

Description of the Doctoral Program
Veterinary Science
Graduate School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences and Agriculture
Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine

1. Education Policy of the Doctoral Program of Veterinary Science

Admission Policy

The Doctoral Program of Veterinary Science at the Graduate School of Animal and Veterinary Science and Agriculture, utilizing its educational systems which involve “fusion of veterinary medicine, animal science and agriculture” and “cooperation with overseas universities” aims to train researchers and educators who, while keeping globalization of food and agriculture in mind, have technical knowledge, creativity, and excellent research and development skills, and excellent educational abilities as well as great personality. For that purpose, we want students:

1. Who aim to be researchers and educators who can conduct international-standard, advanced research with global views on veterinary medicine, animal science and agriculture, and have good communication skills,
2. Who are eager to contribute to society domestically and globally by giving back to society their research results in the field where veterinary medicine, animal science and agriculture are fused, and by playing a central role in maintaining animal and human health, conserving the global environment and ecosystem, and developing industries and life science,
3. Who want to pursue comprehensive knowledge and advanced research on a specific area of the veterinary science program, and
4. Who have acquired basic knowledge and skills, and application skills, up to the bachelor’s level in veterinary science and related fields, and basic knowledge and skills, and application skills, up to the master’s level in other fields.

Diploma Policy

In the Doctoral Program of Veterinary Science, the degree shall be conferred on persons who have taken the courses set up in the curriculum and obtained the required credits to complete the program, and have acquired the following skills that enable them to shoulder advanced research using their up-to-date knowledge and skills in the fields of veterinary medicine such as basic veterinary medicine, clinical veterinary medicine and public health, and interdisciplinary fields of the above:

1. Ethics
 - Ethics based on up-to-date knowledge and skills in the fields of veterinary medicine such as basic veterinary medicine, pathological veterinary medicine, applied veterinary medicine and clinical veterinary medicine, and based on deep understanding of highly advanced medical techniques and of social activities for companion, industrial and wild animals,
2. International competence and leadership
 - Abilities to conduct international-standard, advanced research in a wide range of fields of life-scientific research including the intravital micro-level, the macro-level dealing with individuals and populations, and animal production.
 - Abilities to conduct international-standard, advanced research in the field of ecological research dealing with the inside of organisms, individuals and populations.
 - A wide range of technical knowledge on veterinary life science, and abilities to conduct international-standard, advanced research.
 - Abilities to contribute to the improvement of food safety and human and animal health utilizing highly advanced knowledge on food safety management systems and domestic and overseas safety monitoring of agricultural and livestock products, and excellent analysis and livestock management techniques in veterinary medicine and veterinary life science.
3. Communication skills:
 - Internationally competent presentation skills and communication skills necessary to explain their process of thinking and making judgments with regard to their specialty in the fields of basic veterinary medicine, pathological veterinary medicine, applied veterinary medicine and clinical veterinary medicine.
4. Technical knowledge and skills:
 - Abilities to utilize highly advanced knowledge on food safety management systems and domestic and overseas safety monitoring of agricultural and livestock products, and to utilize excellent analysis and livestock

management techniques in veterinary medicine and veterinary life science; abilities to contribute to the improvement of food safety and human and animal health; global views with regard to the fields of veterinary medicine, animal science, agriculture, and their interdisciplinary fields; practical skills and leadership to meet various social needs according to the globalization of veterinary medicine, and; international-standard, advanced research skills.

Curriculum Policy

In order to have the students acquire the knowledge and skills specified in the diploma policy, we conduct education paying attention to the following points:

1. Developing high-level of ethics as a researcher:
 - We offer courses to develop high-level of ethics using e-learning and active learning.
2. Developing leadership:
 - We offer courses for students to acquire advanced knowledge and skills, and an ability to manage the whole in order to develop researchers and educators with practical skills and leadership, which enable them to satisfy social needs.
3. Developing international competence:
 - We offer courses that enhance skills for presentation, debate and academic writing for students to play an active role globally in the future.
 - We offer courses to develop international competence such as research internships and fieldwork in cooperation with overseas universities for students to acquire advanced research skills.
4. Developing comprehensive research abilities as a doctor:
 - We offer common courses as well as selective courses from other degree programs for students to acquire a wide range of highly technical knowledge interdisciplinarily from the viewpoint of fusing veterinary medicine, animal science and agricultural studies.
 - We offer courses for students to acquire international-standard, advanced research skills that aim to resolve global issues.
5. We offer “special core course” as required courses, which aim to have students acquire highly advanced technical knowledge and skills on veterinary medicine and related fields in order to develop researchers who can play an active role and make contributions globally.
6. We offer courses for students to acquire the globally most advanced knowledge and skills on food safety, and animal and human health, involving highly advanced knowledge on food safety management systems and domestic and overseas safety monitoring of agricultural and livestock products, and excellent analysis and livestock management techniques in veterinary medicine and veterinary life science.

2. Completion of programs and awarding degrees

Students are awarded the Doctoral Degree in Veterinary Science after they completed the program, i.e., those who have been enrolled in the Doctoral Program of Veterinary Science at the Graduate School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences and Agriculture of our university for four years or longer, and have earned the required 30 credits, who have received the necessary research instruction, and passed the examination of their doctoral thesis in addition to the final examinations of the courses relevant to the thesis.

However, for those who achieved excellent results, the period enrolled in the graduate school could be shortened to three years.

3. Special long term limit

This system allows students who have a job or other special considerations to complete their degree within an agreed-upon time (maximum of 8 years) beyond the standard term limit and still pay the same fee as those students who complete their degrees in the standard amount of time.

In principle, those who want to use this system have to apply for it at the time they enroll after consulting with their prospective supervisors.

4. Supervisors

Name	Position	Specialized Subject	Field of Research	Contents
Igarashi Makoto	Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Diseases Control	Parasitism of protozoan parasites
Ishii Toshiaki	Professor	Veterinary Pharmacology	Neuropharmacology	Molecular basis of physiological and pathological manifestations in the central nervous system
Ishikawa Toru	Professor	Veterinary Physiology	Cell Physiology	Cellular regulatory mechanisms and structure-function relationships of ion channels and transporters involved in epithelial transport
Inoue Noboru	Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Parasitic Protozoology	1) Development of diagnostic, therapeutic, and preventive methods for animal trypanosomoses. 2) Epidemiological studies for animal trypanosomoses. 3) Research on the mechanisms of cell differentiation in African trypanosome in progress of its life-cycle.
Okamura Masashi	Professor	Veterinary Microbiology	Veterinary Bacteriology	1) Control of bacterial infection from farm to table 2) Mechanisms of host specificity and tissue tropism in bacterial pathogens
△Ogawa Haruko	Professor	Veterinary Epizootiology	Veterinary Epizootiology	Study on animal viral diseases
Kawazu Shinichiro	Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Preventive Medicine for Parasitic Diseases	Development of novel vaccines, therapeutic and diagnostic approaches based on functional analysis of the parasitic genome and proteins
△Xuan Xuenan	Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Host Defense	Studies on analysis of host defense immunity and development of recombinant vaccines against protozoan parasite infections
Kobayashi Yoshiyasu	Professor	Veterinary Pathology	Diagnostic Pathology	Pathogenesis and diagnosis of animal diseases
Sasaki Motoki	Professor	Veterinary Anatomy	Veterinary Anatomy	Functional morphology in vertebrates
○Suzuki Hiroshi	Professor	Laboratory Animal Science	Functional Genomics	Analysis of gene function <i>in vivo</i> by transgenic technology and development of reproductive bio-technology
Nambo Yasuo	Professor	Equine Reproduction	Equine Reproduction	1) Research area for theriogenology 2) Reproductive biology 3) Reproductive endocrinology in horses
Nishikawa Yoshifumi	Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Infection Immunity	Study on onset mechanism of pathogenic protozoan diseases
Matsui Motozumi	Professor	Theriogenology	Diagnosis and Therapeutics for Reproductive Diseases	Pathophysiology of ovarian and uterine disorder in cow reproduction
Yokoyama Naoaki	Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Diagnosis for Protozoan Diseases	Epidemiological survey of protozoan disease in domestic animals and development of its control strategy
Aoki Takahiro	Associate Professor	Large Animal Clinical Science	Preventive Veterinary Medicine	Development of methods for prevention and early detection of diseases associated with livestock production
Asada Masahito	Associate Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Global Infection Control	1) Study on the mechanism of parasitism 2) Epidemiological survey of protozoan disease

Itoh Megumi	Associate Professor	Large Animal Clinical Sciences	Large Animal Internal Medicine Hygiene	Prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment of diseases in cows and calves
Uemura Akiko	Associate Professor	Veterinary Surgery	Small Animal Surgery Cardiology	1) Soft tissue surgery for dogs and cats 2) Cardiology for dogs and cats 3) Research on artificial organs and biomaterials
Kayano Mitsunori	Associate Professor	Applied Statistics	Biostatistics	Statistics and lab/animal experiments in human and animal medicine
Kubota Akira	Associate Professor	Toxicology	Environmental Toxicology	Study on biological effects and mode of action of anthropogenic chemicals
Kondoh Daisuke	Associate Professor	Veterinary Anatomy	Neuroanatomy	Morphological and histological studies of vertebrate olfactory organ and brain
Umemiya-Shirafuji Rika	Associate Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Tick Biology	1) Biology of ticks 2) Transmission mechanisms of protozoan parasites in ticks
Toyotome Takahito	Associate Professor	Veterinary Microbiology	Veterinary Mycology	1) Mycosis 2) Mycotoxicosis 3) Food Mycology
Fukumoto Shinya	Associate Professor	Veterinary Parasitology	Vector Biology	Infection mechanism of pathogens to the vector invertebrate
Matsumoto Kotaro	Associate Professor	Veterinary Internal Medicine	Veterinary Internal Medicine	Diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases of animals
Morita Yasuhiro	Associate Professor	Farm Animal Surgery	Farm Animal Clinical Science	1) Elucidation of the relationship between microbiome, disease, and productivity, and clinical usage 2) Early disease detection using remote sensing in farm animals
Muroi Yoshikage	Associate Professor	Pharmacology	Neuropharmacology	Study on the central nervous system for controlling instinctive behaviors

The Professor marked with ○ will retire on March 31, 2024. If you would like to be supervised by him/her, please consult in advance about research instruction.

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