

Assessment & Award Regulations

1.	Course Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine
2.	Year 1
3.	Applicable to Academic Year 2025/26
4.	Aspects of Course Covered by Examination All subjects taught in Year 1.
5.	Form of Examination 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 Paper 3: Problem Solving / Integrated Reasoning Questions relating to Scholarship and Evidence-based Medicine (research paper); up to 1½ hours 5.2 Structured Orals Integrated Structure and Function (ISF) oral exam related to subjects taught in Year 1. 5.3 In-Course Assessments Two summative in-course assessments (MCQ & PSQ) related to subjects taught in Year 1. 5.4 Student Record of Achievement (SRA): In-course record of learning activities. 5.5 PVP Reflective Asset 5.6 Extended essay An essay related to a topic provided in year 1 5.7 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.
6.	Marking Criteria 6.1 Essay Questions The Common Grading Scheme (LAQ & CPRQ) will be used as appropriate for extended pieces of writing. 6.2 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 candidate will score 0 (zero). The pass mark for MCQ examinations as a whole will be set according to approved and accepted standard setting protocols, normalised and then scaled. 6.3 Problem Solving Questions The number of marks allocated to each section of the question will be clearly stated, totaling 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. Where the mean for Paper 2

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	or 3 is below 60%, a recognised standard setting method will be applied and the marks normalised, if the standard set pass mark falls below 50%.																																								
6.4	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 question of increasing complexity. Highest marks will be obtained by students demonstrating integration of their knowledge.																																								
6.5	Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) Students' performance in each animal group will be graded to assess: • Health & Safety • Animal Welfare • Technical Ability • Professionalism Health & Safety and Animal Welfare are graded as a pass or fail. The grades for Technical Ability and Professionalism are: Exceeds Expectations, Meets Expectations, Borderline, Below Expectations. 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.																																								
7.	Allocation of Marks and any Additional Requirements																																								
7.1	<table><tr><td></td><td></td><td>First Sit</td><td>Resit</td></tr><tr><td>i.</td><td>Written Paper 1</td><td>35</td><td>37.5</td></tr><tr><td>ii.</td><td>Written Paper 2</td><td>30</td><td>32.5</td></tr><tr><td>iii.</td><td>Written Paper 3</td><td>10</td><td>12.5</td></tr><tr><td>iv.</td><td>ISF Oral</td><td>15</td><td>17.5</td></tr><tr><td>v.</td><td>In-Course Assessment 1 – Term 1</td><td>5</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>vi.</td><td>In-Course Assessment 2 – Term 2</td><td>5</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>vii.</td><td>Students are required to submit an Extended Essay and a PVP Reflective Asset</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td></tr><tr><td>viii.</td><td>Completion of at least 80% of the SRA</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td></tr><tr><td>ix.</td><td>A result of "Safe" for each DOPS station</td><td>N/A</td><td>N/A</td></tr></table>			First Sit	Resit	i.	Written Paper 1	35	37.5	ii.	Written Paper 2	30	32.5	iii.	Written Paper 3	10	12.5	iv.	ISF Oral	15	17.5	v.	In-Course Assessment 1 – Term 1	5	0	vi.	In-Course Assessment 2 – Term 2	5	0	vii.	Students are required to submit an Extended Essay and a PVP Reflective Asset	N/A	N/A	viii.	Completion of at least 80% of the SRA	N/A	N/A	ix.	A result of "Safe" for each DOPS station	N/A	N/A
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7.2	For the purposes of section 8 and section 10 below: Component i. is an Essential Knowledge Element AND Components ii, iii and iv are grouped together as Problem Solving and Interpretation Elements.																																								
8.	Requirements to Pass Overall and Progress to the Next Stage																																								
8.1	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 vi in 7.1 above AND Gain at least 40% for the ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE element (Written Paper 1) AND																																								

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8.2	Gain at least 40% for the combined PROBLEM SOLVING AND INTERPRETATION elements (Written Paper 2, 3 and ISF Oral) of the examinations AND Achieve a result of “Safe” for each DOPS station AND Submitted the Extended Essay and the PVP Reflective Asset. AND Completion of at least 80% of the Student Record of Achievement Resit Following scaling of the marks, students must: Gain an average mark of 50% or more aggregated from the marks listed under “Resit”, components i to iv in 7.1 above AND Gain at least 40% for the ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE element (Written Paper 1) AND Gain at least 40% for the combined PROBLEM SOLVING AND INTERPRETATION elements (Written Paper 2, 3 and ISF Oral) of the examinations AND Achieve a result of “Safe” for each DOPS station AND Submitted the Extended Essay and the PVP Reflective Asset. AND Completion of at least 80% of the Student Record of Achievement
9.	Consequences of Failure 9.1 Those students graded as “Not yet safe” in any animal handling group in the DOPS will be given a second opportunity to take those stations again, in time to be considered at the main BVetMed Year 1 Exam Board. Both of these opportunities will be classed as the first attempt. 9.2 Those students graded as “Not yet safe” in any animal handling group in the DOPS following their second opportunity (first attempt) will be given further opportunity to take those stations, which will be classed as ‘resit’. 9.3 Those students who do not pass Year 1 overall due to components i to vi (in 7.1 above) at the first attempt will be required to resit components i to iv (as per 7.1 above). 9.4 A student who remains “Not yet safe” in any DOPS station following the second opportunity will only have to resit the specific DOPS station(s) that they failed. 9.5 A student who fails the year at their first attempt is required to take the resit or withdraw from the course. The overall mark obtained at the second attempt will be no greater than 50%. 9.6 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 deadline will be considered to have failed overall.

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9.7	A student who is studying full time and has failed either the first or second year of their degree course at the second attempt and <u>has not previously</u> repeated a year of undergraduate study at the College (on any programme) will be entitled to repeat the year.						
9.8	Repeat year students will be required to complete all examinations (Components i -vi) in the repeat year, regardless of previous attempts. Components vii-ix do not need to be repeated if a satisfactory standard has already been met. The number of attempts at assessments will be the same as for those students not repeating the year. All Year Marks or Module Marks under the 'repeat year' rule will be capped at a maximum of a bare pass and that will be the mark carried forward for degree classification.						
9.9	A student who is studying full time and has failed the year at the second attempt and <u>has previously</u> repeated a year of undergraduate study at the College (on any programme) will be required to withdraw from the course. They will have a right of appeal as described in College Regulations. Any student who has failed after having taken all resit and repeat opportunities will be required to withdraw from the course. They will have a right of appeal as described in College Regulations.						
9.10	A student who has achieved an overall mark of 40% or more in Year 1, but who does not proceed with study on the BVetMed course, will be eligible to apply for transfer to BSc Bioveterinary Sciences Year 2.						
10.	Classification						
10.1	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 overall 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.						
10.3	A student who achieves an overall mark of 40% or more in Year 1 but does not proceed with study will be eligible for the award of Certificate of Higher Education.						
10.4	The award of Certificate of Higher Education will be classified by the overall mark as follows: <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>40-59%</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr> <td>60-69%</td><td>Merit</td></tr> <tr> <td>70% or more</td><td>Distinction</td></tr> </table>	40-59%	Pass	60-69%	Merit	70% or more	Distinction
40-59%	Pass						
60-69%	Merit						
70% or more	Distinction						
11.	Disclosure of Marks						
	Results will be published by candidate number.						
12.	Absence From In-Course Assessment						

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12.1	Where a student has an <i>allowable</i> absence, they will be marked absent (A) from a summative assessment. Where a student has an A, and there are two or more in-course assessments in the year, the marks awarded will be the average of the other in-course assessment marks gained by the student.
12.2	90% of the marks for the year must be attributed to results of direct assessment i.e. no more than 10% of marks can be attributed to Absent (A) marks.
12.3	An allowable absence is one that is for a significant unforeseeable event such as illness.
12.4	Any other foreseeable absence will only be considered allowable if agreed by the Student Performance and Development System and this will only apply in very strictly limited circumstances.
12.5	A student absent for any other reason will be awarded 0 (zero) for the assessment.
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.