

Assessment & Award Regulations

1.	Course Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine
2.	Year Graduate Entry Year (of 4 Year BVetMed programme)
3.	Applicable to Academic Year 2024/25
4.	Aspects of Course Covered by Examination All subjects taught in the Year.
5.	Form of Examination
5.1	Written Papers Paper 1: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ); up to 1½ hours Paper 2A: Problem Solving / Integrated Reasoning Questions (integrated PSQ format); up to 3 hours Paper 2B: Problem Solving / Integrated Reasoning Questions (integrated PSQ format); up to 3 hours
5.2	Structured Orals Integrated Structure and Function (ISF) oral exam related to subjects taught in the year.
5.3	In Course Assessments Two summative in-course assessments (MCQ/PSQ) at the end of Term 1 and Term 2. Two Reflective Assets.
5.4	Practical Tests Animal Handling – Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) in the following animal groups: Small artiodactyls (e.g., sheep), large artiodactyls (e.g., cattle), horse, dog, poultry.
5.5	Additional requirements Simulated client history taking sessions
6.	Marking Criteria
6.1	Multiple Choice Questions The number of marks available for each type of question will be clearly stated on the examination paper. A question left unanswered or deleted by the student will score zero. The pass mark for the MCQ examinations as a whole will be set according to approved and accepted standard setting protocols, normalised and then scaled.
6.2	Problem Solving / Integrated Reasoning Questions The number of marks allocated to each section of the question will be clearly stated, totalling 10 marks for the whole question. The model answer will state how marks are to be allocated for specific factual answers, or the description or completion of a defined process. Where an answer must be judged more subjectively, the model answer must describe the quality of content, understanding, integration or expression required to attain the marks allocated for that answer. Fractional scores are permitted for each section.

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6.3	<p>Integrated Structure and Function (ISF) Orals Each structured oral examination topic will be marked out of a maximum of ten marks with students accumulating marks by answering questions of increasing complexity. Highest marks will be obtained by students demonstrating integration of their knowledge.</p>		
6.4	<p>Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) Students' performance in each animal group will be graded to assess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & Safety • Animal Welfare • Technical Ability • Professionalism <p>Health & Safety and Animal Welfare are graded as a pass or fail. The grades for Technical Ability and Professionalism are: Exceeds Expectation, Meets Expectation, Borderline, Below Expectation.</p> <p>To be graded as "Safe" for the station overall, students are required to achieve a grade of "Pass" for both Health & Safety and Animal Welfare, as well as no grade of Below Expectation or no more than 1 Borderline grade for Technical Ability and Professionalism.</p>		
7.	Allocation of Marks and any Additional Requirements		
7.1		First Sit	Resit
	i. Written Paper 1	35	37.5
	ii. Written Paper 2 (2A & 2B)	40	45
	iii. ISF Oral	15	17.5
	iv. In-course Assessment Term 1	5	0
	v. In-course Assessment Term 2	5	0
	vi. Reflective Assets	N/A	N/A
	vii. Animal handling DOPS – a result of "Safe" for each DOPS station.	N/A	N/A
	viii. Simulated client history taking sessions	N/A	N/A
7.2	<p>For the purposes of 8 below: Component i is Essential Knowledge Elements AND Components ii and iii are grouped together as Problem Solving and Interpretation Elements.</p>		
8.	Requirements to Pass Overall and Progress to the Next Stage		
8.1	<p>First Sit Following scaling of the marks, students must:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Gain an average mark of 50% or more aggregated from the marks listed under "First Sit", components i to v in 7.1 above</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Gain at least 40% for the ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE element (Written Paper 1)</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Gain at least 40% for the combined PROBLEM SOLVING AND INTERPRETATION elements (Written Papers 2A & 2B, plus ISF Oral) of the examinations</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Achieve a result of "Safe" for each DOPS station.</p>		

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8.2	<p>Resit Following scaling of the marks, students must:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Gain an average mark of 50% or more aggregated from the marks listed under “Resit”, components i to iii in 7 above</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Gain at least 40% for the ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE element (Written Paper 1)</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Gain at least 40% for the combined PROBLEM SOLVING AND INTERPRETATION elements (Written papers 2A & 2B, plus ISF Oral) of the examinations</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Achieve a result of “Safe” for each DOPS station.</p>
9.	<p>Consequences of Failure</p>
9.1	A student who fails at the first sit is required to take the resit or withdraw from the course. The overall mark obtained at the resit will be no greater than 50%.
9.2	A student graded as “Not yet safe” in any animal handling group in the DOPS will be given a second opportunity to take those stations again in time to be considered at the main Accelerated BVetMed Exam Board. Both of these opportunities will be classed as the first sit.
9.3	A student graded as “Not yet safe” in any animal handling group in the DOPS following their second opportunity (first sit) will be given further opportunity to retake those stations, which will be classed as the “resit”.
9.4	A student who remains “Not yet safe” in any DOPS station following the second opportunity will only have to resit the specific DOPS station(s) that they failed.
9.5	A student who fails the resit will be required to withdraw from the course. They have a right of appeal as described in College Regulations.
10.	<p>Classification</p>
10.1	A student who obtains a grade “Safe” for each DOPS station, and at the first attempt, obtains an overall average mark of 70% or more, with a mark of at least 65% gained in each of the two elements (Essential Knowledge AND Problem Solving and Interpretation) will be awarded a pass with Distinction.
10.2	A student who obtains a grade of “Safe” for each DOPS station, and at the first attempt, obtains an average mark of 65% or more, but who does not meet the criteria for the award of a pass with Distinction, will be awarded a pass with Merit, provided each of the two elements (Essential Knowledge AND Problem Solving and Interpretation) is passed.
11.	<p>Disclosure of Marks</p> <p>Results will be published by candidate number.</p>
12.	<p>Absence from In-Course Assessment</p>
12.1	Where a student has an allowable absence, they will be marked absent (A) from a summative assessment. Where a student has an A, and there are two or more in-course assessments in the year, the marks awarded will be the average of the other in-course assessment marks gained by the student.

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12.2	90% of the marks for the year must be attributed to results of direct assessment i.e. no more than 10% of marks can be attributed to Absent (A) marks.
12.3	An allowable absence is one that is for a significant unforeseeable event such as illness.
12.4	Any other foreseeable absence will only be considered allowable if agreed by the Student Performance and Development System and this will only apply in very strictly limited circumstances.
12.5	A student absent for any other reason will be awarded 0 (zero) for the assessment.
13.	Late Submission of Work Reports, Projects and Assignments submitted after the due deadline will be subject to the late submission policy set out in the College's General Assessment Regulations.
14.	Requirements to Progress to the Next Stage of the Course In addition to passing overall (see 8 above) a student is required to have:
14.1	completed at least 12 weeks of AHEMS (in accordance with the AHEMS guidelines applicable to their year of study) and have submitted folium entries for each placement to their academic tutor for sign off prior to the start of BVetMed Year 3. A student who has not completed 12 weeks will normally be required to delay their progression to the next year.
14.2	submitted two distinct Reflective Assets.
14.3	achieved a result of 'Safe' for all animal handling DOPS.
14.4	attended the simulated client history taking session.