

CURRICULUM

Doctoral Programme, Veterinary Medicine



University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna



1. Educational goals of the doctoral programme

1.1. The doctoral programme serves the purpose of developing the student's abilities for independent scientific work in the field of veterinary medicine above and beyond that of the contents of the degree programme and of strengthening critical faculty.

1.2. Goals of the courses of the doctoral programme:

- a) to better the understanding of philosophical (scientific-theoretical), social and ethical fundamentals of scientific research,
- b) to convey fundamental knowledge in the planning, carrying out, analysis, documentation and presentation of scientific studies and results and
- c) to teach the student to carry out scientific work in a research field of choice independently, to write a dissertation or scientific publication based on this and to present and discuss the results in a scientific meeting.

1.3. The compulsory courses listed in item 4, the electives listed in item 5 and further courses, which are recommended for their promotion, serve to attain the educational goals.

2. Requirements for admission to the doctoral programme

Requirement for admission to the doctoral programme is either

- 1) graduation from the degree programme based on this curriculum or
- 2) graduation from the degree programme based on the Federal Law Regulating the Studies of Veterinary Medicine, (*Veterinärmedizin-StudienGesetz, VetMed-StG 1993*) *Federal Law Gazette* No. 346/1993 or
- 3) the successful completion of the third diploma examination based on the Federal Law Regulating the Studies of Veterinary Medicine, (*Veterinärmedizin-StudienGesetz*) *Federal Law Gazette* No. 430/1975 or
- 4) the successful completion of the third state examination according to the Regulation Governing Veterinary Medical State Examinations and Doctoral Examinations (*Tierärztliche Staatsprüfungs- und Rigorosenordnung*), *Federal Law Gazette* No. 73/1946 or
- 5) the successful completion of veterinary medical studies abroad, which are equivalent in duration, structure and requirements.

3. General terms

3.1. Requirements for the attainment of the doctoral degree are the completion of the doctoral programme, the writing of a dissertation as well as the completion of a doctoral examination (*Rigorosum*). The completed dissertation is to be handed in to the dean of studies and must be evaluated by 2 independent university instructors, to whom the dean of studies must submit the dissertation. Papers which have been evaluated as successful at a recognised post-

secondary university in Austria or abroad must be recognised by the chairperson of the curricular committee when such meet the requirements for dissertations.

3.2. The topic of the dissertation is to be taken from a subject of examination of the degree programme (compulsory and elective courses). Upon approval by the dean, the topic may also be chosen from a related subject where such subject is represented by a university instructor at another university. In this

case, the dean must appoint a university instructor from the University of Veterinary Medicine as second expert.

3.3. The doctoral programme extends over 4 semesters.

3.4. In the course of the doctoral programme, a total of 17 semester hours are to be completed, 12 of which in compulsory subjects (item 4) and 5 of which in elective subjects (item 5).

3.5. The doctoral programme is equivalent to a workload of 120 ECTS credits. Seventeen credits must be completed in the form of compulsory and elective courses, 10 credits are earned after completion of the doctoral examination and 93 credits are earned by the independent performance of scientific work and the writing of a dissertation.

4. Compulsory subjects

4.1. Compulsory subjects of the doctoral programme:

Compulsory subjects Title	academic hours					Credits
	LE	CO	SE	EX	SH	
Basic course, science: scientific theory, scientific information and scientific planning			30		2	2
Research seminar for the subject of dissertation					8	8
Seminar for doctoral students			30		2	2

LE = lecture; CO=conversatorium; SE=seminar; EX=examinations; SH=semester hours; ECTS=European credit transfer system

4.2. The Basic Course of Science (item 4.1.) can already be taken as elective subject following successful completion of all courses of the degree programme and credit is then given toward the compulsory subject of the doctoral programme.

4.3. The successful completion of the Basic Course of Science is prerequisite for participation in the Seminar for Doctoral Students.

5. Elective courses

5.1. Elective courses of the doctoral programme:

Elective courses* Title	academic hours					Credits
	LE	CO	SE	EX	SH	
Advanced and conversational English				30	2	2
English for clinical medicine				30	2	2
History of medical sciences with emphasis on veterinary medicine	15				1	1
Scientific presentation				15	1	1
Social competence			15		1	1
Scientific didactics			15		1	1
Experimental and clinical study design including case number estimation and randomisation			30		2	2
Fundamentals of scientific theory and new findings in research		30			2	2

Project design and application for research projects		15			1	1
Continuation course for female executives			30		2	2
Introduction to EDP user programmes			15		1	1
Animal welfare ethics and Human-animal relations		15			1	1

*Further electives can be found in the relevant lecture timetable.

5.2. Elective courses can be chosen from the selection of courses from all domestic and foreign universities, as long as they are related to the scientific work of the doctoral student.

5.3. The participation in scientific courses or courses which serve further education and continuing education and correlate to the scientific work of the doctoral student can be given credit by the chairperson of the curricular committee in the form of elective credit hours.

6. Doctoral examination

6.1. The doctoral examination is a joint examination which is to be taken in oral form as a commission examination before the entire examining board consisting of three persons.

6.2. Admission to the doctoral examination is granted upon the successful completion of participation in all compulsory and elective courses as well as the approval of the dissertation.

6.3. Subjects of the doctoral examination are:

- a) The branch of the subject from which the dissertation topic was chosen.
- b) The branch of the subject determined by the dean and dissertation advisor by mutual agreement upon hearing the candidate, due to the relation of the topic to the dissertation.

Both branches according to item a) and item b) can either be chosen from the subject the topic of the dissertation is associated with, or the branch of the subject according to item a) can be taken from the subject from which the topic of the dissertation is chosen, and the branch of the subject according to item b) can be taken from another subject which is related to the topic of the dissertation.

7. Date of effectiveness and interim regulations

7.1. The curriculum of the doctoral programme of the studies of veterinary medicine comes into effect on October 1 following its announcement.

7.2. The curriculum version of September 16, 1997 is to be applicable for students who have begun their doctoral studies before the coming into effect of this curriculum. Students have the right to voluntarily switch to the new curriculum at any time.