

The Master of Science (MSc) Programme at the Department of International Animal Health of the Freie Universität Berlin:

Course set-up and curriculum structure of the Joint MSc Programme in Veterinary Public Health (VPH) with the Chiang Mai University in Thailand

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The Department of International Animal Health of the Freie Universität Berlin establishes a new Master Course concept: Three courses address modern areas of veterinary medicine (epidemiology, veterinary public health, food chain management), aim at specific target regions and are jointly executed with partner universities and veterinary institutions in the regions.

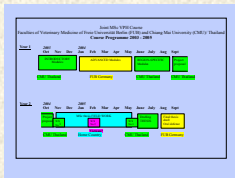
Here we present the **MSc-VPH Course for the Southeast Asian Region** which is launched with the beginning of the Academic Year 2003/2004 (October 2003) anchored together by the **partner universities Chiang Mai University (CMU)** in Thailand and the Freie Universität Berlin (FUB).

The University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna / Austria (UVMV) with its Institute of Meat Hygiene, Meat Technology and Food Science is the third and junior partner within the EU ASIA LINK Programme (providing substantial financial co-funding).

Scholarships have been made available by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) under its 'Ausbildungsgang-Programm' as well as by the Ministry of University Affairs / Thailand.



The two-years 'sandwich'-programme in English language leading to a dual degree ('Joint MSc VPH of FUB and CMU') follows a modular structure applying the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System – ECTS –; its design as 'classroom and research master' is fully in line with the recommendations given by IRK (Association of Universities in Germany) and the Accreditation Council.



Young and mid-career veterinarians and other professionals (natural, agricultural, medical sciences) from the Southeast Asian region with a background in and training needs for zoonoses control and food safety are the target group addressed by the MSc programme.

The modular curriculum of the MSc programme allows also for state-of-the-art teaching of a particular topic as a combination of classroom knowledge transfer (lectures, group work, seminars, PC labs) linked to practical laboratory experiences (bench work) within a defined and uninterrupted time period at a particular partner institution.

MSc VPH Course Outline I

COURSE A At partner university CMU: Introduction to the course Veterinary Microbiology Food Safety and Quality Data Processing and Computing Veterinary Public Health Veterinary Epidemiology Veterinary Pathology VETERINARY PRACTICE Food Safety Management Health Safety/Animal Health Pathology	AT FUB Introduction to the course Veterinary Microbiology Food Safety and Quality Veterinary Public Health Veterinary Epidemiology Veterinary Pathology VETERINARY PRACTICE Food Safety Management Health Safety/Animal Health Pathology
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Part A of the course starts at CMU with introductory modules for three months followed by Advanced Modules at FUB with Laboratory Practicals being carried out at UVMV. Further modules addressing regional specifics follow; the first study year will be completed with a draft of the study proposal.

MSc VPH Course Outline II

At partner university CMU and with University of Vienna institutions in the region: Introduction to the course Veterinary Microbiology Veterinary Pathology VETERINARY PRACTICE Food Safety Management Health Safety/Animal Health Pathology	PART B (Master Thesis, Total 12 ECTS) at Southeast Asian region Project work (12 credit points) Study change workshop (3 credit points) Academic workshop (3 credit points) Master Thesis and Oral Defense (30 credit points)
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Part B emphasises on the MSc thesis and comprises of the preparatory project work, the field investigations in the home country of the participant with accompanying workshops at CMU and in the region. With the completion of the written thesis and the oral defence the MSc course is accomplished.

Example for Curriculum Outline: Zoonosis module

Year	2003	2004	2005
CMU	Introduction to the course	Veterinary Microbiology	Veterinary Pathology
FUB	Introduction to the course	Veterinary Microbiology	Veterinary Pathology
UVMV			
Workshops			
Thesis			

The course concept of a "winning" or "sandwich"-programme is based on building of training institutions in Thailand and the countries in the region (South-South collaboration) under the leadership of CMU and in strong collaboration with the Northern partners FUB (South-North collaboration).



The three Master Courses form the foundation for the establishment of the "International Graduate School in Veterinary Public Health (IGS VPH)" at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of FUB; expansion from the MSc level to a PhD programme is to be achieved latest by 2007 with first graduation in 2010.

