

This exciting curriculum is inspired by the only Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning in a British veterinary school. We have taken a fresh look at how we can bring together technological change, clinical and scientific progress, and stimulating teaching and learning methods. The result is a unique degree course that will equip you for life in a range of veterinary careers.

You will gain a thorough understanding of the sciences underpinning veterinary practice and develop vital problem-solving, communication and team-working skills. In the busy RVC clinics, you will gain the broadest possible practical experience, and during your elective studies you will get all the help you need to delve into specialist subjects and complete a rewarding research project.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

As the only veterinary school in England accredited by both European and US authorities, we provide an innovative curriculum that meets all the requirements laid down by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the American Veterinary Medical Association, and the Veterinary Directives of the European Union.

This comprehensive programme will help you acquire:

- an understanding of the basic biological principles of normal body function and disease
- the ability to distinguish the pathological from the normal
- the ability to prevent disease and safely manage the processes of animal production
- the expertise to diagnose and treat disease and alleviate suffering
- the professional skills you need to work and communicate effectively with your colleagues and the public

BASIC SCIENCE

Your first two years will be spent mainly at our London Campus, with visits to Hertfordshire for lectures and practicals in animal health and handling. You will study the healthy animal in its normal environment and acquire basic skills in handling and examining horses, farm animals and companion animals. The basic veterinary sciences are taught in an integrated manner on a body systems basis, with the clinical relevance of the sciences highlighted at every stage. We also showcase some of the stimulating stories that have inspired scientists at the RVC and elsewhere in their quest to push back the frontiers of knowledge.

Learning takes place in a variety of formats, including lectures, tutorials (some of which involve a live animal), directed learning sessions, dissections and practical classes in the laboratory and at our working farm. In short, the new curriculum means you will spend less time in the classroom and more time mastering the material you need to learn.

You will be able to monitor your own progress by using the handheld voting systems in our lecture theatres, an enjoyable and effective way to test your own knowledge. You will also have the opportunity to take a computer-based 'quiz' at the end of each week, so you can assess how well you are doing and focus your studies more effectively.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY EXTRA MURAL STUDIES

You will undertake a minimum of 12 weeks Animal Husbandry Extra Mural Studies (AHEMS) during your first two years, giving you an opportunity to obtain real-life experience in a variety of settings such as dairy and sheep farms, stables, kennels and catteries. The first year's work includes three weeks lambing during your Easter vacation. At some stage during Years One and Two, you must spend two weeks at a dairy cattle farm, two weeks at a pig farm and two weeks working with horses. Four weeks may be spent working with a species of your choice. You may spend up to six weeks on overseas AHEMS. You will also complete your first small research project at one of these establishments.

CLINICAL SCIENCE

The third year and first part of the fourth year are spent at the Hertfordshire Campus. This phase provides the framework of knowledge and basic practical skills in clinical science necessary for you to participate fully in clinical practice at the RVC and in private veterinary practice. You will attend lectures, directed learning sessions and laboratory classes. These provide basic knowledge and practical skills relating to the pathology of disease, diagnosis, prognosis, and medical and surgical therapy.

CLINICAL SKILLS

Detailed consideration of specific diseases is based on integrated teaching of individual body systems, building on the material learnt during the first two years. During the third and fourth years, you will spend increasing amounts of time in our state-of-the-art Clinical Skills Centre, practising a wide range of skills in a 'safe' setting under expert guidance that will stand you in good stead when you start your clinical placements.

CLINICAL EXTRA MURAL STUDIES

In Year Three you will begin Clinical Extra Mural Studies (EMS). To progress to Year Four, you will need to have spent 11 weeks at a variety of veterinary practices. In total, you must complete 26 weeks of Clinical EMS within this final three-year period, via a balanced programme of placements at general veterinary practices, specialist veterinary centres, the State Veterinary Service, research institutes and the Veterinary Laboratory Agency (VLA). One week must be spent studying meat hygiene in an abattoir. Up to six of your 26 weeks of Clinical EMS may be spent outside the UK.

INTRA MURAL ROTATIONS

From the middle of Year Four, most of your remaining time will be spent gaining hands-on experience in RVC clinics (Intra Mural Rotations; IMR). IMR includes the following areas:

- Small animal medicine, surgery and emergency and critical care, based in the Queen Mother Hospital for Animals, the Beaumont Animals' Hospital and other major hospitals in the London area
- Equine medicine and surgery, based in the Sefton Equine Hospital and our equine practice
- Farm animal medicine and surgery, reproduction and herd health investigation undertaken on our farm, in our farm animal practice and our Welsh Regional Veterinary Centre
- Pathology, including training in our diagnostic laboratories and veterinary surveillance centre

Peter Clements
BVetMed

I like the combination of microscope sessions, dissection classes and tutorials and how they explore different ways of learning the same thing. It adds to the interest as you begin to study a subject in more depth. I also completed a couple of weeks at wild animal parks, which were fascinating; nothing like the day-to-day practice at the farms and stables I went to for my other placements. It's not everyday you get to carry a gorilla! I enjoyed all my placements though, largely because the people I worked with were so nice, understanding and ready to further my knowledge of animal husbandry.

RESEARCH PROJECT

During this period, you will also spend at least eight weeks devising and executing a research project on an aspect of veterinary science that interests you. This is the second project of your own which you will complete. Self-motivation is key here, but a supervisor will be assigned to provide help and support as you need it. You may, during your time at the RVC, or soon after, present this project at a scientific meeting, or publish it in a veterinary or scientific journal. This distinguishes a number of our graduates from those from other schools. For further information please go to www.rvc.ac.uk/studentresearch

SPECIALISATION

All UK veterinary graduates are required to have basic competence in all the species most commonly encountered in veterinary practice. However, the College also recognises that most students have a particular preference, whether it be for horses, domestic pets, farm animals or some other aspect of veterinary work. We have therefore created more opportunities for students to gain further knowledge and experience with their preferred species, both through additional time in more advanced classes, and through supplementary clinical rotations. You may also have the opportunity for more advanced study of disciplines and topics that particularly interest you, such as work with exotic species, anaesthesia, reproduction, veterinary history or veterinary business and entrepreneurship.

EXAMINATIONS

The BVetMed is very demanding and there are rigorous examinations throughout the five-year programme. Like the other veterinary programmes in this country, and many medical programmes, there is an opportunity to retake each examination. However, a student who fails an examination twice is usually required to withdraw from the College.

EXPECTATIONS

Some students enter clinical veterinary programmes with unrealistic expectations about the breadth of knowledge and skills they will be able to acquire during a five-year degree. You can only expect to acquire basic competence in treating a limited number of common species prior to graduation. Although there is limited scope for specialisation during the undergraduate course, the solid basic knowledge the BVetMed provides will enable you to continue learning throughout your professional career through informal continuing professional development, short courses and Masters programmes such as the RVC's MSc Wild Animal Health, MVetMed, MSc Veterinary Epidemiology, MSc Control of Infectious Diseases in Animals, our professional doctorate, the DVetMed, and study for a PhD.

PUTTING YOUR DEGREE INTO PRACTICE

You will be entitled to practice as a veterinarian as soon as you have earned your BVetMed degree and registered as a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) will recognise your degree as equivalent to those awarded by veterinary colleges in the United States. The RVC is the only English veterinary school accredited by the AVMA, and this gives you a unique advantage. Some of the USA's major veterinary employers recruit actively among our final year students, many of whom now sit the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination with the intention of working in the USA after qualifying.

NB Licensing requirements may vary considerably between individual US States and are liable to change. Some States may lay down specific requirements that non-US nationals cannot satisfy, and you should therefore check an individual State's licensing laws before assuming you will be able to practice there.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A LEVEL

Three subjects including Biology and Chemistry and one other subject which does not overlap (excluding General Studies).¹ AAA/AAB grades (with grade A in Biology and Chemistry) are normally required.

Applicants resitting A Levels are required to have achieved at least BBC including B in Biology at first sit and will need to achieve AAA at resit.

¹ All third choices are acceptable to RVC selectors and there is no subject which is preferred or gives any special advantage in the selection process.

AS LEVEL

The RVC supports the opportunity to take additional subjects at AS Level, but does not prescribe or prefer any particular subject choices or combinations.

14-19 DIPLOMA

Advanced Diplomas will be considered in addition to A Levels in Biology and Chemistry at grades AA.

GCSE

At least five A grades, including grade A in Double Award Science (or in Biology and Chemistry if taken separately) and not less than grade B in English, Mathematics and Physics (if taken as a separate subject).

WORK EXPERIENCE

Before making an application, in order to develop animal handling skills you must obtain varied work experience for a minimum of two weeks (one week in a veterinary practice and one week in a different animal environment). Examples of suitable experience other than in veterinary practice include work in a stables, a kennels, on a rural or city farm, in an abattoir, an animal groomers or a pet shop. This experience must be gained before making an application.

Brief details of experience and duration (including dates) of visits should be set out in your UCAS personal statement.

BIOMEDICAL ADMISSIONS TEST (BMAT)

The BMAT has been used for several years by Cambridge and the RVC (as well as medical schools in Cambridge, Oxford, UCL and Imperial College) as a supplementary science aptitude test to help inform the selection process. The BMAT is designed to test the data handling and reasoning skills of candidates, and the ability to structure thoughts in extended writing exercises. BMAT scores are used as part of the selection process to decide who is called for interview/offered a place.

All applicants for D100 (with the exception of applicants from North America who must apply through VMCAS) need to take the BMAT in the year of application.

To confirm deadlines and examination dates and for more details please go to www.bmat.org.uk. The closing date for entries is usually at the end of September, but please check online for clarification.

REAPPLICATION

We are normally unable to consider more than one repeat application. Applicants reapplying must take BMAT again.

GRADUATE ENTRY (FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMME)

Applicants who have recently graduated or expect to complete a degree in the current academic year can be considered under the graduate entry scheme for places. Please see page 35.

It is not possible to transfer to the BVetMed course from a degree programme partly completed at another university. Applications will not be considered from students currently on a degree programme unless they are in their final year and applying for graduate entry. No exemption is granted from any course components.

EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS

(SEE ABOVE FOR BMAT AND WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS)

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

Candidates taking the International Baccalaureate must take Biology, Chemistry and one other subject at Higher Level. Grades of 766 are normally required, though offers of 666 are made to exceptional candidates. Applicants must have previously completed the IB Middle Years Programme, or have obtained qualifications in Maths, English and Physics equivalent to our GCSE level requirements.

SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates offering Scottish qualifications must pass five Highers including Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with at least AAAAB grades. Advanced Highers in Biology and Chemistry are also required. AA/AB grades are normally required.

WELSH BACCALAUREATE

Please contact the Admissions Office for further information.

BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA

Please check our website for further information.

ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMA

Please check our website for further information.

THE IRISH LEAVING CERTIFICATE

Grades of AAAABB at Higher level including Biology and Chemistry are required. Physics with minimum grade B is required at Ordinary level. It should be clearly stated on the UCAS form which subjects are being studied at Higher level and which at Ordinary level.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Applicants from overseas must meet the entry requirements by means of the qualifications listed or other acceptable alternative qualifications. Prospective students must have achieved a sufficient level of knowledge in the prescribed subjects before entry to the course. No foundation module in basic science is given within the BVetMed course. Applicants with qualifications not listed above will be considered on a case by case basis and should contact the Admissions Office for advice.

A good working knowledge of scientific English is essential in order to follow the course, which includes a significant proportion of oral instruction and written assessments. Applicants whose first language is not English must have an acceptable English Language qualification eg IELTS at 6.5 or above.

NORTH AMERICA

Applicants from North America should be in their final year or have recently graduated from degree courses which include large biological science components. **Normally a GPA of at least 3.4 is required.** Applications must be made through VMCAS. Please see www.rvc.ac.uk/Education/International/NorthAmerica.cfm

For advice on the acceptability of other qualifications, please contact the Admissions Office.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

For further application information please see page 72. If you are considering a veterinary career, you should take steps to learn something about the profession and take an interest in current issues affecting agriculture and the animal world in general.

Applications for admission to the BVetMed degree course (the five-year pathway) should be made through UCAS during the period 1 September to 15 October for entry in the following year.

www.ucas.com
UCAS code: D100
Institution code: RVET R84

IMPORTANT NOTE

You may list a total of five courses on the UCAS application form, but only four can be for veterinary medicine/science courses (D100, D101 and D102).

Applicants should choose whether to apply for either D100 or D101. You may not apply for both. See page 31 for full details of the D101 degree.

NORTH AMERICAN APPLICANTS

North American applicants must apply through VMCAS. For further information please see www.aavmc.org

INTERVIEWS

It is the policy of the RVC not to offer a place without interview. Interviews for selected applicants usually take place during the period February to March. If you are selected for interview for more than one degree programme at the RVC, a separate interview may be held for each course. If you are resident outside the EU your interview may take place at a different time in the year. Please check with the Admissions Office.

Interviews last about 15 minutes and are conducted by a panel of at least two people; including members of RVC academic staff and, usually, a practising veterinary surgeon.

The aim of the interview is to find out more about you; we try to make this a useful experience rather than an intimidating one. You may be asked questions about your personal interests, your ambitions, what you have learned from your work experience, and about any current, scientific, farming or other animal-related issues.

You will be asked to fill in some questionnaires before you come for interview to confirm details of Section 8 of the UCAS form and to obtain details of your work experience.

Reference letters are not required, but if you have any and wish to bring them to an interview, you should bring copies that we can keep and add to your application. Please note that if you bring case books to your interview, the selectors may be able to browse through the contents if there is time but please do not send them to the College in advance.

NOTIFICATION OF OUTCOME

You will be informed of the outcome of your application through UCAS and should therefore check the UCAS website for news. We will make every effort to reach a decision as quickly as possible, but will take the time necessary to ensure careful consideration of each application. If you are invited to attend an interview it is unlikely that you will receive a final decision on your application until all interviews have taken place which will not be before the middle of March.

ENTRY PROFILES

Further information about the course and application processes can be found in the Entry Profile on the UCAS website.

Sophie Jenkins
BVetMed

'The LIVE Centre is a fantastic facility; well worth the effort and money that has been spent on it. At my sessions there I learnt how to place catheters, set up intravenous fluids and experiment with different suture patterns in a safe environment. This was of great benefit to me when I went out on extra-mural placements, when there often isn't the time to practise using instruments or surgery techniques. It also gave me the confidence, on placement, to participate in practical work such as neutering.'



Andy Banerjee
BSc/BVetMed Combined Degree

'The best thing about studying at the RVC is its heritage; the fact that it is the oldest vet school in the country means that its contribution to the field of veterinary science is unparalleled. The research being conducted here has diverse clinical applications and the staff are incredibly helpful, extremely knowledgeable and very friendly. You get a sense that they are willing to put themselves out for you in order to deepen your knowledge of the subject matter, even over coffee at Costa! And far from simply passing on their research findings, our lecturers do their utmost to make sure we understand fully and think for ourselves.'



BSc (Hons)/BVetMed Combined Programme

Six-year course

UCAS CODE: D101
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

Quite often, veterinary students choose to complete a defined science degree alongside their clinical degree. For some, this stems from a continuing interest in scientific methodology developed at school. Some like to keep their options open should a scientific or research career seem preferable at a later date. Others just want to reinforce the basic science foundation upon which they then build a career in veterinary medicine.

London, with its many colleges, museums and learned societies, is the richest science resource in the UK. It is also the place where much of the UK's academic research takes place. By attending specially designed science modules at the RVC, lectures and seminars outside the College, and participating in an exciting research project of your own, you will reap the benefits.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

The BSc/BVetMed programme expands your study of basic sciences over a three-year period, allowing more time to attend internal and external science seminars and events.

It still covers animal health and disease, but tackles it from a different research-based perspective, which will enrich your understanding of clinical science in later years. You will find where others 'know', you 'understand'. This programme includes more laboratory practical classes and weekly tutorials in groups of three or four people. In order to facilitate this, in the first two years, you will study alongside students taking the BSc (Hons) Bioveterinary Sciences, developing your skills and knowledge in the biomedical sciences.

YEAR ONE

MODULES

Foundations of Science – including scientific philosophy and methodology

Form and Function – including anatomy, physiology and biochemistry

Control and Regulation – including cellular and molecular biology

Library Project

YEAR TWO

MODULES

Foundations of Science

The Enemy Without – infectious diseases and injuries

The Enemy Within – autoimmune disease, oncology and ageing

Pharmacology – how medicines are developed and tested

Animal Health

Mini laboratory project

YEAR THREE

You will be joined by appropriately qualified graduate entrants on a four-year accelerated BVetMed programme and your modules will include:

Integrated Structure and Function

Veterinary Pathology and Immunology

You will also study one optional science module of your choice and complete a major project for your BSc degree. Many of these are published in peer-reviewed journals, adding an extra dimension to your experience (and CV).

After the BSc project year (and your first graduation ceremony), you enter phase two of the five-year BVetMed degree for the final three years of that programme.

Please see the BVetMed section (page 23) for further information on this course.

BSc (Hons)/BVetMed Combined Programme

Six-year course

UCAS CODE: D101
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A LEVEL

Three subjects including Biology and Chemistry and one other subject which does not overlap (excluding General Studies).¹ AAA/AAB grades are normally required (with grade A in Biology and Chemistry).

Applicants resitting A Levels are required to have achieved at least BBC including B in Biology at first sit and will need to achieve AAA at resit.

¹ All third choices are acceptable to RVC selectors and there is no subject which is preferred or gives any special advantage in the selection process.

AS LEVEL

The RVC supports the opportunity to take additional subjects at AS Level, but does not prescribe or prefer any particular subject choices or combinations.

14-19 DIPLOMA

Advanced Diplomas will be considered in addition to A Levels in Biology and Chemistry at grades AA.

GCSE

At least five A grades, including grade A in Double Award Science (or in Biology and Chemistry if taken separately) and not less than grade B in English, Mathematics and Physics (if taken as a separate subject).

WORK EXPERIENCE

We ask for prior work experience, both in veterinary practice and with animals, in order to develop animal handling skills and obtain an insight into the work of veterinary surgeons. The minimum work experience

required is one week in a veterinary practice and one week in a different animal environment. It is also necessary to gain some experience of a scientific environment, eg a research laboratory in a university, in industry, in a government research institute, or a veterinary or medical diagnostic laboratory. This experience must be gained before making an application.

Brief details of experience and duration of visits (including dates) should be set out on your UCAS personal statement.

BIOMEDICAL ADMISSIONS TEST (BMAT)

The BMAT is a supplementary science aptitude test to help inform the selection process and is used by a select number of universities and veterinary schools. The BMAT is designed to test the data handling and reasoning skills of candidates, and the ability to structure thoughts in extended writing exercises. BMAT scores are used as part of the selection process to decide who is called for interview/offered a place.

All applicants for D101 (**with the exception of applicants from North America who must apply through VMCAS**) need to take the BMAT in the year of application.

To confirm deadlines and examination dates and for more details please go to www.bmat.org.uk. The closing date for entries is usually at the end of September, but please check online for clarification.

REAPPLICATION

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EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS

(SEE PAGE 32 FOR BMAT AND WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS)

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

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SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates offering Scottish qualifications must pass five Highers including Biology, Chemistry and Physics, with at least AAAAB grades. Advanced Highers in Biology and Chemistry are also required. AA/AB grades are normally required.

WELSH BACCALAUREATE

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BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA

Please check our website for further information.

ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMAS

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THE IRISH LEAVING CERTIFICATE

Grades of AAAABB at Higher level including Biology and Chemistry are required. Physics with minimum grade B is required at Ordinary level. It should be clearly stated on the UCAS form which subjects are being studied at Higher level and which at Ordinary level.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Applicants from overseas must meet the entry requirements by means of the qualifications listed or other acceptable alternative qualifications. Prospective students must have achieved a sufficient level of knowledge in the prescribed subjects before entry to the course. No foundation module in basic science is given within the BVetMed course. Applicants with qualifications not listed above will be considered on a case by case basis and should contact the Admissions Office for advice.

A good working knowledge of scientific English is essential in order to follow the course, which includes a significant proportion of oral instruction and written assessments. Applicants whose first language is not English must have an acceptable English Language qualification eg IELTS at 6.5 or above.

NORTH AMERICA

Applicants from North America should be in their final year or have recently graduated from degree courses which include large biological science components. **Normally a GPA of at least 3.4 is required.** Applications must be made through VMCAS. Please see www.rvc.ac.uk/Education/International/NorthAmerica.cfm

For advice on the acceptability of other qualifications, please contact the Admissions Office.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

For further application information please see page 72. If you are considering a veterinary career, you should take steps to learn something about the profession and take an interest in current issues affecting agriculture and the animal world in general.

BSc (Hons)/BVetMed Combined Programme

Six-year course

UCAS CODE: D101
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

Applications for admission to the combined BVetMed degree course (the six-year pathway) should be made through UCAS during the period 1 September to 15 October for entry in the following year.

www.ucas.com
UCAS code: D101
Institution code: RVET R84

IMPORTANT NOTE

You may list a total of five courses on the UCAS application form, but only four can be for veterinary medicine/science courses (D100, D101 and D102).

Applicants should choose whether to apply for either D100 or D101. You may not apply for both.

NORTH AMERICAN APPLICANTS

North American applicants must apply through VMCAS. For further information please see www.aavmc.org

INTERVIEWS

It is the policy of the RVC not to offer a place without interview. Interviews for selected applicants usually take place during the period February to March. If you are selected for interview for more than one degree programme at the RVC, a separate interview may be held for each course. If you are resident outside the EU your interview may take place at a different time in the year. Please check with the Admissions Office.

Interviews last about 15 minutes and are conducted by a panel of at least two people; including members of RVC academic staff and, usually, a practising veterinary surgeon.

The aim of the interview is to find out more about you; we try to make this a useful experience rather than an intimidating one. You may be asked questions about your personal interests, your ambitions, what you have learned from your work experience, and about any current, scientific, farming or other animal-related issues.

You will be asked to fill in some questionnaires before you come for interview to confirm details of Section 8 of the UCAS form and to obtain details of your work experience.

Reference letters are not required, but if you wish to bring them to an interview, you should bring copies that we can keep and add to your application. Please note that if you bring case books to your interview, the selectors may be able to browse through the contents if there is time but please do not send them to the College in advance.

NOTIFICATION OF OUTCOME

You will be informed of the outcome of your application through UCAS and should therefore check the UCAS website for news. We will make every effort to reach a decision as quickly as possible, but will take the time necessary to ensure careful consideration of each application. If you are invited to attend an interview it is unlikely that you will receive a final decision on your application until all interviews have taken place which will not be before the middle of March.

ENTRY PROFILES

Further information about the course and application processes can be found in the Entry Profile on the UCAS website.

BVetMed Accelerated Programme

(includes specially designed graduate first year)
Four-year course

UCAS CODE: D102
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

If you are a graduate or in your final year of a biological sciences degree, you could apply for an accelerated version of our renowned BVetMed programme.

The four-year graduate programme enables you to supplement your existing skills base, adding to the preclinical science information covered by a previous biological science degree. On successful completion of the introductory graduate year, you will enter the BVetMed course at the start of Year Three, leading to completion of the BVetMed in a total of four years.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

The first year of this programme calls for a determined, self-motivated approach to learning. It consists of three modules, each divided into units. Each unit consists of ten or so lectures, each lecture series being rounded off by a clinically oriented seminar from one of our clinical staff. Within each unit, lecturers will provide introductions to each new subject as well as an overview and 'road-map' showing how to take the subject further. The emphasis is very much on independent study, directed reading, problem-oriented and directed learning, practical anatomy classes and dissections, and histology reviews through microscope use and electronic media.

MODULE ONE

PRINCIPLES OF ANIMAL FORM AND FUNCTION

- Introductory histology and basic tissue structure
- Pharmacological basis of therapeutics:
 - pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics
- Locomotion
- Animal design
- Tendon/cartilage/bone
- Feet/hooves/skin
- Proprioception; flexor and stretch reflexes
- Muscle structure, development and responses to injury

ORGANS OF DIGESTION

- Form and function of the GI tract
- Oral cavity, salivary glands, tongue and pharynx
- Gut development, motility and drug actions
- Simple stomach/small and large intestine
- Animals with complex stomachs – ruminants
- Animals with complex digestive tracts – equines, porcines and lagomorphs
- Carnivore and ruminant metabolic specialisations
- Principles of diarrhoea

ENDOCRINE SYSTEMS

- General principles
- Hypothalamic-pituitary axis
- Hormones and metabolism
- Control of blood glucose and the management of diabetes

PRINCIPLES OF NEURAL DEVELOPMENT, FORM AND FUNCTION

- Brain development and motor pathways
- Spinal cord and cranial nerves
- Sensory systems including the ear and eye
- Autonomic nervous system
- Peripheral nervous system
- Nervous system dysfunction

RENAL AND URINARY TRACT

- Development, anatomy, vascularisation
- Regulation of excretory function
- Regulation of water, Na, K and mineral balance
- Acid/base balance
- Clinical aspects and effects of diuretics

BVetMed Accelerated Programme

(includes specially designed graduate first year)

Four-year course

UCAS CODE: D102
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

REPRODUCTION

- Male and female reproductive systems
- Sperm maturation and fertilisation
- Oestrus cycle and pharmacological control
- Implantation and placentation
- Parturition
- Mammary gland and lactation
- Clinical and biotechnological aspects

CARDIOVASCULAR AND RESPIRATORY SYSTEMS

- Development of the circulation
- Heart and blood vessels
- Cardiac cycle, electrophysiology and cardiac output
- Haemostasis
- Respiratory tract, lungs, larynx and pharynx
- Gaseous exchange and neural control of ventilation
- Cardiovascular and respiratory pharmacology
- Diagnostic ECG and ultrasonography
- Heart defects

SPECIAL SPECIES

- Fish, amphibia, reptiles – body design, physiology and reproduction
- Birds – adaptations for flight
- Small mammals – digestion, reproduction and handling

MODULE TWO

INFECTIONS AND RESPONSES

APPLIED HISTOPATHOLOGY

- Introduction to pathological disease and lesions
- Degenerations and infiltrations
- Necrosis and post-mortem changes
- Pigmentation and mineralisation
- Acute and chronic inflammation
- Healing and repair
- Neoplasia

VETERINARY IMMUNO-PATHOLOGY

- Overview of the immune system
- Immunity to pathogens
- Circulatory disturbances

VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGY AND PARASITOLOGY

- Virus replication
- Pathogenesis of viral infections and tumour viruses
- Vaccination and epidemiology
- Emerging evolving and notifiable diseases
- Immune evasion by viruses
- Ectoparasites
- Alimentary tract parasites
- Parasitic zoonoses
- Emerging parasitic diseases
- Bacterial structure and growth
- Bacterial genetics
- Antimicrobial drugs
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Bacterial pathogenicity

MODULE THREE

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

- Health and safety in working with animals
- Introduction to extra-mural studies
- Animal welfare
- Animal behaviour
- Equine stewardship
- Small animal stewardship
- Practicals on equine handling, small animal handling, lab animal handling

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

This programme is available to graduates who already hold, or expect to obtain in the current year, at least a **2:1 in an appropriate biological science degree.**

(Suitable degrees include but are not limited to Bioveterinary Sciences, Animal Sciences, Biochemistry, Zoology)

You will also need to meet the other prescribed subject entry requirements for the BVetMed course through A Levels and GCSEs or other acceptable qualifications (see page 26).

WORK EXPERIENCE

You should have recent experience of working with animals. The minimum requirement is a week in a veterinary practice and a week in a different animal environment.

It is not possible to transfer to the BVetMed course from a degree programme partly completed at another University. No exemption is granted from any course component.

BIOMEDICAL ADMISSIONS TEST (BMAT)

The BMAT has been used for several years by Cambridge and the RVC (as well as medical schools in Cambridge, Oxford, UCL and Imperial College) as a supplementary science aptitude test to help inform the selection process. The BMAT is designed to test the data handling and reasoning skills of candidates, and the ability to structure thoughts in extended writing exercises. BMAT scores are used as part of the selection process to decide who is called for interview/offered a place.

All applicants for D102 (with the exception of applicants from North America who must apply through VMCAS) need to take the BMAT in the year of application.

To confirm deadlines and examination dates and for more details please go to www.bmat.org.uk. The closing date for entries is usually at the end of September, but please check online for clarification.

REAPPLICATION

We are normally unable to consider more than one repeat application. Applicants reapplying must take BMAT again.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Applicants whose first language is not English must have an acceptable English Language qualification eg IELTS at 6.5 or above.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

If you wish to be considered for the BVetMed Accelerated Programme you will need to apply through UCAS using course code D102. See www.ucas.com

When you apply you must send academic transcripts showing all degree modules and results to the Admissions Office.

INTERVIEWS

It is the policy of the RVC not to offer a place without interview. Interviews for selected graduate applicants usually take place during February and March.

IMPORTANT NOTE

You may list a total of five courses on the UCAS application form, but only four can be for veterinary medicine/science courses (D100, D101 and D102).

ENTRY PROFILES

Further information about the course and application processes can be found in the Entry Profile on the UCAS website.





Umayah Hewitt
BSc (Hons) Bioveterinary Sciences

'The lecturers' enthusiasm and obvious passion for their respective fields of expertise really is infectious, and incredibly motivating. I love the fact that the RVC is the largest veterinary school in the UK; the diversity really contributes to making the atmosphere absolutely fantastic. There are people from all walks of life, and on different courses too, so don't be fooled into thinking that the RVC produces only vets; this is a great place to find all sorts of professionals, from epidemiologists to neurologists, pharmacologists and beyond!'



BSc (Hons) Bioveterinary Sciences

Three-year course

UCAS CODE: D300
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

In recent years, advances in human medicine have had a tremendous impact on the diagnosis and treatment of disease in animals. Today's veterinary scientists hold prominent positions in the pharmaceutical and agricultural industries. There is also a growing need for veterinary scientists to play an important part in the nationwide promotion of animal health and welfare.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

This degree course is aimed at enthusiastic animal scientists who wish to study the basic biological sciences that inform clinical practice and research. By focusing on the domesticated animals which form the bulk of veterinary work, it aims to give you a sophisticated understanding of their physiology, cellular and molecular biology, and the mechanisms of disease.

YEAR ONE

The first year deals with the healthy animal, and includes the following modules:

- Foundations of Science covers experimental design, scientific method, statistics and epidemiology
- Form and Function is an introductory course in mammalian physiology and anatomy
- Control and Regulation moves beyond organs and tissues to reveal the cellular and molecular mechanisms underpinning normal animal function
- Problem Definition and Investigation introduces you to problem-based learning approaches and the research laboratory environment
- Project: an extended library-based literature review of a current research topic in animal or biomedical science

The tutorial programme allows students to work in small groups of four or five with a tutor, and develops the transferable and professional skills needed for the main taught programme.

YEAR TWO

The second year deals with disease and its treatment, and includes the following modules:

- The Enemy Within explains the molecular basis of challenging degenerative and proliferative conditions, including neoplasia, cancer and autoimmune diseases
- The Enemy Without covers microbiology and parasitology, and the role of infection in animal disease, including the factors determining transmission and virulence, and pathological effects
- Pharmacology Principles and Practice shows how cutting-edge pharmaceuticals can be used to probe normal and diseased mechanisms, and form a basis for therapy
- From Lab to Market gives students a taste of the world of business, as well as exploring important transferable skills such as teamwork

The tutorial programme continues to develop your skills-base and begins to look at career opportunities and work on related skills, such as interviewing.

In the final term of Year Two, you put the learned theory into applied research by undertaking a project during a supervised laboratory placement.

YEAR THREE

In your third and final year, you progress to more specialised, in-depth study. You may choose from a variety of subjects, including Comparative Animal Locomotion, Advanced Skeletal Pathobiology, Infectious Disease, Reproduction and Development, and Pathology. Other third year modules are currently in development.

BSc (Hons) Bioveterinary Sciences

Three-year course

UCAS CODE: D300
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

PROJECTS

In this final year, you will also undertake a substantial research project and report. At the end of Years One and Two, you will have completed two supervised science reports, developing sound laboratory and analytical skills alongside your theoretical knowledge. Independent project work will also be extremely valuable later on in your career, should you decide to pursue academic or industrial research.

SUMMER VACATION PLACEMENTS

Funding for several supervised research laboratory placements is supplied by the RVC. They run for between six and ten weeks according to the subject area. Recent first and second year summer vacation projects have investigated:

- friendly fire: the eosinophil as protector or enemy?
- regulation of equine trophoblast differentiation
- the relationship between compromised blood circulation and striated muscle development
- the vitrification of bovine spermatozoa
- influence of maternal nutrition on fat deposition in the liver of offspring

Please note: A BSc (Hons) Bioveterinary Sciences degree does not make you a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, or allow you to practise as a veterinary surgeon.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A LEVEL

You must have **three B grades or above including Chemistry and either Mathematics, Physics or Biology**. Your third A Level can be in any subject you please (except General Studies).

AS LEVEL

The RVC supports the opportunity to take additional subjects at AS Level but does not prescribe or prefer any particular subject choice or combination.

14 - 19 DIPLOMA

Advanced Diplomas will be considered for 2010 entry in addition to A Level Chemistry at grade B and either A Level Biology, Physics or Maths at grade B.

GCSE

You will need at least five GCSEs at grade **C or above including B grades in English, Maths, and Double Science** (or in two separate science subjects).

Wherever you're from, as long as you have the equivalent qualifications to those listed above, your application will be more than welcome, and will be considered on a case by case basis.

For more information or advice on any aspect of our entry requirements, please don't hesitate to contact the Admissions Office. You can telephone us on +44 (0) 20 7468 5147 or email us at enquiries@rvc.ac.uk

Annie Weckie
RVC alumna

'I never realised how useful my BSc Bioveterinary Sciences would be. It's helped me land a fantastic job working at Servier as a medical rep, and it meets my need for science knowledge on a daily basis. I also believe that my time at the RVC has given me the confidence to counter assertive objections (also on a daily basis!), to deliver presentations and meet tight deadlines. During my training here, I coped better than any of my colleagues, and I really think this was because of the workload I had to learn to manage at the RVC.'

EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS

SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates offering Scottish qualifications must pass five Highers including Chemistry and either Maths, Physics or Biology and must also pass Advanced Highers Chemistry and either Maths, Physics or Biology with grades BB.

BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA

Please check our website for further information.

ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMAS

Please check our website for further information.

IRISH LEAVING CERTIFICATE

Grades of BBBB including Chemistry and either Maths, Physics or Biology are required at Higher level. It should be clearly stated on the UCAS form which subjects are being studied at Higher level and which at Ordinary level.

BIOMEDICAL ADMISSIONS TEST (BMAT)

Although BMAT is not required for entry to the BSc (Hons) Bioveterinary Sciences, applicants who wish to be considered for the Merit Scholarships will have to take the BMAT test. Please see page 71 for more information about Merit Scholarships.

Applicants whose first language is not English must have an acceptable English Language qualification eg IELTS at 6.5 or above.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applications for admission to the BSc (Hons) Bioveterinary Sciences should be made through UCAS during the period 1 September to 15 January for entry in the following September. It may be possible for late applications to be considered.

www.ucas.com

UCAS code: D300

Institution code: RVET R84

If you are made an offer you will be invited to visit the College. You will have the opportunity to discuss the course with a tutor and to meet current students.

ENTRY PROFILES

Further information about the course and application processes can be found in the Entry Profile on the UCAS website.

BSc (Hons) Intercalated Options

One-year course

AVAILABLE TO BVETMED D100
STUDENTS ONLY

Many BVetMed students recognise that intercalation gives them a more rounded education and broadens their career options. Often their aim is to gain a BSc (Hons), and though they usually opt to intercalate between their second and third years, intercalation after the fourth year is also possible.

Students have the option to do an intercalated BSc during their BVetMed course. This is an opportunity for students to study a topic of their interest in more depth and involves an extra year study from which they will gain a BSc (Hons). There are many intercalated courses available to veterinary students. We run an intercalated course at the RVC entitled Veterinary Pathology (see below for details). In addition several of the other University of London colleges run intercalated courses or many students find their course of interest at a university further afield.

BSC (HONS) VETERINARY PATHOLOGY

As the science of disease, pathology comprises all aspects of how a pathogen and a host interact and is thus central to the understanding and conduct of veterinary research and clinical medicine. This degree provides a unique opportunity for a few exceptional second and third-year BVetMed students to add a year on to their studies and experience first-hand the excitement of contemporary pathology, and its far-reaching scientific relevance.

BVetMed students are eligible to compete for ten dedicated Wellcome Trust Scholarships, which include the payment of tuition fees and a £5,000 bursary. The competition and interviews for these are held in January/February of the year preceding enrolment.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

This dedicated programme includes two compulsory taught modules (The Diseased Cell and The Diseased Animal) and a personal research project. It explores some of the most important issues in pathology today, including Foot and Mouth Disease, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Avian Influenza, Tuberculosis and Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus.

The taught modules combine lectures by outstanding academics from a variety of research institutions with small group seminars and practical classes, including regular necropsy examinations and pathological case conferences. The two taught modules are structured as follows:

THE DISEASED CELL

Module lasts six weeks and covers:

- Differentiation of normal cells
- Gene regulation manipulation
- Molecular processes in inflammation and immunity
- Cellular markers in diseases of the immune system
- Cell cycle, cell death and repair
- Malignancy and comparative oncology in veterinary species

THE DISEASED ANIMAL

Module lasts six weeks and covers:

- Plagues – old, new and those yet to come
- Pathogenesis of persisting viruses
- Neurodegenerative diseases
- Introduction to toxicological pathology
- Wildlife diseases and zoonosis
- New technologies in (veterinary) research such as genomics, proteomics and functionomics

RESEARCH PROJECT

Having studied the taught modules, you have four and a half months to complete an independent project involving the design, development and execution of detailed research into a subject or species that particularly interests you.

Supervised by scientists of distinction, it may be undertaken at the RVC, the Veterinary Laboratories Agency, the Institute of Animal Health, or the laboratories of the Animal Health Trust or Cancer Research UK. Funding for your research project is provided by the College.

For further information on any aspects of the course, please visit

www.rvc.ac.uk/Education/Undergraduate/BScVetPathology

Jonathan Kelly

Gateway graduate now on the BVetMed

'Gateway was an amazing experience. It gave me the opportunity to build on my knowledge from A Level and challenged me to reach the level I needed to advance onto my dream degree. Gateway integrated very well with the BVetMed course and has given me a foundation on which I can continue to build. The practical based learning allows students to apply principles from lectures and gives the course a solid structure.'



Veterinary Gateway Course

Extended veterinary degree programme

UCAS CODE: D190
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

Successfully complete this course and a number of doors will open to you. You'll be able to take a guaranteed place on the five-year veterinary medicine degree programme at the RVC. You'll also be eligible to apply for the five-year veterinary science degree programmes at the University of Liverpool and the University of Bristol. So, effectively, the Veterinary Gateway Course is the first year of a six-year veterinary degree programme.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

The Veterinary Gateway Course focuses on three key areas:

- Developing your analytical, problem-solving and practical skills in the biological sciences
- Improving your study, team-working and communication skills
- Introducing you to the handling and husbandry (control and management) of animals, most of them farm animals

Teaching takes the form of lectures, practical classes in the lab and on the College Farm, seminars, visits to relevant sites and tutorials. You will also work on assignments in groups and on your own, making good use of extensive library and IT resources.

ELIGIBILITY

This is a Widening Participation programme and is available to UK students attending a non-selective state school who receive or are eligible to receive an Education Maintenance Allowance and whose parents have not attended a Higher Education Institution. The course is not available to students outside the UK.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A LEVEL

You will need Chemistry, Biology and any other subject except General Studies. Your predicted grades should be CCC or higher. We can also accept BTEC National Diplomas in Animal Management (at distinction level only, with modules preferably in science subjects) as an alternative to A Levels. Please check our website for further information about any modules that may be required.

AS LEVEL

You must have Chemistry, Biology and any other subject or subjects you like.

GCSE

You must have a grade B or above in English Language, Maths and Science (either Double Science or Biology, Chemistry and Physics if taken separately). All your other grades must be As, Bs and Cs.

Please note Veterinary Gateway applicants do not need to take the BMAT examination.

In addition to these academic requirements, you must be attending a non-selective state school. Your parents must not have been to university and you must receive, or be eligible to receive, an Education Maintenance Allowance.

Veterinary Gateway Course

Extended veterinary degree programme

UCAS CODE: D190
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS

14-19 DIPLOMA

Advanced Diplomas will be considered in addition to A Levels in Biology and Chemistry at grade C.

SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS

You must have five Highers at grade C or above including Biology, Chemistry and Physics and be predicted to obtain grade C or above in Advanced Highers in Biology and Chemistry.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

555 at Higher Level including Biology and Chemistry and 555 at Standard Level plus the GCSE requirements as above.

WELSH BACCALAUREATE

Please contact the Admissions Office for further information.

DETERMINATION

You will have to prove at interview that you have a good understanding of veterinary practice and of issues relating to veterinary medicine. You must demonstrate an interest in veterinary medicine and have spent time finding out about it, ideally by getting work experience at a veterinary practice and/or working with animals.

You can also gain an insight into the veterinary field by attending an RVC Easter or Summer School. Visit www.rvc.ac.uk/Education/WideningParticipation for full details of events and eligibility criteria.

In addition to your UCAS form you must also submit a Gateway Application Form, which you can download from our website:

www.rvc.ac.uk/Gateway

or by contacting:

The Admissions Office
The Royal Veterinary College
Royal College Street
London NW1 0TU
Telephone +44 (0) 20 7468 5147
Email enquiries@rvc.ac.uk

This form requires you to provide a personal statement and financial information. The personal statement should:

- explain why you want to become a vet
- describe any relevant work experience you have
- outline any scientific and veterinary issues that are of particular interest to you
- list any useful skills you've gained through extra-curricular activities or part-time employment

When you return your UCAS form, please send your completed Gateway Application Form and the extra documentation requested above to:

The Admissions Office
The Royal Veterinary College
Royal College Street
London NW1 0TU

Please note: without this form and documentation we cannot process your application.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

For a place on the Veterinary Gateway Course (UCAS code D190) you must apply through UCAS in the usual way. The deadline is 15 January.

www.ucas.com
UCAS code: D190
Institution code: RVET R84

ENTRY PROFILES

Further information about the course and application processes can be found in the Entry Profile on the UCAS website.

BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing

Four-year course

UCAS CODE: D313
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

This exciting degree course combines a solid grounding in the practice of veterinary nursing with a stimulating exploration of the academic theory in which it is rooted. It offers at least 70 weeks' hands-on training at a range of excellent veterinary practices, our own world-leading hospitals among them, and prepares you to take on all sorts of challenging responsibilities.

Hard work and commitment are rewarded by:

- a professional qualification recognised the world over
- guaranteed and fully supported veterinary practice placements
- access to state-of-the-art veterinary school facilities
- a chance to train with other future veterinary professionals
- excellent clinical or research-based career prospects

PROGRAMME CONTENT

This is a four-year degree taught at our Hertfordshire Campus. For three years, you will study the same modules as students on our well-established foundation degree.

At the end of these three years you will obtain your professional qualification entitling you to practice as a qualified Veterinary Nurse in small animal medicine.

In your final year, you will hone your research techniques and choose from a range of cutting-edge modules taught by RVC nurse educators and world-renowned clinicians from the Queen Mother Hospital. Alongside your knowledge of advances in veterinary nursing, your analytical and communication skills will evolve, and by the time you graduate you will be:

- conversant with the science of the healthy and sick animal, and the science of nursing
- equipped to be a lifelong learner, an essential attribute in a rapidly changing world
- able to function as an equal intellectual partner in the veterinary team
- adaptable, and thus able to perform a variety of roles in practice and beyond

For full course details please visit

www.rvc.ac.uk/Education/Undergraduate/BScVetNurse or for specific course information please email us at vnschool@rvc.ac.uk

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A LEVEL

You will need to achieve 160 UCAS tariff points at A2 and AS Level (the A2 and AS subjects must be different to be included in the tariff points) including at least 80 points in an A2 science subject, preferably Biology

14-19 DIPLOMA

Advanced Diplomas including an A Level in a science subject (preferably Biology) which must be at least 80 tariff points will be considered for 2010 entry.

BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA

Please see our website for further information.

ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMA

Please see our website for further information.

GCSE

You must have a minimum of five GCSEs, including English Language, Maths and a Science at grade C or above.

WORK EXPERIENCE

You must have completed at least two weeks' work experience in a small animal veterinary practice. In addition you must have completed two weeks' work experience in other animal environments. You must supply satisfactory written references. If you have more experience, so much the better; you'll find it much easier when it comes to your work placements.

For more information or advice on any aspect of our entry requirements, please don't hesitate to contact the Admissions Office. You can telephone us on +44 (0) 20 7468 5147 or email us at enquiries@rvc.ac.uk

INTERVIEW

If selected for interview, you will be invited to visit the College. You will have to demonstrate a clear understanding of the role of the veterinary nurse within the veterinary profession, demonstrate good communication skills and a genuine enthusiasm for the course. Practical experience with horses, farm animals or in animal welfare is also considered valuable.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applications for admission to the BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing should be made through UCAS during the period 1 September to 15 January for entry in the following September. It may be possible for late applications to be considered. See the UCAS website for further information about how to apply.

www.ucas.com

UCAS code: D313

Institution code: RVET R84

Mature and international students are encouraged to apply, as are people with equivalent qualifications to those specified above. As this course is regulated by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), all mature and international students who have not already applied to the RVC should verify that their qualifications meet the requirements of the RCVS. Please see www.rcvs.org.uk

Please note: All courses are run subject to minimum recruitment numbers. Graduates of the BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing are not subsequently entitled to join the BVetMed degree course or transfer part way through the degree.

Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing

Three-year course

UCAS CODE: D310
INSTITUTION CODE: RVET R84

The RVC is the UK's largest and oldest veterinary school and the College of Animal Welfare (CAW) is a leading provider of veterinary nursing education. Together, we have designed a unique foundation degree that provides unbeatable practical training underpinned by proven academic excellence.

Hard work and commitment are rewarded by:

- a combined academic and professional qualification in three years
- guaranteed and fully supported veterinary practice placements
- access to state-of-the-art veterinary school facilities
- a chance to train with other future veterinary professionals
- a direct pathway to a BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing (subject to satisfactory progress and completion of extension papers)
- excellent career prospects

PROGRAMME CONTENT

This is a three-year degree programme taught at our Hertfordshire Campus. A broad programme of learning offers a fascinating introduction to veterinary nursing ranging from professional development and clinical skills to more advanced modules such as diagnostic techniques. You will also complete at least 70 weeks of practical training at a range of excellent veterinary practices, giving you real insight into the day-to-day role of the veterinary nurse. To ensure fair evaluation, the skills and knowledge you acquire will be assessed in a variety of ways as the course progresses. Successful completion of the course leads to a professional qualification entitling you to practice as a qualified veterinary nurse in small animal medicine.

For full course details please visit www.rvc.ac.uk/Education/Undergraduate/FdScVn or for further information please contact the Admissions Office.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A LEVEL

You need to achieve 80 UCAS tariff points at A2 and AS Level (the A2 and AS subjects must be different to be included in the tariff points) including at least 40 points in an A2 science subject, preferably Biology.

14-19 DIPLOMA

Advanced Diplomas including an A Level in a science subject (preferably Biology) which must be at least 40 tariff points will be considered for 2010 entry.

BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA

Please see our website for further information.

ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMA

Please see our website for further information.

GCSE

You must have a minimum of five GCSEs, including English Language, Maths and a Science at grade C or above.

WORK EXPERIENCE

You must have completed at least two weeks' work experience in a small animal veterinary practice. In addition you must have completed two weeks' work experience in other animal environments. You must supply satisfactory written references. If you have more experience, so much the better; you'll find it much easier when it comes to your work placements.

For more information or advice on any aspect of our entry requirements, please don't hesitate to contact the Admissions Office. You can telephone us on +44 (0) 20 7468 5147 or email us at enquiries@rvc.ac.uk

INTERVIEW

If selected for interview, you will be invited to visit the College. You will have to demonstrate a clear understanding of the role of the veterinary nurse within the veterinary profession, demonstrate good communication skills and a genuine enthusiasm for the course. Practical experience with horses, farm animals or in animal welfare is also considered valuable.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applications for admission to the Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing should be made through UCAS during the period 1 September to 15 January for entry in the following September. It may be possible for late applications to be considered. See the UCAS website for further information about how to apply.

www.ucas.com

UCAS code: D310

Institution code: RVET R84

Mature and international students are encouraged to apply, as are people with equivalent qualifications to those specified above. As this course is regulated by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), all mature and international students who have not already applied to the RVC should verify that their qualifications meet the requirements of the RCVS. Please see www.rcvs.org.uk

Please note: All courses are run subject to minimum recruitment numbers. Graduates of the Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing are not subsequently entitled to join the BVetMed degree course or transfer to another programme.

Top-Up Programme

1 year – 18 months full-time

If you have completed a Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing here at the RVC or hold a Veterinary Nursing Certificate awarded by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), this flexible programme allows you to transfer onto the BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

As a Top-Up student, you will be exempt from certain practical elements and a number of theoretical modules. You will however complete the compulsory core modules and choose a range of optional modules.

For full course details please visit www.rvc.ac.uk/Schools/VetNursing/

GRADUATE DIPLOMA

We also offer a Graduate Diploma in Professional and Clinical Veterinary Nursing. This course is aimed at Qualified Veterinary Nurses who wish to further develop their professional and clinical competence. The award is designed to be completed over a period of 20-36 months part-time and is almost entirely delivered online. For full details on the Graduate Diploma in Professional and Clinical Nursing, please visit www.rvc.ac.uk/vndiploma

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

If you would like more information about the entry requirements and application procedures for the Top-Up Programme that is due to commence in 2011, please contact:

Hilary Orpet
Course Director
The Royal Veterinary College
Hawkshead Lane
North Mymms
Hertfordshire
AL9 7TA
Email vnschool@rvc.ac.uk
Telephone +44 (0) 1707 666660

Joanne Loosemore
Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing

'I chose to study at the RVC as I knew how difficult it can be to go into practice as a trainee veterinary nurse. At the Open Day I realised that this course would provide me with plenty of opportunities. We get taught a tremendous amount, and the thing that stands out the most is the Clinical Skills Centre where the staff are fantastic; really friendly and approachable and willing to help whenever they can.'

