



# Pre-Vet Newsletter



**CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF  
VETERINARY  
MEDICINE**

Application Process for  
Class of 2019



Prerequisite Course  
Changes



Summer 2014 Admissions  
Presentations & Tours

## PREREQUISITE COURSE DETAILS

- [Generic Course Descriptions](#)
- [Course Policies](#)
- [Substitution Form](#)

## DVM Admissions

### Applications for the Class of 2019 Now Available!

Both the [Cornell Supplemental](#) and [VMCAS Applications](#) are both up and running. We highly recommend opening both applications up right away so you receive email updates and deadline reminders. Also, pay particular attention to the Instructions for both applications.

### Prerequisite Course Changes

There have been some minor changes to the prerequisite courses at Cornell. Those of you who have been preparing for this cycle should not have any issues with the changes. Most of the changes incorporate what you have completed. Please visit the links in the left hand side bar for details.

### *Prerequisite Courses at-a-glance*

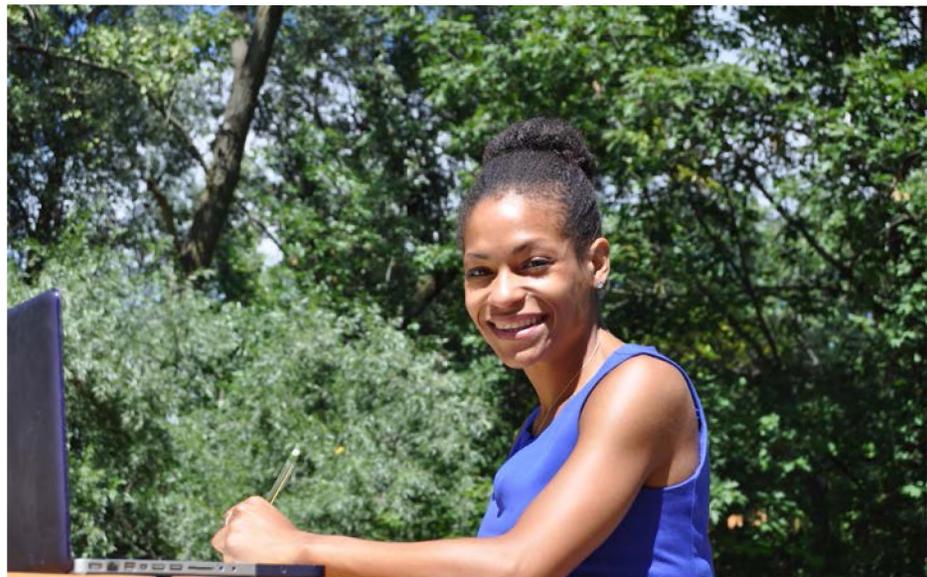
- English Composition or Writing Intensive Courses-  
Full year, minimum 6 semester credits
- Biology or Zoology with labs-  
Full year; minimum 6 semester credits
- General or Inorganic Chemistry with Labs-  
Full year, minimum 6 semester credits
- Physics with labs-  
Full year, minimum 6 semester credits
- Organic Chemistry-  
One semester; minimum 3 semester credits
- Biochemistry-  
One semester; minimum 4 semester credits
- Advanced Life Sciences Course-  
One semester; minimum 3 semester credits

*A passion-driven, purposeful life:  
Renee McDougall has her heart set on making a difference*

When Renee McDougall was little, she remembers sitting in the front seat of her father's car, listening to her father's phone conversations with colleagues and patients as he drove her to school, weaving through the boroughs of New York. Too young to understand the language he used to converse, McDougall does recall being in awe of his knowledge and compassion, comforted that even if she didn't understand the meaning of his words, his unassuming confidence and life-giving knowledge could heal. Her interest in medicine materialized during these car rides, solidifying over the many school nights spent sitting beside classroom doors as her mother, a pediatrician, went back to school to earn a law degree to better help the kids who needed it the most. Her choice to pursue veterinary medicine, well that was inevitable: she was born with the gene.

*"As she learned more about the profession, the number of reasons why she loved veterinary medicine and her love of educating the clients she interacted with grew"*

As she learned more about the profession, the number of reasons why she loved veterinary medicine and her love of educating the clients she interacted with grew, which, she said, is one of the reasons why she is augmenting her education with a Master's in Public Health (MPH) through the joint program between Cornell and the University of Minnesota. Through the joint program, Cornell students have access to a faculty advisor, online courses at Minnesota, and a pre-determined list of Cornell classes that are accepted as transfer credits for the MPH. The agreement, which enables students to work toward both degrees simultaneously, was one of the features that attracted McDougall to Cornell.



“The dual degree option was certainly a big draw,” said McDougall. “Cornell’s program is also giving me the opportunity to learn about veterinary medicine in its entirety, including large animal medicine. And, of course, Cornell offers me a problem-based learning curriculum, requiring me to think in a patient-based manner from day one. I think it was also important to me that Cornell encourages collaboration, not competition. This profession is about teamwork, so it was important to me to choose a college that recognizes this and prepares its graduates to succeed in that environment.”

McDougall has found that this collaborative spirit is also built into the public health program as well.

“Through the program, I am able to interact with many different people, including people who work in human medicine,” said McDougall. “I’m learning from and am exposed to ideas and passions that are different than mine, but just as important for my development as a veterinarian and a researcher. It’s really exciting and gives me better perspective to plan for my own future.”

Although not entirely in focus yet—she still has a couple of years before graduation—McDougall thinks she is likely to specialize, incorporating research that develops from clinical practice into her professional goals.

“Issues and problems that need addressing are often spotted first in the exam room,” she said. “To solve these challenges requires people who can design studies that can spark meaningful change, as it leads to new ways to think about and respond to the issue and new ways to behave, with the goal of preventing the issue from reoccurring.”

Although her research interests are wide-ranging and far-reaching, she is currently enjoying participating in a program that is investigating tracheal collapse in canines and another on weight loss in shelter cats, spending time sifting through data to identify trends.

“At the end of the day, you have to pursue your passion,” said McDougall. “It’s all you have. The opportunities at Cornell, including the dual degree program with Minnesota, are letting me explore all of my passions so that I can choose those that will allow me to find meaningful changes that will help as many animals and people as possible.”



Learn more about the  
[DVM/MPH Program](#)



Admissions  
Presentations &  
Tours

[Register](#)

Fall 2014  
Presentations &  
Tours and Pre-Vet  
Club Saturday dates  
will be available  
soon!

Visit our [web site](#) for  
information about the DVM  
curriculum, how to prepare  
for a future application, how  
to apply, and much more!

## Summer Admissions Presentations & Tours

- ◆ *Friday, June 13, 2014, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm*
- ◆ *Friday, July 11, 2014, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm*
- ◆ *Friday, August 8, 2014, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm*

**Join us for one of our summer programs!**

