FOLLOW YOUR DREAM

CAMPUS ADDRESS:
West Farm-Main Street
PO Box 334, Basseterre
St. Kitts, West Indies
Phone: +1-869-465-4161
www.veterinary.rossu.edu

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCE
3005 Highland Parkway, 4th Floor
Downers Grove, IL 60515
Phone: +1-732-509-3051
finaid@rossu.edu

COMPLETE APPLICATION ONLINE:
http://veterinary.rossu.edu/landing/application.html

SEND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TO:
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Office of Admissions
630 US Highway 1
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Phone: +1-855-ROSS-VET
Fax: +1-732-509-4803
Email: admissions@rossu.edu

DISCLAIMER:
All information in this catalog, including statements regarding tuition and fees, curriculum, course offerings, admissions and graduation requirements, is subject to change at any time and is applicable to all enrolled students unless otherwise stated.

For the most up-to-date version of this catalog, visit www.veterinary.rossu.edu.

Date of Issue: May 2019

Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (RUSVM) provides an environment free of unlawful harassment or discrimination based upon race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status and sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, citizenship status, other category protected by applicable law. RUSVM complies with all applicable laws regarding discrimination, harassment, retaliation and equal opportunity in administration of its educational programs and other RUSVM-administered policies, or employment policies.
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## RUSVM CAMPUS MAP 75
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 30 RUSVM affiliated American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)-accredited schools of veterinary medicine in the United States, Canada, Australia, UK and Ireland.

FACILITIES:
Pre-clinical DVM 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 Facility
- 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
- Research Laboratory
- Simulated Veterinary Examination 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 5,000 alumni.

**POSTGRADUATE STUDIES:**

**Master of Science by Coursework in One Health:** Requires 42 credits, obtained through coursework and a project, leading to the submission of a thesis. Students are required to undertake specified core courses amounting to 24 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 and those in the Veterinary Preparatory (Vet Prep) program have the option to 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](http://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@rossvet.edu.kn

For comprehensive consumer information, please visit [www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/student-consumer-info.cfm](http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/student-consumer-info.cfm).
The island of St. Kitts

LOCATION: ST. KITTS & NEVIS
Greetings!

Congratulations on taking the first of many steps toward realizing your dream of becoming a veterinarian. This handbook brings together the academic information that will be applicable to your exciting experience with us at Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (RUSVM).

RUSVM is a unique treasure nestled on the beautiful island of St. Kitts in the Caribbean and our community stands ready to help you find your place in our story and the global community. We are excited to provide you with the opportunity to study and learn in an intellectually supportive and challenging environment and obtain the skills to become a leader in a profession focused on animal care and care for our society and the environment. This method of thinking we call a “One Health” approach and we pride ourselves in adopting this approach.

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 as you turn today’s ideas into tomorrow’s solutions and join a family of over 5000 alumni.

We expect you to grow during your time here. That’s why we are proud that we have a strong tradition of providing hands-on training and an innovative curriculum. We are building on that tradition and advancing a powerful vision and strategy to prepare our graduates to address the most pressing challenges in human and animal medicine and their links to the environment, all encompassed in the term ”One Health.” This is well complemented by our geographical location in the Caribbean that allows students like yourself to pursue knowledge and understanding of public health aspects of all species and use scientifically informed methods, to control and prevent disease.

As you begin to unlock the doors to a bright future in veterinary medicine with us, do not forget to enjoy your journey. Please get to know our distinguished faculty, staff, administration - our goal is to make an impact on you, your future, and the veterinary profession. You will also make an impact on us. I encourage you to immerse yourself in our diverse environment that will help to make you more adaptable as veterinarians. When you complete your program of study, I hope you remember the good times and the academic experiences you had as a Rossie as you pursue a wide selection of careers in clinical practice, academia, industry, business, or elsewhere in tomorrow’s global society.

Again, welcome to the RUSVM family!

Sean Callanan MVB CertVR MRCVS PhD FRCPath DipIECVP
Dean
Professor of Anatomic Pathology
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
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.

### PRE-CLINICAL TERM ACADEMIC CALENDAR

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEMESTER</td>
<td>START DATE</td>
<td>FINISH DATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Term</td>
<td>September 3, 2018</td>
<td>December 13, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Term</td>
<td>January 7, 2019</td>
<td>April 18, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Term</td>
<td>May 6, 2019</td>
<td>August 15, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<th>2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEMESTER</td>
<td>START DATE</td>
<td>FINISH DATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Term</td>
<td>September 2, 2019</td>
<td>December 12, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Term</td>
<td>January 6, 2020</td>
<td>April 16, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Term</td>
<td>May 4, 2020</td>
<td>August 13, 2020</td>
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### CLINICAL TERM ACADEMIC CALENDAR

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<tr>
<th>SEMESTER</th>
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<th>FINISH DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fall Term</td>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>December 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Term</td>
<td>January 1</td>
<td>April 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Term</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>August 31</td>
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Effective September 2017, the Clinical Term Academic Calendar has been extended to span 52-weeks. These dates will remain constant each academic year.
RUSVM ADMINISTRATION

SEAN CALLANAN, MVB MRCVS CERTVR PHD DIPECVP FRCPATH  
Dean of Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

ROBERT GILBERT, BVSC, MMEDVET, DIP. ACT, FRCVS  
Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning

FORTUNE SITHOLE, BVSC, MSC, PHD, DIPL. ACVPM  
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and Professional Opportunities

CHARLES WALLACE, MS, DVM, DACVS  
Associate Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs

A. LEE WILLINGHAM, BSC, PHD, DVM  
Associate Dean for Research and Postgraduate Studies

DON BERGFELT, BS, MS, PHD  
Department Head of Biomedical Sciences

HILARI M. FRENCH DVM, PHD, DACT, DABVP (FOOD ANIMAL)  
Department Head of Clinical Sciences Department

RESEARCH CENTERS

DARRYN KNOBEL, BVSC MSC PHD MRCVS DIPL. ACVPM (EPI)  
Director of Center for Conservation Medicine and Ecosystem Health

FELIX TOKA, DVM, PHD, DSC, DACVM  
Director of Center for Integrative Mammalian Research

SOUVIK GHOSH, BVSC & AH (GOLD MEDALLIST), MVSC, PHD  
Director of One Health Center for Zoonoses and Tropical Veterinary Medicine

ELPIDA ARTEMIOU, BSC, MSC, PHD, AFAMEE  
Director of Center for Research and Innovation in Veterinary and Medical Education
RUSVM ADMINISTRATION (CONTINUED)

DEAN’S LEADERSHIP TEAM

FELIX ALEJANDRO, BA, MHRM, MBA
Director of Human Resources

HARUTYN AVSAROGLU, DVM, MSC, PHD, DIP. ECLAM
Director of Animal Resources

ANNE-LYSE BADOU-JAMES
Senior Manager, Financial Planning & Analysis

DENTRECIA BLANCHETTE
Manager of Communications

JAMES FAIRS, BVSC, MRCVS
Director of the Ross University Veterinary Clinic

RAY FRANCIS, BSC, MSC
Campus Administrator

MATTHEW HAGA, BSC, MCSE
Director of Information Technology

VERON LAKE
Director of Government Relations and Civic Affairs

NATHALIE MATHER-L’HUILIER, BSC, MPHIL, PHD
Director of Accreditation and Alumni Relations

FIDEL O’FLAHERTY
Senior Manager of Facilities
RUSVM ADMINISTRATION (CONTINUED)

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

DONNA BARRY, APN, DNP, FN-CSA
Manager of Student Health Services

JENNIFER BRADTKE, BA, MA, PSYD
Director of Counseling Center and Clinical Psychologist

GRACE CARR, BSC, MLIS
Director of Library Services

DENISE FYFIELD
Campus Registrar

DAVID SATTERLEE
Director Student Experience

ROXANNE SCHREIBER, PHD
Manager of Student Success Center

ADELE STRAUN, MMI
Manager of Housing
RUSVM FACULTY

ELPIDA ARTEMIOU, BSC, MSC, PHD
Associate Professor of Communications
Degrees: McGill University (BSc, MSc), University Ambrosiana (PhD)

HARUTYN AVSAROGLU, DVM, MSC, PHD, DIP. ECLAM
Director of Animal Resources
Veterinary School: Utrecht University
Additional Degrees: Utrecht University (PhD), Utrecht University (Dipl. ECLAM)

CHRISTINE BARRON, MSC, DVM
Clinical Instructor of Anatomy
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 of Clinics
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degree: University of California, Davis (BSc)

DON BERGFELT, BS, MS, PHD
Head, Department of Biomedical Sciences
Professor of Biomedical Sciences
Degrees: University of Wisconsin-Madison (BS, MS, PhD)

LARRY BETANCE, BSC, DVM
Associate Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: University of California, Davis (BSc)

JOÃO BITTAR
Assistant Professor of Large Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: Federal University of Goiás
Additional Degrees: University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (MSc and residency program in Food Animal Reproduction and Medicine Service (FARMS).

POMPEI BOLFA, MSC, DVM, PHD, DIP. ACVP
Head, Division of Pathology
Associate Professor of Anatomic Pathology
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)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVP
HELLE BORK-LARSEN, DVM
Clinical Instructor of Clinical Skills
Veterinary School: The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Copenhagen, Denmark (DVM)

MELISSA BUCKNOFF, DVM, DIP. ACVECC
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Sciences and Clinical Pharmacology
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: Bachelor of Science (BS) from Virginia Tech, Diplomate of the College of Emergency & Critical Care (DACVECC) after training at Tufts University

PATRICK BUTAYE, DVM, PHD
Professor of Microbiology
Veterinary Degree: Ghent University
Additional Degree: Ghent University (PhD)

SEAN CALLANAN, PHD, MVB, CERT VR, MRCVS, PHD, FRCPATH, DIP. ECVP
Dean and Professor of Anatomic Pathology
Veterinary School: University College Dublin
Additional Degrees: University of Glasgow (PhD)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate ECVP

NINIAN CAMERON-BLAKE, DVM
Clinical Instructor and RUVC Clinician
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

RYAN CAVANAUGH, DVM, DIP. ACVS
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Surgery
Veterinary School: Colorado State University

SARAH CAVANAUGH, DVM, DIP. ACVIM
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: University of Florida (BS), Colorado State University (MS & Residency in Cardiology)

ASPINAS CHAPWANYA, BSC, BVSC, MVM, PHD
Assistant Professor of Theriogenology
Veterinary School: Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Zimbabwe
Additional Degrees: University of Zimbabwe (BSc), Trinity College Dublin (PhD)

JEVAN CHRISTIE, DVM
Clinical Instructor of Small Animal Internal Medicine
Veterinary School: University of Pretoria, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Onderstepoort, South Africa
Additional Degrees: University of Pretoria, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Onderstepoort, South Africa
ANNE CONAN, DVM, MSC PHD
Assistant Professor of Public Health and Epidemiology
Veterinary School: Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire de Nantes (France)
Additional Degrees: Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire d’Alfort/CIRAD (MSc), UPMC Sorbonne Universités (PhD)

LUIS CRUZ-MARTINEZ, DVM, MSC, PHD
Assistant Professor of Conservation Medicine
Veterinary Degree: National University of Costa Rica
Additional Degrees: University of Minnesota (MSc), University of Calgary (PhD)

PEDRO DE PEDRO, DVM, MSC, DIP. ACVIM
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacology
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: University of Wisconsin, BSc, University of Illinois, MSc
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM – LAIM Equine

MICHELLE DENNIS, BS, DVM, PHD, DACVP
Associate Professor of 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

BRIGHTON DZIKITI, BVSC, MSC, PHD
Head, Large Animal Division
Associate Professor of Veterinary Anesthesiology
Veterinary School: University of Zimbabwe Additional Degrees: Veterinary Anesthesia, Utrecht University, The Netherlands (MSc), University of Pretoria, South Africa (PhD)

JAMES FAIRS, BVSC, MRCVS
Director, Ross University Veterinary Clinic
Clinical Assistant Professor
Veterinary School: University of Liverpool

RODOLFO NINO FONG, DVM, MSC, PHD
Head, Division of Physiology
Associate Professor of Veterinary Anatomy and Immunology
Veterinary School: Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, Mexico (DVM)
Additional Degrees: Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, Mexico (MSc), University of Western Ontario, Canada (PhD)
MARK FREEMAN, BSC, PHD
Associate Professor of Aquaculture
Veterinary School: Bangor University, Wales (BSc)
Additional Degrees: University of Stirling, Scotland (PhD)

HILARI FRENCH, DVM, PHD, DACT
Associate Professor in Theriogenology
Veterinary School: Louisiana State University
Additional Degrees: Louisiana State University (PhD)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACT

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
Director, One Health Center for Zoonosis & Tropical Veterinary Medicine
Associate 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)

ROBERT GILBERT, BVSC, MMEDVET, DIP. ACT, FRCVS
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
Professor of Theriogenology
Veterinary School: BVSc (DVM equivalent) University of Pretoria,
Additional Degrees: MRCVS (Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons). MMedVet, University of Pretoria,
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, American College of Theriogenologists, Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (FRCVS)

JOSE GODOY, DVM, PHD
Assistant Professor of Physiology
Veterinary School: Catholic University of Temuco, Chile (DVM)
Additional Degrees: Justus Liebig University of Giessen, Germany (PhD)

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

ROGER HANCOCK, DVM
Clinical Instructor of Large Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
RUSVM FACULTY (CONTINUED)

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

IRINA IRIMESCU, DVM, MSC, PHD
Assistant Professor of Anatomy
Veterinary School: University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca (DVM)
Additional Degrees: University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca (MSc, PhD)

PRITI KARNIK, DVM, MS, DIPLOMATE ACVS-SA
Head, Small Animal Division
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Surgery
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (MS)
Specialty Certificate: Diplomate, DACVS-SA

PATRICK KELLY, BVSC, MSC, PHD
Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: University of Pretoria
Additional Degrees: University of the Witwatersrand (MSc), University of Zimbabwe (PhD)

JENNIFER KETZIS, MSC, PHD
Associate Professor of Parasitology
Degrees: Cornell University (BSc, MSc, PhD)

DARRYN KNOBEL, BVSC, MSC, PHD
Head, Division Head of Microbiology & Parasitology
Director, Center for Conservation Medicine & Ecosystem Health
Professor, Epidemiology and Population Health
Veterinary School: University of Pretoria
Additional Degrees: University of Pretoria (MSc), University of Edinburgh (PhD)

ERIKA LITTLE, MSC, DVM, DACVS
Assistant Dean of Admissions
Associate Professor of Clinical Sciences
Veterinary School: Kansas State University
Additional Degrees: Colorado State University (BS), Auburn University (MSc)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

WILLIAM (BRADY) LITTLE, BSC, MSC, DVM
Assistant Professor of Anatomy
Veterinary School: Kansas State University
Additional Degree: University of Nebraska Lincoln (BSc)
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)

RAJEEV NAIR, BVSC, MSC
Clinical Instructor and RUVC Clinician
Veterinary School: College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, India
Additional Degree: University of Tennessee, Knoxville (MS)

LUCAS NOLAZCO
Assistant Professor of Large Animal Surgery
Veterinary School: University of Buenos Aires, School of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)
Additional degrees: Washington State University (MS)

ANDREA PEDA, BSC, DVM
Clinical Instructor of Shelter Medicine
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degree: West Chester University (BSc)

MARY PEREIRA, BS, DVM
Assistant Professor of Parasitology
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degree: Clemson University (BSc)

ERIK PETERSON, DVM
Assistant Professor of Large Animal Medicine
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
Professor of Veterinary Bacteriology
Veterinary School: Kerala Agricultural University
Additional Degree: University of Tennessee, Knoxville (PhD)
Specialty Certifications: Diplomate, ACVP, Diplomate, ACVM

GILDA RAWLINS, DVM
Instructor of Diagnostic Imaging
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
SAUNDRA SAMPLE, BS, DVM
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology
Veterinary School: University of Illinois
Additional Degree: Denison University (BS)

ELIZABETH SETTLES, DVM, DIP. ACVIM, JD
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: Auburn University (DVM)
Additional Degrees: University of San Francisco (Juris Doctor)
Specialty Certifications: Diplomate, ACVIM

IBRAHIM SHOKRY, BVSC, MVSC, PHD
Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology
Veterinary School: Cairo University, BVSC
Additional Degrees: Cairo University, MVSC, PhD

ADAM SILKWORTH, DVM
Clinical Instructor and RUVC Clinician
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

FORTUNE SITHOLE, BVSC, MSC, PHD, DACVPM
Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs and Professional Opportunities
Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology
Veterinary School: University of Zimbabwe
Additional Degrees: University of Prince Edward Island, Canada (PhD)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVPM

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)

STACY TELA, DVM
Clinical Instructor of Clinical Skills
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
Director, Center for Integrative Mammalian Research
Associate Professor of Veterinary Virology
Veterinary School: Warsaw Agricultural University
Additional Degrees: Warsaw Agriculture University (PhD), Warsaw University of Life Sciences (DSc)

MICHEL VANDENPLAS, BSC, MSC, PHD
Senior Scientist
Degrees: University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (BSc, MSc, PhD)

ALINE VIEIRA, DVM, PHD
Assistant Professor, Physiology
Veterinary School: Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Additional Degrees: Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro - Brazil (Msc), Oswaldo Cruz Foundation – Brazil (PhD)

GLENN WAKLEY, MSC, PHD, CERT. ELTA
Head, Division of Anatomy
Associate Professor, Anatomy
Veterinary School: University of Bristol UK (Ph.D.)
Additional Degrees: University of Sheffield UK (M.Med.Sc. and B.Sc. (Hons), City of Bristol College (ELTA Cert.)

CHARLES WALLACE, MS, DVM, DACVS
Associate Dean of Admissions and Alumni
Professor of Large Animal Medicine and Surgery
Veterinary School: The Ohio State University
Additional Degree: The Ohio State University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

TERI WERONKO, DVM
Clinical Instructor and RUVC Clinician
Veterinary School: University of Tennessee, CVM
Additional Degrees: Cornell University, BS in Animal Science

A. LEE WILLINGHAM, PHD, DVM
Associate Dean for Research and Postgraduate Studies
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
Associate Professor of Parasitology
Medical School: Tongji Medical University
Additional Degrees: University of Georgia (PhD)

KATHERLEEN YVORCHUK-ST. JEAN, DMV, DACVIM
Head, Essential Veterinary Skills Division
Professor of Large Animal Internal Medicine
Veterinary School: University of Montreal, Canada
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM-LAIM-Equine
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THOMAS G. HOLLINGER, PHD
Chairman of the Board
Emeritus Associate Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology at the University of Florida College of Medicine

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17th Surgeon General of the United States, Distinguished Professor, Zuckerman College of Public Health, University of Arizona, Vice Chairman, Canyon Ranch and President, Canyon Ranch Institute

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President and Chief Executive Officer, Compassion-First Pet Hospitals

AMY E. POLLACK, MD, FACOG, FACPM
Vice President, Corporate Medical Safety of the Strategic Operations of Medtronic

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President, Chamberlain University

GLEN HOFFSIS, DVM, MS, DACVIM
Former Dean and Special Assistant to the President, Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine

RONALD L. TAYLOR, MBA
Chief Executive Officer (retired), Director and Senior Advisor Adtalem Global Education
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 4,500 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 North Brunswick, NJ.

At our campus, the educational program is built upon a broad-based curriculum that is designed to provide 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, UK, or Australia. RUSVM is proud to be affiliated with more than 30 AVMA-accredited schools of veterinary medicine.

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAM
Within the framework of the postgraduate studies program, RUSVM offers a dual DVM/Masters of Science (MSc) Degree, Master of Science (MSc) and Doctoral (PhD) degree programs in One 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 Ross University Veterinary Clinic (RUVC) 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, Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and Master of Science on its students who successfully complete the course of study. The status of accreditation was renewed following submission of a self-study report and a site visit for a period of five years, effective July 1, 2017.
GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION COUNCIL ON EDUCATION
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine confers a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree which is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE), 1931 N. Meacham Road, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL 60173, Tel: 800.248.2862. For more information please visit https://www.avma.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/Education/Accreditation/Colleges/Pages/default.aspx.

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.

*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.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNSELING SERVICES (IACS)
The RUSVM Counseling Center received full accreditation in June 2018. The next evaluation with a field visit will occur in 2016. IACS Annual Report Form and accompanying materials will be submitted to IACS for the center’s annual re-evaluation

U.S. STATE-LEVEL RECOGNITION
Iowa: RUSVM’s DVM program is registered by the Iowa Student Aid Commission located at 475 SW 5th St., Suite D, Des Moines IA 50309.

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, One 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 $1.8 million from grant-awarding bodies, industry, corporates and governments, and in 2016-2017, alone, have authored more than 200 scientific papers. Our research team comprises faculty from across the globe—many with experience at international agencies such as the World Health Organization.

Approximately 450 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 20% 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.
GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

RUSVM partners with academic institutions around the world, including joint-PhD agreements (e.g. University of Granada, Spain; University of Newcastle, UK; Institute of Tropical Medicine and Ghent University, Belgium; Vienna Veterinary School, Vienna; Teagasc Agriculture and Food Development Authority, Republic of Ireland; Kansas State, USA). Collaborations with major corporations, foundations and other organizations (e.g. Zoetis, IDEXX, Morris Animal Foundation, American Kennel Club, Botstiber Institute, U.S. National Institutes of Health, and Caribaea Initiative) also occur. RUSVM has become a member of CaribVET and ACACPMT and also developed a close relationship with CARPHA and PAHO, all enabling research collaborations at the regional level. In addition, our MoU with Dolphin Discovery St. Kitts has supported research, workshops and educational training veterinary students on the clinical aspects of Marine Mammal Health, care, and welfare since 2015.

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 ~12,000 sq. ft. research laboratory with capacity for an estimated 50 researchers and facilities for molecular biology, microbiology, cell culture techniques and other basic veterinary research is being completed in May 2018. The new research laboratory provides more than 5 times the current research space. A rodent vivarium of ~500 sq. ft. is also available to researchers and students. Researchers and students are facilitated by a laboratory staff that includes a Senior Scientist as facility manager and three Research Associates. These experienced staff members assist with developing new techniques for research projects and student training. The laboratory complex complies with CDC/NIH standards for Bio-Safety Level 2 containment laboratories and all other US applicable safety standards (OSHA, EPA, etc.).

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 focuses on research aimed at understanding and combatting zoonotic, vector-borne and other infectious diseases affecting humans and animal health as well as livestock production in St, Kitts and Nevis and around the Caribbean and Central America.

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. The Center for Conservation Medicine and Ecosystem Health focuses on applied research with two overarching themes: 1) Health of species in marine ecosystems in the Caribbean, and 2) Population ecology, disease epidemiology and management of non-native island species in the Caribbean. In marine ecosystems, the Center has a current focus on sea turtles, nesting shorebirds/seabirds, marine mammals, corals, and fish populations. In terrestrial ecosystems, the focus is on feral donkeys, free-roaming dogs, African green monkeys and small Indian mongooses.

Innovation and advances in human and animal healthcare depend on progress in understanding the pathogenesis of diseases and the effects of therapies. The Center for Integrative Mammalian Research focuses on a diversity of basic research topics including anesthesia and pain management, immune regulation, gene function, reproductive disorders, neurology and animal behavior, and in
vitro and in vivo models of noninfectious human and animal diseases. While the focus is primarily on noninfectious diseases, some of the skills and knowledge within this area are applied to the infectious disease programs of the other centers.

The Center for Research and Innovation in Veterinary and Medical Education focuses on specific research programs in innovative interactive teaching technologies and strategies, including communication, simulation and mobile gaming, faculty development and student and learning outcomes. Current projects focus on the development and evaluation of innovative pedagogical tools and techniques, including new approaches to curricula, which more effectively facilitate the application of acquired basic science knowledge to clinical professional training.

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 Consumer Information website at http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/Student-Consumer-info.cfm.

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
inquiry 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 programs of study and curriculum to grant DVM and Postgraduate degrees. Therefore, students will be expected to participate in the handling of specimens and surgeries specific to the program of enrollment.
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VET PREP</th>
<th>2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per semester: Tuition for full-time students</td>
<td>$18,859</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per semester: Student Government Association fee</td>
<td>$24</td>
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</table>

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

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 $901 for the Vet Prep Program.

**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 2018-2019 academic year is $766 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 or the semester in which the student begins.

**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://veterinary.rossu.edu/admissions/dvm-admissions/financial-aid/tuition-fees.html. 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 private 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.
VETERINARY PREPARATORY PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

Detailed information on financial aid programs is published in the booklet, *The Financial Planning Guide*. This booklet is available online at https://veterinary.rossu.edu/content/dam/dmi/veterinary/documents/RUSVMFinancialAidPlanningGuide.pdf (See the DVM Financial Aid Information section, which includes information on government student assistance)

CURRICULUM AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

<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>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 907</td>
<td>Cellular Biology and Homeostasis</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>

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.

**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 other species will be introduced to emphasize comparative anatomy of common domestic species. 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. Animal handling, restraint, and physical exam techniques will be demonstrated and practiced. Students are also introduced to the concepts of veterinary medical record keeping, problem-based medical record and the SOAP format.

**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.
VETERINARY PREPARATORY PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

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 BIOLOGY AND HOMEOSTASIS (4 CREDITS)
A survey course focusing on properties of enzymes, carbohydrate, lipid and amino acid metabolism; water and water balance, membrane physiology and intercellular communication (transporters and receptors), acid-base fundamentals, endocrine system and an introduction to micro-anatomical identification of cells.

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.
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 127 semester credit hours of specifically prescribed course work. 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, UK, 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 30 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/Inorganic and Organic)**
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,
- 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
Applicants are required to have completed the equivalent of at least 150 hours of veterinary professional 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 veterinary.rossu.edu. All letters of recommendation and transcripts must be mailed to Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, Office of Admissions, 630 US Highway 1, North Brunswick, NJ, 08902.
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 IELTS/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 consider 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 https://veterinary.rossu.edu/admissions/dvm-admissions/international-applicants/pathway-program.html.

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 bachelors 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 Associate Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs 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.

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 non-refundable $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, Iowa and other states where 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.

The state of Iowa (Iowa Code Section 714.23) provides the following tuition refund policy exceptions for Iowa residents:

- If any time, a student terminates a postsecondary educational program due to the student’s physical incapacity or, for a program that requires classroom instruction, due to the transfer of the student’s spouse’s employment to another city, the terminating student shall receive a refund of tuition charges in an amount that equals the amount of tuition charged to the student multiplied by the ratio of the remaining number of calendar days in the school period to the total number of calendar days in the school period.

Iowa resident students who withdraw after the 60% in the term due to physical incapacity or spousal employment relocation to another city are entitled under law to a prorated refund of tuition charges all the way up to (but not including) the ending date of the term.

Iowa national guard or reserve forces of the United States, their spouse or dependent child are offered the following options should the service member be ordered to state military service or federal service or duty:

- Withdraw from the student’s entire registration and receive a full refund of tuition and mandatory fees.
- Arrangement will be made with the student’s instructors for course grades, or for incompletes that shall be completed by the student at a later date. If such arrangements are made, the student’s registration shall remain intact and tuition and mandatory fees shall be assessed for the courses in full.
- Arrangement will be made with only some of the student’s instructors for grades, or for incompletes that shall be completed by the student at a later date. If such arrangements are made, the registration for those courses shall remain intact and tuition and mandatory fees shall be assessed for those courses. Any course for which arrangements cannot be made for grades or incompletes shall be considered dropped and the tuition and mandatory fees for the course refunded.

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.

Residents of the state of IA who cancel prior to attendance are eligible for a full refund.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE PROGRAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2018-2019 Academic Year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition – Pre-clinical curriculum semesters (1–7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per semester: tuition for full-time students (Flat Rate: 8-21 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition – Clinical Training curriculum semesters (8-10)</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 $901 per semester for Semesters 1-7, and $536 per semester for Semesters 8-10. First semester students are charged a one-time educational resource fee for $780.

**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 2018-2019 academic year is $766 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://veterinary.rossu.edu/admissions/dvm-admissions/financial-aid/tuition-fees.html](http://veterinary.rossu.edu/admissions/dvm-admissions/financial-aid/tuition-fees.html).

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 $4,235.

**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 PRE-CLINICAL FAILED COURSES**

Effective September 2011, students 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>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 credits</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 credits and up</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Effective September 2017, students 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 Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>50% tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>75% tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8+</td>
<td>100% tuition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TUITION POLICY ON PRE-CLINICAL FAILED COURSES

Students will be charged any fees assessed by the clinical affiliate for repeated coursework.

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 if available.

Students who totally withdraw from classes may be required to return federal funds for that semester in accordance to the guidelines for Federal Direct Student Aid. For students that have not received financial aid before starting withdrawal procedures, they will be advised in writing of their post-withdrawal eligibility within 30 days of the start of the withdrawal process.

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. 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.
  - Students residing in the state of Missouri, at the time they pay the acceptance deposit to RUSVM, will receive a refund of all monies paid if the student requests a refund within three (3) days of paying the acceptance deposit, not including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, of signing;
  - Residents of the state of IA who cancel prior to attendance are eligible for a full refund.
- 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.
  - The state of Iowa (Iowa Code Section 714.23) provides the following tuition refund policy exceptions for Iowa residents: If any time, a student terminates a postsecondary educational program due to the student’s physical incapacity or, for a program that requires classroom instruction, due to the transfer of the student’s spouse’s employment to another city, the terminating student shall receive a refund of tuition charges in an amount that equals the amount of tuition charged to the student multiplied by the ratio of the remaining number of calendar days in the school period to the total number of calendar days in the school period.
- If a student withdraws after the first 60 percent of a semester- that is, after completing week 9- the full tuition charges remain due.
  - The state of Iowa (Iowa Code Section 714.23) provides the following tuition refund policy exceptions for Iowa residents: Iowa resident students who withdraw after the 60% in the term due to physical incapacity or spousal employment relocation to another city are entitled under law to a prorated refund of tuition charges all the way up to (but not including) the ending date of the term.
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 may return 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 https://veterinary.rossu.edu/content/dam/dmi/veterinary/documents/RUSVMFinancialAidPlanningGuide.pdf

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®) 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 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 6.6% for 2018-2019.

**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 7.6% percent for 2018-2019.

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).

1 FAFSA® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Education
Cancellation and Return of Loan Proceeds
You have the right to reduce/cancel Federal Direct Unsubsidized or Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans before or after the loan(s) have been disbursed to the University by the Department of Education. A written request must be sent to the Office of Student Finance requesting that you want to cancel all or part of the disbursement that was credited to your account, and The University will return the canceled loan amount to the Department of Education. You do not have to pay interest or the loan fee on the part of your loan that you request to be canceled within this time-frame.

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 https://veterinary.rossu.edu/content/dam/dmi/veterinary/documents/RUSVMFinancialAidPlanningGuide.pdf

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 https://benefits.va.gov/gibill 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.
DEGREE PROGRAMS – DOCTOR OF VET MEDICINE (CONTINUED)

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.

The application form can be downloaded from [http://veterinary.rossu.edu/admissions/dvm-admissions/scholarships.html](http://veterinary.rossu.edu/admissions/dvm-admissions/scholarships.html).

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
630 US Highway 1, Suite 2031
North Brunswick, NJ, 08902
Phone: +1-855-ROSS-VET (855-767-7838)
veterinary.rossu.edu
Email: vetadmissions@rossu.edu
Fax: +1-869-465-1203
ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

REGISTRATION OF NEW STUDENTS

New students must register online using the myRoss web self-service tool, which is available at myross.rossu.edu. 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>RATING</th>
<th>GRADE RANGE</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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</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>86.50 - 89.49%</td>
<td>3.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>79.50 - 86.49%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>76.50 – 79.49%</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Passing</td>
<td>69.50 - 76.49%</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failing</td>
<td>Below 00.00– 69.49%</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RUSVM’s Pre-clinical program grading system is as follows:

Students are evaluated based on the following criteria:

• Classroom and laboratory examinations;
• Completion of assignments;
• Class and laboratory participation;
• 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.
Effective December 2017, RUSVM’s Clinical Program grading system was changed to incorporate the grading nuances of the Clinical Affiliates in the U.S., Canada and internationally. The grading scales are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFFILIATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>AI</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin, Melbourne</td>
<td>BI</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>BI-</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>CI+</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin, Melbourne</td>
<td>CI</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>CI-</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>DI+</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin, Melbourne</td>
<td>DI</td>
<td>D</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>DI-</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin, Massey, Melbourne, Murdoch</td>
<td>FI</td>
<td>Fail</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>FAI</td>
<td>Fail</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin, Massey, Melbourne, Murdoch, West Case</td>
<td>PI</td>
<td>Pass</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>PSI</td>
<td>Pass</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dublin, Melb, West Case, Royal</td>
<td>UI</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murdoch</td>
<td>UPI</td>
<td>Ungraded Pass</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murdoch</td>
<td>UFI</td>
<td>Ungraded Fail</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>AFI</td>
<td>Absent Fail</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murdoch, Sydney</td>
<td>CRI</td>
<td>Credit</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>CNI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>DCI</td>
<td>Discontinued. Not included as failure</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murdoch, Sydney</td>
<td>DSI</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murdoch</td>
<td>DNSI</td>
<td>Failed Components</td>
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<td>GI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murdoch, Sydney</td>
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<td>High Distinction</td>
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<td>Massey</td>
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<td>Marginal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Massey</td>
<td>XI</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
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### U.S. & Canada CLINICAL GRADE SCALE

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<tr>
<th>LETTER CODE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100% or more</td>
<td>4.33/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93%-99%</td>
<td>4.00/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90%-92%</td>
<td>3.67/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87%-89%</td>
<td>3.33/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83%-86%</td>
<td>3.00/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80%-82%</td>
<td>2.67/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77%-79%</td>
<td>2.33/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73%-76%</td>
<td>2.00/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70%-72%</td>
<td>1.67/4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67%-69%</td>
<td>1.33/4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>DP</td>
<td>63%-66%</td>
<td>1.00/4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60%-62%</td>
<td>0.67/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF</td>
<td>60%-69%</td>
<td>0.00/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0%-59%</td>
<td>0.00/4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>NO GPA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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. 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.

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 NAVE 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 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/resources/national-examining-board.

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.
## DEGREE PROGRAMS – DOCTOR OF VET MEDICINE (CONTINUED)

### PRE-CLINICAL CURRICULUM & COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### 2019 AND BEYOND

Curriculum information for those students expected to graduate after 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER</th>
<th>COURSE NO.</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>CREDITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>VMI 5102</td>
<td>Veterinary Professional Foundations I</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMI 5112</td>
<td>Essential Veterinary Skills A</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMS 5111</td>
<td>Microscopic Anatomy and Embryology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMA 5113</td>
<td>Gross Anatomy I</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMA 5114</td>
<td>Principles of Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPP 5123</td>
<td>Physiology I</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMR 5132</td>
<td>Principles of Veterinary Research</td>
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<td>VMI 5212</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMA 5216</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VPP 5223</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VMP 5253</td>
<td>Immunology</td>
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<td>VMP 5265</td>
<td>Parasitology</td>
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<td>VMP 5252</td>
<td>Case-Based Studies I</td>
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<td>Three</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VPP 5431</td>
<td>Applied Animal Nutrition</td>
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<td>VPA 5341</td>
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<td>VMP 5351</td>
<td>Bacteriology and Mycology</td>
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<td>Case-Based Studies III: Mechanisms of Diseases</td>
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<td>VPP 5334</td>
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<td>VMS 5475</td>
<td>Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology</td>
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<td>VPP 5538</td>
<td>Toxicology</td>
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<td>VMS 5573</td>
<td>Diagnostic Imaging</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>VMS 5577</td>
<td>Anesthesiology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VMS 5585</td>
<td>Small Animal Medicine I</td>
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<td>VMP 5552</td>
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<td>VMS 5698</td>
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<td>VMS 5650</td>
<td>Surgery Laboratory I</td>
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<td>VMS 5687</td>
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<td>Theriogenology</td>
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<td>VMS 5783</td>
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<td>VMS 5795</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VLE 5701</td>
<td>Licensing Examination Preparation</td>
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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.
DEGREE PROGRAMS – DOCTOR OF VET MEDICINE (CONTINUED)

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 (4 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.
DEGREE PROGRAMS – DOCTOR OF VET MEDICINE (CONTINUED)

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 (4 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 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.

**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.
DEGREE PROGRAMS – DOCTOR OF VET MEDICINE (CONTINUED)

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, cytology, 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 5334**  
PHARMACOLOGY (4 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.
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.
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

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.
VMI 5704
VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL FOUNDATIONS II (1 CREDIT)
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.

VLE 5701
LICENSING EXAMINATION PREPARATION (2 CREDITS)
This course provides opportunities to practice test-taking skills and enhance confidence necessary to take computer-based veterinary licensing exams. This course utilizes a flipped classroom delivery in which participants review material and complete online multiple-choice practice tests. Instructors lead weekly review sessions targeting selected topics.

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

VMR 5011/22/33 (1-3 CREDITS)
SPECIAL TOPICS IN RESEARCH
Students are introduced to various research experiences ranging from involvement in an approved intramural and/or extramural research project on campus, working with RUSVM faculty, to working several weeks or months at another institution, program or field investigation. Special topics are selected based on their research credibility and planned outputs. The level of involvement varies with the project, length of commitment and the student’s desires. This impacts the number of credits assigned in advance for the special topics electives.

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.*

**VAM 5001**  
**AQUATIC VETERINARY MEDICINE I (1 CREDIT)**
The course will provide the students with a general understanding of aquaculture practices and instill the importance, and real need, for veterinarians to have aquatic veterinary medical knowledge, skills and experience in order to be able to assist with the increasing demands put on aquaculture and related industries (ornamental etc.) globally. AVM-1 will focus more on Pre-clinical areas, such as the aquaculture industry, the aquatic environment, aquatic animal husbandry /rearing cycles, water quality, culture species and taxonomy, anatomy and physiology. There will also be an introduction to aquatic animal diseases, including disease prevention / aquatic biosecurity. There will be wet labs for the students to learn how to familiarize themselves with anatomy of finfish, molluscs and crustacean. *Offered to Semesters 3-7.*
DEGREE PROGRAMS – DOCTOR OF VET MEDICINE (CONTINUED)

VAM 5002
AQUATIC VETERINARY MEDICINE II (1 CREDIT)
The AVM elective courses will provide the students with a general understanding of aquaculture practices and instill the importance, and real need, for veterinarians to have aquatic veterinary medical knowledge, skills and experience in order to be able to assist with the increasing demands put on aquaculture and related industries (ornamental etc.) globally. AVM-2 will focus on clinical areas, such as the pathobiology and epidemiology of aquatic animal diseases. Diagnosis and treatment of aquatic animal diseases. Histopathology labs will be utilized to (1) demonstrate some typical diseases found in some common aquaculture species, such as finfish and invertebrates and (2) form part of the evaluation, i.e. being able to get the student to interpret the histopathology in certain unknown histology sections and offer an etiology for what they have observed. Offered to Semesters 4-7

SUMMARY OF RUSVM ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF PLACEMENT OF GRADUATES
The office of the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and Professional Opportunities provides support to students and recent graduates with regards to employment. Internships, new graduate employment opportunities and information about veterinary careers are communicated to senior students and those about to graduate via email and through RUSVM’s intranet. Alumni and recent graduates are provided this information via the RUSVM website. The Associate Dean works with prospective employers to ensure that the skills and the attributes of the RUSVM graduates are promoted amongst potential employers.

Additionally, 6th and 7th semester students have mandatory meetings to discuss NAVLE preparation and future employment options, and the pre-clinical curriculum includes the following courses to further support our students to prepare for professional careers through the Veterinary Professional Foundations I and II, and Licensing Examination Preparation courses.

The ATGE Office for Professional Development based in New Jersey offers additional support and information on résumé, cover letter writing and interview skills.
CLINICAL TRAINING AT AN AFFILIATED INSTITUTION

RUSVM contracts with AVMA-COE accredited schools and colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States, Canada, Ireland, UK Australia and New Zealand 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 25 weeks 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 Services - 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>
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<th>AFFILIATED COLLEGES OF VETERINARY MEDICINE</th>
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<td>Auburn University</td>
<td>Auburn, AL</td>
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<td>Colorado State University</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.iastate.edu">www.vetmed.iastate.edu</a></td>
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<td>Massey University</td>
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<td>West Lafayette, IN</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.purdue.edu">www.vet.purdue.edu</a></td>
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<td>Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Sciences at the University of Edinburgh</td>
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<td>The Ohio State University</td>
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<td>Virginia Polytechnic Institute/Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (Virginia Tech)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.vt.edu">www.vetmed.vt.edu</a></td>
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</table>
DEGREE PROGRAMS – POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES
RUSVM offers a Doctoral (PhD) by Research degree program and both a Master of Science (MSc) by Coursework in One Health (online) 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 (online) 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 over 2 and 3 years 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
2018-2019 Academic Year
Tuition – MSc by Coursework in One Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Fees (Options 1, 2, 3-year program)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$9,000</td>
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Tuition – MSc by Research (3 semesters)#

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per semester: tuition for full-time students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per semester: Student Government Association fee</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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.

+ 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 2018-2019 academic year is $766 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://veterinary.rossu.edu/student-consumer-information.html
LIVING EXPENSES
Candidates must plan on the cost of rent and utilities when 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

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 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 42 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93% or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90%-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>
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</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 Chamberlain University to share courses within RUSVM’s Master of Science by Coursework in One Health (MSc One Health). The proportion of the degree program that is taught by Chamberlain is noted in the table below. 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 Chamberlain. ©2019 Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine. All rights reserved. 64 Degree Programs/Program Option Percentage of Credits Provided by RUSVM Percentage of Credits Provided by Chamberlain MSc One Health 15% (6 credits)

CURRICULUM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Programs/Program Option</th>
<th>Percentage of Credits Provided by RUSVM</th>
<th>Percentage of Credits Provided by Chamberlain</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSc One Health</td>
<td>85% (35 credits)</td>
<td>15% (6 credits)</td>
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A curriculum plan for the Master of Science by Coursework in One Health is provided below. One year full time, or two and three year part time options available. 42 credit program, commencing each January.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring 2019 (7th Jan – 18th April)</th>
<th>Summer 2019 (6th May – 15th August)</th>
<th>Fall (2nd Sept – 12th December)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CORE:</strong></td>
<td><strong>CORE:</strong></td>
<td><strong>CORE:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VETPG140 Introduction to OH (1 credit)</td>
<td>VETPG143 Conservation Medicine (3)</td>
<td>VETPG147 Capstone Research &amp; Mini-dissertation (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VETPG141 Biostats &amp; Epi (5 credits)</td>
<td>VETPG144 Surveillance &amp; Diagnostics (3)</td>
<td>VETPG148 Remote OH Week Workshops Sessions (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VETPG142 Research Project Design (2)</td>
<td>VETPG145 Zoonoses (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHOOSE TWO (3 credit courses from Chamberlain MPH)</strong></td>
<td><strong>CHOOSE ONE (2 credit courses)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPH 503 Advocacy in Public Health Policy and Law</td>
<td>VETPG146A Safety of Food of Animal Origin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPH 504 Cultural Competency and Global Public Health</td>
<td>VETPG146B Disaster Management</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MPH 506 Environmental Health in Public Health</td>
<td>VETPG146C Animal Health Program Management</td>
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</table>

14 credits 12 credits 16 credits
MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

VETPG-140
ONE HEALTH & SYSTEMS APPROACHES (1 CREDIT)
In this course, One Health will be defined and placed in an historical context. The meaning of using a One Health approaching to research, policy, development and other aspects of animal, human and environmental health will be explored with current One Health advocates describing how they use One Health within their work. The complexity of One Health and the need for a systems approach to addressing animal, environmental and human health issues will be discussed using current literature and case examples. The importance of collaborations, networks and teams in implementing One Health approaches also will be stressed. Short videos and assigned reading material will be supplemented with discussions. Participation in the discussions is a key component of this course.

VETPG-141
BIOSTATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY (5 CREDITS)
This course examines the principles of Biostatistics and Epidemiology for One Health practitioners. Through lectures, hands-on practical exercises and discussions, students will develop knowledge of descriptive and inferential statistics. The course will also provide students the opportunity to gain a strong foundation in the use and interpretation of biostatistics. In the second part of the course (Weeks 8-14) the focus will be on epidemiological causal concepts; principles of sampling; questionnaire design, measures of disease frequency; observational studies and bias; measures of association; systematic reviews and participatory epidemiology.

VETPG-142
CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROJECT DESIGN (2 CREDITS)
This course addresses the concepts and practicalities associated with the design and conduct of high-quality research projects. At the end of the course, students will be able to understand the principles of research design, formulate and present a research proposal; provide critiques of papers and grant proposals, respond constructively to critiques, develop a research poster and acquire basic skills in project management. This course is expected to serve as preparation for the Capstone research project and dissertation (VETPG-147).

VETPG-143
CONSERVATION MEDICINE (3 CREDITS)
This course will provide students with practical and theoretical knowledge of the basic principles of conservation biology and medicine such as interrelatedness of ecosystem health, animal health, and human health; emerging infectious diseases across species taxa (e.g. non-human primates, fish, reptiles, birds); human behavior and ecosystem health; and wildlife disease surveillance.

The course will also include case studies on national legislations or programs on conservation medicine, the role of agencies/entities (governmental, private sector, etc.) in conservation medicine and ecosystem health, historical and cultural perspectives towards endangered species and ecosystems communities in the country of focus. Through discussions, group work and assignments, students will have to demonstrate specialist knowledge of a specified conservation medicine/ecosystem health issue and the ability to plan, implement, and evaluate mechanisms to mediate risks and benefits as well as the ability to identify relevant necessary collaborations for conservation medicine/ecosystem health and to communicating the principles of conservation medicine and ecosystem health concepts to different population groups using appropriate media.
VETPG-144
SURVEILLANCE & DIAGNOSTICS (3 CREDITS)
This course addresses methods for disease surveillance and diagnostics tools. It will prepare One Health practitioners from diverse backgrounds to examine the validity, appropriateness and output for surveillance and diagnostic tools available to them. In particular, students will have the opportunity to gain critical knowledge through online lectures, discussions and case studies on types of surveillance, surveillance systems at national and international level, reportable and notifiable diseases, surveillance system design and evaluation, challenges and opportunities of implementing one health surveillance programs, syndromic surveillance and the application of GIS in spatio-temporal surveillance. The course will also have a strong emphasis on principles of diagnostic methods as it relates to surveillance and health monitoring. This will include: the interrelatedness of diagnostic methods, the role of diagnostic methodology in surveillance programs; interpretation and use of diagnostic method results for One Health communication and the contribution of diagnostic methodology policy changes in One Health. Students will also develop the ability to identify relevant collaborations necessary to perform diagnostic testing and surveillance of human and animal health. As a critical skill for One Health practitioners, students will be expected to present on their work throughout the course. Presentations using different media will include examples of country-specific practices drawing on the student’s local environment and hence allowing peer-to-peer international perspective- and idea- sharing.

VETPG-145
ZOONOSES (3 CREDITS)
This course will provide student with knowledge of infectious/zoonotic disease, including detection of zoonotic diseases, specific zoonotic diseases (viral, bacterial, parasitic, prion and mycological), prevention and control of zoonotic disease and the importance and cost of zoonotic disease on a global scale. Due to interface of human healthcare professionals, animal health professionals and biomedical scientists in zoonotic diseases, the course will explore the importance of complementary and synergistic approaches, drawing on perspectives from different professions to identify, control and prevent zoonoses.

VETPG-146A
SAFETY OF FOODS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN (2 CREDITS)
This elective course will provide knowledge on the principles of food safety management, focusing on meat and other animal food products. Discussion topics and case-studies will include meat safety, milk hygiene, handling, storage and exportation of foods of animal origin, food safety management and evaluation systems, national and international legislations, standard practices, animal welfare and food safety risk analysis. As a critical skill for One Health practitioners, students will be expected to present on their work throughout the course. Presentations using different media will include examples of country-specific practices drawing on the student’s local environment and hence allowing peer-to-peer international perspective- and idea- sharing.

VETPG-146B
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS (2 CREDITS)
This elective course provides knowledge of hazard and risk assessment; types of disasters, disaster planning and management, agencies involved in disaster management and their respective roles. The course also involves knowledge and practical application of the Incident Command System. Through discussions, case studies and a table top exercise, students will have the opportunity to examine lessons learnt from previous disasters as well as disaster preparation. No prerequisite.
VETPG-146C
ANIMAL HEALTH PROGRAM MANAGEMENT (2 CREDITS)
This elective course will allow students to develop specialist knowledge in animal health governance at international, regional and country level; the animal trade and sanitary/phyto-sanitary measures; reportable and notifiable diseases; control strategies used for trans-boundary diseases and zoonoses, emerging and re-emerging diseases. Prerequisite: students are expected to have basic knowledge of animal health, gained through practical or educational experience.

VETPG-147
RESEARCH PROJECT AND MINI-DISSERTATION (15 CREDITS)
Students will be required to undertake a research project, on their chosen topic or based on supervisor-led topics. The research project may be carried out in St. Kitts and Nevis or in the students’ locality, as appropriate, under the supervision of a RUSVM faculty member. The research component may be desk-based, lab-based or conducted through fieldwork and will result in the submission of a thesis (15,000-30,000 words). Through this supervised practical activity, students will gain specialist knowledge of the field of study and hands-on experience in conducting a research project. Students will also develop skills in literary presentation and scientific referencing. Prerequisite: All semesters 1 and 2 credit courses.

VETPG-148
REMOTE/RESIDENTIAL WEEK (1 CREDIT)
A week long remote or residential component will allow the students to share their knowledge and perspectives as well as presenting their project proposal plan to the RUSVM research community. Themed exercises will provide an enhanced foundation in collaborative working in this multidisciplinary field and will focus on defined One Health issues and an opportunity to gain experience of addressing One Health issues in the Caribbean Basin.

VETPG-150
COMMUNICATIONS (1 CREDIT)
This course will cover the fundamental skills required for various forms of scientific communications. Commencing with the use of search engines and reference managers, through to developing a literature review and writing, reviewing and editing scientific papers. Poster and oral communications for conferences as well as informal public speaking will be addressed, as well as how to develop your ePortfolio.

*MPH-503
ADVOCACY IN PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY AND LAW (3 CREDITS)
This course examines the impacts of economics, ethics, legal issues, political science, management, communications and technology on public health policymaking. Students explore contemporary issues in health policy through review of U.S. health policy development and factors that affect future health policy initiatives. Students are challenged to think systematically and critically about these issues and about various methods available to policymakers to improve the U.S. healthcare system.
*MPH-504
CULTURAL COMPETENCY AND GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH (3 CREDITS)
This course explores global and international dimensions of public health. Students consider epidemiological, political, behavioral, sociological, cultural and medical aspects associated with variations in health and disease of individuals and populations. Coursework examines a range of public health issues for developing countries and for affluent industrialized societies, and population-based public health approaches used in solving global health issues are introduced. In addition, students will examine assumptions made about their cultural competency and how to work with populations who might share different values than their own.

*MPH-506
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN PUBLIC HEALTH - 3 CREDITS
The course addresses factors associated with biological, physical and chemical environmental health issues. Students examine interaction among individuals, communities and the environment; the potential health impact of environmental agents; and specific applications of environmental health policies and practices. Also examined are approaches for assessing, preventing and controlling environmental health hazards, as well as regulatory programs that control.

* Courses delivered by the Chamberlain University from the Masters in Public Health program.
MASTER OF SCIENCE AND PHD BY RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMS

Our Faculty are actively engaged in research and will provide postgraduate students, (referred to as “candidates”), with new tools and ways of thinking that lead to innovation. Postgraduate candidates will be equipped with transferable research skills necessary to pursue a wide selection of careers in academia, industry, business or elsewhere. As postgraduate researchers, candidates will focus on a topic specific to one of our four Research Centers and be supervised by experienced faculty members. Postgraduate research students will be expected to show they can deliver and manage their research project and advance knowledge within their chosen discipline.

PROGRESS MONITORING

Postgraduate research degree programs are not credit-based and are assessed through the submission of a final thesis (and, for PhD candidates, an oral examination). However, to assist with the satisfactory progress of candidates, RUSVM undertakes a rigorous progress monitoring management of postgraduate candidates at defined milestones.

SUPERVISION OF AND EXPECTATIONS

RUSVM ensures that:

- Supervisors are adequately qualified to supervise postgraduate candidates at the qualification level the candidates are registered for;
- There is a sufficient number of experienced supervisors to support all candidates for the duration of their candidature; and
- Research supervision is formally and transparently recognized in workloads and RUSVM monitors the number of candidates that a member of faculty should supervise at any one time.

Principal supervisors will have:

- A degree at the level they are supervising or higher;
- The skills and experience relevant to supervising the project in the stated area;
- Ongoing involvement in developing and maintaining knowledge and expertise in the research degree supervision; and
- An understanding of RUSVM’s policies and procedures in relation to supervision and in particular their respective role, expectation and requirement of the degree.

Candidates should understand that they are expected to:

- Be proactive and self-directed in all aspects of their study;
- Make independent and creative use of library and all other available resources;
- Embrace online learning opportunities;
- Make full use of laboratory facilities;
- Take full advantage of their information sources, including research faculty and facilities;
- Adopt work practices and working hours that facilitate effective communication with the appointed supervisors;
- Meet any conditions specified at the time of admission or subsequently in order to be maintained in the program;
- Refer to the guidance relating to formatting and referencing requirements for their thesis and make use of referencing tools such as EndNote®.

Each candidate will work under the guidance of at least two supervisors appointed by RUSVM, one of whom will be appointed as the Principal Supervisor.
The supervisors must be either:
   a. salaried members of the academic faculty of RUSVM;
   b. a member of staff employed by RUSVM, not being one of the academic faculty, who has appropriate expertise in research; or
   c. an honorary/adjunct member of faculty.

The nomination of individuals in categories (b) or (c) to act as a Principal Supervisor must be specifically approved by the RUSVM Postgraduate and Research Committee. In appropriate cases one or more other supervisor(s) (external supervisors), who need not be members of the faculty of the RUSVM, may be appointed by the RUSVM Postgraduate and Research Committee.

A Progress Monitoring Committee (PRC) is assigned to each candidate. PRCs are comprised of RUSVM supervisors, external supervisors (if applicable) and a member of RUSVM faculty who is not directly involved in the candidate’s research project. The role of the PRC is to assess whether the candidate has made satisfactory progress as per the RUSVM Postgraduate Assessment Regulations. The PRC is chaired by one of its members (but not the Principal Supervisor).

All candidates, including those studying on a part-time basis and those registered as continuing candidates, must report in person to their supervisors when required and at least twice in each four-month period. Candidates who are absent from the RUSVM must report to their supervisors via other communication means such as video-/teleconference/Skype or in writing.

**MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSC) BY RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAM**

The MSc 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). Progress monitoring is conducted throughout the study period and the candidate will be asked to demonstrate satisfactory progress at set milestones.

The award of an MSc by Research degree is based on the satisfactory completion of research training in addition to any other designated projects, assignments and/or course work, and the completion of a thesis, which must not exceed 30,000 words.

Candidates will be required to demonstrate that they have acquired an advanced level of knowledge and understanding in the field of study and are capable of undertaking independent research.

**INTEGRATED AND INTERCALATED DVM/MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSC) BY RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAM**

DVM students wishing to undertake an MSc by Research degree program may do so as:

- Integrated - students will undertake 9 semesters of work towards their MSc; typically 8 in conjunction with their DVM studies and one semester for research. DVM students applying for an Integrated MSc by Research program must be in good standing in their DVM program and have achieved suitably satisfactory grades (cGPA of 3.5 or above).
- Intercalated - with the required permissions, students may take time off the DVM program to undertake a 3-semester MSc by Research. Only students having completed at least one semester of the DVM program will be considered. DVM students applying for an Integrated MSc by Research program must be in good standing in their DVM program and have achieved suitably satisfactory grade (cGPA of 3.0 or above).

The award of an MSc by Research degree is based on the satisfactory completion of research training in addition to any other designated projects, assignments and/or course work, and the completion of a thesis, which must not exceed 30,000 words.

Candidates will be required to demonstrate that they have acquired an advanced level of knowledge and understanding in the field of study and are capable of undertaking independent research.
DOCTORAL (PHD) BY RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAM

The Doctoral degree program 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).

Progress monitoring is conducted throughout the study period and the candidate will be asked to demonstrate satisfactory progress at set milestones.

Research supervisors will submit a yearly progress report to the Postgraduate and Research Committee on the work of the candidate. Information to be provided in the progress report will include advancement of the research, development of discipline specific research skills and progress in expected outcomes (e.g. manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals).

The candidate must have demonstrated the capacity to pursue original research in the field of study and to present the results in a critical and scholarly way. The doctoral dissertation must be an original work making a significant contribution to knowledge and understanding of the field of study, such that it is worthy of presentation in peer-reviewed publications.

The award of a PhD is determined on the basis of a submitted thesis, not exceeding 100,000 words, and an externally-assessed oral examination.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES (MSC & PHD BY RESEARCH)

Prospective candidates for MSc and PhD by Research degree programs are invited to direct initial inquiries to postgrad@rossvet.edu.kn.

Applicants may approach prospective supervisors to discuss their research aspirations and interests.

Applications are by invitation and will be reviewed in-line with RUSVM entry requirements and research expertise. If shortlisted on the basis of their application and supporting documentation, applicants will be asked to attend an interview by Skype™ or video-conference. Appointed candidates will then be issued a letter of offer, which sets out the conditions of their degree program and a mutually agreeable start date will be arranged. Offers must be accepted to finalize enrollment.

RUSVM will assist candidates pre-arrival with onboarding such as visa requirements and accommodations. Candidates should not make visa or travel arrangements until they have been contacted by a RUSVM representative.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
MSC BY RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAM
Applications accepted throughout the year - open enrollment

The minimum entry requirement for this degree program is a professional veterinary or medical qualification, or a bachelors degree or international equivalent in the biological or biomedical sciences. Applicants will be selected on the basis of their educational performance to date and their ability to demonstrate a sustained interest in research.

Due to the intensive nature of this degree, 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.

DOCTORAL (PHD) DEGREE PROGRAM
Applications accepted throughout the year - open enrollment

Admission is open to candidates with a professional veterinary or medical qualification, bachelors degree or international equivalent in the biological sciences. Based on the research content of the applicant’s professional qualification or first degree, a Masters degree may be required. Additionally, candidates may be required to enroll in an MSc by Research degree program for a probationary period before converting to the Doctoral degree program. Applicants will be selected on the basis of their educational performance to date and their ability to demonstrate a sustained interest in research.

Due to the importance of written and spoken skills to successfully undertake 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.