

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry & Agriculture

Contact

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Admission Requirements

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (*including chemistry or physics*)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- Academic electives (*to equal at least 17 total credits*)

To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.

Major Requirements

- 42 credits Animal & Veterinary Sciences
- 9 credits Communications (*English, writing, speech*)
- 18 credits Humanities & Social Sciences
- 33 credits Sciences & Mathematics
- 18 credits Career Electives

120 Minimum total credit hours required for graduation

Pre-Veterinary Option:

- 42 credits Animal & Veterinary Sciences
- 9 credits Communications (*English, writing, speech*)
- 18 credits Humanities & Social Sciences
- 61 credits Sciences & Mathematics

130 Minimum total credit hours required for graduation

Program Description

The Animal and Veterinary Sciences curriculum is designed to provide a broad biological training as well as a thorough understanding of the breeding, diseases, genetics, management, nutrition and physiology of large animals, and laboratory and companion animals. Animal and Veterinary Sciences courses also serve as elective opportunities for students in other agricultural and life sciences, and in other colleges. This department administers the Pre-Veterinary program and provides an opportunity for students to be certified to teach high school biology and agriculture.

Career Opportunities

Because a basic knowledge in animal sciences is fundamental to successful work in many job situations, the curriculum offers a wide choice of electives so students may adapt their courses of study to meet special professional interests or needs. Through the proper use of options, students can prepare for admission to graduate school or veterinary college, to teach sciences in secondary school, to pursue technical sales and service work in animal agriculture, to become laboratory animal technicians, or to develop such animal production enterprises as dairy or livestock farms. Superior students should consider continuing their studies at the graduate level.

Recent graduates from this program can be found in the food processing industry, cooperative extension, feed and drug sales, agribusiness loan organizations, agricultural consulting companies, dairy production units, humane care associations, laboratory animal care facilities, commercial biological laboratories and as practicing veterinarians.

General Education Requirements*

- ENG 101 College Composition
- 18 credits Human Values & Social Context area (*a single course may satisfy more than 1 sub-category, but a total of 18 credits must be completed*)
 - Western Cultural Tradition
 - Social Context & Institutions
 - Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives
 - Population & the Environment
 - Artistic & Creative Expression
- 2 courses Designated Writing Intensive (*1 must be within the major*)
- 2 courses Biological or Physical Sciences (*must include at least 1 laboratory course*)
- 1 course Ethics (*emphasis on discussion of ethical issues in 1 course or series of courses*)
- 6 credits Mathematics (*including statistics*)
- 1 capstone An approved experience in which the student integrates the components of his or her undergraduate training to perform at a professional level. The capstone experience is usually completed during the senior year in consultation with the student's academic advisor.

**All UMaine students must complete these general education requirements, which are counted in the total credit hours required for graduation and may be contained in the Major Requirements previously listed.*

Specialized Information

The Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences offers minors in Animal and Veterinary Sciences and Equine Studies. The minors are open to all undergraduate, degree-seeking University of Maine students and require the completion of 18 credit hours in selected Sciences courses.

Pre-Veterinary Option:

The Pre-Veterinary program is recommended for students seeking admission to veterinary colleges. The suggested courses beyond the basic degree requirements in Animal and Veterinary Sciences are those required for admission to veterinary colleges in the Northeast.

The curriculum is designed to provide a broad biological training as well as a thorough understanding of the breeding, diseases, genetics, management, nutrition and physiology of large animals and laboratory animals.

Students contemplating admission to veterinary colleges outside the Northeast should consult their advisor for appropriate program modifications. Consultation with a faculty member is highly recommended.

The department is proud of its “hands-on” courses which allow students to work with animals in a laboratory setting. Affiliations with the Small Animal Facility and the J.F. Witter Agricultural Research Center make this unique opportunity possible.

The Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences offers the core requirements for admittance to veterinary college. Veterinarians provide a wide variety of services in private practice, teaching and research, government services, public health, military service, private industry and other specialized areas.

Graduate Study

The Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences offers a Master of Science degree in Animal Science for a program of study in animal nutrition, pathology, physiology, management or breeding. A Doctor of Philosophy degree may be earned in the Food and Nutrition Sciences program or in the Biological Sciences program.

Academic Programs 2008-2009

Please refer to the web site (<http://factsheets.umaine.edu/>) for the most updated version of the fact sheets.

This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.