

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Applies to cohort commencing in:	2021												
2. Degree Granting Body	University of London												
3. Awarding institution	The Royal Veterinary College												
4. Teaching institution	The Royal Veterinary College												
5. Programme accredited by	Royal Society of Biology												
6. Name and title	Bachelor of Science in Animal Biology, Behaviour, Welfare and Ethics (BSc ABBWE)												
7. Intermediate and Subsidiary Award(s)	Cert HE, Dip HE												
8. Course Management Team	Course Director: Dr Charlotte Lawson; Pathway Leader: Dr Charlotte Burn; Year 1 Leader: Dr Donald Palmer; Year 2 Leader: Dr Abir Mukherjee; Year 3 Leader: Dr Isabel Orriss												
9. FHEQ Level of Final Award	Level 6 See: https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/qualifications-and-credit-frameworks												
10. Date of First Intake	2015												
11. Frequency of Intake	Annually in September												
12. Duration and Mode(s) of Study	Three years, full-time, face to face. However, 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 and digital delivery will vary according to Covid restrictions, such as social distancing requirements, in place at the time of delivery.												
13. Registration Period (<i>must be in line with the General Regulations for Study and Award</i>)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Full Time</th> <th colspan="2">Part Time</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Minimum</th> <th>Maximum</th> <th>Minimum</th> <th>Maximum</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2 Academic years</td> <td>5 Academic years</td> <td>4 Academic years</td> <td>6 Academic years</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Full Time		Part Time		Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	2 Academic years	5 Academic years	4 Academic years	6 Academic years
Full Time		Part Time											
Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum										
2 Academic years	5 Academic years	4 Academic years	6 Academic years										
14. Timing of Examination Board meetings	Annually in July												
15. Date of Last Periodic Review	2020												
16. Date of Next Periodic Review	2023												
17. Language of study and assessment	English												
18. Entry Requirements	https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-animal-behaviour-and-welfare#tab-entry-requirements												
19. UCAS code	N/A												
20. HECoS Code	100345												
21. Relevant QAA subject benchmark	Biosciences												

22. Other External Reference Points

Regulations of the University of London

Quality Assurance Agency, The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies, 2014

SEEC Level Descriptors for Higher Education, SEEC, 2010

Royal Society of Biology Degree Accreditation Criteria 2019

23. Aims of programme

- To offer a high quality course incorporating extensive research experience, in which students are challenged by, and stimulated to challenge, accepted wisdom in all fields of biological science;
- To prepare graduates for a PhD or careers in academic and commercial research, and in a range of graduate careers that involve the management and welfare of companion, farm, laboratory, working and wild animals.

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.

E.g. On successful completion of the Bachelor of Science course, students will:	Modules in which each learning outcome will be developed and assessed:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a detailed understanding of cell biology, physiology, and genetics 	Year 1 modules
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a detailed understanding of the basis of infectious & non-communicable diseases and the broader applications for disease control 	Year 2 modules
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display practical skills including the ability to design and execute experiments, analyse and interpret the resultant data, and present conclusions in a variety of formats. 	Year 2 Research Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to scientifically measure, explain, and evaluate animal behaviour and welfare 	Y1-3: Projects; Y2: Introduction to Animal Behaviour, Welfare and Ethics; Y3: Science of Animal Welfare; Animal Behaviour and Cognition; Applied Animal Welfare
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to debate and analyse the political, social, legal and economic context of animal welfare 	Y1-3: Projects; Y2: Introduction to Animal Behaviour, Welfare and Ethics; Y3: Applied Animal Welfare; Animals and Human Society
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have developed the ability to access appropriate information, make methodical observations on the normal and abnormal functioning of biological systems, discriminate between important and relatively unimportant information and observations, reflect on information and observations, and solve problems, and discuss uncertainty in relation to scientific “facts”, and balance different schools of thought. 	Y3 Project

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have an appreciation of health and safety appropriate to laboratory and field work, including completion and understanding of risk assessment and COSHH documents. 	Investigative Projects (all years)			
25. Teaching/learning methods	Approximate total number of hours These figures may differ during the COVID-19 pandemic			
Lectures	8-10 hours per week			
Practical / Directed Learning sessions	8-10 hours per week			
Tutorials & self-directed Learning	5 hours per week			
26. Assessment methods	Percentage of total assessment load			
Coursework	22%			
Written Exams	45%			
Projects	33%			
27. Feedback				
<p>In each module in each year, there are a number of formative feedback opportunities. These include written formative feedback on individual coursework, online quizzes with answers, group question and answer sessions, feedback to the year group about exam and ICA performance, feedback to individual students about exam and ICA performance (in one-to-one tutorials). Students are encouraged to seek feedback from lecturers and tutors as needed during all small group learning and practical classes. Frequent opportunities for formative feedback (oral and written) during investigative projects.</p>				
28. Programme structures and requirements, levels, modules, credits and awards				
<p>NB: The College will not deliver any module or part of a programme if circumstances have changed to threaten its quality or viability. Such offerings could change after a student has started the course. However, the College will always offer alternatives that will be of equal cost in both fees and add-on expenses to the student and of equal academic value.</p>				
	Module Title	FHEQ Level	Credits	Compulsory or optional
Year 1, Term 1	Biology of the Cell	4	15	Compulsory
Year 1, Term 1	Inheritance, Genes and Evolution	4	15	Compulsory
Year 1, Term 1	Developmental Biology	4	15	Compulsory
Year 1, Term 2	The Moving Animal	4	15	Compulsory
Year 1, Term 2	Integrated Physiology 1	4	15	Compulsory
Year 1, Term 2	Integrated Physiology 2	4	15	Compulsory
Year 1, Term 3	Problem Definition and Investigation	4	15	Compulsory
Year 1, Term 3	Animal Behaviour Welfare & Ethics based Project	4	15	Compulsory
Year 2, Term 1	Basis of Disease	5	15	Compulsory
Year 2, Term 1	Aging and Degeneration	5	15	Compulsory
Year 2, Term 1	Principles of Infectious Diseases	5	15	Compulsory
Year 2, Term 2	Control of Infectious Diseases	5	15	Compulsory

Year 2, Term 2	Principles of Pharmacology	5	15	Optional
Year 2, Term 2	Wild Animal Biology	5	15	Optional
Year 2, Term 2	Introduction to Animal Behaviour, Welfare and Ethics	5	15	Compulsory
Year 2, Term 3	Animal behaviour and Welfare Research Project	5	30	Compulsory
Year 3, Term 1	Science of Animal Welfare	6	15	Compulsory, unless all three other Compulsory Y3 modules are taken, in which case an optional 15 credit module maybe substituted
Year 3, Term 1	Animal Behaviour and Cognition	6	15	Compulsory, unless all three other Compulsory Y3 modules are taken, in which case an optional 15 credit module maybe substituted
Year 3, Term 2	Applied Animal Welfare	6	15	Compulsory, unless all three other Compulsory Y3 modules are taken, in which case an optional 15 credit module maybe substituted
Year 3, Term 2	Animals and Human Society	6	15	Compulsory, unless all three other Compulsory Y3 modules are taken, in which case an optional 15 credit module maybe substituted
Year 3	Animal Behaviour, Welfare or Ethics Research Project	6	60	Compulsory

Year 3, pre-Term 1	Practical Investigative Biology	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 1	Advanced Concepts in Reproduction	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 1	Development & Disease	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 1	Applied Molecular Microbiology	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 1	Parasitology of Human & Veterinary Tropical Diseases	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 1	Endocrine & Metabolic Syndromes	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 1	Advanced Skeletal Pathobiology	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 1	Omic Approaches to Biology	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 2	Advanced Concepts in Biobusiness	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 2	Comparative Models of Disease	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 2	Epidemiology: the Bigger Picture	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Term 2	Comparative Anatomy	6	15	Optional
Year 3, Terms 1 & 2	Various KCL modules	6	15	Optional
29. Work Placement Requirements or Opportunities		Optional Certificate in Work-based Learning and Research placement year		
30. Student Support		http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students		
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	17.06.2020
2	Dr Charlotte Lawson	12.08.2020
3	Sciences Course Support Manager	30.06.2021