



# Pre-Vet Newsletter



## CORNELL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

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## PREREQUISITE COURSE DETAILS

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## DVM Admissions

### ~Prerequisite Course Changes~

There have been some minor changes to the prerequisite courses at Cornell. Those applying this cycle should not have any issues with the changes. Most of the changes incorporate what you have completed, but if you have any concerns please contact the admissions office at [vet\\_admissions@cornell.edu](mailto:vet_admissions@cornell.edu).

### ❧ 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

### Applicants- check out these Newsletters!

[Issue I - Transcripts](#)  
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[Issue III - GRE's & MCAT's](#)  
[Issue IV - Evaluations](#)  
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## Training in the trenches

By Carly Hodes

For aspiring veterinarians learning the ropes it's hard to beat hands-on time with animals. And for anyone caring for companion animals, it can be invaluable to learn about the places many pets come from or end up if ties are broken.

Since offering the first course in shelter medicine in 1999, Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program at Cornell has grown exponentially, giving unprecedented opportunities for real-life training in shelters across the region. Following the growth of shelter medicine in the profession, the program's work has been woven into the curriculum, and many of its classes and activities have become hugely popular components of veterinary education at the College.

While the program reaches shelters far and wide, its core activities focus on the SPCA of Tompkins County. In their very first semester all new students visit this local shelter with shelter medicine faculty, learning about shelters, no-kill practices, and the challenges of keeping populations healthy. Along with elective clubs and activities that let students host monthly clinics and accompany faculty on weekly shelter visits and surgery days, these core experiences capture the attention of veterinary students early in their careers.

*"These are incredible opportunities and something that first and second year vet students at most schools can't do regularly."*





"The shelter medicine program was a big factor in my decision to come to Cornell," said Suzanne Nelson, '16. "I plan to become a shelter veterinarian and have had access to many unique opportunities here. I'm learning a lot about small animal population medicine, behavior, and spay and neuter surgery in the shelter setting. These are incredible opportunities and something that first and second year vet students at most schools can't do regularly."

In motivated students like Nelson, experience gained in shelters shows.

"Routine things like vaccination or drawing blood challenge most first-years initially until they've developed the right motor skills," said shelter medicine faculty Dr. Elizabeth Berliner. "At the shelter they can repeat and master these tasks. They learn to read body language, humanely restrain animals in stressful situations, and accomplish clinical work effectively and efficiently in a challenging setting. Those who've been very involved gain early confidence and are remarkably skilled for their stage of training."

Beyond skill-building, aspiring shelter veterinarian Rebecca Fellman, '16 found new perspectives on medicine through the program.

"We see issues most students never get to see, like infectious disease control and the strong links between environment, behavior, and health," said Fellman. "I've learned how changes to animals' environments can help their health, a concept valuable even in private practice. I think all small-animal vets should have exposure to shelters— it might be where their patients come from or wind up."

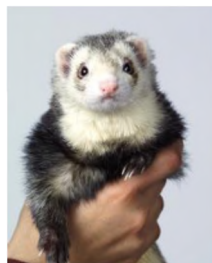


Learn more about the  
[Maddies® Shelter  
Medicine Program at  
Cornell University](#)

Watch on [CORNELLCAST](#)

*"Expanding the One Health Paradigm:  
A Central Role for Veterinarians in  
Sustaining Life on Earth"*

Alexander Travis, VMD, PhD  
Baker Institute  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Atkinson Center For A Sustainable Future  
Cornell University



## **PRE-VET CLUB SATURDAY**

*(for college & university  
Pre-Vet Clubs)*

**October 25, 2014  
12:00-3:00**

To Register- email  
[vet\\_admissions@cornell.edu](mailto:vet_admissions@cornell.edu)

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

## **Fall 2014 Admissions Presentations & Tours**

*Friday, September 12, 2014, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm*

*Friday, October 24, 2014, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm*

*Friday, November 7, 2014, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm*

[Register](#)

**JOIN US FOR ONE OF OUR FALL PROGRAMS!**

