

**PROGRAMME
SPECIFICATION**

1. Applies to cohort commencing in:	2023						
2. Degree Granting Body	University of London						
3. Awarding institution	The Royal Veterinary College, University of London						
4. Teaching institution	The Royal Veterinary College, University of London, in partnership with the Zoological Society of London						
5. Programme accredited by	N/A						
6. Name and title	Master of Science in Wild Animal Biology / Wild Animal Health (MSc WAB) / (MSc WAH)						
7. Intermediate and Subsidiary Award(s)	Postgraduate Certificate in Wild Animal Biology / Wild Animal Health (PG Cert WAB) / (PG Cert WAH) Postgraduate Diploma in Wild Animal Biology / Wild Animal Health (PG Dip WAB) / (PG Dip WAH)						
8. Course Management Team	Co-Course Directors: Dr María Díez León (Royal Veterinary College) and Dr Chris Yesson (Zoological Society of London) Deputy Course Director: Dr Becki Lawson (Zoological Society of London)						
9. Level of Final Award	Level 7 See Office for Students (OfS) Sector-recognised standards						
10. Date of First Intake	WAB: October 2003; WAH: October 1994						
11. Frequency of Intake	Annually in September						
12. Duration and Mode(s) of Study	Full time - one academic year. Face to face. Location: On-campus (RVC and ZSL)						
13. Registration Period (must be in line with the General Regulations for Study and Award)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Full Time</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Minimum</th> <th>Maximum</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>12 months</td> <td>36 months</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Full Time		Minimum	Maximum	12 months	36 months
Full Time							
Minimum	Maximum						
12 months	36 months						
14. Timing of Examination Board meetings	Annually in June and September						
15. Date of Last Periodic Review	6 th June 2014						
16. Date of Next Periodic Review	TBC						
17. Language of study and assessment	English						
18. Entry Requirements	<p>WAB: https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/wild-animal-biology#tab-entry-requirements</p> <p>Entry to the course:</p> <p>A university honours degree (first or upper second class) in biology/zoology with</p>						

	<p>preference being given to those who have worked with wild animals and/or in conservation and have received, inter alia, training in microbiology, parasitology and pathology.</p> <p>WAH:</p> <p>https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/wild-animal-health#tab-entry-requirements <u>Entry to the course:</u> A veterinary degree from a recognised veterinary school (EU or non-EU).</p> <p><u>Minimum work experience:</u> Relevant post-graduate clinical experience of at least one year, with preference for offers to the course being given to those who have more.</p> <p>WAB & WAH:</p> <p><u>Other requirements:</u></p> <p>Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to provide evidence of proficiency in spoken and written English, including scientific usage and comprehension. They will be required to achieve an overall score of 7.0 in IELTS with a minimum of 6.5 in each sub-test; or a TOEFL score of at least 93 (internet-based test with no element below 23), or 580 (paper-based test plus 4.5 in the Test of Written English (TWE)/Essay rating).</p>
19. UCAS code	N/A
20. HECoS Code	WAB: 100356; WAH: 100531
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	
Office for Students (OfS) Sector-recognised standards	
23. Aims of programme	
Educational Philosophy - The modular structure of the Master of Science Courses in Wild Animal Biology / Wild Animal Health (MSc WAB/WAH) is built around learning materials, practical activities, problem-based scenarios, and research skills that together encourage critical thinking, decision-making, exploration and inquiry, and awareness of current issues at the forefront of wild animal health and biology. Important systematic knowledge and insights into novel research are given in lectures to complement the problem-based approach, while additional practical skills are taught through visits to selected advanced institutions.	
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, students will be able to:	Modules in which each learning outcome will be developed and assessed:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a conceptual understanding of population dynamics, threats to wildlife populations and how resources can be allocated for wildlife conservation 	Ecosystems Health and Anthropogenic Drivers of Disease, Conservation Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a critical and practical understanding of the scientific principles underpinning conservation of wild animal populations and how statistical analyses can be applied in research 	Research Skills, Conservation Science
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a critical understanding of epidemiology and surveillance and the impact of disease on wild animal populations 	Principles of Epidemiology and Surveillance, Ecosystems Health and Anthropogenic Drivers of Disease, Research Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a comprehensive insight into the interdependence of human, domestic animal and ecosystem health 	Principles of Epidemiology and Surveillance, Ecosystems Health and Anthropogenic Drivers of Disease
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a critical awareness of methods for disease investigation and surveillance in captive and free living wild animals 	Wildlife Disease Investigation and Surveillance, Health and Welfare of Captive Wild Animals, Practical Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a conceptual and practical understanding of the diagnosis, management, investigation (pathology), treatment (WAH only) and control of disease in captive and free-living wild animal populations 	Wildlife Disease Investigation and Surveillance, Wild Animal Health and Conservation Interventions, Health and Welfare of Captive Wild Animals, Practical Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a systematic understanding of the biological principles underpinning wild animal management, and the husbandry, welfare, and reproductive management of captive and free-living wild animals 	Health and Welfare of Captive Wild Animals, Practical Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a comprehensive understanding of the effect of interventions on the health, welfare, and conservation of captive and free-living wild animals 	Wild Animal Health and Conservation Interventions, Health and Welfare of Captive Wild Animals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a comprehensive understanding of research and inquiry including (i) critical appraisal of the literature, (ii) scientific writing and (iii) scientific presentation 	Research Project, Research Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the ability to design, conduct and analyse hypothesis-driven laboratory and/or field studies 	Research Project, Research Skills
25. Teaching/learning methods	Approximate total number of hours
Lectures	190-210
Small group learning (practicals, seminars, problem based learning etc,)	130-150
Clinical Rotations	90
Tutorials	5
26. Assessment methods	Percentage of total assessment load
Coursework	37.50%
Written Exams	29.20%
Research	33.3%
27. Feedback	

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

Formative and summative feedback is given individually on all in-course assessment (when relevant as per RVC Feedback Policy) and exam marks (non-ratified until the June and September examination boards) are released as available in accordance with college policy.

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

Term / Year	Module Title	Level	Credits	Compulsory or optional
Term 1	Module 1 Principles of Epidemiology and Surveillance	7	15	Compulsory
Term 1	Module 2 Ecosystem Health and Anthropogenic Drivers of Disease Emergence	7	15	Compulsory
Term 1	Module 3 Research Skills and Statistical Analysis	7	15	Compulsory
Term 1	Module 4 Conservation Science	7	15	Compulsory
Term 2	Module 5 Wildlife Disease Investigation and Surveillance	7	15	Compulsory
Term 2	Module 6 Wild Animal Health and Conservation Interventions	7	15	Compulsory
Term 2	Module 7 Health and Welfare of Captive Wild Animals	7	15	Compulsory
Term 2	Module 8 Practical Studies	7	15	Compulsory
Term 3	Module 9 Research Project	7	60	Compulsory

29. Work Placement Requirements or Opportunities No requirements

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
1.0	Academic Quality Manager	06.02.2020
1.1	Academic Quality Manager	17.06.2020
1.2	Academic Quality Manager	30.06.2020
1.3	Course Director (SP)	15.07.2021
1.4	Course Director (SP)	11.08.2021
1.5	Academic Quality Manager	14.03.2022
1.6	Academic Quality Manager	31.03.2022
1.7	Academic Quality Manager	16.05.2022

1.8	Academic Quality Manager	19.12.2022
1.9	Academic Quality Manager	03.02.2023