Clinical Studies: MSc, DVSct

The Department of Clinical Studies strives to improve individual animal health by fundamental and clinical research in a variety of species: companion animals (dogs and cats, as well as birds and exotic species), performance animals (primarily horses) and food-producing animals. Our clinical expertise encompasses Anaesthesiology, Cardiology, Emergency and Critical Care, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Nutrition, Oncology, Ophthalmology, Radiology, and Surgery.

ovc.uoguelph.ca/clinical-studies/

Program

The Master of Science (MSc) program can be completed by thesis or major research project. The MSc by thesis option requires a minimum of 3 graduate courses and the preparation and defense of a research-based thesis, to be completed in approximately 6 semesters. The MSc by coursework option requires a minimum of 6 graduate courses and a major project course, to be completed in approximately 3 semesters.

The Doctor Veterinary Science (DVSct) Program involves applied clinical practice, graduate courses and research in a specific veterinary clinical discipline. DVM applicants are advised to consult the department website for more info about this program.

Funding

The MSc thesis option is funded for 2 years, by the advisor or through scholarships and awards that are available on a competitive basis. The MSc coursework option is typically unfunded.

Application Deadline:
Ongoing for the MSc Program
Entry: Fall for the DVSct Program

Admission Requirements

A Faculty Advisor should be identified before application to the MSc program. Applicants to the MSc program should have either an honours Bachelor’s degree in a relevant field with at least a B- (70% Ontario equivalent) over the last 2 years of full-time study, or a DVM (or equivalent) degree with at least an overall B- (70% Ontario equivalent) in the DVM program. A letter of interest and two academic letters of reference are required within the application.

Faculty Expertise

- Anaesthesiology
- Cardiology
- Emergency and Critical Care
- Large and Small Animal Medicine
- Large and Small Animal Surgery
- Neurology
- Nutrition
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Radiology

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Research focused on improving animal health

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Veterinary Medicine
- Human Medicine
- Biomedical Research
- Government
- Animal health industry

CONTACT INFORMATION

Graduate Program Coordinators:
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Faculty and Laboratories

At the present time, there are approximately 44 faculty, 11 staff, 52 graduate students. The graduate students work in a state-of-the-art facility consisting of the Department of Clinical Studies, the OVC Health Sciences Centre and the Comparative Clinical Research Facility. Individual faculty laboratories include the Hemostasis Lab, the Body Composition Lab, the Respiratory Lab, the Comparative Bone and Joint Disease Lab, the Comparative Cancer Laboratory, and the Minimally Invasive Surgical Task trainer laboratory. Shared laboratories are fully equipped for proteomics and genomics research, including polymerase chain reaction, gel electrophoresis, Western blotting, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, and immunohistochemistry. Computational facilities are available for data analysis. Advanced clinical equipment includes computerized tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, scintigraphy, dual energy X-ray absorptiometry, pulmonary function test, dynamic and static airway endoscopy, high speed treadmill, specialized surgical suites, etc. Also the Comparative Clinical Research Facility provides 15,401 sq feet of laboratory space equipped for advanced diagnostic and surgical work.

Meet some of our graduate faculty:

Melissa MacIver
maciver@uoguelph.ca

My research centers around orthopedic (bone and joint) disease, investigating adjunctive treatments, new surgical procedures and better ways to evaluate treatment success. Stem cell therapy offers a promising addition for patients with osteoarthritis experiencing a decreased quality of life despite medical management, experiencing adverse side effects from medication or in those patients where these medications are contraindicated. For bone fracture repair surgeries, evaluating the biomechanics of bone plates on ex-vivo models can assist our decision making in clinical cases where preservation of the surrounding soft tissue will lead to faster fracture healing. Using non-invasive technology, evaluating changes to surrounding ligaments/tendons after surgery allows further education of pet owners and a way to evaluate treatment success.

How my research improves life...
Development of alternative or adjunctive treatments, new state-of-the-art surgical procedures and post-surgery assessment protocols allows my patients to have a better quality of life.

Lauren Van Patter
vanpattl@uoguelph.ca

My research with the Community Healthcare Partnerships Program aims to identify, understand, and remove barriers that impede access to healthcare for animals by engaging mixed-methods and qualitative approaches to questions of veterinary care access and lived experiences of the human-animal bond. I focus on both delivery of companion animal healthcare services to vulnerable, marginalized, and underserved communities, as well as pedagogical opportunities for veterinary trainees to gain experience providing compassionate care to such communities in a manner that respects self-determination.

How my research improves life...
Improving animal healthcare access will foster the human-animal bond and enhance wellbeing in underserved, more-than-human communities.

You can read further details here:
levanpatter.wordpress.com/student-supervision/