



UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

2024

Postgraduate programme in
**Veterinary Epidemiology
and Public Health**

With academic
direction from:

RVC Royal
Veterinary
College
University of London

london.ac.uk/rvc

World class. Worldwide.

Join the World Class

1 Study internationally relevant issues
You will gain specialist skills and global perspectives that are highly valued in the field of veterinary science.

2 Quality of learning
Academic leadership is provided by the Royal Veterinary College, which was ranked as the world's top veterinary school in the QS World University Rankings 2023.

3 Continue your professional and academic development
Boost your career progression by enhancing your practical experience and professional knowledge.

4 Enjoy the benefits of distance and flexible learning
Study online from anywhere in the world, at your own pace, without taking time out of your career. You'll have access to learning resources that foster an engaging and motivating learning experience.

5 A trusted name in global education
The University of London is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the UK, and is internationally regarded as a centre of academic excellence.

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Key dates

Application deadline:
15 December

Registration deadline:
15 January

Programme starts:
1 February

Please note: There is no application or registration deadline for 35- and 50-hour individual modules.

Outstanding distance learning opportunities



Dr Christine Thuranira-McKeever FHEA
Director of Distance Learning Programmes, Royal Veterinary College

As Programme Director, I have overall responsibility for providing academic and administrative guidance for the programme featured in this prospectus. Providing distance learning courses through the University of London is a challenging but very rewarding role.

We have students from all over the world, and our team works very hard to ensure that we offer them a programme that is of an academically high standard and relevant to the contemporary needs of livestock farming and veterinary medicine. All of our courses have been designed to be of worldwide relevance, and offer options that are suitable for people of diverse professional backgrounds.

It's a wonderfully rewarding experience to see our students successfully completing their courses and graduating.



Internationally relevant

The programme in this prospectus will be of interest to veterinarians, livestock farmers and scientists who wish to continue their professional and academic development. We expect that graduates of these programme will be able to:

- improve the health and production of livestock
- understand the interaction of livestock with people and the environment
- gain an overview of the factors that influence livestock production (including components on nutrition, reproduction, disease, welfare and the environment)

- implement control strategies by integrating this knowledge with the principles of epidemiology, economics and disease control within the context of management and infrastructure
- address the interaction between livestock and the public, in terms of zoonotic diseases and clean food production
- communicate effectively on the health of animal and human populations to a range of audiences, including the general public, farmers, politicians and other key policymakers.

Developed by experts

Gain a prestigious master's degree developed by experts at the Royal Veterinary College. Whether you're a veterinarian, livestock farmer or scientist, there are options to suit you.

We also offer a wide range of individual modules that are available to study on a stand-alone basis and give you an idea of the topics covered on the master's programme.

A trusted name in education

The University of London is one of the world's leading universities, internationally recognised for its high academic standards. With over 150 years of experience in distance education, our flexible online programme provides world-class qualifications.

Among former students are six Nobel Prize winners, including Nelson Mandela and Charles Kao. Graduates have made, and continue to make, significant contributions worldwide.

London made global

Founded in 1836, the University of London is one of the oldest and most

prestigious universities in the UK and is internationally regarded as a centre of academic excellence. In 1858, we made our programme available to study anywhere in the world.

The Royal Veterinary College

The foundation of the Veterinary College, London – now the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) – in 1791, marked the establishment of the veterinary profession in the UK. The RVC is the largest veterinary school in the country and was ranked as the world's top veterinary school in the QS World University Rankings 2023.

The College has over 2,500 students enrolled on undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing professional development programmes and four state-of-the-art teaching and referral hospitals, providing services to the public and the veterinary profession.

The College's reputation for excellence and pioneering work in teaching and research makes us stand out from the crowd, and our independent status enables us to innovate and keep at the forefront of theory and practice. Postgraduate students are taught by experts in their field and are provided with the specialist knowledge and skills required to make it to the very top of their chosen profession.



Professor Stuart Reid CBE

BVMS PhD DVM
DipECVP H FRSE
FRCVS

Professor Reid is President and Principal of the Royal Veterinary College. He is recognised by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons as a specialist in veterinary epidemiology and as an expert in veterinary public health by the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation. He is a graduate of the University of Glasgow and has led the RVC since 2011. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Royal Society of Biology and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine (USA) in 2019.

Photo: Mark Thomas, Veterinary Record

How you study

Flexible study

If your job requires frequent travel or you work irregular hours, distance learning offers a means of furthering your studies without having to attend the University in person. You also avoid additional travel, accommodation and living expenses of being a full-time student in London.

How we support you

Although you are provided with all the materials you need to successfully complete your studies with a minimal direct academic support, you do receive support in several ways:

- For each module, you can submit up to two written assignments for tutor feedback and assessment.

- RVC's Distance Learning Programme Office offers help and advice with academic matters. All non-academic matters should be directed to the University of London.
- The RVC offers guidance with digital learning and study skills support, such as academic writing and referencing.
- Access library e-resources from anywhere via OpenAthens and gain access to the publications that the RVC subscribes.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

Our VLE forms an essential part of your studies:

- 'Ask an Academic' provides the opportunity for discussion with both an RVC academic and module cohort.
- Participate in occasional, scheduled online activities, such as forums and 'live' teaching.
- You will be encouraged to connect and communicate with other students on the programme via the student discussion forums. Work with study buddies and arrange group study time.
- The VLE provides access to the RVC community, online library and study materials.

Computing requirements

We set minimum basic computer requirements because your study resources are available via the VLE and it is vital that you can access this regularly. For this programme, you will need regular access to a computer with an internet connection. Some modules have specific software requirements.

For more information please visit:
bit.ly/rvc-veph-thecourse
(see module outlines) and
bit.ly/computer-reqs

Study materials

The majority of study materials are offered online via the RVC Virtual Learning Environment and include:

- a Programme Handbook and Student Guide containing advice and important dates
- depending upon the option taken, teaching material is offered online via our VLE only and includes access to a reader and textbooks.

Period of study

MSc and Postgraduate Diploma students have between two and five years to complete the programme. Postgraduate Certificate students have between one and five years. If you successfully complete one level of award and progress in your studies, then your registration end date will remain unchanged.

Time commitment

Each module of the degree programme is estimated to take 240-300 hours to complete (study units and compulsory written assignment). You may find that some units will take you more or less time, depending on your familiarity with the subject. Additional time will be necessary for revision.

Assessment

The format and mode of assessment for this programme may change due to events or circumstances beyond our control. Students will be informed of their assessment arrangements via the VLE, once confirmed. For the latest information on examinations, please visit: london.ac.uk/exams



Priyavadinee Ragoonath

Mauritius

'Studies were very convenient for me, even though it was a distance learning course, I had the opportunity to fit in my studies alongside my other commitments. I was very fortunate to study an internationally recognized master's degree whilst living in Mauritius and working at the same time.'

Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health

This programme is aimed at animal health specialists, epidemiologists and public health specialists with an understanding of the conceptual basis of veterinary epidemiology and public health.

MSc degree

Seven modules (three core, four optional).

Postgraduate Diploma

Four modules: 'Epidemiology and animal health economics' and 'Veterinary public health', plus two other modules chosen from the remaining core module and the optional modules of the MSc degree (excluding the 'Research Project').

Postgraduate Certificate

Two compulsory core modules in 'Epidemiology and animal health economics' and 'Veterinary public health'.

Please note: you must register for the compulsory core modules prior to commencing the optional modules.

Structure

Three compulsory core modules:

- Epidemiology and animal health economics
- Statistical methods in veterinary epidemiology*
- Veterinary public health

PLUS four further optional modules selected from:

- Advanced statistical methods in veterinary epidemiology*
- Management of infectious disease outbreaks in animal populations*

- Research design and methods
- Research project in veterinary epidemiology and public health
- Surveillance and investigation of animal health*

* These modules have additional computing requirements, for more information please see the individual module descriptions at: bit.ly/rvc-veph-thecourse (see module outlines)

Please note: for a more detailed breakdown of the structure, visit: london.ac.uk/rvc



'I decided to study this programme because I wanted to do something very specific, and I could only find it at the University of London. It was great because the University regularly checked in on us, asking us how we were feeling and how studying was progressing. The programme is really complete and helpful, I learned a lot and I would recommend it without hesitation.'

Alizée Debieuvre
France





RVC Graduation 2023. Left to right: Ayman Abdelkader, Christina Gale, Dr Christine Thuranira-McKeever – Director of Distance Learning Programmes, Anushka Lenagala and Shuaibiao Wang.

Continuing Professional Development

Individual modules designed for Continuing Professional Development are offered and allow you to sample a discrete learning unit.

240-hour individual modules

- These are the individual modules of the degree programme.
- These are credit-bearing modules. Upon successful completion, you may request to transfer to the degree programme.
- Application deadline: 15 December. Studies commence: February.



50-hour and 35-hour individual modules

- These non-credit bearing modules are extracts, taken from the degree programme, that enable you to study a stand-alone unit without committing yourself to a full module.
- They are suitable for both non-graduates and graduates.
- There are no entrance or English language requirements.
- You may choose to be assessed and, on successful completion, you will receive a Certificate of Achievement.
- No access is offered to academics, or other students studying these modules.
- Application deadline and the commencement of studies: you may apply and study whenever you feel able. There are no set deadlines.

For more information on the 240, 50 and 35-hour individual modules see: rvc.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/individual-modules

Spatial Epidemiology individual modules

For more information on these modules visit: bit.ly/rvc-individual



Barry Robinson

240-hour Individual Modules, Australia

'I chose to enrol in the individual modules as a way to supplement a master's degree in veterinary public health undertaken at the University of Sydney. I was impressed by the individual modules offered by RVC. They were complete, self-contained, up-to-date and relevant. I have been able to apply skills acquired in spatial analysis when investigating outbreaks on prawn farms, leading to the development and implementation of control strategies on-farm.'

A unique global community

Example students by country

Australia	Northern Ireland
Bangladesh	Pakistan
Canada	Republic of Ireland
Croatia	Rwanda
Czech Republic	Spain
France	South Africa
Ghana	Sri Lanka
Hong Kong	Switzerland
India	Tanzania
Kenya	Thailand
Malawi	Uganda
Malaysia	United Arab Emirates
Mauritius	United Kingdom
Namibia	United States of America
New Zealand	Zambia
Nigeria	

Key

- Testimonials from programme graduates



‘The content of my favourite module included disease outbreak and public health, which is particularly relevant with recent events. It wasn’t always easy working full time, whilst studying, but the distance learning method, gave me the chance to do both together and in my own time and space.’
Maria-Christina Balatsouka, United Kingdom



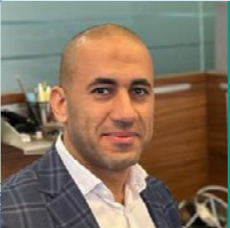
‘It is always valuable to be learning more about the industry you are in, but also other industries you work alongside, and I found this very beneficial. I was able to understand more and have more insight into production industries which has improved my ability at work.’
Christina Gale, United Kingdom



‘All modules were interesting, but I have to especially mention ‘Management of infectious disease outbreaks in animal populations’, which is concerned with the control of major viral diseases.’
Methode Gasana Ngabo, Rwanda



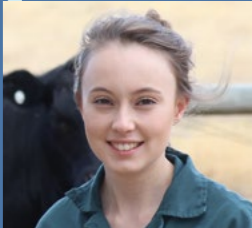
‘The cutting-edge knowledge and efficient study method played an important role in my whole study period, which was the best part for me as a student of the RVC and University of London. It enabled me to improve my professional skills to provide a high quality and valuable service to my customers and support my personal and professional development.’
Shuaibiao Wang, China



‘I found the study method to be highly flexible and convenient. It allowed me to balance my personal and work life effectively. I allocated specific time slots for studying, which included dedicated periods for watching lectures, conducting research, completing assignments, and participating in online discussions.’
Ayman Abdelkader, Abu Dhabi



‘One of my future career plans is to develop poor livestock farmers into successful entrepreneurs who can reach the export market. This MSc will help me to understand their current situation and to do extension programmes for making them into entrepreneurs.’
Anushka Lenagala, Sri Lanka



‘I enjoyed the international perspective, particularly with regards to the UK FMD outbreaks and the examples used in the economics units. The livestock industry structures and price drivers are different to the extensive production systems we have here in Australia.’
Kristine Rayner, Australia

Entrance requirements and further information

Entrance requirements

MSc degree

EITHER a Second Class honours degree (or equivalent) in a scientific subject, veterinary or animal science, agriculture, biological sciences or medicine

OR a Second Class honours degree (or equivalent) in a scientific discipline which has included suitable training.

Postgraduate Diploma/Certificate and 240-hour individual modules

A degree, or a technical or professional qualification and work experience considered appropriate and relevant by the University.

English language requirement

With the exception of students taking 35-hour or 50-hour individual modules, all applicants must provide evidence of their English language ability. For more information on the English requirement for the programme, please visit: london.ac.uk/rvc

How to apply

For the MSc, Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate and 240-hour individual modules, please apply online via the programme web pages: london.ac.uk/rvc as soon as possible, but no later than 15 December.

Fees

You can choose to pay the total amount upfront, or pay as you go, for each new module you take.

Fees are subject to annual revision and typically may be increased by up to five per cent per annum. The full list of annual fees for the programme is published on the Student Fees web page; please visit: london.ac.uk/fees

Please note: The student fee shown is net of any local VAT, Goods and Services Tax (GST) or any other sales tax payable by the student in their country of residence. Where the University is required to add VAT, GST or any other sales tax at the local statutory rate, this will be added to the fees shown during the payment process. For students resident in the UK, our fees are exempt from VAT.



Yu Qiu

Thailand

‘The knowledge I gained has helped me to improve my daily work performance and gain more recognition. The MSc degree from the RVC now provides me with broader job opportunities, as many government jobs at international organizations, such as the OIE and FAO, require a degree in epidemiology and/or public health.’



The information contained in this prospectus was correct at the date of publication but may be subject to change. The University does not intend by publication or distribution of this prospectus to create any contractual or other legal relation with applicants, registered students, their advisers or any other persons. For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website.

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For further information on the range of programmes we offer, please visit our website (london.ac.uk) or contact us at:

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London WC1E 7HU
United Kingdom

Telephone enquires: +44 (0)20 7862 8360

Online enquiries: sid.london.ac.uk

RVC Programme Office: dlp@rvc.ac.uk



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