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Comparative Health Sciences Graduate Program (PhD, MS)

Overview

The program of Comparative Health Sciences is a multi-disciplinary program offering graduate training towards MS and PhD degrees. The program encourages applicants with interest in complex contemporaneous issues that require a multi-disciplinary approach to consider this program. Faculty involved in the program have interests including microbiology, ecology, immunology, nutrition, food science, bio-engineering, veterinary medicine, public health, human health, bioinformatics, mathematical modeling, microbiome, neuroscience, pharmaceutical sciences and others.

The program encourages co-mentorship from different disciplines, but also accepts students working in traditional fields. The program has a strong international component and diversity of ideas and innovation is encouraged and valued. This program allows students to customize their studies across many fields of science at OSU. Strong student involvement and participation in the program is sought.

The training involves classes, laboratory research, travel/presentations, outreach activities, teaching and direct participation in a seminar series. Students may be supported by graduate teaching assistantships, graduate research assistantships, or scholarships, depending on availability. The students’ program is designed individually to support the needs of innovative research. Graduate students are expected to be major participants in the scientific output of the program and are given opportunities to publicly present findings.

The program includes two distinct options:

- Biomedical Sciences (MS, PhD)
- Clinical Sciences (MS, PhD)

A Masters, Non-Thesis Masters and PhD are earned by students following the Biomedical Sciences option. The Clinical Sciences option is only available for clinical residents earning a concurrent Masters or PhD with their veterinary specialty. See the next page for a summary of coarse listings for each option. More details for each option are listed in Appendix A.

Research

In addition to coursework required in the student’s program of study, MS thesis and PhD students will complete an interdisciplinary research project in comparative health sciences, under the support and direction of their major professor.

Primary Academic Contact: Stacy Semevolos, DVM, Director of Professional and Graduate Programs: stacy.semevolos@oregonstate.edu

Administrative Contact: Beth Chamblin, Dean’s office: beth.chamblin@oregonstate.edu
**Summary of Coursework Requirements for Biomedical Sciences Option**

**Core coursework:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Perspectives</td>
<td>VMB 501 (PhD only)</td>
<td>3 (1 per quarter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of Data Analysis or Introduction to Biostatistics</td>
<td>ST 511, H524 or similar</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Conduct of Research</td>
<td>GRAD 520 or equivalent</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Grant Proposal Writing</td>
<td>VMB 669</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>VMB 507</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Tools</td>
<td>VMB 671</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>VMB 503(MS), VMB 603 (PhD)</td>
<td>12 (MS), 36 (PhD)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives (including required electives chosen below, additional thesis credits (PhD only), and other)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Models</td>
<td>VMB 521</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoonoses</td>
<td>VMB 523</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Bioinformatics</td>
<td>VMB 585</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems Biology and Bioinformatics</td>
<td>VMB 670</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Immunology</td>
<td>VMB 673</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Genomics</td>
<td>VMB 769</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanisms of Disease</td>
<td>VMB 630</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antibiotic Stewardship</td>
<td>VMB 617</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematical Modeling</td>
<td>VMB 631</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer Systems Biology</td>
<td>VMB 651</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccines and New Therapies</td>
<td>VMB 674</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required electives must include at least 2 of the following courses (or similar courses approved by student’s graduate committee):
Summary of Coursework Requirements for Clinical Sciences Option

This option will be available only to dual clinical residents/graduate students of the Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine, in conjunction with 2-, 3- or 4-year residencies in a veterinary specialty.

Core coursework:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topics in Medicine, Surgery, or other clinical specialty</td>
<td>VMC 682, VMC 684, or similar</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Medicine, Surgery or other clinical specialty</td>
<td>VMC 632, VMC 634, or similar</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Perspectives</td>
<td>VMB 501 or VMC 501 (PhD only)</td>
<td>3 (1 per quarter) (PhD only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of Data Analysis or Introduction to Biostatistics</td>
<td>ST 511, H524 or similar</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Ethics</td>
<td>GRAD 520 or equivalent</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Grant Proposal Writing</td>
<td>VMB 669</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>VMB 507</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>VMC 503(MS), VMC 603 (PhD)</td>
<td>12 (MS), 36 (PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives (including required electives chosen below, additional thesis credits (PhD only), and other)</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>13 (MS), 50 (PhD)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required electives must include at least 2 of the following courses (or similar courses approved by student’s graduate committee):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>VMB 521</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoonoses</td>
<td>VMB 523</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Bioinformatics</td>
<td>VMB 585</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems Biology and Bioinformatics</td>
<td>VMB 670</td>
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<td>Animal Genomics</td>
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<tr>
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<td>VMB 630</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antibiotic Stewardship</td>
<td>VMB 617</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vaccines and New Therapies</td>
<td>VMB 674</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Tools</td>
<td>VMB 671</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resources

The Graduate School serves as an official source of information related to graduate education across all programs at the university. The Graduate School website is a great resource complete with checklists, forms and resources for all OSU graduate students. Keep in mind that our Comparative Health Sciences program may have different requirements, not only for admission to the program but throughout. The Graduate School also offers an array of professional development opportunities specific to the success of graduate students. Please see Appendix B for additional resources.

How to Apply:

Deadline

The Graduate School deadline for applications is December 10th for the start of the following academic year (Fall Term for consideration of available scholarships/fellowships).

Online Application

Required materials for the online applications include:

- Statement of objectives
- Three letters of recommendation
- Official transcripts
- GRE scores
- English language test scores (if applicable)

APPLY ONLINE HERE

Admissions Requirements

Admit Term

Fall term

Grade Point Average (GPA)

A minimum GPA of 3.00 is required.

Required Tests

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) – Taking the GRE is encouraged but not an exclusion criteria for domestic and for international program. ETS GRE site has information about the test.

Verbal, Quantitative and Analytical. A score in the 50th percentile in each section is desirable. The GRE must be no more than 3 years old from registration.
International students: English Language Requirements

English language requirements for international applicants to this program are the same as the standard Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL scores) of the Graduate School.

If you are an international student and not sure of your English skills or which graduate program you are interested in, please see Appendix C to learn about the INTO Graduate Pathway program.

Comparative Health Sciences Criteria

No single criterion will serve as a basis for admission or denial to the Comparative Health Sciences Graduate Program.

Evidence of excellent scholarship and research potential from previous academic records, letters of recommendation and GRE scores.

Professional goals compatible with a graduate degree in Comparative Health Sciences.

Scholarship interest compatible with one or more of the faculty who are active in the degree program.

NOTE: If you meet OSU requirements, we encourage you to contact participating faculty whose research coincides with your interest (see Appendix H). Individual faculty members can provide information on their research programs with possible positions for graduate students in their laboratory. Research summaries for all faculty are located here.

Significance of Temporary Advisor

At the time of admission to the program the student may be assigned a temporary faculty advisor or the student may elect to go on a rotation of research programs. If at the end of the first year rotations no faculty advisor has been selected, the coordinator of the program will serve as the temporary advisor to the student.

Degree Program Components

45 credit hour program (M.S. – Thesis and M.S. Non-Thesis); 108 credit hour program (Ph.D.)

Criteria to Define Satisfactory Progress

A graduate student will:

1. Maintain good academic performance, GPA of 3.0 or higher.

2. Participate in the academic activities of the Department/College/or important activities as directed by the mentor.

3. Demonstrate interest in the project by keeping abreast of the literature.

4. Communicate data generated in the project, either/or in meetings and publications.

5. Keep a good level of collegiality with peers and faculty.

Enrolled students will undergo annual review by the student’s Graduate Committee, the mentor and the College Graduate Committee. If appropriate progress has not been made, the College Graduate Committee will make recommendations to the mentor and the student. See Annual Forms to print the forms and complete each year.


**Admission via INTO Program**

The Comparative Health Science Graduate Program has a component associated with OSU INTO (International Students).

Guidelines for pursuing a degree through the INTO Graduate Pathway program can be found here: [INTO pathway](#).

An undergraduate GPA of 2.5 is required for admission.

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### Key facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course length:</th>
<th>1 - 3 Terms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start dates:</td>
<td>2019: September, December 2020: March, June, September, December 2021: March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees:</td>
<td>From $11,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic requirements:</td>
<td>1 Term: 3.0 GPA, No GRE Required, Undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline. 2 Terms: 2.5 GPA, Undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English language requirements:</td>
<td>From TOEFL 70 or IELTS 6.0 or equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award:</td>
<td>Leads to the Comparative Health Sciences master’s or PhD degree program at Oregon State University.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course options:</td>
<td>3-Term, 1-Term Pathway, 2-Term, 2-Term Pathway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who complete the year with good academic record of 3.0 GPA may pursue their choice of MS, Non-Thesis MS or PhD graduate programs in Comparative Health Sciences. Please see [Appendix C](#) for more detail regarding the INTO Graduate Pathway Program courses.

Please keep in mind that 0 credit hours apply from the Pathway program once admitted to the Comparative Health Sciences graduate program.
Support for Graduate Students

Student Loans, Scholarships and Fellowships

Graduate students are often eligible for financial assistance in the form of student loans or limited university-wide scholarships. Financial Aid and Scholarships can provide more information.

Graduate Assistantships

Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs)

Students may receive GRA support directly from the grant of their major professor. The program has a limited number of highly competitive scholarships that range from 1 to 2 years for a PhD program.

Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GTAs)

Students in the Comparative Health Sciences program are encouraged to serve at least one term as a Graduate Teaching Assistant depending on GTA availability in their respective department.

Office Space

It is the intent of the program to provide desk space for graduate students during their studies at OSU. This responsibility generally falls upon your major professor or their department. If your major professor is unable to find desk space for you, please let us know and we will see if something can be found.

Lab Coats

As soon as you start working in a lab, you are welcome to try on lab coats located in conference room Dryden 212b or in Magruder 274. These are the locations they are stored in once they are laundered by our contractor, Cintas. They come in two different styles and you can find the size and style that fits you. If a new one needs to be ordered, please see our office staff. They typically take 2-3 weeks to arrive. Once you start working in the lab, you should see laundry baskets near one of the doors in which you deposit your dirty lab coat. You are allotted two lab coats.

Travel to Professional Meetings

Graduate students who plan to present a paper or poster, or otherwise participate in a professional meeting, can apply for a small grant from their department. Approval from the Major Professor and the Department/Unit Head is required.

Deadline for application is two months prior to the meeting. Funds may be used for registration fees or for reimbursement of allowed travel expenses. If granted for registration fees and then the trip is subsequently cancelled, it is expected that the program will be reimbursed for this expense. Students who apply for support from the Graduate School will receive priority.

The Graduate School also offers a Graduate Student Travel Award for which students can apply. The travel funds from this program are designed to provide graduate students with financial support to cover part of the cost of attending and presenting their scholarly
achievements at prestigious conferences and venues. Award details and student eligibility can be found on the Graduate School website Travel Award. The awards are intended to cover up to half of the full cost of attending a conference (air and/or ground transportation, hotel, meals, and meeting registration). The maximum award is $500 for domestic travel and international travel. The award applications need to be submitted by the CHS program administrator.

**Graduate school resources**

Information and resources offered by the Graduate School are available on their website. In addition, appendices at the end of this handbook are provided for your reference. Appendix E contains forms required by the Graduate School throughout your graduate education and degree. Appendix F contains information on graduate program deadlines. Appendix G contains Graduate School policies important throughout your graduate program.
Committee and Program Meeting

The M.S. Thesis Committee consists of 3 or 4 members of the OSU graduate faculty plus a Graduate Council Representative, who serves as advocate for appropriate process. A Program Meeting will be held no later than the end of the second term of coursework. The Program meeting will cover two aspects: the proposed coursework (Program of Study) and the proposed research (Thesis Outline). This meeting will include all members of the committee. A Program of Study form should be completed during this meeting.

Program of Study (45 graduate credits required; i.e., 500 or 600 level, half the credits to come from 600 level):

- coursework credits consisting of:
  - Required core sequence of courses [11 credits (Biomedical Sciences); 20 credits (Clinical Sciences)]
  - Elective courses relevant to the thesis research agreed to by the student’s committee [22 credits (Biomedical Sciences); 13 credits (Clinical Sciences)]
  - 12 Thesis credits

- Note: 23 of the 45 credits must be graduate stand-alone courses (500/600 level) that are not derived from the 500 component of 400/500 courses.

- Note: Full time enrollment is 12 credits per term in the academic year and 9 in the summer. Students receiving graduate assistantships must maintain full time enrollment.

Before meeting with your Committee, make sure you have completed and submitted a Transfer credit request PDF form (if applicable) to the Graduate School.

When meeting with your Committee to create a Program of Study, have them advise you to prepare the Digital Program of Study to collect signatures and submit to the Graduate School. This is accessed here to drag and drop courses from four sources:

- Approved Transfer Credits
- OSU Transcript
- Course Catalog
- Course Schedule
Master's of Science Quick Reference Guide

Year one:

1. Application to the Graduate School by the student before December 10 for Fall quarter. Acceptance of the student by the CCVM Graduate Committee, and notification to the Graduate School.

2. Beginning of coursework in Fall quarter. Selection of major professor and student graduate committee by the end of the second quarter, initiation of thesis research project.

3. Development of Program of Study by major professor and student before completing 18 credits of coursework (before end of second quarter). Student’s graduate committee should meet and approve Program of Study (plan for completing degree). Program of Study must be signed by major professor, minor professor (only if taking minor) and Program Director. Submit signed Program of Study to the Graduate School.

4. Complete and submit first Self-Evaluation Form (see Appendix D) by July 1 (end of first year). Major Advisor must submit annual review form (see Appendix D) by July 15 (signed by committee members).

Year two and three:

1. Complete approved coursework and continue thesis research.

2. Meet with student’s graduate committee for annual progress report. Complete and submit Annual Self-Evaluation Forms each year by July 1. Major Advisor must submit annual review form by July 15 (signed by committee members).

Year three:


2. At least 15 weeks before your final oral exam (thesis defense), submit final approved Program of Study to the Graduate School and select Graduate Council Representative if you have not already done this.

3. At least 2 weeks before your oral defense: 1) schedule your final oral exam online, 2) distribute a defendable copy of your thesis to your committee, 3) deliver or email pretext pages of your thesis/dissertation to the Graduate School, and 4) submit a diploma application to Graduate School.

4. Defend Thesis/Dissertation in a public seminar, followed by an oral exam by the student’s graduate committee. Schedule thesis defense before end of spring quarter, so additional fees for summer quarter are not incurred.

Submit final revised Thesis/Dissertation to Graduate School for approval within 6 weeks of oral defense.
Annual Meeting Requirements

Students are required to meet yearly with their committee to evaluate their progress. Every year, the student and major professor(s) must complete the Annual Graduate Student Progress Report form, located in Appendix D, have it signed by all members of the student’s graduate committee, and return it to the assistant to the program by the July deadlines.

Other Requirements

Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 and will be notified by the Graduate School if their GPA falls below 3.0 for any term. The cumulative GPA must be at or above 3.0 before the final exam can be taken. Grades C (=2.0) or below cannot be used as graduate credit.

Final Defense

The student’s graduate committee will conduct the final examination. Substitutions may be made if approved by the Program and Graduate School.

The student must contact members of the committee to arrange the date, time, and place of the defense, and then schedule the exam with the Graduate School not less than two weeks before the examination. One copy of the pre-text pages of the thesis must be submitted to the Graduate School. Copies of the thesis should be distributed to all committee members, two weeks prior to the exam. All members of the graduate committee should be physically present at the required graduate exam (for exceptions, see Remote Participation requirements).

The first part of the exam is the thesis presentation portion and is open to all members of the public. After the thesis seminar and open questions, the committee and student will continue in closed session with the oral examination of the thesis work.

- The decision on the outcome of the exam will be based on a Scoring Guide rubric. The committee will use this form to evaluate the student's performance (with specific reference to rubric items) at the conclusion of the defense.

- A copy of the scoring sheet needs to be returned to Beth Chamblin and the Graduate School.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation/Guidance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. <strong>Problem Definition</strong>: Has stated the research problem clearly, providing rationale for undertaking the research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. <strong>Literature and Previous Work</strong>: Demonstrated sound knowledge of literature in the area and of prior work on the specific research problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. <strong>Impact of Research</strong>: Demonstrated the potential value of solution to the research in advancing knowledge within the area of study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. <strong>Solution Approach</strong>: Has applied sound state-of-the-art research methods/tools to solve the defined problem and has described the methods/tools effectively.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. <strong>Results</strong>: Analyzed and interpreted research results/data effectively.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. <strong>Quality of Written Communication</strong>: Communicated research results clearly and professionally in <strong>written</strong> form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. <strong>Quality of Oral Communication</strong>: Communicated research results clearly and professionally in <strong>oral</strong> form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. <strong>Critical Thinking</strong>: Has demonstrated capability for independent research in the area of study and expertise in the area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. <strong>Broader Impact</strong>: Demonstrated awareness of broader implications of the concluded research. Broader implications may include social, economic, technical, ethical, business, etc. aspects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. <strong>Publications</strong>: Journal or conference publications have resulted (or are anticipated) from this research.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning Outcomes and Assessment (Clinical Sciences Option)

MS

1. Conduct research with the outcome being an original manuscript.
   Assessed by the production and evaluation of a written thesis and during oral exam, with Graduate Council Representative having specific responsibility for assessment

2. Demonstrate mastery of subject material
   Assessed by coursework grades and during oral exam

3. Be able to conduct scholarly activities in an ethical manner
   Documentation of training activities in Program of Study (GRAD 520 or similar)

4. Fulfill residency program requirements of veterinary specialty college (Clinical Sciences option only)
   Assessed by annual evaluations by Resident Advisor and/or specialty section, completion of residency training log (ACVS only) and/or specialty board examination(s)
Non-Thesis Master of Science (M.S.) Program Reference Sheet

Committee and Program Meeting

The M.S. Committee consists of 3 or 4 members of the OSU graduate faculty, plus a Graduate Council Representative, who serves as advocate for appropriate process. A Program Meeting will be held no later than the end of the second term of course work. The Program meeting will cover two aspects: the proposed coursework (Program of Study) and the proposed topic of research for written paper. This meeting will include all members of the committee. A Program of Study form should be completed during this meeting.

Program of Study (45 graduate credits required; i.e., 500 or 600 level, half the credits to come from 600 level):

- coursework credits consisting of:
  - Required core sequence of courses [11 credits (Biomedical Sciences)]
  - Elective courses relevant to the thesis research agreed to by the student’s committee [22 credits (Biomedical Sciences)]
  - 12 Research credits (VMB 501)

- Note: 23 of the 45 credits must be graduate stand-alone courses (500/600 level) that are not derived from the 500 component of 400/500 courses.

- Note: Full time enrollment is 12 credits per term in the academic year and 9 in the summer. Students receiving graduate assistantships must maintain full time enrollment.

Before meeting with your Committee, make sure you have completed and submitted a Transfer credit request PDF form (if applicable) to the Graduate School.

When meeting with your Committee to create a Program of Study, have them advise you to prepare the Digital Program of Study to collect signatures and submit to the Graduate School. This is accessed here to drag and drop courses from four sources:

- Approved Transfer Credits
- OSU Transcript
- Course Catalog
- Course Schedule

Annual Meeting Requirements

Students are required to meet yearly with their committee to evaluate their progress. Every year, the student and major professor(s) must complete the Annual Graduate Student Progress Report form, located in Appendix D, have it signed by all members of the student’s graduate committee, and return it to the assistant to the program by the July deadlines.
Other Requirements

• Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 and will be notified by the Graduate School if their GPA falls below 3.0 for any term. The cumulative GPA must be at or above 3.0 before the final exam can be taken. Grades C (=2.0) or below cannot be used as graduate credit.

Final Presentation

In working with the Graduate Committee on an approved topic for written paper, the candidate completes the paper and prepares for presentation.

The student must contact members of the committee to arrange the date, time, and place of the presentation, and then schedule with the Graduate School not less than two weeks before the paper presentation. One copy of the presentation must be submitted to the Graduate School. Copies should be distributed to all committee members, two weeks prior. All members of the graduate committee should be physically present at the required graduate exam (for exceptions, see Remote Participation requirements).

• The decision on the outcome of the presentation will be based on a Scoring Guide rubric. The committee will use this form to evaluate the student's performance (with specific reference to rubric items) at the conclusion of the defense.

• A copy of the scoring sheet needs to be returned to Beth Chamblin and the Graduate School.
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Program

Thesis Committee Program Meeting
The Ph.D. Graduate Committee consists of 5 members of the OSU graduate faculty. A Graduate Council Representative is included to serve as advocate for appropriate process. A Program Meeting will be held no later than the end of the first year of graduate enrollment. The Program Meeting will cover two aspects: the proposed coursework (Program of Study) and the proposed research (Thesis Outline). This meeting will include all members of the committee. A Program of Study form should be completed during the meeting.

Program of Study (108 graduate credits required, i.e., 500 or 600 level with at least 50% of the credits from the 600 level):

- At least 27 coursework credits consisting of:
  a. The required core courses that must be taken during Year 1.
  b. The remaining should be relevant to the thesis research and must be agreed to by the thesis committee.
- At least 36 Thesis credits
- Sufficient additional Thesis credits to reach 108 total credits.

Note: 54 of the 108 credits must be graduate stand-alone courses (500 or 600 level) that are not derived from the 500 component of 400/500 slash courses.

Note: Full time enrollment is 12 credits per term in the academic year and 9 in the summer. Students receiving graduate assistantships must maintain full time enrollment.

Thesis Outline
Students must prepare and submit to their committee an outline of the thesis project. This outline must be sufficiently detailed to enable the committee to evaluate the progress of the student on a yearly basis.
Annual Meeting Requirements

Students are required to meet yearly with their Graduate Committee to evaluate their progress. Every year, the Annual Graduate Student Progress Report Form, located in Appendix D, must be completed by the student and major professor, signed by all members of the student’s graduate committee, and returned to the assistant to the program by the July deadlines.

Other Requirements

- Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 and will be notified by the Graduate School if their GPA falls below 3.0 for any term. The cumulative GPA must be at or above 3.0 before the final exam can be taken. Grades at or below C (= 2.0) cannot be used as graduate credit.

Preliminary Qualifying Examination

As outlined by the Graduate School, to be admitted for the doctoral degree, students must pass a comprehensive Preliminary Examination conducted by the Graduate Committee. The purpose of this exam is to determine the student's understanding of their major and minor fields and to assess their capability for research. It involves a written research proposal on a topic that is or not from the student's thesis research, followed by an oral examination that features a presentation and then questions on the proposal topic. There will also be questions on more general topics drawn from the student's coursework and/or general area of thesis research. The Preliminary Examination is best taken after two years, near the completion of the coursework on the Program of Study.

Scheduling the Preliminary Exam

The committee is contacted for:

1. Agreement on the research proposal topic
2. Setting the target date for completion of the written proposal
3. Acceptance of written proposal
4. Arrangement of a date, time, and place for the exam

Written Proposal

Students must write a proposal on an approved topic.

- The student will provide the committee with a brief summary of the topic.
- The topic may be on anything including a topic close to the student’s thesis project and is at the discretion of the student’s committee.
- The committee must approve the topic with no more than 1 dissenting vote (email votes are acceptable).

Unless otherwise specified by the committee, the proposal shall be based on the format of an NSF or NIH postdoctoral proposal. The format and length should be discussed with the committee; a general guideline follows.

- The length shall be 5-7 pages (single-spaced, not including references).
The proposal should include the following sections:

Specific aims
Background and Significance
Research Design and Methods
Literature cited (not included in the page limit)

Within these sections, the committee will be looking for the following components:

- Clearly stated research problem
- Clearly developed, testable hypothesis
- Focused experimental aims
- Contingency plans for aims/objectives
- Appropriate experimental design
- Appropriate data analysis methods
- Justification for, and impact of, the proposed research
- A realistic project timeline

The proposal should be submitted to the committee within the specified period after the committee has approved the topic. The individual committee members must review the proposal and determine if the written proposal is acceptable for an oral exam defense. This review should take place within 2 weeks of submission.

In the event revisions are required (i.e., the proposal is judged as being insufficiently developed to proceed with the oral exam), the student will have 4 weeks to modify and re-submit the proposal to the committee for a second decision.

Once there is a decision to accept the proposal, the student must schedule the oral exam.

**Preliminary Oral Examination**

The exam is scheduled with the Graduate School using the [Exam Scheduling Form](#).

- The oral exam must be at least 2 hours in length and is typically up to 3 hours long. The oral exam covering the thesis proposal should constitute about half of the exam time.
- All members of the graduate committee should be physically present at the required graduate exam (for exceptions, see [Remote Participation](#) requirements).
- The defense of the proposal should include a presentation of the proposal by the student (30 minutes), followed by questions from the committee members that are answered by the student.

Approximately half of the exam will be devoted to open questions

(a) The open questions may include anything related to science or the training of the student that the committee members deem relevant.

(b) It is recommended that the candidate practice answering questions with their advisor(s), committee members and/or other students.

- The decision to pass the individual is subject to the rules of the Graduate School, which
gives the committee the options (i) to pass, (ii) not to pass and to terminate the student's work, (iii) not to pass and to allow a re-examination, or (iv) to recess and re-convene within two weeks.

- A copy of the scoring sheet needs to be returned to the office of Comparative Health Sciences.
Final Oral Examination Thesis Defense

The examination committee will consist of the same members as for the Preliminary Examination, although substitutions may be made if approved by the Program and the Graduate School. The student must contact members of the committee to arrange the date, time and place, then schedule the exam with the Graduate School not less than two weeks before the examination. One copy of the pre-text pages of the thesis must be submitted to the Graduate School when scheduling the exam. Examination copies must be distributed to all committee members two weeks prior to the examination. All members of the graduate committee should be physically present at all required graduate exam (for exceptions, see the Remote Participation requirements).

The first part of the exam is the thesis presentation portion, which is open to all interested parties, including the public. After the thesis seminar, the committee and student will continue in closed session to examine the thesis.

- The decision on the outcome of the exam will be based on a Scoring Guide/Rubric Sheet provided by the student and the major professor for the Ph.D. thesis defense. After the major professor explains how the guide will be used, each graduate committee member will be asked to use the form in documenting their assessment of the student. At the conclusion of the exam the committee will discuss the student’s performance (per the Scoring Guide). The major professor will collect the completed forms for filing with the Graduate school and a copy sent to Beth Chamblin.
### Evaluation/Guidance

1. **Problem Definition:** Has stated the research problem clearly, providing rationale for undertaking the research.

2. **Literature and Previous Work:** Demonstrated sound knowledge of literature in the area and of prior work on the specific research problem.

3. **Impact of Research:** Demonstrated the potential value of solution to the research in advancing knowledge within the area of study.

4. **Solution Approach:** Has applied sound state-of-the-art research methods/tools to solve the defined problem and has described the methods/tools effectively.

5. **Results:** Analyzed and interpreted research results/data effectively.

6. **Quality of Written Communication:** Communicated research results clearly and professionally in **written** form.

7. **Quality of Oral Communication:** Communicated research results clearly and professionally in **oral** form.

8. **Critical Thinking:** Has demonstrated capability for independent research in the area of study and expertise in the area.

9. **Broader Impact:** Demonstrated awareness of broader implications of the concluded research. Broader implications may include social, economic, technical, ethical, business, etc. aspects.

10. **Publications:** Journal or conference publications have resulted (or are anticipated) from this research.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation/Guidance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. <strong>Problem Definition:</strong> Has stated the research problem clearly, providing rationale for undertaking the research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. <strong>Literature and Previous Work:</strong> Demonstrated sound knowledge of literature in the area and of prior work on the specific research problem.</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. <strong>Publications:</strong> Journal or conference publications have resulted (or are anticipated) from this research.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning Outcomes and Assessment (Clinical Sciences option)

PhD

1. Produce and defend an original significant contribution to knowledge
   a. Assessed by written thesis and during final oral exam with Grad Council Rep having specific responsibility for assessment

2. Demonstrate mastery of subject material
   a. Assessed by coursework grades, during oral exam

3. Be able to conduct scholarly activities in an ethical manner
   a. Documentation of training activities in Program of Study (GRAD 520)

4. Fulfill residency program requirements of veterinary specialty college (Clinical Sciences option only)
   a. Assessed by annual evaluations by Resident Advisor and/or specialty section, completion of residency training log (ACVS only) and/or specialty board examination(s)

Two consecutive unsatisfactory reports should trigger a review by the student’s Graduate Committee.
Appendix A – Courses and Lab Rotations

Biomedical Sciences Track

Required core courses that should be taken during year 1

- VMB 501 Research Perspectives Lab Rotations (3) (PhD only, if major professor not identified prior to admission)
  A short paper is delivered at end of term documenting what was learned in student’s research.
  (This course can be taken as a lab rotation by grad students who have not selected a lab or area of research interest).

- ST 511 Methods of Data Analysis (4)
  Graphical, parametric and nonparametric methods for comparing two samples; one-way and two-way analysis of variance; simple linear regression. Lec/lab.
  or
  H 524 Introduction to Biostatistics (4)
  Quantitative analysis and interpretation of health data including probability distributions, estimation of effects, and hypothesis-tests such as Chi-square, one-way ANOVA, and simple linear regression. Lec/lab.

- GRAD 520 Responsible Conduct of Research (1)
  Covers 10 topics in responsible conduct of research: ethical decision making; human subjects; animal welfare; data acquisition; sharing and ownership; research misconduct; conflicts of interest; authorship; peer review; mentor/trainee responsibilities; and collaborative science. Useful to all students who conduct scholarly activity.
  or
  MCB 557 Scientific Skills and Ethics (3)
  Offers instruction, guest lectures and case-study based discussions of ethical issues relevant to scientists on topics such as mentoring, best practices of conducting research, research misconduct and compliance, intellectual property, peer review, ethical use of animal and human subjects and managing conflicts of interest. Training in the preparation and presentation of scientific seminars and grant writing.

- Molecular Tools (VMB 671) (3)
  This course focuses on the many available tools to study molecular biology and provides the non-specialist with the fundamental principles for understanding various modern day molecular biology techniques. The “nitty gritty” of the techniques are explained by experts in the field, wherein examples of the applications to some biological problems are presented by the students to put these techniques into real life context.

- VMB 669 Introduction to Grant Proposal Writing (2)
  This course introduces the fundamentals of writing grant proposals with an emphasis on applications to the National Institute of Health (NIH). The sections of the grant proposal that cover Specific Aims, Innovation, and Significance are reviewed and discussed in detail. Students practice writing these parts and their proposals are submitted for reading and
evaluation by both instructors and peers. The final review sessions allow the students to evaluate their revised proposals in a group setting.

- **VMB 607 Seminar (1)**
  Weekly seminars are given throughout the term by different colleges and departments (Biomedical Sciences, Pharmacy, Integrative Biology, Microbiology, Agriculture Sciences, Environmental Science, etc). Attendance is required at 10 seminars per seminar credit taken. A paper with at least one paragraph per seminar documenting topic covered is delivered during finals week.

**Elective Courses**

Elective courses relevant to the thesis research from the VMB listing or other programs agreed by the thesis committee.

- **VMB 521 Animal Models (3)**
  Selection/use criteria for models describing animal or human diseases or processes with emphasis on experimental design, validation, transgenic technology, population dynamics, husbandry, and ethics.

- **VMB 523 Zoonoses (3)**
  This course will cover the basics of zoonotic diseases, mechanism of transmission, epidemiology of diseases, and will allow for interactive examinations of the molecular basis of diseases that are transmissible between animals to humans. The course will cover bacterial, viral and parasitic pathogens, including the Genomic and Public Health aspects of zoonotic diseases. Students will better understand the diseases in nature and thereby be better able to investigate reported cases and to conduct appropriate disease control and prevention activities.

- **BB 485/585 Applied Bioinformatics (3)**
  This course teaches students how to correctly utilize the specialized language of bioinformatics and computational biology. Data is analyzed using bioinformatics to understand eukaryotic gene regulation. Students will learn how to choose appropriate methods and research questions for bioinformatics investigations, and appropriately use command-line software in a Unix environment to answer specific bioinformatics questions. Biopython modules and methods are used to answer specific bioinformatics.

- **VMB 617/724 Antibiotic Stewardship (1)**
  This course aims to give students a more broad view of the problem of antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial stewardship. Many faculty and students are going to discuss their expertise and experience during the course. The topics range from environmental influence and role on antibiotic resistance to animal and human health.

- **VMB 630 Mechanisms of Disease (3)**
  The course addresses the interactions between the host immune system and pathogens, as well as normal biota. A brief introduction is provided about the known functions of different aspects of the immune response and current or classical papers are discussed about
mechanisms used by pathogens to circumvent the host immune response.

- **VMB 631 Mathematical Modeling (3)**
  The course introduces students to mathematical modeling to advance biological sciences. We will examine outstanding examples from the research literature across a broad range of biological disciplines. We will focus both on the contribution the modeling makes to the scientific application and on the modeling methods themselves. Substantial time will be devoted to implementing the models in the Python programming language. Each student is expected to bring a laptop computer to each class. During the last week of class, each student will give a short presentation of a paper from the literature that illustrates the use of mathematical modeling in biological sciences.

- **VMB 651 Cancer Systems Biology (3) – (Special Topics in Vet Med)**
  This course provides an overview of systems biology approaches that are being used to study cancer, with an emphasis on omics techniques and fundamental mechanisms in the origination and progression of cancer. The course will be discussion-based, with each class session focused on a contemporary research article in the field of cancer systems biology.

- **VMB 673 Comparative Immunology (3)**
  This course is for students interested in studying immune responses in animals beyond mice and men. A prerequisite in Immunology is not necessary. Most topics in immunology are covered with attention to different strategies used by different animals. Methods of studying the immune status of different animals are also discussed. Students are required to write a review article and construct a grant proposal on a topic of their choice, ideally related to their thesis work.

- **VMB 670 Systems Biology & Bioinformatics (1)**
  The goal of this course is to introduce students to systems biology and bioinformatics, with an emphasis on applications in understanding gene regulatory networks, molecular diagnosis/prognosis, metabolism, immunology, and host/microbe interactions.

- **VMB 674 Vaccines and New Therapies (3)**
  This course is designed to provide students with a cohesive understanding of the basic research behind the discovery of new therapeutic targets and scientific advancements used in development of vaccines and new therapies.

**Blanket courses**

- **VMB 603 Thesis (36)**
- **VMB 501 Research (Non-Thesis MS option)**
- **VMB 607 Reading & Conference or Seminar/Colloquium (1-16)**
Coursework Requirements for Comparative Health Sciences Major (MS, PhD): Biomedical Sciences Option

Students enrolled in the MS degree in Comparative Health Sciences will complete a total of 45 graduate credits, including 12 thesis credits.

Students enrolled in the PhD degree will complete a total of 108 graduate credits, including 36 credits of non-blanket coursework.

The following tables list the courses required to obtain the Biomedical Sciences option in Comparative Health Sciences. Highlighted courses are option-specific, while the remaining courses are required for the major.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Perspectives</td>
<td>VMB 501 (PhD only)</td>
<td>3 (1 per quarter) (PhD only-if no lab previously selected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of Data Analysis or Introduction to Biostatistics</td>
<td>ST 511, H524 or similar</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Conduct of Research</td>
<td>GRAD 520 or equivalent</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Grant Proposal Writing</td>
<td>VMB 669</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>VMB 507</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Tools</td>
<td>VMB 671</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>VMB 503(MS), VMB 603(PhD)</td>
<td>12 (MS), 36 (PhD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives (including required electives chosen below, additional thesis credits (PhD only), and other)</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>22 credits (MS), 85 credits (PhD)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Elective Courses

Required Electives **must** include at least 2 of the following courses (or similar courses approved by student’s graduate committee):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Models</td>
<td>VMB 521</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoonoses</td>
<td>VMB 523</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Bioinformatics</td>
<td>VMB 585</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems Biology and Bioinformatics</td>
<td>VMB 670</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Immunology</td>
<td>VMB 673</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Genomics</td>
<td>VMB 769</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanisms of Disease</td>
<td>VMB 630</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antibiotic Stewardship</td>
<td>VMB 617</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematical Modeling</td>
<td>VMB 631</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer Systems Biology</td>
<td>VMB 651</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaccines and New Therapies</td>
<td>VMB 674</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clinical Science option Program Requirements

This option will be available only to dual clinical residents/graduate students of the College of Veterinary Medicine, in conjunction with 2-, 3- or 4-year residencies in a veterinary specialty. These residency programs are structured according to the guidelines defined by the individual Specialty Colleges (e.g. American College of Veterinary Surgeons, etc.). Dual clinical residents/graduate students enrolled in the Clinical Sciences option must fulfill programmatic requirements of their individual specialty college residencies including satisfactory annual performance evaluations, in addition to graduate degree requirements for successful completion of their concurrent MS degree.

Residency training programs provide in-depth knowledge of veterinary clinical specialties and supporting disciplines under the guidance and supervision of Diplomates of specialty colleges. The objectives of these programs are to promote aptitude and clinical proficiency in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of animals with specific issues (dependent on specialty), as well as to instruct the resident in the science and practice of veterinary specialties, and to provide the resident with the opportunity to pursue career goals in teaching, research, clinical service, and/or specialty practice. Clinical skills and judgment are built through clinical experience, teaching of professional students, and participation in veterinary specialty rounds and seminars.

Dual clinical residents/graduate students on a clinical specialty service shall be responsible for receiving clinic appointments and obtaining history and pertinent information from clients, supervising daily management of hospitalized animals, participating in clinical teaching, and providing optimal clinical service and prompt professional communications. Duties will also include a limited number of didactic lectures and participation in laboratory and continuing education courses.

Responsibilities will include night and weekend emergency duty in the hospital. These assignments are rotated among the residents, clinical fellows, and interns. These responsibilities are integral to residency training and required coursework for the Clinical Sciences option, including Postgraduate Medicine, Surgery or other specialty (VMC 632, VMC 634, or similar) and Topics in Medicine, Surgery, or other specialty (VMC 682, VMC 684, or similar courses).
Coursework Requirements for Comparative Health Sciences Major (MS, PhD): Clinical Sciences Option

Students enrolled in the MS degree in Comparative Health Sciences will complete a total of 45 graduate credits, including 12 thesis credits.

Students enrolled in the PhD degree will complete a total of 108 graduate credits, including 36 credits of non-blanket coursework.

The following tables list the courses required to obtain the Clinical Sciences option in Comparative Health Sciences. **Highlighted courses are option-specific**, while the remaining courses are required for the major.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topics in Medicine, Surgery, or other clinical specialty</td>
<td>VMC 682, VMC 684, or similar</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Medicine, Surgery or other clinical specialty</td>
<td>VMC 632, VMC 634, or similar</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Perspectives</td>
<td>New (PhD only)</td>
<td>3 (1 per quarter) (PhD only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of Data Analysis or Introduction to Biostatistics</td>
<td>ST 511, H524 or similar</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Ethics</td>
<td>GRAD 520 or equivalent</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Grant Proposal Writing</td>
<td>VMB 669</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
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<td>Thesis</td>
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<td>Various</td>
<td>13 (MS), 50 (PhD)</td>
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**Elective Courses - Clinical**

Required Electives must include at least 2 of the following courses (or similar courses approved by student’s graduate committee):

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<td>Mathematical Modeling</td>
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<td>Cancer Systems Biology</td>
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<td>Vaccines and New Therapies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molecular Tools</td>
<td>VMB 671</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix B – Resources at OSU

Arrival in Corvallis

Corvallis is a small town with nearly 60,000 residents. It lies in the heart of the Willamette Valley, between the Cascade Mountains and the Coast Range, 80 miles south of Portland and 55 miles east of the Pacific coast. The climate is mild, with rainfall averaging about 40 inches annually. The main employers in Corvallis are Oregon State University, Good Samaritan Hospital, and Hewlett-Packard. Major performing arts facilities are found in Portland and Eugene (45 miles south).

Academic and Support Resources

The Graduate School website is a great resource and provides a lot of information. Under “Current Students” then “Academic Progress”, click on “Download the Graduate Student Success Guide”. New Graduate Student Guide.

This is a great resource for students new to Oregon State University and includes information on getting an ID card, transportation, housing, health and wellness, student life, and Grad School policies.

OSU offers a wide array of academic and support resources designed to meet graduate student needs. Some of the more commonly used resources are included below. For a more complete list, please visit the Graduate School’s Student Resources web page.

Campus Safety – Emergency phone numbers, university alerts

Career Development Center – Resume/CV, networking, job search strategies

Childcare and Family Resources – University childcare centers, child care assistance

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) – Individual and group counseling

Cultural Resource Centers – Cultural based community centers, social support

Disability Access Services (DAS) – Academic accommodations

Equal Opportunity and Access (EOA) – Employment accommodations, discrimination or bias response

Financing your education – Funding options and information, graduate awards

Graduate Student Success Center (GSSC) – Lounge, study space, printing, reservable meeting rooms

Graduate Writing Center – Writing workshops, groups, and 1:1 writing coaching

Health Insurance – Plans for graduate students and graduate employees

Human Services Resource Center (HSRC) – Food pantry, housing and food stamp assistance

Institutional Review Board (IRB) – Review for human subjects research

Office of International Services (OIS) – Visa and immigration advising
Ombuds Conflict Management Services – Informal, impartial conflict resolution advising
Recreational Sports – Dixon Recreation Center, intramural sports
Statistics Consulting Service – Graduate student research statistical advising
Student Health Services (SHS) – Clinic and pharmacy
Student Multimedia Services (SMS) – Poster printing, equipment and laptop loans
Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS) – Parking permits, maps
Other Modes of Transportation – Click on this link for biking on campus, then other options for bus, SafeRide, etc. on appropriate topics near top page
Valley Library – Reference and research assistance, study spaces, research tools
Appendix C – INTO Graduate Pathway

Understand the Pathway Program
OSU Graduate Pathway programs are the most supported and non-competitive route to a graduate program in an American Tier 1 research university. Joining this program will assure admission to their graduate program upon successful completion of the progression requirements. These programs will give students the academic foundation, essential language skills and GMAT/GRE test preparation to successfully move on to a master’s or doctoral degree.

THE GRADUATE PATHWAY PROGRAM IS IDEAL FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WHO:

- Desire to earn a US graduate degree
- May need to improve English language skills and still earn credits toward their degree program
- Desire additional academic, language and cultural support in order to succeed during the first year at a US university
- May not be eligible for direct entry
- May need additional preparation for GMAT/GRE

Program Benefits

- Up to 40 hours of TOEFL test preparation and GMAT/GRE preparation
- Dedicated academic advisor and progression advisor to help facilitate transition to the university
- Pathway peer tutors available to provide additional academic support
- Assured and non-competitive progression to masters program when the student successfully complete the Graduate Pathway

TOEFL, GMAT AND GRE PREP
TOEFL, GMAT and GRE test preparation are built into the Graduate Pathway program curriculum. Students will receive up to 40 hours of test preparation throughout the duration of the program. Our test preparation courses are taught by experienced OSU instructors and focus on skills-based language development and test-taking skills which include the use of practice tests and individual feedback on performance. We also provide self-study materials, available in our learning center.

For complete information, go to the Admissions site about Graduate Pathway.
Mission Statement

The Graduate Pathway Programs provide international students with highly structured, full university credit courses of study at the pre-master level, empowering students to succeed through language, cultural and academic support.

Contact Details

For more information, please email: Richard.Hahn@oregonstate.edu

Courses included in the Graduate Pathway Program:

Program grid

Graduate Pathway in Comparative Health Sciences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Length</th>
<th>Degree Program Components</th>
<th>Program Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Terms</td>
<td>45 credit hour program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 18, 2019</td>
<td>15 credit hours apply from Pathway</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 16, 2020</td>
<td>30 credit hours remaining toward degree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirements

- 2.5 GPA, Undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline.

Language Requirements

3 Terms:

- TOEFL 70, IELTS 6.0, Academic English Level 5 with C or higher (or Pass grades), Password 7, IELA 169, or Duolingo 95.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALS 165</td>
<td>Writing/Research Methods for International Grad Students *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALS 166</td>
<td>Technical Communication for International Grad Students *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BI 314</td>
<td>Cell and Molecular Biology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BB 331</td>
<td>Introduction to Molecular Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 13

Progression Requirements

- 3.0 GPA cumulative and B or higher grades in all graduate level classes. B or higher grade in all English language classes OR TOEFL 91 (18 subscores) OR IELTS 7.0.

Progression requirements for some majors may vary. See below for full details.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM 111</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALS 176</td>
<td>Advanced STEM Reading/Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALS 145</td>
<td>Graduate STEM Success *</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VMB 5XX</td>
<td>Graduate course in area of concentration</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCB 5XX</td>
<td>Molecular and Cellular Biology Techniques</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total 13**

**Notes**

COMM 111 Public Speaking: COMM 111 is delivered through the Department of Communication but are INTO OSU student-only sections.

* These courses are generally delivered through the INTO Center and are for Pathway students only.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>218</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WR 599</td>
<td>Academic Writing for Graduate Students *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VMB 5XX</td>
<td>Graduate course in area of concentration</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VMB 5XX</td>
<td>Graduate course in area of concentration</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total 14</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **P** = Placement option available  
  - **A** = Study abroad option available

### Degree subject

- **Comparative Health Science-M.S./Ph.D.**

- **Final Level %**
  - 3.0 GPA cumulative and
  - B or higher grades in all graduate level classes

- **English Level %**
  - B or higher grade in all English language classes OR
  - TOEFL 91 (18 subscores) OR
  - IELTS 7.0

- **Additional Requirements**
- **P** = Placement option available  
  - **A** = Study abroad option available
Appendix D: Annual evaluation forms

Graduate Student Annual Self-Evaluation

**NOTE:** Each year confirm with the Graduate School that your courses are on-track for graduation.

*Fill out this form (items 1-10) and have it evaluated by your Major Advisor. Write the self-evaluation based on the criteria listed in “Criteria to Define Satisfactory Progress” document.*

Today’s Date:

Name of student: Degree being earned/Program:

Program start date: Total years in the program:

Name of Major Advisor: Expected graduation date:

Names and affiliations of Graduate Committee members:

Program milestones:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASTERS</th>
<th>PhD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SELECT COMMITTEE MEMBERS/GCR</td>
<td>SELECT COMMITTEE MEMBERS/GCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBMIT PROGRAM OF STUDY</td>
<td>SUBMIT PROGRAM OF STUDY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHEDULE FINAL ORAL EXAM</td>
<td>ORAL PRELIMINARY EXAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBMIT DIPLOMA APPLICATION</td>
<td>SUBMIT DIPLOMA APPLICATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DELIVER PRE-TEXT THESIS TO GRAD</td>
<td>SCHEDULE FINAL ORAL DEFENSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISTRIBUTE THESIS</td>
<td>DELIVER PRE-TEXT DISSERTATION TO GRAD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>FINAL ORAL EXAM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NON-THESIS MASTERS**

- SELECT COMMITTEE MEMBERS/GCR
- SUBMIT PROGRAM OF STUDY
WORK WITH COMMITTEE TO SELECT TOPIC FOR WRITTEN PAPER

SUBMIT DIPLOMA APPLICATION

SCHEDULE PRESENTATION OF PAPER

Research project:

Progress to date/self-evaluation:

Plan for the coming year:
Publications, presentations, abstracts:

Additional information (awards, scholarships, etc.):

Signature of student: _________________________________________

Signature of Major Advisor: _________________________________________
# Major Advisor Review

**Instructions:** Annual Review Form to be completed by Major Advisor and Student’s Graduate Committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name:</th>
<th>Major Advisor Name:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## Degree/Program/Concentration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Program Began:</th>
<th>Current Year:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Check list</th>
<th>Does not meet expectations</th>
<th>Meets expectations</th>
<th>Exemplary performance</th>
<th>N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem definition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature knowledge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approach</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of written communication</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of oral presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical thinking</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Comments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advisor Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Print Committee Member Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Print Committee Member Name</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Signature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Committee Member Name</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Signature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Committee Member Name</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Signature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix E – Graduate School Forms

Graduate School Online Forms

Graduate Council Representative (GCR) List

All Doctoral students and Master's students who are writing a thesis are required to include a Graduate Council Representative on their committee. The Graduate Council Representative (GCR) serves in the role of impartial committee member who advocates for the student and ensures that all rules governing committee procedures are followed. He or she must be present at your final defense of your thesis.

You must select a GCR from the list generated by the online GCR list generation tool. After you have identified a representative, indicate on the list the faculty member serving in that role. You must then return the list to Graduate School by emailing it to graduate.school@oregonstate.edu, dropping it off in person to Heckart Lodge, or sending it through campus mail.

Policy on non-OSU committee membership

Your committee guides your course work and research and serves as your final examining committee. It is expected that all committee members or approved substitutes must be present for all formal meetings with the student (e.g. final oral exams). If you have a special case in which a committee member may need to participate remotely, you and your committee must assure that all the conditions for remote participation are met.

If the faculty member is not a member of the Graduate Faculty or is not approved for the role proposed, your major department/program will need to nominate the proposed member to act in those roles using the Graduate Faculty Nomination Form.

Changing Your Committee Membership

Graduate Committee Change

If it becomes necessary to replace one of your committee members after your committee has been established or to substitute a committee member for a particular meeting, refer to your committee composition requirements. Ensure that your replacement member is a member of the Graduate Faculty and approved for his or her proposed role. If the faculty member is not a member of the Graduate Faculty or is not approved for the role proposed, your major department/program will need to nominate the proposed member to act in those roles using the Nomination to Graduate Faculty form.

Committee structure is evaluated when your program of study is received by the Graduate School and when you schedule your formal examination(s).

The digital version of the Program of Study form became a requirement the 2019-20 academic year. As a regular graduate student, you must file a Program of Study with the Graduate School. Students who do not file a Program within the specified deadline for their degree will not be allowed to register for the next term. General guidelines are as follows:

Before completing 18 credits of coursework:

Develop a Program of Study *with your program.* This is your plan for completing your degree. Your advisor, department chair, or departmental graduate coordinator will help you. [***This should take place before the end of winter quarter in the FIRST year of the program for CVM Residents]
A registration hold will also be placed on graduate students whose Programs of Study are not approved after initial evaluation by the Graduate School. You must submit your Program of Study on a form provided by the Graduate School.

Use the manual hard copy Program of Study form to meet with your Committee. You are required to submit a digital copy, accessible by clicking the “Program of Study Form” title above. Hard copy will be phased out by the end of 2019 calendar year.

**Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) Submission Approval Form**

[Approval Form](#)

This form is submitted to the Graduate School along with a copy of the title page once the final thesis/dissertation is approved and uploaded to ScholarsArchive.

**Exam Scheduling Form**

Please note: This form must be completed and submitted at least two weeks prior to your exam or alternative summative assessment date. The purpose of this form is to start a Graduate School audit of your Program of Study to determine if you are qualified to proceed with your requested exam. The Graduate School will confirm the eligibility of your committee members, completed course work and grades among other things. When all has been verified, your exam documents will be distributed.

**Thesis Submission Deadline**

The final, corrected, and signed copy of your thesis or dissertation must be submitted to the Graduate School within 6 weeks after your Exam or before the first day of the following term, whichever comes first, to avoid having to register for a minimum of three graduate credits the next term.

Note: Continuous Enrollment Policy Applies. You must be registered for a minimum of three graduate credits until all degree requirements are completed. To avoid registering for the term following your defense, submit the final corrected and signed thesis or dissertation to the Graduate School before the first day of the term following the term in which you defend. For details on this policy see "Continuous Enrollment, I. Minimum Registration" in the Graduate Catalog,

Students must register for a minimum of 3 credits and pay fees if they will be using university resources (e.g. facilities, equipment, computing and library services, or faculty or staff time) during any given term, regardless of the student’s location. If degree requirements are completed between terms, the student must have been registered during the preceding term.

Graduate students who have successfully completed all course and non-course requirements in accordance with diploma deadlines are not required to register during the subsequent term.

**Diploma Application**

Diplomas are issued four times a year, at the end of each term. You must complete a diploma application form to receive your diploma. Diplomas are available from the Registrar’s Office approximately three weeks after the end of the term. Diplomas earned during Spring term are available at Commencement. Your diploma will reflect the degree awarded. Your transcript will reflect the academic major and degree awarded.

If you are pursuing more than one degree at the time you submit your diploma app, and if it defaults to the higher degree please email the Graduate School and we will manually change it for you.

- Log into MyOSU
• Select the Graduate Student tab
• In the My Graduate Degree box, under Graduation please select Graduate Students – Apply to Graduate.

Commencement forms
Please review [commencement information](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/change_address.php) for spring and summer completing students.

If you are completing during Summer, please submit the appropriate form to Julie Kurtz in the Grad School: [MS summer form 2020](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/change_address.php); [PhD summer form 2020](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/change_address.php)

See next page for actual annual forms. At the end of each academic year, you and your major advisor must complete these forms.

As Needed

Transfer Credit Request

Transfer Request Form
Students may be able to transfer selected graduate credits from a previously attended institution if all university guidelines on transfer credits are met (see Policies Governing All Graduate Programs, Transfer Credit in the OSU General Catalog) and if the student's graduate program decides the courses are applicable to the proposed OSU degree. Students may submit the Request for Transfer Credit form if they wish to determine whether the courses might be eligible for transfer credit and available for use on an OSU graduate program of study.

Late Add/Change of Registration

Late Change Registration Form

Change of Degree/Major/Certificate Request Form

Change of Degree form

Equivalence of Thesis/Non-Thesis Credit
If you are a current OSU graduate student and are changing your master’s degree from a thesis degree to a non-thesis degree, please submit to the Graduate School, the [Equivalence of Thesis form](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/change_address.php)

Change of Address/Email Address

[http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/change_address.php](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/change_address.php)

Leave of Absence

[Leave of Absence Form](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/grad_school/change_address.php)
Defense Evaluation Form

For Candidate’s Graduation Committee to complete.

Student:

Do you feel that the student was prepared?

Yes

No

Comments:

Do you feel the committee participated actively in advising the student about her/his research?

Did  Could do better  Was not very helpful

Comments:

Any suggestion to the program that in the future could improve the student and members of the committees experience?

No  Yes  Suggestions:
Appendix F – Graduate Deadlines

Masters Students
Master’s students must complete all degree requirements within seven years.

Program of Study
Students are urged to complete the program of study after completion of the first 18 credits, but are required to submit the program to the Graduate School at least 15 weeks before any final exam or alternative summative assessment.

Completing the Master’s Degree
At the beginning of the final term of study:
   Submit a diploma application.

At least two weeks prior to the final exam or alternative summative assessment:
   • Use online form to schedule the final oral examination or alternative summative assessment.
   • Distribute a defendable copy of the thesis to the full committee (if completing a thesis). For Non-Thesis, distribute your final written paper to the full committee and schedule your paper presentation.
   • Deliver or email pretext pages of the thesis to the Graduate School (if applicable).

Thesis Submission
Upload the final copy of the thesis (if required for degree) to ScholarsArchive within 6 weeks after the exam or before the first day of the following term, whichever comes first, to avoid having to register for a minimum of three graduate credits the next term.
Doctoral Students

Time to degree

Doctoral students beginning their program in Fall 2016, or later, have 9 years to complete all degree requirements, including course work, thesis, and examinations.

Program of Study

Before completing 5 terms, meet with the program committee to create a Program of Study. 2019-20 is the last year the hard copy program of study is available. The transition to the digital version starts this year. Use the hard copy when meeting with your program committee, then enter using the digital version for signatures via DocuSign. The completed and signed program of study must be submitted to the Graduate School before the end of the fifth term of enrollment.

Preliminary Oral Exam

Schedule the Preliminary Oral Exam at least 2 weeks in advance by submitting the Exam Scheduling Form. The Graduate School must have an approved program of study on file before the exam scheduling form is submitted.

Completing the Doctoral Degree

At least 2 weeks before the Final Oral Defense of Dissertation:

- Submit a diploma application (For Spring Term, earlier deadlines apply. See Diploma Application information for spring exam and commencement deadlines.
- Schedule the Final Exam by submitting the online Exam Scheduling Form to the Graduate School.
- Deliver or email pretext pages of the thesis to the Graduate School.
- Distribute dissertation to the entire committee.

Thesis Submission

A final and corrected copy of the thesis or dissertation must be uploaded to ScholarsArchive within 6 weeks after the exam or before the first day of the following term, whichever comes first, to avoid having to register for a minimum of three graduate credits the next term.
Appendix G - Graduate School Policies

Health Insurance

Health insurance is mandatory for all graduate students. GRA employment includes a contribution of 85% of the cost. More information is available at Student Health Services.

Insurance Coverage

OSU recommends that all students maintain adequate health insurance coverage. International students are currently required to enroll in the OSU insurance plan. Graduate assistants and graduate fellows have a separate mandatory health insurance plan through their graduate appointment. You can read more about the insurance plans available to students at the Student Health Services webpage.

ASOSU Insurance Subsidy: All students who enroll in the OSU International or Domestic plans qualify to apply for the need-based insurance subsidy offered by ASOSU (Associated Students of OSU - student government). The insurance office does not run this subsidy but we feel it is important for students to know that it is available. The deadline to apply for this subsidy is the third Friday of the term, and the insurance charge must be paid in full by the deadline for students to be eligible. ASOSU Information.

Minimum Course Loads

Course load requirements for graduate students are established by the Registrar and the Graduate School. You are considered a “full-time” graduate student if you are registered for 9–16 credits in a given academic term. You are considered a “part-time” graduate student if you have less than nine credits. If you are a degree-seeking student, you must be registered for a minimum of three graduate credits in any term you wish to be enrolled and access university resources, including the term of the final defense. Students are responsible for staying current on course load requirements that may supersede the Graduate School requirements (i.e., international, financial aid, veteran’s).

Continuous Graduate Enrollment

The policy for Continuous Graduate Enrollment is found on the Grad School website under “Policies Governing All Graduate Programs”.

All graduate students enrolled in a degree program must register continuously for a minimum of 3 graduate credits each term (fall, winter, and spring terms) until all degree requirements are met, regardless of student’s location. Students on approved leave are exempt from the continuous enrollment policy for the term(s) they are on leave.

Graduate students who use facilities or faculty/staff time during summer session are required to register for a minimum of 3 credits during the summer session. Students defending in the summer term are required to register for a minimum of 3 graduate credits.

Students may appeal the provisions of the continuous graduate enrollment policy if extraordinary circumstances arise by submitting a detailed request in writing to the Dean of the Graduate School. Scheduling difficulties related to the preliminary oral exam or the final oral exam are not considered an extraordinary circumstance.
Graduate assistantship eligibility requires enrollment levels that supersede those contained in this continuous enrollment policy. Various agencies and offices maintain their own registration requirements that also may exceed those specified by this continuous enrollment policy (e.g., those of the Veterans Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service for international students, and those required for federal financial aid programs). Therefore, it is the student’s responsibility to register for the appropriate number of credits that may be required for funding eligibility and/or compliance as outlined by specific agency regulations under which they are governed.

**NOTE:** Students who are pursuing a certificate only are not subject to the continuous enrollment policy.

**Leave of Absence**

Leave of Absence status is available to eligible students who need to suspend their program of study for good cause. The time the student spends on approved leave will be included in any time limits prescribed by the university relevant to degree completion. Students on approved leave may not a) use any university facilities, b) make demands upon faculty time, c) receive a fellowship or financial aid, or d) take course work of any kind at Oregon State University. A [Leave of Absence form](#) must be received by the Graduate School at least 15 working days prior to the first day of the term involved. The Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) may be granted at any point during a term. FMLA inquiries should be directed to medical.leave@oregonstate.edu.

**NOTE:** Students who are pursuing a certificate only are not subject to the Leave of Absence Policy.

**Unauthorized Break in Registration**

Degree seeking graduate students who take an unauthorized break in registration relinquish graduate standing at the University.

To have graduate standing reinstated after an unauthorized break, students are required to reapply to their program (complete the online graduate admission application, pay the application fee, and may be required to register for three graduate credits for each term of unauthorized break in registration). It is advisable that students in this situation state that they are applying for readmission in the application packet. A reapplication does not ensure admittance to the program.

**Grievance Procedures for Graduate Students**

**Introduction**

**Policy**

An important goal of Oregon State University is to maintain harmonious relations among students, faculty, and staff. To this end, candid and informal discussions between graduate students and others in the University are encouraged as a means of achieving harmony and of arriving at mutually satisfactory solutions to graduate student problems. Graduate education is based upon a mutuality of interests and respect among faculty and students. It is important
that this mutual concern for the quality of education and the persons involved be fostered and preserved.

If the informal discussions of a grievance between a graduate student and his or her supervisor break down, the use of or participation in a grievance procedure shall not subject the graduate student, any witness, or any graduate student's representative to reprisal in any way by the supervisor, the department, the major professor, the student's graduate committee, or the University. Nor shall participation in the grievance procedure be reflected in any way in efficiency ratings, grades, evaluations, promotion opportunities, or graduate student employment relations.

All students desiring to appeal matters relating to their graduate degree should follow the Grievance Procedures for Graduate Students. These procedures are available at the link at the top of this section. Graduate assistants, whose terms and conditions of employment are prescribed by the collective bargaining agreement between OSU and the Coalition of Graduate Employees, American Federation of Teachers Local 6069, should also refer to that document and seek guidance from OSU's Office of Human Resources.

**Scope**

This statement of policy encompasses all facets of graduate education and employment of graduate students at Oregon State University except for those that are explicitly noted in this statement.

**Decisions in Writing**

A reasonable effort should be made to resolve any grievance at the lowest level possible. Any decision rendered at or above the level of the departmental administrator shall be in writing.

**Academic Grievance Procedures**

**Scope**

Issues that may involve complaints on academic matters fall into four general categories: (1) those items that derive from University-wide regulations and which are not unique to graduate students. Examples are grades, attendance, and academic dishonesty. (2) those items that derive from rules and regulations of the Graduate School and which apply specifically to graduate students (3) those items that derive from rules or regulations of a department or comparable administrative unit. (4) other grievances related to a graduate student’s academic work and progress toward degree.

**Grievance Procedures Related to University-Wide Academic Regulations**

Grievances related to academic regulations for all students as adopted by the Faculty Senate (see the Introduction to the Academic Regulations) have the same channel of appeal for the graduate students as for undergraduates, except for the addition of the graduate dean.

The order of appeal will be (1) instructor, (2) administrator of department or comparable administrative unit, (3) academic dean, (4) graduate dean, (5) provost. The appeal procedures are in 576-022-0010.
Grievance Procedures Related to Graduate School Policies and Regulations

Graduate School policies and regulations may be found in the Graduate Bulletin, which is published annually. Appeals relative to the application or execution of these policies and regulations will have the following route: (1) major professor, (2) administrator of major department or comparable administrative unit, (3) graduate dean, (4) provost.

The graduate dean may refer a case to the Graduate Council or a committee of the Council prior to rendering a decision. If the graduate student is not satisfied with the decision of the graduate dean, and if the graduate dean has not referred the case to the Graduate Council or a committee of the Council, the student may ask that the case be referred to the Graduate Council or a committee of the Council prior to the appeal to the Provost and Executive Vice President.

Grievance Procedures Involving Departmental Policies, Procedures, and Regulations

All OSU students holding a baccalaureate degree and not enrolled as postbaccalaureate or professional degree students are enrolled in the Graduate School. This is in contrast to undergraduate students who are enrolled in an academic school or college. Graduate students typically work for advanced degrees, which are administered through academic departments or comparable administrative units. The graduate faculty members have appointments in these academic units and these units have a direct influence on the quality of graduate education at OSU.

When grievances arise relative to the application of the rules, procedures or policies of a department or comparable academic unit, the order of appeal will be: (1) major professor, (2) administrator of department or comparable academic unit, (3) graduate dean, (4) provost.

Grievance Procedures Related to Academic Work and Progress Toward Degree

When other grievances arise related to a graduate student’s academic work and progress toward degree, the order of appeal will be: (1) major professor, (2) administrator of department or comparable academic unit, (3) graduate dean, (4) provost.

Grievance Procedures for Non-degree Graduate Students

Non-degree graduate students holding a baccalaureate degree will have the following order of appeal: (1) instructor, (2) graduate dean, (3) provost.

Use of Designee

At any step of review beyond the instructor, the appropriate administrator may appoint a designee to act on his or her behalf in considering the grievance.

Time Limits

A grievance shall first be presented orally within 60 calendar days from the time the graduate student knew or should have known of the facts giving rise to the alleged grievance. At the level of departmental administrator, or above, the grievance or appeal must be submitted in writing. The responsible administrator at each step below the graduate dean is required to respond in writing to the grievant within 15 calendar days from the time the grievance was
received. The graduate dean shall respond within 30 calendar days, including review and reporting by a Graduate Council committee. Any appeal on the part of the grievant to the next step in the grievance procedure must be made within 15 calendar days from the time the grievant was informed of the action at the prior step.

If at any step of the grievance procedure the University fails to issue a response within the times specified, the grievance shall be considered denied. The grievant may file the grievance at the next step. If the grievant fails to file the grievance at the subsequent step within the time specified, the grievance will be considered withdrawn and cannot be resubmitted.

The indicated time limits are provided to assure speedy response to a grievance. However, the time period may be waived by mutual consent of the graduate student and the administrator.

**Appeal to Graduate Dean**

For any grievance submitted to the dean of the Graduate School, the dean may, at his or her discretion, refer the grievance to a special advisory committee of three persons comprising two members of the Graduate Council and a graduate student majoring in a department other than the one with which the student has a grievance. The dean of the Graduate School will render a decision in writing based on the facts of the case and the advice of the special committee if one is established.

**Grievance Procedures Related to Employment of Graduate Students**

Grievance procedures concerning employment can be found on the [Office of Human Resources Policies & Procedures page](#).

**Incomplete Grades**

An “I” (incomplete) grade is granted only at the discretion of the instructor. The incomplete grade is filed by the instructor at the end of the term must include an alternate/default grade to which the incomplete grade defaults at the end of the specified time period. The time allocated to complete the required tasks for the course may be extended by petition to the University Academic Requirements Committee. You can obtain the form from the Registrar’s Office. It is the student’s responsibility to see that “I” grades are removed within the allotted time.

**Student Conduct and Community Standards**

Graduate students enrolled at Oregon State University are expected to conform to basic regulations and policies developed to govern the behavior of students as members of the university community. The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (SCCS) is the central coordinating office for student conduct-related matters at Oregon State University.

Choosing to join the Oregon State University community obligates each member to a code of responsible behavior which is outlined in the [Code of Conduct](#). The assumption upon which this Code is based is that all persons must treat one another with dignity and respect in order for scholarship to thrive.

Violations of the regulations subject a student to appropriate disciplinary action.
Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty is defined as an act of deception in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic work or research, either through the Student’s own efforts or the efforts of another. It includes:

- **CHEATING** — use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids, or an act of deceit by which a Student attempts to misrepresent mastery of academic effort or information. This includes but is not limited to unauthorized copying or collaboration on a test or assignment, using prohibited materials and texts, any misuse of an electronic device, or using any deceptive means to gain academic credit.

- **FABRICATION** — falsification or invention of any information including but not limited to falsifying research, inventing or exaggerating data, or listing incorrect or fictitious references.

- **ASSISTING** — helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty. This includes but is not limited to paying or bribing someone to acquire a test or assignment, changing someone's grades or academic records, taking a test/doing an assignment for someone else by any means, including misuse of an electronic device. It is a violation of Oregon state law to create and offer to sell part or all of an educational assignment to another person (ORS 165.114).

- **TAMPERING** — altering or interfering with evaluation instruments or documents

- **PLAGIARISM** — representing the words or ideas of another person or presenting someone else's words, ideas, artistry or data as one's own, or using one’s own previously submitted work. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to copying another person’s work (including unpublished material) without appropriate referencing, presenting someone else's opinions and theories as one's own, or working jointly on a project and then submitting it as one's own.

Academic Dishonesty cases are handled initially by the academic units, following the process outlined in the University’s Academic Dishonesty Report Form, and will also be referred to SCCS for action under these rules.

Office of Equal Opportunity and Access

The OSU Office of Equal Opportunity and Access defines sexual harassment as the following:

- Unwelcome* sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual’s employment or education;

- Submission to or reject of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment of education –related decisions affecting such an individual; or

- Such conduct is sufficiently severe or pervasive that is has the effect, intended or
unintended, of unreasonably interfering with an individual’s work or academic performance because it has created an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment and would have such an effect on a reasonable person of that individual’s status.

*Employee conduct directed towards a student – whether unwelcome or welcome – can constitute sexual harassment under OAR.

The link to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access is located in Appendix A.

There are two confidential resources to discuss reporting options: Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence (CARDF) provides 24/7 confidential crisis response at 541-754-0110 or 800-927-0197, and OSU Sexual Assault Support Services is available weekdays at 541-737-7604.

**Student Records**

Both federal and state laws permit Oregon State University staff to release directory information (e.g. name, address, degree program, birth date) to the general public without your consent. You can prohibit the release of directory information to the public by signing the Confidentiality Restriction form available from the Registrar’s Office. It will not prohibit the release of directory information to entities of Oregon State University that have a “need to know” to accomplish their required tasks. It further will not prohibit Oregon State University departments from including your name on mailing lists for distribution of materials that are essential to your enrollment at Oregon State University.

**Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities**

“Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at (541) 737-4098.”

Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct, i.e. cheating policies

The document for “Oregon State University Code of Student Conduct” is located [here](#).

**Policy updates**

Policies are constantly changing. For the latest updates on Graduate School policies, click [here](#).
## Appendix H – CHS Participating Faculty & Research Summaries
### Comparative Health Sciences Degree Program
#### Participating Faculty

### Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine
- Mark Ackermann
- Brianna Beechler
- Luiz Bermudez
- Chris Cebra
- Patrick Chappell
- Katie Curran
- Lia Danelishvili
- Helio de Morais
- Brian Dolan
- Chuck Estill
- Jana Gordon
- Elena Gorman
- Jean Hall
- Claudia Hase
- Ling Jin

### College of Pharmacy
- Teresa Filtz
- Arup Indra
- Jane Ishmael

### College of Public Health and Human Services
- Marie Harvey

### College of Agricultural Sciences
- Gerd Bobe
- Gita Cherian

### College of Engineering
- Elain Fu

### College of Science
- Itchung Cheung

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<th>College of Veterinary Medicine</th>
<th>Carlisle College of Veterinary Medicine</th>
<th>Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine Participation Faculty</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Ackermann</td>
<td>Jennifer Johns</td>
<td>Stephen Ramsey</td>
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<td>Brianna Beechler</td>
<td>Anna Jolles</td>
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<td>Luiz Bermudez</td>
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<td>Chris Cebra</td>
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<td>Justin Sanders</td>
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<td>Patrick Chappell</td>
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<td>Lia Danelishvili</td>
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<td>Elena Gorman</td>
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<td>Claudia Hase</td>
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<td>Arup Indra</td>
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<td>Marie Harvey</td>
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Comparative Health Sciences Faculty Interest Summaries 2020

Mark R. Ackermann

My research has emphasized respiratory disease and most notably infections of human strains of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection in newborn lambs as a model for human infants. There are no vaccines or currently effective therapies for RSV despite the fact that nearly everyone becomes infected with RSV and that it is the leading cause of hospitalization for viral pneumonia in human infants. For the last 15 years, we have characterized the kinetics of the development of clinical signs, lesions and viral parameters as well as adaptive and innate immune responses with funding from the USDA and NIH. For the last 7 years we have assessed various novel oral and nebulized therapies against RSV in collaboration with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies as well as our own therapeutic approaches. Additional ongoing research activity includes inflammatory bowel disease of dogs and cats and previous research activity included: Mannheimia haemolytica pneumonia of cattle, Bovine Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency of Holstein calves, Atrophic Rhinitis in pigs, E. coli infections in pigs, and Colisepticemia pneumonia/air sacculitis in turkeys.

Brianna Beechler

My research interests seek to understand the role of host physiology and immunology in disease transmission. I work with a variety of wildlife and domestic animal species including African buffalo, bighorn sheep, walrus, cattle and domestic cats.

Luiz E. Bermudez

Mycobacterial pathogenesis and new therapies to mycobacterial infection. Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycobacterium avium, Mycobacterium abscessus and Mycobacterium avium subsp paratuberculosis. Infection of the human and animal host interaction with mucosal surface, survival mechanism in the host, biofilm and its role in disease. Macrophages, Natural Killer cells and T lymphocyte participation in host defense against mycobacterial infection.

Gerd Bobe

The focus of my research group is on dietary disease prevention using a “system biology” approach that integrates knowledge from nutrition & physiology, molecular & cellular biology, nutritional & molecular epidemiology, and biostatistics. (1) In ruminants, the focus of my research group is on optimal nutrition during periods of stress, in particular the time around calving and markers that predict risk of disease. Flaxseed, selenium, yeast fermentation product, and vitamin E are dietary compounds that we have looked at for improving health and performance of ruminants. (2) In humans, the focus of my research group is personalized disease prevention using dietary flavonols and dry beans. Combining “omics” techniques in parallel human and animal model studies provides the opportunity to improve risk
assessment, allowing the development of new prevention and treatment options, and an individually tailored approach to prevention and treatment in humans.

Chris Cebra

Dr. Chris Cebra main lines of inquiry involve energy metabolism and gastrointestinal disorders. Regarding energy metabolism, he has primarily investigated the diabetes-like characteristics of llamas and alpacas, but has completed projects on cattle and horses as well. Regarding gastrointestinal diseases, he has concentrated on causes of colic, parasitic disorders, and other enteritides of camelids. He has also initiated or collaborated on projects in a number of other areas relevant to large animal internal medicine including equine and camelid peritoneal fluid analysis, diagnostic imaging, infectious diseases, and immunology.

Patrick Chappell

Work in my lab broadly focuses on basic mechanisms underlying endocrine control of reproduction, exploring the role of the molecular circadian clock in the brain’s timing of reproduction in female mammals, investigating how circadian disruption may initiate breast and prostate cancers, and how the hormonal control of reproduction evolved from more ancient species such as corals.

Gita Cherian

The long-term goal of my research program is to better understand lipid metabolism in chicks so as to enhance their post-hatch growth and health along with producing wholesome foods for human consumption. Specifically, lipid modification strategies to: (1) investigate fatty acid metabolism during pre and early post-hatch in poultry, (2) investigate the role of maternal dietary lipids in modulating metabolic and cardiovascular disorders in progeny birds, and (3) develop value-added wholesome functional poultry foods were undertaken (or are in progress) through an OAES hatch project, the USDA-NRICGP, through the Agricultural Research Foundation or other private sources.

Katie Curran

Specializing in veterinary oncology, Dr. Curran appreciates providing owners with a comprehensive approach to diagnostic and therapeutic options. She studies ongoing advances in veterinary oncology.

Lia Danelishvili

Dr. Lia Danelishvili’s research is mainly focused on study the mechanisms of Mycobacterium tuberculosis pathogenesis. Dr. Danelishvili’s research identifies and characterizes virulence genes and proteins that are required for the early events of macrophage infection, survival and cell-to-cell spread. She studies the molecular mechanisms of the pathogen-host interaction and the associated cellular processes, such as apoptosis, autophagy and necrosis.
The multidisciplinary approaches employing bacterial genetics, high throughput screening libraries, gene knockout systems, cell biology, high-resolution microscopy, bioinformatics and mass-spectrometric sequencing are used in the laboratory.

Helio De Morais
My focus is on vector-borne and emerging infectious disease of dogs and cats.

Brian Dolan
Research in my lab is focused on two main areas. The first is the biology of antigen presentation, the process by which the cells of the body alert the adaptive immune system to the presence of intracellular pathogens, such as viruses, or oncogenic transformation. We are trying to determine which cellular pathways are necessary to successfully present the foreign peptide on major histocompatibility complex class I (MHC I) proteins at the cell surface, which serve to flag down disease specific cytotoxic T cells. We are also interested in studying immune responses in wild animal populations as it relates to disease spread.

Charles Estill
Dr. Estill is a Theriogenologist in the Department of Clinical Sciences. Research areas of interest include corpus luteum physiology and control, nutritional influences on reproduction, and ontogeny of sexual development. Current projects include collaboration on studies of “A ram model of neuroendocrine determinants of sexual orientation” and “Role of Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptor gamma on prevention/cure of Mastitis”.

Theresa Filtz
Research in Dr. Filtz’ lab focuses on better understanding the means by which cells respond to signals that cause them to alter their activities or states. Cells receive message from the outside at receptors on the cell membrane and then a series of intracellular events converts those messages to changes in protein activities, often culminating in changes to transcription factors that function to alter gene transcription programs. Her lab advances the elucidation of new drug targets by trying to better understand the array of changes called post-translational modifications on transcription factors that may alter gene expression networks.

Elain Fu
The goal of the Fu Lab is to advance the engineering of novel microfluidic tools and devices for field use through improving our understanding of the devices' underlying physicochemical processes. Research in the lab consists of three areas of focus: the investigation of molecular interactions and fluid transport in microfluidic systems, the development of tools and methods for use in high-performance microfluidic assays, and the implementation of microfluidic assays for clinically relevant analytes. Global health application domains of interest include human
disease diagnosis, veterinary medicine, environmental monitoring, and agriculture. In addition, a related area of interest is undergraduate curriculum development using paper microfluidics. Most recently, the lab’s research focus has been on the development of high performance “paper” networks. The lab is developing tools to manipulate multiple fluid volumes within porous materials and is using these tools to perform automated multi-step sample processing that is characteristic of "gold-standard" lab-based assays. Implementation into simple to use and inexpensive to fabricate disposable devices will enable high performance testing in even the lowest-resource settings. Previous collaborative work includes the development of diagnostic devices for malaria and influenza, and a therapy monitoring device for phenylketonuria.

Jana Gordon
Dr. Gordon’s research interests are in endocrinology and infectious disease.

Elena Gorman
My research interests are based upon the development of inflammatory bowel disease in domestic cats. I am primarily interested in the innate and adaptive immune responses to antigenic stimulation in this species. I have worked with the identification of lymphoid populations within the intestinal mucosa and mesenteric lymph nodes of random source cats. With this information, I hope to enable clinicians to better understand gastrointestinal pathology in their feline patients and to allow for better differentiation of inflammatory and neoplastic disorders of the GI tract by increasing the use of immunological methods, such as flow cytometry and immunochemistry, for evaluation of disease. In addition to gastrointestinal immunity, I also have a strong dedication to student teaching, particularly in the areas of clinical chemistry, including acid base physiology, and cytology, subjects which are particularly challenging to students. I work closely with students groups, e.g. the pathology club, in order to generate interest in these subjects and to develop better teaching modalities in order to aid their ultimate grasp of these concepts.

Jean Hall
My research is concerned with how nutrition affects immunity. I am interested in nutrigenomic technology, or the study of how nutraceuticals affect the expression of genes involved in the immune response. My projects involve sheep and cows supplemented with selenium and its effects on immune responses, animal health, and animal production. In particular, we are interested in using selenium as a fertilizer to enhance forages fed to ruminants. I am also interested in the health benefits of dietary n-3 fatty acids and antioxidants in geriatric dog and cat foods. We are currently investigating these supplements in renoprotective foods used to slow the progression of chronic kidney disease in dogs and cats. In conjunction, we are assessing novel renal biomarkers used for monitoring disease progression and therapeutic interventions.
S. Marie Harvey

I am a public health researcher with 35 years of experience conducting research focused on the behavioral, contextual, and policy aspects of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) among diverse samples of young adults, including men, women, and couples. The overarching goal of my research program has been to reduce disparities in risky sexual behavior and increase well-being and access to sexual and reproductive health services. I have published widely in the area of prevention of unintended pregnancy and STIs and have been the recipient of numerous research grant awards. In addition, I am the recipient of the 2008 Carl Schultz Award for Lifetime Achievement in the field of Population, Family Planning and Reproductive Health (PFPRH) from the PFPRH Section of APHA, and the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Oregon Public Health Association. More recently, I have extended my research focus to examine the impact of new health policies and healthcare reforms on SRH. I currently serve as PI on a six-year project funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to examine the impact of Medicaid expansion on the health of low-income women of reproductive age and infants in Oregon. In addition, I recently received funding to investigate the impact of Oregon’s Medicaid reforms on abortion access and utilization. I am dedicated to the use of research findings to inform policies and practices that improve the health of women, men, and families.

Claudia Häse

The genus *Vibrio* consists of a group of Gram-negative bacteria that naturally inhabit aquatic environments worldwide. Among this diverse group of microorganisms are a few human pathogens, namely *Vibrio cholerae* and *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*. In addition, our lab studies some *Vibrio* species that cause disease in aquaculture (*Vibrio tubiashii*) and corals (*Vibrio coralliilyticus*). We are applying various modern molecular techniques to better understand the virulence properties and environmental survival strategies of these pathogens. In addition, we are developing detection assays that can be used in aquaculture facilities to reduce the economic impact of vibriosis.

Adam Z. Higgins

Dr. Higgins’ research activities fit within the broad theme of medical bioprocessing, with a particular emphasis on technologies for long-term stabilization of cell-based products (e.g., cryopreservation, freeze drying) and microfluidic devices for chemical processing of blood. Current research projects focus on mathematical modeling and optimization of cryopreservation procedures, development of microfluidic cell washing methods to facilitate the use of frozen blood for transfusions and extracorporeal blood processing for treatment of sepsis.

Michael Huber

Research projects included surgical manipulation of endometrial cups in mares to manage infertility associated with pregnancy loss, and the impact of bone fragments on joint health.
Focusing on some innovative ideas for limiting reproduction in BLM and Tribal horse and burro populations and development of an instrument to facilitate a surgical procedure.

Arup Indra
Our laboratory is investigating into the mechanisms of skin development in space and time from stem cells using mouse genetics, biochemical, cellular and molecular approaches. We have identified key factors that are essential in establishment and maintenance of a protective epidermal barrier, lack of which can lead to neonatal death or in a milder form can trigger onset of inflammatory skin diseases such as Atopic dermatitis (AD). The mechanism(s) of skin barrier formation and contribution of skin keratinocytes in triggering such immune responses in presence of a leaky barrier are being investigated.

Jane Ishmael
Our research focuses on understanding the functional relationship between autophagy (“self-eating”) and cell death signaling in brain tumor cells. Glioblastoma multiforme is the most common malignant primary tumor of the central nervous system and remains very difficult to treat. These tumors arise from astrocytes and have many biological characteristics that allow them to evade cell death. We utilize a range of human cancer cell types and genetically modified mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) to determine how cells use autophagy as a survival response to stress. Our research interests are closely aligned with the drug discovery efforts in the College of Pharmacy and we study a number of unique compounds that have arisen in nature in diverse and unusual ecosystems. The main projects in the Ishmael laboratory are currently centered around structures with anticancer potential that were discovered by Drs. Kerry McPhail and Taifo Mahmud at collection sites in Panama, South Africa, Indonesia and the Red Sea. By working at the interface of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacology we seek to understand the potential of these naturally occurring structures to modulate autophagy, inhibit cellular proliferation and induce apoptotic or alternate modes of cancer cell death. Our long-term goal is to characterize new chemical entities with the potential to inspire drug development for and identify new cellular targets for cancer chemotherapy.

Ling Jin
My lab is interested in understanding of the mechanism of viral diseases and virus evolution. Latency of herpesviruses is the main focus of research in my laboratory. My lab uses several different herpesviruses to study the mechanism of herpes virus latency-reactivation cycles, the pathogenesis of herpes viruses, such as Herpes Simplex Virus 1 (HSV-1), Herpes Simplex Virus 2 (HSV-2), Leporid herpesvirus 4 (LHV-4), Koi herpesvirus (KHV) and other animal herpes viruses, and host-virus interaction in central nervous system. In addition, my lab in interested in anti-viral drug development, new emerging viral disease diagnosis, such as deer pox virus, deer adenovirus, goldfish tumor virus. Currently, we have research projects on HSV, LHV-4, KHV, Bovine Herpes Virus 1 (BHV-1), goldfish tumor virus, and deer adenovirus.
Jennifer Johns

Research in our lab focuses on several areas:

1) Translational research utilizing mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs). We are currently evaluating:

- How MSCs alter the bone marrow microenvironment and local immune response in canine osteosarcoma (a common bone cancer of dogs), and the resulting impact on tumor progression;

- The role of MSCs in modulating the host immune response to infectious diseases, particularly bacterial infections, in veterinary species.

- Research on tick-borne rickettsial infections, including granulocytic anaplasmosis and related obligate intracellular bacterial infections.

- Clinical research for veterinary diagnostic testing, with an emphasis on laboratory animal and exotic species, and hematopoietic disorders in domestic animals.

Anna Jolles

Dr. Anna Jolles is a disease ecologist and epidemiologist at Oregon State University, where she has appointments in the College of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Zoology. The Jolles lab studies the ecology and eco-immunology of infectious diseases in wild mammals. Current study systems include infectious diseases of African buffalo, feline immunodeficiency virus in African lions and Hanta virus in small mammals in Oregon. We collaborate with Dolan’s group on comparative immunology across a broad range of mammal species, and with Clint Epps (OSU Fisheries & Wildlife) on pneumonia in desert bighorn sheep.

Donald Jump

My colleagues and I, in the Molecular Nutrition and Diabetes Research lab, investigate the molecular and metabolic basis of complications associated with obesity and diabetes. Our current focus is on the role diet plays in the onset and progression of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), a major global health problem.

The central theme of our research is that dietary fat plays a central role in the control of transcriptional regulatory networks regulating carbohydrate, lipid and protein metabolism. Consumption of high fat diets or diets with insufficient polyunsaturated fats (omega 6 and omega 3 fats) contribute to the complications associated with obesity and type 2 diabetes. Such changes in dietary fat content disrupts regulatory networks controlling cell function. These events lead to complications of diabetes, such as hyperglycemia, dyslipidemia, cardiovascular disease and fatty liver disease.

Michael Kent
Dr. Kent’s research focuses on diseases of fishes and parasitology. Currently he is leading projects investigating diseases of importance to zebrafish in research facilities as this fish is now a very important model in biomedical research. Two groups of pathogens that he is studying are mycobacteria and microsporidia that infect zebrafish. He also is investigating diseases of importance in wild salmonid fishes, and presently is studying multiple pathogens associated with pre-spawning mortality in Chinook salmon.

Molly Kile
My major research interests are environmental, molecular epidemiology and global health. I am interested in understanding how exposure to chemicals in our environment influences maternal and child health. Specifically, I am interested in how chemical exposures in utero may alter epigenetic mechanisms that could contribute to chronic diseases later in life. I am also interested in how genetic and other individual factors such as nutritional factors may interact with chemical exposures to influences susceptibility to disease. I have a very strong background in exposure biology and developing cohorts for environmental epidemiological studies. I also have a very strong interest in international environmental health studies.

Chrissa Kioussi
The precision in formation of a developing embryo is the result of an intricate mechanism of morphogenetic events, which bring cell populations together for interactions to form three dimensional structures. Complex cascades of signal transduction pathways coupling with an overlapping array of transcription factors constitute the basis for interpreting the transient morphogenetic code. Chrissa Kioussi focuses on the molecular mechanisms by which transcription factors, such as the homeobox genes, mediate cardiovascular and muscle development. Using mouse model systems she searches for a better understanding of congenital heart diseases, muscular dystrophies and human syndromes.

Siva Kolluri
Our research efforts are directed toward discovering molecular targets that are selective for cancer, developing agents that are selectively toxic to cancer cells, and devising optimal combinations of therapeutic agents aimed at different molecular pathways for the prevention and treatment of cancer. We are currently focusing our efforts to (i) Develop small molecules to treat Bcl-2 overexpressing cancers and (ii) Therapeutic targeting of the Ah Receptor in cancer and autoimmune diseases.

Michelle Kutzler
Dr. Kutzler’s current areas of research include methods for non-surgical and alternative surgical sterilization, effects of gonadectomy on long-term health, and use of GnRH agonist treatment to improve long-term health of gonadectomized dogs.
Nicole LeBlanc

I focus my research in veterinary cardiology on the application of three-dimensional cardiac imaging to improve diagnostic utility of non-invasive cardiac assessment. Another research focus involves the pharmacologic assessment of transdermal drug applications for feline patients. I also investigate the efficacy of arrhythmia monitoring with noninvasive devices, as well as interventional approaches to both acquired and congenital heart disease.

Mark Leid

The Leid laboratory is primarily focused on the in vivo role of the transcriptional regulatory protein known as Ctip2/Bcl11b. The laboratory discovered the protein and cloned the corresponding cDNA in 2000. The Leid group subsequently defined the molecular and cellular basis for the activity of this transcription factor, and demonstrated that the protein plays key roles in the development of several organ systems, including the immune system, teeth, craniofacial skeleton, and skin. We now work primarily on two projects, with the goals of which are: (1) determining the role of BCL11B in craniofacial development and craniosynostosis, and (2) defining the mechanisms by which post-translational modifications, such as phosphorylation, sumoylation, and ubiquitination, control the transcriptional regulatory activity of BCL11B in all cell types.

Christiane Löhr

My research focuses on the molecular pathology as it applies to a wide range of diseases especially carcinogenesis, cancer prevention and treatment and infectious diseases. As a board certified anatomic veterinary pathologist with an appointment in the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory I encounter new or poorly understood disease conditions with regularity. Such cases provide excellent opportunities to identify specific, potentially novel, causes and mechanisms of disease processes. Much of my research is conducted in collaboration with colleagues in the College, on campus and outside the University. I find it very rewarding to provide critical input and data to large projects and to contribute to the training of researchers at all levels.

Kathy Magnusson

Our human population is aging. The percentage of the population in this country that is over the age of 65 is projected to increase from 12.6% in 2005 to 20% by 2030. With this increase will come a rising financial burden to both families and society, unless we can prevent the declines that are currently associated with aging. Declines in brain functions during aging, including memory and cognitive flexibility, affect almost half of the human population over 65 years of age. This interferes with people’s quality of life as they get older. It also can become an economic burden, because they can no longer live independently. Pet animals can also experience these changes, which may limit their functional lifespan. These problems suggest that there is a decline in the optimal functioning of regions of the cerebral cortex and hippocampus. The N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor, a subtype of glutamate receptor, is highly
expressed in these brain regions and plays a role in many of the functions that decline during aging. Our laboratory has found a selective vulnerability of the NMDA receptor to aging. This decline in NMDA receptors correlates with declines in memory function. We will be exploring the effects of drug or micronutrient intervention on these receptors during aging with the use of stereotaxic surgery, chronic drug administration, and/or behavioral testing using mice as our model system. We may also be examining the effects of interventions on receptor binding density, and subunit mRNA and protein expression with the use of receptor autoradiography, in situ hybridization and Western blots, respectively.

Erica McKenzie

Dr. Erica McKenzie is a specialist in large animal medicine and sports medicine and rehabilitation. Her research interests are largely related to exercise physiology and muscle function. Some of her projects have therefore included studying effective drugs for preventing muscle damage in horses, and the study of specific aspects of exercise physiology and disease in racing Alaskan sled dogs. As a large animal clinician, Dr. McKenzie occasionally performs research projects relevant to internal medicine in alpacas.

Jan Medlock

My research interests are in infectious diseases and ecology, using my background as an applied mathematician. I am currently working on a variety of subjects, from more theoretical work on dispersal of organisms to more practical projects on influenza, dengue, and African sleeping sickness. I am also interested in the application of mathematics and statistics to biology in general: I have recently begun working with Dr. Shay Bracha to analyze large amounts of genomics and proteomics data on canine cancers.

Kirk Miller

Dr. Kirk Miller is certified in Canine and Feline Practice through the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners. He was in private small animal general practice for more than 12 years before joining the faculty at OSU. Dr. Miller is a Clinical Instructor and teaches the Small Animal Primary Care rotation, which takes place at the Oregon Humane Society in Portland. His current research projects include looking at the natural incidence of dirofilaria immitis in dogs in the northern Willamette Valley and another project evaluating a novel spay technique in cats.

Tim Miller-Morgan

Dr. Tim Miller-Morgan is an extension veterinarian focusing on aquatic species and the ornamental fish industry. He leads the Oregon Sea Grant Aquatic Animal Health Program, which provides the ornamental fish industry, aquatic research laboratories, and public aquaria with cutting-edge, scientifically based, conservation minded disease management techniques, consultation and training. Our research focus is on applied research aimed at current and
emerging animal health issues generally associated with the management of wild-caught ornamental fish species and the management of disease throughout the chain of custody from the collector/farmer to the end consumer the ornamental fish hobbyists.

Milan Milovancev

My research topics can be broadly categorized as (1) cancer related or (2) clinical challenges in soft tissue surgery. My cancer related research centers around improving our understanding of the biologic behavior of canine sarcomas (e.g. soft tissue sarcomas, oral fibrosarcomas, and osteosarcomas) as it relates to development of novel diagnostic, prognostic, and therapeutic methods. The research I perform related to clinical challenges in soft tissue surgery is generated from specific problems encountered during my clinical treatment of patients. These include development of novel minimally invasive surgical techniques, evidence-based evaluations of different surgical methods, and case-based reports.

Andriy Morgun

Our lab is focusing on health problems in which an unbalanced interaction between immune, other host systems and different microbes leads to pathology. Those diseases range from immunodeficiency-associated enteropathy to cervical cancer and acute rejection of heart and renal transplants. We employ multiple large-scale quantitative approaches (also called “omics” (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omics) to generate the data and use this data to make predictive statistical models and networks that allow us to address three major topics:

- Discover new or repurpose old drugs
- Generate diagnostic/predictive “omics” signatures for personalized medicine
- Validate experimental animal models for human research using “omics” approaches.

Hong Moulton

Morpholino oligomers are a class of steric-blocking antisense molecules that have been widely used to knock down gene expression, modify pre-mRNA splicing or inhibit miRNA maturation and activity. Injection of Morpholinos into single-celled embryos of many creatures results in specific knockdown of targeted genes with little toxicity. Morpholino oligomers have revolutionary potential for treatment of a broad range of human diseases, including viral, bacterial, age-related and genetic diseases, but they suffer from poor delivery into cells. My long term research interest has been in inventing and improving methods for enhancing in vivo delivery of Morpholinos in a tissue-specific manner for a giving disease by chemically modifying and/or formulating Morpholinos. My current research is 1) to develop and validate a high throughput in vivo model to assess the efficacy and toxicity of intracellular delivery methods for steric-blocking antisense oligos, and 2) to investigate how host factors affect influenza viral infection using the Morpholino-mediated gene knockdown approach.
Fikru Nigussie
My research interest is in adult hippocampal neurogenesis and its role in learning and memory, regulation of stress and circadian rhythm using animal and cell culture models.

Kathy O’Reilly
1). Development of assays for diagnosis and epidemiology of important veterinary and zoonotic diseases. (Prefer MS students only).

Ana Pacheco
Dr. Pacheco’s research interest are in respiratory medicine, endocrinology and emergency and critical care.

Jill Parker
Dr. Parker’s research interests are in general equine and food animal surgery; and equine lameness.

Manoj Pastey
Dr. Pastey’s laboratory is conducting research work on the pathogenesis of influenza, HIV, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and developing a new diagnostic method to detect Dengue virus, Bovine Herpes virus, and sexually transmitted infections in clinical samples.

HIV Research Study: Our laboratory is testing a poly herbal vaginal microbicide named “BASANT” that has been shown to inhibit a wide range of sexually transmitted pathogens including HIV. Preliminary studies have also shown safety and acceptability in Phase I (acceptability and toxicity study) human trials in India. Therefore, the next step is to verify the effectiveness of the BASANT in preventing HIV transmission in vivo. We are also working on a novel HIV protein that is required for replication in T cells. HIV sequestration in the CNS and the failure of antiretroviral drugs to penetrate through blood-brain barrier to eliminate latent CNS reservoir continues to be a major road block in AIDS therapy. Therefore, we are developing Nanotechnology based delivery systems to target the virus within different tissue compartments.

RSV Research Study: Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is a leading cause of bronchopneumonia in infants and the elderly. There are no vaccines or effective treatment available. Knowledge of viral and host protein interactions is important for better understanding of the viral pathogenesis and may lead to development of novel therapeutic drugs. In our lab, we have shown that Respiratory Syncytial Virus Matrix (M) protein interacts with cellular adaptor protein complex (AP)-3 and its medium (μ) subunit. We are also looking into the role played by Myeloid cell leukemia-1 (MCL-1), an anti-apoptotic member of the B-cell lymphoma-2 (Bcl-2) family, in Respiratory Syncytial virus pathogenesis.
New Diagnostic method: We are developing a new rapid diagnostic method to detect dengue virus, bovine herpes virus, and sexually transmitted infections at Point-of-Care within 30 mins at room temperature using recombinase polymerase amplification (RPA) technology without the need for sophisticated equipment.

Sreekanth Puttachary

Even after a century of research to find a cure epilepsy still remains a disease that is not well understood. Dr. Sreekanth Puttachary’s lab is focused on investigating the effect of drugs that target the endocannabinoid system (such as Cannabidiol) administered during epileptogenesis to validate their short-term and long-term impact on the disease progression. In simple terms, seizures are just the symptoms/manifestation of a disease referred to as epilepsy. People of all ages, gender, socio-economic background and demography are susceptible to this disease. More than 2.9 million people in the US suffer from epilepsy.

Stephen Ramsey

My lab’s research combines computational and experimental approaches to better understand gene regulation: both how genes are regulated by population genetic variants and how gene regulation contributes to the pathogenesis of diseases like cancer and heart disease. In our five current projects we are (1) using comparative oncology approaches and transcriptome profiling to study cancers in companion animals (feline sarcoma, canine osteosarcoma, and canine prostate cancer); (2) developing machine-learning methods to aid in identifying which noncoding genetic variants have functions in regulating gene expression; (3) developing the machine-learning system for a "smart" bandage that will monitor wound healing; (4) collaborating with the Rockey Lab on genomics-based studies of chlamydia biology; and (5) using artificial intelligence methods to develop a "Wolfram Alpha"-like system for answering biomedical questions based on a huge database of structured biomedical prior knowledge.

Dan Rockey

Interactions between chlamydiae and the mammalian host. All species of chlamydiae are obligate intracellular bacteria that cause disease in a wide variety of animal species. In humans, Chlamydia trachomatis and C. pneumoniae cause a variety of diseases of the eye, genital tract and lung. These conditions affect millions of people worldwide and lead to billions of dollars in medical expenses yearly in the U.S. alone. Additionally, chlamydial infection is associated with certain types of arthritis and, most surprisingly, arterial sclerosis. Very little is known about how chlamydiae interact with the host to cause a particular chlamydial condition, and why some infected people have serious disease and others are asymptomatic.

Duncan Russell

My scholarly interests are applied clinical research, comparative pathology (particularly animal models of human disease and implant pathology), and educational science. I am especially
interested in research questions that are directly applicable to clinical veterinary medicine. This has included histologic evaluation of surgical margins and descriptions of naturally occurring disease. My projects relating to educational science have evaluated the utility of alternative teaching strategies that enhance student learning and encourage metacognition.

Justin Sanders

My research is focused on host-parasite interactions and the impacts of ecological and evolutionary factors on these interactions. Current projects include: 1. Production of monoclonal antibodies that recognize a number of zebrafish cytokines and characterization of the zebrafish immune response, 2. Development and characterization of an elevated temperature zebrafish model, primarily for the study of the apicomplexan parasite, *Toxoplasma gondii*, 3. Improvement of diagnostic techniques for the detection of important veterinary parasites such as *Giardia intestinalis* and the liver fluke, *Fasciola hepatica*, 4. Identification and characterization of the transmission dynamics of aquatic pathogens. This work is being performed with salmonid fishes in the wild as well as with laboratory zebrafish in order to determine the factors involved in prespawn mortality of salmonids and to guide diagnostic efforts aimed at improving the health of zebrafish in laboratory fish colonies.

Mahfuzar Sarker

The long-term goal of my research program is to develop strategies to inactivate *Clostridium* spores and to control *Clostridium*-mediated diseases. We mainly focus our work on spores of *C. perfringens* (*Cp*) causing *Cp* food poisoning, which currently ranks as the third most commonly reported food-borne disease in the USA. *Cp* also causes non-food-borne gastrointestinal (GI) diseases in humans and GI diseases in domestic animals. Specifically, we investigate the molecular mechanisms of *Cp*: i) spore heat resistance; ii) spore germination; iii) spore-host interactions; and iv) spore inactivation.

Kate Schilke

Development of peptide-based bioactive surface modifications for biomedical devices, and applications of immobilized biomolecules in microreactors and lab-on-chip devices.

Carla Schubiger

I have a particular interest in bacterial infectious diseases of commercial aquatic species, currently working with oysters, shrimp, salmonids, and black cod. My group studies probiotics and their use as alternative treatment options against a variety of aquaculture pathogens, their influences on the innate immune response and the gut microbiome of the aquatic host, their efficacy in food safety, and the molecular mode of action of the probiotic. I am also curious about aspects of bacterial cell physiology and working with zebrafish.
Katherine Scollan

My research in the field of veterinary cardiology is focused on three-dimensional imaging of the heart including 3D echocardiography and computed tomography (CT). I am investigating the use of these imaging modalities to assess size and function of the cardiac chambers in normal and diseased hearts. In addition, I perform research in pharmacokinetics and efficacy of antiarrhythmic medications used in dogs and have an interest in the congenital cardiac diseases of camels.

Stacy Semevelos

Her research focuses on comparative orthopaedics, particularly postnatal cartilage development and osteochondrosis in horses. She has discovered molecular expression changes in osteochondrosis and has explored the quantitative and spatial alterations of matrix molecules, growth factors, and cell-to-cell signaling in this important disease. In addition, she has discovered age-related changes in gene and protein expression patterns of matrix molecules, growth factors and paracrine factors in articular cartilage of normal growing horses throughout postnatal development. She has also investigated musculoskeletal disorders of llamas and alpacas, using molecular, biochemical, and histological techniques to evaluate suspensory apparatus breakdown in these species.

Thomas Sharpton

Dr. Thomas Sharpton’s research is broadly directed towards ascertaining how commensal microbiota and their genomic characteristics (i.e., the microbiome) relate to health. His laboratory specializes in the development and application of high-throughput computational and statistical tools that characterize microbiome biology, and investigates how microbiomes are distributed across space, time, and host physiology. The Sharpton lab aims to develop testable hypotheses about how hosts and their microbiome interact, and strives to understand the evolutionary and ecological processes that influence community assembly, maintenance, and function within a host. Ultimately, this knowledge will be used to discover disease mechanisms, identify predicative and diagnostic biomarkers of disease, and develop tools to treat disease through manipulation of the microbiome. All of the data resources and software that his lab develops are freely available.

Neil Shay

Neil Shay, Ph.D. is presently a Professor in OSU’s Department of Food Science and Technology. His research area is the study of bioactive compounds in fruits and vegetables, such as the antioxidant compound found in raspberries, watermelon, and grapes including resveratrol, quercetin, citrulline, and ellagic acid. His research most closely touched on the health problems of diabetes, hyperlipidemias, obesity, and chronic inflammation associated with metabolic diseases. Trained in nutrition-related aspects of biochemistry and molecular biology, Dr. Shay’s research has included molecular biology studies, animal models, and clinical studies.
Natalia Shulzhenko

My laboratory studies interactions between the immune system, metabolism and gut commensal microorganisms (microbiota) in mouse models and human diseases. Microbial cells exceed ten times the number of our own body cells and contribute to several physiological processes. With the advent of new genomic technologies, the role of microbiota in health and disease is a rapidly evolving field of research. We apply novel systems biology approaches such as network reconstruction to analyze host and microbiota simultaneously. Our recent work on chronic enteropathy in immune-deficient hosts revealed a crosstalk between the immune system, the microbiota, and the epithelial cells affecting both intestinal and systemic lipid metabolism. Using metagenomic sequencing, we plan to reveal the microbial players contributing to this disorder and to test them in a mouse model of this disease. In another project, we are studying adverse effects of antibiotics on the intestinal immune system and on microbiota and how this disruption contributes to metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes.

Aleksandra Sikora

The emergence and increasing occurrence of bacterial strains that are resistant to all classes of available antibiotics is a global problem. Current antimicrobials target a relatively small number of essential gene functions including: inhibition of cell wall biosynthesis, and synthesis of macromolecules (proteins, DNA and RNA). Treatment of infections caused by antibiotic resistant bacteria requires new approaches and agents with novel modes of action. The bacterial extracellular proteome (cell envelope, membrane vesicles and secreted proteins) plays a fundamental role in establishing infection by enabling the microbes to adhere to and invade host cells, facilitating nutrient acquisition, host tissue destruction, and suppression of host immune responses. Hence the components of the extracellular proteome are promising targets for drugs/vaccines aimed at preventing bacterial infections. The long-term goal of our research is to enhance our understanding of the phenotypic plasticity of the bacterial extracellular proteome and utilize this information to identify attractive targets for development of new therapeutic interventions. Currently, our research focuses on the role of bacterial extracellular proteomes in colonization and circumvention or exploitation of host immune response using two model organisms *Vibrio cholerae* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. We examine these issues using comprehensive proteomic studies, chemical genomics, and state of the art genetic, molecular and biochemical methods.

Sean Spagnoli

Sean Spagnoli engages in collaborative zebrafish research with individuals throughout the country. His own work involves improving the zebrafish as a model for biomedical research by exploring current biosecurity and hygiene standards and practices with regard to subclinical infectious disease and its effects on various experimental techniques.

Susanne Stieger-Vanegas
My research interests focus broadly in computed tomography and ultrasound of gastrointestinal, complex cardiac and musculoskeletal disease in dogs and New World Camelids. My interest not only includes the CT imaging of clinical patients, but establishing new imaging protocols to improve imaging of diseased veterinary patients using CT. Currently I have a focus in cats with lung disease, dogs and New World camelids with gastrointestinal and cardiac disease. In addition, I have a strong interest in understanding if additional techniques such as three-dimensional CT can improve the accuracy reading CT studies in evaluators less experienced reading CT studies. Furthermore, I am also interested in establishing new techniques such as elastography to evaluate patients with musculoskeletal disease. Elastography is a relative new technique used in human patients with injuries of the soft tissues and has in human patients so far predominantly been used to evaluate patients with suspected breast cancer. Current ongoing funded projects include CT of the gastrointestinal tract of dogs and New World Camelids with enteropathy, cardiac-gated CT of New World camelids with complex cardiac abnormalities, evaluation of the healthy and diseased supraspinatus tendon in dogs using ultrasound and MRI. In addition, I am involved in a dental study performing tooth root ablations of the tooth bud of the last maxillary molars (wisdom teeth in humans) using pigs as a model for future studies in human patients.

Sue Tornquist
My areas of research include hematology, metabolic disease and infectious diseases of camelids and use of immunocytochemistry in diagnosis and prognosis of neoplasia.

Katy Townsend
My research focus involves studying how tumors spread throughout the body, specifically to lymph nodes. Accurately determining whether cancer has spread is important to assess prognosis, what further treatment is necessary and what surgery we recommend. We cannot determine based on anatomy alone if cancer has already spread to lymph nodes, so we are looking into emerging imaging and intraoperative modalities to determine this. My collaborators and I are assessing individualized staging for dogs and cats with wide varieties of cancer, to give our pets individualized treatments based on their individual disease process. Our research efforts ultimately will result in individualized patient care by allowing us to determine whether each dog or cats cancer has spread. This will help us determine what further treatment we should perform.

Richard Van Breemen
Aligned with the Linus Pauling Institute, research in the van Breemen laboratory concerns the discovery and development of natural products as chemoprevention agents and the investigation of mechanisms of action and safety of botanical dietary supplements. The goal is to identify micronutrients and natural products that may be used to maintain optimal health and prevent cancer and neurological degenerative diseases. This research integrates the analytical tool of mass spectrometry into all aspects of the drug discovery and development
from screening of botanical extracts for the identification of active natural products, to studies of drug metabolism and disposition, and to quantitative analyses of the bioavailability and pharmacokinetics of pharmacologically active compounds. These translational studies extend from basic science to clinical trials.

Joy Waite-Cusic

Dr. Waite-Cusic’s lab conducts applied research in four main themes: (1) pre-harvest food safety, (2) process validation, (3) prevalence of pathogens in food systems, and (4) microbiological quality indicators and spoilage.

Katja Zellmer

My general research area is the pathophysiology and treatment of osteoarthritis – especially in horses. More specifically, we are currently investigating different routes of administration of the drug tiludronate, which is a bisphosphonate that decreases bone breakdown. This drug is exciting, as it is the 1st time that veterinarians are trying to affect the subchondral bone pathology in the development of osteoarthritis! Another area of research is the use of nanocarriers for the delivery of medication, gene therapy and interfering RNAs into osteoarthritic joints. Further, I am collaborating in the investigation into signaling changes that may be responsible for the development of osteochondrosis (a developmental joint disease) in foals, as well as in the use of synovial-derived cells for bioengineering of meniscal replacements in dogs. In the future, I am hoping that we will determine whether synovial-derived mesenchymal stem cells are of benefit in the treatment of osteoarthritis in horses.
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