

Assessment & Award Regulations

1.	Course Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine
2.	Year Graduate Accelerated BVetMed (Year 1 of 4 year programme)
3.	Applicable to Academic Year 2026/27
4.	<p>Aspects of Course Covered by Examination</p> <p>All subjects taught in the year.</p>
5.	<p>Form of Examination</p> <p>5.1 Written Papers Paper 1: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ); up to 1½ hours Paper 2: Problem Solving / Integrated Reasoning Questions (integrated PSQ format); up to 3 hours</p> <p>5.2 Structured Orals Integrated Structure and Function (ISF) oral exam related to subjects taught in the year.</p> <p>5.3 In Course Assessments Two summative in-course assessments (MCQ/PSQ) at the end of Term 1 and Term 2. Student Record of Achievement (SRA): In-course record of learning activities.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>5.5 Additional requirements Submission of two PVP Reflective Assets Simulated client history taking sessions</p>
6.	<p>Marking Criteria</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>6.3 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>

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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		
		First Sit	Resit
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Written Paper 1 ii. Written Paper 2 iii. ISF Oral iv. In-course Assessment Term 1 v. In-course Assessment Term 2 vi. PVP Reflective Assets vii. Animal handling DOPS – a result of "Safe" for each station. viii. Completion of at least 80% of the SRA ix. Simulated client history taking sessions <p>*In-course assessment marks will be carried forward if >50%. Final marks will be scaled if these marks are ineligible for inclusion.</p>	35 30 15 10 10 N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A	35* 30* 15* 10* 10* N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A
7.2	<p>For the purposes of 9 below: Component i is the Essential Knowledge Element AND Components ii and iii are grouped together as the Problem Solving and Interpretation Element.</p>		
8.	Requirements to Pass Overall		
8.1	<p>First Sit Following scaling of the marks, students must: 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 Achieve completion of at least 80% of the Student Record of Achievement</p> <p>AND 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>Gain an average mark of 50% or more aggregated from the marks listed under “Resit”, components i to v in 7 above.</p> <p>AND Achieve completion of at least 80% of the Student Record of Achievement</p> <p>AND 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 attempt will be required to resit the Element failed (i.e. Essential Knowledge and/or Problem-Solving and Integration and/or DOPS).
9.2	In-course assessment marks (Term 1 and/or Term 2) will be carried forward, if they are 50% or above. If any of the in-course assessment marks are below 50%, the marks for the other components of the resit examination will be scaled.
9.3	Those students who fail to achieve 50% overall and obtained less than 50% in the Essential Knowledge Element and less than 50% in the Problem-Solving and Interpretation Element must retake both areas.
9.4	Those students who fail to achieve 50% overall but obtained 50% or above in one of the Essential Knowledge Element or Problem-Solving and Interpretation Element will only be required to retake the element in which they obtained less than 50%.
9.5	The overall mark awarded at the second attempt of the examination will be capped at 50%.
9.6	A student who fails at the second attempt of the examination will be required to withdraw from the course. They have a right of appeal as described in the RVC’s Regulations.
9.7	Those students graded as “Not yet safe” in any animal handling group in the DOPS assessment will be given a second opportunity to take those stations again in time to be considered at the main Graduate Accelerated BVetMed Exam Board. Both of these opportunities will be classed as the first sit attempt.
9.8	Those students graded as “Not yet safe” in any animal handling group in the DOPS assessment following their second opportunity (first attempt) will be given further opportunity to retake those stations, which will be classed as “resit”.
9.9	Those students who remain “Not yet safe” in any DOPS station following the second opportunity will only have to resit the specific DOPS station(s) that they failed.
9.10	Those students who fail the DOPS resit will be required to withdraw from the course. They have a right of appeal as described in the RVC’s Regulations.
9.11	Those students who fail to meet the requirement of 80% completion of the Student Record of Achievement by the deadline stated for ratification at the first sit Exam Board, will be given a new deadline in time for ratification at the resit Exam Board and the year mark will be capped at 50%. Students who have an authorised deferral of an assessment during the course of the year will be required to meet this second deadline, but their year mark will not be capped. Students who fail to meet this second

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	deadline will be considered to have failed overall.
10.	Classification
10.1	A student who obtains a grade “Safe” for each DOPS station, completes at first sit at least 80% of the SRA 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, completes at first sit at least 80% of the SRA 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.	Disclosure of Marks
	Results will be published by candidate number.
12.	Absence from In-Course Assessment
12.1	An allowable absence is one that is for a significant unforeseeable event that means the student is not ‘fit to sit’ the assessment. The RVC must be notified in a timely manner, evidence to support the absence provided and approval granted. Any other absence will only be considered allowable if agreed by the Student Performance and Development System and this will only apply in exceptional circumstances. A student absent for any other reason will be awarded 0 (zero) for the assessment.
12.2	Where a student has an allowable absence for in-course assessment, they will be marked absent (A). The marks for the remaining components of the assessment will be scaled accordingly. Any student who applies for more than one allowable absence will be referred to the Student Performance and Development System for consideration of interruption or deferral of future assessments
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) students are required to have:
14.1	Completed the requisite number of AHEMS placements (in accordance with the current AHEMS guidelines applicable to their year of study) and have submitted Pebblepad 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 sufficient AHEMS placements will normally be required to delay their progression to the next year of study.
	AND
14.1.1	Submitted two distinct PVP reflective assets.
	AND
14.1.2	Attended the simulated client history taking session.