



Veterinary Technology Diploma

PLAR Candidate Guide

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

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Prior learning credit options at Saskatchewan Polytechnic

See [Get Credit for What you Know](#) for important information about all options to get credit for prior learning at Sask Polytech, including PLAR, transfer credit, Canadian Armed Forces credit, and equivalency credit.

How to navigate this document

This document contains links to other document sections or webpages. To return to where you were from another section in this document, press the *ALT* key and *left arrow* key at the same time. To return to this webpage from another webpage, close the other webpage or click back on the browser tab for this document.

Contents of this guide

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A. PLAR fees

Fees for PLAR challenges are set to cover our costs for consultation, assessment, and related administrative tasks. PLAR fees are non-refundable and non-transferrable.

The PLAR fees policy is subject to change for each new academic year. Please see the **Cost** section on the [PLAR webpage](#) for current fee information.

B. PLAR eligibility and options

To be eligible for PLAR for courses in this program, you must first apply for admission and be accepted into the program. You must also consult with the [PLAR contact person](#) and be approved for PLAR assessment.

Note: Some courses require specialized equipment and materials to assess.

C. Dates when PLAR assessment is available

PLAR assessment for this program is available from Sept 1 to June 15 in each academic year.

All PLAR assessments must be completed by June 15 of each academic year.

D. Special directions for this program

1. **Review** the [PLAR process and FAQs](#) and the information in this guide.
2. **Self-rate** your learning for each course using the [Course Outlines](#) in this guide.
3. **Consult** with the [PLAR contact person](#) for PLAR approval. Be prepared to provide your resume, course self-ratings (see [section F](#)), and a partially completed [PLAR application](#). If you are approved for PLAR, the contact person will sign your PLAR application and explain next steps.
4. Apply for admission to the program. See [directions](#) for applying.
5. **Register** for PLAR at [Registration/Enrolment Services](#) once you have signed approval on your [PLAR Application Form](#). The PLAR fee will be added to your student account.
6. **Finalize** an assessment plan with your assigned assessor.
7. **Complete** assessment before your PLAR registration expires.

E. PLAR contact person

Contact one of the Program Heads below to arrange a consultation **after** you have read this guide and [general PLAR information](#) and rated yourself for each course (see next section). Consultation may be by phone, online, or in person. Be prepared to provide your resume, course self-ratings, and a partially completed [PLAR application](#). If agreement is reached to go ahead with PLAR, the contact person will sign approval on your PLAR application and explain the next steps. Admission to the program is required before you can register for PLAR.

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F. Self-rating course outlines

Clicking on a course code below opens a page where you can rate yourself on the knowledge and skills assessed for PLAR credit. For Arts & Sciences courses, clicking on the course code opens another PLAR guide. The [PLAR contact person](#) for this program will refer you to another person to discuss PLAR for courses delivered by Arts & Sciences or another program/department.

COURSE CODE	COURSE NAME	Delivered by another department/program
Semester 1		
APHY 101	Anatomy and Physiology 1 (Theory)	
APHY 102	Anatomy and Physiology 1 (Lab)	
MATH 280	Mathematics for Veterinary Technology	Arts & Sciences
VETR 184	Animal Production and Livestock Tours	
VETR 187	Animal Behaviour	
VETR 188	Veterinary Medical Terminology	
Semester 2		
APHY 104	Anatomy and Physiology 2	
COMM 291	Interpersonal Communications	
INDG 100	Introduction to Indigenous Studies	Arts & Sciences
Semester 4		
PHAR 203	Veterinary Pharmacology	
PRST 280	Veterinary Parasitology	

APHY 101 - Anatomy and Physiology 1 – Theory

You will study the relationship between structure and function at the cellular, tissue, and organ levels. The course content includes: skeletal, muscular, integument, respiratory and cardiovascular systems of the four major domestic animal species. This course is taken in conjunction with APHY 102.

Credit unit(s): 3.0
Prerequisites: none
Corequisites: APHY 102
Equivalent course(s): APHY 190

<p>Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome</p> <p>Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.</p>	Competent	Learning	None
1. Describe basic anatomical terminology and the major body systems.			
2. Explain the structure and function of the cell.			
3. Describe the structure, related function, and location of the four primary tissue types.			
4. Explain the structure and function of bones in the body.			
5. Explain the structure and function of the three muscle types.			
6. Describe the musculoskeletal system of common domestic species.			
7. Describe the structure and function of the cardiovascular system of common domestic species.			
8. Describe the structure and function of the respiratory system of common domestic species.			
9. Describe the structure and function of the integument and related structures.			

APHY 102 - Anatomy and Physiology 1 – Lab

You will learn basic applied anatomy and physiology of the four major domestic animal species (dog, cat, horse and bovid) through dissection, use of models and physiological tests. Organ systems studied include the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, respiratory and integumentary systems. This course is taken in conjunction with APHY 101.

Credit unit(s): 2.0
Prerequisites: APHY 101
Corequisites: none
Equivalent course(s): APHY 190

<p>Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome</p> <p>Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.</p>	Competent	Learning	None
1. Demonstrate localization (of a structure, marker, or lesion) using directional terminology.			
2. Describe the major bones and joints of domestic animals.			
3. Describe the location and features of muscles of veterinary importance.			
4. Describe the structure and function of the cardiovascular system of domestic animals.			
5. Describe the structure and function of the respiratory system of domestic animals.			
6. Describe the structure and function of the integument and related structures.			

MATH 280 - Mathematics for Veterinary Technology

You will review basic mathematical concepts such as conversions, ratios, proportions, fractions, decimals, percentages and equations as applied to veterinary concepts. You will also receive an introduction to statistics and graphing. Your studies will focus on units of measurement, drug dosage calculations, fluid rate calculations, and dilution and solution calculations.

Credit unit(s): 3.0
Prerequisites: none
Corequisites: none
Equivalent course(s): none

<p>Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome</p> <p>Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.</p>	Competent	Learning	None
1. Apply basic mathematics			
2. Calculate dilutions.			
3. Calculate solutions.			
4. Interpret graphs.			
5. Use dimensional analysis to convert units to perform drug dosage calculations and to determine IV flow rates.			
6. Analyze descriptive statistics in a veterinary medical environment.			

VETR 184 - Veterinary Tours

You will be introduced to dairy, beef, poultry, swine, and equine production through lecture, tours, and research assignments. Topics include variations in housing, health management, producer goals, and National Farm Animal Codes of Practice. You will be introduced to referencing and research on veterinary topics and use these skills to write reports.

Credit unit(s): 1.0
Prerequisites: VETR 188
Corequisites: none
Equivalent course(s): none

<p>Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome</p> <p>Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.</p>	Competent	Learning	None
1. Describe dairy, beef, poultry, swine, and equine production.			
2. Identify valid sources of information referencing with respect to animal and veterinary sciences.			
3. Demonstrate integration of information in the form of written reports.			

VETR 187 - Animal Behaviour

You will be introduced to the study of domesticated animal behaviour, behaviour modification, and learn how to adapt handling techniques based on animal behaviour. This knowledge provides a theory basis to safe work around the four main domestic species.

Credit unit(s): 2.0
Prerequisites: none
Corequisites: VETR 188
Equivalent course(s): none

<p>Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome</p> <p>Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.</p>	Competent	Learning	None
1. Discuss principles of normal animal behaviour.			
2. Discuss normal and abnormal social behaviours in domestic animals.			
3. Discuss reproductive and maternal behaviours in domestic animals.			
4. Discuss behavioural based handling.			
5. Discuss methods of behaviour modification and handling.			
6. Identify the link between animal behaviour and animal welfare.			

VETR 188 - Veterinary Medical Terminology

You will learn to use the prefixes, suffixes, and combining forms from which veterinary medical terms are derived, as well as the correct way to use medical abbreviations. You will also learn how to translate veterinary medical terminology for use with clients.

Credit unit(s): 1.0
Prerequisites: none
Corequisites: none
Equivalent course(s): none

Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.	Competent	Learning	None
1. Use basic veterinary medical terminology.			
2. Determine meanings of novel terms from Latin and Greek roots.			

APHY 104 - Anatomy and Physiology 2

You will study structure and function of the following systems in the four major domestic animal species: digestive, endocrine, blood and lymphatics, nervous system including sensory organs, urinary and reproduction. The lab will provide hands-on study of important physiological principles and anatomical structures through models and dissection of preserved specimens.

Credit unit(s): 4.0
Prerequisites: APHY 101, APHY 102
Corequisites: none
Equivalent course(s): none

Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome		Competent	Learning	None
Competent:	I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision.			
Learning:	I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome.			
None:	I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.			
1.	Demonstrate the structure and function of the digestive systems of common domestic species.			
2.	Demonstrate the structure and function of the endocrine system.			
3.	Demonstrate structure and function of blood and the lymphatic system.			
4.	Demonstrate structures of the nervous system.			
5.	Demonstrate the structure and function of the mammalian sensory system.			
6.	Demonstrate the structure and function of the urinary system.			
7.	Demonstrate the structure and function of the reproductive system of common domestic species.			

COMM 291 - Interpersonal Communications

You will develop employability skills through the study of interpersonal communications theory and applications in the workplace. Learning outcomes include the importance of self-awareness and self-esteem, perception problems, verbal and nonverbal messages, and listening skills, creating positive communication climates and resolving interpersonal conflict.

Credit unit(s): 2.0
Prerequisites: none
Corequisites: none
Equivalent course(s): BCOM 103, COMM 112, COMM 135, COMM 155, COMM 160, COMM 381, HUMR 182, HUMR 186, JOBS 190, NEPS 114, NURS 114, NURS 163

<p>Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome</p> <p>Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.</p>	Competent	Learning	None
1. Describe interpersonal communication.			
2. Describe how self-concept and perception affect communication.			
3. Discuss verbal and nonverbal messages.			
4. Discuss factors affecting communication climates.			
5. Apply skills to improve communication.			

INDG 100 - Introduction to Indigenous Studies

You will receive an introduction to the Indigenous cultural groups within Saskatchewan. You will learn about the colonization of Indigenous peoples by the Canadian state. Your studies will help you discuss current issues and explore possible solutions.

Credit unit(s): 1.0
Prerequisites: none
Corequisites: none
Equivalent course(s): none

<p>Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome</p> <p>Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.</p>	Competent	Learning	None
1. Describe Indigenous nations of Saskatchewan.			
2. Explain how colonization has impacted Indigenous peoples.			
3. Discuss current issues and possible solutions.			

PHAR 203 - Veterinary Pharmacology

You will discuss routes of drug administration, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics, and how they influence plasma drug levels and drug safety. You will be introduced to common classes of drugs used in veterinary medicine. Emphasis will be placed on the autonomic nervous system drugs, antimicrobials, anti-inflammatories, and drugs used in emergency medicine.

Credit unit(s): 3.0
Prerequisites: IMMU 281, VETR 191, VETR 200(concurrent)
Corequisites: VETR 290
Equivalent course(s): none

Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome		Competent	Learning	None
Competent:	I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision.			
Learning:	I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome.			
None:	I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.			
1.	Describe routes of drug administration and how they affect plasma drug levels and therapeutic index.			
2.	Discuss the components of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.			
3.	Describe commonly used antimicrobial drugs.			
4.	Describe the two main classes of anti-inflammatory drugs.			
5.	Describe autonomic nervous system, cardiovascular, and respiratory drugs.			
6.	Describe commonly used veterinary drugs.			

PRST 280 - Veterinary Parasitology

You will study helminths, protozoa, and arthropods that affect animals in North America. Your studies will focus on diagnostic features, life cycles, pathogenesis, control and zoonotic potential. In lab you will learn to identify various life stages of different parasites and to perform common diagnostic techniques used in parasitology.

Credit unit(s): 3.0
Prerequisites: MICR 186
Corequisites: none
Equivalent course(s): none

<p>Use a checkmark (✓) to rate yourself as follows for each learning outcome</p> <p>Competent: I can apply this outcome without direction or supervision. Learning: I am still learning skills and knowledge to apply this outcome. None: I have no knowledge or experience related to this outcome.</p>	Competent	Learning	None
1. Describe the key features of nematodes affecting domestic animals.			
2. Describe the key features of cestodes affecting domestic animals.			
3. Describe the key features of trematodes affecting domestic animals.			
4. Describe the key features of protozoa affecting domestic animals.			
5. Describe the key features of arthropods affecting domestic animals.			
6. Discuss anti-parasitic drugs and protocols.			
7. Perform parasite identification and diagnostic tests.			