

## Assessment & Award Regulations

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| 1.   | <b>Course</b> Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine - Finals Part I  |
| 2.   | <b>Year</b> 4/5  |
| 3.   | <b>Applicable to Academic Year</b> For those commencing in February 2018   |
| 4.   | <b>Aspects of Course Covered by Examination</b><br>All Core & Track Rotations, Practical Skills and EMS Placements   |
| 5.   | <b>Form of Examination</b>   |
| 5.1. | <p><b>Core and Track Rotations</b><br/>Each rotation will have a weighted summative grade. The grade will be weighted according to the number of weeks in the rotation. (The 'rotation-week').</p> <p>There are 22 weeks of Core rotations. Core rotations consist of 12 one-week grades and 5 two-week grades.</p> <p>There are 6 weeks of Tracking rotations. All track rotations are two-week grades except for Small Animal 3 which comprises 2 one-week grades.</p>                       |
| 5.2. | <p><b>Practical Skills Examination</b><br/>Consisting of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs)</p>  |
| 5.3. | <p><b>Extra Mural Studies Placement (EMS)</b><br/>26 weeks of EMS experience (in accordance with the EMS and AHEMS guidelines applicable to the year of study)</p>   |
| 6.   | <b>Requirement to be Completed to Permit Entry to the Examination</b><br>To have satisfactory attendance according to RVC Policy. To have sufficient attendance at each rotation to enable grading.  |
| 7.   | <b>Marking Criteria</b>  |
| 7.1. | <p><b>Core and Track Rotations</b><br/>Students' performance in the module will be graded according to agreed College Criteria<br/>Students' performance in each rotation is graded under the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional Activity</li> <li>• Practical Skills</li> <li>• Clinical Reasoning and Knowledge</li> </ul> <p>Each of these areas will be graded as a 'Pass' or a 'Fail'.<br/>The rotation grades are described in Annex A.</p> |
| 7.2. | <p><b>Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)</b><br/>A pass mark will be set for each OSCE station according to approved and accepted standard setting protocols. The minimum number of stations to be passed will also be set. The final mark will then be normalised and scaled.</p>   |
| 7.3. | <p><b>Extra Mural Studies Placements (EMS and AHEMS)</b><br/>Submission of appropriate documentation by the format, timings and deadlines specified for the student's EMS or AHEMS placements.</p>   |

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| <b>8.</b>  | <p><b>Allocation of Marks and any Additional Requirements</b></p> <p>8.1. <b>Core and Track Rotations</b><br/>Overall Grade for Each Rotation:<br/>To pass a rotation a student must achieve a 'Pass' in each of the categories listed in section 7.1 above.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The allocation of a 'Fail' grade to any category within a rotation will mean the rotation will be failed overall.</p> <p>8.2. <b>Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)</b><br/>See section 7.2 above.</p> <p>8.3. <b>Extra Mural Studies Placement (EMS)</b><br/>EMS placements are not graded but need to be satisfactorily completed and appropriate documentation submitted.</p>  |
| <b>9.</b>  | <p><b>Requirements to Pass Overall</b></p> <p>9.1. <b>First Sit</b><br/>In order to pass a candidate will be required to have:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Passed each of the individual Core &amp; Track Rotations</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Passed the Practical Skills Examination (OSCE) having obtained at least an aggregated average of 50% from the OSCE; and have passed the minimum number of OSCE stations;</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Completed 26 weeks of EMS experience</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Be able to complete the course within 5 years from the start of year 3.</p> <p>9.2. <b>Resit</b><br/>As First sit.</p>   |
| <b>10.</b> | <p><b>Consequences of Failure</b></p> <p>10.1. If a candidate fails a rotation s/he is permitted to repeat it once.</p> <p>10.2. A candidate is permitted to repeat up to 4 weeks of rotations without deferring the sitting of Finals written exams provided that time permits. Sitting of Finals will not be delayed for such students who are successful at the second attempt to pass a rotation.</p> <p>10.3. If a candidate is required to repeat 5 or more weeks of rotations, the sitting of Finals written exams will be deferred to September (or equivalent later sitting) when he or she will sit as a first time candidate.</p> <p>10.4. A candidate who fails any rotation twice will normally be required to leave the course. S/he has a right of appeal as described in College Regulations.</p> <p>10.5. A candidate who fails the Practical Skills Examination (OSCE) at the first attempt will be required to resit the examination.</p> <p>10.6. A candidate who fails the Practical Skills Examination (OSCE) at the second attempt will be required to leave the course. S/he has a right of appeal as described in College Regulations.</p> |

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| <b>11.</b> | <b>Classification and Award of Degree</b><br><br>Finals Part 1 will be graded as 'Pass' or Fail only.   |
| <b>12.</b> | <b>Disclosure of Marks</b><br><br>Results will be published by candidate number.  |
| <b>13.</b> | <b>Absence From In-Course Assessment</b><br><br>Where a student has an <i>allowable</i> absence, s/he will be marked absent from the rotation or in course module assessment. Where a student has been absent s/he will be required to repeat and retake the module or rotation at the next scheduled opportunity. It will be counted as a deferred assessment and will not count as one failure for the purposes of section 10.2. above.<br><br>An allowable absence is one that results from a significant unforeseeable event such as illness. Any other foreseeable absence will only be considered allowable if agreed by the Student Performance and Development System (formerly Academic Progress Committee) and this will only apply in very strictly limited circumstances.<br><br>A student absent for any other reason will be awarded fail for the rotation and it will count as a failure for the purposes of section 10.2 above. |
| <b>14.</b> | <b>Late Submission of Work</b><br><br>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.   |

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### Annex A

|  | Professional activity   | Practical Skills  | Clinical reasoning and knowledge  |
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| <p><b>Pass</b><br/>The <i>minimum standard</i> to obtain a clear <b>pass</b> in each category is as follows.</p>   | Demonstrates consistently professional behaviour. Communication with clients, other students and members of staff including support staff is usually of a good standard. Clear team-working ability and respect for others and the College's values. Record keeping is usually adequate and requires few corrections.   | Competence demonstrated in most observed practical skills. Recognition of areas of personal weakness and demonstration of attempts to improve.                                  | A basic capacity to approach clinical problem solving in a logical fashion. Adequate knowledge of relevant background information that is usually appropriately applied in the investigation and solution of individual animal or population problems. The ability to identify and source knowledge to address exposed areas of weakness. |
| <p><b>Fail</b><br/>A student will fail a rotation if they show any of the following</p>  | Demonstrates behaviour that is clearly unprofessional e.g. failure to attend without a reasonable cause, recording false information in the patient record, or misleading/undermining staff members or other group members  | Inability to perform basic practical tasks, despite multiple opportunities to rectify performance   | Repeated demonstration of inadequate clinical reasoning in the solution of individual patient or population problems. Deficiencies in basic knowledge that the student makes no effective attempts to rectify.  |
| In addition to the grades "Pass" and "Fail" a "cause for concern" may be raised. Reasons for a cause for concern in specific categories include the following. |   |   |   |
| A "cause for concern" may arise in one or more of the circumstances outlined here.   | Occasionally demonstrates behaviour that is not adequately professional. Communication with clients, other students and members of staff including support staff is sometimes poor. Demonstration of behaviours that do not contribute positively to the veterinary team. Record keeping is frequently inaccurate and requires regular corrections. Little evidence of attempts at rectifying inadequacies. | Competence not consistently demonstrated in observed practical skills. Poor awareness of personal areas of weakness and/or limited evidence of attempts to rectify performance. | Frequent failure to apply knowledge in a logical fashion in the solution of common problems affecting individual animals or populations of animals. Significant deficiencies in knowledge and insufficient evidence demonstrated of an ability/willingness to rectify these.  |