



Pre-Veterinary Concentration (Animal and Veterinary Sciences, B.S.)

The Pre-Veterinary Program at Eastern Kentucky University is administered by the Department of Agriculture. Students in the Pre-Veterinary program will take courses focused in animal science, biology, chemistry, mathematics, and physics. Many of the courses will include laboratories where students will receive hands-on training in animal handling and research. Animal science courses will include opportunities for students to work directly with both large and small animals. Hands-on-training is reinforced through practicums at the university farms and through cooperative education. Our small class size promotes interaction between students and faculty. We are small enough to care for you as an individual but large enough to provide every career opportunity. Our department's unique balance of these areas has led EKU to have one of the highest veterinary school acceptance rates in Kentucky.

Although Kentucky does not have a veterinary school, the state has 38 contract seats at Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine, and 3 seats at Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine. Admission to veterinary school is highly competitive and requires a strong GPA along with experience in the veterinary profession. Students will work directly with knowledgeable faculty advisor throughout their academic career and the application process.

Tips for success in the pre-vet program:

- **Meet Regularly with your academic advisor.** There is no standard list of Vet. School requirements, each schools' requirements will differ slightly. Your advisor can guide you to be sure specific program requirements have been fulfilled.
- **Dedicate yourself to good study habits.** Attend and participate in all lectures and laboratories. Veterinary School is highly competitive. A GPA of 3.4 or higher will give you a competitive edge.
- **Work with a veterinarian.** An exhibited depth and breadth of veterinary experience is necessary to help you become familiar with the field. This experience will also help develop the working relationship needed for a letter of recommendation that will be invaluable in preparing your application for acceptance to veterinary school.
- **Get involved.** Demonstrated time management, leadership, and teamwork skills are important to acceptance and success in the profession. The Department of Agriculture supports the Pre-Vet Club, Delta Tau Alpha Agriculture Honor Society, and several other student organizations that provide opportunities for extracurricular learning/fun experiences.

Career Opportunities

The Pre-Veterinary curriculum prepares students to meet entrance requirements for veterinary schools throughout the United States and abroad. The rigorous coursework also prepares students to pursue advanced degrees in veterinary science, animal science, human medicine, biomedical science, biotechnology, genetics, nutrition, microbiology, reproduction, behavior, or any of the other basic sciences. Students may also choose to pursue careers in pharmaceutical sales for marketing and distribution of medical supplies or in research working as a laboratory technician to assist in the collection and analysis of research data for government, university, or private laboratories.

Philosophy

The Department of Agriculture blends scientific theory with practical application and hands-on experiences. Current concepts and theories are presented in the classroom and then applied in the laboratory with the faculty member as the laboratory supervisor using a hands-on approach. Practicum classes at the university enterprises and through cooperative education are further utilized to reinforce the practical application of scientific theory. Professors are experienced, enthusiastic, and passionate about providing students the skills necessary to succeed with the ever-changing technology and environment.

Department Facilities & Student Organizations

The Animal and Veterinary Sciences Program at EKU is supported by excellent classroom laboratories and facilities at the A.B. Carter Building, including a modern computer laboratory, ag mechanics shop, animal and plant science biotechnology laboratories equipped for research in nutrition and genetics. Students will have the unique opportunity to work directly with animals and observe practical applications of agricultural practices and EKU's Meadowbrook Farm. Meadowbrook Farm consists of a 1,100-acre laboratory which supports our instructional and practicum hands-on learning program. Located only eight miles from campus with an on-site classroom, the farm gives students an opportunity to experience all aspects of modern production in beef, dairy, sheep, swine, and crop enterprises. Students have the opportunity to develop their extracurricular leadership skills through the Agriculture/Collegiate Farm Bureau Club, Block & Bridle Club, Delta Tau Alpha Agriculture Honor Society, Horticulture Club, Pre-Vet Club, and Sigma Alpha Sorority.

For More Information

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Suggested Curriculum Guide for Pre-Veterinary Concentration

Freshman (1st semester) 14-16 hrs

§GSD 101	Foundations of Learning	3
AGR 125	Principles of Animal Science	3
AGR 126	Animal Science Laboratory	1
BIO 112	Ecology and Evolution	4
MAT Elective		3-5

Freshman (2nd semester) 14 hrs

BIO 111	Cell and Molecular Biology	4
CHE 111	General Chemistry I	3
CHE 111L	General Chemistry Lab I	1
Gen. Ed. 1A (ENG 101)		3
Gen. Ed. 3A (Arts)		3

Sophomore (1st semester) 16 hrs

AGR 321	Feeds and Feeding (fall only)	4
CHE 112	General Chemistry II	3
CHE 112L	General Chemistry Lab II	1
PHY 131	College Physics I	5
Gen. Ed. 1B (ENG 102)		3

Sophomore (2nd semester) 16-17 hrs

Animal Science Elective		3-4
CHE 361	Organic Chemistry I	3
CHE 361L	Organic Chemistry Lab I	1
ECO 120	Economic Reasoning and Issues	3
Gen. Ed. 1C (Oral Communications)		3
Gen. Ed. 3B (Humanities)		3

Junior (1st semester) 15-16 hrs

AGR 304	Pest Management (fall only)	4
AGR 305	Professional Skills Seminar	1
Animal Production Elective		3-4
CHE 362	Organic Chemistry II	3
CHE 362L	Organic Chemistry Lab II	1
Gen. Ed. 5A (History)		3

Junior (2nd semester) 15-17 hrs

AGR 421	Animal Nutrient Metabolism (spring only)	3
Animal Science Elective		3-4
CHE 430	Biochemistry of Macromolecules	3
Science Elective		3-4
Gen. Ed. 6 (Diversity)		3

Senior (1st semester) 15-16 hrs

AGR 308	Agricultural Economics	3
Animal Production Elective		3-4
AGR Experiential Learning		1
Science Elective		3-5
Gen. Ed. 6 (Diversity)		3
Free Elective		0-2

Senior (2nd semester) 13-15 hrs

AGR 411	Senior Seminar	1
AGR Capstone		3
AGR Experiential Learning		2
Agribusiness Elective		3
Animal Science Elective		3-4
Free Elective		0-3

§ Course must be taken in the semester indicated

UNIVERSITY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.....39 hours

- General Education.....36 hours
- Foundations in Learning (GSD 101; waived for transfers with 30+ hrs).....3 hours
- Upper division courses (42 hrs. distributed throughout Major/Supporting/Gen Ed/Free Electives categories)

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Core Courses.....31-33 hours

AGR 125, AGR 126(1), AGR 304(4), AGR 305(1), AGR 308, AGR 321(4), AGR 411(1); AGR 499 or AGR 509; Plus one course from (agribusiness elective): AGR 310, AGR 350, AGR 440; Plus three hours from (AGR experiential learning): AGR 301(1-6), AGR 302, AGR 349(1-6); Plus two course from (animal production elective): AGR 255, AGR 326(4), AGR 327(4), AGR 328(4), AGR 329(4), AGR 332, AGR 380(4).

Pre-Veterinary Concentration Requirements.....12-15 hours

AGR 421; Plus three courses from (animal science elective): AGR 312(4), AGR 372(2-6), AGR 373, AGR 374, AGR 375(4), AGR 376(4), AGR 377.

Supporting Course Requirements.....32-37 hours

BIO 111(4), BIO 112(4), CHE 111, CHE 111L(1), CHE 112, CHE 112L(1), CHE 361, CHE 361L(1), CHE 362, CHE 362L(1), CHE 430, ECO 120, PHY 131(5); Plus one MAT course from (MAT elective): MAT 120, MAT 122 (5), MAT 211, MAT 234(4); Plus two courses from: AGR 374, BIO 315(4), BIO 320(4), BIO 348, BIO 546(4), CHE 431, PHY 132.

Free Electives.....0-5 hours

Total Curriculum Requirements

120-125 hours