

VDPAM 496 - International Preceptorship

Last updated March 2024, ys/xw

1. Basic information:

DVM Classification required (VM1-4). Undergraduate enrollment by instructor approval only.
1 credit per 40-hour week of experience, max 9 credits of 490 level courses for graduation
Satisfactory/Not Pass grading system.
Offered throughout the semester. Students must be registered in VDPAM 496 before the start of their preceptorship.

2. Course Instructors:

Instructor	Email	Office	Office Phone
Dr. Yuko Sato, Course Coordinator	ysato@iastate.edu	2430 Lloyd	294-0710
Xiaoshuang Wei, Int'l Program Coordinator	xswei@iastate.edu	2270 Vet Med	294-1501

3. Course Overview:

This elective course is designed to facilitate opportunities for students to participate in international veterinary educational opportunities in production and wildlife animals. Number of course credits depends on duration of program. This course counts toward DVM degree elective requirements (VM1-VM3 students are required to have 4 credits of electives; VM4 student elective requirements vary by option).

4. Prerequisites:

DVM classification is required. Undergraduate students may enroll only by instructor approval. All non-partnered programs must be pre-approved by the Course Coordinator. Email both the Course Coordinator Dr. Yuko Sato and Xiaoshuang Wei with the host institution name, proposed travel dates and a brief description of the experience to receive approval for the experience. Complete the approval process at least 3 months before the start of your preceptorship.

5. Course Registration:

After you have received approval from the course coordinator Dr. Yuko Sato, follow the below steps to register for VDPAM 496 (you are not able to register for VDPAM 496 yourself). It is your responsibility to make sure you are enrolled in VDPAM 496 and for the correct term.

If your international experience is scheduled during your VM4 rotation year, please email Sarah Larkin (salarkin@iastate.edu) and Mindy Schminke (schminke@iastate.edu) to add VDPAM 496 to your rotation schedule.

If your international experience is scheduled during your VM1-3 year, please email Mindy Schminke (schminke@iastate.edu) and ask to be registered for VDPAM 496. If your experience takes place December through May, you should be registered for VDPAM 496 for the Spring term (registration opens in late October). If your experience takes place in June through November, you should be registered for VDPAM 496 for the Fall term (registration opens in late March). Please email Mindy only AFTER the registration is open for the respective term.

Please email Xiaoshuang Wei (xswei@iastate.edu) if you have any questions.

Note that registration for this course (as with any international or study abroad course) will incur a \$50 fee from the ISU Study Abroad Office. This fee covers required international safety and monitoring services, including the ISU Abroad Database and Alert Traveler. This fee will increase to \$85 starting in fall 2025.

6. Course Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to provide DVM students with opportunities to experience various aspects of production and wildlife medicine in international locations. Programs may involve clinical, didactic teaching, and/or research experience. Programs are individually designed by the student to meet their learning goals and objectives and to match their skills, experiences, and language proficiency. Students must seek assistance from the OASA International Programs Coordinator when designing their program.

Learning outcomes will vary based on individual program, but in general, after participating in this international preceptorship experience, students will be able to:

- Identify similarities and differences between veterinary medicine (clinical practice, didactic teaching, and/or research) in the host country/institution compared to the US and ISU-CVM.
- Describe how the preceptorship experience has enriched the student’s cultural competence and role as a global citizen.
- Provide guidance to future students interested in international preceptorship programs.

7. Available Resources

Students can contact the OASA International Programs Coordinator (Xiaoshuang Wei) for assistance throughout this process, including [current active exchange partners](#). Additionally, students can look at opportunities found in the [AVMA externship locator](#).

8. International Travel Registration and Health Insurance

Complete your [International Travel Registration](#).

All students who’ve completed the travel registration will be covered by the [International Health Insurance](#). Review the [LVMC Foreign Travel Policy](#) and ensure that your post-travel plans meet quarantine requirements. Per this policy, you will need to complete a [Departure Form](#) to an external site. at least 2 weeks prior to departure, and an [Arrival Form](#) to an external site. as soon as possible on your return.

9. Grading

This course is graded using a **Satisfactory / Not-Pass** grading system. Several deliverables are required to pass the course and receive credit. Below is a list of required deliverables, due dates, and criteria for what constitutes a passing submission.

Required deliverables	Due Date	Pass	Not Pass
International Experience Report	Within 30 days of returning from program	Completed form emailed to International Program Coordinator by deadline	Form incomplete or not submitted by deadline
Mentor (onsite veterinarian/instructor) contact information	Prior to or within 1 week of returning from program	Contact information provided to Course Coordinator and Program Coordinator via email	Contact information not provided (also not pass due to lack of mentor evaluation)
Mentor Evaluation (form completed by host/mentor)	Within 30 days of returning from program	Acceptable or better on all evaluation criteria	Unacceptable on any of the evaluation criteria
Exit interview	Within 30 days of returning from program	Meeting scheduled with Course Coordinator before deadline	Meeting not scheduled prior to deadline