

RVC IES MOBILITY STRANDS 2022-23

1. UG work-based learning placements

Under the supervision of the placement tutor, participants will be immersed in the study abroad experience, develop their cultural and social outlook and nurture their scientific skills towards progressing health and care. Participants will spend 12 months working in a work placement at Novartis focusing on early discovery and research activities as a hub for infectious disease research, with additional expertise in structural and biophysical chemistry, computer-aided drug design and protein engineering across disease areas.

Working in this innovative institute, participants will be trained in cutting edge scientific and analytical techniques that necessarily cross scientific disciplines, including statistical and data science techniques that are required for analysis of high throughput biomedical research. This approach will ensure they are “pi-shaped” i.e., they are trained both in the techniques relevant to their discipline (molecular biology, immunology, structural biology etc.), but also in the complex analytical processes needed to appropriately interrogate and evaluate the data produced. These skills can be considered both as highly specialist but also very transferrable and are recognised and valued by non-STEM employers as well as within biomedical research and innovation.

2. Semester Abroad in Singapore

Participants in Bioscience will undertake complementary study or research project modules within the School of Biological Sciences at NTU Singapore. These modules will be for credit within their RVC degree as part of an existing Student Exchange agreement. Participants will elect to study topics that are of local strength and for which the RVC does not have provision.

Participants will also be able to take non-credit bearing Chinese language classes which may give them an advantage when applying for graduate employment or further study. NTU's large international student population will enable participants to build extensive global networks. The research opportunities are broader than could be made available at the RVC; participants with diverse interests such as ecology, aquaculture, applied data science will have the opportunity to work in a research field that are better aligned to future career aspirations; this will assist them in further study or graduate employment.

3. UG Clinical Placements Hong Kong

Participants will undertake four weeks of either clinical rotations in a specialist area such as pathology or neurology, or a four-week extra mural study placement in a veterinary clinic/hospital. This activity is very applied in focus, contributing to the current veterinary degree programme. Participants will experience and learn from the specific international context that veterinary medicine is practiced in; they will see new varieties of species, methods of diagnostic work ups and alternative treatment plans. These differences often cannot be offered in the UK because of legal limitations of treatments or financial constraints of clinical care.

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7. PG Clinical placement France

Veterinary residents in the MVetMed will complete four-weeks on an out-rotation abroad in their three-year training programme. The out-rotation helps the Residents:

- gain experience of diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases that are exotic to the UK
- gain experience of niche clinical services that are well-developed in only a few centres internationally (e.g. veterinary haemodialysis, radiation therapy)
- gain an international perspective and to see their clinical speciality being practiced in a different country.

The out-rotation can be structured as a four-week block in a single location or be divided into two-week blocks to broaden the experience. Most placements are in other partner veterinary schools, private veterinary practices, in industry and some in a human hospital which supports the RVC's 'One Health' focus.

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10. UG Research Placements

Participants will undertake a short research placement in their chosen area of interest in an international setting. This could be an academic or commercial laboratory, field work, human or veterinary public health setting and will include data collection and analysis. Participants will immerse themselves in the local research environment and will contribute to ongoing research in that group. They will learn specialist skills in areas of scientific practice that may be outside of expertise within the RVC. They will provide a short reflective report which will include an overview of the specialist knowledge and research skills they have gained, summary of their professional development and enhanced career aspirations, how their awareness of global issues has increased.