

## **Special Topics in Research (Variable credits 1-5)**

Not a degree requirement but is optional. Unsatisfactory/Satisfactory grading system.

Various opportunities exist for students to participate in and gain research experience. These experiences can range from involvement in campus research opportunities working with faculty and graduate students, while others involve several weeks to several months experience at another institution, program or field investigation.

Special topics are selected based on their research credibility and planned outputs. The level of involvement varies with the project, length of commitment and the student's desires. This would impact on the number of credits assigned in advance for the special topic. An evaluation sheet with the topic, supervisor or investigator responsible for the student's activities, objectives of the project, brief methodologies, expected results and outcomes, role of the student in the planned research and how research experience will be gained through this activity. The student's involvement in stages of the planning, execution, data collection, analysis and writing up of a project will be examined to assess if the topic qualifies for this elective. This evaluation will be made by the RUSVM Research Committee and the Associate Dean for Research.

Examples of previous projects which qualify as Special Topics are:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (USA). Epidemiological challenges in zoonotic diseases (3 weeks)

Sea Life, Hawai'i (USA). Veterinary research problems in aquatic veterinary medicine (1 semester)

St Kitts Biomedical Research Foundation (St Kitts). Morphometrics and parasitological studies on wild caught African green monkeys on St Kitts (1 semester)

Merck Merial Scholarship Program (USA). Interval from treatment to ovulation in mares receiving prostaglandin  $f_{2\alpha}$  during early or mid-diestrus (1 semester)

Caribbean Primate Research Center (Puerto Rico). Behavioral studies and *Helicobacter* spp in captive macaque monkeys (1 semester)

New proposed programs

VetPharm Inc. Fellowship for Veterinary Clinical Research (USA)  
Veterinary clinical trials

Introduction to Conservation Medicine (South Africa). Wildlife veterinary medicine research challenges and solutions