

Western University of Health Sciences

# College of Veterinary Medicine

**Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)**  
**2026/2027 Catalog**

## Conditions of Accuracy

The information within is accurate at the time of publication and reflects standard operating conditions for the academic year. Students are responsible for informing themselves of and satisfactorily meeting all requirements pertinent to their relationship with the University. Students and others who use this catalog should be aware that the information changes from time to time at the sole discretion of Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) and that these changes might alter information contained in this publication. More current and complete information may be obtained in the appropriate department, school, or administrative offices. Some changes can also be found on the Western University of Health Sciences website. Western University of Health Sciences reserves the right at any time, without advance notice, to change any part of the catalog; no vested rights shall run or be created by the catalog, including the right to notice of any modification, novation, amendment, supplementation, or other change of any term, provision, or content of the catalog; such right of Western University of Health Sciences to enact changes shall include but not be limited to (a) attendance or curriculum requirements; (b) changes to tuition and fees; (c) changes in the academic calendar; (d) changes in admission and registration requirements; (e) changes in the regulations and requirements governing instruction in and graduation from Western University of Health Sciences; (f) changes of instructors and faculty; (g) changes of rules and regulations governing the students and student body organizations; (h) changes of on-campus facilities; (i) changes of extra-curricular student activities, programs, and offerings; (j) conduct or academic standing; and (k) changes of any other program or regulation affecting students or other interested parties. Western University of Health Sciences further reserves the right to make such changes should economic conditions, health conditions, changes in law, government orders, or a local, state, or national emergency make it necessary to do so. Such changes may supplement and supersede any inconsistent provisions found in this Catalog, and will be published using typical communication channels, including mail, email, publication to the university web site, press releases, and other channels as deemed appropriate. This catalog does not constitute a contract, or terms or conditions of contract between the student, staff, and/or faculty and Western University of Health Sciences.

Text for the catalog was prepared as of June 1, 2026. The information herein applies to the academic year 2026/2027.

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# College of Veterinary Medicine

The College catalog serves as a supplement to the University catalog. The College faculty, staff, and students must abide by the content of the University catalog in addition to the College catalog. The 2026-2027 catalogs supersede previous versions, and all students are held responsible for the information contained in both the University and the College 2026-2027 catalogs.

## Accreditation

Western University of Health Sciences College of Veterinary Medicine (WesternU CVM) is accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA-COE), 1931 N. Meacham Road, Suite 100, Schaumburg, Illinois 60173; Telephone (800) 248-2862. For additional information, please visit the [WesternU CVM Accreditation Website](https://www.avma.org). Contact information for AVMA-COE is accurate as of this catalog's publication date but may change. Verify the latest details on the AVMA-COE website (<https://www.avma.org>).

## Questions Regarding WesternU CVM Accreditation Status

Student feedback about WesternU CVM's accreditation status or other matters important to students can be submitted to the college using an online anonymous form available through an internal smartphone app called [my.CVM](#). Concerns are reviewed by the Office of the College Outcomes Assessment and, when necessary, forwarded to Associate Dean of Academic Innovation & Professional Formation / department chairs or designated personnel responsible for the relevant area of concern.

## General Information

### Mission Statement

The Mission of WesternU CVM is to educate veterinary professionals and advance knowledge to address the contemporary needs of society.

### The Degree

The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree requires four years of professional study after completing undergraduate prerequisites at an accredited college or university. Obtaining the DVM degree does not in and of itself equate to successful licensing. Graduates of this program are eligible to take national and state veterinary licensing examinations. Information on the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination is available on the [ICVA website](#). Information on state-specific licensing requirements is available from each state's veterinary medical board, such as the California Veterinary Medical Board (<http://vmb.ca.gov>). Graduates who pass state licensing requirements may perform all of the duties and responsibilities of a practicing veterinarian as defined by the respective state's laws regulating the practice of veterinary medicine (<https://www.aavsb.org>)

### DVM Program Outcomes

All graduates of the program are competent in entry-level skills required by the profession, including but not limited to private/public practice, biomedical research, industry, and regulatory veterinary medicine. These outcomes / competencies ensure graduates are prepared for the diverse professional opportunities in veterinary medicine, meeting the standards required for entry-level practice. The AVMA-COE core competencies for veterinary graduates are:

1. Comprehensive patient diagnosis (problem solving skills), appropriate use of diagnostic testing, and record management

2. Comprehensive treatment planning including patient referral when indicated
3. Anesthesia and pain management, patient welfare
4. Basic surgery skills and case management
5. Basic medicine skills and case management
6. Emergency and intensive care case management
7. Understanding of health promotion, and biosecurity, prevention and control of disease including zoonoses and principles of food safety
8. Ethical and professional conduct, including the knowledge, skills, and core professional attributes needed to provide culturally competent veterinary care in a multidimensional and diverse society; communication skills; including those that demonstrate an understanding and sensitivity to how diversity and individual circumstance impact veterinary care
9. Critical analysis of new information and research findings relevant to veterinary medicine

WesternU CVM does not make any promises, representations, or guarantees that a student will obtain licensure through the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) or the state veterinary license in the USA or any other licensing body abroad, before or after graduation. Licensure, clinical placement opportunities, and employment outcomes are subject to a variety of factors, including but not limited to state licensing requirements, availability of clinical education sites, and broader economic and industry conditions. The College also does not make any promises, representations, or guarantees that students will obtain clinical education at a location of their choice or in a preferred discipline or specialty area, including but not limited to rotations, internships, externships, fellowships, residencies, or any other advanced education or training programs. Post-graduation, employment opportunities, and compensation may differ due to geographic regions, financial markets, and employers. The College does not guarantee job placement, employment in any specific specialty, or any level of compensation. More information can be found at the American Veterinary Medical Association website (<https://jobs.avma.org/>) and the US Bureau of Labor Statistics website (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/veterinarians.htm>).

### **Student-Centered Learning**

WesternU CVM focuses on student-centered, engaging learning practices. This includes a variety of curricular activities, including Problem-Based Learning (PBL), case-based discussions, group-based learning activities, as examples of instructional methods. This strategically prepares students for future veterinary practice by immersing them in clinical cases that describe real patients with specific diseases as a context for learning foundational sciences essential to clinical practice. Students are supported and guided in evaluating resources, fostering independent and critical thinking while maintaining a structured and supportive environment.

### **Problem-Based Learning (PBL)**

WesternU CVM utilizes Problem-Based Learning (PBL) as the principle instructional method during the first two years of the curriculum. In veterinary medicine, PBL takes on profound significance, strategically preparing students for future medical practice by immersing them in clinical cases. This approach uses

cases that describe real patients with specific diseases to provide the context for learning foundational sciences that are critical for understanding clinical concepts. Students are assigned to groups of around 7 to 8 students with a faculty facilitator. Faculty facilitators guide the students through the PBL process; they are not present to provide specific content expertise. This evidenced-based instructional method diverges from traditional didactic lectures as it allows students to immerse themselves in the exploration and resolution of real-world veterinary problems. Faculty facilitators guide students to extract fundamental basic science concepts that serve as the foundation for veterinary medicine. They also provide support and guidance in evaluating resources, fostering independent and critical thinking while maintaining a structured and supportive learning environment.

Students will problem-solve by defining patient problems, evaluating facts/data, exploring ideas/hypotheses, and considering action plans/action items that will further define or resolve patient problems. PBL sessions are dynamic, interactive meetings that look to enhance students' communication and collaboration skills, nurture the development of clinical reasoning, and build advanced problem-solving skills. A body-systems approach is used to integrate the basic medical sciences. This approach seeks to ensure that students gain a holistic understanding of medical problems within the context of the whole patient, exploring the intricate relationships among body systems and basic science disciplines.

## **Technical Standards for Admission and Matriculation**

A candidate for admission to the DVM program must possess, or be able to achieve certain intellectual, emotional, and physical abilities (sensory and motor functions) that would enable the individual to acquire the knowledge, technical, and clinical skills needed to successfully complete the curriculum. All reasonable accommodations will be considered in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and WesternU's disability services policies. Upon matriculation to the program, the student must continue to possess or be able to achieve through reasonable accommodation, the personal competencies outlined throughout their progression in the DVM program. Graduation from the program signifies that the individual is prepared for entry into clinical practice or into postgraduate training programs. The candidate or student must be able to integrate – consistently, quickly, and accurately – all information received by whatever sense(s) is employed. In addition, they must have the intellectual ability to learn, integrate, analyze, and synthesize data, and be able to perform required procedures.

WesternU CVM does not discriminate against qualified candidates or matriculants with disabilities who apply for admission to or are enrolled in the DVM degree program. Otherwise, qualified individuals shall not be excluded from admission or participation in the CVM's educational programs, services, and activities solely by reason of their disability or medical condition. Consistent with legal standards and University policy, a reasonable accommodation is one that does not fundamentally alter the essential nature of the educational program, require substantial modification of essential program requirements or lower academic standards, pose a direct threat to patient safety or the safety of others; or constitute an undue administrative or financial burden to the institution.

Candidates or students who require reasonable accommodation to meet the competencies outlined below are encouraged to immediately contact the Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy (<sup>HF</sup>CDHP) as many reasonable accommodations require significant pre-planning and are not retroactive. Failure to promptly enroll with <sup>HF</sup>CDHP may result in delays or compromise the availability of accommodations. Please contact <sup>HF</sup>CDHP at Disability Accommodations by email, [disabilityaccommodations@westernu.edu](mailto:disabilityaccommodations@westernu.edu), or by phone, (909) 469-5441, or visit the [<sup>HF</sup>CDHP website](#). Accommodations must be approved by <sup>HF</sup>CDHP and are not provided retroactively (if approved after the start of the program/semester). Reasonable accommodation is determined on an individualized

basis and may not result in an undue administrative or financial burden. A fundamental alteration of a course or program is not considered a reasonable accommodation.

Under all circumstances, a candidate or student must have the capacity to manage their lives and anticipate their own needs and should be able to perform the following in a reasonably independent manner, with or without reasonable accommodation.

### **Observation Skills**

Students should be able to effectively gather information from demonstrations, learning exercises, and procedures in pre-clinical and clinical coursework. Students should be able to assess a patient and evaluate findings accurately, detect and monitor changes in patient behavior, physical and mental status, to provide appropriate veterinary care. These skills require the use of vision, hearing, smell, and touch, or the functional equivalent.

### **Communication Skills**

Students should be able to communicate clearly, appropriately, respectfully, effectively, and professionally with patient caretakers or guardians; convey or exchange information at a level allowing development of a health history; identify problems presented; explain alternative solutions; and give directions during treatment and post-treatment. For effective patient treatment, students should be able to communicate efficiently with patient caretakers or guardians, colleagues, and all members of the veterinary and medical health care team. Communication includes oral and written modes requiring the ability to understand, write, and speak fluent English. Students should also be able to recognize nonverbal communication cues. Accommodation through use of a trained intermediary or other communications aide may be appropriate when this intermediary functions solely as a communication facilitator without altering the conveyed information.

### **Motor Skills**

Students should, after a reasonable period of time, possess the capacity to directly perform physical examinations, and preventative, diagnostic, medical, surgical, and emergency procedures. Such actions require some coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, balance, and equilibrium.

### **Interpretative (conceptual/quantitative) Skills**

Students should be able to consistently, quickly, and accurately, , measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, and transmit detailed and complex information across a variety of conditions, timeframes, and modalities (i.e., classroom, lab, clinical settings, small group, team, and collaborative activities; individual study; preparation and presentation of reports; and use of computer technology). Students should engage in critical thinking and problem solving and be able to draw conclusions about three-dimensional spatial relationships and logical sequential relationships among events.

### **Behavior and Social Skills**

Students should possess the emotional stability and maturity required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and the development of mature, respectful, and effective relationships with clients, fellow students, faculty, staff, and the entire healthcare team. They should be able to fully attend the curriculum, which requires active engagement in educational and clinical activities. Students should be able to function effectively under stress, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and adapt to uncertainties and ethical challenges inherent in the clinical problems of patients.

Students should also be able to convey, receive, comprehend, and respond to constructive feedback. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, professionalism, interest, motivation, punctuality, and consistent attendance are all personal qualities expected during the educational process.

### **Ethics and Professionalism**

Students should uphold ethical and professional behaviors commensurate with the role of a veterinarian in all their interactions with clients, patients, faculty, staff, fellow students, the entire health care team, and the public. After a reasonable period of time, students should develop accurate self-assessment skills and engage in reflective practice to achieve the competencies of the program and of the profession. Students are expected to understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of veterinary medicine and function within the law and ethical standards of the profession.

### **Physical Health**

WesternU has established medical status credential requirements that must be completed prior to matriculation and to maintain enrollment. Medical status credentialing is designed to ensure that the safety of patients and their caretakers or guardians are not compromised while protecting the rights and safety of students as well. For more detailed information, contact the Student/Employee Health Coordinator at [stu-emphealth@westernu.edu](mailto:stu-emphealth@westernu.edu) or visit the [Student/Employee Health website](#).

## Admissions Policies and Procedures

WesternU CVM welcomes applications from all qualified domestic and international candidates. Our selection process is holistic that considers academic achievement, interpersonal skills, professional potential, practical experiences, life experiences, and the level of understanding of the veterinary profession. WesternU CVM seeks to enhance its student population by admitting students with demonstrated academic competency and a strong commitment to serving public and animal health care interests, as per policies and procedures for accreditation from the Council of Education of the AVMA. Admissions decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

WesternU CVM participates in the centralized application service of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC). Information regarding this service, called the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS), is accessible via the VMCAS [website](#) or on the [CVM Website](#).

### Notice of Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity

In accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) is committed to ensuring a campus community free from unlawful discrimination. WesternU strictly prohibits unlawful discrimination in all its programs, activities, admissions, and employment. WesternU prohibits discrimination based on the following characteristics:

- Race (including traits associated with race, such as hair texture and protective hairstyles)
- Ethnicity, Color, and National Origin
- Immigration Status and Ancestry
- Sex, Gender, Gender Identity, and Gender Expression
- Sexual Orientation
- Physical or Mental Disability
- Age
- Religion (including religious dress and grooming practices)
- Medical Condition and Genetic Information
- Marital Status
- Pregnancy (including childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions)
- Military or Veteran Status
- Perceived Characteristics - Discrimination is prohibited if an individual is perceived to have any of the above characteristics.
- Association with Protected Groups – Discrimination based on association with a person or group with one or more protected characteristics is also prohibited.
- Other Legally Protected Classes – WesternU complies with all federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances regarding discrimination.

WesternU has designated the Associate Vice President for the [Office of Title IX and Equal Opportunity Compliance Initiatives \(OTIXEO\)](#) to coordinate WesternU's compliance with federal and state civil rights laws regarding protected characteristics. Inquiries about WesternU's prohibitions against discrimination, harassment, and retaliation can be directed to Associate Vice President (AVP) for the Office of Title IX and Equal Opportunity Compliance Initiatives (OTIXEO) or to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights.

### **Reasonable Accommodations during the Admissions Process**

Candidates seeking accommodations during the admissions process, including Interview Day, must contact the Office of Admissions with sufficient advance notice for <sup>H</sup>FCDHP to evaluate the request and arrange any approved accommodations. Certain accommodations, however, require scheduling through external vendors and cannot be arranged on short notice or the day of the event. Requests submitted without sufficient advance notice may limit WesternU's ability to provide some accommodations for that activity; although <sup>H</sup>FCDHP and Admissions will continue to explore reasonable alternatives whenever possible. The Office of Admissions coordinates accommodation requests with <sup>H</sup>FCDHP. The Office of Admissions does not evaluate disability status or review medical documentation; its role is limited to referring applicants to <sup>H</sup>FCDHP and implementing <sup>H</sup>FCDHP approved accommodations for specific admissions activities. All requests for accommodations will be handled in a manner that is consistent with the university's policies and in full compliance with the ADA, ADAAG, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and applicable state laws. For additional information regarding <sup>H</sup>FCDHP's registration process, please refer to <https://www.westernu.edu/cdhp/registration-process>, or review the Student Disability Accommodation Process section.

### **Application Requirements**

The application requirements that are shown in this catalog apply to applicants who are seeking entry for the 2026/2027 academic year. Current admission and application requirements for the DVM program, including prerequisite coursework requirements, can be located on [our website](#).

The WesternU CVM Admissions Committee will consider applicants who have earned a grade of "C" or above on all prerequisite courses. Applicants also must attain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 in all pre-professional coursework, and a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in science-related coursework, taken prior to application and matriculation. Application procedures, materials, and prerequisite courses are subject to revision each year, and the information in this section provides only general guidelines. Prospective students should consult [the website](#) to confirm current application requirements. Applicants are directed to consult both the VMCAS and WesternU websites after June 1 of each application year.

### **Criminal Background Check During the Admissions Process**

Your admission into the DVM program will be contingent upon a satisfactory criminal background check, which is to be completed and submitted prior to matriculation. The background check is required to verify that your history is consistent with the University's Standards of Student Conduct, and to ensure that you will be qualified to participate in the required clinical education experiences. The College of Veterinary Medicine reserves the right to rescind an offer of admission based on the results of a criminal background check or if it is not completed in a timely manner prior to matriculation.

If a criminal conviction or other relevant sanction is shown on a background check, hospital facilities and clinical sites have broad discretion to restrict an individual from being assigned to the facility/site for the rotation/clinical experience. Therefore, please be aware that certain convictions may prevent students from entering hospital facilities or clinical sites, which may directly hinder a student's ability to complete their academic program successfully. Furthermore, certain convictions may also prevent students from obtaining employment and/or licensure in the State of California or other states.

Applicants are advised to check with the appropriate State(s) licensing boards to determine whether their backgrounds may be a barrier to future licensing. Supplemental or additional background checks may be

required during the course of the DVM program to meet the requirements of clinical education sites. Procedures for obtaining a background investigation will be provided to the student by the appropriate academic program staff. Students have an affirmative obligation to report all arrests and convictions to College of Veterinary Medicine administration to proactively identify solutions (if possible) and/or determine the impact on future licensure. For further information related to criminal background checks including those required during enrollment, please see the Criminal Background Investigations or Live Scan Fingerprinting section of this Catalog and the University Catalog.

### Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

TOEFL is required for all applicants who are not U.S. citizens and for whom English is a second language. Applicants must attain a minimum score of 72 out of 120, with no less than 18 points for each skill criteria (reading, listening, speaking, writing) on the Internet-based Test (iBT). Official TOEFL scores are valid for three years, and valid scores must be submitted at the time of application. EXCEPTION: The TOEFL exam will be waived for students who are graduating with a confirmed baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited United States institution of higher education at the time of application.

### Transcripts

Applicants are required to submit transcripts to VMCAS in accordance with their application policies and procedures. Final official transcripts for all previous institutions attended will be required by WesternU CVM once an applicant has been accepted to the program.

### Animal-Related Experience

WesternU CVM requires that each applicant has at least 300 hours at the time of application and at least 500 hours at the time of matriculation of hands-on animal-related experience, including but not limited to veterinary clinical practice, farm animal production, public health animal control, animal training, and animal research. Work experiences should be substantial enough for a supervisor to attest to the applicant’s work habits, interest in animal welfare, and integrity. Pet ownership and non-hands-on academic experience hours are not accepted to satisfy the requirements.

### Prerequisite Courses

Prerequisites	Semester Credit Hours	Quarter Credit Hours
Organic Chemistry with lab*	3	4
Biochemistry or Physiological Chemistry	3	4
Upper Division Biological & Life Sciences with lab*	9	12
Microbiology	3	4
Upper-Division Physiology	3	4

- All prerequisites must be completed at a regionally accredited US institution (exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis).
- All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of “C” or better (a grade of “C-” or lower is not acceptable)
- All prerequisites must be completed by the end of the spring term of the planned year of starting the veterinary professional program if accepted.

Genetics or Molecular Biology	3	4
General Physics with lab*	6	8
Statistics	3	4
English Composition	6	8
Humanities/Social Sciences/ Psychology/Sociology	9	12

- Prerequisites may be taken on an advanced-placement or CLEP credit basis. These credits must be listed by the university from which the credit was received on the official university transcript. Alternatively, a letter from the Registrar detailing courses for which AP or CLEP credit was awarded must be submitted.

- All coursework taken from non-US institutions must be submitted to an approved service for evaluation.

\*Only courses with an on-campus laboratory component are acceptable

### Recommendations

A minimum of three letters of recommendation are required and are submitted as part of the application.

### Applicants with Foreign Coursework

Applicants who wish to use coursework completed outside the United States, including Canada, must submit their transcripts for evaluation to a [Western University of Health Sciences Approved Service](#) at the candidate's expense. A course-by-course evaluation with a GPA calculation is required, and all coursework must be designated as undergraduate, graduate, or professional. WesternU only honors evaluations from World Education Services (WES). The official evaluation must be submitted to and received by VMCAS by the application deadline. A student with questions regarding reasonable accommodation may contact the <sup>HF</sup>CDHP office by phone, (909) 469-5441.

### International Students

International students may apply. Applicants who are not U.S. citizens and who are living in the U.S. should be prepared to provide proof of legal U.S. residency at the time of interview. Proof of legal U.S. residency is required prior to any offer of acceptance. International applicants who require an F-1 student visa to study in the U.S. must contact the Office of International Students and Scholars within seven days of notification of an offer of admission. For detailed information, please visit our web page for [International Students](#).

### Transfers from Other Schools

Due to its unique curriculum, WesternU CVM does not accept transfer of students from other institutions.

### Non-degree Students

Applicants with foreign veterinary degrees may apply for matriculation as non-degree students in the final year of the WesternU CVM curriculum to satisfy requirements for an evaluated clinical experience for the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE) program. Standard charges for

tuition and fees apply. More information on the program and the application process can be obtained from the CVM Office of Academic Affairs.

### **Student Selection Process**

The WesternU Office of Admissions assists the college in application processing, including the preparation, distribution, and handling of all admissions-related materials. Applications are reviewed by trained WesternU CVM faculty and Office of Admissions members using uniform criteria, and acceptable applicants are recommended for interview.

Decisions regarding the admission of applicants are final.

## Registration

All WesternU students are required to register by the registration deadlines specified by the University Registrar. Registration dates are posted on the [Registrar's Office](#) website. Failure to register by the deadline may be grounds for administrative withdrawal. All students registering after the posted deadline will be assessed a \$30.00 per business day late fee.

Full tuition and fees and all prior debts must be paid in full on or by posted deadlines each academic year. Matriculation is subject to the satisfactory completion of all academic requirements and payment of all outstanding debts to WesternU. The receipt of the final transcript(s) from all colleges/universities attended and a physical examination by a licensed health professional with documentation of required immunizations (if applicable) prior to registration are additional requirements for incoming students.

### Registration Late Fee Appeals

Students assessed a late fee for a registration period may submit an appeal to the Registrar. For additional information on the appeal process, please see the [Registration Late Fees](#) page on the Registrar's Office website.

### Student Health Insurance Requirement

All full-time students at WesternU are required to have active health insurance while enrolled. All students are automatically assessed half of the entire year's insurance premium and will be enrolled in the student health insurance plan until they submit proof of coverage that meets the University's requirements. For additional information on student health insurance requirements and/or waiving out of the student health insurance plan, please see the [Student Health Insurance page](#) on the Registrar's Office website.

### Student Orientation/Welcome Week

Attendance at all Orientation/Welcome Week activities is mandatory for all incoming first-year students. Failure to attend any part of Orientation/Welcome Week without prior approval from the Office of Student Well-Being & Success may result in the rescindment of the offer of acceptance.

Attendance at all second-, third-, and fourth-year orientation activities is mandatory for all students in their respective year. Failure to attend any part of these activities without prior approval from the appropriate Year Director may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism for review and appropriate action, which may include but is not limited to a sanction as defined under the University catalog's Standards of Student Conduct section.

### Student-Initiated Changes in Enrollment Status

#### ***Voluntary Leave of Absence***

A student may request a Voluntary Leave of Absence (LOA) with the occurrence of a medical emergency or illness, personal issues, financial hardship, military service, or pursuit of academic research opportunity. For additional information on requesting a Voluntary Leave of Absence, please see 'Student Initiated Changes in Enrollment Status' in the University Catalog, General Academic Policies and Procedures section.

#### ***Voluntary Withdrawal***

A student may request to fully separate from WesternU at any time by submitting a Voluntary Withdrawal form. Students interested in initiating the Voluntary Withdrawal process must begin by contacting their

College Dean, or designee. The College will submit the signed Voluntary Withdrawal form to the Registrar's Office for processing and distribution. Please note that once processed, WesternU email address, MyPortal access, and all other online services are inactivated immediately following withdrawal from the University. For additional information on the Voluntary Withdrawal process, please see 'Student Initiated Changes in Enrollment Status' in the University Catalog, General Academic Policies and Procedures section.

### **Full-Time Status**

All students enrolled in at least one class/rotation are considered full-time students.

### **Time Limits**

The DVM program is designed to be completed in four (4) years. The requirements for the degree must be fulfilled within six (6) years from the date of matriculation to the program, unless this time limit is extended due to a student accommodation provided through <sup>HF</sup>CDHP. Students who are unable to meet the 6-year time limit for the DVM program will be referred to the Student Performance Committee for review which may result in administrative withdrawal.

### **Administrative Withdrawal**

Please see 'Administrative Withdrawal from University/Program' section in the University Catalog.

## Tuition and Fees

By action of the Board of Trustees, DVM tuition and fees for the 2026/2027 academic year (subject to change) are as follows:

### Institutional Fees

\$71,170.00	Annual Tuition
\$40.00	Student Body Fee (Years 1 and 2)
\$20.00	Student Body Fee (Years 3 and 4)
\$978.00	Student Service Fee (Years 1 – 4)
\$565.00	Lab Fee (Years 1 – 4)
\$475.00	Graduation Fee

### Non-institutional Fees

\$15.00	SAVMA Yearly Membership Fee*
\$30.00	Registration Late Fee (Per Business Day)
\$50.00	Late Payment Fee (per month)
\$235.00	Annual Parking Permit (Auto)
\$118.00	Annual Parking Permit (Motorcycle)
\$25.00	PBL Room Key Replacement Fee
\$70.00	Instadose/Dosimetry Badge Replacement Fee
\$10.00	Student ID Replacement Fee
\$50.00	Cleaning/Damage/Breakage Fee (Replacement Cost) **

*\*All DVM students are assessed a \$15.00 SAVMA Yearly Membership fee. Students who wish to opt out of SAVMA membership should contact the Office of the Registrar at 909-469-5491.*

*\*\*PBL Room upkeep, abusive use or loss of Clinical Skills materials, etc. Individual students may be charged this fee up to 2 times per semester.*

### Other Student Expenses (Estimated)

\$1,500.00	Estimated Costs for Textbooks (Per Year)
\$675.00	Required Equipment (Year 1)
\$250.00	Required Equipment (Years 2-4)
\$1,800.00 - \$3,000.00	Required Laptop Computer (with Webcam) and personal mobile device
\$1,000.00	Computer Peripherals (Printer, internet access, software, etc. per year)
\$150.00	Estimated Clinical Activity Travel (Years 1-2)
\$3,000.00 - \$10,000.00	Estimated Clinical Activity Travel and Lodging (Year 3)
\$3,500.00 - \$15,000.00*	Estimated Clinical Activity Travel and Lodging (Year 4)

\*Expenses vary depending on rotation sites selected by the student

## Modified Curriculum/Repeated Coursework Tuition Rates

Students enrolled in a modified curriculum or who are directed to repeat one or more courses but not the entire academic year are charged a per credit hour tuition rate. This rate is calculated by dividing the total credit hours required for a class year by the annual tuition. The per credit hour rates for 2026/2027 are shown below:

DVM Year 1 Modified Curriculum Per Credit Hour Charge  
DVM Year 2 Modified Curriculum Per Credit Hour Charge  
DVM Year 3 Modified Curriculum Per Credit Hour Charge  
DVM Year 4 Modified Curriculum Per Credit Hour Charge

## Computer Technology

Each WesternU CVM student is required to have a laptop computer that meets the specifications outlined in the [WesternU Student Laptop Requirement](#) article. Laptops must have a standard operating system (Windows or MAC-OS; note: Linux-based systems are not supported).

The laptops will be used for e-mail communication with classmates and faculty, for accessing computer- and server-based course information, instructional software, online bibliographic databases, electronic bibliographies, and for participating in course exercises/activities/exams. Computers will be needed by students on campus as well as at their local residences and when rotating in off-campus courses/rotations; therefore, laptop computers are required. Desktop computers, tablets, and other personal devices are not alternatives to required laptops. In addition, each student must have access to a printer, the Internet, and a webcam. Please refer to the 'Electronic Communication' section in the University Catalog.

These specifications are subject to change. The college reserves the right to impose uniform requirements for computer technology and software, including the possible requirement of a specific model of laptop computer and/or personal mobile device. Smartphone applications will be made available for students to facilitate curricular activities and University/College communications.

## Clinical Training Expenses

Students will rotate through off-campus clinical training experiences during all four years of the curriculum. Please see below regarding associated expenses related to clinical training activities. Under special circumstances, requests for additional financial aid support, related to clinical training activities for all years, may be directed to the Financial Aid office.

### ***For first- and second-year students:***

All clinical training activities will occur within a 70-mile radius of the University campus, and any transportation, food, lodging, or other expenses incurred by participating in these activities are the sole responsibility of the student.

### ***For Third year students***

Clinical training activities in the third year may occur nationwide. Any travel, food, lodging, transportation, or other expenses (collectively "Travel") incurred by participating in these activities are the sole responsibility of the student. Students are responsible for reserving, arranging, and/or coordinating all Travel related to clinical training activities. The College will endeavor to identify clinical training activities within a 70-mile radius of the University campus to mitigate travel expenses to the student. In addition, third year students are required to return to campus for various mandatory activities, and any costs

associated with their attendance for required on-campus activities are the sole responsibility of the student. Accordingly, students must be mindful of the costs associated with their clinical training activities.

### ***For fourth year students***

Given that clinical training activities in the fourth year are student-selected and may occur worldwide; students must be mindful of the costs associated with their clinical training activities. Any travel, food, lodging, transportation, or other expenses (collectively "Travel") incurred by participating in these activities are the sole responsibility of the student. Students are responsible for reserving, arranging, and/or coordinating all Travel related to clinical training activities. In addition, fourth year students are required to return to campus for various mandatory activities and any costs associated with their attendance for required on-campus activities are the sole responsibility of the student. Students who would like to travel internationally for any fourth-year rotation must complete the required application forms at least three months prior to the clinical rotation. Students must contact the Director of Year 4 Curriculum ([CVMYear4@westernu.edu](mailto:CVMYear4@westernu.edu)) for the required forms. All international travel requires approval from the College and the University.

### **Licensing and Examination Fees**

Licensing examinations may be taken during the fourth year of the curriculum. Fees, application requirements, and scheduling requirements are determined by national and state examination services and are the responsibility of the student. Application procedures and fees are described on the International Council for Veterinary Assessment web site (<https://www.icva.net>), and on the web site for the applicable state licensing board.

# General Academic Policies and Procedures

## Distance Education

Distance education is defined, in accordance with the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE), as formal educational activities in which the majority of instruction occurs when the learner and instructor are not physically present in the same location. Instruction may be delivered synchronously or asynchronously using technological modalities such as learning management systems, video conferencing, or other digital platforms.

The DVM program at WesternU is delivered primarily and substantially through in-person, interactive instruction, including problem-based learning (PBL), laboratory experiences, and hands-on clinical training. These approaches are foundational to the program's learner-centered and competency-based design.

Distance education is used in a limited and purposeful manner to support specific learning objectives where appropriate. Examples may include virtual case discussions, online modules, and supplemental instructional materials. All distance-delivered components are intentionally integrated with in-person instruction and are designed to achieve course learning outcomes. Courses including distance education components are specified within the course descriptions.

Consistent with AVMA COE standards, clinical instruction that involves direct animal care, procedural skills, and competency assessment is not delivered through distance education. These experiences occur through supervised, hands-on training in clinical and laboratory settings, including the college's distributive clinical education model.

All distance education components are subject to the same standards of academic rigor, oversight, assessment, and program evaluation as in-person instruction. Student learning outcomes are monitored to ensure that the integration of distance education components supports, and does not replace, essential experiential and clinical training.

## Academic Advisement

Students are assigned a faculty advisor, who provides students the opportunity to develop sustained, individual advisement on academic and professional levels. Students may request a change of advisor, if needed, through the office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (or designee).

## Student Disability Accommodations Process

The Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy (<sup>HF</sup>CDHP) values the uniqueness of each student as an integral member of our diverse WesternU community and is the designated office responsible for determining and approving reasonable academic modifications or accommodations. WesternU does not discriminate on the basis of disability and complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and applicable state laws.

<sup>HF</sup>CDHP's role in the accommodation process is to engage in an interactive process and to provide students with disabilities with the legally mandated and necessary support to afford equal access to the University's programs and activities. Only accommodations approved through <sup>HF</sup>CDHP constitute official reasonable accommodations under the ADA and Section 504. Instructional personnel may, at their discretion, provide temporary or informal academic flexibility; however, such measures do not replace or supersede the formal accommodation review and approval process administered by <sup>HF</sup>CDHP.

A student's disclosure of a disability or health-related condition alerts the University to a potential need for accommodation; however, students must complete the <sup>HF</sup>CDHP registration process for accommodations to be formally reviewed, approved, and implemented. Disclosure of a disability or the submission of documentation in response to a process or procedure established by their respective college or program, does not, by itself, constitute a formal request for accommodations.

Students must be able to perform all the essential functions of the program with or without reasonable accommodation. Essential functions are defined in the program's published personal competencies and are assessed on an individualized basis through the interactive process.

The University will provide reasonable accommodations but is not required to make modifications that would fundamentally alter the nature of essential requirements of a program, result in an undue burden, or pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others.

A fundamental alteration of a course or program is not considered reasonable accommodations.

Students must adhere to the enrollment and documentation procedures set forth by <sup>HF</sup>CDHP to formally request accommodation. In the event a student discloses a disability to instructional personnel or administrators outside of <sup>HF</sup>CDHP, the student will be referred to <sup>HF</sup>CDHP for guidance on the accommodation request process. Requests for academic consideration related to circumstances other than the student's own disability (e.g., family bereavement or common illness) are not considered requests for reasonable accommodation under the <sup>HF</sup>CDHP Provision of Academic Accommodation(s) Policy and Procedure, the ADA, or Section 504 and are governed by separate institutional or program policies.

Accommodation determinations for clinical, laboratory, and experiential education are made on an individualized basis and may involve coordination with clinical training sites. Approved accommodations must be consistent with program requirements, personal competencies, and patient safety obligations. The availability and implementation of accommodations in clinical settings may vary by site and setting. Requests are reviewed on an individual basis in accordance with applicable law. Accommodations are implemented prospectively following approval by <sup>HF</sup>CDHP.

Students may file a grievance with <sup>HF</sup>CDHP regarding the denial or implementation of disability accommodations or concerns about access or discrimination. Grievances should be submitted promptly, no later than 30 calendar days from the decision or activity being appealed. Filing a grievance will not result in retaliation. Information, including the right to file with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, is available at <https://www.westernu.edu/cdhp/grievance-procedures/>.

To request accommodations and initiate the interactive process at WesternU, students are encouraged to visit <https://www.westernu.edu/cdhp/> to learn more about the registration process, requirements for disability documentation, and to complete the Student Intake Form. <sup>HF</sup>CDHP will promptly engage with students in the interactive process to review and implement accommodation requests. All inquiries are handled confidentially, and students may obtain general information without registering.

To schedule an appointment with <sup>HF</sup>CDHP, please email [disabilityaccommodations@westernu.edu](mailto:disabilityaccommodations@westernu.edu). For the Pomona campus, students may call (909) 469-5441, or visit in person at 309 E. Second Street, Building 390, Pomona CA, 91766. Center hours are Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. For more information, please visit <https://www.westernu.edu/cdhp/>.

## **Videotaping, Audiotaping, Still Photography and Digitized Note Taking in Laboratories and Lecture Halls, or Associated Academic Activities**

Videotaping, audiotaping, still photography and digital note taking are not permitted in the University laboratories, lecture halls, or clinical sites without the expressed permission of the involved instructor or through approved accommodations from the <sup>HF</sup>CDHP office. For further details, please refer to this policy in the University Catalog.

## **Attendance and Absences**

The DVM is a full-time, in-person program requiring students to be present and available to fulfill their academic responsibilities including coursework, clinical activities, and other academic responsibilities as directed by the College of Veterinary Medicine. As such, it is the policy of the College of Veterinary Medicine that all University and College learning activities and events will be designated as required attendance or optional attendance. If not explicitly designated as optional in the course or rotation syllabus or communicated via email, announcement, or another form of notification, the activity will be considered required attendance.

In the event of a scheduled or planned absence, the student must submit an absence request 30 days before the expected absence using the current absence request/documentation process. In the event of an unexpected absence, the student must notify the college by contacting the facilitator, course or rotation leader, preceptor (if applicable), Year 4 Director, or representative, as soon as possible. The student must then document absence via the current absence request/documentation process. An absence from curricular activities for any reason, whether excused/approved or unexcused/rejected, does not relieve the student from associated responsibilities related to the course. Students must consult the individual course syllabi and year-specific student handbook for details. Decisions related to whether an absence is excused or unexcused are final and not subject to appeal.

Failure to meet attendance requirements in courses where attendance is graded or required as a threshold criterion may constitute a failure to meet Standards of Academic Progress and may result in referral to the Student Performance Committee under the Evaluation of Student Performance (Academic Hearing Process). Non-compliance with attendance requirements which reflect a pattern of unexcused absences may result in the student being referred to the Student Performance Committee for appropriate action which may include disciplinary action including failure of a course, repeating a course, or dismissal from the program. The specific process for submitting absence requests will be provided during Orientation at the beginning of each academic year. Information is also available on Elenra and in the Year 3 and Year 4 Curriculum Handbooks. Students may direct questions concerning absence requests to the appropriate Year Director, Year Administrative personnel, or the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Professional Formation.

**Personal Days:** The college realizes that maintaining a support system filled with family, friends, and life events outside of veterinary school is essential for the mental well-being and resiliency of all individuals. It is the student's responsibility to take University and College learning activities and events into account when planning life events. Because it may not always be possible to avoid all scheduling conflicts, the College provides students the opportunity to take personal days to participate in such events. Students are permitted a total of five (5) personal days each academic year. Personal days include, but are not limited to, weddings, graduations, family gatherings, job or internship interviews, birthdays, and conferences. Personal days must be requested at least 30 days before the proposed absence via the current absence request/documentation process and are subject to denial based on various contextual

factors, including but not limited to academic status, nature of the learning activity or event, and make-up options. The Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Professional Formation is the final arbiter of all requests.

Total absences excused and unexcused, in an academic year are limited to 20 days, with a 10-day limit per semester. Students with absences that exceed the limits may constitute a failure to meet Standards of Academic Progress and may result in referral to the Student Performance Committee under the Evaluation of Student Performance (Academic Hearing Process). Non-compliance with attendance requirements may result in disciplinary action, including failure of a course or dismissal from the program.

Students who may have a planned absences longer than 29 consecutive days should submit a voluntary Leave of Absence, complete a Student Initiated Status Change Form and submit required documentation. Requests for Leave of Absence are reviewed and approved by the Dean (or designee). The Dean has authorized the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Professional Formation to handle such requests and inform the office of the Dean of all decisions. Please see the Leave of Absence section for further detail. If a medical condition or disability requires accommodations, such as more than the allowed absences per academic year, the student should complete the <sup>HF</sup>CDHP registration process as soon as possible. <sup>HF</sup>CDHP is the authorized entity at WesternU to approve reasonable accommodations under the ADA and Section 504. Registration includes the interactive process, which may include implementation of appropriate accommodations. The time off process does not constitute an authorization of reasonable accommodations and cannot serve as a substitute for the <sup>HF</sup>CDHP registration process.

### **Requesting Religious Accommodation**

In keeping with the University's commitment to humanism, WesternU recognizes and supports the provision of academic reasonable accommodation based on a person's sincerely held religious belief. A reasonable accommodation is one that can be implemented without materially interfering with the University's legitimate educational or operational objectives. The most common request for academic religious accommodation concerns class attendance during the observance of major religious holy days and celebrations.

Students wishing to be excused from class attendance for religious observances must submit a written request to the official WesternU email address of the instructor prior to their absence and receive a written response from the instructor acknowledging receipt prior to any absence as stated in the policy above. Alternative request methods, including but not limited to verbal communication, text messages, hard copy letters, notes, phone calls, and voicemail, will not be accepted. Students are responsible for satisfying all academic requirements for a course as defined by the instructor.

It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor(s) about requests for excused absences within the first two weeks of the class each semester after reviewing course syllabi for potential scheduling conflicts. If such conflicts occur during the first two weeks of classes in the semester, the student must notify the instructor(s), in writing at least three calendar days (72 hours) before the date that they will be absent.

The faculty of WesternU shall accommodate students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from any curricular activities. It is the responsibility of the instructor(s) to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed due to the absence.

Religious accommodation requests are not limited to holiday observances and may arise from a wide range of faith-based practices and commitments, including but not limited to scheduled prayer, dietary restrictions, fasting periods, religiously mandated dress or grooming, ritual purification practices, and deeply held theological or philosophical beliefs. Because the nature and scope of such requests vary considerably, each will be evaluated individually based on its particular circumstances. In such instances, students should contact the Dean's Office to discuss such religious accommodation requests. The Office of Humanism is available as a resource throughout this process and may be engaged as circumstances warrant.

**Retaliation is Prohibited.** The University prohibits retaliation against students who request a religious accommodation or who participate in an approved accommodation. An employee who violates this anti-retaliation provision may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination.

**Grievance Procedure:** In the event that agreement cannot be reached regarding an academic religious accommodation, the student should bring the issue to the relevant college dean and to the Office of Student Success and Student Life via email [studentlife@westernu.edu](mailto:studentlife@westernu.edu) for review and resolution as applicable. If advice in resolving the issue is needed, the Office of Humanism will be consulted, as appropriate.

### **Examinations**

Students are required to be present for all scheduled examinations. Students may not begin an examination any later than ten minutes after the scheduled start of the test without permission from the Course Leader or the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Professional Formation (or designee). No additional time will be given to a student who begins an examination late. For a student to be allowed to take any examination other than at the scheduled time, approval must be received from the appropriate Course Leader. If a student misses an examination, appropriate documentation (e.g., health care provider note) justifying the absence must be provided to the Course Leader, who will determine whether the absence is acceptable. If the absence is excused the student will be permitted to take a make-up examination, the nature and time of which will be determined by the Course Leader. If the absence is not excused by the Course Leader the student may appeal (in writing) the Course Leader's decision within five business days to the appropriate Year Director.

### **Social Media and Networking**

There are many potential benefits to social networking web sites; however, it is important to also recognize and consider the inherent risks that may come with their use. In an effort to inform and protect students, WesternU employees, preceptors, clinical sites, their partners, their owners, and their patients, the college recommends that students consider the following:

- Understand that online presence can negatively reflect upon professional image – weigh the risks and benefits of self-disclosure;
- Remember that electronic sites are never completely secure and that what is posted can be seen by many – including an unintended audience;
- Respect copyright laws, and reference or cite sources appropriately, plagiarism applies to online materials as well as in print;

- Remember that WesternU, college or hospital partner logos and trademarks may not be used without written consent from the owner(s) of that logo or trademark;
- Respect the delicate relationship between patient/client and health care provider; student and faculty member; and employer and employee;
- Ensure that information posted complies with existing policies and laws governing privacy and dissemination of data (e.g., FERPA, etc.);
- Clearly state that the views expressed do not represent the views of others; and
- Review the privacy policy of the sites used and consider personal and property safety when posting information online.

The college forbids the posting of material (images, video, text, etc.) relating to any students, WesternU employees, preceptors, clinical sites, their partners, their owners, and their patients in any form to any public, social media, or social networking site (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat etc.). Pictures of students, WesternU employees, preceptors, clinical sites, their partners, their owners, and their patients may not be posted without prior express, written approval of those involved. When posting approved material, approval should be noted in the post. Students are required to maintain and respect client, patient, preceptor, and clinical site and their partners' confidentiality as well as respecting the dignity of all animals and their owners. Posting of these materials without appropriate permissions, or another associated conduct that does not align with this section, may be a violation of WesternU's Standards of Student Conduct, located in the University Catalog and result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism

### **University Policies Governing the Recording of Still or Motion Images**

Recording is defined as the capturing of events or activities, in a permanent or semi-permanent format, for viewing, or in some way experiencing aspects of the activity or event later. This includes, but is not limited to audio, video, and still image.

#### ***Still or Motion Photography in the Multi-Disciplinary Classroom***

To ensure that the utmost respect is displayed to the family and the animal cadavers received through the Willied deceased Animals for Veterinary Education (W.A.V.E.) program; the patients in the WesternU Pet Health Center; the WesternU Faculty, Staff and Students; and all third party educational partners, photography of the cadavers, patient, employees, students, and the public is not allowed unless specific guidelines are met.

It is the policy of the CVM that taking photographs in the Multi-Disciplinary Classroom (MDC) is permissible only if it is for educational purposes and maintains the respect and dignity of the animal cadavers and their families.

Limiting factors are as follows:

1. Faces and distinguishing markings of animal cadavers are covered so that positive identification cannot be made when looking at the photograph and are limited to only the area being studied.
2. MDC staff is given appropriate notice prior to a professional photography session.

Above all else, photographs containing any animal cadaveric specimen(s) MUST NOT be posted to the internet or in any public forum, or to be used for any commercial intention unless written permission is granted by the Dean of WesternU CVM, or Dean's designee. Violations of this expectation may be considered a violation of WesternU's Standards of Student Conduct, located in the University Catalog and result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism.

### **Recording of Curricular and Research Activities**

Recording of events or activities by any means (including, but not limited to, audio, video, still photo, smartphones, etc.) that take place at teaching, training, and research venues used by the college (including, but not limited to, on-campus laboratories, private veterinary clinics, farms, animal facilities, laboratories, etc.) is governed by the following principles:

- Prior authorization of the faculty, researcher, preceptor, and/or the patient owner (depending on the activity) is required.
- Recorded material, including course presentations, must be for private personal use and cannot be shared with others through any means (including, but not limited to, social media, text, email, discussion board, etc.) without approval to do so by the faculty, preceptor, and/or the patient owner.
- Recording of research events or activities shall be authorized by IRB, IACUC, and/or subjects involved before the recording is made.
- Recordings of research events or activities may be collected for the Principal Investigator (PI) with approval from and under the supervision of the PI.

If in doubt about recording or capturing any activity, please consult the faculty member or preceptor directing the event and obtain permission. If these individuals are not available, contact the office of the Associate Dean for Student Welfare & Success before recording the activity. For policy information regarding capturing (e.g., audio, video, still photo, etc.) of events or activities in the MDC, please refer to the policy "Still or motion photography in the Multi-Disciplinary Classroom".

Consistent with the University Catalog, for students requesting recording authorization based on a disability which may go beyond the scope of the principles stated above, the students must contact the Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy in order to initiate the request process. Please review the University Catalog, Videotaping, Audiotaping, Still Photography, and Digitized Note Taking in Laboratories and Lecture Halls section for further information.

Violation of this policy may be deemed a violation of the WesternU's Standards Student Conduct, located in the University Catalog and result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism.

### **Survey Policy and Procedures**

The CVM defines a survey as the systematic collection of information to analyze trends and make informed decisions regarding students, staff, faculty, and CVM-affiliated populations. The purpose of this policy is to manage survey requests, to prevent survey fatigue, to protect the confidentiality of our veterinary medicine community, and to ensure that the process of data collection adheres to ethical and methodological best practices.

All requests to distribute surveys to multiple members or prospective members of the CVM community (e.g. applicants, students, faculty, staff, preceptors, clinical sites and staff, board members, and alumni) must be approved by the Director of Outcomes Assessment ([CVMOutcomes@westernu.edu](mailto:CVMOutcomes@westernu.edu)) or the Dean or designee.

### ***The Approval Process***

#### **External Surveys**

The external institution(s) or individual(s) wishing to conduct a survey must provide all of the following information at least four weeks before the proposed survey distribution date:

- Description of the survey project, including the purpose and intended use of results;
- Specific population receiving the survey;
- Method of survey distribution (e.g. online or hard copy, via email, in class, at an event, etc.);
- Timeframe for administering the survey, including beginning and end dates;
- Description of any planned incentive program for respondents;
- Current draft of the survey and all invitation and cover letters;
- A copy of the institutional review board approval; and
- Evidence that the survey has been reviewed and accepted by the AAVMC (if required by AAVMC guidelines or as determined by the institution).
- Survey results should be submitted to the College upon completion.

#### **Academic Research Surveys**

The individual(s) wishing to conduct a survey must provide all of the following information at least four weeks before the proposed survey distribution date:

- Contact information for the person responsible for the survey;
- Description of the survey project, including the purpose and intended use of results;
- Specific population receiving the survey;
- Method of survey distribution (e.g. online or hard copy, via email, in class, at an event, etc.);
- Time frame for administering the survey, including beginning and end dates;
- Detailed procedures to ensure data confidentiality and, if applicable, respondent anonymity;

- Description of any planned incentive program for respondents;
- Current draft of the survey and all invitation and cover letters; and
- A copy of the Institutional Review Board approval.
- The Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE) ensures that survey administration does not conflict with other ongoing surveys targeting the same population.

### **Institutional Surveys**

Surveys used for assessment and improvement of the CVM program should be developed in consultation with the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE) or the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Professional Formation and the Office of the College Outcomes Assessment (OCA). The OIRE or OCA will review surveys, provide feedback, and ensure that survey administration does not duplicate existing efforts or conflict with other ongoing surveys at the College. Upon request, the OIRE or OCA may provide data analysis and summary reports to the appropriate personnel or relevant committees.

### **Student Injuries and Illnesses in Clinical Settings**

In the event of a student injury or illness (e.g., needle stick, puncture wound, slip/fall, etc.) during a clinical experience the following should be followed:

- Students are to immediately notify their preceptor and their College's Clinical Rotations Office. As soon as possible, students are to submit an Incident Report ([https://webapp.westernu.edu/incident\\_report](https://webapp.westernu.edu/incident_report)).
- Obtain medical treatment. It is the student's choice where they obtain medical treatment.

They can do so, if possible, at the clinical site, Urgent Care, local hospital or from their primary care provider. Follow-up care should be continued at the contracted clinical facility as needed and ordered by the evaluating health care professional. Expenses incurred are to be submitted to the student's personal insurance as the primary coverage and to the university as the secondary insurance, for the reported incident only.

The [Incident Report Form](#) can be found on the university website and must be completed by the student and/or faculty and submitted electronically. There may also be a requirement to fill out a more detailed report within the student's program of study (please refer to specific program clinical handbook).

### **Conflict of Interest and Educational Activities**

Western University of Health Sciences' (WesternU) Conflict of Interest and Ethics policy, in pertinent part, states that a potential conflict of interest occurs when an individual's personal or private interests might lead an independent observer to reasonably question whether the individual's professional actions or decisions are influenced by considerations of significant personal interest, financial or otherwise, in any transaction or relationship involving the University, or which is being considered by the Board of Trustees (including any committee of the Board) or by University Officers or faculty (including any faculty committee) or other group of administrators.

This policy statement is intended to build upon the existing conflict of interest rule to help students and faculty avoid and manage conflict of interest that may arise in supervisory relationships that could unduly impact student grading in required activities, academic advancement, or the awarding of special awards

such as scholarships or other special recognition (“Educational Activity”). Accordingly, it is important for students to understand the expectations regarding conflicts of interest for assessment and matriculation of students. Example relationships that may cause a conflict of interest include but are not limited to 1) consensual intimate relationships 2) familial relationships (i.e. relatives), 3) individuals who share a close personal relationship, such as living in the same household, and 4) financial relationships.

Students are expected to disclose any relationship which may cause a real or potential conflict of interest related to an Educational Activity. In the event of a potential or actual conflict of interest, a conflict-of-interest management plan would be developed which may require the non-participation of the conflicted individuals in the Educational Activity. For further information related to this policy, including the disclosure/reporting process, please contact the Office of Academic Affairs.

### **Academic Assistance Program**

In addition to seeking support from academic advisors, course leaders, faculty, and administration, students experiencing academic difficulty may seek assistance from the Associate Dean for Student Well-Being & Success and/or the Department of LEAD ([LEAD website](#), [lead@westernu.edu](mailto:lead@westernu.edu) or (909) 469-5325).

### **Criminal Background Investigations or Live Scan Fingerprinting**

To meet state and industry specific requirements, hospital facilities, school districts, and clinical sites, may require students to complete criminal background checks, including Live Scan fingerprinting, prior to beginning rotations/clinical experiences and/or during their enrollment at WesternU. Consequently, to assure patient safety, students admitted to programs with clinical training requirements will be required to complete a criminal background check prior to matriculation and/or as a component of the scheduling of the rotation/clinical experiences.

If a criminal conviction or other relevant sanction is shown on a background check, hospital facilities and clinical sites have broad discretion to restrict an individual from being assigned to the facility/site for the rotation/clinical experience. Therefore, please be aware that certain convictions may prevent students from entering hospital facilities or clinical sites, which may directly hinder a student’s ability to complete their academic program successfully. Furthermore, certain convictions may also prevent students from obtaining licensure in the State of California or other states.

Students are advised to check with the appropriate State(s) licensing boards to determine whether their backgrounds may be a barrier to future licensing. Supplemental or additional background checks may be required during the course of enrollment to meet the requirements of clinical education sites. Procedures for obtaining a background investigation will be provided to the student by the appropriate academic program staff. Students have an affirmative obligation to report all arrests and convictions to their College administration to proactively identify solutions (if possible) and/or determine the impact on future licensure. For further information related to criminal convictions, please see the Standards of Student Conduct section in the University Catalog.

### **Drugs and Alcohol on Campus Policy**

The Drugs and Alcohol on Campus Policy can be found in the University Catalog. Students will be required to complete a drug screening along with a background check on an annual basis to be permitted to begin any clinical practice experiences. This is in addition to what is outlined in the University or College Catalog. Students are expected to be aware of, and abide by, both University and applicable College policies. For

further information related to Drug Screening, please review the [Drugs and Alcohol Policy](#) and the Student Health and Safety section in the University Catalog.

### **Protocol for Input on Matters of Student Concern**

When an issue or dispute arises between students, the issue/dispute resolution process starts with communication among the involved students. If a satisfactory resolution is not arrived at that level, the matter should then be addressed with the faculty advisor. If the problem is not resolved at the faculty advisor/course director level, the matter should be brought to the appropriate college's Student Affairs personnel, then the College Dean, or Dean's designee. If the matter has not been resolved at those levels, the final arbiter is the Provost.

When an incident arises involving a faculty member, the first step in the issue/dispute resolution process is discussion with the faculty member. If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved at that level, then the matter should be referred to the Department Chair, then Dean, or Dean's designee, in that order. The final arbiter is the Provost. Please note that grade appeals cannot be handled under this protocol.

When an incident arises involving a staff member, the dispute resolution process begins with the Supervisor/Department Chair followed by the Dean, or Dean's designee. The Office of Human Resources is the final arbiter.

Failure to follow this sequence of steps will only serve to delay the appropriate resolution of the issue or dispute as the matter will only be referred back to the correct level in this chain of responsibility.

This protocol does not apply to concerns involving discrimination, harassment or retaliation. For information related to complaints involving discrimination, harassment and retaliation, including community resources, emergency and on-going assistance; mental health services; reporting options and other available support are as follows and can be located on the University's Title IX resource website.

### **Service Animals on Campus**

In accordance with university policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals with disabilities are permitted to bring service animals, as defined under the ADA. Emotional support animals and pets are generally prohibited on campus and at clinical rotation sites. Students seeking further information should consult the Animals on University Property Policy, available at <https://www.westernu.edu/cdhp/service-emotional-support-animals/>, or contact the <sup>HF</sup>CDHP for additional guidance at [disabilityaccommodations@westernu.edu](mailto:disabilityaccommodations@westernu.edu).

## **Standards of Academic Integrity, Professionalism and Student Conduct (“Standards of Student Conduct”)**

The Standards of Student Conduct encompass three components: the Standards of Academic Integrity, the Standards of Professionalism, and the Standards of Student Conduct. Collectively, these three components are referred to as the Standards of Student Conduct and are located in the [University Catalog](#). Students are expected to make themselves aware of and abide by the expectations contained in the Standards of Student Conduct and related policy statements. Ignorance is not a justification for violating the Standards of Student Conduct.

Because of the professional nature of a graduate health degree program, WesternU expects a higher standard of student conduct. The Standards of Student Conduct articulates violations that are most common and/or readily identifiable. Conduct violating the Standards of Student Conduct that are not specifically mentioned may still be subject to disciplinary action. Any questions regarding interpretation of the Standards of Student Conduct defined in the University Catalog should be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism.

The College level Standards of Student are outlined below are in addition to those outlined in the University Catalog. Students are expected to be aware of, and abide by, both University and applicable College policies.

### **College Academic Integrity and Professionalism policy**

WesternU CVM takes its responsibility to teach and train our students in expected professional behaviors for the veterinary medical profession seriously. Students shall demonstrate the following professional qualities attributable to university graduates and educated citizens, including the following:

- Apply the principles of scientific inquiry to think analytically, clearly, and critically when solving problems, making decisions in daily practice, and conducting practice-related research.
- Systematically locate, analyze, evaluate, and apply information to make well-informed and defensible decisions.
- Communicate effectively through written, verbal, and non-verbal means with diverse audiences and for various purposes.
- Grasp and apply the concepts and principles of lifelong learning to fulfill and advance clinical practice and the veterinary professional role in society.
- Take on a leadership role in promoting community welfare.
- Foster unity with colleagues, adopt a professional identity, and take pride in professionalism consistent with high values and ethical principles.
- Engage in collegial and respectful interactions with healthcare team members and the public.

Engaging in unprofessional behaviors during any portion of the WesternU CVM program, including times during which students are not on campus including clinical rotations, may lead to an UNSATISFACTORY or NO CREDIT grade and may be considered a violation of Standards of Student Conduct and may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism.”

## College Student Code of Conduct policy

Students accepted into the WesternU CVM program are expected to hold themselves and each other to the highest standard of professionalism and honesty in their communications and actions. They are expected to build a sense of mutual trust between their colleagues, administration, faculty, and staff as an emerging member of the veterinary profession. The CVM administration, faculty, and staff base their relationships and interactions with students on a core belief that every student accepted into the program is worthy of the highest respect and trust. This belief is the guiding principle behind the Student Code of Conduct. These statements are foundational for all veterinary medical students as the College believes behaviors and choices made as veterinary students foreshadow those made as a veterinarian. Additionally, students are representatives of WesternU and the veterinary profession; hence, they are expected to conduct themselves in ways that uphold the trust, respect, and compassion for members of the WesternU community and the veterinary profession, embracing the humanistic tradition of WesternU.

The following Code of Conduct will be adopted by every student:

I understand that it is a great privilege to study veterinary medicine. Over the course of my training, I will assume extraordinary responsibility for the health and well-being of my patients and their caretakers. This undertaking requires that I uphold the highest standards of ethical, compassionate, and respectful behavior. Accordingly, I have adopted the following statements of principle to guide me throughout my academic, clinical, and research work. I will strive to uphold both the spirit and the letter of this code in my years in the veterinary program and throughout my veterinary career.

### Honesty

- I will be truthful in all communications; written and verbal with administrators, faculty, staff, preceptors, colleagues, and clients. I will not falsify any documentation concerned with veterinary school; academic or otherwise. These may include but are not limited to: A doctor's note regarding excusal from the curriculum, documents submitted to University and College entities such as financial aid, research data, rotations documentation including those relevant to a specific clinic/hospital, and other documentation.
- I will not bribe colleagues, faculty, staff, preceptors, clients, or any other individual to obtain a personal favorable outcome in any situation.
- I will not attempt to procure, seek or share any unauthorized assignments, answers, questions, or cases, including practice questions, especially when such is indicated explicitly by administrator, faculty, staff, or preceptor.
- I will not use unauthorized devices during an assessment or examination, including but not limited to cell phones, laptops, tablets, smartwatches, and computers.
- I will not engage in plagiarism, using or taking credit of others' work of any kind without expressing written authorization from the originator of the work and providing appropriate credit.
- I will not represent as my own work material substantially produced by machine-based tools (a.k.a. artificial intelligence, chatbot, neural language model, natural language model) on assessments during the curriculum.

## Confidentiality

- I will regard confidentiality as a central obligation of patient care. In cases of personal information about administrators, faculty, staff, preceptors, colleagues, and clients, I will refrain from sharing as gossip.
- I will limit discussions of clients and patients to members of the health care team in settings removed from the public ear (e.g., not in elevators, hallways, cafeterias, etc.).
- I will not share, post, or release information that is considered confidential or private, especially those involving clients and patients and medical records. I understand that it is a serious violation of confidentiality to publish any client and patient health information without express written authorization to do so.
- I will use extreme caution when participating in social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram and others, especially ‘tagging’ people and places in any of my photos or posts on social media. I understand that posting or distributing images or other information from veterinary or other related facilities in which clients and patients may be visible or where a hospital practice may be implicitly or explicitly revealed is a serious breach of the Student Code of Conduct.

## Respect for Others

- I will honor all policies guiding the use of shared spaces like classrooms, parking lots, laboratories, hallways, study spaces, and any rooms associated with the structure and/or function of the WesternU and the college. This includes equipment, appliances, furniture, etc. of shared use within those spaces.
- I will communicate with University and College officials, preceptors, and peers in a respectful, non-judgmental, and cooperative manner, regardless of the alignment between their perspectives and opinions and mine. I will maintain respectful communication regardless of the manner in which they may have communicated with me.
- I will treat clients, patients, and their families with respect and dignity both in their presence and in discussions with other members of the health care team.
- I will not engage in behavior that may be in violation of, violate, or tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation as defined under university policies and procedures which can be accessed here: <https://www.westernu.edu/hr/title-ix/>.

## Responsibility

- I will conduct myself professionally in my demeanor, use of language, and appearance as a student of WesternU, the college, and the veterinary profession, including my social media platforms.
- I will set patient care as the highest priority in the clinical setting.
- I will recognize my own limitations and will seek help when my level of experience is inadequate to handle a situation on my own.
- In accordance with Drugs and Alcohol on Campus Policy, I will not use, distribute, or consume illicit controlled substances.
- I will not attend curricular events including WesternU sanctioned and sponsored activities while under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substances that would impair my abilities, whether medically prescribed or not.
- I will not leverage my professional position to engage in romantic or sexual relationships with clients, or members of their families.

- I will not share or post sexually explicit communication or content on social media platforms that are not becoming a future veterinarian.
- I will not provide unsupervised (without the approval from a faculty or supervising preceptor) veterinary evaluation, diagnosis, or treatment.
- I will make myself aware of important policies and procedures pertaining to items like absences/time off, IRB and/or IACUC approval requirements, WesternU branding requirements, veterinary-shadowing processes, policies of my rotation sites, clubs, and other activities that involve risk management, financial transactions, etc. I will reach out to the office of Student Affairs or the relevant department whenever I need direction and advice regarding policies.

Before the start of each year, all students must review and agree to the policies incorporated in the Standards of Student Conduct. By signing this document, students acknowledge that their continuation in veterinary medical education joins them to a profession that conducts itself according to a long-standing moral, ethical, and behavioral code. Furthermore, students affirm that they will strive in all efforts to meet these standards for the betterment of the profession and the clients and patients it serves. Students will be prompt, successfully perform their academic coursework, and comport themselves in a professional manner. Violations of this policy will be considered a violation of Standards of Student Conduct and may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism.

### **Professionalism Concerns and Non-Disciplinary Interventions**

The College of Veterinary Medicine recognizes that professional behavior is a core competency of graduate health professions education. Accordingly, the College may evaluate reports that raises professionalism concerns, including but not limited to professional demeanor, accountability, respect, effective interpersonal skills, and ethical behavior. Upon identifying such concerns, the College retains discretion to determine the appropriate response and course of action, provided that resulting action constitutes a non-disciplinary measures, which may include but is not limited to mentoring, coaching, a written advisement, a Professional Behavior Improvement Plan, or other non-disciplinary approaches. These measures are educational in nature and are intended to serve as constructive interventions and/or advisements designed to support the student's professional development. Non-disciplinary measures do not constitute, and shall not be construed as, formal sanctions as defined under the Standards of Student Conduct set forth in the University Catalog.

Students are expected to engage in good faith with any non-disciplinary measures implemented by the College. A student's failure or refusal to comply with such measures may result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism for further review pursuant to the applicable University student conduct process.

### **Reporting Violations to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism**

Western University of Health Sciences has centralized the student conduct process under the **Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism**. Previously, student conduct matters were managed at the college level; all such matters are now handled centrally by the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism to ensure a consistent, fair, and transparent process across all colleges and programs.

All student conduct reports, including concerns related to alleged violations of the Standards of Academic Integrity, Professionalism or Student Conduct, contained in this College Catalog and the University Catalog should be submitted directly to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism using the [WesternU Student Conduct and Professionalism Incident Report Form](#). The Office of Student Conduct and

Professionalism will review each report and determine the appropriate course of action in accordance with University policies and procedures.

Students, faculty, staff, and administrators are encouraged to direct any questions about the conduct process to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism. Additional information regarding the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism and the Student Conduct Process is available in the University Catalog.

## Standards of Academic Progress

WesternU CVM students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.00 every academic year to be considered making satisfactory academic progress. Students who have earned a grade of “U” or “NCR” in any course or have a cumulative GPA below 2.00 will be referred to the Student Performance Committee (SPC) for review and recommendation to the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation.

### Student Performance Committee (SPC)

The SPC is comprised of seven faculty members and the following ex-officio and non-voting members: Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation, the Associate Dean for Student Well-Being & Success, and the Director of the Department of Learning Enhancement & Academic Development (LEAD) or designee.

The SPC has the responsibility of recommending to the faculty, as a whole, the awarding of the DVM degree to all students who satisfactorily complete all requirements for graduation as stated in the University Catalog. The SPC shall also review the performance and comprehensive evidence of the progress of students pursuing the DVM degree. Particular attention will be given to students in academic difficulty, as their grades are made available to the SPC by the Registrar or Dean of WesternU CVM, or Dean’s designee. For purposes of clarification, “performance” is defined as those activities of a behavioral-conduct or academic nature that negatively affect or impair the continued ability of a WesternU CVM student to matriculate, timely and successfully, within CVM. The SPC will also receive reports from the Office of Student Conduct & Professionalism of students whose conduct is deemed unsatisfactory as determined through the student conduct process outlined in the University Catalog. Appropriate student conduct is defined by the University’s and College’s Standards of Student Conduct standards and handled in alignment with the Student Conduct Procedures in the University Catalog . The office of the Dean and Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation may provide additional input to this process.

The SPC is not authorized to evaluate medical conditions or disabilities through its review process. Evaluating medical information and disability-related claims is designated exclusively to the <sup>HF</sup>CDHP office, not the SPC. If you have a medical condition or disability that you believe is relevant to your academic situation, you should complete the [HFCDHP Student Intake Form](#) as soon as possible. Submitting this form initiates the interactive process with <sup>HF</sup>CDHP and, if appropriate, the implementation of reasonable accommodations (which are not retroactive). The <sup>HF</sup>CDHP accommodation process is separate from and independent of the SPC review process.

### Evaluation of Student Academic Performance (Academic Hearing Process)

When a student's performance issue is referred to the SPC, a date is set for the academic hearing providing at least five business days of advance notice to the student. The student is invited to attend the hearing, either in person or online; attendance is encouraged but is not required, and the student may submit a written statement instead of or in addition to their attendance. The student is directed to schedule a meeting with the Associate Dean for Student Well-Being & Success to discuss the academic hearing process. To maintain the integrity of the proceedings, students are prohibited from meeting with SPC members to discuss their case outside of scheduled SPC meetings.

On matters referred to the SPC, the SPC will provide their recommendations to the Dean, or Dean’s designee, for any of the following courses of action: promotion, probation, educational assessment,

remediation, repeating a course or year, academic or conduct suspension, dismissal and other appropriate recommendations. It may also recommend that no action be taken. The Dean, or Dean's designee, has the authority to accept the recommendations or may make such other decisions, as they deem appropriate under the circumstances. The Dean, or Dean's designee, will issue a decision, in writing, to the student. A student may appeal the decision of the Dean, or Dean's designee, to the Provost. Decisions related to the imposition of academic probation and any associated terms/conditions of such probation, or administrative withdrawal are considered final and not appealable to the Provost (See University Catalog, Student Appeal Process).

### **Promotion**

Promotion is defined as academic progression to the subsequent academic year. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 in CVM courses in order to be promoted. Students must also successfully complete the prerequisite courses necessary for enrollment into subsequent courses. Students may not be promoted with a grade of "I", "U", or "NCR" on a required course. Additional fees may apply for remediation or repeated courses.

Students must complete all course and rotation evaluations to progress from one semester to the next and to be eligible for graduation.

A student who is unable to meet the minimum requirements for promotion by July 15 of their second year will be referred to the SPC, subject to the process outlined in the Student Performance Committee section above.

With the successful completion of Year 3 courses, CVM also has progression requirements that need to be met in order for students to progress to Year 4. The following list of items is college-specific and is not meant to be all-inclusive. - These include completion of patient encounters (see Patient Encounters section of the Year 3 Curriculum Handbook) and all required evaluations. Students not meeting these guidelines will be required to engage in remediation of the deficiencies prior to progression to Year 4.

In addition to the successful completion of Year 4 rotations, CVM has progression requirements that need to be met for students to graduate. Meeting these guidelines is a progression requirement and, thus, a graduation requirement. These include completion of patient encounters (see Patient Encounters section of the Year 4 Curriculum Handbook), clinical competencies (see Clinical Competencies Assessment section of the Year 4 Curriculum Handbook), personal reflections (see Personal Reflections section of the Year 4 Curriculum Handbook), and all required evaluations. Students not meeting these guidelines will be required to engage in remediation of the deficiencies prior to graduation.

If a student fails to meet all requirements of the college and/or University, this may result in a referral to the SPC with possibility of the revocation of promotion or other appropriate adverse action, including but not limited to dismissal.

### **Graduation**

A student will be eligible for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree when the student meets the following requirements:

1. Has completed all prescribed academic and clinical requirements with a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 or above and has no outstanding grade of “I,” “NCR” or “U” in any course or rotation.
2. Has completed all Interprofessional Education (IPE) activities required for graduation. DVM 2027 and 2028 students must complete 4 credits of IPE 5000, 5100, 6000, and 6100. DVM 2029 students must complete 2 credits of IPE 5000 and 5100. DVM 2030 students must successfully participate in designated IPE co-curricular activities throughout their first year to fulfill this graduation requirement.
3. Must be in good academic standing (not on probation or suspension).
4. Has reported their scores and score breakdown from the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination, if the exam has been completed.
5. Has completed the “Survey of Graduating Veterinary Students” from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
6. Has demonstrated no serious deficiencies in ethical, professional or personal conduct, as defined in the Standards of Student Conduct, which would make it inappropriate to award the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.
7. Has complied with all the legal and financial requirements of the University as stated in the WesternU Catalog.
8. Has attended in person and participated in the Commencement ceremony at which time the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree is conferred. Unless special permission has been granted by the Dean, or Dean’s designee, each student must participate in their respective commencement ceremony. If the Dean, or Dean’s designee, grants special permission for excusal from commencement, the graduate may be required to present themselves to the Dean or their designee at another specified date to take their profession’s oath before their diploma will be released. Requests for excusal will only be granted for extenuating circumstances.

Students will be allowed to participate in commencement activities provided they complete all requirements of the program by December 31 of that calendar year. No student will receive their degree until the student has completed all requirements for graduation. Degrees will be dated as appropriate to the completion date.

### **Adverse Actions**

#### ***Academic Probation***

Students may be placed on academic probation by the Dean, or Dean’s designee, for any of the following reasons:

1. Inadequate academic progress, as defined above in the section on Progress and Promotion;
2. A pattern of unexcused absences from scheduled curricular activities;
3. A semester GPA of less than 2.00; or

4. Receipt of a “U” or “NCR” grade in any course.

Students on probation must meet with their faculty advisor once a month and complete the required documentation. At the discretion of the faculty advisor, these meetings can be via electronic communication, over the phone, or in person. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the faculty advisor to arrange these meetings or contacts. Students on academic probation must bring their cumulative GPA to a 2.00 or greater and/or satisfactorily remediate deficient coursework within two semesters of the imposition of academic probation. Other requirements may be specified by the Dean, or Dean’s designee, and will be communicated in writing to the student.

Requests for removal from academic probation may only be submitted for review during the semester following the one in which probation was initiated. A student may not be removed from academic probation while any failing or unremediated course grade remains outstanding or while any academic concerns remain unresolved. Once all requirements for removal from academic probation have been met, it is the student’s responsibility to submit a written request, along with all supporting documentation, to the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation. Students who do not meet the specified requirements to be removed from academic probation may be subject to further disciplinary actions. A student may not graduate (receive a diploma) unless all requirements for removal from academic probation have been fulfilled.

Students on academic probation are not permitted to hold leadership positions in extracurricular activities associated with the University and/or college. If it is found that the student has not resigned from all leadership positions in extracurricular activities associated with the University or college, they will be in violation of the conditions of academic probation, which may be considered a violation of the Standards of Student Conduct and referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism. Decisions related to the imposition of academic probation and any associated terms/conditions of such probation, or administrative withdrawal are considered final and not appealable to the Provost (See University Catalog, Student Appeal Process).

***Conduct Probation***

Conduct Probation is defined as a period, specified by the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism, during which the student’s conduct will be closely monitored due to a violation of the Standards of Student Conduct.

The terms of conduct probation will be specified at the time the student is placed on conduct probation. When a student is placed on conduct probation, they will be notified in writing and the notification will be sent electronically to the student’s WesternU email address. Copies of the letter will be placed in the student’s educational record and distributed to the Chair of the Student Performance Committee, the College Dean, and the student’s Faculty Advisor. The Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism will consider when the terms of the conduct probation have been satisfied and recommend rescission of the conduct probation. A student on conduct probation may not serve as an officer of any official University or College club or organization and should not engage in time-consuming extracurricular activities.

***Financial Aid Warning Policy (Title IV and Title VII)***

**Academic Probation Policy.** If a student is not making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) they will be placed on “Financial Aid Warning” status for the next payment period and continue to receive financial aid for that period. Financial Aid is any financial assistance offered to the student for paying for their education, such as loans, scholarships, Federal Work-Study, Grants and stipends (based on the criteria of

the stipend). Students who fail to make SAP by the end of that payment period lose financial aid eligibility.

It is the policy of the Financial Aid Office (FAO) that once a student has been placed on academic probation for not meeting SAP standards as defined by the College, the Financial Aid Office will automatically place the student in a Financial Aid Warning status. During the next academic term if the student does not meet SAP standards and the College places the student on academic suspension the student will no longer be eligible for financial aid. If the student appeals the academic suspension and the appeal is approved, financial aid will be reinstated. If the student is directed to audit courses, those courses will not be charged tuition for the audited courses. Students that are required to repeat coursework are encouraged to meet with the Associate Dean for Student Well-Being & Success and a financial aid counselor with respect to their financial aid eligibility.

**Repeat Coursework and Federal Financial Aid Eligibility.** Federal regulations governing repeat coursework apply to all students undergraduate, graduate, and professional under the definition of a full-time student in 34 CFR 668.2(b). For term-based programs (not subscription-based), a student's full-time workload may include repeating previously passed coursework, but only one repetition of a previously passed course may be counted toward enrollment status and paid with Title IV aid.

For financial aid purposes, a course is considered "passed" if the student earns a grade of D or better, regardless of the institution's academic standards. For example, while many graduate programs require a B or better to meet academic requirements, the Department of Education (ED) considers a D passing for Title IV eligibility. In addition to letter grades, the non-letter grades Credit (CR) and Pass (P) are also considered passing by ED for Title IV purposes.

Non-letter grades such as Unsatisfactory (U), Incomplete (I), No Pass (NP), No Credit (NCR), In Progress (IP), and Withdrawal (W) are not considered passing by ED and therefore do not count as successful completion for Title IV eligibility.

Once a course is considered passed, it may be repeated only once with federal aid. This policy does not require institutions to change their academic grading standards, but it does limit how many times a previously passed course may be included in enrollment status for financial aid purposes.

Students who are considering repeating a course should consult with the Financial Aid Office to understand how this may affect their aid eligibility and ensure compliance with federal guidelines.

### ***Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)***

A student required to correct lack of SAP must be notified in writing by the Dean or designee, after consultation with appropriate academic personnel. Options for correction include remediation and repeating all or a portion of the curriculum. Notification is sent to the student's WesternU e-mail address or hand-delivered to the student and must be acknowledged with the signature of the student.

### ***Remediation***

Remediation is defined as completing an academic exercise designed by the course leader and/or content expert(s) to address deficiencies demonstrated by the student after receiving an unsatisfactory grade. These remediation exercises may be of various lengths of time (depending on the demonstrated severity of deficiencies) but generally will not exceed one semester in duration.

Upon successful remediation, the transcript is notated with the grade earned alongside the original grade. A student who originally received a “U” grade and who remediates successfully will have a grade of “U/C” entered on their transcript. The amount of tuition charged for remediation is determined on a pro-rata basis. After completing remediation, the highest grade a student will be able to achieve for the course will be a ‘C’ or ‘CR’.

### ***Repeating Curriculum***

If a student is directed to repeat a course or a clinical rotation in its entirety, the grade for the repeated course will be recorded on the official transcript separately and within the semester the repeated course was completed. The original course grade will remain recorded in the semester it was originally taken. Students will be charged full tuition for repeated coursework.

If a student is required to repeat the academic year, the original grades will remain listed on the transcript in the original semester(s) and the repeated course grades will be recorded in the semester they were completed. Students will be charged full tuition for repeating the academic year.

Only the repeated grade(s) for the course(s) will be included in the student’s GPA calculation.

### ***Temporary Suspension of Student Clinical Privileges***

The University recognizes that student participation in clinical education occurs within environments where patient safety, clinical integrity, and professional standards are paramount. Accordingly, a College Dean or designee is authorized to immediately suspend a student's clinical privileges where there exists a reasonable basis to believe that the student's continued presence in a clinical setting poses a risk to patient safety.

A suspension of clinical privileges is an interim administrative action and does not constitute a final disciplinary determination or academic sanction. The suspension shall take effect immediately upon the decision of the Dean or designee and is not subject to appeal. This action shall remain in place pending referral to and resolution by the appropriate body (i.e., the College SPC for academic matters or the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism for conduct matters), whose determination shall supersede and replace the temporary suspension. In the event a student appeals the outcome reached by the appropriate body, the temporary suspension may remain in effect pending the resolution of that appeal.

The College shall provide the student with written notice of the suspension as soon as practicable, which shall include a brief statement of the basis for the suspension and the anticipated next steps (i.e. referral to the College Student Performance Committee for academic matters or referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Professionalism). A suspension of clinical privileges may affect a student's ability to satisfy program requirements, complete required clinical hours, or progress within their program. The College shall make reasonable efforts to advise the student of the potential academic impact of the suspension and any available options for remediation or make-up, subject to program requirements and accreditation standards. The University makes no guarantee that suspended clinical hours or experiences can be recovered within a student's originally anticipated program timeline. A temporary suspension of clinical privileges will remain in place until the conclusion of the academic or conduct process and any related appeals.

### ***Academic Suspension***

Students required to repeat a given academic year, or portion thereof will be placed on academic suspension until they can resume their studies. Once the student resumes their studies, the student will

be placed on academic probation until all coursework has been satisfactorily repeated. A student may not receive financial aid during any time of suspension.

### ***Conduct Suspension***

A conduct suspension is a period of time when a student is barred from enrollment in an academic program because of a violation of applicable University or College conduct policies. The duration of the conduct suspension will be communicated to the student at the time the suspension is imposed, either as a specified period of time or until the student has satisfactorily completed all the terms and conditions imposed to remedy the violation. A student may not receive financial aid during any time of suspension.

### ***Summary Suspension***

Actions that threaten or endanger, in any way, the personal safety, and/or well-being of self or others, or that disrupt or interfere with the orderly operation of the College or University are cause for immediate disciplinary action. Either the University President, Provost, or Dean of CVM, or Dean's designee, has the authority to summarily suspend a student when the student admits to guilt or when, in the opinion of these entities, such action is appropriate to protect the health or safety of any individual, or to preserve the orderly operation of the University. Further details regarding the summary suspension action can be found in the University Catalog.

### ***Dismissal***

A student may be dismissed from the program for one or more of the following reasons:

1. Earning a cumulative GPA of less than 2.00;
2. Failing one or more courses or clinical rotations;
3. Failing to successfully repeat or remediate any required course or clinical rotation;
4. Receiving a "U" or "NCR" while on academic probation, regardless of the student's GPA;
5. A pattern of unexcused absences from scheduled curricular activities; and/or
6. Failing to meet requirements of academic probation.
7. Violation of the University and/or College student conduct standards, policies, or procedures, in alignment with the University's Student Conduct Procedures (See University Catalog)

### ***Readmission***

Students dismissed from the program must reapply to be considered for readmission. All students readmitted after being dismissed will be subject to all curricular requirements in effect at the date of re-matriculation. Failure to achieve these requirements will result in permanent dismissal from the program. All readmitted students will be placed on academic probation for one year from the date the student matriculates into the program and may be dismissed at any time due to unsatisfactory performance. Exceptions to these requirements may be granted by the Dean, or Dean's designee, after consultation with the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation.

### ***Student Appeal Process***

Students may request an appeal of the Dean's, or Dean's designee's, decision to the Provost by following the process defined in the 'Student Appeal Process' section of the University Catalog. Decisions related to

the imposition of academic probation and any associated terms/conditions of such probation, or administrative withdrawal are considered final and not appealable to the Provost (See University Catalog, Student Appeal Process).

## Evaluation and Grading

WesternU CVM uses the following letter grades as defined in the specific course syllabus:

### Grading Scale, Years 1-3

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Equivalent</u>	<u>GPA Points</u>
A	Excellent	4.00
B	Good	3.00
C	Adequate	2.00
U	Unsatisfactory/Fail	0.00
CR	Credit	N/A
NCR	No Credit	N/A

### Grading Scale, Year 4

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Equivalent</u>	<u>GPA Points</u>
CR	Credit	N/A
NCR	No Credit	N/A

### Administrative Grades

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Equivalent</u>	<u>GPA Points</u>
AU	Audit	N/A
I	Incomplete	N/A
M	Missing	N/A
TR	Transfer	N/A
W	Withdrawal	N/A
WPC	Waived for Prior Credit	N/A

### Incomplete

An “I” (Incomplete) is assigned to a student who does not complete all course requirements because of unexpected or unavoidable circumstances (e.g., death of a family member, personal illness, or personal injury). If a student does not successfully complete the course requirements for which the “I” was assigned prior to the end of the following academic semester and/or the scheduled promotion to the next year, a “U” or “NCR” grade for that course will be issued. The “I” grade no longer appears on the student’s transcript once the completed course grade is submitted. Students may request an extension due to documented disability-related accommodations or exceptional circumstances by submitting an extension request to the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation. The Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation decision as related to an extension is final.

### Missing Grades

A grade of “M” (Missing) will be assigned by the Registrar’s Office if a student’s grade is not available by the deadline for grade submission. An “M” grade is not included in the GPA calculation and will be replaced by the grade earned in the course once submitted by the course director/instructor. If the grade earned

is not reported within six calendar months of the course end date, the grade of “M” will be converted to an unsatisfactory/no credit grade, contingent upon the course’s grading scale. “M” grades should not be used by the program in place of an Incomplete (“I”) grade.

### **Audit**

An “AU” (Audit) is assigned to a student who is enrolled in a course, attends class activities but does not complete examinations and does not receive course credit. However, under certain circumstances, at the discretion of the College Dean, or Dean’s Designee, a student who is repeating or undergoing remediation may be required to complete course examinations and/or other required work products while auditing the course for no grade. In some cases, students may be charged to audit a course. For more information, please refer to the University Catalog.

### **Grade Reports**

Course grades are electronically entered by the Course Leader, or designee, into BanWeb. Grades may be viewed, and unofficial transcripts are available on the Banner student record system. The student must satisfy course requirements as defined by the course syllabus and clinical handbook to receive academic credit. Course syllabi and curricular handbooks inform students of the levels of academic accomplishment required for each grade.

A semester grade point average and a cumulative grade point average are calculated and posted on each student’s transcript. Class ranking is also available upon request from the Registrar’s Office.

### **Grade Changes**

Grade changes will be initiated by the Course Leader, using the appropriate form, and approved by the Year Director and Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation. All recorded grades remain on the official transcript unless a clerical error is discovered.

### **Appeal of Recorded Grades**

Decisions related to grades are final unless a procedural error in the grading process is substantiated. To pursue a grade appeal, a student must do the following:

Decisions related to grades are final unless a procedural error in the grading process is substantiated.

**Level 1:** Grade appeals must first be submitted to the Course Leader. Students will have a maximum of five (5) business days after they are notified by the Course Leader that course grades have been posted by the Registrar. The student should notify in writing (e-mail is acceptable), the Course Leader of their intention to appeal against any errors or irregularities in grading. The appeal request must be accompanied by a narrative explaining the basis for the appeal. The narrative should fully explain the student’s situation and substantiate the reason(s) for the appeal or for advocating a reversal of a prior decision. The Course Leader will decide if the student’s appeal has sufficient merit to alter a grade and will notify the student in writing of such decision.

**Level 2:** If the grade is not altered at Level 1, and the student wishes to continue with the appeal process, the next appeal is to the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation & Professional Formation. The student will have a maximum of five (5) business days after the Level 1 decision has been issued to submit their appeal. Within ten (10) working days, the Associate Dean for Academic **Innovation & Professional Formation** will either: a) issue a decision in writing to the student, which may affirm, modify, or reverse the previous action or b) issue a notice to the student that additional time is required to adjudicate the appeal due to the need to gather additional information. Changing a Course Leader’s decision should be

based on failure to follow grading procedures or errors in calculation. At any step in the process, the Course Leader should be given the opportunity to change the grade given sufficient evidence of an error.

**Level 3:** If the grade is not altered at Level 2, and the student wishes to continue with the appeal process, the next appeal is to the Dean, or Dean's designee. The student will have a maximum of five (5) business days after the Level 2 decision has been issued to submit their appeal. Within ten (10) working days, the Dean, or Dean's designee, will either: a) issue a decision in writing to the student, which may affirm, modify, or reverse the previous action or b) issue a notice to the student that additional time is required to adjudicate the appeal due to the need to gather additional information. Changing a Course Leader's decision should be based on failure to follow grading procedures or errors in calculation. At any step in the process, the Course Leader should be given the opportunity to change the grade given sufficient evidence of an error. The decision of the Dean, or Dean's designee, will be final. Dean's, or Dean's designee's, decisions related to grades are not appealable to the Provost (See University Catalog, Student Appeal Process).

### **Credit Hour Calculations**

WesternU CVM follows the WesternU Credit Hour Policy, which defines one credit hour as 15 contact hours plus an average of 30 hours out of class. Given that the pace of learning and studying is not identical for everyone, it is understood that actual time on task will vary from student to student.

This formula will be applied to instructional terms of any duration. An equivalent amount of time on task (i.e., contact time + out-of-class student work) per credit hour is required for non-classroom-based academic activities such as laboratory or small group practice, clinical rotations, asynchronous online or distance instruction, and other non-classroom modalities and delivery methods. Credit hours will be rounded to the nearest 0.5 credit hours per course.

## Curriculum Organization

A passing grade for each of the following courses must be recorded with the Registrar in order to meet the curricular requirements for the DVM degree. All listed courses for Years 1, 2 and 3 must be passed. For Year 4, core courses and the required number of selective courses must be passed. If a course is failed, remediation options, as outlined in the Student Performance Committee policies, may be available.

### Year 1

Year 1, Fall Semester		
Course	Title	Credit Hours
CVM 5000	Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences I	8.00
CVM 5020	Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences II	8.00
CVM 5030	Molecular and Cellular Biology I	1.00
CVM 5040	Veterinary Issues I	2.00
CVM 5060	Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills I	2.00
Semester Total:		21.00
Year 1, Spring Semester		
Course	Title	Credit Hours
CVM 5100	Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences III	8.00
CVM 5120	Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences IV	8.00
CVM 5130	Molecular and Cellular Biology II	1.00
CVM 5140	Veterinary Issues II	2.00
CVM 5160	Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills II	2.00
Semester Total:		21.00
Year 1 Total:		42.00

## Year 2

Year 2, Fall Semester		
Course	Title	Credit Hours
CVM 6000	Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences V	8.00
CVM 6020	Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences VI	8.00
CVM 6030	Molecular and Cellular Biology III	1.00
CVM 6040	Veterinary Issues III	2.00
CVM 6060	Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills III	2.00
<b>Semester Total:</b>		<b>21.00</b>
Year 2, Spring Semester		
Course	Title	Credit Hours
CVM 6100	Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences VII	8.00
CVM 6120	Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences VIII	8.00
CVM 6130	Molecular and Cellular Biology IV	1.00
CVM 6140	Veterinary Issues IV	2.00
CVM 6160	Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills IV	2.00
<b>Semester Total:</b>		<b>21.00</b>
<b>Year 2 Total:</b>		<b>22.00</b>

## Year 3

Year 3		
Course	Title	Credit Hours
CVM 7000	Financial and Practice Management	1.00
CVM 7010	Small Animal Practice I	2.00
CVM 7011	Small Animal Practice II	2.00
CVM 7014	Small Animal Practice III/IV	4.00
CVM 7023	Livestock Practice	4.00
CVM 7025	Population Health	2.00
CVM 7032	Equine Practice	4.00
CVM 7040	Diagnostic Laboratory & Pathology	2.00
CVM 7045	Laboratory Animal & Research	2.00
CVM 7050	Zoo, Exotic Companion, and Wildlife Medicine	2.00
CVM 7055	Veterinary Public Health	2.00
CVM 7060	Food & Feed Safety	2.00
CVM 7065	Global Health	2.00
CVM 7070	Surgery/Anesthesia/Dentistry	4.00
CVM 7099	Pathways to Practice	1.00
<b>Year 3 Total:</b>		<b>36.00</b>

## Year 4

Year 4		
Course	Title	Credit Hours
CVM 7510A or CVM 7510B	Core Small Animal Internal Medicine Rotation <b>OR</b> Core Equine Internal Medicine Rotation	4.00
CVM 7505	Core Community Practice & Surgery	4.00
CVM 7530 – CVM 7576	Selective Clinical Rotations	32.00
<b>Year 4 Total:</b>		<b>40.00</b>

## Course Descriptions

Courses listed in this Catalog are subject to change. New courses and changes in existing course work are initiated by the faculty, reviewed and approved by the WesternU CVM Curriculum Committee, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, the Dean, or Dean's designee, and the Provost.

All courses are awarded letter grades, except when indicated otherwise.

### **CVM 5000 Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences I (8.0 credits)**

The Veterinary Basic Science course is meticulously designed to lay the groundwork in basic sciences crucial for the practice of veterinary medicine, employing a problem-based learning approach to confront weekly clinical challenges. Concentrating on authentic cases related to the musculoskeletal, whole body/special senses, gastrointestinal, and endocrine body systems, the curriculum prompts students to independently identify and address their knowledge gaps. This student-centered, holistic approach not only establishes an understanding of diagnoses and treatments but also cultivates critical thinking, self-directed learning, and evidence-based medicine. Throughout the semester, students will engage with interdisciplinary cases, sharpening their clinical reasoning and communication skills within a structured ethical framework. This period of study aims to introduce students to the broad spectrum of the 12 basic science disciplines, enabling them to recognize scientific terminology, describe learning issues related to PBL cases, and start the journey toward effective clinical reasoning. By working in teams under the guidance of faculty facilitators, students are set on a path to develop the essential clinical and communication skills necessary for their future success as veterinarians, emphasizing the critical role of basic sciences in their professional development. Facilitators or students accessing PBL sessions via zoom is considered Distance Education and is used only under administrative approval.

### **CVM 5020 Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences – II (8.0 credits)**

Taken concurrently with CVM 5000. See CVM 5000 for course description.

### **CVM 5030 Molecular and Cellular Biology I (1.0 credit)**

This course provides correlative activities to the Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences cases, focusing on the central biological principles and mechanisms that underlie animal health and disease at the molecular and cellular levels.

### **CVM 5040 Veterinary Issues I (2.0 credits)**

This course introduces the student to significant issues facing the veterinary profession, which may include public policy, biomedical ethics, and legislation affecting animals or the veterinary profession, animal welfare, public health, and veterinary career opportunities. The format includes invited presentations, small group discussions and assigned readings and projects. This and subsequent courses include material on the California Veterinary Medical Practice Act. Invited speakers presenting via zoom for this course are considered Distance Education and exemption by the COE has been granted.

### **CVM 5060 Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills I (2.0 credits)**

The Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills Course (VCSS) facilitates development of interpersonal relationships, logical reasoning, clinical reasoning, observational skills, and psychomotor skills with integration of your basic sciences. We will present opportunities for you to learn history-taking, client communication, physical examination, focused examinations, clinical reasoning, sample collection techniques, and surgical skills in an interactive, safe environment.

Our teaching goal is for you to learn threshold competencies based on guidelines from the AAVMC clinical competencies and the AVMA competencies (American Veterinary Medical Association).

**CVM 5100 Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences - III (8.0 credits)**

Continuation of CVM 5000 and 5020. Prerequisites: CVM 5000, CVM 5020.

**CVM 5120 Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences - IV (8.0 credits)**

Taken concurrently with CVM 5100, focusing on other veterinary problems. Prerequisites: CVM 5000, CVM 5020.

**CVM 5130 Molecular and Cellular Biology II (1.0 credit)**

Continuation of CVM 5030. Prerequisite: CVM 5030.

**CVM 5140 Veterinary Issues II (2.0 credits)**

Continuation of CVM 5040. Prerequisite: CVM 5040.

**CVM 5160 Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills II (2.0 credits)**

Continuation of CVM 5060. Prerequisite: CVM 5060.

**CVM 6000 Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences - V (8.0 credits)**

Continuation of CVM 5100 and 5120. Prerequisites: CVM 5100, CVM 5120.

**CVM 6020 Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences - VI (8.0 credits)**

Taken concurrently with CVM 6000, focusing on other veterinary problems. Prerequisites: CVM 5100, CVM 5120.

**CVM 6030 Molecular and Cellular Biology III (1.0 credit)**

Continuation of CVM 5130. This course provides student-centered correlative activities to the Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences cases, focusing on the central biological principles and mechanisms that underlie animal health and disease at the molecular and cellular levels. Participants in this course utilize a student-centered learning approach in which students will actively work together in groups to prepare presentations based on scientific publications and learning issues associated with each week's VBS case. Students are expected to develop proficiency in identifying scientific publications, extracting relevant information from the papers and communicating the information in a public forum. Prerequisite: CVM 5130.

**CVM 6040 Veterinary Issues III (2.0 credits)**

Continuation of CVM 5140. Prerequisite: CVM 5140.

**CVM 6060 Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills III (2.0 credits)**

Continuation of CVM 5160. Prerequisite: CVM 5160.

**CVM 6100 Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences - VII (8.0 credits)**

Continuation of CVM 6000 and 6020. Prerequisites: CVM 6000, CVM 6020.

**CVM 6120 Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences - VIII (8.0 credits)**

Taken concurrently with CVM 6100, focusing on other veterinary problems. Prerequisites: CVM 6000, CVM 6020.

**CVM 6130 Molecular and Cellular Biology IV (1.0 credit)**

Continuation of CVM 6030. Prerequisite: CVM 6030.

**CVM 6140 Veterinary Issues IV (2.0 credits)**

Continuation of CVM 6040. Prerequisite: CVM 6040.

**CVM 6160 Veterinary Clinical Sciences and Skills IV (2.0 credits)**

Continuation of DVM 6060. Prerequisite: CVM 6060.

**CVM 7000 Financial and Practice Management (1.0 credit)**

This course is an on-campus orientation to practice management, practice economics, and career and personal development. The course focuses on aspects of modern veterinary practice and life skills management, including but not limited to: resume' and cover letter preparation, goal setting, personal budgeting, career path development, how to run a veterinary practice as a business, time management, team communications skills, human resource law, malpractice law, personal and business accounting, contract law, compensation and benefits in employment contracts, negotiation skills, and establishing fee schedules. Invited speakers presenting via zoom for this course are considered Distance Education.

**CVM 7010 Small Animal Practice I (2.0 credits)**

Supervised education in small animal (canine, feline) medicine. This will be carried out through instructor-led activities, self-directed learning, and/or in private emergency or urgent care practices primarily focused on urgent or emergency care. Students see a variety of scheduled and emergency appointments, while gaining experience in preventative patient care, as well as the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Active participation by students in the management of patients includes gaining experience in history taking, performing physical examination of patients, and engaging in problem-oriented decision-making discussions. Students will observe clinicians as role models and become familiar with how clinicians apportion their time spent with clients, staff, and other hospital matters.

**CVM 7011 Small Animal Practice II (2.0 credits)**

This course provides supervised education in small animal (canine, feline) medicine carried out through instructor-led activities, self-directed learning, and/or in a university-based clinical practice setting. Students see a variety of scheduled and emergency appointments, while gaining experience in preventative patient care, as well as the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Active participation by students in the management of patients includes gaining experience in history taking, performing physical examination of patients, and engaging in problem-oriented decision-making discussions. Students will observe clinicians as role models and become familiar with how clinicians apportion their time spent with clients, staff, and other hospital matters. Rounds sessions held with faculty via zoom are considered Distance Education.

**CVM 7014 Small Animal Practice III/IV (4.0 credits)**

This course provides supervised education in small animal (canine, feline) medicine carried out through instructor-led activities, self-directed learning, and/or in private general small animal practices. Students see a variety of scheduled and emergency appointments, while gaining experience in preventative patient care, as well as the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Active participation by students in the management of patients includes gaining experience in history taking, performing physical examination of patients, and engaging in problem-oriented decision-making discussions. Students will observe clinicians as role models and become familiar with how clinicians apportion their time spent with clients, staff, and other hospital matters.

**CVM 7023 Livestock Practice (4.0 credits)**

This course covers principles of ruminant and swine medicine, welfare, and management. It will provide students with the knowledge and background needed to recognize, diagnose, treat, and prevent common diseases of dairy, meat and fiber animals (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, camelids). The course will expose students to the practice of food animal medicine including dairy production systems and common diseases of dairy cows and calves. The course may address reproductive management and evaluation as well as obstetric techniques. Students will engage in experiential learning at local and more distant animal facilities. Students will develop competency in clinical animal welfare as applied in medical cases and population management.

Students are expected to continue building knowledge in the basic sciences through self-directed study, while developing an understanding of the clinical sciences through their experiences and/or case rounds and discussions.

**CVM 7025 Population Health (2.0 credits)**

This course will be administered by Western University of Health Sciences faculty. Activities will involve in-depth discussions of population health topics. Concepts in veterinary epidemiology will be applied and discussed in both small and large group formats in the context of an outbreak investigation. This course will also focus on critical appraisal of primary literature to explore current topics in veterinary medicine with a particular focus on study design. Topics related to evaluation and application of diagnostic tests will also be discussed. Timely topics or current events impacting population health may be discussed throughout the course.

**CVM 7032 Equine Practice (4.0 credits)**

This third-year course provides didactic classroom-based and supervised clinical education in ambulatory and/or hospital-based equine care. The students will have an opportunity to work alongside equine clinicians in community practices. The students will be active participants in the diagnostic and therapeutic management of equine patients and will continue to develop problem-oriented decision processes. The students will develop skills in the management of primary care patients, medical, surgical, and emergency issues, as well as gaining exposure to the economics of equine practice.

**CVM 7040 Diagnostic Laboratory & Pathology (2.0 credits)**

This course emphasizes the efficient and effective use of laboratory services in veterinary medicine. This course includes aspects of diagnostic clinical pathology, anatomical pathology, parasitology, and microbiology (bacteriology and virology). Specimens from a variety of species are used as they are routinely processed in a veterinary diagnostic laboratory. Particular emphasis is placed on the practical applications of gross pathology and histopathology as an aid to assist general veterinary practitioners and animal owners in the identification of disease processes. Emphasis is placed on the proper collection and submission of clinical specimens from sick and deceased animals. The interpretation of laboratory test results is reviewed and discussed. In this course, students will acquire practice experience/skills in techniques used for an effective necropsy, proper examination of specific organs, and identification of lesions and postmortem changes. Students will become familiar with basic principles of tissue preservation and processing for histopathology and the recognition and interpretation of microscopic findings. Rounds and/or discussion sessions held with faculty or invited content experts via zoom are considered Distance Education and COE exemption has been granted.

**CVM 7045 Laboratory Animal & Research (2.0 credits)**

This course introduces laboratory animal veterinary medical practice. Primary laboratory animal species are identified as rodents, ferrets, rabbits, and non-human primates. Students are expected to understand individual, and population based medical aspects for these species. This includes basic husbandry, biotechnology (handling, restraint, injection sites, and diagnostic sample collection), assessment of animal well-being and major diseases (etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, treatment, health surveillance methods, prevention, and zoonotic risks). Animal facility management relating to animal care, biosecurity, and occupational health and safety will be addressed. Students will become familiar with local, state, and Federal regulations governing research animal care and use to understand the critical role the veterinarian plays in ensuring regulatory compliance. Rounds sessions held with faculty via zoom are considered Distance Education.

**CVM 7050 Zoo, Exotic Companion and Wildlife Medicine (2.0 credits)**

This course introduces zoo, exotic companion and wildlife medicine and compares those fields to the more traditional small and large animal medical fields. Students will acquire basic knowledge in a variety of clinical, surgical, and managerial skills within this unique environment. Emphasis will be placed on management (husbandry), handling, restraint, capture, anesthesia, internal medicine, emergency and critical care, necropsy techniques and appropriate specimen collection in a variety of non-domestic animals. While students will be focusing daily on seeing clinical cases, students will complete assignments focused on learning the anatomy/physiology/husbandry of non-domestic animals, immobilization of non-domestic animals, concepts of quarantine and researching various NAVLE-based medical topics. Students are expected and highly encouraged to actively participate in the diagnostic and therapeutic problem-oriented decision-making of each case.

**CVM 7055 Veterinary Public Health (2.0 credits)**

This course will introduce the student to how veterinarians function as public health professionals. The course will build on concepts introduced in Veterinary Basic and Medical Sciences, but it will challenge students to delve more deeply into the arena of Veterinary Public Health. Students will develop an understanding of the public health system in the US. They will be introduced to major zoonoses that impact human health and common methods used to diagnose, prevent, and control these diseases. Other topics will include occupational health risks to people working with animals, the role of veterinarians in disaster and bioterrorism preparedness, and the concepts of emerging and re-emerging diseases. Activities will consist of a mix of student-centered learning activities, group discussions, presentations, written assignments, and presentations by both public sector and academic content experts.

**CVM 7060 Food & Feed Safety (2.0 credits)**

The primary aim of this course is to provide students with the basic knowledge regarding the role of veterinary medicine in the production of safe foods of animal origin (meat, dairy products and eggs) and safe feeds for companion animals, poultry, livestock, and other species. The continuum from pre-harvest through post-harvest food and feed safety will be covered with emphasis on the physical, chemical, and biological aspects of food safety. Principles of cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, and radiation as it applies to food production will also be discussed. Students should understand the concepts of developing a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) program at both the pre-harvest and post-harvest stages.

**CVM 7065 Global Health (2.0 credits)**

The goal of this course is to educate veterinary students on foreign animal diseases and global health issues so that they understand their roles and responsibilities as veterinarians within and outside the USA, understand the global impact of foreign animal and zoonotic diseases and contribute to their control and

prevention. This course will include three components: Foreign Animal Diseases, Global Health, and USDA Accreditation. Students will gain knowledge of foreign animal diseases that are reportable in the USA, including Office International des Epizooties (OIE) reportable diseases as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Category A, B, C Bioterrorism Agents/Diseases and other important high consequence livestock pathogens and toxins. They will be introduced to major Global Health concepts. The role of USDA in international activities, other national and international animal, and public health organizations, including United Nations (UN) organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), as well as the OIE, will be discussed. Students will meet with representatives from both the area office of USDA-APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture Animal Health and Food Safety Service to become familiar with their role in disease control, eradication, and prevention and to review their professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities as accredited veterinarians. Students will complete the required USDA – Initial Accreditation Training.

#### **CVM 7070 Surgery/Anesthesia/Dentistry (4.0 credits)**

This is a clinical experience supervised by WesternU faculty in the Upland Shelter or other facilities as needed. Students are responsible for anesthesia, surgical procedures (such as sterilization), peri-operative care, and client education for adopted and client-owned animals. Rounds sessions held with faculty via zoom are considered Distance Education.

#### **CVM 7099 Pathways to Practice (1.0 credit, Graded CR/NCR)**

This required rotation provides third-year students with information relevant to progressing in the final clinical year of the curriculum and transitioning into their career after graduation. Orientation to the procedures for fourth year rotations will occur. Topics presented will include career development, employment opportunities, interview skills, financial planning, licensing examination preparation, team and client communication, and licensing procedures. This rotation cannot be repeated. Invited speakers presenting via zoom for this course are considered Distance Education.

#### **CVM 7505 Core Community Practice & Surgery (4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This core clinical rotation will emphasize primary patient care in soft tissue surgery, anesthesia for elective procedures, and basic procedures. Non-surgical aspects of Community Practice may include infectious disease prevention and control, behavior assessment, development of diagnostic and treatment plans, and principles of triage. Rounds sessions held with faculty collaborating between sites via zoom are considered Distance Education.

#### **CVM 7510A Core Small Animal Internal Medicine (4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This core clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on small animal internal medicine in specialty or referral internal medicine practices. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the Course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the practice of small animal veterinary internal medicine, including the diagnosis, management, and treatment of diseases, primarily in small animal patients (feline, canine). Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is not open to students completing CVM 7510B.. Rounds sessions held with faculty via zoom are considered Distance Education.

**CVM 7510B Core Equine Internal Medicine (4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This core clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on equine internal medicine in specialty or referral practices. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the Course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the practice of veterinary equine internal medicine, including the diagnosis, management, and treatment of diseases, primarily in equine patients. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is not open to students completing CVM 7510A.. Rounds sessions held with faculty via zoom are considered Distance Education.

**CVM 7523 (or 7528) Ambulatory Field Animal Practice (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with supervised, hands-on experience in ambulatory field animal practice. Students work directly with clinical faculty and/or approved preceptors, accompanying veterinarians on farm and/or stable calls to deliver primary, preventive, and emergency care to a variety of large animal species, including horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and swine. Students will engage in rotation activities to meet the desired outcomes documented in the course syllabus. Through this experience, students develop competency in large animal handling, ambulatory clinical procedures and professional skills essential for entry-level practice.

**CVM 7530 Complementary/Alternative/Integrative Medicine Practice (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the application of alternative, complementary, and homeopathic medicine in managing animal health, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the practice of alternative, complementary, and homeopathic medicine, gaining experience in both the clinical application and scientific basis for alternative approaches to medical and surgical management of veterinary patients. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable for a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7531 Anatomic Pathology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on diagnostic pathology of multiple species. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in activities such as performing necropsies; reviewing pathology submission forms; reviewing and writing pathology reports (description and diagnosis); reviewing ancillary tests; and reviewing, evaluating and, and interpret histopathology specimens. The rotation may also include experiences in clinical pathology. Students are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable for a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7532 Clinical Pathology and Ancillary Diagnostics (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on clinical pathology and ancillary diagnostic methods available to clinicians and pathologists. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in activities such as generating and interpreting clinical pathology results (hematology, cytology, clinical chemistry and urinalysis); microbiology test results (bacteriology, virology with immunology, and mycology); toxicology testing results; and parasitology testing results. Additionally, students participate in reviewing clinical pathology and ancillary diagnostics submission forms, specimen handling and processing; data collection and evaluation; learning about and understanding available tests and methods for isolation/identification of agents (antibodies and histopathological changes). Students are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits. Rounds sessions held with faculty or invited content experts via zoom are considered Distance Education and COE exemption has been granted. Solely virtual course delivery does not contribute to students' requirement of 40 weeks of hands-on clinical training in the summative clinical year.

**CVM 7533 Anesthesia (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the use of anesthetics in small companion animals, horses, and/or food animals. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in activities that help develop an understanding of selection, dosage, and administration of general and local anesthetic drugs, as well as other supportive therapy employed as part of a balanced anesthetic protocol. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7534 Aquatic Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the health and management of freshwater and/or marine species, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in activities such as water quality management, individual animal care, and diagnostic procedures. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual and/or population cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7535 Avian Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on avian species including pet birds and non-agricultural poultry, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course

leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the diagnosis and treatment of common and zoonotic diseases and the nutritional management of pet birds. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual or population cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7536 Beef Cattle Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on cow/calf, feedlot, and/or stocker health management, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases of beef cattle and the epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and control of those diseases at the individual and/or populations level. Students will also gain an understanding of cattle management practices related to housing, feeding, marketing, and culling and the structure and organization of the beef industry. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual and/or population cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7537 Behavior (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on basic principles of animal behavior (ethology, psychology and neuroscience) and their application in clinical, shelter, ambulatory veterinary practices, and other environments. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in gathering behavioral histories and identifying, assessing, and treating common behavioral problems. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7538 Camelid Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and control of common diseases and conditions in camelids. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in health management and fiber production at both the individual and herd level. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual and/or population cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7539 Canine Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions seen in contemporary canine veterinary medicine. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will

engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in activities such as the management of individual cases, diagnostic imaging (e.g., radiology, ultrasonography), endoscopy, clinical pathology, fluid therapy, electrocardiology, dentistry, and surgery. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7540 Cardiology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on clinical signs, historical findings, breed predilections, methods of diagnosis, and medical and surgical interventions for the most commonly seen cardiorespiratory conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in activities such as cardiovascular examination, electrocardiography, diagnostic imaging (e.g., radiography, echocardiography, and electrocardiology). Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7541 Dairy Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on dairy health management, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in techniques involved with the epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control of diseases/disorders at the individual animal and populations level. Students will also gain an understanding of the structure and organization of the dairy industry, common dairy management practices, predominant housing systems, accepted feed delivery systems, marketing channels, and culling practices. Students may be given responsibility for the management of cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7542 Dentistry (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on diagnosis, management, medical treatment, and surgical techniques commonly utilized in veterinary dentistry. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in exchange of theoretical knowledge with the specialist via consultations and conversations, diagnosing congenital oral problems, taking and interpreting dental radiographs, working up oral cases, and collaborating with the dentist in client education regarding oral preventive medicine of common oral and dental diseases of domestic animals. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7543 Dermatology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on dermatology. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of a range of dermatologic diseases from a variety of pathogenic and etiologic categories. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7544 Emergency and Critical Care Rotation (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on emergency and critical care, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the diagnosis, management, therapy, prevention and control of animal diseases requiring emergency or critical care management in the emergency and critical care setting. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7545 Epidemiology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on the application of epidemiologic principles in the practice of veterinary medicine and/or public health. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in planning strategies for disease prevention, disease monitoring and surveillance, analysis of population data, outbreak investigation, observational research or other aspects of clinical epidemiology. Students are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7546 Equine Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the diagnosis, management, and treatment of common diseases and conditions seen in contemporary equine medicine. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in preventive and general medicine/surgery procedures including radiology, ultrasonography, endoscopy, lameness evaluation, dentistry, and reproductive services. Students may experience the practice of equine medicine and surgery in both ambulatory and in-house settings. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7547 Exotics Animal Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease in exotic pets (avian, amphibians, reptiles, rodents, lagomorphs, other small mammals, and pet fish). All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in preventive and general medicine/surgery procedures of exotic animal medicine and surgery. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7548 Feline Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the most common feline medical and surgical cases and common associated clinical procedures. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the ethical, legal and financial aspects of a feline practice. Students may engage in a variety of diagnostic techniques and modalities including radiology, ultrasonography, endoscopy, clinical pathology, electrocardiology, fluid therapy, dentistry, and surgery. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7549 Livestock Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the practice of contemporary food animal production medicine, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the delivery of health management programs, investigation of health problems, diagnosis and medical or surgical treatment of ill or injured animals and the review and/or implementation of approaches to enhance productivity in farm animals such as dairy cattle, sheep, goats and swine. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual and/or population cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7550 General Practice (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the practice of general veterinary medicine, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease in multi-species general practice. Students may engage in a variety of diagnostic techniques and modalities including radiology, ultrasonography, endoscopy, clinical pathology, electrocardiology, fluid therapy,

dentistry, and surgery. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7551 Internal Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on internal medicine, including the diagnosis and treatment. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in patient evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of common diseases and conditions. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7552 Global Health (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on new cultures and socio-cultural habits, the roles of animals in different cultures, and health issues of global concern. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes introduction to the trans-boundary diseases that are prevalent in the country they are visiting. Disease control programs in developed and developing countries will be compared as well as the role of internal health organizations in disease, control and prevention at the local and global levels. Disease transmission in poor rural settings and the challenges that poverty, lack of education, and socio-cultural and religious beliefs pose to disease control will also be explored. This rotation will take students out of their comfort zones, test their level of tolerance, their level of responsibility in the world, their levels of sensitivity and give them the opportunity to work with people from different social and cultural backgrounds. Additionally, students are encouraged to participate in the evidence-based decision-making process. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7553 Laboratory Animal Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on laboratory animal medicine including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in restraint, physical examinations, administration of medications, collection of samples, and anesthetize common laboratory animals. The student will become familiar with diseases of laboratory animals and the correlation of clinical findings with gross and microscopic changes along with normal anatomy. The student will learn about regulations affecting the welfare of laboratory animals and the roles and responsibilities of the laboratory animal veterinarian in this area. This will include understanding the role of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) in monitoring the program of animal care in the research facility and in evaluating research protocols. The student may participate in daily rounds, necropsies, surgical and therapeutic procedures. The student may be asked to present a seminar(s) on a selected topic. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7554 Neurology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on examination, diagnosis, and management of disorders of the nervous system. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in a variety of diagnostic techniques and modalities including radiology, ultrasonography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and surgery. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7555 Nutrition (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on the application of nutrition to maintain and improve animal health. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes developing an understanding of nutritional requirements of domestic animals and methods used to evaluate the rations/diets delivered to these animals. Students will gain an understanding of deficiencies or excesses in diets and will gain experience in adjusting the nutritional plan to correct those imbalances. Student will acquire the knowledge necessary to make pertinent and valid recommendations concerning the nutritional plan to be developed for and utilized in the face of disease or for normal animals as they progress through the differing stages of their life, production, and reproduction cycles. The student will gain knowledge of the characteristics of common feedstuffs used in the formulation of animal diets. Diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of common nutritional-based diseases in major veterinary species may be covered. Students may gain experience in HACCP and other regulatory procedures used to ensure safe production of animal feedstuffs. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7556 Oncology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the diagnosis and treatment of neoplasia in domestic animals. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in management strategies for neoplastic disease, diagnostic techniques, treatment options, ethical considerations, and client communication skills. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7557 Ophthalmology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on diagnostic ophthalmology, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to

meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in ocular examination, ophthalmic diagnostic tests, use of specialized equipment, and apply basic technical skills necessary for ophthalmic treatments. Students will be exposed to various ophthalmic surgeries, including both intra-ocular and extra-ocular procedures. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7558 Poultry Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on health care and management of poultry species, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in poultry production medicine and the management of individual and population cases and incorporate preventive medicine knowledge with economic strategies as it impacts animal welfare, farm productivity, environmental health, disease control and biosecurity, and food safety. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and/or flock and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7559 Public Health (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on in-depth exposure to those aspects of veterinary science that have a direct impact on the physical, social, and mental well-being of humans. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes activities that allow them to apply their knowledge of the core domains of veterinary public health. These venues include private sector, governmental agencies or academic institutions, which have a strong veterinary public health component, regardless of whether that institution's primary focus is human or animal health. Additionally, students are encouraged to participate in the evidence-based decision-making process. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7560 Public Policy (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on public policy related to pet and industry animals. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in activities at faculty-approved governmental affairs programs, industry trade associations, professional groups or associations, non-profit organizations, governmental bodies or agencies, or businesses/corporations. Students will be introduced to, and participate in, the public policy process as it affects the veterinary profession and/or the role and welfare of animals in society. This will include the identification of public policy problems, the setting of policy agendas, analysis of the public policy process and cycle, and issues related to the delivery, implementation, and evaluation of public policies. Additionally, students are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7561 Radiation Oncology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the management and treatment of neoplasia with external beam radiation therapy, in vivo radioisotope therapy, and/or isotope seed implants. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in a variety of diagnostic and treatment techniques and modalities including radiology, ultrasonography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, surgery, external beam radiation therapy, in vivo radioisotope therapy, and/or isotope seed implants. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7562 Diagnostic Imaging (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on diagnostic imaging, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in systematic evaluation of the appendicular skeleton, abdomen, thorax, spine and skull, and provide differential considerations of findings from multiple diagnostic imaging modalities, including radiographic, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasonographic, echocardiographic, and nuclear medicine imaging techniques. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7563 Regulatory Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on the roles of veterinarians in regulatory practice. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in implementation, assessment, and analysis of the results of mandatory animal health protocols. Protocols may include state, federal or international disease surveillance, monitoring, and control measures. Students may also experience activities related to compliance with import and export regulations, enforcement of quarantine orders, and investigation of reportable disease incidence or outbreaks. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual and/or population cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7564 Research (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on research. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the principles of sound experimental design and good laboratory practices. Students will develop a specific hypothesis and design a protocol to test the hypothesis. The student will

maintain a laboratory notebook, documenting the procedures, and assays performed on a daily basis, as well as define and explain the scientific questions that each assay is intended to address. Students should gain and underlying mechanisms by which the assays operate. Students may participate in laboratory meetings, seminars, and/or journal clubs. At the conclusion of the rotation, the student will prepare a one-page summary of their research project, which will be written in abstract form that contains both a title and an author(s) section, with the body of the abstract addressing the background, objectives, methods, results, and conclusions of the project. Additionally, a four to five -page technical summary of the research project will be prepared. This document should be written in manuscript format, including an abstract (same as above), introduction, methods, results and conclusions/discussion sections. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7565 Rural Practice (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on veterinary medicine practice in the unique culture of rural America, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation, often times in a mixed animal practice setting, where the veterinarians serve a vital role in sustaining animal health and economic viability of the local community. Students are expected to participate in after-hours and emergency calls with their preceptor. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7566 Shelter Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on medical assessment of, and providing veterinary medical care to, shelter housed animals, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in infectious disease surveillance, prevention and control of infectious diseases, temperament testing and participation in discussions, evaluations and demonstrations of behavioral assessments of shelter animals are included. Students will examine, develop diagnostic and treatment plans for shelter animals utilizing triage and consider financial limitations associated with the facility. Students will evaluate small animals pre-operatively, and will participate in surgical sterilization, and monitor post-operative recovery. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7567 Sports Performance/Rehabilitation Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the field of sports medicine, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in an interdisciplinary program incorporating specialists in lameness, orthopedics, cardiopulmonary disease, neurology, integrative therapies and endocrine diseases with an

advanced array of imaging equipment. Students will be exposed to the basic knowledge content of sports medicine as it relates to primary care medicine, understanding the role of exercise physiology, injury prevention, injury management, and rehabilitation of common exercise and sports related acute and chronic injuries. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7568 Small Ruminant Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control of common diseases and conditions in small ruminants. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in health management and meat and fiber production topics at both the individual animal and herd level. Students will develop an understanding of the economics of modern small ruminant production medicine and their influence on marketing strategies and health management decisions. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7569 Surgery (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the diagnosis and treatment of common surgical diseases and conditions in small animals or equine. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in applying surgical theory and continuing to develop surgical skills, techniques, and principles. Students will participate in complex surgical cases. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7570 Swine Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions seen in contemporary swine production medicine. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes understanding strategies for production record analysis and routine herd health visits. Students will also become familiar with the Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) program and the veterinarian's role in ensuring food quality and safety and promoting swine health and welfare. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7571 Theriogenology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the physiology and pathology of male and female reproductive systems, including the diagnosis and

treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the evaluation of clinical practice, genital diseases, and reproductive diagnostic techniques used in domestic animals. Students may participate in breeding soundness evaluation of male and female patients, semen collection, evaluation, preservation, and artificial insemination. Embryo collection, evaluation, micromanipulation, preservation, and transfer may also be available. Students will understand fertility on an individual animal and herd basis, measuring fertility, monitoring fertility, and fertility control schemes. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

#### **CVM 7572 Toxicology (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with experiences focused on the diagnosis, treatment, and/or management of poisoned patients. All activities are overseen by an individual that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes activities to enhance knowledge and skill in the clinical approach to patients who have been exposed to toxins, acutely, and chronically, from a variety of sources including iatrogenic, environmental, and nutritional. In small animal cases, students will learn to approach the diagnosis and treatment of poisoned patients in a systematic and holistic manner. In large animal cases, students will learn to consider not only the health of the patient, but also the implication of secondary exposures to other species, including humans, when poisoned animals and their food products enter either animal or human food products. Students may have the opportunities to learn about regulatory toxicology issues as they relate to environmental health, biosecurity, bioterrorism and food and drug safety. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual and/or population cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

#### **CVM 7573 Wildlife and Conservation Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on the health, management, and conservation of wildlife species, including diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions, as well as the pathology associated with them. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in capture procedures, necropsies, surgical, diagnostic, and therapeutic procedures. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual and/or population cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

#### **CVM 7574 Zoological Medicine (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on zoo animal medicine, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college's Committee on Clinical Instruction. Students will engage in course activities to

meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in clinical techniques, including restraint, physical examinations, administering medications, collecting samples, anesthesia, and diagnostic imaging of a variety of zoo animals. Students will become familiar with preventive medicine, quarantine procedures, nutrition and husbandry of zoo animals. Students will learn about regulations affecting the care and welfare of zoo animals as well as the roles and responsibilities of the zoo veterinarian in this area. Students may participate in daily rounds, necropsies, surgical, and therapeutic procedures. The student may be asked to present a seminar on a selected topic. Additionally, students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 7576 Urgent Care (2.0 or 4.0 credits, Graded, CR/NCR)**

This selective clinical rotation provides fourth-year veterinary students with clinical experiences focused on urgent and emergency patient care, including the diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and conditions. All activities are overseen by a veterinary practitioner that meets the college's established guidelines and is approved by the college. Students will engage in course activities to meet the desired course outcomes designated by the course leader and documented in the course syllabus. This includes participation in the diagnosis, management, therapy, prevention, and control of animal diseases requiring urgent and emergency care management in the emergency care setting. Students may be given responsibility for the management of individual cases and are encouraged to participate in the process of evidence-based decision-making and clinical reasoning. This rotation is repeatable to a maximum of eight (8) credits.

**CVM 8090 Independent Study (1.0-8.0 credits, CR/NCR)**

Supervised student-centered learning experience in a clinical, non-clinical educational, administrative or research setting. Repeatable to a maximum of eight credits. Year 4 students are limited to eight combined credits for concurrent enrollment in CVM 8090 and CVM 8095. Prior permission from the Dean's Office is required in order to repeat this course. Credit awarded for this course does not count toward the total number of credit hours required for the DVM degree.

**CVM 8095 Research Thesis (2.0-4.0 credits, CR/NCR)**

The goal of this course is to improve the scholarly writing and scientific presentation skills of students. These skills are especially relevant to students considering further clinical (internship or residency) or research (MS or PhD) training after graduation. This course is applicable to students who have previously completed a research rotation (CVM 7564), independent study (8090) or been engaged in scholarly activities during their clinical rotations or during summer programs. The course is designed to allow final preparation of scholarly writing (article submitted for publication or thesis), preparation of an abstract, and public defense. Students may elect to enroll in this course during Years 2, 3 or 4, and must complete the course prior to graduation. Repeatable to a maximum of four credits. Year 4 students are limited to eight combined credits for concurrent enrollment in CVM 8090 and/or CVM 8095. Prior permission from the Dean's Office is required to repeat this course. Credit awarded for this course does not count toward the total number of credit hours required for the DVM degree.

**CVM HART The Healer's Art (1.0 credit, CR/NCR)**

This course encourages students to identify, strengthen, and cultivate the human dimensions of veterinary medicine. Students will experience the effects of listening generously and compassionately. This course's innovative educational strategy is based on discovery model drawing on tested approaches and theories to deal with the hidden crisis in medicine. The curriculum is process based enabling a

formation of a community of inquiry between students and faculty. Students, veterinarians, and facilitators are brought together in a discovery model that encourages honest and mutually respectful sharing of experience, beliefs, and personal truths. Meaning is the antecedent of commitment. The pressures of contemporary practice may require us to broaden our customary educational objectives to develop student capacity to find meaning lifelong in the same systematic way skills are fostered to maintain current knowledge base and technical expertise.

This elective course consists of five 3-hour sessions. Emphasis is on experiential learning and building small group communities. Each session will begin with a brief talk given by a veterinarian and then small group sessions explore the topics. Priority given to CVM first- and second-year students. Available to third- and fourth-year veterinary students on space available basis.

### **IPE 5000 An Interprofessional Approach I (1.0 credit hour, CR/NCR)**

This course is a required university seminar for all first-year health professional students. This course will introduce professions across various fields with content related to roles, responsibilities, team, teamwork, communication, values and ethics. Introductory level content related to cultural humility, social determinants of health, and health systems will be explored. Activities in this course may include exposure level asynchronous lectures, interactive health professions program exposure, and in-person group/team experiences. Experiences will integrate elements common to all professionals such as ethical, behavioral, social, and psychological. This course is a graduation requirement for all health professional programs with attendance required. Absences may be excused but this does not exclude students from the responsibilities associated with the course and required for its completion.

### **IPE 5100 An Interprofessional Approach II (1.0 credit hour, CR/NCR)**

This course is a required university seminar for all first-year health professional students. Working in interprofessional teams, this course builds upon the knowledge and experience gained in the IPE 5000 course. Activities in this course may include asynchronous lectures, clinical scenario role-playing, synchronous discussion sessions, in-person/group team experiences, health events. Experiences will integrate elements common to all professionals such as ethical, behavioral, social, and psychological with increasing levels of complexity. This course is a graduation requirement for all health professional programs with attendance required. Absences may be excused but this does not exclude students from the responsibilities associated with the course and required for its completion.

### **IPE 6000 Interprofessional Team Training in Health Care I (1.0 credit hour, CR/NCR)**

IPE 6000 will continue to build upon the knowledge from the IPE 5000 series but will elevate learning activities deeper in the immersion phase expanding upon knowledge gained in previous IPE courses with additional community health event planning experiences to apply advanced tools and strategies that are crucial in working as a collaborative healthcare team. Activities in this course include immersion phase level activities such as asynchronous recorded lectures, mock patient experiences, synchronous discussion sessions, in-person/group team experiences related to health systems, patient advocacy, health event planning, and/or interprofessional research exposure. This course is a graduation requirement for all health professional programs with attendance required. Absences may be excused but this does not exclude students from the responsibilities associated with the course and required for its completion.

### **IPE 6100 Interprofessional Team Training in Health Care II (1.0 credit hour, CR/NCR)**

This course continues to build on experiences in IPE 6000. In a culminating semester for the foundational IPE course series, students will deepen their knowledge gained in prior IPE courses and the current IPE 6100 entry-level content via asynchronous lecture and through activities that can include health event

planning, community health learning event, team/group in-person experiences related to health systems, patient advocacy, and/or interprofessional research exposure. This course is a graduation requirement for all health professional programs with attendance required. Absences may be excused but this does not exclude students from the responsibilities associated with the course and required for its completion.

## 2026-2027 Academic Calendar

<b>Summer 2026</b>	
May 25, 2026	Summer Rotations Begin (Year 4)
June 19, 2026	Juneteenth Holiday – No Classes*
July 3, 2026	Independence Day (observed) – No Classes*
August 9, 2026	Summer Rotations End (Year 4)
<b>Fall 2026</b>	
August 3-7, 2026	Orientation/Welcome Week (Year 1, 2, and 3)
August 3, 2026	Fall Rotations Begin (Year 3)
TBD	White Coat Ceremony (Year 1)
August 10, 2026	Fall Classes/Rotations Begin (Years 1, 2, and 4)
September 7, 2026	Labor Day – No Classes*
October 12, 2026	Indigenous Peoples’ Day – No Classes*
November 11, 2026	Veterans Day – No Classes*
November 23-27, 2026	Thanksgiving Recess - No Classes* (Year 3)
November 26-27, 2026	Thanksgiving Recess - No Classes (Years 1 and 2)
November 30, 2026	Fall Classes Resume (Years 1, 2 and 3)
December 11, 2026	Fall Classes End (Years 1 and 2)
December 18, 2026	Fall Classes End (Year 3)
December 21, 2026	Winter Recess Begins (Years 1, 2, and 3)
January 3, 2027	Fall Rotations End (Year 4)
<b>Spring 2027</b>	
January 4, 2027	Spring Classes/Rotations Begin (Years 1, 2, 3, and 4)
January 18, 2027	Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No Classes*
February 15, 2027	Presidents’ Day – No Classes*
March 2-5, 2027	Spring Break (Year 3)
March 8, 2027	Spring Classes Resume (Year 3)
March 8-12, 2027	Spring Break (Years 1 and 2)
March 15, 2027	Spring Classes Resume (Years 1 and 2)
May 14, 2027	Spring Classes End (Years 1 and 2)
May 21, 2027	Spring Class End (Year 3)
May 23, 2027	Spring Rotations End (Year 4)
May 31, 2027	Memorial Day – No Classes*

\* Years 3 and 4 students observe their preceptors’ hours, which may include working on federal holidays.

## **Veterinarian's Oath**

Being admitted to the profession of veterinary medicine, I solemnly swear to use my scientific knowledge and skills for the benefit of society through the protection of animal health and welfare, the prevention and relief of animal suffering, the conservation of animal resources, the promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical knowledge.

I will practice my profession conscientiously, with dignity, and in keeping with the principles of veterinary medical ethics.

I accept as a lifelong obligation the continual improvement of my professional knowledge and competence.

*Approved by the House of Delegates, 1954; Revision approved by the House of Delegates, 1969; Revision approved by the Executive Board of the American Veterinary Medical Association in 1999, 2010.*