

MSci Applied Bioveterinary/Biological Research degree programme

Information sheet

2026/27

Duration of the Degree

The MSci Applied Biological/Bioveterinary Research degree programmes are four-year courses.

Each academic year is split up into three terms with holiday periods in winter, spring and summer in years 1 to 3. During year 4 students will be on their work placement; during this year the holiday periods may vary depending on your workplace.

Methods of Teaching

You will be taught through lectures and seminars with an emphasis on small group teaching and extensive laboratory practical work. There is extensive project and practical work throughout the course. The RVC incorporates blended delivery modes to accommodate all our students' needs.

The fourth year is not taught and will be spent on industrial placement, where students should gain insights and invaluable working experience.

The full course details can be accessed from the study pages of the RVC website here:

<http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/msci-applied-bioveterinary-research> <http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/msci-applied-biological-research>

The study years for the degrees will be taught at the RVC's Camden Campus, but there may be some teaching at our Hawkshead Campus.

Accreditation

These programmes have been awarded Advanced Accreditation by the Royal Society of Biology.

Core and Optional Modules for students starting in 2026

Module Title

Core Modules in Year 1

- Biology of Cells
- Inheritance, Genetics and Evolution
- Developmental Biology

- The Moving Animal
- Integrated Physiology I
- Integrated Physiology II
- Problem Definition and Investigation
- Library Research Project

Core Modules in Year 2

- Basis of Disease
- Aging and Degeneration
- Principles of Infectious Disease
- Control of Infectious Disease
- Principles of Pharmacology
- Research Project

Core Module in Year 3

- 60 credit investigative project

Core Module in Year 4

- Extended Research Project
- Advanced Research Methods

The following Optional Modules are normally available in the third year.

- Applied Pharmacology (2nd year)
- Disease Modelling & Investigation (2nd year)
- Introduction to Animal Behaviour, Welfare & Ethics (2nd year)
- Introduction to One Health (2nd year)
- Advanced Concepts in BioBusiness (3rd year)
- Advanced Concepts in Reproduction (3rd year)
- Advanced Skeletal Pathobiology (3rd year)
- Applied Wildlife Health Sciences (3rd year)
- Comparative Animal Locomotion (3rd year)
- Comparative Models of Disease (3rd year)
- Development and Disease (3rd year)
- Endocrine and Metabolic Syndromes (3rd year)
- Epidemiology: The Bigger Picture (3rd year)
- Infection and Immunity (3rd year)
- Parasitology of Human and Veterinary Tropical Diseases (3rd year)
- Practical Investigative Biology (3rd year)
- Animal Behaviour and Cognition (3rd year)
- Science of Animal Welfare (3rd year)
- Applied Animal Welfare (3rd year)

- Animals and Human Society (3rd year)
- Ecology: Individuals, Populations and Communities (3rd year)

Please note that all modules are indicative and subject to sufficient student interest and the availability of academic staff. MSci Applied Biological Sciences students can normally also take several optional modules at King's College London during third year.

Placement year

Students are required to be proactive in searching, applying and securing their own placement. However, support and guidance will be provided through specific timetabled sessions, and further advice will be available during lecturers' office hours.

Teaching Staff at RVC

All teaching staff at RVC are fully qualified to teach at Higher Education level. Most staff are involved in research and teaching and hold research qualifications. You will find biographical details on all members of staff on the RVC website:

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|--------------------------------|---|
| • Course Directors. | Dr Caroline Pellet-Many and Isabel Orriss |
| • Year One Leader | Dr Donald Palmer |
| • Year Two Leader | Dr Abir Mukherjee |
| • Year Three Leader | Dr Matt Gage |
| • Year Four and Pathway Leader | Dr Claire Russell |

Fees and Costs

The fee for the first year for UK students on the MSci in Applied Biological/Bioveterinary Research at RVC in 2026-27 is £9,535.

The fee for the first year for EU and international students on the BSc Biological Sciences degree is £26,200 per annum.

The fourth year of the degree is a placement year and the tuition fee for this is £1,850, for international and home students.

The fee for each specific degree programme can be found in the *Key Information* provided on the subject page of each programme on the RVC website:

<https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/msci-applied-biological-research>

<https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/msci-applied-bioveterinary-research>

Further information about fees can be found here: <http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding>.

EU students and Brexit

For EU students accepting a place on a programme for entry in the academic year 2026/27 your fees will now be at the same level as other international students, as listed above. You will need to apply for immigration permission either through the EU Settlement Scheme or the Student Visa route.

The links below provide more information:

<https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/EU-EEA--Swiss-Students/Brexit---EU-Settlement-Scheme>

<https://www.gov.uk/student-visa>

Tuition fees in future years

It is RVC policy to set and review tuition fees on an annual basis. The fees indicated above are for the first year of tuition only and may be subject to increase in future. Should it be necessary to increase these costs, you will be consulted, and notice given to how much.

We publish a tuition fee policy annually on our website that sets out how fees are set and collected, and describes what students and sponsors need to do. This can be found on our website: <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/Media/Default/1%20Fees%20and%20Funding/Student-Fees-Policy-2024-25.pdf>

Explanation of Fees

The RVC adheres to the UK Government's legislation regarding fees for UK students, which sets the maximum fee for these categories. Subject to the approval of legislation in parliament in future years, institutions, including the RVC, may be permitted to raise fees for UK students at an inflationary rate linked to the Retail Price Index (RPI). Therefore, we advise all UK students considering studying at the RVC to plan their finances based on such yearly inflation increases.

The fees for EU and international students are substantially higher than UK fees as the RVC receives no government subsidy or support for such students and, therefore, must charge "full cost fees".

In deciding the annual increase for EU and international students, the College will consider various factors, including rises in the costs of delivering its teaching programmes and changes in government funding. The increase will not exceed 5% each year or the Retail Price Index (RPI), if higher. We will publish the fee in September of the preceding academic year.

Additional costs

The fees do not cover accommodation costs, which for 2025 entry ranged from £285.75 to £324.42 per week over a 40, 48 or 50-week contract depending on hall of residence and

catering options.

Other course costs are kept to a minimum and may include items such as printing/photocopying and occasional field trips.

The RVC now has an efficient paperless curriculum which keeps paper costs to a minimum. You are provided with an annual allowance of approx. £10 for any printing or copying you need. Current A4 printing prices are 5p per sheet for black and white copies and 10p for colour copies.

You will have to purchase a Howie laboratory coat for use during practical classes costing £18.70 which can be purchased from the Students Union. There are no other charges for practical classes.

Any student wishing to study an optional module or undertake a project located on the campus they do not live near must make their own travel arrangements and incur any additional costs.

Procedures, Policies and Processes

The RVC has a range of policies and statutory requirements with which it must comply. The documents detailing these procedures in full are available on the College's website, here: <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures>.

The full information on Complaints, Appeals and Conduct is also available on our website here: <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures-panel-student-appeals-complaints-and-conduct>..

If you wish to complain about a matter relating to a course of study, you should first contact the RVC Registry who will advise you. Every effort will be made to deal with the issue promptly, fairly and transparently.

You may also take complaints and concerns to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA), details of which can be found at www.oiahe.org.uk.

Student Protection Plan

In line with the good practice mandated by the Office for Students (OfS), the RVC has produced a Student Protection Plan. The plan sets out how we ensure continuation of studies for our students and the measures we have put in place to mitigate any risks we think could occur. This can be found on our website <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures#panel-further-student-policies-and-procedures>.

A digital copy of this document can be found online.

