



Linfield Hall- Home of the College of Agriculture

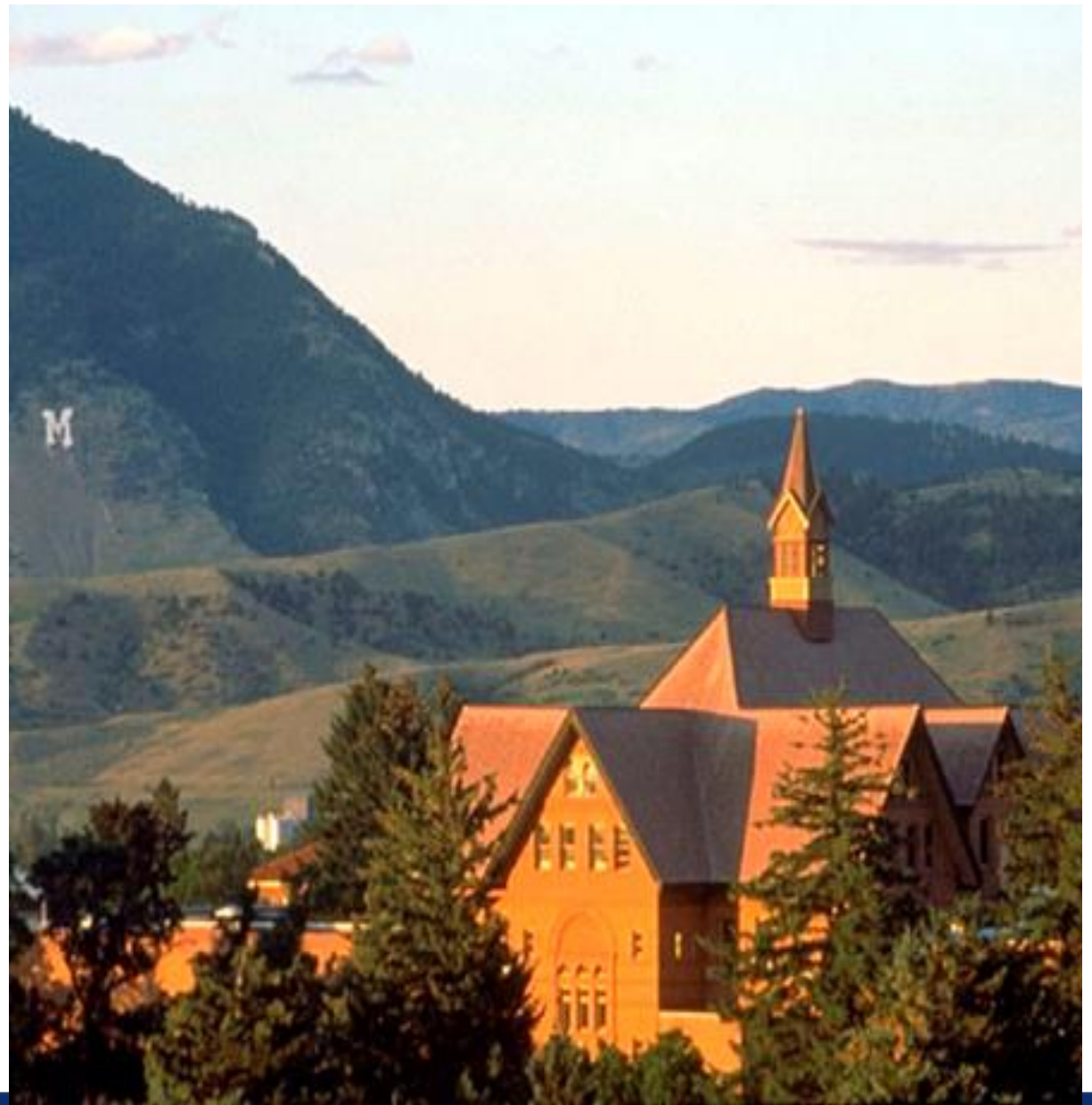
Montana State University Pre-veterinary Curriculum

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Pre-Vet Advisor and Teaching Professor

Getting started

- Difference between curriculum and degree
- Degree pathways based on your interest
- Understanding how residency influences vet school choices
- Applying for vet school
- Pre-vet advising at MSU
- Pre-vet club



When I grow up, I want to be...

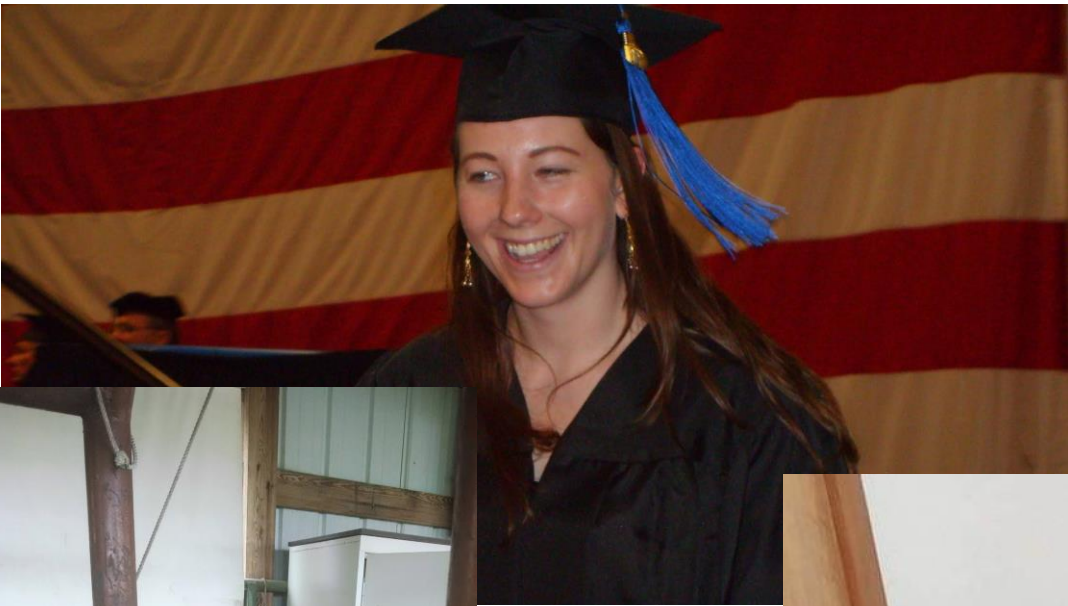


People you meet this year will be your lifelong friends!



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Curriculum vs Degree/Major

- Pre-vet students who have not declared a major are placed in the pre-vet curriculum.
- This is not a major but place-holder for students to start pre-vet courses until a major is declared (usually by end of freshman/sophomore year).
- MSU does not have a pre-vet major.

Curriculum vs Degree/Major

- Degree (major) is a four year- 120 total credits / 42 upper division credits including Common MSU Core and major specific courses
- Can be combined with minors / certificates
- Veterinary prerequisites can be completed alongside any major

Choosing your degree

- Encourage students to choose a degree based on interests
- No single degree increases chance to get into vet school
- Most STEM based degrees have similar prerequisite courses- chemistry, biology, physics, math
- Look at upper division classes and ensure they interest you and think about job placement after graduation
- Over 250 options available at MSU
- Always have a back-up plan if vet school doesn't work out!

Vet School Pre-requisites

- Every vet school has pre-requisite courses that are required for admission.
- Often include: inorganic and organic chemistry, biochemistry, physics, calculus, statistics, genetics, biology, cellular biology, microbiology, physiology, English and humanities courses
- Pre-requisites vary by school, so look early and often!

Vet School Pre-requisites

- MSU has three-degree programs with many pre-requisites already built in:
 - Animal Science-Science Option
 - Microbiology- Pre-veterinary Option
 - Biotechnology- Animal Systems Option

Animal Science- Science

- Courses are centered around animal breeding, animal nutrition, livestock management, rangeland and plant management
- Also include veterinary pre-requisites for many vet schoolsome need to be taken as electives
- Graduates also go into animal nutrition, animal reproduction



Microbiology- Pre-veterinary

- Courses include microbiology, virology, parasitology, immunology and physiology
- Very flexible program that prepares you well for vet school course work
- Graduates also go into veterinary health, pharmaceuticals and veterinary technician programs



Biotechnology- Animal Systems

- Take courses in genetics, microbiology, immunology, molecular and cellular biology and research methods.
- The most flexible degree containing pre-veterinary pre-requisites allowing students to explore many upper division electives of interest.
- Graduates also go into research, regulatory agencies and graduate school.



Other Common Options

- Animal Science- Equine Science or Livestock Management
- Biological Science- Organismal
- Conservation Biology and Ecology
- All require additional courses to complete pre-requisites for vet school
- **Pre-veterinary certificate**- can be added to any major to help track and complete vet school pre-requisites



Residency



- Most veterinary schools are part of a state university system.
- Tax dollars direct the tuition and number of seats available for in state and out of state residents.
- Students who are residents of a state with a university have the best acceptance and tuition rates.

Residency



- Some universities have Professional Student Exchange Programs, where students from non-resident states pay a reduced rate of tuition and have access to a small pool of reserved seats.
- **Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)** Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)- AK, AZ, Northern Mariana Island, CO, HI, MT, NV, NM, ND, UT and WY residents
- **Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Professional Health Degree Program-** AR, DE, GA, KY, LA, MS, and SC residents

Montana Residents



- MT Residents have two great options for entrance into vet school!
- **Washington, Idaho, Montana, Utah (WIMU) Regional Program**- First year at MSU, last four years at Washington State University (WSU)
- Small class size and reduced tuition rate
- Can also apply for **WICHE PSEP programs**- WSU, CSU, OSU and Midwestern University- AZ

Applying for Vet School



- Most apply Junior or Senior Year
- Do not need a four-year degree to apply, but strongly encouraged.
- GPA matters- average GPA for acceptance is 3.70!
- Vet schools also look at: Overall science GPA, Last 42 credit hour GPA and curriculum and semester rigor.

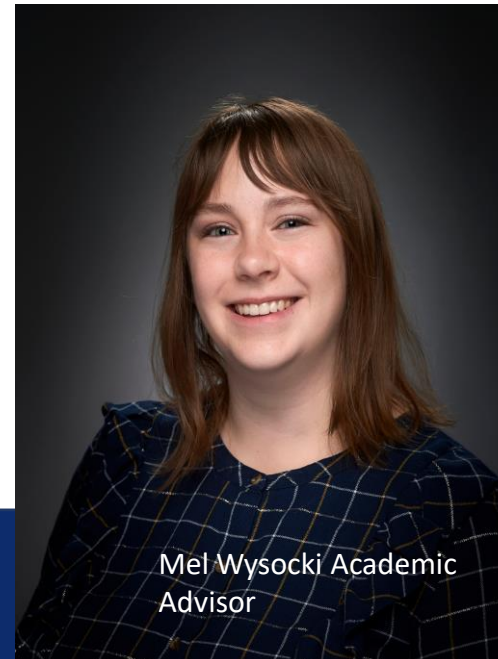
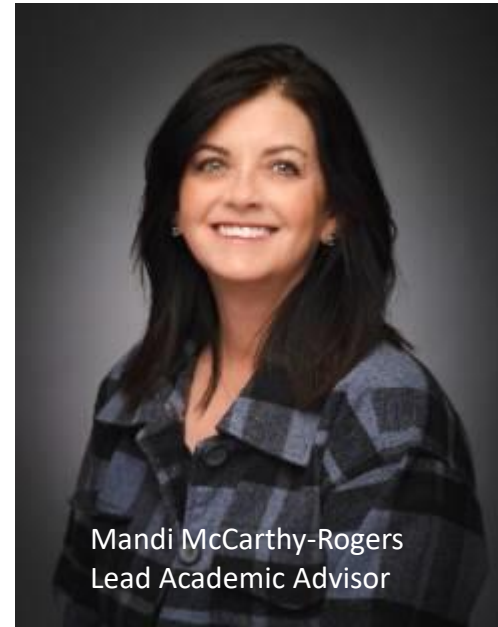
Applying for Vet School



- Veterinary clinic hours are required for most universities- aim for at least 500.
- Get involved!
- Want broad well-rounded candidates: work experience, leadership roles, clubs, volunteer hours, animal handling, research experience are all factored in.
- Have a back-up plan and it's okay to change your mind! Many pre-vet grads pursue veterinary technician training, research, master's and PhD programs and adjacent fields like farrier, equine dentistry, pharmaceuticals, nutrition and reproduction!

Pre-veterinary advising

- We are here to help you every step of the way!
- **Advising Commons Advisors for College of Agriculture-** advise first two years for most pre-vet degrees located in **Linfield 105/106**
- Last two years meet with a faculty advisor for your chosen degree
- **Pre-veterinary advising** is available throughout your time at MSU- advise recommended courses, application, internships and vet tech paths



Pre-Vet Club

*Meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month



Want to know more?

Reach out at
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And **GO CATS!!!**

