# CONCURRENT DEGREE PROGRAMME NUS BSC (HONS) IN LIFE SCIENCES AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE (DVM)

## 1. Overview of Programme

This Concurrent Degree Programme (CDP) is offered by the Department of Biological Sciences at Faculty of Science, NUS, and the Melbourne Veterinary School at The University of Melbourne (UniMelb).

The University of Melbourne | Melbourne Veterinary School | Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Students in this programme will complete the BSc (Hons) degree in Life Sciences with five regular semesters in NUS (i.e., Semesters 1 to 5) and a following year (i.e., Semesters 6 and 7) at UniMelb on a study abroad arrangement to read the first year of the DVM. This is followed by three years as a full-time student at UniMelb to complete the DVM degree requirements.

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| **January - June** | | **BSc (Hons) Sem 2** | **BSc (Hons) Sem 4** | **BSc (Hons) Sem 6 / DVM Sem 1** | **DVM Sem 3** | **DVM Sem 5** | **DVM Sem 7** |
| **July - December** | **BSc (Hons) Sem 1** | **BSc (Hons) Sem 3** | **BSc (Hons) Sem 5** | **BSc (Hons) Sem 7 / DVM Sem 2** | **DVM Sem 4** | **DVM Sem 6** | **DVM Sem 8** |

- *BSc Sem 1 to Sem 5: Students will be in NUS reading courses fulfilling part of the BSc (Hons).*
- *BSc Sem 6 to Sem 7: Students will be reading eight subjects in UniMelb as Year 1 of the DVM that will double-count towards the BSc (Hons), with credit-and-grade transfer (equivalent to 48 Units).*
- *Academic calendar in NUS: Semester 1 – August to December; Semester 2 – January to May.*
- *Academic calendar in UniMelb: Semester 1 – February to June; Semester 2 – July to November.*

## 2. Tuition Fee

| Semester | Tuition Fee Payable To | Tuition Fee Rate |
|---|---|---|
| NUS BSc (Hons) Semesters 1 to 5 | Tuition fee is payable to NUS for the BSc (Hons) degree. | NUS annual tuition fees are available here. |
| UniMelb DVM Semesters 1 and 2 | Tuition fee is payable to UniMelb on the basis as a study abroad student at UniMelb, reading courses at graduate band 3. | UniMelb study abroad tuition fee for inbound students for graduate band 3 is available here. |
| UniMelb DVM Semesters 3 to 8 | Tuition fee is payable to UniMelb for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree. | UniMelb annual tuition fee for international graduate students reading Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) is available here. |

## 3. Admissions

***To be to apply for the CDP, undergraduate candidates will need to gain entry to NUS CHS and declare reading Life Sciences Major as the primary discipline.***

Students reading Life Sciences as the primary Major may apply for admission to this CDP the latter half of Year 1 Semester 2. Successful candidates will join the CDP from Year 2 onwards. All applications will be reviewed, and shortlisted candidates will be required to attend an interview. Academic competencies, formal and documented animal handling and related experience relevant to veterinary studies, aptitude for the programme, and other relevant criteria will be considered.

## 4. Continuation Requirements

Successful candidates reading the programme will need to meet the continuation requirements in order the maintain the participation. UniMelb will review each Life Sciences Major participant with these criteria before confirming the offer for entry to the DVM Year 1 segment of the CDP.

The continuation requirements for Cohorts AY2021/22 and after are:

<u>While student is in NUS</u>

| No. | Continuation Criteria | Descriptions |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | CDP Continuation GPA | - Maintain a CDP continuation GPA of 4.0 or above (out of 5.00) by the end of 4th semester for a provisional offer from UniMelb for entry to the first year of the DVM and maintain or improve this GPA by the end of 5th semester to proceed with the study abroad year in UniMelb.<br>- Different from the displayed NUS GPA, this CDP continuation GPA is computed from the displayed grades using a 3:1 weightage, which will be placed on Level 2000/3000/4000 courses relative to Level 1000 courses, if there is any course above Level 1000 completed at the point of computation.<br>- Any student whose continuation GPA falls below 4.00 at NUS will be required to exit the CDP. |
| 2. | Personal Statement | - Submit a one-page personal statement to demonstrate long-standing interest and commitment to animal health, production, and welfare, by the end of 4th semester for a provisional offer from UniMelb. This should include an introduction and a table documenting formal experience in animal handling, such as work experience relevant to veterinary science, participation in animal care or welfare organisations or other relevant activities.<br>- The table should document each activity undertaken with date(s), duration (in terms of hours), description of the activity and a contact email address that can verify the commitment had occurred.<br>- This can be regarded as an update to the personal statement submitted as one of the items for the CDP application. |

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| 3. | Online Situational Judgement Test | - Undertake an online situational judgement test in September/October, during the 5th semester. The test assesses people-centric attributes, such as empathy, professionalism, resilience, and ethics.<br>- Details of this Casper situational judgement test is available at Casper Situational Judgement Test - Altus Assessments. |

While student is in UniMelb for the study abroad year

Students must pass prescribed subjects undertaken at UniMelb for articulation into the DVM degree. A student who does not meet the requirements will be required to exit the CDP. The student will then return to NUS to complete the BSc (Hons) degree, considering all the accepted credit transfer stated for this CDP for any DVM subject completed.

## 5. Application for Cohort AY2025/2026 Intake

Interested Life Sciences Major freshman of Cohort AY2025/2026 may apply during the latter half of Semester 2 when the application call is issued via NUS email. Applicants should expect a GPA of at least 4.00 at the end of second semester (i.e., Year 1), and shortlisted candidates will be required to attend an interview.

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| Application window | **Open till 17 April 2026** |
| Online application portal | The portal will be accessible here during the application window. |
| Application criteria | - GPA of at least 4.0.<br>- Pass in (or reading) at least two of these courses – LSM1111, LSM210x, LSM22xx.<br>- Grades of B+ or above for all LSM courses read by the end of Year 1. |
| Documents to prepare for uploading as part of application | In a single PDF document labelled with applicant's student number and name (e.g., A0123456X_Aaa_Bee_Ccc):<br>- One-page personal statement of interest to demonstrate long-standing interest and commitment to animal health and welfare. This should include an introduction and a table documenting formal experience in animal handling, such as work experience relevant to veterinary science, participation in animal care or welfare organisations or other relevant activities.<br>- Latest CV/Résumé. |
| Interview | Shortlisted applicants will be informed the details of the interview, and it will tentatively take place in April 2025 (may be subjected to changes). |
| Application outcome | All applicants will be informed the outcome after Semester 2 AY2024/2025 results release. |

## 6. Enquiry

Please contact Ms Wai Thu Khin at khinwt@nus.edu.sg.

## Annex A

**Recommended study plan for BSc (Hons) degree segment of the CDP NUS BSc (Hons) in Life Sciences–UniMelb DVM, for Cohort AY2021/22 onwards.**

| Requirements | Year 1 (before joining CDP) | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CHS Common Curriculum** | **Semesters 1 and 2**<br>☐ Asian Studies<br>☐ Humanities<br>☐ Social Sciences<br>☐ Scientific Inquiry I<br>☐ Data Literacy<br>☐ Design Thinking | **Semesters 1 and 2**<br>☐ Artificial Intelligence<br>☐ Communities and Engagement<br>☐ Digital Literacy<br>☐ Scientific Inquiry II<br>☐ Writing<br>☐ 1x Interdisciplinary Course | **Semester 1**<br>☐ 1x Interdisciplinary Course | |
| **Major in Life Sciences** | **Semesters 1 and 2**<br>☐ LSM1111 Biological Challenges and Opportunities for Humankind<br>☐ LSM2106 Fundamental Biochemistry | **Semesters 1 and 2**<br>☐ LSM2105 Molecular Genetics<br>☐ LSM2107 Evolutionary Biology<br>☐ LSM2191A/B Laboratory Techniques in Life Sciences | **Semester 1**<br>☐ 3x LSM22xx/32xx/42xx (excluding LSM2289#, LSM3289#, LSM4288#)<br>☐ 1x LSM32xx/42xx (excluding LSM3288/9#, LSM4288#) | |
| **Unrestricted Electives** | **Semesters 1 and 2**<br>☐ **Unrestricted Elective 1**<br>☐ **Unrestricted Elective 2** | **Semesters 1 and 2**<br>☐ **Unrestricted Elective 3**<br>☐ **Unrestricted Elective 4** | **Semesters 1**<br>☐ **Unrestricted Elective 5**<br>☐ **Unrestricted Elective 6** | |
| **UniMelb DVM Year 1 Subjects** | | | **Semester 2 (UniMelb Semester 1)**<br>☐ **DVM1 Subject** – VETS30031 Animal Production Systems 1<br>☐ **DVM1 Subject** – VETS30030 Introduction to Professional Practice<br>☐ **DVM1 Subject** – VETS30029 Veterinary Bioscience: Cells to Systems<br>☐ **DVM1 Subject** – VETS30016 Veterinary Bioscience: Digestive System | **Semester 1 (UniMelb Semester 2)**<br>☐ **DVM1 Subject** – VETS30032 Animal Production Systems 2<br>☐ **DVM1 Subject** – VETS30014 Veterinary Bioscience: Cardiovasc System<br>☐ **DVM1 Subject** – VETS30017 Veterinary Bioscience: Metabolism<br>☐ **DVM1 Subject** – VETS30018 Veterinary Bioscience: Respiratory System |

**Life Sciences Major student reading the CDP, to complete at least one course on Life Sciences research experience for the whole degree requirements, which can be:**

I. LSM UROPS – LSM2288/R or LSM3288/R
II. ZB UROPS – ZB3288/R (in Unrestricted Electives)
III. LSM UPIP comprising a research topic related to Life Sciences (subject to dept approval, in Unrestricted Electives)