

Suggestions for Interested 3rd and 4th Year Veterinary Students
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-Closely coordinate your vet school schedule with the online course schedule. Pay special attention to what you will have going on at vet school during the major due dates for the projects. For 4th years, look closely at which rotations are scheduled just before these due dates. For some rotations, you may be working 14 hour days or more with a ton of patient care responsibilities, and you may not have enough time to devote to your projects. For 3rd years, compare the dates of your major examinations with the due dates of the assignments in the online course. Try to identify times of the year that are going to be particularly difficult. Remember to consider time needed to study for national boards or fulfill leadership roles in student organizations. It can be a lot to juggle!

-Start the projects and modules as soon as you can. You never know when veterinary school or life will throw you a curve ball and you don't want to get behind.

-You will be enrolled in a graduate course with a great deal of reading assignments, online lectures, assessments, and projects to complete. This will take up a considerable amount of time. The course is no small undertaking and is difficult to complete on top of the workload of the average veterinary student. That being said, if you are interested in Shelter Medicine, it is an excellent learning and networking opportunity!

-My biggest regret is that while I was able to complete the course, I often lagged behind my classmates due to my veterinary school workload. During the next online course in which I am enrolled, I want to take a more active part in the discussions at the same time as my classmates so that I am able to communicate with more of them. I know from watching and reading their submitted material, I have a lot to learn from my classmates.

-I think that overall, this course was an excellent and completely worthwhile experience. While I often stretched myself very thin between 4th year clinical rotations, completing a VIRMP application, studying for boards, and studying for this course, I am very glad that I have had the opportunity to participate this semester. I have gained a wealth of knowledge and now have great notes from experts in the field on the topics I care most about!

-Anyone can feel free to contact me (kasieranski@cvm.tamu.edu) if they have any questions regarding my participation in this course. I would be glad if my experience could help other students succeed in the course.