



## **Academic Regulations for the bachelor's and master's degree programs at the Vetsuisse Faculty of the University of Zurich**

### **1. General provisions**

#### **§ 1 Subject matter**

<sup>1</sup> These Academic Regulations govern the bachelor's and master's degree programs as mono study programs of the Vetsuisse Faculty of the University of Zurich (UZH).

<sup>2</sup> The Academic Regulations are made up of a general section and the appendices. The general section governs aspects that pertain to all study programs whereas the appendices govern aspects that are specific to certain study programs.

<sup>3</sup> Further information regarding the study programs may be published by the faculty in a suitable manner.

### **2. Studies**

#### **1. Section: General information regarding studies**

#### **§ 2 Study programs**

<sup>1</sup> The bachelor's degree program consists of a mono study program.

<sup>2</sup> The master's degree program consists of a mono study program.

<sup>3</sup> The structure of the study programs as well as the prerequisites for participating in the study programs are set forth in the appendices to these Academic Regulations. These define the standard curricula for the study programs, the corresponding modules and what they are worth in ECTS credits.

<sup>4</sup> Each program begins in the fall semester.

#### **§ 3 Admission requirements for the master's program**

Please see the appendix of these Academic Regulations for information regarding the admission requirements for the consecutive master's program.

#### **§ 4 Requirements and conditions**

<sup>1</sup> Requirements or conditions may be imposed for admission to the master's program offered by the Vetsuisse Faculty. Based on the professional requirements profile, any missing knowledge is identified and the requirements or conditions issued.

<sup>2</sup> The module type and, if applicable, modalities and deadlines of the modules to be completed as requirements or conditions for admission will be stipulated together with the admission.

<sup>3</sup> If a module stipulated as being a requirement or condition for admission is definitively failed or if the deadline set at the time of admission is not met, a final rejection will be issued.

<sup>4</sup> The final rejection will trigger a ban in accordance with section 3:

- a. for the bachelor's program for which the definitively failed module constitutes a mandatory module;
- b. for the corresponding master's program for which the module was stipulated as a condition or requirement.

## **§ 5 Process for disabled students**

<sup>1</sup> In order to initiate the semester-by-semester process for measures aimed at compensating for disadvantages, the students must submit a request to the Disability Office. A medical certificate must be presented at such time that verifies the existence of a chronic illness or disability. The students are urged to contact the Disability Office at an early point in time.

<sup>2</sup> The Disability Office will determine whether the chronic illness or disability documented by the medical certificate is relevant to the studies and propose compensatory measures.

<sup>3</sup> The student must submit the request for semester-by-semester compensatory measures to the Office of the Dean of Studies of the Vetsuisse Faculty of the University of Zurich. The findings of the Disability Office must be enclosed with the request. Requests regarding measures related to course attendance must be submitted as early as possible. Requests regarding measures related to evaluations must usually be submitted at least four weeks prior to the date on which the requested measure is to be applied. In the case of dates related to evaluations or partial evaluations that are announced at very short notice, the deadline is shortened accordingly.

<sup>4</sup> The Dean of Studies decides whether any compensatory measures will be granted and, if so, how they will be structured. In case of doubt, they will consult the Disability Office before making a decision.

## **§ 6 Publication with requirements**

<sup>1</sup> Work done by students may be published in consultation with the module supervisor.

<sup>2</sup> In consultation with the supervisor, it is possible to publish the master's thesis either in part or in full even prior to the submission deadline for the master's thesis.

<sup>3</sup> Publication may be made subject to requirements. Specifically, one requirement could be the elimination of any information suggesting that the work was prepared at UZH.

## **§ 7 Plagiarism check**

<sup>1</sup> The lecturers supervising the work are responsible for using software to check students' work for plagiarism.

<sup>2</sup> A plagiarism check must be performed on master's theses stored on ZORA.

## **§ 8 Academic misconduct – procedure**

<sup>1</sup> If academic misconduct is suspected, the student in question will be given an opportunity to make a statement during a legal hearing.

<sup>2</sup> If the suspicion of academic misconduct is confirmed, the next steps shall be governed by the *Academic Misconduct* regulation in accordance with the regulations regarding studies in bachelor's and master's degree programs at the Vetsuisse Faculty (Study Regulations).

## **§ 9 Calculating the period of study <sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> When calculating the period of study, the only semesters counted are those semesters for which the student is registered at UZH. Counting stops at the time of each deregistration. Counting resumes in the event of re-registration.

<sup>2</sup> If an individual plan of studies is drawn up in accordance with § 13 of the Study Regulations, this is used to structure the studies going forward. If a request is made to extend the period of study, the plan of studies has no influence over any decision made in this regard.

## **§ 10 Request to extend the period of study<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Requests for a two-semester extension to the period of study must be submitted to the Dean of Studies via the digital infrastructure of the UZH within 30 days of the receipt of the final transcript of records.

<sup>2</sup> The request must contain a justification. The student must explain the good cause that prevented him or her from completing the bachelor's or master's degree program within twelve semesters.

<sup>3</sup> In particular, good cause could include approved vacation-related absences within the meaning of the Ordinance on Admission to Studies at the University of Zurich.

<sup>4</sup> For every further request for an extension of the period of study, the student must provide evidence of good cause that also prevented him or her from completing the degree within the extended period.

## **2. Section: Modules**

### **§ 11 Module supervisor**

<sup>1</sup> Module supervisors are appointed by the faculty.

<sup>2</sup> Module supervisors plan and coordinate the respective module and are also responsible for the module's evaluation. They can also be assisted by lecturers.

<sup>3</sup> They plan the respective module in consultation with the director of the study program. The director defines its content and formal conditions.

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<sup>1</sup> This paragraph will only become legally valid upon the entry into force of the corresponding paragraphs of the Study Regulations.

<sup>2</sup> Ditto.

## **§ 12 Module prerequisites**

<sup>1</sup> Module prerequisites can be defined for booking a module including, in particular, previously passed modules or knowledge acquired; such prerequisites must be met prior to booking the module.

<sup>2</sup> The number of participants in a module may be limited or participation may be reserved for a specific target group. In particular, a restriction or a combination of restrictions may apply

- a. for didactic reasons or
- b. for capacity-related

reasons.

<sup>3</sup> Criteria governing participation in modules with participation restrictions and on the procedure used for allocating module places are announced in an appropriate manner.

## **§ 13 Registering for and deregistering from modules**

<sup>1</sup> Modules are booked via the electronic infrastructure intended for that purpose. Details will be published in a suitable manner.

<sup>2</sup> Special registration processes may apply for the following in particular:

- a. registration for / deregistration from a master's thesis
- b. registration for / deregistration from examinations
- c. rotations
- d. internships

<sup>3</sup> Module deregistration must take place before the deadline. Students must deregister via the electronic infrastructure intended for that purpose. The deregistration deadline will be published in a suitable manner.

<sup>4</sup> The deregistration from a module after the module cancellation deadline will trigger an error message

*[Version from July 7, 2022]*

## **§ 14 Repeating modules / evaluations**

<sup>1</sup> The faculty will announce in a suitable manner whether the entire module or only the module's evaluation must be repeated.

<sup>2</sup> If either of these must be repeated, it must be re-booked.

## **§ 15 Clinical Emergency Service *[Version from July 7, 2022]***

<sup>1</sup> The students provide clinical emergency services in accordance with the study program. They support the staff in the clinics and take an active part in evening and emergency shifts.

<sup>2</sup> The "Night shifts and weekend shifts" module in the first year of the master's program must be completed in full. Students who drop the module with a valid excuse must make up for any hours they missed in order to receive the ECTS credits.

<sup>3</sup> In the first year of their master's program, students may be scheduled to work until 11 p.m., on weekends, on holidays and during semester breaks.

<sup>4</sup> In particular, the "Night shifts and weekend shifts" module is considered to have been failed if

- the student fails to work the shift;
- the student terminates the shift early without a valid excuse;
- the student fails to follow rules of hygiene when working the shift;
- the student fails to achieve the learning objectives.

The failed module must be repeated in full.

<sup>5</sup> The Clinical Emergency Services during the rotations must be completed in accordance with the program. Students may be scheduled to work at night, on weekends, on holidays and during semester breaks.

<sup>5</sup> The Clinical Emergency Services during the rotations will be included in the grading of the clinical modules in which they are integrated.

## **§ 16 Master's thesis mandatory module**

<sup>1</sup> The master's thesis is a distinct academic paper written independently by the student during their master's degree program.

<sup>2</sup> The master's thesis is worth 20 ECTS credits, which corresponds to around 600 hours of work.

<sup>3</sup> The faculty publishes information about the master's thesis in a suitable manner, especially in a leaflet.

## **§ 17 Supervision of the master's thesis**

<sup>1</sup> Supervision may be done by professors, assistant professors, lecturers, assistant lecturers with tenure-track contracts, senior physicians of veterinary medicine, postdocs as well as senior teaching research assistants of the Vetsuisse faculty of the universities of Bern and Zurich.

<sup>2</sup> The supervisor may bring in additional supervisors who hold a PhD and have experience as independent researchers.

<sup>3</sup> In principle, a master's thesis may be supervised by an external party in consultation with the respective departmental representative. Both the external as well as the internal supervisor must be listed as the supervisors.

## **§ 18 Co-supervisor for a master's thesis**

<sup>1</sup> A co-supervisor can be appointed to assess and grade the master's thesis.

<sup>2</sup> The role of co-supervisor can be taken over by individuals from the group of people specified in § 17(1).

<sup>3</sup> If the supervisor (main supervisor in accordance with § 17) does not have a post-doctoral lecturing qualification (habilitation) or the equivalent thereof, this qualification must be held by the co-supervisor.

## **§ 19 Master's thesis committee**

<sup>1</sup> The faculty employs a master's thesis committee.

<sup>2</sup> The master's thesis committee has four members: two representatives from the institute of veterinary science, one member of the faculty's clinical institute and one student representative. *[Version from July 7, 2022]*

<sup>3</sup> The master's thesis committee shall constitute itself.

<sup>4</sup> The master's thesis committee monitors the quality of master's theses and adopts quality assurance measures.

<sup>5</sup> The master's thesis committee serves as a conciliation board if problems arise between students and supervisors.

## **§ 20 Master's thesis agreement**

The student and supervisor sign an agreement (learning agreement) before work on the master's thesis commences. This agreement defines many aspects of the master's thesis, including the following in particular:

- a. topic, title, objectives and contents
- b. timeframe (e.g. submission of a first draft of the work, final submission date, subject to fixed submission dates set by the faculty)
- c. appointment of a co-supervisor

## **§ 21 Assessment and grading of the master's thesis**

The master's thesis is assessed and graded by the supervisor and co-supervisor. The master's thesis grade is the average of both grades.

## **§ 22 Repeating the master's thesis**

<sup>1</sup> If the master's thesis is assessed as "unsatisfactory", a new master's thesis about a new topic may be written under another supervisor; this may only be done once.

<sup>2</sup> If the new master's thesis is assessed as "unsatisfactory", the master's thesis shall be deemed to have been definitively failed and the student will be dismissed permanently from the degree program.

## **3. Section: Evaluations**

### **§ 23 General information regarding evaluations**

<sup>1</sup> To pass a module, the student must successfully pass the corresponding evaluation.

<sup>2</sup> In the case of evaluations consisting of multiple parts, compensation options can be planned for the failed portions of the partial evaluations.

## **§ 24      Conducting evaluations**

<sup>1</sup> The type, format and scope of the evaluations is published by the faculty in a suitable manner.

<sup>2</sup> The respective module supervisor and the director of the study program are responsible for conducting evaluations.

<sup>3</sup> Deviations with respect to the time, format and scope of evaluations can be defined for exchange students.

## **§ 25      Absence, interruptions – evaluations**

If, during an evaluation, a student is prevented from sitting the evaluation or if the examination has already begun but must be interrupted, it must be repeated at the next possible date or, in the case of partial examinations, continued at the next possible date.

## **§ 26      Language used in evaluations**

<sup>1</sup> As a rule, evaluations are carried out and completed in the language in which the corresponding course is taught.

<sup>2</sup> Exceptions for oral examinations are subject to the prior approval of the Dean of Studies and the examiner. Students must submit requests to this effect to the Dean of Studies at least four weeks prior to the examination.

## **§ 27      Evaluation type: Portfolio**

<sup>1</sup> A portfolio is comprised of several similar or different assignments for which the grades can be weighted differently. The individual results of these assignments will be pooled and included in the calculation of the overall results in accordance with their individual weights. The transcript of records will only show the overall results.

<sup>2</sup> Failure to pass one single assignment will not result in the student being excluded from the module or performing further assignments in the portfolio.

## **§ 28      Exclusion from studies**

A student may be excluded from their course of study after the end of the semester in which they definitively failed their evaluation. Final rejection and a ban will enter into effect at the end of the objection period applicable for the academic work indicated in the most recent transcript of records.

## **4. Section: Accreditation and recognition**

### **§ 29 Recognition of academic work performed outside the university**

<sup>1</sup> Students must submit any requests to have academic work performed outside the university recognized to the Dean of Studies. The deadline is published by the faculty in a suitable manner.

<sup>2</sup> Recognition is possible if

a. the academic work is equivalent to the academic work to be performed at the Vetsuisse Faculty;

b. the academic work is not older than six years. An exception can be made from the requirements in b) for academic work that culminated in a different degree; recognition is possible in this case.

<sup>3</sup> Only modules worth more than 2 ECTS credits will be recognized during the assessment year. *[Version from July 7, 2022]*

### **§ 30 Recognition of academic work performed during a student exchange program**

<sup>1</sup> A recognition agreement is to be arranged with the director of the study program prior to performing any academic work outside the university.

<sup>2</sup> The recognition agreement must be documented in writing and signed by the director of the study program.

### **§ 31 Temporary recognition of ECTS credits**

<sup>1</sup> Only ECTS credits earned within the past six years can be credited to the respective degree. Reference dates for the six-year recognition deadline are the day of registration for the degree and the last day of the semester in which the relevant ECTS credit was earned. If processes are pending pursuant to §§ 9 or 10, these shall not have any impact on the calculation specified in sentence 2.

<sup>2</sup> If requested by the student in justified cases, the director of the study program may extend the expiration period for recognizing ECTS credits.

<sup>3</sup> Modules whose ECTS credits lapse because the recognition period has been exceeded are deemed to have been definitively failed and cannot be repeated.



## 5. Section: Graduation

### § 32 Registration for the degree

The degree can be requested once the requisite number of ECTS credits has been earned. Students register for the degree via the electronic infrastructure of the University of Zurich.

The Vetsuisse Faculty sets one PhD conferral date per study program per semester. Students who submit their degrees at a later date will receive their degree in the semester that follows.  
*[Version from July 7, 2022]*

Issued by the Vetsuisse Faculty Assembly on November 25, 2020.

Changes approved by the Vetsuisse Faculty Assembly on July 7, 2022

Appendix to the Academic Regulations: Bachelor's degree

Appendix to the Academic Regulations: Master's degree

*This document is a translation and is intended for information purposes only. It is not legally binding. Consequently, in the event of any dispute over the interpretation of an Article, the text of the original German version always prevails.*

## Appendix to the Academic Regulations

### Veterinary Medicine

Level of study: Bachelor

Program format: Mono study program, 180

degree: Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine UZH

### General information

The bachelor's degree program is a three-year course of studies worth 180 ECTS credits. The degree program has a year-based structure. 60 ECTS credits must be earned per year of study. To be admitted to the next-higher year of study, the student must have passed all evaluations scheduled for the previous year to ensure that they have the theoretical and practical knowledge needed to advance to the next level of the modular degree program.

### Admission requirements

Admission is governed by the Ordinance on Admission to Studies at the University of Zurich dated August 27, 2018 (OAS) and the Ordinance on Restrictions on Admission to the University of Zurich's Medical Degree Programs dated April 8, 2020 (VZMS).

### Combination bans

The bachelor's study program "Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine" cannot be combined with other mono study programs of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Zurich.

### Plan of studies

#### Program structure – requirements to pass – academic work

In order to pass the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine mono study program, the student must earn 180 ECTS credits from the study program. The modules to be completed are defined in the study program and must be completed in a specific order. During the second year of study (postgraduate level), predefined modules (VZ) from the third year of study can be completed early.

<b>Curriculum for the 1st Academic Year in Veterinary Medicine</b>		
Introduction to Veterinary Activities, External Clinic Days	2 ECTS credits	C
Introduction to Cells and Tissue	13 ECTS credits	C
Practicals, Trainings and Courses	2 ECTS credits	C
Foundations of Structure and Function	20 ECTS credits	C
Physics, Chemistry for Veterinarians	10 ECTS credits	C
Animal Protection, Ethology, Animal Husbandry, Genetics, Animal Breeding	10 ECTS credits	C
Elective modules	3 ECTS credits	E

<b>Curriculum for the 2nd Academic Year in Veterinary Medicine</b>		
Bacteriology, Parasitology	5 ECTS credits	C
Biochemistry	4 ECTS credits	C
Feed Science, Animal Nutrition	4 ECTS credits	C
General Pathology	3 ECTS credits	C
Bacteriology, Immunology	5 ECTS credits	C
Vetsuisse Clinic Days, Communication	2 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Locomotor System	9 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Blood, Immune Organs, Laboratory Medicine	5 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Skin	3 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Heart, Circulation, Respiration	12 ECTS credits	C
Pharmacology and Toxicology	2 ECTS credits	C
Propaedeutics, Surgery, Infection Prevention and Control	4 ECTS credits	C

<b>Curriculum for the 3rd Academic Year in Veterinary Medicine</b>		
Anatomy and Propaedeutics, Practical	6 ECTS credits	C
Epidemiology, Biostatistics	3 ECTS credits	C, VZ
Food safety	3 ECTS credits	C, VZ
Organ system module Endocrinology, Metabolism	3 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Reproductive Organs, Mammary Gland	8 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Kidney, Salt- / Water Balance	7 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module Digestion	11 ECTS credits	C
Organ system module CNS, Sensory Organs	7 ECTS credits	C
Parasitology, Virology	10 ECTS credits	C, VZ
Everyday Practice, Communication, Vetsuisse Clinic Days	4 ECTS credits	C, VZ

### **Entry into effect and validity**

This appendix to the Academic Regulations enter into effect on August 1, 2022. It applies to all students starting the program specified above on August 1, 2022, or later.

Issued by the Faculty Assembly on July 7, 2022.

### **Key**

C: Compulsory module

CE: Compulsory elective module

E: Elective module

VZ: Modules that can be completed early in accordance with § 37 of the Study Regulations

## Appendix to the Academic Regulations

### Veterinary Medicine

Level of study: Master

Program format: Mono study program, 150

degree: Master of Veterinary Medicine UZH

### General information

The master's degree program is a five-semester degree program worth 150 ECTS credits. The degree program has a year-based or semester-based structure. 60 ECTS credits must be earned per year of study. To advance from the first year of study to the practical semesters, the student must have passed all evaluations scheduled for the first year of study.

### Admission requirements

Admission is governed by the Ordinance on Admission to Studies at the University of Zurich dated August 27, 2018 (OAS) and the Ordinance on Restrictions on Admission to the University of Zurich's Medical Degree Programs dated April 8, 2020 (VZMS).

A Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine degree worth 180 ECTS credits is a prerequisite for admission.

### Combination bans

The study program "Master of Veterinary Medicine" cannot be combined with other mono study programs of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Zurich.

### Plan of studies

#### Program structure – requirements to pass – academic work

In order to pass the Master of Veterinary Medicine mono study program, the student must earn 150 ECTS credits from the study program. The modules to be completed are defined in the study program and must be completed in a specific order.

In the first year of the master's study program, students select one of six majors (compulsory optional module). The modules to be completed during the practical semester are determined based on the major selected.

<b>Curriculum for the 1st Academic Year in Veterinary Medicine</b>		
Obstetrics and Neonatology	2 ECTS credits	C
Poultry, Bees, Wild Fish, Zoo Animals, Domestic Animals	5 ECTS credits	C
Applied Infection Biology	2 ECTS credits	C
Clinical Topics, Clinical Practice, Dissection Course	6 ECTS credits	C
Communication	1 ECTS credit	C
Main symptoms	18 ECTS credits	C
Night Shifts, Weekend Shifts	2 ECTS credits	C
Prophylactic Measures and Livestock Medicine	4 ECTS credits	C
Focus on Biomedical Research	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on Small Animals	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on Farm Animals (+ agricultural internship)	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on Pathobiology	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on Horses	12 ECTS credits	CE
Focus on VPH	12 ECTS credits	CE
Special Animal Feed	3 ECTS credits	C
Animal Protection Topics, Epizootic Disease Control and Law Studies	5 ECTS credits	C
<b>Curriculum for practical semesters 3-5</b>		

External internships	15 ECTS credits	C
Master's Thesis, Practice Management	20 ECTS credits	C
Rotations in the core curriculum: small animals, farm animals, horses, clinical services, pathology	35 ECTS credits	C
Rotations in the focus curriculum: biomed. research, small animals, farm animals, pathobiology, horses, VPH	20 ECTS credits	CE

### **Entry into effect and validity**

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2022. Issued by the Faculty Assembly on July 7, 2022.

### **Key**

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E: Elective module