Royal Veterinary College
University of London

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Applies to cohort commencing in:	2021
2. Degree Granting Body	University of London
3. Awarding institution	The Royal Veterinary College (University of London) in partnership with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (University of London)
4. Teaching institution	The Royal Veterinary College (University of London) in partnership with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (University of London)
5. Programme accredited by	N/A
6. Name and title	Master of Science in Veterinary Epidemiology (MSc Vet Epi)
7. Intermediate and Subsidiary Award(s)	Subsidiary award: Postgraduate Diploma in Veterinary Epidemiology (PG Dip Vet Epi)
8. Course Management Team	Course Directors: Kim Stevens (Royal Veterinary College) and Ellen Fragaszy (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)
9. FHEQ Level of Final Award	Level 7 See The Frameworks for HE Qualifications of UK Degree Awarding Bodies
10. Date of First Intake	September 2000 (MSc) September 2013 (Postgraduate Diploma)
11. Frequency of Intake	Annually in September
12. Duration and Mode(s) of Study	Full time - one academic year; part time - two academic years. During the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, the mode of delivery will be blended, which will include aspects of onsite (face-to-face) and digital delivery. The proportions of onsite (face-to-face) and digital delivery will vary according to Covid restrictions, such as social distancing requirements, in place at the time of delivery. Students will be notified about the proportions of onsite (face to face) and digital delivery at the start of the course.
13. Registration Period *(must be in line with the General Regulations for Study and Award)*	Full Time: Minimum 12 months; Maximum 36 months Part Time: Minimum 24 months; Maximum 48 months
14. Timing of Examination Board meetings	Annually in July and September
15. Date of Last Periodic Review	2016/17
16. Date of Next Periodic Review	2022

17. Language of study and assessment	English
18. Entry Requirements	https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/veterinary-epidemiology#tab-entry-requirements Applicants should have a first- or second-class university honours degree or equivalent. Individuals with degrees in biological sciences, veterinary or human medicine, mathematics or statistics, or who have relevant postgraduate experience, are all encouraged to apply. Applicants are expected to have a high level of numeracy skills (e.g. A level Mathematics or Statistics or a module with a good mark in their university degree). *Other Requirements* Applicants from overseas will be required to provide evidence of proficiency in spoken and written English, including scientific usage and comprehension
19. UCAS code	N/A
20. HECoS Code	101220 'Veterinary Epidemiology'
21. Relevant QAA subject benchmark	N/A

22. Other External Reference Points
Quality Assurance Agency, The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies, 2014
23. Aims of programme
This course will provide students with an understanding of the conceptual basis of epidemiology and with training in essential methodological skills for the design, conduct, analysis, interpretation and communication of epidemiological studies, surveillance and disease control in animal and human populations.
24. Overall Programme Level Learning Outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes. Learning outcomes should be specified for all intermediate awards as well as for the terminal award.

On successful completion of the MSc a and Postgraduate Diploma course, students will be able to:	**Modules in which each learning outcome will be developed and assessed:**
Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the role of epidemiology, the major health issues in animal populations and the contribution of epidemiology to other health-related disciplines	• All modules
Demonstrate advanced integration and problem-solving skills.	• All modules
Select an appropriate study design when confronted with an epidemiological research question and develop a study protocol capable of answering the research question;	• Fundamentals, Principles and Practice of Veterinary Epidemiology\ • Epidemiology and Control of Communicable Diseases • Applied Veterinary Epidemiology

Manage computerised epidemiological data and carry out appropriate quantitative analyses;	• Fundamentals, Principles and Practice of Veterinary Epidemiology • Statistical Methods in Epidemiology • Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases • Modelling and the Dynamics of Infectious Diseases • Epidemiological Aspects of Laboratory Investigation • Surveillance of Animal Health and Production • Economics of One Health • Applied Veterinary Epidemiology
Assess the results of epidemiological studies (their own or other investigators'), including critical appraisal of study question, study design, methods and conduct, quantitative analysis and interpretation;	• Fundamentals, Principles and Practice of Veterinary Epidemiology • Statistical Methods in Epidemiology • Epidemiology and Control of Communicable Diseases • Applied Veterinary Epidemiology
Design and evaluate health surveillance, quantitative and qualitative risk assessments, and disease control programmes within animal populations.	• Fundamentals, Principles and Practice of Veterinary Epidemiology • Applied Veterinary Epidemiology
On completion of the MSc course, students will additionally be able to:	
Carry out an independent research project, write the results in the form of a journal article and defend their project orally	• Research Project

25. Teaching/learning methods	**Approximate total number of hours** These figures may differ during the COVID-19 pandemic
Lectures	271
Practical Classes	
Clinical Rotations	N/A
Seminars	
Tutorials	
Directed Learning Sessions	271

26. Assessment methods	**Percentage of total assessment load**
Coursework	MSc 75/180 credits (41.7%); PG Diploma 60/120 (50%)
Written Exams	MSc 60/180 credits (33.3%); PG Diploma 60/120 credits (50%)
Research Project	MSc 45/180 credits (25%); PG Diploma N/A

27. Feedback

Describe how and when students will receive feedback, individually or collectively, on their progress in the course overall:

Students receive feedback on their progress within modules through formative and/or summative assessment feedback. Students also receive collective and individual-level feedback on their progress in the course overall through personal tutorial sessions. Collective feedback on progress in the course also received during end of term meetings.

28. Programme structures and requirements, levels, modules, credits and awards

Term	Module Title	FHEQ Level	Credits	Compulsory or optional

Term 1	Fundamentals, Principles and Practice of Veterinary Epidemiology super module		60	Compulsory
Term 1	Epidemiology and -omics		N/A	Optional
Term 1	Global Health Lecture Series		N/A	Optional
Term 2	Statistical Methods in Epidemiology*		15	Compulsory for MSc & PG Diploma
Term 2	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases		15	Compulsory for MSc & PG Diploma
Term 2	Economics of One Health		15	Compulsory for MSc; Optional for PG Diploma
Term 2	Modelling and the Dynamics of Infectious Diseases*		15	Compulsory for MSc; Optional for PG Diploma
Term 2	Global Health Lecture Series		N/A	Optional
Term 3	Applied Veterinary Epidemiology		15	Compulsory for MSc & PG Diploma
Term 3	Research Project		45	Compulsory for MSc; not included in PG Diploma
* Can be done as distance learning module with course director approval				

29. Work Placement Requirements or Opportunities	N/A
30. Student Support	https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students and https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/studentservices

31. Assessment
Assessment and Award Regulations
https://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures

Version Number	Amended by	Date
1	Academic Quality Manager	06.02.2020
2	Academic Quality Manager	17.06.2020
3	Academic Quality Manager	30.06.2020
4	Academic Quality Manager	28.05.2021
5	Academic Quality Manager	21.06.2021