PRE-VETERINARY PROGRAM

The pre-veterinary medicine curriculum at UNK is designed to comply with admission requirements of the veterinary medicine cooperative professional program at University of Nebraska-Lincoln/Iowa State University. This is the only such program with a contract relationship with Nebraska. Students start taking pre-veterinary classes at UNK and then if admitted into the professional program start classes at UNL and finish clinical courses at ISU. Students can be accepted into other veterinary programs.

Veterinarian job descriptions:

• Household animal veterinarians typically work in private clinics.
• Equine veterinarians treat horses.
• Livestock veterinarians treat farm animals.
• Research veterinarians work in laboratories where they research health problems in animals.

Reasons to choose biology at UNK

• Faculty in the UNK Biology department have a belief that biology “is doing, not seeing.”
• Hands-on learning is incorporated into the coursework.
• Students have options to conduct independent research projects with faculty guidance.
• Students have the opportunity for admittance into the NE-INBRE scholars program.

Alumni profile

When Abby Larson was asked how she chose her major, she was very specific. “To be honest, I didn’t choose to study pre-vet at UNK – it chose me,” said the 2014 UNK graduate and full-time vet school student at UNL/ISU.

When Larson started at UNK she was not a pre-vet student. However, through experiences in Biology Club, talks with her advisor, and taking some very enjoyable classes, she discovered what she truly wanted to do.

Larson’s research project involved uterine contractions in mice. “I was able to perform surgery on mice and then aid in their recovery – a task that not many get to do before vet school.”

The experience gave Larson a valuable set of skills that she says will certainly come in useful during school and beyond. “Because professors teach information and expect you to relate it to new things, classes at UNK teach you to think and not just memorize.”

Places to engage

UNK students are encouraged to take part in all that the community offers and volunteer at places such as:

• Local vet clinics
• The local animal shelter
What I like most about the biology department is the faculty members are APPROACHABLE and WILLING to help students succeed.

Student Profile – Emily Plock