

## **Master of Science (MSc) programs**

### **Department of Veterinary Pathology, WCVM**

#### **Master of Science (MSc.) Thesis - Diagnostic Concentration (NEW)**

The purpose of this new MSc (Diagnostic Pathology) program is to offer research training in addition to diagnostic training component. Students will be eligible to sit for the certifying examination of ACVP in addition to research training. Qualified students with a DVM may enter this program. A supervisor is not required at the time of application.

**In this MSc program**, students learn the processes of diagnostics and research. This program is oriented to learning by doing diagnostic work and research under supervision. Full independent research is not expected. Clinical course work in diagnostic pathology, either anatomic or clinical pathology, is a major component of study for all students. Skills and knowledge to be acquired include laboratory techniques, gathering and analysis of data, writing and publication, use of the library, broad knowledge of the subject area with some specific in---depth knowledge. The MSc student will not necessarily be an expert in the research area at the end of the program.

Graduates should be able to apply the tools of scientific investigation to well defined problems. They should be well versed in the fundamentals of scientific research and have fully competent diagnostic knowledge and skills. They should be well on their way to successful writing of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) examination. (Note: ACVP eligibility requires 3 years of training.)

#### **Master of Science (MSc.) Thesis**

All students wishing to apply for this MSc graduate program in Veterinary Pathology *must first have a faculty member in the Department of Veterinary Pathology who has agreed to supervise their program.*

The purpose of this MSc. program is to teach students how to do research. These are research degrees and not programs in diagnostic pathology. Qualified students with a DVM or without a DVM or equivalent may enter this program. Historically, nearly all students in these programs have been graduate veterinarians.

**In this MSc program**, students learn the processes of science at an introductory level by doing research that largely has been designed by someone else. Full independent research is not expected. Skills and knowledge to be acquired include laboratory techniques, gathering and analysis of data, writing and publication, use of the library, broad knowledge of the subject area with some specific in-depth knowledge. The MSc student will not necessarily be an expert in the research area at the end of the program.

These students may choose to spend additional time learning diagnostic skills, but the time required to acquire the skills and expertise of the research scientist cannot be reduced to accomplish this additional diagnostic experience. Instead, the duration of the total program must be increased.

Students without DVM degrees may be required to take pathology courses as appropriate to their area of research.

Graduates should be able to apply the tools of scientific investigation to well defined problems. They should be well versed in the fundamentals of scientific research. Students with DVM degrees should have moderate diagnostic knowledge and skills, and students without DVM degrees should have a broad general background in general pathology and related basic biomedical subjects.