



Program Planning Enclosure

Calendar Year: 2012/2013

Current and past Program Planning Guides are available on the UofL website at www.uleth.ca/ross/ppgs/ppg.html

Faculty: Arts & Science (U of L)

Veterinary Medicine (University of Saskatchewan)

Students with an academic objective of Veterinary Medicine at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine are admitted to the B.Sc. program with a major in Agricultural Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, or Neuroscience. Please refer to the appropriate Program Planning Guide for a sample sequence of courses.

Academic Requirements for Admission

To be in a position to apply to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN) at the University of Saskatchewan, students need to include the following courses in their University of Lethbridge program:

U of S requirements	U of L Equivalency
6 credits Biology	Biology 1010 - Cellular Basis of Life Biology 1020 - Diversity of Life
6 credits General Chemistry	Chemistry 1000 - General Chemistry I Chemistry 2000 - General Chemistry II
6 credits English	English 1900 - Introduction to Language and Literature English Elective
6 credits Mathematics or Statistics	Mathematics 1560 - Calculus I Mathematics or Statistics Elective
3 credits Physics	Physics 1000 - Introduction to Physics I
3 credits Organic Chemistry	Chemistry 2500 - Organic Chemistry I
3 credits Biochemistry	Biochemistry 2000 - Introductory Biochemistry
3 credits Genetics	Biology 2000 - Principles of Genetics
3 credits Introductory Microbiology	Biology 3400 - Principles of Microbiology
Minimum 21 credits of Electives	various

Note: *The above courses have prerequisites which may or may not be included within your chosen major. Please refer to the Calendar or the Timetable for prerequisite information.*

The pre-Veterinary Medicine courses may be completed in two years. Completion of the requirements does not guarantee admission to the competitive Veterinary Medicine program, so UofL degree requirements must also be considered when registering each term.

Choice of Major:

Students with an academic objective of Veterinary Medicine are admitted to a B.Sc. degree program with a major in Agricultural Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, or Neuroscience. The choice of major does not affect a student's eligibility for admission but does affect registration priority for courses at the UofL. After completion of a year or two, students may elect to change majors and complete another degree program. Students considering a change of major should consult an Academic Advisor.

Veterinary Medicine (WCVM):

The Western College of Veterinary Medicine is regional in nature and designed to serve the educational needs of students from the four western provinces and the territories. Competition for admission to the program is extremely keen; 20 students from Alberta are accepted each year. Although students may apply to the WCVM after completion of 20 courses, the majority of successful applicants have at least three years of undergraduate studies and many have applied to the College more than once. The likelihood of acceptance increases with the level of education achieved.

Admission is based on the following criteria:

1. Cumulative average of grades achieved for all courses taken in the pre-Veterinary program: A formula is used to calculate a weighted average, taking into consideration all academic years of a student's program. These weighted averages are then arithmetically ranked. This academic ranking is the primary criterion used to determine which applicants will be interviewed. A minimum cumulative average of 75%, calculated based on all university courses completed, must be presented. Students are not encouraged to repeat courses.
WCVM advises students to carry a full-time course load (30.0 credit hours in a consecutive Fall/Spring sequence) to meet admission requirements.
2. Interview: The top ranking candidates are invited to an interview. Interviews take place in the spring (late April through early June).
3. References: Two names and addresses of persons who are willing to act as referees must be provided. Students are advised to request references from individuals who can comment on academic potential, personal interests, reliability, maturity and previous experience with animals. One reference must be a veterinarian and the second reference must be someone with an animal/agriculture background. The referees will be contacted directly by the WCVM.

Application Procedure:

1. Applications to the WCVM must be submitted by December 1 prior to the year of admission. The application form must be complete in every detail and must be accompanied by the application fee. Check the University of Saskatchewan website for current fee information. Space is provided on the application form to nominate referees to support the application.
2. All applicants must forward two official transcripts to the WCVM Admissions Office. One set of official transcripts should be sent at the time of application, and the second should be sent as soon as final marks are available in the spring. However, those currently enrolled in university should delay submission of their first transcript until final marks from the first semester are available.

Decisions are made in June, following the period of candidate interviews. The WCVM is most likely to offer admission to an academically-qualified student who has also:

- Demonstrated a practical interest in Veterinary Medicine through previous experience in the handling of animals;
- Developed good interpersonal skills;
- Shown a genuine interest in animals and their care; and,
- Investigated the nature of the profession and its career choices before application.

The Admissions Committee stresses that they are looking for students who have potential to become competent veterinarians.

Contact Information:

UofL students with an academic objective of Veterinary Medicine are urged to consult with Student Program Services (SU060; tel. 403-329-5106; email: artsci.advising@uleth.ca) for program selection and advice. Direct consultation with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine is also recommended.

Admissions Office
Western College of Veterinary Medicine
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