



Exotic Animal/Zoological Medicine Veterinary Certificate Program

The Exotic Animal/Zoological Medicine Veterinary Certificate (EAZMVC) program is for current Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) students at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Kansas State University. The goal of the EAZMVC is to prepare DVM students for long term success in the field of exotic animal and zoological (which, for this document, includes wildlife) medicine by incorporating skills of varied areas that include: captive management/husbandry, physical examination, ability to obtain detailed patient histories, manual and chemical restraint, knowledge of a broad-range of diagnostic procedures, understanding basic disease processes, veterinary care/animal health, preventive medicine, and the ability to adapt a student's knowledge and experience to a broad-range of species.

Benefits

- 1) EAZMVC students will have a well-defined pathway to successful training through the completion of complementary coursework and experiential learning to develop a wide array of skills and aptitudes for exotic pet and zoo animal medicine.
- 2) Completion of the certificate program will provide a concise and transparent mechanism for new graduates to communicate their training and skills to prospective employers and allow employers to identify students with skills needed for best practice success.
- 3) The EAZMVC program consists of didactic and experiential learning opportunities which cover a variety of topics aligning with the overall educational objective of preparing students for entry into exotic animal/zoological medicine veterinary practice.

To complete the certificate program:

Courses required for the certificate (8 credit hours + 1 zero credit)

First, Second or Third Year

VCS 892-J Pre-Clinical Mentorship – Exotic Animal/Zoological Medicine Emphasis (1 cr) Y1-2-3

Third Year

VCS 891 J Topics in Advanced Zoological/Wildlife Medicine (1 cr) Y3 - SPRING

VCS 891 O Topics in Advanced Exotic Pet Medicine (1 cr) Y3 - SPRING

Fourth Year

VCS 901 Externships – Exotic Animal/Zoological Medicine Emphasis (2 cr)

VCS 905 Zoo, Exotic, Wildlife, Avian Medicine and Surgery (3 cr)

VCS 901 Externship/Programmed Study* (0 cr)

*Students must enroll in the zero (0) credit option of VCS901 during the 4th-year as verification that the 50 points of training opportunities have been completed and recognized.

Elective courses (minimum of 6 credits)

VAP 891 A: Special Interest Anatomy (1 cr) Y1-2 - SPRING

VCS 820 Topics in Global Veterinary Medicine Y1-2 (1 cr) - SPRING

VDMP 891 E Ecotoxicology (1cr) Y2 -SPRING

VDMP 891 B Laboratory Animal Science (2 cr) Y3 - SPRING

VDMP 891C Backyard Chicken Diseases (1 cr) Y2-3 - FALL

Fourth Year

VCS 901 Externships – Exotic Animal/Zoological Medicine Emphasis* (1-4 cr)

*These are in addition to the credit hours listed under "required courses"

VCS 907 Supplemental Zoo, Exotics, Wildlife, Avian Medicine and Surgery (3cr)

1/ Students must complete the required number of required mandatory courses (8 credits) with a minimum grade of "C" in each course.

2/ Students must complete the required number of optional elective courses (6 credits) with a minimum grade of "C" in each course.

3/ Students will also have to complete a number of other training opportunities; ideally, these will align with their specific areas of interest in exotic animal/zoological medicine. Through their activity log, 50 points (pt) are required. [EAVMVC Activities](#)

[Points system.pdf](#) Once 50 points have been awarded, the student will be enrolled in VCS 901 (Clinical Externship and/or Programmed Study) for 0 credit status (no financial cost).

Sample Activities for Points

- Actively participate as an officer or by attending 75% of the meetings in the KSU Exotic Animal Medicine Club (EAMC) (5 pt)
- Participating in pre-clinical mentorships at other approved exotic, wildlife, and zoo facilities (5 pt/week)
- Attend professional meetings (5-10 pt)

More information available by request.