

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](http://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

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#### A LEVEL

Three subjects including Biology and Chemistry and one other subject which does not overlap (excluding General Studies).<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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#### 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.

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#### 14-19 DIPLOMA

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

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#### 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).

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### 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.

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### 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](http://www.bmat.org.uk). The closing date for entries is usually at the end of September, but please check online for clarification.

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### REAPPLICATION

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

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#### 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](http://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](http://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](http://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

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### A LEVEL

Three subjects including Biology and Chemistry and one other subject which does not overlap (excluding General Studies).<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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### 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.

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### 14-19 DIPLOMA

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

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### 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).

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### 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.

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### 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](http://www.bmat.org.uk). The closing date for entries is usually at the end of September, but please check online for clarification.

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### REAPPLICATION

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#### EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS

(SEE PAGE 32 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 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](http://www.rvc.ac.uk/Education/International/NorthAmerica.cfm)

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#### 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](http://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](http://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

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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)

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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).

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## 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.

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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.

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## 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](http://www.bmat.org.uk). The closing date for entries is usually at the end of September, but please check online for clarification.

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## REAPPLICATION

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

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## 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](http://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.