# Award & Assessment Regulations

| 1. | **Course** | Postgraduate Diploma in Veterinary Clinical Practice |
| 2. | **Year** | All Years |
| 3. | **Applicable to:** | Students commencing from June 2019 |
| 4. | **Aspects of Course Covered by Examination** | |
|     | • All subjects taught on the course modules (module assessments) |
|     | • Clinical / Pathology Clinical skills |
|     | • Professional Skills |
| 5. | **Form of Examination** | |
| 5.1. | **Formative** | |
|     | Opportunities including: |
|     | • Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (MiniCEX) |
|     | • Case Based Discussion (CbD) |
|     | • Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) |
|     | • Presentations |
|     | • Multi-source feedback (MSF) |
| 5.2. | **Summative** | |
| 5.2.1. | **Progress Assessment** | |
|     | An assessment led by the supervisor to evaluate: |
|     | • Development of clinical competencies and professional behaviours |
|     | • Rate of progress in respect of academic and study requirements for the programme |
| 5.2.2. | **Modules** | |
|     | Written Assessments associated with each module (format individualised by module: e.g. case reports, literature review) |
|     | Practical Assessments associated with each module (format individualised by module: e.g. mini clinical examination, DOPS) |
|     | Multi source feedback evaluations per module relating to the clinical work associated with the module. |
| 6. | **Marking Criteria** | |
| 6.1. | The RVC Common Grading Scheme (CertAVP) will be used for marking the case reports. |
| 6.2. | The RVC 0-10 Marking Scheme will be used for assessments to which it is better suited. |
| 6.3. | The College marking scheme for Oral Presentations will be used for all presentations assessed as part of a module. |
6.4 **Journal Club Assessment Form**
Students’ performance will be graded to assess the categories below:
- Presenter’s style & delivery
- Knowledge gap (why is it important to investigate this)
- Design appropriate for the study (demonstrates detailed understanding of applicable techniques for research)
- Validity of study (does it answer the question?)
- Limitations and applications to patients/population
- Ability to link prior learning with new information
- Handling questions and ability to make an informed judgement on the study

The grades are: Demonstrates excellent practice; Demonstrates good practice; Below appropriate level.

An overall result of “Competent” will be given for each Journal Club assessment when there are no grades below appropriate level. Any grade of below appropriate level (competency) will be given a result of ‘not yet competent’.

6.5 **Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS)**
Students’ performance will be graded to assess the categories below:
- Preparation
- Communication
- Technical ability
- Wrap up (post procedure management, patient/personnel safety)

The grades are: Demonstrates excellent competency; Meets expected competency level; Borderline expected competency level; Below expected competency level.

An overall result of “Competent” will be given for each DOPS performed when there are no grades below expected competency. Any candidate with a grade of below expected competency will be given a result of ‘not yet competent’.

6.6 **Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (MiniCEX)**
Students’ performance will be graded to assess:
- Initial approach (introductions)
- History and information gathering
- Examination
- Investigation
- Clinical decision making and judgement
- Communication with owner, staff
- Overall plan
- Professionalism

The grades are: Demonstrates excellent practice; Should address learning point highlighted below; Must address learning points highlighted below: Further core learning needed.

An overall result of “Competent” will be given where there are no grades of ‘further core learning needed’. If there are any grades of ‘Further core learning needed’ an overall result of “Not yet competent” will be given.
### 6.7 Case Based Discussion (CBD)

Students’ performance will be graded to assess:
- Clinical record keeping
- Review of investigations
- Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Planning for subsequent care (in-patient or discharge)
- Clinical reasoning
- Overall clinical care

The grades are: Demonstrates excellent practice; Should address learning point highlighted below; Must address learning points highlighted below and Further core learning needed.

An overall result of “Competent” will be given where there are no grades of ‘further core learning needed’. If there are any grades of ‘Further core learning needed’ an overall result of “Not yet competent” will be given.

### 6.8 Multi Source Feedback (MSF)

Students’ professionalism, clinical behaviours and skills will be subject to evaluation by colleagues.

Where a student has gained no more than one grade of ‘Unsatisfactory’ from feedback the overall grade of ‘Progress’ will be given.

Where a student has gained two or more grades of “Unsatisfactory” from feedback the grade of “Review Progress” will be given.

### 7. Allocation of Marks

The allocation of marks and credits to modules is described in Annexe A.

### 8. Requirements to Progress

#### 8.1 Six Monthly Progress Review (all students)

In order to pass the six monthly review the student is required to have:

- Passed one module
- AND
- Passed the six month progress assessment

#### 8.2 Interim Progress Review (as required for individual students)

A student is required to attend an interim progress assessment if deemed necessary by the supervisor or the student has gained a result of “Review Progress” as a result of a Multi Source Feedback in a module.

#### 8.3 Outcome of Progress Review

The outcome of a progress assessment can be any of the following:

1. Satisfactory progress: the student should proceed
2. Satisfactory progress with advice: the student should proceed
3. Progress of concern: Student to be placed on probation for a period of not less than one month and not greater than three months after which there will be a further assessment.
4. Student’s programme terminated with immediate effect, including removal from clinical/pathology duties. This can occur with or without referral to the Professional Requirements procedure.
## Requirements to Pass

### Individual Modules

- To have gained a mark of 50% or more from the written assessment
- To have gained a mark of Competent/Satisfactory/Progress from each practical assessment

### Postgraduate Diploma Overall

- To have completed the full 12 month clinical schedule
- To have successfully completed all progress assessments
- To have passed individual modules (including exemptions) amounting to 120 credits

## Consequences of Failure

### Progress Review

A student who fails to receive a recommendation to continue as a result of a progress assessment will be considered to be 'on probation' for a period of not less than one month and not greater than three months until progress is reviewed at a follow-up assessment. The student will normally be referred to the Student Performance and Development System (formerly PG Academic Progress Committee) at this stage. If satisfactory progress has not been achieved by the 3 month follow-up, the student will be required to relinquish the course.

### Failure of Modules

10.2.1. A student who achieves less than 50% for a module will be required to resit the written assessment at the next available opportunity. The mark obtained for any module where an assessment activity has been repeated, will be awarded a mark no greater than 50%.

10.2.2. A student who has not achieved a mark of Competent/Satisfactory/Progress in a practical assessment will be given further opportunity to gain competency. Marks/Grades from items that have already been passed will be carried forward.

10.2.3. A student who fails a module, having submitted the written assessment for a second time or who has not submitted sufficient competent practical assessments by the 1st and resit deadline for a module, is required to relinquish the course and will have a right of appeal as described in College Regulations.

## Classification

This award is not classified.

## Disclosure of Marks

Results will be published by candidate number.

## Absence From In-Course Assessment

13.1. Where a student has an allowable absence, s/he will be marked absent (A) from a summative assessment and permitted to defer the sitting.
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<tr>
<td>13.2.</td>
<td>An allowable absence is one that is for a significant unforeseeable event such as illness.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.3.</td>
<td>Any other foreseeable absence will only be considered allowable if agreed by the Student Performance and Development System (formerly PG Academic Progress Committee) and this will only apply in very strictly limited circumstances. A student absent for any other reason will be awarded 0 (zero) for the assessment.</td>
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| 14. | **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.

Within this course all written assignments (case reports / literature review) are classed as major pieces of work (50% minimum mark).
## Module Title

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Credit Value</th>
<th>Assessments</th>
<th>Assessment Weighting</th>
<th>Compulsory for</th>
<th>Optional For</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Small Animal Anaesthesia              | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CbD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Small Animal |                               |
| Small Animal Medicine                 | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CbD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Small Animal |                               |
| Small Animal Diagnostic Imaging       | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CbD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Small Animal |                               |
| Small Animal Surgery                  | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CbD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Small Animal |                               |
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</thead>
</table>
| Cattle 1     | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Production Animal |
| Cattle 2     | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Production Animal |
| Cattle 3     | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Production Animal |
| Cattle 4     | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Production Animal |
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| Camelid      | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer |  | Production Animal |
| Small Ruminant | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer |  | Production Animal |
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<tr>
<td>Equine Anaesthesia</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1. Written (case report)</td>
<td>100% Pass/Fail Progress/Refer</td>
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<td>Equine Diagnostic Imaging</td>
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<td>Equine Medicine</td>
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<td>5. MSF B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equine Surgery</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1. Written (case report)</td>
<td>100% Pass/Fail Progress/Refer</td>
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<td>2. MiniCEX or CBD</td>
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</table>
| **Oncological Anaesthesia**| 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Oncology      |                           |
| **Oncological Diagnostic Imaging** | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Oncology      |                           |
| **Oncological Medicine**   | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Oncology      |                           |
| **Oncological Surgery**    | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Oncology      |                           |
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</table>
| Exotic Animal Avian           | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100% Pass/Fail Progress/Refer | Exotic Animal            |                  |
| Exotic Animal Reptiles        | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100% Pass/Fail Progress/Refer | Exotic Animal            |                  |
| Exotic Animal Small Mammals   | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100% Pass/Fail Progress/Refer | Exotic Animal            |                  |
| Exotic Animal Zoo / Wildlife  | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100% Pass/Fail Progress/Refer | Exotic Animal            |                  |
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</table>
| **Large Animal Anaesthesia** | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Large Animal |              |
| **Large Animal Diagnostic Imaging** | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Large Animal |              |
| **Large Animal Medicine**    | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Large Animal |              |
| **Large Animal Surgery**     | 30           | 1. Written (case report)  
2. MiniCEX or CBD  
3. Practical (MiniCEX or CBD or DOPS or Presentation)  
4. MSF A  
5. MSF B | 100%  
Pass/Fail  
Pass/Fail  
Progress/Refer  
Progress/Refer | Large Animal |              |