

PLANNING THE VM4 YEAR – CLASS OF 2022 (revised 4/7/2021)

GENERAL INFORMATION

<https://www.vetmed.wisc.edu/education/dvm/4th-year-information/>

- Class of 2022 begins Monday, May 10, 2021 and ends Thursday, May 12, 2022.
- Satisfactory completion of 48 credits is required.
- In general, 1 academic credit is awarded for each week of a rotation or other educational experience in accordance with UW credit hour policies.
- Rotations begin and end on Mondays.
- Graduation and investiture will be the weekend of May 13, 2022.

CAREER PLANNING

Students should identify career goals and what they wish to accomplish in the 4th year. Work with mentors and faculty advisors to develop a plan for the 4th year. Students often feel that they cannot fit in everything that they want to take. The 4th year is intended to expose students to many different aspects or areas of the veterinary profession, but it cannot make students an expert veterinarian. Veterinary medicine is, like any profession, a life-long learning process.

CORE ROTATION AREA OF EMPHASIS

Students should select an emphasis area that fits their career goals. Each of the five core emphasis areas list required rotations. In addition, each option lists the number of weeks/credits students have available for electives.

- Food Animal Emphasis
- Equine Animal Emphasis
- Mixed Animal Emphasis
- Small Animal Emphasis
- Other
 - Intended for students interested in non-traditional career paths such as special species, aquatic medicine, government/regulatory veterinary medicine, public health, research, lab animal medicine, or other career options.
 - Permission to select the other option is obtained by first meeting with Associate Dean Maki or Associate Dean Schmidt to ensure plans are consistent with the other option emphasis. Students then design an overall 4th year plan and obtain written approval from a faculty advisor in their area of interest. Finally, the written plan, with faculty signature, is returned to Associate Dean Maki or Associate Dean Schmidt for approval before scheduling VM4 rotations.

See core rotation options below for class 2022 subject to revision. (v11/16/20*)

*Updated versions will be available in Class of 2022 Box folder.

4th YEAR CORE ROTATION OPTIONS

Food Animal ALL VM4 CORE		Equine ALL VM4 CORE		Mixed Animal ALL VM4 CORE		Small Animal ALL VM4 CORE		Other ALL VM4 CORE	
COURSE	WEEKS/CREDITS	COURSE	WEEKS/CREDITS	COURSE	WEEKS/CREDITS	COURSE	WEEKS/CREDITS	COURSE	WEEKS/CREDITS
LA Medicine	2 / 2	LA Medicine	2 / 2	LA Medicine	2 / 2	LA Medicine	2 / 2	LA Medicine	2 / 2
LA Surgery	2 / 2	LA Surgery	2 / 2	LA Surgery	2 / 2	LA Surgery	2 / 2	LA Surgery	2 / 2
Ambulatory	2 / 2	Ambulatory	2 / 2	Ambulatory	2 / 2	Ambulatory	2 / 2	Ambulatory	2 / 2
Radiology	2 / 2	Radiology	2 / 2	Radiology	2 / 2	Radiology	2 / 2	Radiology	2 / 2
Necropsy	2 / 1 (½ day x 2 wks)	Necropsy	2 / 1 (½ day x 2 wks)	Necropsy	2 / 1 (½ day x 2 wks)	Necropsy	2 / 1 (½ day x 2 wks)	Necropsy	2 / 1 (½ day x 2 wks)
Anesthesiology	2 / 2	Anesthesiology	2 / 2	Anesthesiology	2 / 2	Anesthesiology	2 / 2	Anesthesiology	2 / 2
SA Gen Surgery	2 / 2	SA Gen Surgery	2 / 2	SA Gen Surgery	2 / 2	SA Gen Surgery	2 / 2	SA Gen Surgery	2 / 2
SA Medicine	2 / 2	SA Medicine	2 / 2	SA Medicine	2 / 2	SA Medicine	2 / 2	SA Medicine	2 / 2
Primary Care	2 / 2	Primary Care	2 / 2	Primary Care	2 / 2	Primary Care	2 / 2	Primary Care	2 / 2
Total Core	18 / 17	Total Core	18 / 17	Total Core	18 / 17	Total Core	18 / 17	Total Core	18 / 17
FOOD ANIMAL EMPHASIS CORE		EQUINE EMPHASIS CORE		MIXED ANIMAL EMPHASIS CORE		SMALL ANIMAL EMPHASIS CORE		OTHER EMPHASIS CORE	
LA Medicine	2 / 2	LA Medicine	4 / 4	SA Ortho Surgery	2 / 2	SA Medicine	2 / 2	No required rotations for "Other" emphasis Maximize flexibility	
Food Animal Surg	2 / 2	LA Surgery	2 / 2	Ophthalmology	2 / 2	Ophthalmology	2 / 2		
Dairy Skills 1	2 / 2	Equine Dentistry	1 / 1	Emergency Med	2 / 2	SA Ortho Surgery	2 / 2		
Dairy Skills 2	2 / 2	Equine Elective	2 / 2			Emergency Med	2 / 2		
Dairy Skills 3	2 / 2	Ophthalmology	2 / 2						
Total Emphasis	10 / 10	Total Emphasis	11 / 11	Choose 2 of 4 options		Choose 4 of 7			
				LA Medicine	2 / 2	SA Gen Surgery	2 / 2		
				LA Surgery	2 / 2	Cardiology	2 / 2		
				SA Medicine	2 / 2	Neurology	2 / 2		
				SA Gen Surgery	2 / 2	Oncology	2 / 2		
						Special Species	2 / 2		
				Choose 2 of 6 options		Dermatology	2 / 2		
				Cardiology	2 / 2	Dentistry	2 / 2		
				Neurology	2 / 2	Total Emphasis	16 / 16		
				Oncology	2 / 2				
				Special Species	2 / 2				
				Dermatology	2 / 2				
				Dentistry	2 / 2				
				Total Emphasis	14 / 14				
Electives (in SVM)	11 – 21 wks	Electives (in SVM)	10 – 20 wks	Electives (in SVM)	7 – 17 wks	Electives (in SVM)	5 – 15 wks	Mixture of electives and externships 31 wks	
Externships (outside of SVM)	0 – 10 wks	Externships (outside of SVM)	0 – 10 wks	Externships (outside of SVM)	0 – 10 wks	Externships (outside of SVM)	0 – 10 wks		
Vacation (max number of wks)	4 wks	Vacation (max number of wks)	4 wks	Vacation (max number of wks)	4 wks	Vacation (max number of wks)	4 wks	Vacation (max number of wks) 4 wks	
Total	53 wks	Total	53 wks	Total	53 wks	Total	53 wks	Total 53 wks	

Final 11/16/20, effective Class of 2022

CLINICAL AND DIDACTIC ROTATIONS – REQUIRED AND ELECTIVE

Clinical and didactic rotations available as core rotations and/or elective rotations are listed below. Rotations required for students to successfully complete the clinical year will depend on the 4th year emphasis area selected. Many of the rotations can be taken multiple times, if desired. A total of 48 academic credits in year 4 are required for graduation. In most cases, each week of clinical rotation receives 1 academic credit.

Each clinical rotation will meet from Monday to Monday of the two weeks assigned, with daily hours of approximately 7 a.m. to sometime in the evening, including weekend duty in most cases. Note that in scheduling travel to externships students must consider they may be responsible for cases through the second weekend of a rotation and until the next Monday morning.

See complete rotation options below for class 2022 subject to revision.

Rotation Name	Coordinator	Frequency	Type
Ambulatory - Equine	Nigel Cook	Specific block(s)	Core
Ambulatory - Food Animal	Nigel Cook	Specific block(s)	Core
Ambulatory - Shelter	Uri Donnett	Specific block(s)	Core
Anesthesiology	Lesley Smith	All blocks	Core
LA Surgery	S Brounts	All blocks	Core
Large Animal Internal Medicine	Peek	All blocks	Core
Necropsy	Marie Pinkerton	All blocks	Core
Primary Care	Liddy Alvarez	All blocks	Core
Radiology	Lisa Forrest	All blocks	Core
Small Animal General Surgery	Robb Hardie	All blocks	Core
Small Animal Internal Medicine	Jessica Pritchard	All blocks	Core
Advanced Communication Skills Didactic	Shelly Wissink	Specific block(s)	Didactic
Applied Epidemiology	Doerte Doepfer	Specific block(s)	Didactic
Artificial Intelligence Applications for Veterinary Practice	Doerte Doepfer	Specific block(s)	Didactic
Clinical Pathology	Allison Dusick	Specific block(s)	Didactic
Clinical Therapeutics in Companion Animals	Katrina Viviano	Specific block(s)	Didactic
Emergency & Critical Care Didactic	Jon Bach	Specific block(s)	Didactic
Restraint and Anesthesia of Exotic Animals	Carrie Schroeder	Specific block(s)	Didactic
Advanced Anesthesiology	Lesley Smith	All blocks	Elective
Cardiology	Heidi Kellihan	All blocks	Elective
Clinical Parasitology (online)	Calico Schmidt	All blocks	Elective
Dentistry and Oral Surgery	Jason Soukup	All blocks	Elective
Dermatology	Douglas DeBoer	Specific block(s)	Elective
Diagnostic Ultrasonography for Respiratory Disease in Large Animals	Terri Ollivett	Specific block(s)	Elective
Large Animal Applied Imaging	Sam Morello	Specific block(s)	Elective
Medical Oncology	MacKenzie Pellin	All blocks	Elective
Neurology/Neurosurgery	Helena Rylander	All blocks	Elective
Pharmacy Directed Study w/ Shelby Williams	Shelby Williams	All blocks	Elective
Physical Rehabilitation <i>schedule w/Courtney Arnoldy</i>	Courtney Arnoldy	Specific block(s)	Elective
Radiation Oncology	Michelle Turek	All blocks	Elective
SA Ultrasound Elective	Samantha Loeber	All blocks	Elective
Small Animal Critical Care Medicine	Jon Bach	All blocks	Elective
Special Species	Kurt Sladky	All blocks	Elective
Wildlife Medicine	Christoph Mans	Specific block(s)	Elective
Wiscars	Kelly Schultz	All blocks	Elective
Zoo Medicine	Mary Thurber (on maternity leave)	Specific block(s)	Elective
Equine Dentistry Course	S Brounts	Specific block(s)	Equine Core
Equine elective course	S Brounts	Specific block(s)	Equine Core
Dairy Skills 1	Terri Ollivett/JP Martins	Specific block(s)	FA Core
Dairy Skills 2	Terri Ollivett/JP Martins	Specific block(s)	FA Core
Dairy Skills 3	Terri Ollivett/JP Martins	Specific block(s)	FA Core
Food Surgery Animal Elective	Sam Morello	Specific block(s)	FA Core
SA Ortho Surgery	Susan Schaefer	Specific block(s)	SA & MA Core
Small Animal ER	Jon Bach	All blocks	SA & MA Core
Ophthalmology	Paul E. Miller, DVM, DACVO	All blocks	SA, MA & Equine Core

SELECTING ELECTIVES

Note the number of weeks allotted for elective time in chosen core rotation area of emphasis. Students are responsible for identifying the kinds of experiences they will use to complete the electives in the 4th year program. Electives should be chosen to support career goals and may include:

UWVC rotations

Students may select any rotations offered in UWVC, including repeating required rotations or rotations/courses that are offered as electives.

Externships

- Experiences outside the SVM
- Typically supervised by non-SVM veterinarians or other qualified professionals
- Usually involves clinical experiences (or possibly research for some 'other' emphasis students)
- UW Affiliate Agreement required for academic credit & liability coverage
- Both evaluations of student performance by the externship provider and an evaluation from the student about the experience are required for credit/grade.
- 10 weeks of externship are available to all students. Additional weeks may be approved by Associate Dean Maki or Associate Dean Schmidt.
- Externship details are recorded in Oasis (the 4th Year scheduling system) after the lottery process is complete.
- Cancellation of externships is strongly discouraged once arrangements are confirmed. This creates a poor impression of UW students and limits opportunities for future SVM students to participate at the same site.

An externship is an elective rotation in Year 4 of the veterinary medical education program that occurs outside the SVM and allows students to pursue activities not offered in depth in the SVM/UWVC. Externships focus on an activity that will provide extended experience(s) in the veterinary medical profession. Each externship experience is typically 1-6 weeks in length.

The externship provider should provide a quality professional experience for the student. The student and the provider are expected to agree upon the activities in which the student will be engaged, including details of the daily experiences that can be expected. The provider should provide guidance to the student on how the student is expected to interact within the organization and how the student will be mentored and evaluated during the experience. The provider is expected to complete the SVM externship evaluation form that will be provided by the student.

Each week of externship that is completed is awarded one credit, provided all the requirements of the externship are met. The provider defines the hours and days of the week that the

student will be engaged in the experience and the expectations, but typically the award of credit should reflect a minimum of 45 contact or effort hours per week.

All required externship paperwork is managed electronically through the in-house SVM evaluations tool. It is the students' responsibility to ensure these processes are complete both before (affiliate agreements) and after (evaluations) the externship.

Students are covered by the State of Wisconsin against professional liability while participating in the 4th year course work, including UWVC rotations, externships and directed studies provided they are officially enrolled for academic credit at the time. The following is the statement the School and campus have issued regarding liability coverage for students:

"Students in required clinical or training experiences will be protected as agents of the State of Wisconsin under section 895.46(1) of the Wisconsin Statutes while they are acting within the scope of their required program. They are protected for claims from others alleging negligent acts or omissions causing injuries to others or damage to property. Protection is continuous under the statute."

Note: Students must not be listed as an employee and covered by Workers Compensation while away from the UWVC on externship or directed study; this will invalidate UW coverage and leave students vulnerable for liability.

When away on field experiences, students should be respectful of differences of opinion with colleagues and supervisors, remembering that there is almost never a single "right way" to approach cases/procedures. Associate Dean Maki or Associate Dean Schmidt will very rarely approve withdrawal from externships or directed studies, or shortening them from their originally planned length. However, overt problems (no one at the site, sexual harassment, personally dangerous conditions, etc.) should be reported to Associate Dean Maki or Associate Dean Schmidt /OAA as soon as possible: 608-263-2525.

Directed Studies

- SVM faculty supervised experience either in or outside of the SVM/UWVC
- Allows students to pursue a project-based opportunity in the student's interest area
- May include educational programs intended for post-graduate continuing education when considered appropriate by the Curriculum Committee
- The directed study details are entered in Oasis after the lottery is complete under the independent study link and must include SVM faculty sponsor, description of project, objectives and assessment plan.

A directed study is an elective rotation in Year 4 overseen by an SVM faculty member. It meets the interest of students outside the regular clinical and didactic rotations and is typically project-based. The student and a faculty member must discuss the project, objectives and assessment plan in advance. When the experience is completed, the faculty member submits the grade for the directed study.

Didactic rotations at the SVM

- Offered usually only once or twice per year
- Certain lecture/lab courses within the SVM
- All didactic rotations have limited enrollment and participation may depend upon being selected for the rotations through the scheduling lottery

VACATION AND OTHER RELEASE TIME

- 4 weeks of vacation (in 1 week blocks) scheduled directly in Oasis
- 5 professional days
 - 2 maximum per rotation
 - not first/last day of rotation
 - Reported to rotation coordinator and then OAA Google document
- 1 NAVLE release day
 - Reported to rotation coordinator and then OAA Google document
- Sick days
 - No specific amount
 - Preschedule routine medical appointments
 - Reported to rotation coordinator and then OAA Google document
- Release time for religious reasons

Note: UWVC rotation responsibility typically runs through the Monday morning of the next rotation cycle. While it may be possible for students to switch call/case responsibilities with another student to allow leave during the weekend to travel to a next block externship, this must be approved by the faculty member in charge of the rotation, and may not be possible on very busy clinical rotations.

Reporting Professional/NAVLE/Sick Days

- Make request via Vocera or email to clinicians/service coordinators for the rotation on when the absence occurs. Not sure who that is? Use https://uwvc.vetmed.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/vmth_doctors.pdf
- OAA Google Absence Reporting Link: <https://forms.gle/orAwbPsNhKH4MZb18>
- Professional, sick, NAVLE leave must be reported on form above

FOURTH YEAR SCHEDULING LOTTERY

- Managed through the lottery process which will begin immediately following winter break
- Students enter 4th year rotation requests into software used for 4th year scheduling (OASIS). There will be an information session on using Oasis in early January.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS IN YEAR 4

- UWVC Rotations are graded A/S/D/F
- All rotations must be completed with a passing grade of A or S
- Externships are graded S/F
- Directed studies are graded A/S/D/F
- Didactic rotations are graded either A to F or A/S/F
- A student will be allowed to repeat or remediate the first fourth-year educational opportunity in which they have earned a “D”. Both the original grade and the repeat grade will appear on the official transcript, but only the repeat grade will be used to calculate the cumulative GPA.
- A grade of D in a second rotation, or a grade of F in any rotation, makes student academically ineligible to continue in the DVM curriculum; an appeal process through the Educational Policy Committee is available as outlined in the DVM Program Academic Standards document (see below).
- See the document Academic Standards and Associated Procedures for the DVM degree program at: <https://www.vetmed.wisc.edu/education/dvm/policies-guidelines-standards/> for more information on 4th year academic policies.

FINANCIAL AID FOR THE 4TH YEAR

While students will begin fourth year in May, they pay tuition for the 4th year in September and January, just as in VM1-3 years. Tuition for the 4th year will be the same the VM1-3 classes are paying (no extra tuition for year 4 despite 12-month length of study). Students pay six credits of segregated fees for summer. Similarly, financial aid checks will be distributed in September and January as in the past.

Students should submit federal loan application materials in the spring of 3rd year, same as previous years.

If students need money to cover expenses over the May – September period, they should submit a short-term loan form Office of Student Financial Aid <https://financialaid.wisc.edu/>. The short-term loan is repaid from a combination of fall and spring semester financial aid.

The earliest the summer short-term loan checks will be available to students is mid-May.

Contact Pahoua Xiong, Financial Aid Advisor, pahoua.xiong@wisc.edu with additional questions on financial aid.

INTERNSHIPS AND RELATED POST-GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

Options:

- VIRMP Matching Program
 - <http://www.virmp.org>
- Non-VIRMP Internships

- Residencies
- Graduate degree programs, research fellowships

General tips:

- Schedule some core rotations in area of internship interest before November.
 - Helps define level of potential interest and areas of interest
 - Work with clinicians who can write letters of recommendation
 - VIRMP dates of interest example dates from 2020-2021 application cycle:
 - Applications & letters of recommendation for VIRMP due January 11, 2021; other deadlines are variable by program
 - Applicant rank order lists due February 19, 2021
 - Match announcements March 1, 2021
- Schedule externships and interviews to places interested in applying to early in the year
 - Sometimes students can coordinate an externship with an internship interview; this will save money and may improve chances.
 - Leave some vacation time for site visits/interviews if finances permit. Best time to visit = November/early December.
 - Leave a week on a less time-intensive rotation or vacation to prepare applications (late October/early November).
 - Let clinicians know internship intentions early in the rotations; seek feedback about chances, and their support.
 - Seek advice about internship programs from both clinicians and residents.

NORTH AMERICAN VETERINARY LICENSING EXAM (NAVLE)

Administered by the International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA)

Dates offered

Typically updated by <https://www.icva.net/> in June of each year.

Administration dates fall within the following dates for 2020-2021:

September 1 –December 31, 2020

April 12 – 24, 2021

The Exam

The NAVLE is a computer-based test, comprised of 360 multiple-choice questions. Students will have a total of 7.5 hours at the test center; 15 minute orientation and tutorial, 6.5 hours of testing time divided into 6 blocks of 65 minutes each, and 45 minutes of break time. See www.ICVA.net for a wealth of information regarding the exam.

Registering for the Exam

In addition to applying to NAVLE through the ICVA (referred to as application #1), students must register and be verified simultaneously to take the NAVLE through a state licensing board (application #2).

As an example, if seeking licensure in Wisconsin, complete the application #2 for Wisconsin candidates on the ICVA website by the posted deadline, to obtain permission to take the exam. Contact the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) once exam successfully passed to complete the rest of the veterinary licensure process. If students would like to obtain a license from another state upon graduation, they may choose to register for the NAVLE through that state. OAA staff will assist students in applying for the NAVLE.

There are very specific deadlines for registering for the NAVLE and they vary from state-to-state. The ICVA requires that all NAVLE candidates submit their application #1 online through their website, by August 1. Wisconsin's deadline (application #2) is 30 days prior to the registration deadline the NBVME gives (so approximately July 1).

Candidates with documented disabilities must request specific accommodations prior to, or at the time of their initial application to the state & national (ICVA) licensing boards.

The exam is administered at Prometric Testing Centers across the U.S. Students may take the exam at ANY Prometric Center, regardless of which state they registered through. Students will be responsible for choosing their exam date and scheduling an appointment to take the exam.

Cost

The NAVLE fee for the 2020-2021 testing cycle is \$690.00. (Costs are likely to increase for 2021-2022.)

Licensure in the U.S.

Licensure in the U.S. is under the control of each state. Students should understand the rules and regulations for licensure in the state(s) in which they wish to be licensed as regulations vary.

Wisconsin has an online exam on state and federal laws, which all Wisconsin license applicants must pay separately for and pass. Some states have additional exams required for licensure. Be sure to check the following website for contact information and requirements in different states: <http://www.aavsb.org/>