VMS - COMPARATIVE BIOSCIENCES, PHD

for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Veterinary Medical Science - Comparative Biosciences

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deep head: Uwe Rudolph
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assistant director of graduate studies: Juanmahel Davila
department website: https://www.vetmed.illinois.edu/cb (https://vetmed.illinois.edu/about-the-college/comparative-biosciences/graduate-programs/)
department faculty: Comparative Biosciences Faculty (https://vetmed.illinois.edu/about-the-college/comparative-biosciences/faculty/)
overview of admissions & requirements: Comparative Biosciences Graduate Program (https://vetmed.illinois.edu/about-the-college/comparative-biosciences/graduate-programs/)
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Graduate Degree Programs in Comparative Biosciences
  VMS - Comparative Biosciences, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/veterinary/medical-science-comparative-biosciences-ms/)
  VMS - Comparative Biosciences, PhD (p. 1)
Joint Degree Programs: Veterinary Medical Scholars Program
  DVM and VMS - Comparative Biosciences, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/veterinary/joint-degree/dvm-veterinary-medical-scholars/)

Admission
Applicants for graduate study in Comparative Biosciences must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (A = 4.0). Grade point averages will be calculated on the last 60 hours of undergraduate studies for those without the D.V.M. degree and on the entire professional curriculum for those with the D.V.M. or equivalent degree. Applicants with a graduate degree or with some graduate coursework will be evaluated on the basis of their graduate work as well as their undergraduate or professional records. Qualifications of students must be approved by the department's Graduate Studies Committee.

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is optional.

Domestic and international applicants whose native language is not English must fulfill the language requirements as stated by the Graduate College (Refer to the guidelines of the Graduate College (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/instructions/04c/)). Those applicants who may gain admission based on their exceptionally high academic credentials but scored below the required Graduate College scores will be admitted on limited (or probational) status and are required to take the English Placement Test (EPT), administered by the University of Illinois upon their arrival.

An applicant may be exempt from taking the language requirements if, within five years of the proposed date of enrollment in the University of Illinois, they have successfully completed at least two academic semesters as a full-time student in a country where English is the primary language and in a school where English is the primary instructional language. The student will need to petition the Graduate Program for this exemption.

All students whose native language is not English and are interested in a Teaching Assistantship with contact with students must take the English Proficiency Interview (EPI) examination and pass.

Joint Degree Programs
Students accepted into the Veterinary Medical Scholars Program (https://vetmed.illinois.edu/education/doctor-veterinary-medicine-degree/research-opportunities-dvm-students/veterinary-medical-scholars-program/) can complete a D.V.M. and Ph.D. degree.

Graduate Teaching Experience
Experience in teaching is considered a vital part of the graduate program and is required as part of the academic work of all Ph.D. candidates in this program.

Faculty Research Interests
Experimental models range from stem cells to rodent models to domestic animals, and human patients. Exciting research is being conducted by CB faculty in the areas of:
endocrine/reproductive biology
developmental and stem cell research
neurobiology
comparative pharmacology and toxicology
biochemistry

Training Programs, Centers, and Institutes

Our faculty provide graduate instruction in stem cell research, molecular genetics, pharmacology and toxicology. They also participate in interdisciplinary training programs including the NIEHS-funded Environmental Toxicology Training Program (http://vetmed.illinois.edu/cb/nihtox/), the Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Training Program (https://vetmed.illinois.edu/ietp/), the Reproductive Biology Program (https://vetmed.illinois.edu/peer/), the Neuroscience Program (http://neuroscience.illinois.edu/), the Nutritional Sciences Division (http://www.nutrsci.illinois.edu/), Beckman Institute (http://www.beckman.uiuc.edu/), and the Institute for Genomic Biology (http://www.igb.illinois.edu/).

Financial Aid

A limited number of research and teaching assistantships or fellowship positions are available.