Postgraduate Coursework in

Veterinary Studies

Information for potential students
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Introduction

The University of Sydney has developed an articulated postgraduate coursework program in Veterinary Studies (VetStud), which was launched in Semester 1, 2007.

It will be offered at Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Masters levels:

- Graduate Certificate in Veterinary Studies
- Graduate Diploma in Veterinary Studies
- Master of Veterinary Studies

Completing a generic program in Veterinary Studies:

The Veterinary Studies program is very flexible, which means you can select the units of study that best suit your interests and career plans. There are conditions and limitations attached to some units of study and you should consult with staff during the application process.

Build-your-own degree

The Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Master of Veterinary Studies may be taken without a major. This enables you to select the units of study that best suit your intellectual interests and career goals. Enrolling in the generic VetStud program means you can choose from any of the units of study offered in the Faculty of Veterinary Science. You may also choose, with Faculty permission, relevant units of study offered by other Faculties at the University of Sydney.

A limited amount of prior study you may have completed through the Centre for Veterinary Education in Veterinary Science (http://www.cve.edu.au/) may be credited to a generic VetStud degree in the future.

Goals of the Degree

The MVetStud aims to provide advanced, flexible training in aspects of veterinary science. The purpose of this training is dependent on students’ career objectives but in general it will provide graduates with:

- Skill enhancement in specific areas of Veterinary Studies
- Greater employment prospects in their chosen area(s)
- A specific combination of enhanced skills in their current and future employment
- Preparation for completing further training for registration as specialists in their field
- Preparation for completing research training in their field.

Purpose

This degree program is designed to equip veterinary scientists in Australia and internationally with disciplinary knowledge and applied skills and techniques. Graduates can choose to specialise in a particular field of interest or design their degree program to best suits their individual career and/or research goals. Skills and knowledge will be gained through coursework and, at Masters level, a research project in the area.
Graduate Attributes

In addition to the generic attributes of the University of Sydney, graduates in the postgraduate program in Veterinary Studies will have the following attributes:

- Create new knowledge and understanding through the process of research and inquiry
- Apply advanced skills in veterinary science to a specific problem
- Use information effectively in a range of contexts
- Work with personal and intellectual autonomy
- Possess ethical, social and professional understanding
- Present scientific knowledge in written and oral form in English

Graduates of the Master of Veterinary Studies will also have the following attributes:

- Conduct scientific inquiry in a highly professional and ethical manner
- Design, conduct and write-up a research project and/or publishable case reports

Entry Requirements

Applicants to the GradCertVetStud, GradDipVetStud and the MVetStud must possess a bachelor degree in veterinary science, animal science or equivalent. Applicants to the GradCertVetStud may be granted admission on the basis of prior relevant work experience with permission of the Dean.

English Proficiency Requirements

Students who can provide proof that their previous tertiary studies were conducted entirely in the medium of English are not required to provide further proof of English proficiency. The postgraduate program in Veterinary Studies requires a minimum IELTS of 7.0. For information on IELTS, see http://www.ielts.org/.

International Applicants

Students who are not Australian citizens or permanent residents or New Zealand citizens are known as international students. There are two types of international student:

- International Offshore students
- International students

If you are applying to be an international offshore student, you will be based in your home country and will complete most of your units of study online. Every online classroom requires weekly participation and interaction with an expert facilitator and fellow students. You may attend short residential sessions in Australia but you will not be eligible for a student visa. You will need to organise another type of visa to attend residential sessions.

Australia is a sovereign country and has the right to decide who can enter and stay on its territory. Only Australian citizens have the unrestricted right to travel freely in and out of the country. All other people must have an authority, in the form of a visa, to enter and stay in Australia. With the exception of New Zealand, these visas are issued by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.
Zealand citizens travelling on New Zealand passports, all international students must obtain a visa or Electronic Travel Authority before travelling to Australia. Further information is available at http://www.immi.gov.au/immigration.htm.

If you are applying to be an international student, you will need to submit your application and conduct most of your investigations into your study through the International Office. For details of the international office, see http://www.usyd.edu.au/fstudent/international/postgrad/index.shtml.

If you are an international student studying in Australia, you must ensure that at least 75% of your course is completed in face to face study. This means, if you enroll in a Master of Veterinary Studies, not more than 12 credit points of units of study may be online units. When you are selecting your study program, please take note of the mode of study.

Structure of the Degree

Coursework and research units of study will be delivered by a combination of face-to-face and online classrooms, residential intensive sessions and supervised units of study:

- Classroom learning will be conducted on-campus or by distance and include weekly learning activities and discussions, facilitated by academic staff or external contractors.
- Residential sessions will provide experiential training and will be taught by academic staff or external experts.
- Supervised units of study will allow students to acquire industrial experience and plan their pathways or individual units with an Academic Supervisor.

| 24 credit points of coursework | GradCertVetStud  
(24 credit points) |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| + 12 credit points of coursework | GradDipVetStud  
(36 credit points) |
| + 6 credit point research project/case report(s) AND 6 credit points of elective coursework | OR  
+ 12 credit point research project/case report(s) | MVetStud  
(48 credit points) |
Modes of Study

It is important to take note of the mode of instruction listed against each unit of study. In the Faculty of Veterinary Science, postgraduate coursework units of study are offered in four modes: supervised, online, residential intensive and on-campus.

Supervised
Supervised units of study are typically on-campus units with very few students. Enrolment in these units is dependent on agreement from a suitable supervisor. Some supervised units of study, eg. research project units of study, may be taken by distance students with an approved internal or external supervisor.

Supervised study often lies somewhere between an apprenticeship and supervised research. Many supervisors will only accept one student at a time, so it is essential to understand that a supervisor's formal permission is required before enrolling in a supervised unit of study. Supervised units typically require you to:

- Read the recommended books and other readings;
- Draw on your existing knowledge and experience;
- Watch what your supervisor and other senior staff members do;
- Participate in day-to-day and set activities with your peers and staff;
- Receive guidance, feedback and support from your supervisor;
- Apply your learning where appropriate and you will usually require keep a case log or learning journal; and
- Complete all required assessment tasks within the suggested periods.

Online Units of Study
Online units of study may be taken by distance and involve regular participation in weekly learning activities and discussion in an online classroom, facilitated by academic staff or external contractors. These units of study are subject to class size limitations. International students living in Australia on a student visa must ensure that no more than 25% of their course load consists of online units of study. There are no restrictions on enrolment in online units by international offshore students.

Residential Intensive Units of Study
Residential intensive units of study require attendance on-campus for short periods, usually 3 – 6 days, though some practical or field-based units may have residential sessions for one week or even one month. The residential are held before each semester at the University of Sydney's main campus. They are structured to maximise opportunities for skill development, critical enquiry and professional interaction with other students and facilitators. Group activities such as informal modified lectures, tutorial exercises, discussion groups and small-group tasks are incorporated into the residential program. These units are usually combined with further instruction online.

On-campus Units of Study
On-campus units of study are typically offered in conjunction with honours-level undergraduate students, but may consist of small postgraduate classes on campus. Classroom learning will include lectures and tutorials conducted on-campus and include activities and discussions each week, facilitated by academic staff.
Units of Study

Units of study may be selected from all postgraduate coursework offered in the Faculty of Veterinary Science in consultation with an Academic Supervisor, and from other Faculties with permission from the Dean. You will be able to select from units of study currently offered in:

- Master of Veterinary Public Health Management
- Master of Animal Science
- Master of Wildlife Health & Population Management

You may also wish to request permission to enrol in units of study from other parts of the University of Sydney as well.

You should consider the units of study you wish to take over the course of your degree and discuss your degree plan with an academic supervisor before you enrol. Typical units of study for each mode of delivery are listed below. For more details of units of study, see page 8 or refer to the website.

### Units of Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Unit Name</th>
<th>Credit Points</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Special Topics in Veterinary Studies</td>
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<td>VETS 9001</td>
<td>MVetStud Research Project A</td>
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<td>VETS 9002</td>
<td>MVetStud Research Project B</td>
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<td>VETS7004</td>
<td>Veterinary Epidemiology 1</td>
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<td>Veterinary Epidemiology 2</td>
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<td>Online</td>
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<td>VETS7008</td>
<td>Hazards to Human and Animal Health</td>
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<td>Online</td>
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<td>VETS7009</td>
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<td>VETS7010</td>
<td>Animal Health Policy Development</td>
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<td>Data Analysis for Policy Making</td>
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<td>VETS7012</td>
<td>Wildlife Epidemiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS7013</td>
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<td>VETS7014</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS7015</td>
<td>Surveillance, Preparedness &amp; Response</td>
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<td>VETS7016</td>
<td>Animal Health Data Management</td>
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<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS7017</td>
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<td>VETS7020</td>
<td>Diagnostic Tests</td>
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<td>Not available 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS7021</td>
<td>Data Analysis for Epidemiology Research</td>
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<td>VETS7025</td>
<td>Leadership, People &amp; Organisations</td>
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<td>Residential</td>
<td>Online component</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS7026</td>
<td>Leadership: Managing Change</td>
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<td>Online component</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS7027</td>
<td>Project Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS7028</td>
<td>Leadership Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS 8002</td>
<td>Genetic Evaluation &amp; Breeding Program Design</td>
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<td>Residential</td>
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<td>VETS 8003</td>
<td>Advanced Applications of Animal Breeding</td>
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<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS 8004</td>
<td>Advanced Animal Genetics</td>
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<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS 8005</td>
<td>Advanced Animal Biotechnology</td>
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<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>VETS 8006</td>
<td>Advanced Animal Nutrition</td>
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<td>Study Mode</td>
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<td>VETS 8008</td>
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<td>VETS 8013</td>
<td>Special Topics in Animal Science</td>
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<td>VETS 8017</td>
<td>Technologies of Animal Reproduction</td>
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<td>VETS 8018</td>
<td>Advanced Anatomy and Physiology B</td>
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<td>VETS 8031</td>
<td>Advanced Animal Health and Disease</td>
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<td>VETS 8032</td>
<td>Advanced Dairy Production &amp; Technology</td>
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<td>VETS 8034</td>
<td>Food Safety Assessment and Management</td>
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<td>VETS 8035</td>
<td>Feed Technology</td>
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<td>VETS 8039</td>
<td>Aquatic Animal Health</td>
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<td>VETS 8042</td>
<td>Advanced Sheep and Beef Production</td>
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<td>VETS 8043</td>
<td>Advanced Pig and Poultry Production</td>
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<td>WILD5001</td>
<td>Australasian Wildlife: Introduction</td>
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<td>WILD5002</td>
<td>Australasian Wildlife: Field Studies</td>
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<td>WILD5006</td>
<td>Ex Situ Wildlife Management</td>
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<td>WILD5007</td>
<td>Sustainable Wildlife Use and Stewardship</td>
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<td>PUBH5018</td>
<td>Introductory Biostatistics</td>
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<td>BETH5000</td>
<td>Core Concepts in Bioethics</td>
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<td>BETH5202</td>
<td>Animal and Human Research Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>BETH5203</td>
<td>Ethics and Public Health</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>On Campus</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Course Length

Candidates will complete the requirements for the:

- GradCertVetStud in a minimum of 1 semester and a maximum of 2 semesters full-time, or a minimum of 2 semesters and a maximum of 4 semesters part-time.
- GradDipVetStud in a minimum of 2 semesters and a maximum of 3 semesters full-time, or a minimum of 3 semesters and a maximum of 6 semesters part-time.
- MVetStud in a minimum of 2 semesters and a maximum of 4 semesters full-time, or a minimum of 4 semesters and a maximum of 8 semesters part-time.

### Overall Student Workload

The proportions of hours of classrooms, practical experience, independent study and assessment will be highly variable across the diverse range of units of study available in the postgraduate program in Veterinary Studies.

- Each 6 credit point unit of study is the equivalent of approximately 150 student learning hours over a 13 week period.
- A 12-24 credit point research project is expected to require between 300-800 hours.
- Total for the Master of Veterinary Studies is the equivalent of approximately 1100-1300 hours.

This means that for each 6 credit point unit of study you should set aside 10 hours per week.
Assessment Procedures

In each 6 credit point unit of study, students will be required to complete the equivalent to:

- 5,000-6,000 words of formal, written assignments
- One 15 minute presentation

This is a guide only – the types and proportions of assessment will differ across units of study according to disciplinary learning needs and outcomes:

- Continuous assessment will be conducted in face-to-face units of study as well as examinations, where warranted.
- Assessment in online units of study will typically consist of participation in online discussions and learning activities (15%), an individual assignment (45%) and a group assignment (40%).
- Assessment in supervised units of study will be based on the guidelines for 6 credit point units of study and designed to assess unit of study learning outcomes. Students will be required to discuss assessment with their supervisor and keep a log book/learning diary.

Fees

International onshore and offshore student fees are scheduled to 5% and 8% annual increases respectively.

- International Onshore Fees: $740/credit point or $35,520/EFTSU
- International Offshore Fees: $645/credit point or $30,960/EFTSU

Contact Us

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