**Visual Reference: MOCK 4 Year Semester Layout for the BSC (BS) Degree**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in Cellular and Molecular Biology**

**Pre-Veterinarian Proposed Course Sequence**

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| **Freshman Year, Fall** UNIV LU course                                                           1 hour ENGL 15000 Composition 1                                        3 hours CHM 23000 General Chemistry 1                                3 hours MTH 15100 College Algebra                                        3 hours BSC 24000 Intro Biological Diversity                           4 hours   Total                                                                           14 hours  | **Freshman Year, Spring** ENGL 17000 Composition 2                                     3 hours CHM 23100 General Chemistry 2                             3 hours CHM 24100 General Chemistry 2 Lab                      1 hour MTH 17300 Survey Calculus                                    4 hours BSC  24400 Intro Cell and Molec                              4 hours Total                                                                        15 hours  |
| **Sophomore Year, Fall** CHM 23200 General Chemistry 3                               3 hours CHM 24200 General Chemistry 3 Lab                        1 hour PHY 25100 Intro Physics 1                                         4 hours BSC 24800 Intro Ecology Evolution                            4 hours MTH 24100 Natural Sciences Stats                            3 hours Total                                                                          15 hours  | **Sophomore Year, Spring** PHY 25200 Intro Physics 2                                     4 hours   BSC 28500 Methods and Writing                            1 hour CHM 36100 Organic Chemistry 1                           4 hours GE Social Science                                                   3 hours GE ENGL Lit                                                            3 hours Total                                                                       15 hours  |
| **Junior Year, Fall** CHM 36200 Organic Chemistry 2                             4 hours 30000+ Level BSC Major Elective Course                  4 hours GE Human Cultures                                                    3 hours 30000+ Level Elective                                                 3 hours Total                                                                          14 hours  | **Junior Year, Spring** BSC 40400 Cell Biology                                           4 hours CHM 42200 Biochemistry: Metabolism 4 hours30000+ Elective                                       3 hours BSC 35300 Microbiology                4 hours Total                                                                        15 hours  |
| **Senior Year, Fall** BSC 40800 Genetics                                                   4 hoursBSC 46400 Evolution 3 hours CHM 42100 Biochemistry: Structure 4 hoursCHM 35500 Analytical Chemistry 4 hours Total                                                                          15 hours  | **Senior Year, Spring** BSC 48800 Genetics of Evolution                           2 hours GE ART                                                                   3 hours GE US HIST or Govt                                               3 hours30000+ Level Elective                                             3 hours 30000+ Level Elective                                             3 hours Total                                                                       14 hours Grand Total 120 hours  |

**VMCAS**

In the U.S., there are 28 accredited veterinary schools. State veterinary schools typically give preference to residents but do accept some non-residents. All veterinary schools use the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) for applications. You can find standardized application forms, links to veterinary schools, and more information on their website: www.aavmc.org.

The application process generally starts in the spring or summer of your junior year, provided you’ve met the necessary requirements. Typically, you’ll need to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE®), although a few schools might accept the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) instead.

The VMCAS application becomes available each January. You can start filling it out at that time, and by mid-May, you’ll be able to select your schools and submit your application. It’s advisable to start the process early and apply before mid-September of the year prior to the class you wish to join. Most schools have an application deadline of October 2, but VMCAS requires all materials to be submitted by mid-September to ensure timely processing. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply well before the deadline.

You will need to submit your transcripts, test scores, letters of evaluation, a personal statement, and a resume through VMCAS.

Pre-Medical Information Summary

# Academic Preparation

Preparing for veterinary school involves earning a bachelor’s degree and completing required prerequisite courses, typically in the sciences, which vary by institution. There is no preferred major, so it’s recommended to pursue a field you’re passionate about. Competitive applicants maintain high grades, so it’s important to pace yourself for success. Keep in mind that all grades, including repeated courses, will be considered during the application process.

# Shadowing & Clinical Experience

All veterinary schools require candidates to have experience in animal care and substantial hands-on observation or work with a practicing veterinarian. Many schools recommend gaining experience with a variety of animal species, both large and small. Additionally, a letter of recommendation from a practicing veterinarian, with whom you have spent considerable time, is required by all schools. These experiences not only showcase your dedication to the profession but also help you develop essential skills.

# Service to the Community

As medical school prepares you for a humanitarian profession, consistent volunteer work that reflects a commitment to serving others is essential. This should be an ongoing activity throughout your college years, not something done temporarily.

# Leadership Experience

In your role as a medical professional, you’ll be a leader and team member with patients, staff, colleagues, and within your community. Leadership experience can include holding office in organizations, participating in committee work, leading church activities, managing or supervising projects, training others, and roles like teaching assistant, tutor, coach, peer counselor, or mentor.

# Research Experience

Many Vet schools increasingly recommend that students have research experience, as staying current in the field requires doctors to engage with research literature throughout their careers. The research does not need to be medically related or conducted in a lab. It can be in any discipline, as long as it involves working with a professor or researcher on hypothesis-driven research that applies to the scientific method.

# Things to Remember

1. What you do outside of class is important so don’t neglect activities. However, remember that activities complement your coursework, but they will not compensate for low grades
2. Keep contact information for supervisors and doctors you shadow or work within case you need recommendation letters. Even if you discontinue an activity, try to maintain a relationship with your supervisor.
3. Record all hours of service and experiences. Writing reflections on what you learned in a journal will help when you write your personal statement for your application.