Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

CONTACT INFORMATION
Administrative Offices:
630 U.S. Highway 1
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Toll-Free Phone: 1-855-ROSS-VET
www.RossU.edu/veterinary-school

Campus Address:
West Farm-Main Street
PO Box 334, Basseterre
St. Kitts, West Indies
Phone: 869-465-4161

Complete application online:
www.RossU.edu/veterinary-school/apply

Send supporting documentation to:
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Office of Admissions
485 US Highway 1 South, Building B
Iselin, NJ 08830
Toll-free Phone: 1-855-ROSS-VET
Fax: 732-509-4803
Email: Admissions@RossU.edu

Disclaimer:
All information in this catalog, including statements regarding tuition and fees, curriculum, course offerings, admissions and graduation requirements, is subject to change at any time and is applicable to all enrolled students unless otherwise stated.
For the most up-to-date version of this catalog, visit www.RossU.edu/veterinary-school.

Date of Issue: July 24, 2015

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

Year Founded: 1982

Locations:
St. Kitts: Pre-Clinical

Affiliated Schools: Clinical training occurs at one of the more than 20 schools of veterinary medicine affiliated with RUSVM.

Graduates: More than 3,000 alumni.

Enrollment: More than 1,200 students; 98% are from the US or Canada.

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

50-acre campus equipped with high-tech academic, clinical, laboratory and learning resource facilities.

Campus facilities include:

- Large Animal Teaching Center
- Two Surgery Teaching Laboratories
- Large Animal Hospital with recovery stalls
- Large Animal Diagnostics/Techniques Room
- Student study space, conference rooms, offices
- Extensive large animal paddock and kennels, with more than 350 animals
- Approximately 20 acres of pasture land
- Two large classrooms, seating approximately 180 students
- Two auditoriums, seating approximately 150 students each
- Diagnostic Imaging and Pathology labs
- Clinical Skills Lab
- Multi-disciplinary laboratory
- Interactive small group study rooms
- Necropsy facility
- Museum of anatomical specimens
- Veterinary Teaching Hospital
- Learning Resource Center
- Library, Exam Center, 24-hour reading room
- Simulation Lab
- Simulated Exam Rooms, reception areas with technology and video equipment for communication and problem-based learning capabilities
**Faculty Members:** Approximately 70-member faculty; the majority hold Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and/or PhD credentials and many are board certified in one or more clinical specialties.

**Course of Study:**
**Pre-Clinical Curriculum:** Seven semesters (28 months) on the St. Kitts campus, emphasizing practical, hands-on experience that includes exposure to clinical patients and surgery.

**Clinical Training Curriculum:** Three semesters (12 months) in the U.S. at a veterinary teaching hospital affiliated with RUSVM.

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

**To Apply:** Use our online application at www.RossU.edu/veterinary-school/apply, or contact: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, Office of Admissions
630 US Highway 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Telephone: 1-855-ROSS-VET (855-767-7838)
Email: Admissions@RossU.edu
Fax: 732-509-4803

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

**Financial Aid:** Accepted and current students may be eligible for financial assistance programs available through the U.S./Canadian government and private loan programs.

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

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

Email us at Admissions@RossU.edu or call 1-855-ROSS-VET (855-767-7838).

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

Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine (RUSVM) is committed to leading veterinary training worldwide through our internationally accredited veterinary program, which is uniquely designed to graduate today’s practice-ready veterinarians and tomorrow’s leaders and discoverers.

At RUSVM, we are committed to an academic program that is student-focused, with emphasis on gaining practical experience early in the program to integrate the relevance of basic science with clinical practice.

Students benefit from an accelerated program of seven semesters of integrated pre-clinical and clinical studies at our campus facilities in St. Kitts and a further year of clinical training at our affiliated veterinary hospitals in the United States—soon to be extended internationally. The Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis, which is located in the Leeward Island chain of the Caribbean, provides an opportunity for study in an environment rich in distinctive culture, natural beauty, and exotic marine and wild life.

RUSVM promotes the health of people, animals and ecosystems worldwide through advancement of One Health principles. This is further cultivated through collaborations with veterinary programs, research institutes and medical schools throughout the world, developing value-driven educational opportunities for students, including research, business and management training.

We believe you will find yourself academically challenged by a broad-based curriculum, which prepares you for veterinary practice in a variety of career pathways. Our distinguished faculty and dedicated staff are committed to helping you succeed in your academic journey toward becoming a veterinarian. Your future professors are also among the most skilled clinicians and productive researchers in their fields committed to excellence and innovation in clinical service, research and academics, preparing you for a career in the private or public sectors that is progressive and evidence-based.

Sincerely,

Elaine Watson, BVMS, MVM, PhD, DSc, Dip ECAR, FRCVS
Dean
RUSVM operates on a three-semester calendar year. Each semester is 15 weeks, including final exams. The start date for each semester is the day classes begin. Mandatory orientation for first semester and Vet Prep students is conducted each semester, during the week before classes begin. There are a total of seven weeks of semester break each calendar year. There are two weeks in the April/May break, two weeks in the August/September break and three weeks in the December/January break. Each semester, RUSVM has a one-day, mid-semester break.

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<td>Spring Term</td>
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<td>Summer Term</td>
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RUSVM ADMINISTRATION

Elaine Watson, BVMS, MVM, PhD, DSc, Dip ECAR, FRCVS, ARAgS
Dean
Veterinary School: University of Glasgow (BVMS)
Additional Degrees: University of Bristol (PhD), The University of Edinburgh (DSc)
Specialty Certifications: Diplomate, ECAR, Fellowship, RVCS

Richard Shone, BSc
Vice Dean for Administration and Business Development
Degree: The London School of Economics (BSc)

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

Eric Pope, MS, DVM
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs
Veterinary School: Auburn University
Additional Degree: Auburn University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate: ACVS

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

Charles E. Rupprecht, MS, PhD, VMD
Associate Dean of Research
Director, Center for Conservation Medicine & Ecosystem Health
Veterinary School: University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine
Additional Degrees: University of Wisconsin (MA, PhD)

Sean Callanan, PhD, MVB, MRCVS
Director of Postgraduate Studies
Director, Center for Integrative Mammalian Research
Veterinary School: University College Dublin
Additional Degrees: University of Glasgow (PhD)

A. Lee Willingham, PhD, DVM
Director, One Health Center for Zoonoses and Tropical Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary School: University of Georgia
Additional Degrees: Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Denmark (PhD)
Kathleen Yvorchuk–St. Jean, DMV  
Department Head, Clinical Sciences  
Veterinary School: University of Montreal  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM

Mary Anna Thrall, MS, DVM  
Department Head, Biomedical Sciences  
Veterinary School: Purdue University  
Additional Degree: Colorado State University (MS)  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVP

Jodi Peeler, MBA  
Assistant Dean for External Relations and Communications  
Degrees: North Carolina State University (BA), Campbell University (MBA)

Hazarie Ramoutar, FCCA  
Campus Administrator  
Interim Assistant Dean for Student Life  
Degree: University of the West Indies (BSc)  
Certification: Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, London, UK

Janet Camp, MA, PsyD  
Director of the Counseling Center and Clinical Psychologist  
Degrees: Chicago School of Professional Psychology (MA, PsyD)

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

Phillip Smith, MBCS  
Director of the Learning Resource Center  
Degree: Dublin Institute of Technology (MBCS)

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

Kendall Cable  
Interim Director for Information Technology  
Degrees: New Jersey City University, Computer Science (BS), Economics (BA)
RUSVM TEACHING FACULTY

Donald Adams, MA, PhD
Professor of Anatomy
Degrees: University of California, Davis (AB, PhD), Chico State College, California (MA)

Maziel Arauz, DVM
Assistant Professor of Anatomic Pathology
Veterinary School: Universidad de Panama

Elpida Artemiou, MS, PhD
Instructor of Communications
Degrees: McGill University (BS, MS)

Jessica Bailey, DVM
Intern, Clinical/Anatomic Pathology
Veterinary School: Tuskegee University
Additional Degree: Xavier University of Louisiana (BS)

Janet Beeler-Marfisi, DVM, DVSc
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology
Veterinary School: University of Guelph, Canada
Additional Degree: University of Guelph, Canada (DVSc)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVP

Amy Beierschmitt, DVM
Attending Veterinarian, Assistant Professor
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

Larry Betance, DVM
Chief of Staff for Veterinary Teaching Hospital
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

Daniel Boruta, MS, DVM
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology
Veterinary School: Michigan State University
Additional Degrees: Michigan State University (BS, Zoology; BS, Animal Science)

Fernanda Castillo Alcala, BVSc, MVZ, DVSc
Assistant Professor of Pathology
Veterinary School: Massey University
Additional Degrees: National Autonomous University of Mexico (MVZ), University of Guelph (DVSc)

Tracey Challenger, DVM
Assistant Professor of Ambulatory Services
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Kathleen Clements, MS, DVM  
Assistant Professor of Anatomic Pathology and Special Species  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine  
Additional Degree: Texas A&M (MS)

John Dascanio, VMD  
Professor of Theriogenology  
Veterinary School: University of Pennsylvania  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACT, ABVP

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

James Dundas, MVSc, DVM  
Assistant Professor, Spay Lab  
Veterinary School: Michigan State University  
Additional Degrees: Western College of Veterinary Medicine (MVsc)

Lisa Ebner, MS, DVM, CVA  
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology  
Veterinary School: University of Georgia  
Additional Degree: University of Georgia (BS)

Robin Fio Rito, DVM  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Skills  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

Hilari French, DVM, PhD  
Assistant Professor in Theriogenology  
Veterinary School: Louisiana State University  
Additional Degrees: Louisiana State University (PhD)

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

Christa Gallagher, DVM  
Assistant Professor of Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Bernard Grevemeyer, DMV  
Professor of Large Animal Surgery  
Veterinary School: University of Munich  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ECVS

Emma Grigg, MS, PhD  
Assistant Professor Special Species and Communications  
Degrees: San Francisco State University (MA), University of California, Davis (PhD)

Joseph Gyimah, BVM, MS, PhD  
Professor of Immunology, Virology and Microbiology  
Veterinary School: University of Nairobi  
Additional Degrees: Louisiana State University (MS), Texas A & M (PhD)

Rebecca Hall, DVM  
Assistant Professor and Clinician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

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

Clayton Heyliger, MSc, PhD  
Professor of Physiology  
Degrees: University of Manitoba (MSc, PhD)

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

Sarah Jones, DVM  
Intern, Diagnostic Imaging  
Veterinary School: Royal Veterinary College, London, UK  
Additional Degree: Royal Veterinary College, London, UK (BSc)

Priti Karnik, DVM, MS  
Assistant Professor of Small Animal Surgery  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine  
Additional Degree: Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (MS)  
Specialty Certificate: Diplomate, ACVS

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

Andrew Knight, BSc, BVMS, PhD
Associate Professor of Welfare and Ethics
Director of the Clinical Skills Laboratory
Veterinary School: Murdoch University
Additional Degrees: Murdoch University (BSc), Griffith University, Queensland (PhD)
Specialty Certifications: Diplomate, ECAWBM (WSEL)

Shari Lanning, MS, DVM
Assistant Professor of Anatomy
Veterinary School: Colorado State University
Additional Degrees: Colorado State University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Certified Veterinary Acupuncturist (CVA)

Brady Little, DVM
Clinical Instructor
Veterinary School: Kansas State University

Erika Little, MS, DVM
Assistant Professor of Clinical Sciences
Veterinary School: Kansas State University
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS
Additional Degrees: Auburn University

Ignacio Lizarraga, MVZ, MSc, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pharmacology
Veterinary School: National Autonomous University of Mexico
Additional Degrees: Massey University, New Zealand (MSc, PhD)

Mary Mauldin Pereira, DVM
Assistant Professor of Parasitology
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

Jenny Moffett, BVetMed, MSc
Assistant Professor/Director of Communications
Veterinary School: Royal Veterinary College, London
Additional Degrees: Dublin City University
Specialty Certification: Dip MarComm, ESME Certificate in Medical Education Leadership, ESME Certificate in Medical Education
Belle Marie Niblett, MVSc, DVM  
Professor of Small Animal Internal Medicine  
Veterinary School: University of Saskatchewan  
Additional Degrees: University of Saskatchewan (MVSc)  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM

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

Susan Porter, DVM  
Assistant Professor and Clinician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital  
Veterinary School: Tufts University

Gilda Rawlins, DVM  
Instructor of Diagnostic Imaging  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

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

Jerry Roberson, DVM, PhD  
Associate Professor of Theriogenology  
Veterinary School: Oklahoma State University  
Additional Degree: Washington State University (PhD)  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM

James Robinson, DVM  
Assistant Professor of Food Animal Medicine  
Director of Animal Care  
Veterinary School: Michigan State University

Elizabeth Scallan, MS, DVM  
Assistant Professor, Department of Professional Skills, Welfare, and Ethics  
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine  
Specialty Certification: Certified Veterinary Acupuncturist  
Additional Degrees: Texas A&M University (MS)

Diana Scorpio, MPH, DVM  
Associate Professor of Veterinary Medicine  
Veterinary School: Michigan State University  
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACLAM  
Additional Degrees: John Hopkins University (MPH)
Linda Shell, DVM
Professor of Small Animal Medicine
Veterinary School: University of Tennessee
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIM

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

Fortune Sithole, BVSc, MSc, PhD
Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology
Veterinary School: University of Zimbabwe
Additional Degrees: University of Prince Edward Island (PhD) (PhD)

Bradley Simon, DVM
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

Esteban Soto, MS, DVM, PhD
Assistant Professor of Bacteriology
Veterinary School: National University, Heredia, Costa Rica
Additional Degrees: Mississippi State University (MS), Louisiana State University (PhD)

Nicholas Spaccarelli, DVM
Assistant Professor and Clinician, Veterinary Teaching Hospital
Veterinary School: Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine

Claire Spackman, MS, DVM
Professor of Small Animal Surgery
Veterinary School: University of Minnesota
Additional Degrees: University of Minnesota (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS

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

Guy St. Jean, MS, DMV
Professor of Surgery
Veterinary School: University of Montreal
Additional Degree: The Ohio State University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVS
Donald Thrall, MS, DVM, PhD
Professor of Diagnostic Imaging
Veterinary School: Purdue University
Additional Degrees: Colorado State University (MS, PhD)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVR

Mary Anna Thrall, MS, DVM
Professor of Clinical Pathology
Veterinary School: Purdue University
Additional Degree: Colorado State University (MS)
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVP

Ashtosh Verma, MVSc, PhD
Assistant Professor of Microbiology
Veterinary School: Madras Veterinary College, Chennai, India
Additional Degree: University of Kentucky (PhD)
Specialty Certification: ACVM

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

Julie Williamson, DVM
Assistant Professor of Parasitology
Veterinary School: Michigan State University

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

Kathleen Yvorchuk–St. Jean, DMV
Professor of Large Animal Internal Medicine and Surgery
Veterinary School: University of Montreal
Specialty Certification: Diplomate, ACVIS
EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION

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U of Chicago; Master, American College of Physicians; Member, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences
GENERAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

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

Introduction and Overview
Since our founding in 1982, RUSVM has graduated more than 3,000 veterinarians. RUSVM maintains a technologically advanced campus in St. Kitts, part of the Federation of St. Christopher and Nevis in the Caribbean. Our administrative offices are located in North Brunswick, NJ.

At our campus, the educational program is built upon a broad-based curriculum that provides the foundation for an excellent education and entry into a variety of career pathways in veterinary medicine. The seven-semester pre-clinical curriculum is enhanced by hands-on clinical experience to help students prepare for their final year of clinical training at one of our affiliated veterinary schools in the United States. Our faculty has outstanding credentials in teaching and research and share a passion for educating the veterinarians of tomorrow.

RUSVM is proud to be affiliated with more than 20 AVMA-accredited schools of veterinary medicine. This extensive network of affiliations makes it possible for our students to receive superior education while completing their clinical training.
Mission
The Mission of Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine is to provide the best learning environment to prepare students to become members and leaders of the worldwide public and professional healthcare team, advancing human and animal health (One Health) through research and knowledge exchange.

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

Accreditation & Approvals
RUSVM is accredited by both the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA-COE) and the St. Christopher and Nevis Accreditation Board. RUSVM is also accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA).

Graduates are eligible to practice veterinary medicine in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico and as graduates of an AVMA accredited non-U.S. school are not required to take foreign licensure examinations.

Federation of St. Kitts & Nevis
RUSVM is accredited by the St. Christopher & Nevis Accreditation Board, Ministry of Education, to confer the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree.

American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education
In March 2011, Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine received full accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE).

In May 2013, the School was found to be noncompliant for Standard 10, Research, and placed on Limited Accreditation status for up to two years. RUSVM’s strategy to address the research program has been approved by the COE, and the School aims to implement this research strategy with immediate effect. RUSVM will build a substantial research program through investment, collaborations, new research facilities, and new research faculty appointments. Students will continue to benefit from existing and new research programs within the School, as well as a new credit-bearing research course in Semester 1. The next comprehensive evaluation will occur in 2018.

American Animal Hospital Association
In November 2012, RUSVM’s animal hospital was granted re-accreditation by the AAHA for a three year term. RUSVM’s initial accreditation was granted in July 2010.
Note: Copies of the documents describing RUSVM’s accreditation, as well as state, local and federal approvals, are available for review at the DeVry Education Group home office (International Government Relations Department), 3005 Highland Parkway, Downers Grove, IL 60515-5799 (800-73-DEVRY).

Research
RUSVM’s research activities complement current faculty expertise and take advantage of the campus’ unique location in the Eastern Caribbean region. RUSVM researchers address critical issues in public health, epidemiology, marine, and wildlife conservation through a variety of experimental approaches and techniques ranging from basic molecular diagnostics to applied research on the island’s livestock industry and wildlife. The overall goal of RUSVM’s research program is to support solutions to problems of particular importance to St. Kitts and the region. The program is designed to provide opportunities that expose our veterinary students to research and contribute to their education.

Students have the opportunity for direct involvement in research initiatives both on and off campus. Participating in research provides an excellent opportunity for students to be intellectually challenged and exposed to scientific discovery in veterinary medicine. Funding is available for faculty research proposals that include students. In addition, interested students have the opportunity to participate in a one-semester, off-campus research project with other universities, governmental agencies and private research foundations.
ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

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

The Admissions Committee considers each applicant for admission based on a combination of factors, including:

• Undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA)
• GPA in required pre-veterinary course work (PGPA)
• Advanced science courses
• Graduate Record Examinations (GRE®) scores
• Personal essay
• Letters of recommendation from academic and/or professional references (at least one letter should be from a veterinarian)
• Extracurricular activities and accomplishments
• Personal qualities
• Personal interview
• Record of experience working with animals (minimum 150 hours required)

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

Work history and professional or volunteer experience provides further evidence of the student’s motivation. Persons whose applications are incomplete, or whose qualifications are not acceptable, will be so notified. The Admissions Committee’s decision is communicated by a letter to the applicant, following the interview.

Educational Requirements
Applicants are generally expected to have earned a bachelor’s degree from a North American (or comparable) baccalaureate program. RUSVM requires at least 48 credits of college coursework, but strongly recommends that the applicant complete his/her undergraduate program.

Prerequisite courses must have been completed within the last 10 years, and should include the following courses:

Biology (General or Zoology)
Two semesters of biology (8 semester hours) with laboratory

Cell Biology or Genetics:
One course of either of Cell Biology or Genetics (3 semester hours) laboratory is recommended but not required
Chemistry (General or Inorganic):
Two semesters of chemistry (8 semester hours) with laboratory

Biochemistry
One semester of biochemistry (3 semester hours)

Physics
One semester of physics (4 semester hours) with laboratory

English (or a humanities equivalent within a Canadian university)
One semester of English (3 semester hours)

Mathematics (College-level Calculus or Statistics)
One semester of mathematics (3 semester hours)

Electives/Humanities/Social Sciences:
(9 Semester Credit Hours) One of the courses to meet this requirement must include one of the following suggested courses:
  - Comparative Anatomy
  - Medical Terminology
  - Microbiology
  - Nutrition
  - Physiology
  - Spanish (or other foreign language)
  - Public Speaking
  - Introduction to business

Examination Requirements: Graduate Record Examinations (GRE)
RUSVM requires the scores for the GRE to be submitted by the applicant, prior to the interview. If the applicant has taken the exam more than once, all test results must be submitted prior to enrollment. RUSVM’s GRE institutional code number is 2639. To learn more about the GRE, visit www.gre.org.

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

Application Checklist
Applications for RUSVM can be completed online at www.RossU.edu. All letters of recommendation and transcripts must be mailed to Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine, Office of Admissions, 630 US Highway 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902-3311.

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

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

Partnerships with Four-year Colleges and Universities
RUSVM believes in building strong relationships with four-year colleges and universities, with the purpose of helping eligible students move seamlessly from their undergraduate studies to veterinary school.

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

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

Applicants who have previously been dismissed from a school of veterinary medicine are ineligible for admission to RUSVM.

Placement will be determined by the Academic Review Committee and the dean and will depend on the courses already completed. However, credit will not be given for more than the first three semesters of
study. Transfer applicants must take all of the courses offered for the semester they are admitted and may be required to repeat the entire curriculum. All transfer students must spend a minimum of seven semesters of study enrolled at RUSVM.

**Accepted Students**

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

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

**Cancellation Policy**

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

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

**Cancellation of Courses**

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

**New Student Welcome Packet Materials**

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

**Required Documents**

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

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

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

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

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

Acceptance Deposits
Upon acceptance, students are required to pay a nonrefundable, initial $500 tuition deposit. The initial tuition deposit is required within two weeks of receiving the acceptance letter. An additional nonrefundable $500 tuition deposit is required 120 days prior to the start of the semester. The full $1,000 tuition deposit will be credited to the student’s account. Except in Louisiana and other states where prohibited, if the student fails to attend the semester for which the tuition deposit was paid, the tuition deposit is subject to forfeiture. If the student requests to defer his/her enrollment to a subsequent semester, the full $1,000 tuition deposit, if not already submitted, must be paid in full prior to the deferral being processed. Tuition deposits are valid for one year from the original term to which the student was accepted.

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

Tuition – Pre-Clinical Semesters (1–7)
$18,310  Per semester: tuition for full-time students for the 2015-2016 academic year
$24  Per semester: mandatory Student Government Association fee (Semesters 1-7)

Tuition – Clinical Sciences Semesters (8–10)
$22,985  Per semester: tuition for full-time students for the 2015-2016 academic year

Please see the Student Handbook for tuition and refund policies.

Other Educational Expenses
Educational Materials: Students are responsible for purchasing required textbooks, supplies, equipment and required clinical clothing. The average cost for educational materials is approximately $478 per semester.

Health Insurance: Students must have health insurance while enrolled at RUSVM. RUSVM offers students an insurance plan. Insurance is $650 per semester. If a student provides proof of insurance coverage, the requirement to purchase insurance from RUSVM can be waived.

Late Fees: Late fees may be assessed for late payment of tuition. For specific information, please consult the Student Handbook.
For additional information regarding total program costs, please refer to the program home page at http://www.rossu.edu/veterinary-school/student-consumer-info.cfm.

Living Expenses for the Pre-Clinical Segment
Students must plan on the cost of rent and utilities, which will vary based on factors such as location and whether there are roommates. Food and incidental costs must also be budgeted.

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

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

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

- 1-4 repeated credits – less than half time
- 5-8 repeated credits – half time
- 9 repeated credits and up – full time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits Attempted</th>
<th>Tuition Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>50% tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>75% tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 and up</td>
<td>100% tuition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

RUSVM’s tuition and refund policies in the event of withdrawal are consistent with U.S. federal student financial aid regulations and are based on the period attended:

- If a new student withdraws prior to the start of the first semester, no tuition charges are due; however, the student’s acceptance deposit is not refunded.
• If a continuing student withdraws prior to the start of a semester, no tuition charges are due for that semester.

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

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

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

**Financial Aid**

RUSVM is committed to doing everything possible to prevent financial concerns from keeping any student from pursuing his or her dream of becoming a veterinarian. RUSVM maintains a competitive tuition rate and provides the support that enables students to obtain financial assistance and cost-effective living arrangements while studying at RUSVM.

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

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

Typically, students finance the cost of their veterinary medicine education by combining family resources and student loans from governmental agencies and private sources. Financial aid is available to those who qualify. Approximately 70 percent of RUSVM students receive some financial assistance.

**Application for U.S. Federal student Aid**

Citizens and permanent residents of the United States applying for admission to RUSVM who are interested in obtaining financial aid are encouraged to submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. It should be filed at least 90 days in advance of the semester for which they are applying. Details are provided in *The Financial Planning Guide*. In order to continue to receive student loans, students must meet the standards for satisfactory academic progress detailed in the “Academic Policies and Procedures” section of this catalog. The Office of Student Finance is available to assist students in applying to non-governmental lenders and guarantors of loans and scholarships for which they may be eligible. It is advisable for all students—including those who have applied for financial aid—to bring sufficient funds with them to cover their initial living and housing expenses in St. Kitts.

United States citizens and permanent residents attending RUSVM may apply for Federal Stafford Loans under the William D. Ford Direct Loan Program. Federal loans are offered in three forms:
**Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan:** This is a non-need-based loan; maximum of $20,500 per two-semester academic year. The interest rate is fixed at 5.41 percent.

**Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan:** This is a non-need-based federal loan for which the student can borrow up to the school’s cost of attendance. If a student does not demonstrate eligibility for the Stafford Loan(s), he/she may receive the full cost of attendance in the PLUS Loan program. The interest rate is fixed at 6.41 percent.

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

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

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

**Other Foreign Nationals**
Students that are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents are not eligible for U.S. federal student assistance but may apply with a U.S. co-signer through private loan lenders. See The Financial Planning Guide for more information.

**Veterans’ Benefits**
Eligible veterans of the United States Armed Forces may use benefits available through the Veterans Benefits Administration to help offset their educational costs. Please visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for more information on how to apply for benefits.

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

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

**Award Criteria and Eligibility**
- Must possess strong personal qualities of motivation and integrity as well as academic excellence.
- Must be a United States citizen or permanent resident.
- Must be classified as an under-represented minority (African-American, Native-American, or Hispanic-American).
- Must hold an undergraduate degree.
- Must begin their studies at Ross University as a new, first-semester student.
- Should have maintained a minimum 3.25 undergraduate grade point average (GPA).
- Must be an accepted student to Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine by the scholarship deadline.
Note: Eligibility requirements subject to change without notice. Transfer students and students accepted to the VET Prep program are not eligible.

Renewal Guidelines

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

Application Deadlines

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


Learn More About Scholarships

Contact:
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine
Office of Admissions
630 U.S. Highway 1
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Phone: 732-509-4600
Toll Free: 1-877-ROSS-EDU
Fax: 732-509-4803
The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree is awarded upon successful completion of the Pre-clinical Curriculum and the Clinical Training Curriculum. The Pre-clinical Curriculum consists of 130 semester credit hours of specifically prescribed course work. A credit hour for the RUSVM Pre-clinical Curriculum is equal to one hour of instructional time and two hours of supplementary time. During the Clinical Training Curriculum, one credit hour equals one week of instructional time.

The Clinical Curriculum consists of three semesters of clinical training at an AVMA-accredited school of veterinary medicine in the U.S. or Canada that is affiliated with RUSVM. Students should complete the curriculum in 10 semesters.

The first seven semesters are at RUSVM’s St. Kitts campus. The last three semesters are completed at an AVMA-accredited school or college of veterinary medicine.

RUSVM also offers a one semester Vet Prep program for students who may benefit from specific courses that will enhance the probability of their success in veterinary school.

**Vet Prep Program**
Courses in the VetPrep program include science, mathematics, writing, informatics and study skills classes. Students who successfully complete the Vet Prep program will be placed into first semester classes. The Admissions Committee makes the decision on who is accepted into this program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VetPrep</td>
<td>VPRP 902</td>
<td>Clinical Applications</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 905</td>
<td>Medical Mathematics and Introduction to Pharmacology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 906</td>
<td>Introduction to Microbiology</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 907</td>
<td>Cellular (Cell) Physiology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 908</td>
<td>Transition to Veterinary Student Life</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 909</td>
<td>Veterinary Terminology and Scientific Writing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPRP 910</td>
<td>Case Based Learning</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VPRP 902**
**Clinical Applications (1 credit)**
Provides the student with a clinical setting to integrate material that is taught in other vet prep courses. Within this clinical setting the concepts of anatomy and physical examination will be demonstrated and then practiced by the student. This course integrates with the Case-based learning course. Clinical skills will be focused on small animals, however whenever possible, other species will be introduced to emphasize comparative anatomy. The students will begin learning the process of acquiring information from a physical exam and applying it in order to formulate a clinical profile for an animal. Small animal handling, restraint, and physical exam techniques will be demonstrated and practiced.
VPRP 905
Medical Mathematics and Introduction to Pharmacology (3 credits)
Reviews basic mathematics and teaches abbreviations common to medication administration, and methods of solving problems related to drug dosage and intravenous infusions, toxicology calculations, ionization of drug calculations, pharmacokinetic calculations and basic statistics, as well as learning the general principles of pharmacology.

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

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

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

VPRP 909
Veterinary Terminology and Scientific Writing (1 credit)
Introduces students to medical terminology that will be utilized in the veterinary curriculum. The course begins with basic directional/positional terms and then proceeds to terms that are pertinent to each body system. Scientific articles will be used to highlight the use of these terms. Short writing assignments and verbal exercises will be used to enable the student to practice using these terms.

VPRP 910
Case Based Learning (2 credits)
A template for solving clinical problems will be introduced in a small group setting. The group will examine clinical case scenarios that integrate concepts and information presented in other classes and information found during assigned independent research in the library and on the web. A problem-oriented approach will be used to help explore the problem, formulate appropriate differential diagnoses, and develop a plan for its accurate diagnosis and amelioration.
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Course No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>VMI 5102</td>
<td>Veterinary Professional Foundations I</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMI 5112</td>
<td>Essential Veterinary Skills A</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMS 5111</td>
<td>Microscopic Anatomy and Embryology with Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMA 5113</td>
<td>Gross Anatomy I with Laboratory</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPP 5123</td>
<td>Physiology I</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPP 5131</td>
<td>Animal Nutrition with Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>VMR 5132</td>
<td>Principles of Veterinary Research</td>
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<td>Two</td>
<td>VMI 5212</td>
<td>Essential Veterinary Skills B</td>
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<td>VMA 5216</td>
<td>Gross Anatomy II with Laboratory</td>
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<td>VPP 5223</td>
<td>Physiology II</td>
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<td>VMP 5253</td>
<td>Immunology</td>
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<td>VMP 5265</td>
<td>Parasitology with Laboratory</td>
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<td>Three</td>
<td>VMI 5312</td>
<td>Essential Veterinary Skills C</td>
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<tr>
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<td>VPP 5332</td>
<td>Pharmacology I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPA 5341</td>
<td>Pathology I with Laboratory</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMP 5351</td>
<td>Bacteriology and Mycology with Laboratory</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPP 5355</td>
<td>Virology</td>
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<td>Four</td>
<td>VMI 5412</td>
<td>Essential Veterinary Skills D</td>
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<td>VMA 5418</td>
<td>Mechanisms of Disease</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VPP 5434</td>
<td>Pharmacology II</td>
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<td>VPA 5443</td>
<td>Pathology II with Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VPA 5448</td>
<td>Clinical Pathology with Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMS 5475</td>
<td>Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five</td>
<td>VMI 5512</td>
<td>Essential Veterinary Skills E</td>
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<td>VPP 5538</td>
<td>Toxicology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMS 5573</td>
<td>Diagnostic Imaging with Laboratory</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VMS 5577</td>
<td>Anesthesiology with Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VMS 5585</td>
<td>Small Animal Medicine I</td>
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<td>Veterinary Professional Foundations II</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Small Animal Surgery</td>
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<td>VMS 5650</td>
<td>Surgery Laboratory I</td>
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<td>Theriogenology with Laboratory</td>
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<td>VMS 5783</td>
<td>Introduction to Clinics</td>
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<td>VMS 5793</td>
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<td>VMS 5798</td>
<td>Special Species Medicine</td>
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*Note: Pre-clinical Curriculum subject to change.*

**Pre-clinical Course Descriptions**

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

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

**VMA 5111**  
**Microscopic Anatomy and Embryology with Laboratory (4 credits)**  
Concentrates on the study of cell biology, cell physiology and the microscopic structure of cells, tissues, and organs of domestic animals. Students use dual-viewing microscopes and digital images in laboratories to study the structure of basic tissue types and their integration into organs and organ systems. The lectures correlate microscopic and gross anatomy with function and development of organ systems. Selected embryology topics focus attention on common developmental anomalies encountered by veterinarians.
VMA 5113
Gross Anatomy I with Laboratory (5 credits)
Focuses on the comparative gross anatomy of domestic animals including canine, equine and ruminant, with minor emphasis on feline and porcine. Laboratories utilize embalmed canine cadavers for dissections. Prosections are used for other species. Also integrated into the course are normal radiographic anatomy, and instrument handling labs. The lectures provide overviews of the main concepts or hard-to-explain details. Topics covered in the first semester include osteology and muscle systems of the limbs, anatomy of the thorax and abdomen and nervous system.

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

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

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

Semester 2
VMI 5212
Essential Veterinary Skills B (0.4 credits)
A practical course providing multi-species instruction in foundational skills (animal handling and examination, hand skills, communication, professionalism) in a vertically-integrated fashion that builds in complexity over multiple semesters using live animal handling and examination as well as model and simulation-based experiences. Course continues through semesters 1-5.
VMA 5216
Gross Anatomy II with Laboratory (5 credits)
Continues the Gross Anatomy I course. Comparative gross anatomy of the domestic animals focusing on canine, equine and ruminant as well as the avian species, with minor emphasis on the feline and porcine. Laboratories utilize embalmed canine cadavers for dissections. Prosections are used for other species. Also integrated into the course are normal radiographic anatomy. Topics covered in the second semester include anatomy of the pelvic cavity/reproductive tract, innervation and vasculature of the limbs, anatomy of the head/neck, avian anatomy and a clinical neuroanatomy component.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**VMS 5573**
**Diagnostic Imaging with Laboratory (5 credits)**
Provides an overview of the physics of diagnostic radiology, the principles of veterinary radiography and quality control of radiographs. Normal radiographic findings and anatomy in small animals plus radiographic features and patterns as they relate to diseases are also covered. An introduction to equine radiography and diagnostic ultrasound is included, along with an introduction to alternate imaging techniques.

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

**VMS 5585**
**Small Animal Medicine I (5 credits)**
Focuses on disorders of the cardiovascular, endocrine and neurological systems as well as selected infectious diseases. The important conditions of dogs and cats are discussed according to their pathophysiology, clinical signs, diagnosis, differential diagnoses, treatment and prognosis.
Semester 6

VMI 5604
Veterinary Professional Foundations II (2 credits)
Provides an introduction to the subjects of veterinary professional ethics, law and business management relating to veterinary practice. Students are made aware of laws and regulations that control various aspects of veterinary medicine as well as the legal obligations involved in veterinary practice. Students are also given information concerning their career as a veterinarian that includes employment options within the profession, preparation of a resume, negotiating an employment contract, and options for internships and residencies. The importance of communication skills within veterinary practice is emphasized.

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

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

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

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

Semester 7

VMS 5775
Theriogenology with Laboratory (5 credits)
Integrates reproductive pathology, endocrinology, physiology, and pharmacology as they apply to the clinical diagnosis, treatment and prevention of reproductive disorders in domestic animals. Breeding
soundness evaluation of males and females is also covered. By the end of the course, the student should be able to approach an obstetrical situation in any of the domestic animal species with the necessary background to diagnose, manage and resolve the condition. Students are also introduced to procedures and technologies used in pregnancy diagnosis, artificial insemination, and semen collection and evaluation.

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

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

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

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

VMS 5798
Special Species Medicine (2 credits)
Allows students to gain insight into the roles and responsibilities of veterinarians with respect to diseases, husbandry, surgery and medicine, as well as aspects related to public health in the context of pet birds and non-traditional species, including reptiles, rodents, ferrets and rabbits.
Elective Courses

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

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

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

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

Summary of RUSVM Activities in Support of Placement of Graduates
In order to assist in the placement of graduates, all students are required to take Veterinary Foundations I and II during the Pre-clinical Curriculum. These courses introduce ethics and law, with an emphasis on government regulations and business management relating to veterinary practice. A portion of these courses includes instruction in debt management and employment contracts, writing an effective cover letter and resume/CV, interview skills, salary negotiation, selecting a first position and corporate career opportunities. In addition, the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and the Associate Dean for Student Life offer to review all student resumes.

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

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

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

RUSVM requires its clinical students to take a broad-based curriculum. Students are required to complete a supervised and evaluated clinical curriculum at one of our affiliates. This consists of 20-24
weeks of core rotations and 24-28 weeks for elective, externships (off-campus educational experiences) and vacation (2 weeks).

Core Rotations
Small Animal Medicine
Preventive Health Maintenance/Community Practice - (minimum 4 week rotation)

Small Animal Surgery - (minimum 4 week rotation)

Medical Services
Anesthesiology and Diagnostic Imaging - (minimum 4 week rotation)

Diagnostic Pathology
Clinical Pathology, Parasitology, Microbiology, Necropsy (diagnostic pathology) services (4 week rotation)

Food Animal Medicine and Surgery
Ambulatory Services, Theriogenology, and/or Food Animal Production Medicine where offered - (minimum 4 week rotation)

and/or

Equine Medicine and Surgery
Ambulatory Services where offered - (minimum 4 week rotation)

Electives
Electives are available during the clinical year for students to concentrate on individual species and to investigate areas of special interest (eg, exotic animal medicine or laboratory animal medicine). Elective clinical rotations may include, but are not limited to: theriogenology, neurology, dermatology, cardiology, emergency medicine, critical care, behavior, exotics, wildlife or zoological medicine, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery and laboratory animal medicine.

Policy for Clinical Program
RUSVM students matriculate through the clinical program with the affiliate school’s students and are subject to the same academic standards, rules and regulations of that institution. The affiliate institution’s library and other educational resources are available to enrolled RUSVM students so that they may prepare for clinical assignments and study for licensure examinations. RUSVM students and the students of the affiliate institution are evaluated on exactly the same basis, by veterinary faculty and clinicians, for each clinical rotation (core and elective). RUSVM assigns grades to the students based on the recommendations of the faculty of the affiliate institution. Students making unsatisfactory academic progress are subject to termination at the host institution and subsequent dismissal from RUSVM.

Currently, RUSVM has affiliate agreements with the following schools and colleges of veterinary medicine (see chart below):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliated Colleges of Veterinary Medicine</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Websites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auburn University</td>
<td>Auburn, AL</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.auburn.edu">www.vetmed.auburn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>University Name</td>
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<td>Colorado State University</td>
<td>Fort Collins, CO</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cvmbs.colostate.edu">www.cvmbs.colostate.edu</a></td>
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<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>Ithaca, NY</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.cornell.edu">www.vet.cornell.edu</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>Iowa State University</td>
<td>Ames, IA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.iastate.edu">www.vetmed.iastate.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas State University</td>
<td>Manhattan, KS</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.ksu.edu">www.vet.ksu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.lsu.edu">www.vetmed.lsu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Corvallis, OR</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.oregonstate.edu">www.vetmed.oregonstate.edu</a></td>
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<td>West Lafayette, IN</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vet.purdue.edu">www.vet.purdue.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.cvm.tamu.edu">www.cvm.tamu.edu</a></td>
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<td>The Ohio State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of California at Davis</td>
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<td>University of Florida</td>
<td>Gainesville, FL</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu">www.vetmed.ufl.edu</a></td>
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<td>University of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>Madison, WI</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.wisc.edu">www.vetmed.wisc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine (Virginia Tech)</td>
<td>Blacksburg, VA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.vetmed.vt.edu">www.vetmed.vt.edu</a></td>
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ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

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

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

At the time of registration, tuition and fees must be paid in full unless the Senior Director of Student Services/Student Finance grants an exception based on one of the following:

- RUSVM has received documentary evidence, satisfactory to the Senior Director of Student Services/Student Finance, indicating that payment is guaranteed and that the full tuition and fees will be paid within 30 days from the beginning of the semester.
- The director of student finance has authorized delayed payment pursuant to a written and signed agreement that requires payment of the full tuition and fees no later than the beginning of the fifth week of the semester. In the event that payment terms are not met, the University reserves the right to annul registration in which case the student will not receive academic credit for that semester.

Grading System
Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine’s grading system is as follows:

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

Students are evaluated based on the following criteria:
- Classroom and laboratory examinations
- Completion of assignments
- Class and laboratory participation
- Academic honesty and professional demeanor
- Humane treatment of animals
- Professionalism and the ability to effectively work with others in a team environment
Evaluations during clinical training include assessment of the student’s level of knowledge and ability to apply it to clinical problems, as well as attitude and performance. Students should consistently demonstrate those characteristics considered desirable in a good veterinarian: problem-solving ability, reliability, judgment, and interpersonal and communication skills.

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

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

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

Full discussion of the academic policies can be found in the *RUSVM Student Handbook*. The handbook provides information on withdrawals, dismissals, academic standings, as well as information on professional conduct.

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

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

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

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

RUSVM is committed to promoting the security of its students. The cooperation of students, faculty, and staff is essential to a safe campus. Every member of the campus community is encouraged to report any possible crime, suspicious activity, or emergency on campus to the Safety and Security Department, whose duty it is to maintain order and regulate safety. Security is available to provide assistance to students and faculty on- and off-campus.

In accordance with U.S. Department of Education requirements, information about security and safety practices, as well as campus crime statistics are published annually in the RUSVM Annual Disclosure. This information is made available to current students and may be obtained by anyone else, including prospective students, upon request, and on the Student Consumer Information website at http://www.rossu.edu/student-consumer-info.cfm.

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

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

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

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

Transcript Requests

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

Commencement

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

A requirement for licensure in all states is passing the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE). Information on this examination is available at the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (NBVME) website at www.nbvme.org.

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

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