology
Veterinary School: Universidad de La Plata, Argentina
Additional Degrees: Universidad Austral de Chile, Chile (MSc), University of Saskatchewan, Canada (PhD)
Gilda Rawlins, DVM
Instructor of Diagnostic Imaging
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

Allen Reich, DVM, PhD
Professor of Physiology
Veterinary School: Tufts University
Additional Degrees: Yale University (PhD)

Saundra Sample, BS, DVM
Clinical Instructor, Clinical Pathology
Veterinary School: University of Illinois
Additional Degree: Denison University (BS)

Linda Shell, BA, DVM, DACVIM
Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: University of Tennessee
Additional Degree: University of Tennessee (BA)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM

Ibrahim Shokry, MVSc, PhD
Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology
Veterinary School: Cairo University
Additional Degrees: Cairo University (PhD)

Fortune Sithole, BVSc, MSc, PhD, DACVPM
Assistant Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology
Veterinary School: University of Zimbabwe
Additional Degrees: University of Prince Edward Island, Canada (PhD)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVPM

Cathryn Sparks, BSc, MS, PhD
Assistant Professor of Anatomy
Degrees: Louisiana State University (BSc, MS, PhD)

Kimberly Stewart, BS, MS, DVM
Assistant Professor of Special Species
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: Georgia Southern University (BS, MS)

Guy St. Jean, MS, DMV, DACVS
Professor of Large Animal Surgery
Veterinary School: University of Montreal, Canada
Additional Degree: The Ohio State University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

Stacy Tela, DVM
Clinical Instructor
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degree: Le Moyne College (BS)
Mary Anna Thrall, MS, DVM, DACVP  
Professor of Clinical Pathology  
Veterinary School: Purdue University  
Additional Degree: Colorado State University (MS)  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVP

Felix Toka, DVM, PhD, DSc  
Associate Professor of Veterinary Virology  
Veterinary School: Warsaw Agricultural University  
Additional Degrees: Warsaw Agriculture University (PhD), Warsaw University of Life Sciences (DSc)

Matthew Valentine, BVMS  
Intern, Pathology  
Veterinary School: Glasgow University, Scotland

Michel Vandenplas, BSc, MSc, PhD  
Senior Scientist  
Degrees: University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (BSc, MSc, PhD)

Charles Wallace, MS, DVM, DACVS  
Professor of Large Animal Medicine and Surgery  
Veterinary School: The Ohio State University  
Additional Degree: The Ohio State University (MS)  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

A. Lee Willingham, PhD, DVM  
Professor of One Health  
Veterinary School: University of Georgia  
Additional Degrees: University of Georgia (BSc), Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Denmark (PhD)

Chaoqun Yao, MD, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Parasitology  
Medical School: Tongji Medical University  
Additional Degrees: University of Georgia (PhD)

Kathleen Yvorchuk–St. Jean, DMV, DACVIM  
Professor of Large Animal Internal Medicine  
Veterinary School: University of Montreal, Canada  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM
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GENERAL INFORMATION

Foreword

Students must be familiar with the policies and procedures of Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (RUSVM), as stated in this catalog and the RUSVM Student Handbook.

The contents of this catalog represent the most current information available at the time of publication. However, during the period of time covered by this catalog, it is reasonable to expect changes to be made with respect to this information without prior notice. The online version, found at www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school, is the most current and accurate representation of RUSVM's academic catalog. It is updated frequently to give you the most current catalog information, and students are responsible for reviewing the changes.

RUSVM reserves the right to change, modify or alter, without notice, all fees, charges, tuition expenses and costs of any kind. RUSVM further reserves the right to add, modify or delete, without notice, any course offering or information contained in this catalog. Class and exam schedules published each semester will indicate additions or other changes.

Following a student's entry into the program, the curriculum may undergo modification(s). Students are responsible for degree program requirements in effect at the time of enrollment, plus any changes made during the student's progress toward completion as long as such changes do not delay graduation.

This catalog is a description of the educational program and activities available at RUSVM. RUSVM makes no claims that enrolling in a particular class or following the course curriculum will produce a specific achievement, employment, qualification for employment, admission to postgraduate degree programs or licensure. It is understood that the ultimate responsibility for complying with degree program requirements rests with the student.

Introduction

RUSVM offers, Doctoral (PhD) and Masters (MSc), and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree programs. Since our founding in 1982, RUSVM has graduated more than 4,000 veterinarians in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree program. RUSVM maintains a technologically advanced campus in St. Kitts, part of the Federation of St. Christopher and Nevis in the Caribbean. Our administrative offices are located in Iselin, NJ.

At our campus, the educational program is built upon a broad-based curriculum that provides the foundation for an excellent education and entry into a variety of career pathways. Our faculty has outstanding credentials in teaching and research and shares a passion for educating leaders of the public and professional health care teams of tomorrow.
Mission
The Mission of Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine is to provide the best learning environment to prepare students to become members and leaders of the worldwide public and professional healthcare team, advancing human and animal health (One Health) through research and knowledge exchange.

- To provide a relevant and stimulating learning environment to equip veterinary students to become practice- and career-ready graduates
- To embrace diversity and offer students from a wide range of backgrounds the opportunity to follow their chosen career in veterinary medicine
- To serve society through strategic and impactful research into safe food production and control of emerging infectious and zoonotic diseases in developing countries and beyond
- To involve students in the work of our Research Centers, to foster a thirst for knowledge to improve the health and welfare of humans and animals through observation, investigation, and research
- To educate graduate students to become successful contributors to the knowledge economy, through advanced training in areas strategically important to global health

Degree Programs Overview
Veterinary Preparatory Program
RUSVM offers a one-semester Veterinary Preparatory (Vet Prep) program for students who may benefit from specific courses to enhance the probability of their success in veterinary school.

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree Program
The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree program consists of 10 semesters of pre-clinical and clinical training. The seven-semester pre-clinical curriculum takes place in St. Kitts and is enhanced by hands-on clinical experience to help students prepare for their final year of clinical training at one of RUSVM’s affiliated veterinary schools in the United States, Canada, Ireland, or Australia. RUSVM is proud to be affiliated with more than 20 AVMA-accredited schools of veterinary medicine.

Postgraduate Studies Program
Within the framework of the postgraduate studies program, RUSVM offers Master of Science (MSc) and Doctoral (PhD) degree programs in public health, global animal health, tropical animal health, conservation medicine, veterinary education research and other research areas supported by RUSVM and its partner institutions. The management of the postgraduate studies program and its regulations are guided by the frameworks set by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (United Kingdom).

Accreditation & Approvals
RUSVM’s DVM, MSc, and PhD degree programs are accredited by the St. Christopher & Nevis Accreditation Board. The DVM program holds accredited status from the American Veterinary Medical Association. The RUSVM Veterinary Clinic is accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association.
St. Christopher & Nevis Accreditation Board
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine is accredited by the St. Christopher & Nevis Accreditation Board, Ministry of Education to confer the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine on its students who successfully complete the course of study. The status of full accreditation was renewed following submission of a self-study report and a site visit for a period of five years, effective July 1, 2012.

Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine received full accreditation for its Postgraduate Studies program in July 2014 from the St. Christopher & Nevis Accreditation Board for a period of 5 years. The Postgraduate Studies program offers Master of Science (MSc) and Doctoral (PhD) degrees in all research areas supported by RUSVM. Areas of emphasis are guided by RUSVM's themed Research Centers.

American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education
In March 2011, RUSVM received full accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE). RUSVM DVM graduates are eligible to practice veterinary medicine in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and other countries.

RUSVM was notified in April 2015 that the AVMA COE had reviewed RUSVM’s interim report and its current status is: Accredited.

The AVMA COE uses defined standards to evaluate veterinary medical education programs, including facilities, clinical resources, curriculum, faculty, student outcomes and research programs. The standards are interpreted and applied by the AVMA COE veterinary medical education programs in relation to its mission.

The next comprehensive evaluation will occur in 2018.

*Please refer to the RUSVM Accreditation Page at http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/Ross-University-School-of-Veterinary-Medicine-Accreditation.cfm for more information.

American Animal Hospital Association
In November 2015, RUSVM’s animal hospital was granted re-accreditation by the AAHA for a three-year term. RUSVM’s initial accreditation was granted in July 2010.

Research
At the core of RUSVM's mission is our commitment to research. RUSVM's location in St. Kitts, a part of the Eastern Caribbean, is a region rich in contrasting ecosystems and socio-economic situations, public health issues, and close animal-human interactions. The location provides the ideal backdrop for conducting surveillance and research programs of strategic importance to the developing world. Tropical countries are particularly vulnerable to emerging and re-emerging infectious agents due to geographic position, increased international travel, drug resistance and climatic and environmental changes.

RUSVM faculty members participate in research projects totaling more than $21 million from grant-awarding bodies, industry, corporates and governments, and in 2013-2014, alone, have authored more than 100 scientific papers. Our research team comprises faculty from across the globe—many with experience at international agencies such as the World Health Organization.
Approximately 400 RUSVM students participate in research projects each year and each student must complete the Principles of Veterinary Research course. Many of our faculty have at least a 50% allocation in research time and are a part of an RUSVM Research Center, providing additional opportunities for student involvement in research programs. Postgraduate students in our Masters and Ph.D. programs participate in research with faculty advisors aligned with one of our Research Centers.

Strategic partnerships have been formed with institutes that complement the potential for impactful research for RUSVM. Organizations such as Moredun Research Institute, Global Alliance for Rabies Control, U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services and many Universities throughout the globe are collaborators in our research programs.

Research facilities at RUSVM include laboratory space, housing, equipment for surveillance and diagnostics, and pathology and histopathology. In 2013, more than $1M was invested in improving RUSVM's research and research infrastructure. A new two-story (1,000 sq. ft.) building was completed in 2013, which includes a vivarium, preparation room, cell tissue culture room and additional research bench space. RUSVM is also committed to building a new $9.5M research building (14,000 sq. ft.) with capacity for 50 researchers and graduate students, with an adjacent necropsy facility (5,000 sq. ft.). The building will house a large vivarium, offices, bench space and will include a dedicated BSL3 capacity laboratory.

### Research Centers

A One Health approach to research is essential. It facilitates the implementation of research across all facets of disease and is the motivation behind RUSVM's largest Research Center. Zoonoses still represents the most significant public health threat, but many of these diseases are neglected. They affect hundreds of thousands of people especially in developing countries, although most of them can be prevented. RUSVM's One Health Center for Zoonoses and Tropical Veterinary Medicine has been created specifically to have impact on these issues.

Conservation is another important theme in the school, and studies on artificial coral reefs, the endangered marine species that inhabit them, fish diseases, turtle conservation programs, and management of introduced species, contribute significantly to preservation of ecosystems and the environment, and is supported within the Center for Conservation Medicine and Ecosystem Health. Innovation and advances in human and animal healthcare depend on progress in understanding the pathogenesis of diseases and the effects of therapies which is the theme of the Center for Integrative Mammalian Research. The Center for Research and Innovation in Veterinary and Medical Education promotes the enhancement of the learning environment through scholarly teaching that encourages creativity and innovation in teaching and learning.

### Security

RUSVM is committed to promoting the security of its students. The cooperation of students, faculty, and staff is essential to a safe campus. Every member of the campus community is encouraged to report any possible crime, suspicious activity, or emergency on campus to the Safety and Security Department, whose duty it is to maintain order and regulate safety. Security is available to provide assistance to students and faculty on- and off-campus in St. Kitts. In accordance with U.S. Department of Education requirements, information about security and safety practices, as well as campus crime statistics are published annually in the RUSVM Annual Disclosure documents. This information is made available to current students and may be obtained by anyone else, including prospective students, upon request, and on the Student

A mass notification emergency warning system (SIREN) is in place to communicate to the campus community simultaneously by landline and mobile phone, text messaging, and email in the event of an emergency. It is the responsibility of each student to keep his or her contact information, including the student’s emergency contact person, current. Students may update their personal profile at any time by accessing their account in myRoss. By and large, most student security problems occur outside the campus compound. Students and visitors should take the same precautions that they would take in major cities in the United States.

For more information, please visit https://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/Safety-Security.cfm.

RUSVM Complaint Policy
The Student Handbook contains a formal complaint policy that outlines the pathways for investigating and addressing any and all student complaints or concerns (together, “complaints”) to RUSVM about any component of a candidate’s experience at RUSVM, including (by way of illustration only) such diverse topics as dissatisfaction with services provided at a campus or during the clinical year, or discrimination or harassment in violation of RUSVM policies.

It is designed to be flexible so as to accommodate the wide range of complaints that students may lodge. Because no policy is one-size-fits-all, though, RUSVM reserves the right to deviate from this policy if the circumstances of a particular complaint or investigation call for additional flexibility. RUSVM takes candidate complaints very seriously and is committed to creating a productive learning environment, free from discrimination. For detailed information, please see the Student Handbook.

Policy on Animal Use in Laboratory Exercises
The use of animals in instructional and research activities within RUSVM is strictly regulated by written protocols, designed to ensure the humane treatment of animals under the care of students, staff or faculty. The RUSVM Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) regularly reviews these protocols for compliance with federal regulations outlined under the Animal Welfare Act. RUSVM follows the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, NRC 2011, 8th Edition, the Animal Welfare Act as implemented by Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) of the US, the AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia (2007), and any published guidance from the government of St. Kitts as guidelines for standards of care and use of animals.

The curriculum at RUSVM provides a wide range of opportunities for hands-on training, which are presented in accordance with the restrictions and requirements set forth above. This curriculum does include dissection of animal cadavers, anesthesia, and survival surgeries on multiple species. Laboratory sessions may involve handling of blood, urine, tissue and fecal specimens obtained from animals or from the local abattoir. The use of animals in teaching undergoes regular review and modifications are made from time to time to ensure both academic rigor and appropriate handling of animals. RUSVM offers only one course of study and curriculum to all students. Therefore, all students will be expected to participate in the handling of specimens and surgeries described.
VETERINARY PREPARATORY PROGRAM

Admissions Information
RUSVM offers a one-semester Veterinary Preparatory (Vet Prep) program for students who may benefit from specific courses that will enhance the probability of their success in veterinary school. The Admissions Committee makes the decision on who is accepted into this program based upon the academic requirements of the DVM program. (See the full DVM Degree Program for Information on Academic Policies, Selection Requirements and Application Fees Information)

Financial Information

Tuition
Tuition is listed in United States currency. Tuition is subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vet Prep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016 Academic Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$18,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per semester: Tuition for full-time students (Flat Rate: 9-21 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per semester: Student Government Association fee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please see the Student Handbook for tuition and refund policies.

Other Educational Expenses

Educational Materials: Students are responsible for purchasing required textbooks, supplies, equipment and required clinical clothing. The average cost for educational materials is approximately $414 per semester for Semesters 1-7, and $627 per semester for Semesters 8-10.

Health Insurance: Students must have health insurance while enrolled at RUSVM. RUSVM offers students an insurance plan. The flat rate fee for Health Insurance for the 2015-2016 academic year is $650 per semester. If a student provides proof of insurance coverage, the requirement to purchase insurance from RUSVM can be waived once per year in August.

Late Fees: Late fees may be assessed for late payment of tuition. For specific information, please consult the Student Handbook.

Living Expenses: Based on availability, students may be able to live in on-campus housing. Housing fees may be found by visiting: http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/vetprep/VetPrepTuitionFees.cfm. Off-campus hosting is also available. Students must plan on the cost of rent and utilities, which will vary based on factors such as location and whether there are roommates. Food and incidental costs must also be budgeted.

Transportation to/from St. Kitts Immigration requires students entering St. Kitts to have a return airline ticket.

Financial Obligations: Tuition and fees are billed approximately 45 days in advance of each semester and are due 15 days before the start of the semester. Students who have submitted all required financial aid forms and have received a loan approval may have tuition payment deferred until the funds are disbursed from the lender. Students whose financial aid processing remains incomplete, through no fault of their own and/or their co-signer, may register and begin
classes but are still held responsible for full payment of all tuition charges. Unless the Office of Student Finance authorizes late payment, all balances must be paid before the start of classes. RUSVM has the right to withhold services and academic certification from a student whose account is overdue.

**Tuition Policy on Failed Vet Prep Course:** Students would do not successfully complete the Vet Prep course will not be admitted to the RUSVM DVM program.

**Refund Policy for Withdrawals:** A withdrawal occurs when a student's enrollment is permanently discontinued or interrupted without an authorized leave of absence in accordance with the policies and procedures in the *Student Handbook*. The effective date of withdrawal is normally the date the student notifies the institution of the withdrawal or student’s last academically related event. *(See the DVM Refund Policy for Withdrawals for more information).*

**Financial Aid**
RUSVM understands tuition and financial assistance are important aspects of the education process. The Office of Student Finance provides support to encourage financial responsibility by helping students understand their options for financial assistance and cost-effective living arrangements while studying at RUSVM.

Detailed information on financial aid programs is published in the booklet, *The Financial Planning Guide*. This booklet is available online at www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/students/financialinfo.cfm. *(See the DVM Financial Aid Information section, which includes information on government student assistance)*

**Curriculum and Course Descriptions**
Courses in the Vet Prep program include science, mathematics, and scientific writing. Case based learning is a separate course, though its principles are used throughout the Vet Prep program. Additionally, students benefit from a transitional course that introduces them to their academic veterinary medicine program and promotes mindfulness and study skills. Vet Prep students who successfully complete the Vet Prep program will be placed into first semester classes of the DVM.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vet Prep</td>
<td>VPRP 902</td>
<td>Clinical Applications</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 905</td>
<td>Medical Mathematics and Introduction to Pharmacology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 906</td>
<td>Introduction to Microbiology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 907</td>
<td>Cellular (Cell) Physiology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 908</td>
<td>Transition to Veterinary Student Life</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 909</td>
<td>Veterinary Terminology and Scientific Writing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 910</td>
<td>Case Based Learning</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VPRP 902
Clinical Applications (1 credit)
Provides the student with a clinical setting to integrate material that is taught in other vet prep courses. Within this clinical setting the concepts of anatomy and physical examination will be demonstrated and then practiced by the student. This course integrates with the case-based learning course. Clinical skills will be focused on small animals, however whenever possible, other species will be introduced to emphasize comparative anatomy. The students will begin learning the process of acquiring information from a physical exam and applying it in order to formulate a clinical profile for an animal. Small animal handling, restraint, and physical exam techniques will be demonstrated and practiced.

VPRP 905
Medical Mathematics and Introduction to Pharmacology (3 credits)
Reviews basic mathematics and teaches abbreviations common to medication administration, and methods of solving problems related to drug dosage and intravenous infusions, toxicology calculations, ionization of drug calculations, pharmacokinetic calculations and basic statistics, as well as learning the general principles of pharmacology.

VPRP 906
Introduction to Microbiology (2 credits)
Covers the physiology, pathogenesis, and epidemiology of medically important bacteria, fungi, viruses, protozoa, nematodes, cestodes and trematodes. Selected diseases that bring into sharp focus the conflict between host and pathogen are covered. Also covered is the central role of host immune responses [innate and adaptive], which ensure that most host-pathogen contacts do not lead to disease.

VPRP 907
Cellular (Cell) Physiology (4 credits)
The overarching theme of the course is homeostasis, particularly as it applies to energy balance (anabolism and catabolism), water balance (to include distribution, Starling pressures and osmotic balance), membrane physiology (to include receptors, transporters and second messengers), intercellular communication and acid-base balance. The roles of individual cell types (e.g., hepatocytes, adipocytes, myocytes, tubular cells, neurons, endocrine cells, erythrocytes) and their regulation in the service of homeostasis are discussed.

VPRP 908
Transition to Veterinary Student Life (1 credit)
Designed to help students adjust to island life and professional school while promoting mindfulness practice (Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction program in human medicine) and developing the skills necessary to attain success at RUSVM. It also serves as an introduction to veterinary medicine, giving opportunity for students to learn more about the various disciplines within the profession from a variety of individuals.

VPRP 909
Veterinary Terminology and Scientific Writing (1 credit)
Introduces students to medical terminology that will be utilized in the veterinary curriculum. The course begins with basic directional/positional terms and then proceeds to terms that are pertinent to each body system. Scientific articles will be used to highlight the use of these terms. Short writing assignments and verbal exercises will be used to enable the student to practice using these terms.
VPRP 910  
**Case Based Learning (2 credits)**  
A template for solving clinical problems will be introduced in a small group setting. The group will examine clinical case scenarios that integrate concepts and information presented in other classes and information found during assigned independent research in the library and on the web. A problem-oriented approach will be used to help explore the problem, formulate appropriate differential diagnoses, and develop a plan for its accurate diagnosis and amelioration.
DEGREE PROGRAMS

DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree is awarded upon successful completion of the pre-clinical curriculum and the clinical training curriculum. The pre-clinical curriculum consists of 130 semester credit hours of specifically prescribed coursework. A credit hour for the RUSVM pre-clinical curriculum is equal to one hour of instructional time and two hours of supplementary time. During the clinical training curriculum, one credit hour equals one week of instructional time.

The clinical training curriculum consists of three academic semesters of clinical training at an AVMA-accredited school of veterinary medicine in the US, Canada, Ireland, Australia, or other international location that is affiliated with RUSVM. Students should complete the curriculum in 10 semesters. RUSVM is proud to be affiliated with more than 20 AVMA-accredited schools of veterinary medicine.

Admissions Information

For US and Canada Applicants

Selection Criteria
The RUSVM Admissions Committee, comprised of selected faculty members, students, and alumni, gives serious consideration to all candidates showing the potential to meet the rigorous academic requirements of a highly structured veterinary curriculum.

The Admissions Committee considers each applicant for admission based on a combination of factors, including:
- Cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA)
- Graduate Record Exam (GRE)® exam
- GPA in pre-requisite coursework
- Competitiveness of the undergraduate school and curriculum
- Pre-veterinary committee evaluation or two letters of recommendation
- Experience working with animals (at least 150 hours of veterinary profession experience, working with animals or veterinary research)
- Personal essay
- Personal interview
- Extracurricular activities
- Advanced science coursework
- Personal qualities

Applicants whose credentials are judged to be indicative of the potential for successful completion of the prescribed curriculum will be invited for an interview, generally within two to four weeks after initial application materials have been received. The interview helps assess the overall personal and academic background, maturity, adaptability, character, aptitude and, most importantly, the applicant's motivation to become a veterinarian.
Work history and professional or volunteer experience provides further evidence of the student’s motivation. Persons whose applications are incomplete, or whose qualifications are not acceptable, will be so notified. The Admissions Committee’s decision is communicated by a letter to the applicant, following the interview.

**Educational Requirements**
RUSVM requires a minimum of 48 credits of college work, but strongly recommends that you complete your undergraduate degree program. **Pre-requisite courses cannot be more than 10 years old.** The coursework should include the following pre-requisite courses:

**Biology**
Two semesters of Biology (eight semester hours) with laboratory

**Cell Biology or Genetics**
One course of either Cell Biology or Genetics (three semester hours); laboratory is recommended but not required

**Chemistry (General or Inorganic)**
Two semesters of Chemistry (eight semester hours) with laboratory.

**Biochemistry**
One semester (three semester hours)

**Physics**
One semester of Physics (four semester hours) with laboratory.

**Mathematics**
One semester of college-level Mathematics (three semester hours) to be chosen among pre-calculus, calculus, and statistics.

**English**
One semester of English (at least three semester hours), preferably to include one semester of English Composition. Canadian students may satisfy English requirements in 4 possible ways:
- 2 semesters of University humanities where essays composed at least 40% of the overall mark,
- those holding a grade 13 English credit in Ontario,
- International Baccalaureate and
- Advanced Placement English.

**Electives/Humanities/Social Sciences**
Nine semester hours; one of the courses to meet this requirement must be one of the following:
- Comparative Anatomy
- Medical Terminology
- Microbiology
- Nutrition
- Physiology
- Spanish (or other foreign language)
- Public Speaking
- Introduction to Business
Examination Requirements: Graduate Record Examinations (GRE)
Applicants are required to submit GRE scores with the application. The Admissions Committee will use the scores to assist in the admissions decision. Any applicant who has taken the GRE more than one time, must submit all the results prior to enrollment. The RUSVM code number is # 2639. To learn more about the GRE, visit www.gre.org.

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL®)
The TOEFL measures the ability of non-native speakers of English to use and understand English as it is spoken, written and heard in college and university settings. If less than 60 upper-division credits were earned from an English language college or university, the applicant will need to provide all official records of scores for the TOEFL. The minimum acceptable score is 550 on the paper-based test, or 213 on the computer-based test. The TOEFL institutional code for RUSVM is 9614.

Work Experience
It is required that applicants to the RUSVM complete the equivalent of at least 150 hours of Veterinary Profession experience, working with animals or veterinary research. It is preferable that all such experience has taken place under the supervision of practicing veterinarians, but comparable experience may be considered.

Personal Interview
Applicants whose credentials are judged to be indicative of the potential for successful completion of the RUSVM prescribed curriculum will be invited for an interview. The interview is often conducted within two to four weeks after initial application materials have been received.

Your personal interview helps the Admissions Committee assess your overall personal and academic background, maturity, adaptability, character, aptitude, and most importantly, your motivation to become a veterinarian. Applicants are advised that being granted an interview is not a guarantee of acceptance, though it does play a significant part in the decision by the Admissions Committee.

Letters of Recommendation
Applicants must submit a pre-veterinary committee evaluation or two official letters of recommendation, which become the property of RUSVM:
- One academic letter from a pre-health or pre-vet professor acquainted with the applicant's academic ability or a recommendation from a college pre-health or pre-vet advisory committee;
- One professional letter from a veterinarian acquainted with the applicant's veterinary experience.

All letters must be on proper letterhead with contact information included and sent directly from the recommender to the RUSVM Office of Admissions.

Application Checklist
Applications for RUSVM can be completed online at www.RossU.edu. All letters of recommendation and transcripts must be mailed to Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, Office of Admissions, 485 Highway 1 South, Building B, 4th Floor, Iselin, NJ 08830.

A complete application consists of the following documents:
- A completed RUSVM application.
- Official transcript(s) from each college and/or professional school attended (transcripts must include the required minimum of 48 credits, and all prerequisite courses must be either completed or in progress). Degree-granting transcripts must contain a graduation date.
- Two official letters of recommendation, which become the property of RUSVM: One academic letter from a pre-veterinary professor acquainted with the applicant’s academic ability or a recommendation from a college pre-vet advisory committee; and one from a veterinarian acquainted with the applicant’s work experience. All letters must be on proper letterhead with contact information included, and sent directly from the recommender to the RUSVM Office of Admissions.
- GRE scores.
- Official report of scores on the TOEFL, if applicable.
- A passport-sized photo.
- $100 USD application fee (non-refundable).

If applying as a transfer student, you must also submit the following documentation:
- A letter of intent that includes: a cogent, well-written explanation of the student’s reason(s) for requesting a transfer; an indication of the semester of the curriculum into which transfer is requested; and the student’s enrollment status in the college of veterinary medicine from which the student wishes to transfer.
- A letter of character and academic reference (including class ranking) from the associate dean of the college of veterinary medicine or his/her designee from which the student wishes to transfer.
- Up to two letters of reference from former instructors who are members of the faculty of the college of veterinary medicine from which the student wishes to transfer.

**For International Applicants**

RUSVM gives serious consideration to all candidates showing the potential to meet the rigorous academic requirements of a highly structured *veterinary medicine curriculum*. The Admissions Committee will look at a variety of factors in determining suitability for our program including:

- Grades from Coursework
- Two letters of reference
- Personal statement
- Personal interview (may be virtual)

**Recommended Pre-requisite Coursework**

Applicants will be evaluated based on grades achieved during their coursework, and will be expected to have undertaken general university-level science training after Year 13 of the school program.

**Bachelor of Science (BSc):**

Applicants who have completed a BSc must have achieved at least an upper second class honours (2:1).

**GCSE A-Levels:**

Applicants possessing A-Level or similar courses should achieve the following PLUS complete at least one year of an appropriate biological science program at the university level with good grades achieved:
Three A-levels ABB-BBB, including Biology and Chemistry at A level and one other A level approved for a veterinary degree. If Physics and Mathematics have not been taken at A level, the candidate must have good passes in Physics and Mathematics at GCSE level.

**Scottish Highers:**
Applicants should achieve the following in Year 12 PLUS have completed at least two years of an appropriate biological science program at the university level with good grades achieved OR BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and Biology plus one year of an appropriate science program at the university level, with good grades achieved.

Five Highers AABBB/C. Must have Chemistry and two of Biology, Mathematics, Physics, plus two other subjects. Must have good standard grade passes in each of Biology, Mathematics and Physics.

**International Baccalaureate (IB):**
Applicants should achieve the following PLUS complete at least one year of an appropriate biological science program at the university level with good grades achieved.

The minimum entry is 32-36 points. Must include higher level in Chemistry, Biology, and either Mathematics or Physics. If Physics does not form part of the IB diploma, candidates must possess GCSE Grade B or equivalent in this subject.

**English Competency:**
If English is not the primary language of the applicant, official record of scores for one of the following may be requested by RUSVM:
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) iBT – 100 or above 23 in each section
- IGCSE English (First language) Grade B
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - 7.0
- Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic – 67
- Cambridge English: Advanced & Proficiency overall 185

**Personal Statement**
Your personal statement gives us an idea of your skills, achievements, and motivation, which are important factors in assessing your application. It should refer to practical work experience in veterinary settings – including research. We recognize that such opportunities may not be available to all candidates.

**Personal Interview**
Applicants whose credentials are judged to be indicative of the potential for successful completion of the prescribed curriculum will be invited for interview, generally within two to four weeks after initial application materials have been received. The interview helps assess overall personal and academic background, maturity, adaptability, character, aptitude, and most importantly, your motivation to become a veterinarian. Interviews may be conducted virtually.

**Letters of Reference**
Two official letters of reference: either from two faculty members from the applicant’s first degree, acquainted with the applicant's academic ability; or one from a faculty member, and one from a veterinarian or other professional acquainted with the applicant's veterinary or research experience. All letters must be on proper letterhead with contact information included and sent
directly from the referee to the RUSVM Office of Admissions. Please note: Letters of reference may be waived at the discretion of the Admissions Committee if the student is unable to get two letters for reasons such as length of time since they were in school or display of a professional or relevant experience.

Notification
Persons whose applications are incomplete, or whose qualifications are not acceptable, will be so notified. The Admissions Committee decision is communicated by letter to the applicant as soon as possible.

Dean's Scholarship
A Dean's Scholarship may be available for appropriately qualified students.

Application Deadline
There are no application deadlines as RUSVM operates under a rolling application process (intakes in January, May and September). We continue to accept applications for each semester until all seats are filled. In the event that all seats are filled before an applicant receives a decision, the application is automatically considered for the next available semester.

Singapore Pathway Program
The Veterinary Pathways Program offers eligible students a clear path from Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Diploma in Veterinary Bioscience (VBS) into the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program at Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (RUSVM). The Program is designed to advance the educational opportunities of eligible students by offering them preferred admissions opportunities when applying to RUSVM, provided they meet the eligibility criteria. Visit the Pathway Program Page for more Information at http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/admissions/PathwayProgram.cfm.

Transfer Applicants: Admission with Advanced Standing
Applicants who have completed a portion of their curriculum at a RUSVM-approved school of veterinary medicine may apply for admission with advanced standing. Such transfer applicants must present evidence of completion of courses (or their equivalent) at a school of veterinary medicine accredited by the AVMA, comparable to those offered in the pre-clinical curriculum at RUSVM. Applicants must also arrange with the veterinary school they are currently attending for an official transcript of their academic record to be sent to the RUSVM Office of Admissions.

Additionally, transfer applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to RUSVM. Namely, they should have earned a bachelor’s degree or equivalent from a North American or other internationally recognized college or university. Occasionally, applicants qualify for admission upon completion of 48 credits (i.e. three full-time years) of post-secondary studies. The pre-veterinary studies of transfer applicants must include the aforementioned prerequisite courses and GRE scores.

Applicants who have previously been dismissed from a school of veterinary medicine are ineligible for admission to RUSVM. Placement will be determined by the Academic Review Committee (ARC) and the Dean, and will depend on the courses already completed. However, credit will not be given for more than the first three semesters of study. Transfer applicants must take all of the courses offered for the semester they are admitted and may be required to repeat
the entire curriculum. All transfer students must spend a minimum of seven semesters of study enrolled at RUSVM.

**Partnerships with Four-year Colleges and Universities**

RUSVM believes in building strong relationships with four-year colleges and universities, with the purpose of helping eligible students move seamlessly from their undergraduate studies to veterinary school. For more information about our partnerships please visit: [http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/admissions/partnerships.cfm](http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/admissions/partnerships.cfm).

**Accepted Students**

Upon acceptance, students are required to pay a nonrefundable, initial $500 tuition deposit. The initial tuition deposit is required within two weeks of receiving the acceptance letter. An additional nonrefundable $500 tuition deposit is required 120 days prior to the start of the semester. The full $1,000 tuition deposit will be credited to the student’s account.

Except in Louisiana and other states were prohibited, if the student fails to attend the semester for which the tuition deposit was paid, the tuition deposit will be subject to forfeiture. If the student requests to defer his/her enrollment to a subsequent semester, the full $1,000 tuition deposit, if not already submitted, must be paid in full prior to the deferral being processed. Tuition deposits are valid for one year from the original term to which the student was accepted. For more details, please refer to the “Financial Information” section of this catalog.

**Cancellation Policy**

If an applicant decides to withdraw his/her application prior to decision, the applicant must email his/her admissions coordinator with that request. The coordinator will then deactivate the application. The application fee is non-refundable.

The state of Missouri provides for a period during which admissions agreements with RUSVM may be cancelled by the student with refund of all monies paid. This cancellation period shall not be less than (3) days, not including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

**Cancellation of Courses**

RUSVM operates under a lockstep curriculum. RUSVM’s curriculum is designed so classes are meant to be taken in a specific order, to bolster students’ knowledge and skills incrementally. As such, the general policy at RUSVM is that it does not cancel classes.

**New Student Welcome Packet Materials**

Once accepted to RUSVM, students receive a welcome packet with information pertaining to travel, student visa requirements, financial aid, housing, pets, etc., to assist with their preparations for matriculation.

**Required Documents**

To obtain a student visa, students should have the following documents:

- Valid passport from student’s home country
- Round-trip airline ticket (with return date no earlier than the last day of semester)
- One passport-sized photograph
- Original police certificate/affidavit (obtained from the country where the applicant has lived for the past six months)
- Original health certificate
- Birth certificate (certified copy preferred)
Childhood/adult immunization records, which must include MMR records
- RPR test results (a screening test for syphilis)
- Mantoux/PPD skin test for tuberculosis (chest x-ray required if Mantoux test is positive)
- Tetanus vaccine
- Rabies vaccine
- Hepatitis A and B vaccine
- Copy of acceptance letter/immigration letter from the RUSVM Office of Admissions
- Proof of funding if by personal arrangements or loans
- Student visa application (available from RUSVM)
- Student visa fee: $150 US/400 EC (added as a student fee to your account)

Students will need to bring these items with them when they travel to St. Kitts. Upon arrival in St. Kitts, RUSVM officials will assist in expediting the visa process for students.

**Financial Information**

**Tuition and Fees**
All tuition and fees are listed in U.S. currency. Amounts are subject to change and additional fees may be charged for special features and/or services.

**Application Fee**
The $100 application fee is nonrefundable and is payable with submission of the application.

**Tuition**
Tuition is listed in United States currency. Tuition is subject to change.

**Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program**
**2015-2016 Academic Year**

**Tuition – Pre-clinical curriculum semesters (1–7)**
- $18,310  Per semester: tuition for full-time students (Flat Rate: 9-21 credits)
- $24  Per semester: Student Government Association fee (Semesters 1-7)

**Tuition – Clinical Training curriculum semesters (8–10)**
- $22,985  Per semester: tuition for full-time students (Flat Rate: 9-21 credits)

Please see the *Student Handbook* for tuition and refund policies.

**Other Educational Expenses**

**Educational Materials:** Students are responsible for purchasing required textbooks, supplies, equipment and required clinical clothing. The average cost for educational materials is approximately $414 per semester for Semesters 1-7, and $627 per semester for Semesters 8-10.

**Health Insurance:** Students must have health insurance while enrolled at RUSVM. RUSVM offers students an insurance plan. The flat rate fee for Health Insurance for the 2015-2016 academic year is $650 per semester. If a student provides proof of insurance coverage, the requirement to purchase insurance from RUSVM can be waived.

**Late Fees:** Late fees may be assessed for late payment of tuition. For specific information, please consult the *Student Handbook*. 
For additional information regarding total program costs, please refer to the Tuition and Fees schedule available at http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/admissions/Tuition-Fees.cfm

Living Expenses for the Pre-clinical Semesters
Students must plan on the cost of rent and utilities, which will vary based on factors such as location and whether there are roommates. Food and incidental costs must also be budgeted. Students attending first semester may have the option to select on-campus housing. The current rate for a single occupancy one-bedroom charge on-campus is $3,580.00.

Transportation to/from St. Kitts Immigration requires students entering St. Kitts to have a return airline ticket.

Financial Obligations
Tuition and fees are billed approximately 45 days in advance of each semester and are due 15 days before the start of the semester. Students who have submitted all required financial aid forms and have received a loan approval may have tuition payment deferred until the funds are disbursed from the lender. Students whose financial aid processing remains incomplete, through no fault of their own and/or their co-signer, may register and begin classes but are still held responsible for full payment of all tuition charges. Unless the Office of Student Finance authorizes late payment, all balances must be paid before the start of classes. RUSVM has the right to withhold services and academic certification from a student whose account is overdue.

Tuition Policy on Failed Courses
Students attending in September 2011 or later, who fail one or more classes and repeat coursework in a subsequent semester, will be charged based upon the total credit hours attempted in the repeat semester as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Tuition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-4 credits</td>
<td>less than half time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 credits</td>
<td>half time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 credits and up</td>
<td>full time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refund Policy for Withdrawals
A withdrawal occurs when a student’s enrollment is permanently discontinued or interrupted without an authorized leave of absence in accordance with the policies and procedures in the Student Handbook. The effective date of withdrawal is normally the date the student notifies the institution of the withdrawal or student’s last academically related event attended.

Although a leave of absence may be authorized in limited circumstances, failure to return to school from a leave of absence on the date specified is considered a withdrawal as of the last academically related event or the determined withdraw date. Any leave of absence must be requested and approved in advance, may not exceed 180 days, and may not be granted within 12 months of a previous leave of absence. An interruption of enrollment status that does not qualify as a leave of absence is considered a withdrawal as of the last date of academically related activity.

RUSVM’s tuition and refund policies in the event of withdrawal are consistent with U.S. federal student financial aid regulations and are based on the period attended:
• If a new student withdraws prior to the start of the first semester, no tuition charges are due; however, the student’s acceptance deposit is not refunded.

• If a continuing student withdraws prior to the start of a semester, no tuition charges are due for that semester.

• If a student withdraws during the first 60 percent of a semester, tuition charges are directly prorated based on the portion of the semester that has elapsed. As semesters are normally 15 weeks in length, tuition is prorated for withdrawals during weeks 1 through 9.

• If a student withdraws after the first 60 percent of a semester—that is, after completing week 9—the full tuition charges remain due.

For withdrawal during the first 60 percent of a semester, student loan eligibility is recalculated, and RUSVM and the student are each proportionally responsible for returning “unearned” Stafford loan funds to lenders. In addition to the lender returns required by U.S. federal regulations, RUSVM also returns any remaining credit balance to lenders, decreasing the student’s loan debt for that semester.

Financial Aid
RUSVM understands tuition and financial assistance are important aspects of the education process. The Office of Student Finance provides support to encourage financial responsibility by helping students understand their options for financial assistance and cost-effective living arrangements while studying at RUSVM.

Detailed information on financial aid programs is published in the booklet, The Financial Planning Guide. This booklet is available online at www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/students/financialinfo.cfm.

Students applying for assistance must submit the application and supporting materials described in The Financial Planning Guide by the deadlines indicated. Applications may be completed online.

Typically, students pay for the cost of their veterinary medicine education by combining family resources and student loans from governmental agencies and private sources. Financial aid is available to those who qualify. Approximately, 85 percent of RUSVM students receive some financial assistance.

Application for U.S. Federal Student Aid
Citizens and permanent residents of the United States applying for admission to RUSVM who are interested in obtaining financial aid are encouraged to submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)¹ at www.fafsa.ed.gov. It should be filed at least 90 days in advance of the semester for which they are applying. Details are provided in The Financial Planning Guide. In order to continue to receive student loans, students must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress standards as defined in the Student Handbook. The Office of Student Finance is available to help students understand additional options that may be available including scholarships, non-governmental lenders for loans, etc. It is advisable for all students—including

¹ FAFSA® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Education
those who have applied for financial aid—to bring sufficient funds with them to cover their initial living and housing expenses in St. Kitts.

United States citizens and permanent residents attending RUSVM may apply for Federal Direct Loans. Federal direct loans are offered in two forms for Graduate students: 

**Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan:** This is a non-need-based loan; maximum of $20,500 per two-semester academic year. The interest rate is fixed at 5.84 percent for 2015-2016.

**Direct Graduate PLUS Loan:** This is a non-need-based loan for which the student can borrow up to the school’s cost of attendance. The interest rate is fixed at 6.84 percent for 2015-2016.

The FAFSA must be filed annually. Repayment on student loans begins six months after a student has dropped below half-time, graduated or, under federal definition, has otherwise ceased to be enrolled.

Students who attend RUSVM with outstanding loan obligations for undergraduate or graduate study at other institutions may eligible for an “in-school” deferment(s).

**Canadian Students**
Canadian citizens may qualify for private funding sources as well as government resources. Please review the Canadian Financial Planning Guide, available online at www.rossu.edu/veterinaryschool/students/financialinfo.cfm.

**International Applicant Requirements**
Applicants who have completed their undergraduate studies in countries having an educational system different from that of the United States or Canada will be evaluated on their merits but will be expected to have completed a pre-veterinary curriculum including the pre-requisites comparable to U.S. applicants. All required documents, if originally in a foreign language, must be accompanied by a notarized English translation. All transcripts documenting post-secondary course work completed in institutions outside the United States or Canada must also be evaluated by an approved international credential evaluation service.

**Veterans’ Benefits**
Eligible veterans of the United States Armed Forces may use benefits available through the Veterans Benefits Administration to help with their educational costs. Please visit www.gibill.va.gov for more information.

**The Eliza Anna Grier Scholarship**
The Eliza Anna Grier Scholarship honors the memory of Dr. Eliza Grier, the first African-American medical doctor in the state of Georgia.

Scholarship Amount: $2,000 of the tuition cost per semester (renewable based on academic performance).

**Award Criteria and Eligibility**
- Must possess strong personal qualities of motivation and integrity as well as academic excellence.
- Must be a United States citizen or permanent resident.
- Must be classified as an under-represented minority (African-American, Native-American, or Hispanic-American).
- Must hold an undergraduate degree.
- Must begin their studies at RUSVM as a new, first-semester student.
- Should have maintained a minimum 3.25 undergraduate grade point average (GPA).
- Must be an accepted student to RUSVM by the scholarship deadline.

*Note: Eligibility requirements subject to change without notice. Transfer students and students accepted to the VET Prep program are not eligible.*

Renewal Guidelines:
- Must maintain a minimum 3.00 GPA at RUSVM to maintain award eligibility for each semester.
- The award can be reinstated if a student fails to achieve the minimum GPA in one semester but reaches that level in a future semester.

Application Deadlines:
- **July 1** is the deadline for students planning to begin their studies in the September semester.
- **November 1** is the deadline for students planning to begin their studies in the January semester.
- **March 1** is the deadline for students planning to begin their studies in the May semester.


**Dean’s Scholarship**
A merit-based scholarship providing tuition assistance to students who have shown solid academic achievement and a demonstrated desire to serve the community as a veterinarian as shown through their extracurricular activities and letters of recommendation.

Award Amount: $3,000 to be applied to the cost of first semester tuition charges.

Eligibility Requirements:
- Applicants must meet RUSVM standards for admission as they relate to academics, extracurricular activities such as volunteer work and research, and letters of recommendation.
- Applicants must hold a current letter of admission to RUSVM.
- Admitted applicants will be automatically reviewed for a Dean’s Scholarship only after a decision of admission has been received from the Faculty Admissions Committee.
- Review and approval from the dean/Dean’s Council.

Applicants must have demonstrable strong performance in the following areas:
- Overall undergraduate GPA
- Pre-requisite coursework GPA
- GRE

In addition to the above Eligibility Requirements, the following criteria will be specifically considered:
- Letters of recommendation
- Personal essay
- Personal interview
- Animal experience
- Research experience
- Volunteer experience

Selection: The Dean’s Scholarship was established to provide deserving and highly qualified students the opportunity to defray the cost of attending RUSVM. The scholarship will be considered for admitted students who meet or exceed the eligibility requirements in the week(s) after admission. A recommendation will be made by the Associate Dean of Student and Alumni Affairs to the members of the Dean’s Council, including the Dean, who will select the recipients. The Faculty Admission Committee may also directly nominate admitted students for consideration.

Learn More About Scholarships

Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Office of Admissions
485 US Highway 1 South
Building B, 4th Floor
Iselin, NJ 08830
Phone: +1-855-ROSS-VET (855-767-7838)
www.RossU.edu/veterinary-school
Email: Admissions@RossU.edu
Fax: +1-732-509-4803
Academic Policies and Procedures

Registration of New Students
New students must register online using the myRoss web self-service tool, which is available at www.RossU.edu/myross. In addition, students must check-in in person on the St. Kitts campus during orientation. Students must present a valid passport as identification in order to receive an official RUSVM student identification card. No unregistered student will be admitted to classes.

Students arriving after orientation will not be permitted to check in for the semester, and any financial aid disbursements received by RUSVM will be returned to the lender.

A new student's enrollment is conditional upon submission of all documentation required for admission. Any missing documentation that is specified in the offer of admission must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar by the end of the first semester. If the documentation is not received within that time, the student will be subject to administrative withdrawal and may lose the privilege of registering for a subsequent semester.

At the time of registration, tuition and fees must be paid in full unless the Director of Student Finance grants an exception based on one of the following:
- RUSVM has received documentary evidence, satisfactory to the Director of Student Finance, indicating that payment is guaranteed and that the full tuition and fees will be paid within 30 days from the beginning of the semester.
- The Director of Student Finance has authorized delayed payment pursuant to a written and signed agreement that requires payment of the full tuition and fees no later than the beginning of the fifth week of the semester. In the event that payment terms are not met, RUSVM reserves the right to annul registration in which case the student will not receive academic credit for that semester.

Grading System
RUSVM’s grading system is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A =</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>90% or higher</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+ =</td>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B =</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>80-86%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+ =</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C =</td>
<td>Passing</td>
<td>70-76%</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F =</td>
<td>Failing</td>
<td>Below 70%</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are evaluated based on the following criteria:
- Classroom and laboratory examinations;
- Completion of assignments;
- Class and laboratory attendance;
- Academic and professional honesty; and
- Professional and Technical Standards

Evaluations during clinical training include assessment of the student's level of knowledge and ability to apply it to clinical problems, as well as attitude and performance. Students should
consistently demonstrate those characteristics considered desirable in a good veterinarian: problem-solving ability, reliability, judgment, and interpersonal and communication skills.

**Examinations**
Examinations are considered an integral part of the learning process and are designed to emphasize important concepts and develop problem-solving abilities. Each course instructor determines the format of quizzes, examinations and assignments. All courses included in the calculation of a student’s GPA include a final examination.

**Academic Standing**
Students maintain good academic standing by complying with all academic policies and procedures and remaining current in financial obligations. RUSVM reserves the right to withhold services, transcripts and grades from students who are not in good academic standing. To remain in good academic standing, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

No semester can be repeated more than once, and no more than two semesters can be repeated.

The full academic policies can be found in the *Student Handbook*. The *Student Handbook* provides information on withdrawals, dismissals, academic standings, as well as information on professional conduct.

**Degree Requirements**
In order to be eligible to receive the degree of DVM from RUSVM, a student must have met the following requirements:

- Successful completion of all pre-clinical courses and clinical training required by the curriculum.
- Has met the GPA requirements and other academic requirements for academic advancement.
- For transfer students, successful completion of at least seven semesters as a RUSVM student
- Payment of all fees and charges owed to RUSVM.
- Completion of a review of academic documents (e.g. transcripts), as well as an academic and financial aid exit interview.
- Clearance of the Office of the Registrar’s degree audit.

**Transcript Requests**
Official transcripts are available, at no cost, only from the Office of the Registrar in New Jersey. Students may request an official transcript online using the *myRoss* website. Transcript requests cannot be taken over the telephone or via email. Official transcripts may not be released until all financial obligations to RUSVM have been met. Students may view or print an unofficial transcript online through *myRoss*. No fees will be charged for additional transcripts.

**Commencement**
Commencement exercises are held each May. Due to RUSVM’s three-semester-per-year schedule, students have the opportunity to complete their requirements for the DVM degree at three different points throughout the year. Consequently, they will be considered RUSVM graduates upon degree audit clearance for one of the three prescribed graduation dates.
Diplomas will be released after all outstanding balances and administrative documents have been received.

**Licensure Requirements**

A requirement for licensure in the United States is passing the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination® (NAVLE). Information on this examination is available at the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners® (NBVME) website at [www.nbvme.org](http://www.nbvme.org).

In order to become licensed as a veterinarian in the United States, a student graduating from an American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA-COE) accredited program must pass the NAVLE and meet the requirements of the state/territory they wish to practice. Each state has different requirements. To view the requirements of each state’s veterinary medical board, please refer to the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) website at [www.aavsb.org](http://www.aavsb.org) and then click on the Board and Agency Directory link.

In order to become licensed as a veterinarian in Canada, a student graduating from an AVMA-COE accredited program must pass the NAVLE. Additional information on becoming licensed in Canada is available at [www.canadianveterinarians.net/programs/national-examining-board.aspx#.URLOSug9WcA](http://www.canadianveterinarians.net/programs/national-examining-board.aspx#.URLOSug9WcA)

RUSVM DVM graduates may be eligible to practice veterinary medicine in other international locations. Check the country specific veterinary regulatory information for international licensure information.

**Curriculum**

In RUSVM’s clinical curriculum, each subject area receives comprehensive, in-depth coverage commensurate with contemporary veterinary educational trends. The curriculum provides clinical correlation and examples of clinical relevance throughout the instructional program.

RUSVM contracts with AVMA-COE accredited schools and colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States, Canada, Ireland, Australia and soon to include other international locations, to provide the Clinical Training curriculum for its students.

RUSVM is not liable for course equivalency for a RUSVM student transferring to another institution. RUSVM course equivalency for other institutions is solely determined by the institution to which a RUSVM student transfers.
Pre-Clinical Curriculum & Course Descriptions: Classes of 2015-2017

Curriculum information for those students expected to graduate in the Classes of 2015-2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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**Semester 1**

**VMI 5102**  
**Veterinary Professional Foundations I (1 credit)**  
Provides entry-level DVM students with a strong grounding in professional skills. Students will be supported in developing core competencies, which contribute to success as a member of the veterinary profession. Topics include: communication skills, ethical decision-making, professionalism, financial planning, information seeking diversity and multicultural awareness and goal setting.

**VMI 5112**  
**Essential Veterinary Skills A (0.4 credits)**  
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through semesters 1-5.

**VMA 5111**  
**Microscopic Anatomy and Embryology with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Concentrates on the study of cell biology, cell physiology and the microscopic structure of cells, tissues, and organs of domestic animals. Students use dual-viewing microscopes and digital images in laboratories to study the structure of basic tissue types and their integration into organs and organ systems. The lectures correlate microscopic and gross anatomy with function and development of organ systems. Selected embryology topics focus attention on common developmental anomalies encountered by veterinarians.

**VMA 5113**  
**Gross Anatomy I with Laboratory (5 credits)**  
Focuses on the comparative gross anatomy of domestic animals including canine, equine and ruminant, with minor emphasis on feline and porcine. Laboratories utilize embalmed canine cadavers for dissections. Prosections are used for other species. Also integrated into the course are normal radiographic anatomy, and instrument handling labs. The lectures provide overviews.
of the main concepts or hard-to-explain details. Topics covered in the first semester include osteology and muscle systems of the limbs, anatomy of the thorax and abdomen and nervous system.

**VPP 5123**  
**Physiology I (5 credits)**  
Focuses on neurologic and muscular physiology, with particular emphasis on neurotransmitters, and the behavior of membrane receptors and channels. Cardiovascular physiology, with particular emphasis on the electrical and mechanical activities of the heart, blood pressure and trans-capillary transport; blood, with special emphasis on the formation and function of the formed elements as well as the removal of old and worn out red blood cells from the circulation; coagulation and anti-coagulation mechanisms. Respiratory physiology.

**VPP 5131**  
**Animal Nutrition with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Deals with the basic feed constituents, energy, protein, fiber, minerals and vitamins; concepts in feed labeling; the characteristics of feeds used in animal feeding; animal management; and feeding guidelines for cats, dogs, cattle, small ruminants, horses and swine. The physiology component focuses on carbohydrate, lipid and protein digestion, absorption and metabolism, with particular emphasis on the regulation of biochemical pathways at the levels of cell and organism. The course incorporates real-life case examples and a few out-of-class assignments to reinforce important concepts.

**VMR 5132**  
**Principles of Veterinary Research (1 credit)**  
Designed to help students learn about fundamentals of research, including experimental planning and design, research bias, alternatives to animal use and animal welfare, the One Health concept, granting agencies, the components of grant writing and review process, types of research, IACUC, Institutional Review Board (IRB), post-award considerations, how to conduct a research project, analysis of data and interpretation of experimental results, types of data presentations, manuscript preparation, critical evaluation of the scientific literature and online resources, and how this knowledge is used in the practice of evidence-based medicine. Students are exposed to active RUSVM research faculty and student research associates throughout the course.

**Semester 2**

**VMI 5212**  
**Essential Veterinary Skills B (0.4 credits)**  
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through semesters 1-5.

**VMA 5216**  
**Gross Anatomy II with Laboratory (5 credits)**  
Continues the Gross Anatomy I course. Comparative gross anatomy of the domestic animals focusing on canine, equine and ruminant as well as the avian species, with minor emphasis on the feline and porcine. Laboratories utilize embalmed canine cadavers for dissections. Prosections are used for other species. Also integrated into the course are normal radiographic anatomy. Topics covered in the second semester include anatomy of the pelvic
cavity/reproductive tract, innervation and vasculature of the limbs, anatomy of the head/neck, avian anatomy and a clinical neuroanatomy component.

VPP 5223
Physiology II (5 credits)
Focuses on renal and acid-base physiology; the gastrointestinal system, with emphasis on mechanisms and control of exocrine and endocrine secretions; the endocrine system, with emphasis on regulation of carbohydrate, fat and protein metabolism; and the reproductive system, including pregnancy and neonatal physiology.

VMP 5253
Immunology (3 credits)
Covers basic defense mechanisms, diseases of the immune system and the role of immunity in diseases of domestic animals. Serological and other immunological tests, and their application in laboratory diagnosis of diseases, are covered.

VMP 5265
Parasitology with Laboratory (5 credits)
Emphasizes major parasite taxonomic groups by host species. Helminthic, arthropod and protozoan parasites that affect domestic animals in North America are covered. Lectures are organized by host species and stress parasite identification, life cycles, pathogenesis and lesions, clinical signs, diagnosis and prevention and treatment of parasites. Laboratories focus on identification of the parasites and lesions they produce. Lectures and laboratories are integrated to achieve course objectives.

Semester 3
VMI 5312
Essential Veterinary Skills C (0.4 credits)
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through semesters 1-5.

VPP 5332
Pharmacology I (3 credits)
Focuses on general principles of pharmacology, together with drugs acting on the autonomic and central nervous systems, muscle relaxants, local anesthetics and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

VPA 5341
Pathology I with Laboratory (5 credits)
Introduces the terminology of disease, mechanisms of disease from both causal and tissue-response aspects, systemic pathology based on etiopathogenesis, and gross and microscopic appearance of lesions. Lectures, histopathology slides (real and virtual), necropsies and abattoir specimens are employed.

VMP 5351
Bacteriology and Mycology with Laboratory (5 credits)
Concentrates on diseases in domestic animals caused by pathogenic bacteria and fungi. Lectures emphasize basic properties of microorganisms, including identification and
pathogenesis. Laboratory instruction includes basic bacteriology/mycology laboratory techniques, with hands-on application of identifying those organisms in the form of standard staining and microscope techniques, plating of cultures and simple methods of identification of bacteria.

**VMP 5355**  
**Virology (3 credits)**  
Covers the basic properties of animal viruses including classification, genetics, pathogenesis and diagnosis of viral diseases using laboratory methods. Control and prevention of viral diseases are discussed.

**Semester 4**  
**VMI 5412**  
**Essential Veterinary Skills D (0.4 credits)**  
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through semesters 1-5.

**VMA 5418**  
**Mechanisms of Diseases (2 credits)**  
Describes how changes in normal anatomy and function result in various common disease syndromes. Further, the reasons for the clinical presentations of the syndromes are described, as are the principles underlying their diagnosis and treatment.

**VPP 5434**  
**Pharmacology II (3 credits)**  
Focuses on chemotherapy of microbial, fungal, viral, neoplastic and parasitic diseases; pharmacology of autocoids; drugs acting on the hematopoietic system, cardiovascular system, respiratory system, urinary system, digestive system; and endocrine pharmacology.

**VPA 5443**  
**Pathology II with Laboratory (5 credits)**  
Continues systemic pathology of food and companion animals. Disorders are categorized by organ system emphasizing etiology/pathogenesis, gross and microscopic lesions, and sequelae. Lectures, histopathology slides (real and virtual), necropsies and abattoir specimens are employed.

**VPA 5448**  
**Clinical Pathology with Laboratory (5 credits)**  
Students learn how to use laboratory data to make a diagnosis. They are expected to understand the underlying pathophysiology of laboratory abnormalities, understand how tests are selected, the technology used to generate data, and most importantly, how to interpret and integrate test results, including hematology, cytopathology, and clinical biochemistry.

**VMS 5475**  
**Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology (4 credits)**  
Provides students with the fundamentals of epidemiologic theory as a means of understanding how epidemiology can be used in veterinary medicine. Introduces the concepts of emerging infectious diseases, bioterrorism and disaster medicine, as well as the epidemiology of various
zoonotic diseases. Important aspects of public health such as milk hygiene, humane slaughter, meat inspection and food-borne diseases are also discussed.

**Semester 5**

**VMI 5512**  
**Essential Veterinary Skills E (0.4 credit)**  
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through semesters 1-5.

**VPP 5538**  
**Toxicology (3 credits)**  
Studies toxicants and poisonous plants of significance to livestock and companion animals, including their source, properties, toxicity, toxicokinetics, mechanism of toxicologic damage, detection, diagnosis and treatment.

**VMS 5573**  
**Diagnostic Imaging with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Provides an overview of the physics of diagnostic radiology, the principles of veterinary radiography and quality control of radiographs. Normal radiographic findings and anatomy in small animals plus radiographic features and patterns as they relate to diseases are also covered. An introduction to equine radiography and diagnostic ultrasound is included, along with an introduction to alternate imaging techniques.

**VMS 5577**  
**Anesthesiology with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Introduces the principles of general and local anesthesia of small and large animals. The etiology, diagnosis and treatment of fluid and acid-base disorders are discussed, as well as the recognition, treatment and prevention of anesthetic emergencies. Laboratory sessions provide students with experience in small animal anesthesia, in addition to demonstrations of monitoring equipment, mechanical ventilation and large animal general anesthesia.

**VMS 5585**  
**Small Animal Medicine I (5 credits)**  
Focuses on disorders of the cardiovascular, endocrine and neurological systems as well as selected infectious diseases. The important conditions of dogs and cats are discussed according to their pathophysiology, clinical signs, diagnosis, differential diagnoses, treatment and prognosis.

**Semester 6**

**VMS 5698**  
**Special Species Medicine (2 credits)**  
Allows students to gain insight into the roles and responsibilities of veterinarians with respect to diseases, husbandry, surgery and medicine, as well as aspects related to public health in the context of pet birds and non-traditional species, including reptiles, rodents, ferrets and rabbits.
VMS 5649  
**Small Animal Surgery (4 credits)**  
Focuses on the major pathophysiologic changes, diagnostic procedures and treatments of surgical diseases and conditions of the dog and cat. Emphasis will be on the integration and utilization of this information in clinical decision-making. Instruction is based on lectures and reading assignments.

VMS 5650  
**Surgery Laboratory I (2 credits)**  
Comprises one laboratory period and one hour of lecture or discussion each week. The laboratories cover aseptic technique, instrument handling, surgical knots and suturing, as well as bandaging and cast application in multiple species. A review of anesthesia is conducted and a competency examination is administered. Students must also demonstrate competency during a practical examination, using the ROSSIE model of canine ovariohysterectomy. Students must pass these competency examinations to pass the course. Additional practice hours are available in the Clinical Skills Laboratory throughout the semester. This is a pass/fail course.

VMS 5687  
**Small Animal Medicine II (5 credits)**  
Utilizes a problem-oriented approach to study common diseases of the eyes, kidneys, urinary tract, skin, gastrointestinal tract, liver, pancreas, respiratory system and blood as well as basic oncology for dogs and cats. Knowledge will be built on pre-clinical studies such as anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology and will draw heavily on clinical pathology, pharmacology and toxicology. Medical diseases are arranged to coincide chronologically with surgical diseases of the same systems being taught in Small Animal Surgery.

VMS 5690  
**Large Animal Medicine I (5 credits)**  
Using a problem-oriented approach, the course focuses on the examination and diagnosis of diseases of particular relevance to the horse. The etiology, epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical signs, clinical pathology, diagnosis therapy and control of diseases of horses are discussed. As much as possible systems are arranged to coincide chronologically with Small Animal Medicine and Small Animal Surgery.

**Semester 7**  
VMS 5775  
**Theriogenology with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Integrates reproductive pathology, endocrinology, physiology, and pharmacology as they apply to the clinical diagnosis, treatment and prevention of reproductive disorders in domestic animals. Breeding soundness evaluation of males and females is also covered. By the end of the course, the student should be able to approach an obstetrical situation in any of the domestic animal species with the necessary background to diagnose, manage and resolve the condition. Students are also introduced to procedures and technologies used in pregnancy diagnosis, artificial insemination, and semen collection and evaluation.

VMS 5783  
**Introduction to Clinics (2 credits)**  
Focuses on the techniques necessary to obtain clinical data, with emphasis on thorough physical examination and problem-oriented veterinary medical records. Clinical practical sessions utilize referral and general appointment cases. Students gain experience in common
veterinary diagnostic techniques. Mandatory rotations include: equine, bovine 1 & 2, small animal clinics, emergency, clinical pathology, and grand rounds. Elective rotations include: small animal surgery, anesthesiology, communications, animal behavior, theriogenology, rehabilitation therapy, acupuncture, diagnostic imaging, advanced clinics, primate research, dentistry, ambulatory.

**VMS 5793**  
**Large Animal Medicine II (5 credits)**  
Focuses on the recognition, treatment and prevention of diseases of food-producing animals and camels. The etiology, epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical signs, clinical pathology, diagnosis, therapy and control of diseases of food producing animals are discussed. Management of the herd unit is emphasized.

**VMS 5795**  
**Large Animal Surgery (4 credits)**  
Focuses on surgery of farm animals, with emphasis on cattle and horses. In cattle, the alimentary, locomotor and reproductive systems are covered in detail. In the horse, the healing and treatment of wounds, lameness, dentistry, colic and the respiratory, urinary, male and female reproductive systems are covered.

**VMS 5796**  
**Surgery Laboratory II (2 credits)**  
Provides training in preoperative planning, anesthesia, surgical techniques, operating room decision-making, and postoperative care via supervised procedures. Students entering this course should have a thorough knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pharmacology, as well as basic surgical skills and anesthesiology.

**VMI 5704**  
**Veterinary Professional Foundations II (2 credits)**  
Provides an introduction to the subjects of veterinary professional ethics, law and business management relating to veterinary practice. Students are made aware of laws and regulations that control various aspects of veterinary medicine as well as the legal obligations involved in veterinary practice. Students are also given information concerning their career as a veterinarian that includes employment options within the profession, preparation of a resume, negotiating an employment contract, and options for internships and residencies. The importance of communication skills within veterinary practice is emphasized.

**Elective Courses**

**VMS 5384**  
**Introduction to Veterinary Animal Behavior (1 credit)**  
Introduces the principles of animal learning, and the application of behavior-modification techniques based on these principles. Includes an overview of the most common behavioral problems seen in companion animals and current treatment recommendations, designing an effective and feasible treatment plan, and integrating behavior into your practice.

**VMS 5498**  
**Lab Animal Medicine I (1 credit)**  
Introduction to the field of laboratory animal medicine and science including: ethical use of laboratory animals in biomedical research and teaching, careers in laboratory animal medicine,
husbandry and management of vivaria – the GUIDE, and information specific to rats, mice, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, rabbits, nonhuman primates, ferrets, sheep, pigs and zebrafish.

VMS 5499  
Lab Animal Medicine II (1 credit)  
Course provides an in-depth study into the field of laboratory animal medicine and science building upon the foundations of Lab Animal Medicine I.

VMS 5531  
Clinical Nutrition (1 credit)  
This course is an introduction to the concepts of canine and feline clinical nutrition.

Summary of RUSVM Activities in Support of Placement of Graduates  
In order to assist in the placement of graduates, all students are required to take Veterinary Foundations I and II during the pre-clinical curriculum. These courses introduce ethics and law, with an emphasis on government regulations and business management relating to veterinary practice. A portion of these courses includes instruction in debt management and employment contracts, writing an effective cover letter and resume/CV, interview skills, salary negotiation, selecting a first position and corporate career opportunities.
Pre-Clinical Curriculum & Course Descriptions: 2018 and Beyond

Curriculum information for those students expected to graduate after 2018.

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Pre-clinical Course Descriptions

**Semester 1**

**VMI 5102**  
**Veterinary Professional Foundations I (1 credit)**  
Provides entry-level DVM students with a strong grounding in professional skills. Students will be supported in developing core competencies, which contribute to success as a member of the veterinary profession. Topics include: communication skills, ethical decision-making, professionalism, financial planning, information seeking diversity, and multicultural awareness and goal setting.

**VMI 5112**  
**Essential Veterinary Skills A (1 credit)**  
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through Semesters 1-6.

**VMA 5111**  
**Microscopic Anatomy and Embryology with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Concentrates on the study of cell biology, cell physiology and the microscopic structure of cells, tissues, and organs of domestic animals. Students use dual-viewing microscopes and digital images in laboratories to study the structure of basic tissue types and their integration into organs and organ systems. The lectures correlate microscopic and gross anatomy with function and development of organ systems. Selected embryology topics focus attention on common developmental anomalies encountered by veterinarians.

**VMA 5113**  
**Gross Anatomy I with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Focuses on the comparative gross anatomy of domestic animals including canine, equine and ruminant, with minor emphasis on feline and porcine. Laboratories utilize embalmed canine cadavers for dissections. Prosections are used for other species. Also integrated into the course
are normal radiographic anatomy, and instrument handling labs. The lectures provide overviews of the main concepts or hard-to-explain details. Topics covered in the first semester include osteology and muscle systems of the limbs, anatomy of the thorax and abdomen and nervous system.

VMA 5114
**Principles of Infectious Diseases (2 credits)**
Focuses on the fundamentals of microbiological pathogens and infectious disease principles, in preparation for subsequent courses in bacteriology and mycology, virology, and parasitology. The topics covered will include basic overviews of what defines pathogens as compared to normal flora, virulence components and pathogenicity, host defenses against pathogens, immune evasion strategies of infectious agents, importance of vectors and reservoirs in disease transmission, zoonoses, herd health and preventative strategies, microbial genetics, and clinical microbiology and diagnostic methodologies. Throughout the course, students will be exposed to RUSVM research faculty who actively investigate infectious diseases and can offer additional research opportunities.

VPP 5123
**Physiology I (5 credits)**
Focuses on neurologic and muscular physiology, with particular emphasis on neurotransmitters, and the behavior of membrane receptors and channels. Cardiovascular physiology, with particular emphasis on the electrical and mechanical activities of the heart, blood pressure and trans-capillary transport; blood, with special emphasis on the formation and function of the formed elements as well as the removal of old and worn out red blood cells from the circulation; coagulation and anti-coagulation mechanisms. Respiratory physiology.

VMR 5132
**Principles of Research (1 credit)**
Designed to help students learn about fundamentals of research, including experimental planning and design, research bias, alternatives to animal use and animal welfare, the One Health concept, granting agencies, the components of grant writing and review process, types of research, IACUC, IRB, post-award considerations, how to conduct a research project, analysis of data and interpretation of experimental results, types of data presentations, manuscript preparation, critical evaluation of the scientific literature and on-line resources, and how this knowledge is used in the practice of evidence-based medicine. Students are exposed to active RUSVM research faculty and student research associates throughout the course.

Semester 2

VMI 5212
**Essential Veterinary Skills B (1 credit)**
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through Semesters 1-6.

VMA 5216
**Gross Anatomy II with Laboratory (4 credits)**
Continues the Gross Anatomy I course. Comparative gross anatomy of the domestic animals focusing on canine, equine and ruminant as well as the avian species, with minor emphasis on
the feline and porcine. Laboratories utilize embalmed canine cadavers for dissections. Prosections are used for other species. Also integrated into the course are normal radiographic anatomy. Topics covered in the second semester include anatomy of the pelvic cavity/reproductive tract, innervation and vasculature of the limbs, anatomy of the head/neck, avian anatomy and a clinical neuroanatomy component.

**VPP 5223**  
**Physiology II (5 credits)**  
Focuses on renal and acid-base physiology; the gastrointestinal system, with emphasis on mechanisms and control of exocrine and endocrine secretions; the endocrine system, with emphasis on regulation of carbohydrate, fat and protein metabolism; and the reproductive system, including pregnancy and neonatal physiology.

**VMP 5253**  
**Immunology (3 credits)**  
Covers basic defense mechanisms, diseases of the immune system and the role of immunity in diseases of domestic animals. Serological and other immunological tests, and their application in laboratory diagnosis of diseases, are covered.

**VMP 5265**  
**Parasitology with Laboratory (3 credits)**  
Emphasizes major parasite taxonomic groups by host species. Helminthic, arthropod and protozoan parasites that affect domestic animals in North America are covered. Lectures are organized by host species and stress parasite identification, life cycles, pathogenesis and lesions, clinical signs, diagnosis and prevention and treatment of parasites. Laboratories focus on identification of the parasites and lesions they produce. Lectures and laboratories are integrated to achieve course objectives.

**VMP 5252**  
**Case Based Studies I (2 credits)**  
Using a case-based approach this course integrates basic and clinical sciences by incorporating conditions commonly seen in the practice of veterinary medicine to emphasize topics of anatomy, immunology, physiology, parasitology and infectious diseases. Students progressively enhance their critical thinking and problem solving skills as they generate problem lists, formulate differential diagnoses, and develop diagnostic plans. Course continues through Semesters 2-5.

**Semester 3**  
**VMI 5312**  
**Essential Veterinary Skills C (1 credit)**  
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through Semesters 1-6.

**VPP 5332**  
**Pharmacology I (3 credits)**  
Focuses on general principles of pharmacology, together with drugs acting on the autonomic and central nervous systems, muscle relaxants, local anesthetics and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.
VPA 5341
Pathology I with Laboratory (4 credits)
Introduces the terminology of disease, mechanisms of disease from both causal and tissue-response aspects, systemic pathology based on etiopathogenesis, and gross and microscopic appearance of lesions. Lectures, histopathology slides (real and virtual), necropsies and abattoir specimens are employed.

VMP 5351
Bacteriology and Mycology with Laboratory (3 credits)
Concentrates on diseases in domestic animals caused by pathogenic bacteria and fungi. Lectures emphasize basic properties of microorganisms, including identification and pathogenesis. Laboratory instruction includes basic bacteriology/mycology laboratory techniques, with hands-on application of identifying those organisms in the form of standard staining and microscope techniques, plating of cultures and simple methods of identification of bacteria.

VMP 5355
Virology (3 credits)
Covers the basic properties of animal viruses including classification, genetics, pathogenesis and diagnosis of viral diseases using laboratory methods. Control and prevention of viral diseases are discussed.

VMP 5352
Case Based Studies II (2 credits)
Using a case-based approach this course integrates basic and clinical sciences by incorporating conditions commonly seen in the practice of veterinary medicine to emphasize topics of anatomy, immunology, physiology, parasitology and infectious diseases. Students progressively enhance their critical thinking and problem solving skills as they generate problem lists, formulate differential diagnoses, and develop diagnostic plans. Course continues through Semesters 2-5.

Semester 4
VMI 5412
Essential Veterinary Skills D (1 credit)
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through Semesters 1-6.

VMA 5452
Case Based Studies III- Mechanisms of Diseases (2 credits)
Using a case-based approach this course focuses on how changes in normal anatomy and function result in various common disease syndromes. Further, the reasons for the clinical presentations of the syndromes are described, as are the principles underlying their diagnosis and treatment. Course continues through Semesters 2-5.

VPA 5443
Pathology II with Laboratory (5 credits)
Continues systemic pathology of food and companion animals. Disorders are categorized by organ system emphasizing etiopathogenesis, gross and microscopic lesions, and sequelae.
Lectures, histopathology slides (real and virtual), necropsies and abattoir specimens are employed.

**VPA 5448**  
**Clinical Pathology with Laboratory (5 credits)**  
Students learn how to use laboratory data to make a diagnosis. They are expected to understand the underlying pathophysiology of laboratory abnormalities, understand how tests are selected, the technology used to generate data, and most importantly, how to interpret and integrate test results, including hematology, cytopathology, and clinical biochemistry.

**VMS 5475**  
**Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology (3 credits)**  
Provides students with the fundamentals of epidemiologic theory as a means of understanding how epidemiology can be used in veterinary medicine. Introduces the concepts of emerging infectious diseases, bioterrorism and disaster medicine, as well as the epidemiology of various zoonotic diseases. Important aspects of public health such as milk hygiene, humane slaughter, meat inspection and food-borne diseases are also discussed.

**VPP 5431**  
**Applied Animal Nutrition (3 credits)**  
This course reviews the basic feed constituents, energy, protein, fiber, minerals and vitamins; concepts in feed labeling; the characteristics of feeds used in animal feeding; animal management; and feeding guidelines for cats, dogs, cattle, small ruminants, horses and swine. The course incorporates real-life case examples and a few out-of-class assignments to reinforce important concepts.

**Semester 5**  
**VMI 5512**  
**Essential Veterinary Skills E (1 credit)**  
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through Semesters 1-6.

**VPP 5538**  
**Toxicology (3 credits)**  
Studies toxicants and poisonous plants of significance to livestock and companion animals, including their source, properties, toxicity, toxicokinetics, mechanism of toxicologic damage, detection, diagnosis and treatment.

**VMS 5573**  
**Diagnostic Imaging with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Provides an overview of the physics of diagnostic radiology, the principles of veterinary radiography and quality control of radiographs. Normal radiographic findings and anatomy in small animals plus radiographic features and patterns as they relate to diseases are also covered. An introduction to equine radiography and diagnostic ultrasound is included, along with an introduction to alternate imaging techniques.

**VMS 5577**  
**Anesthesiology with Laboratory (4 credits)**
Introduces the principles of general and local anesthesia of small and large animals. The etiology, diagnosis and treatment of fluid and acid-base disorders are discussed, as well as the recognition, treatment and prevention of anesthetic emergencies. Laboratory sessions provide students with experience in small animal anesthesia, in addition to demonstrations of monitoring equipment, mechanical ventilation and large animal general anesthesia.

**VMS 5585**  
Small Animal Medicine I (5 credits)  
Focuses on disorders of the cardiovascular, endocrine and neurological systems as well as selected infectious diseases. The important conditions of dogs and cats are discussed according to their pathophysiology, clinical signs, diagnosis, differential diagnoses, treatment and prognosis.

**VMP 5552**  
Case Based Studies IV (2 credits)  
Using a case-based approach this course integrates basic and clinical sciences by incorporating conditions commonly seen in the practice of veterinary medicine to emphasize topics of anatomy, immunology, physiology, parasitology and infectious diseases. Students progressively enhance their critical thinking and problem solving skills as they generate problem lists, formulate differential diagnoses, and develop diagnostic plans. Course continues through Semesters 2-5.

**Semester 6**  
**VMI 5612**  
Essential Veterinary Skills F (1 credit)  
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through Semesters 1-6.

**VMS 5698**  
Special Species Medicine (2 credits)  
Allows students to gain insight into the roles and responsibilities of veterinarians with respect to diseases, husbandry, surgery and medicine, as well as aspects related to public health in the context of pet birds and non-traditional species, including reptiles, rodents, ferrets and rabbits.

**VMS 5649**  
Small Animal Surgery (4 credits)  
Focuses on the major pathophysiologic changes, diagnostic procedures and treatments of surgical diseases and conditions of the dog and cat. Emphasis will be on the integration and utilization of this information in clinical decision-making. Instruction is based on lectures and reading assignments.

**VMS 5650**  
Surgery Laboratory I (2 credits)  
Comprises one laboratory period and one hour of lecture or discussion each week. The laboratories cover aseptic technique, instrument handling, surgical knots and suturing, as well as bandaging and cast application in multiple species. A review of anesthesia is conducted and a competency examination is administered. Students must also demonstrate competency during a practical examination, using the ROSSIE model of canine ovariohysterectomy. Students must
pass these competency examinations to pass the course. Additional practice hours are available in the Clinical Skills Laboratory throughout the semester. This is a pass/fail course.

**VMS 5687**  
**Small Animal Medicine II (5 credits)**  
Utilizes a problem-oriented approach to study common diseases of the eyes, kidneys, urinary tract, skin, gastrointestinal tract, liver, pancreas, respiratory system and blood as well as basic oncology for dogs and cats. Knowledge will be built on pre-clinical studies such as anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology and will draw heavily on clinical pathology, pharmacology and toxicology. Medical diseases are arranged to coincide chronologically with surgical diseases of the same systems being taught in Small Animal Surgery.

**VMS 5690**  
**Large Animal Medicine I (5 credits)**  
Using a problem-oriented approach, the course focuses on the examination and diagnosis of diseases of particular relevance to the horse. The etiology, epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical signs, clinical pathology, diagnosis therapy and control of diseases of horses are discussed. As much as possible systems are arranged to coincide chronologically with Small Animal Medicine and Small Animal Surgery.

**Semester 7**  
**VMI 5704**  
**Veterinary Professional Foundations II (1 credits)**  
Provides an introduction to the subjects of veterinary professional ethics, law and business management relating to veterinary practice. Students are made aware of laws and regulations that control various aspects of veterinary medicine as well as the legal obligations involved in veterinary practice. Students are also given information concerning their career as a veterinarian that includes employment options within the profession, preparation of a resume, negotiating an employment contract, and options for internships and residencies. The importance of communication skills within veterinary practice is emphasized.

**VMS 5775**  
**Theriogenology with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Integrates reproductive pathology, endocrinology, physiology, and pharmacology as they apply to the clinical diagnosis, treatment and prevention of reproductive disorders in domestic animals. Breeding soundness evaluation of males and females is also covered. By the end of the course, the student should be able to approach an obstetrical situation in any of the domestic animal species with the necessary background to diagnose, manage and resolve the condition. Students are also introduced to procedures and technologies used in pregnancy diagnosis, artificial insemination, and semen collection and evaluation.

**VMS 5783**  
**Introduction to Clinics (2 credits)**  
Focuses on the techniques necessary to obtain clinical data, with emphasis on thorough physical examination and problem-oriented veterinary medical records. Clinical practical sessions utilize referral and general appointment cases. Students gain experience in common veterinary diagnostic techniques. Mandatory rotations include: equine, bovine 1 & 2, small animal clinics, emergency, clinical pathology, and grand rounds. Elective rotations include: small animal surgery, anesthesiology, communications, animal behavior, theriogenology, rehabilitation.
therapy, acupuncture, diagnostic imaging, advanced clinics, primate research, dentistry, ambulatory.

**VMS 5793**
**Large Animal Medicine II (5 credits)**
Focuses on the recognition, treatment and prevention of diseases of food-producing animals and camelids. The etiology, epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical signs, clinical pathology, diagnosis, therapy and control of diseases of food producing animals are discussed. Management of the herd unit is emphasized.

**VMS 5795**
**Large Animal Surgery (4 credits)**
Focuses on surgery of farm animals, with emphasis on cattle and horses. In cattle, the alimentary, locomotor and reproductive systems are covered in detail. In the horse, the healing and treatment of wounds, lameness, dentistry, colic and the respiratory, urinary, male and female reproductive systems are covered.

**VMS 5796**
**Surgery Laboratory II (2 credits)**
Provides training in preoperative planning, anesthesia, surgical techniques, operating room decision-making, and postoperative care via supervised procedures. Students entering this course should have a thorough knowledge of anatomy, physiology and pharmacology, as well as basic surgical skills and anesthesiology.

**Elective Courses**

**VMB 5001**
**Introduction to Sea Turtle Medicine (1 credit)**
This course covers sea turtle natural history and biology, provides an understanding of the husbandry, nutrition, diagnostics, therapeutics, anesthesia, surgery, emerging diseases, mortality events and current ongoing research as they relate to sea turtles. The course includes an overview of the most common conditions requiring treatment seen in sea turtles, and recommendations for designing an effective and feasible treatment plan. Discussions will focus on recently published peer-reviewed research focused on sea turtle management and medicine. This elective course is offered once per year, during the Summer semester. Offered to Semesters 4-7

**VMS 5384**
**Introduction to Veterinary Animal Behavior (1 credit)**
Introduces the principles of animal learning, and the application of behavior-modification techniques based on these principles. Includes an overview of the most common behavioral problems seen in companion animals and current treatment recommendations, designing an effective and feasible treatment plan, and integrating behavior into your practice. Offered to Semesters 2-7

**VMS 5390**
**Basis of Animal Production (1 credit)**
This elective course covers the basic notions on animal production, specifically the major characteristics regarding husbandry and management in the different food-producing animals: Poultry, Swine, Dairy and Beef cattle, Sheep, Goat, and unconventional species. The course
includes an overview on how different production systems work, what are their main characteristics and their productive cycle year round and will also address existing differences between animal production systems. The elective will confer the students with animal production knowledge that will be of high importance to other courses like Theriogenology or Animal Nutrition.

Offered to Semesters 2-7.

VMS 5498
Lab Animal Medicine I (1 credit)
Introduction to the field of laboratory animal medicine and science including: ethical use of laboratory animals in biomedical research and teaching, careers in laboratory animal medicine, husbandry and management of vivaria – the GUIDE, and information specific to rats, mice, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, rabbits, nonhuman primates, ferrets, sheep, pigs and zebrafish.

Offered to Semesters 2-7.

VMS 5499
Lab Animal Medicine II (1 credit)
Course provides an in-depth study into the field of laboratory animal medicine and science building upon the foundations of Lab Animal Medicine I.

Offered to Semesters 3-7.

VMS 5531
Clinical Nutrition (1 credit)
This course is an introduction to the concepts of canine and feline clinical nutrition.

Offered to Semesters 5-6.

Summary of RUSVM Activities in Support of Placement of Graduates
In order to assist in the placement of graduates, all students are required to take Veterinary Foundations I and II during the pre-clinical curriculum. These courses introduce ethics and law, with an emphasis on government regulations and business management relating to veterinary practice. A portion of these courses includes instruction in debt management and employment contracts, writing an effective cover letter and resume/CV, interview skills, salary negotiation, selecting a first position and corporate career opportunities.
Clinical Training at an Affiliated Institution

RUSVM contracts with AVMA-COE accredited schools and colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States, Canada, Ireland, Australia and soon to include other international locations, to provide clinical year training for its students.

In order to be eligible for promotion to the clinical year, RUSVM students must successfully complete the Pre-clinical curriculum at the St. Kitts campus.

All arrangements with the affiliate institution are handled by RUSVM (RUSVM students are not to contact these programs directly). During clinical training, students remain enrolled in, and graduate from, RUSVM. Tuition is paid to RUSVM and not the affiliated institution.

*RUSVM students are required to complete a minimum of 45 weeks of supervised and evaluated clinical curriculum with an Affiliated school/college to be eligible for graduation.* Clinical curriculum consists of Core, Elective and Externship rotations. With the recommended time interval for the rotations, RUSVM students spend a minimum of 20 weeks in the "core" clinical program. The remaining time consists of electives at affiliated schools and externships. This time may be divided in a manner most opportune for scheduling at each affiliate school.

**Core Rotations (minimum 20 weeks):**

1. **Small Animal Medicine** - Includes Preventive Health Maintenance/Community Practice (a minimum of 4 weeks)
2. **Small Animal Surgery** - (a minimum of 4 weeks)
3. **Medical Services** - Includes Anesthesiology and Diagnostic Imaging (a minimum of 4 weeks)
4. **Diagnostic Pathology** - Includes Clinical Pathology, Parasitology, Microbiology, Necropsy (diagnostic pathology) services (a minimum of 4 weeks)
5. **Large Animal Medicine** - A minimum of 4 weeks in one of the following:
   - Food Animal Medicine and/or Surgery: Includes Ambulatory Services, Theriogenology, and/or Food Animal Production Medicine where offered OR
   - Equine Medicine and/or Surgery: Includes Ambulatory Services where offered

**Definition of Terms:**

**Elective:** is an evaluated rotation that is not required as part of RUSVM core program, or required by the affiliate to complete the DVM program. Many institutions define electives as non-core on-campus rotations or clerkships. Normally students will receive a grade (associated with a course number) after completion of an elective rotation.

**Externship:** is an off–campus supervised and evaluated learning experience. Normally students will not receive a grade after completion of an externship.

Below is a list of some of RUSVM's affiliate schools and colleges of veterinary medicine:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliated Colleges of Veterinary Medicine</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Websites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Veterinary College</td>
<td>Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada</td>
<td>avc.upei.ca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn University</td>
<td>Auburn, AL</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.auburn.edu">www.vetmed.auburn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado State University</td>
<td>Fort Collins, CO</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cvmbs.colostate.edu">www.cvmbs.colostate.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>Ithaca, NY</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.cornell.edu">www.vet.cornell.edu</a></td>
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<td>Iowa State University</td>
<td>Ames, IA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.iastate.edu">www.vetmed.iastate.edu</a></td>
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<td>Kansas State University</td>
<td>Manhattan, KS</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.ksu.edu">www.vet.ksu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Louisiana State University</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, LA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu">www.vetmed.lsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>East Lansing, MI</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cvm.msu.edu">www.cvm.msu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>North Carolina State University</td>
<td>Raleigh, NC</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu">www.cvm.ncsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oklahoma State University</td>
<td>Stillwater, OK</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cvm.okstate.edu">www.cvm.okstate.edu</a></td>
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<td>Oregon State University</td>
<td>Corvallis, OR</td>
<td>vetmed.oregonstate.edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purdue University</td>
<td>West Lafayette, IN</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.purdue.edu">www.vet.purdue.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas A &amp; M University</td>
<td>College Station, TX</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cvm.tamu.edu">www.cvm.tamu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>The Ohio State University</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
<td>vet.osu.edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tufts University</td>
<td>North Grafton, MA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tufts.edu/vet">www.tufts.edu/vet</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>University College Dublin</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.ucd.ie/vetmed">www.ucd.ie/vetmed</a></td>
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<td>University of Missouri</td>
<td>Columbia, MO</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cvm.missouri.edu">www.cvm.missouri.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.upenn.edu">www.vet.upenn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Sydney</td>
<td>Sydney, Australia</td>
<td>sydney.edu.au/vetscience</td>
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<td>University of Tennessee</td>
<td>Knoxville, TN</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.utk.edu">www.vet.utk.edu</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>University of Wisconsin</td>
<td>Madison, WI</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.wisc.edu">www.vetmed.wisc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (Virginia Tech)</td>
<td>Blacksburg, VA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.vt.edu">www.vetmed.vt.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western College of Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>Saskatoon, Canada</td>
<td><a href="http://www.usask.ca/wcvm">www.usask.ca/wcvm</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
DEGREE PROGRAMS

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

RUSVM offers a Doctoral (PhD) by Research degree program and both a Master of Science (MSc) by Coursework in One Health and a Master of Science (MSc) by Research degree program. The MSc by Research degree program is most likely to benefit applicants going on to pursue a Doctoral degree. The MSc by Coursework in One Health degree program consists of one year of full-time study with a required research project and thesis, and is similar to programs offered in the USA and Canada. Part-time study options are also offered.

Postgraduate students (referred to as “Candidates”) appointed into postgraduate degree programs will embody an essential group of attributes that will be required to ensure the successful completion of the degree program, within a reasonable timeframe and ensure a competent career ready graduate. RUSVM, through research supervisors and Master of Science by Coursework advisors/teaching staff, provides clear, detailed and accessible information to candidates. Supervisors and Master of Science by Coursework advisors/teaching staff are directly involved in managing candidate progress and professional development.

Academic Policies

The Postgraduate Degree Regulations set out the regulatory framework by which postgraduate degree programs are governed.

Enrollment

Candidates must enroll at the beginning of their study period by accepting their offer letter and thereafter on their attendance anniversary each year of their registration by emailing postgrad@rossvet.edu.kn and indicating any change of personal information. For degree programs longer than 1 year, this must be conducted until graduation.

A candidate may not repeat a semester of study if his or her progress has been unsatisfactory. Extensions to the prescribed period of study may be granted by the Postgraduate and Research Committee.

Financial Information

Tuition and Fees

All tuition and fees are listed in U.S. currency. Amounts are subject to change and additional fees may be charged for special features and/or services.

Application Fee

There is no application fee for the postgraduate degree programs.

Tuition

Postgraduate Degree Programs
2015-2016 Academic Year
Tuition – MSc by Coursework in One Health** (3 semesters)
$4,000  Per semester

**Tuition – MSc by Research (3 semesters)**

- **$3,000** Per semester: tuition for full-time students
- **$24** Per semester: Student Government Association fee

**Tuition – PhD (9 semesters)**

- **$3,000** Per semester: tuition for full-time students
- **$24** Per semester: Student Government Association fee

Please see the *Student Handbook* for tuition and refund policies.

Research degrees (Master of Science by Research and PhD) are subject to availability of supervisors, equipment and research costs.

*The full annual cost includes a $3,000 travel and accommodation fee for the compulsory residential component in St. Kitts & Nevis. Personal expenses will be at the candidate's expense during time-spent on-island. Candidates who reside in St Kitts for the duration of the MSc by Coursework in One Health are not liable for the travel and accommodation fee for the residential component of the degree program but will not be provided with accommodation on-island for the duration of the residence.

* Prorated for part-time students (50% for 2-year option; 33% for 3-year option).
# Prorated for part-time students (50%)

**RUSVM’s postgraduate degree programs are not eligible for U.S. Federal loans or financial aid.**

Candidates must on the occasion of each semester pay the tuition fee due, at the date of payment, for the semester concerned. Candidates will be billed for the entire year. Candidates have the right to request an installment plan.

**Other Educational Expenses**

**Educational Materials:** Candidates are responsible for purchasing required textbooks, supplies, and equipment. The average cost for educational materials is dependent on the program of study and is traditionally no more than $400 per semester.

**Health Insurance:** Candidates in the Masters or PhD by Research Programs are encouraged to have health insurance while enrolled at RUSVM. RUSVM offers candidates an insurance plan. The flat rate fee for Health Insurance for the 2015-2016 academic year is $650 per semester. If a candidate provides proof of insurance coverage, the requirement to purchase insurance from RUSVM can be waived.

**Late Fees:** Late fees may be assessed for late payment of tuition. For specific information, please consult the *Student Handbook*.

For additional information regarding total program costs, please refer to the program home page at [http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/student-consumer-info.cfm](http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/student-consumer-info.cfm).
Living Expenses
Candidates, except those studying online for the MSc by Coursework in One Health, must plan on the cost of rent and utilities on-island, which will vary based on factors such as location and whether there are roommates. Food and incidental costs must also be budgeted.

Transportation to/from St. Kitts: Immigration requires candidates entering St. Kitts to have a return airline ticket.

Financial Obligations
Tuition and fees are billed approximately 45 days in advance of each semester and are due 15 days before the start of the semester. Postgraduate degree candidates in receipt of external funding must provide evidence of the financial support of which they are in receipt. RUSVM has the right to withhold services and academic certification from a candidate whose account is overdue.

Refund Policy for Withdrawals
A withdrawal occurs when a candidate’s enrollment is permanently discontinued or interrupted without an authorized leave of absence in accordance with the policies and procedures outlined in the Student Handbook. The effective date of withdrawal is normally the date the candidate notifies the institution of the withdrawal or candidate’s last academically related event attended.

Although a leave of absence may be authorized in limited circumstances, failure to return to school from a leave of absence on the date specified is considered a withdrawal as of the last academically related event attended or the determined withdrawal date. Any leave of absence must be requested and approved in advance and may not exceed 3 semesters (1 year). An interruption of enrollment status that does not qualify as a leave of absence is considered a withdrawal as of the last date of academically related activity.

Candidates that are withdrawn, administratively withdrawn, dismissed, suspended, they may be entitled to a tuition refund. Candidates are refunded on a semester basis based on number of months enrolled in the degree program. Stipends are exempt from the tuition fee policy.

Below is a breakdown of semester-based withdrawal refunds. Please note that health insurance fees will not be adjusted. Candidate association fees, will not be refunded.

- Month 1: 75% tuition adjustment
- Month 2: 50% tuition adjustment
- Month 3: 25% tuition adjustment
- Month 4: No adjustment

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2 Please note that tuition adjustments may create a credit balance on the candidate account. If a candidate has borrowed private loan funds, a loan return will be issued to the private loan lender as those monies are no longer needed to pay tuition.
Masters of Science by Coursework in One Health Degree Program

The MSc by Coursework in One Health by Coursework (MSc One Health) degree program is research-informed and candidates will benefit from the expertise of world-renowned experts. The program includes residential and online taught components as well as a research project leading to the presentation of a thesis.

The course-based MSc One Health degree program is designed to equip veterinarians, animal scientists, medical and biological scientists with an in-depth understanding of the principles of, and issues associated with, One Health. RUSVM is committed to a One Health approach to a sectoral and multidisciplinary research aimed at sustainably reducing the burden of zoonoses. Zoonoses and other diseases affecting livestock production and health have serious impacts on the economic growth, health and food security and alleviation of poverty in tropical and resource constrained countries. Candidates will also have the opportunity to explore the complex interplay of altered environments and infectious diseases as an increasing threat to agriculture, public health and endangered/threatened species, on a global basis.

Admissions Criteria
Admission is open to candidates with a professional veterinary or medical qualification or a bachelor’s degree or international equivalent in the biological, biomedical, environmental or ecological sciences. The degree program begins in January annually.

Applicants will be selected on the basis of their educational performance to date.

Due to the intensive nature of this degree program, a high-level of English proficiency is required and applicants whose native language is not English will be asked to provide evidence of proficiency through test scores and/or education/professional experience in the medium of English.

Application Process
Applicants for this postgraduate degree program are invited to direct initial inquiries to postgrad@rossvet.edu.kn. Applicants are asked to submit an expression of interest, consisting of their curriculum vitae and a short (2 paragraphs) on their reasons for wishing to undertake this degree program.

If the applicants fulfill the minimum entry requirements, they will be asked to attend an interview by Skype™, video-conference or teleconference. Successful interviewees will be asked to complete an application form and to submit supporting documentation. Offers of admissions at this stage are conditional upon completion of the attached application form, verification of your qualifications and receipt of satisfactory references. Once the information has been received and verified, the applicants will receive an unconditional offer of admissions, which they must accept in order to enroll.

Cancellation Policy
If an applicant decides to withdraw his/her application prior to decision, the applicant must email the Research and Postgraduate Administrator (postgrad@rossvet.edu.kn) with that request. The Administrator will then deactivate the application.
The state of Missouri provides for a period during which admissions agreements with RUSVM may be cancelled by the candidate with refund of all monies paid. This cancellation period shall not be less than (3) days, not including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

Cancellation of Courses
RUSVM operates under a lockstep curriculum. RUSVM’s curriculum is designed so classes are meant to be taken in a specific order, to bolster candidates' knowledge and skills incrementally. As such, the general policy at RUSVM is that it does not cancel classes.

New Student Welcome Packet Materials
Once accepted to RUSVM, candidates receive information pertaining to access to online classes, reading materials and the residential (on-island) component.

Learning Outcomes
The MSc One Health degree program is designed to provide the skills and preparation needed for careers in a broad range of environments. The flexible program of study has particular strengths in:

- tropical animal health and diseases
- the intersection of animal health and human health
- epidemiology
- conservation medicine
- food safety
- animal health program management
- animal disease investigation
- research and diagnostic methods
- the interface between domestic animals and wildlife
- delivery of veterinary services

On completion of the degree program the candidates will have gained knowledge, research skills and research experience in topics relevant to the broad field of One Health. The program provides graduates the background and experience to assess, investigate and manage animal health and zoonotic disease risks, to design and execute targeted research in animal health, and to manage veterinary intervention in the control and prevention of animal disease. Within the degree program the candidate will have had the opportunity to focus on an area of interest, such as area disease control, vector borne diseases, zoonotic infections or conservation medicine.

Candidates will acquire and enhance intellectual skills in scientific assessment and research methodology, as well as practical skills in communication, organization and scientific writing.

Delivery
The program of study is characterized by a well-designed set of core courses and a flexible choice of elective courses to meet the demands of the field and the goals of the students. The taught component will be instructed by distance learning via eCollege®, RUSVM’s Virtual Learning Environment. Candidates will be taught by RUSVM faculty and specialist modules may be delivered by RUSVM’s partner institutions.
The MSc by Coursework in One Health degree program requires 41 credits, obtained through coursework and a project, leading to the submission of a thesis. Candidates are required to undertake specified core courses amounting to 23 credits.

The research project may be carried out in St. Kitts and Nevis or in other locations, as appropriate, under the supervision of a RUSVM faculty member. The research component may be desk-based, lab-based or through fieldwork and will result in the submission of a thesis. A short residential (max. 1 week) component will allow the candidate cohort to share their perspective and dissertation work to the RUSVM research community.

Assessment
Assessment will be conducted through traditional and novel methods suited to an online delivery mode and will include, for example, essays, critical review of peer-reviewed articles, online tests and quizzes, blog writing, research proposal writing, research/fieldwork journal development, group discussions, group project work and social media interactions.

Assessment of the dissertation stage will be conducted on a portfolio of projects or dissertation submitted. It should comprise either a satisfactory record of research undertaken by the student, or a satisfactory critical survey of knowledge in the field of study, or both, combined with a satisfactory plan for a more advanced research project; and show competence in the appropriate method of research and an adequate knowledge of the field of study. The work must be satisfactory in its literary presentation and include adequate references.

The assessed work, including the dissertation, should be equivalent to but not exceeding 30,000 words. The thesis must be submitted within a maximum of 3 months after the completion of the prescribed program of study unless an extension is granted by the director of Postgraduate Studies.

For MSc One Health, the grading system is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93% or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90% to 92.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87% to 89.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83% to 86.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80% to 82.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77% to 79.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73% to 76.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70% to 72.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67% to 69.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63% to 66.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60% to 62.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Candidates are evaluated based on the following criteria:
- Examinations
- Completion of assignments, including practicals
- Class and threaded discussion participation
- Academic honesty and professional demeanor
- Professionalism and the ability to effectively work with others in a team environment
WRITTEN AGREEMENTS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (RUSVM) has a written agreement with DeVry University’s Keller Graduate School of Management (Keller) to teach the leadership and public policy-related courses that are required in RUSVM’s Master of Science by Coursework in One Health (MSc One Health). The proportion of the degree program that is taught by Keller is noted in the table below. Courses taught by Keller are identified on the transcript by the course codes MGMT591 and PA-582.

There are no additional costs incurred by RUSVM students as a result of enrolling in a degree program at RUSVM that is taught, in part, by Keller.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Programs/Program Option</th>
<th>Percentage of Credits Provided by RUSVM</th>
<th>Percentage of Credits Provided by Keller</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSc One Health</td>
<td>85% (35 credits)</td>
<td>15% (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Curriculum
A sample curriculum plan for the Master of Science by Coursework in One Health is provided below: