BSc Bioveterinary/Biological Sciences degree programmes

Information Sheet

2017-18

Duration of the Degree

The BSc Bioveterinary/Biological Sciences degrees take three years. There are three terms a year with holiday periods in winter, spring and summer. The degree will be taught at the RVC’s Camden Campus.

Methods of Teaching

You will be taught through lectures and seminars with an emphasis on small group teaching and extensive laboratory practical work. The latter will involve project work that will begin to develop in the second year during a 6 week research group study and culminate in a 12 week research project in the third year. The amount of time to be spent in different types of learning can be accessed from the study pages of the RVC website:

http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-bioveterinary-sciences

http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-biological-science

Accreditation

BSc Bioveterinary Sciences has been awarded Advanced Accreditation by the Royal Society of Biology. BSc Biological Sciences has been awarded Interim Accreditation.

Core and Optional Modules for students beginning in 2017

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 (includes first year project)

Core Modules in Year 2

• The Enemy Within
• The Enemy Without
• Principles of Pharmacology
• Research Project

Core Module in Year 3

• Research Project

The following Optional Modules are normally available in the Second and Third Years as indicated. Module availability is subject to sufficient student interest and the availability of academic staff.

• Applied Pharmacology (2nd Year)
• Imaging of Disease (2nd Year)
• Animal Behaviour and Welfare (3rd Year)
• Advanced Concepts in BioBusiness (3rd Year)
• Advanced Concepts in Reproduction (3rd Year)
• Advanced Skeletal Pathobiology (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)
• Genetics in Action (3rd Year)
• Infection and Immunity (3rd Year)
• Parasitology of Human and Veterinary Tropical Diseases (3rd Year)
• Practical Investigative Biology (3rd Year)

Teaching Staff at RVC

All teaching staff at RVC are fully qualified to teach at Higher Education level. Most staff are involved in research as well as teaching and hold research qualifications. You will find
biographical details on all members of staff on the RVC website. Staff will teach by means of lectures, seminars and practicals and also work with students in tutorial groups.

- Course Director: Dr Charlotte Lawson
- Year One Leader: Dr Andrew Childs
- Year Two Leader: Dr Chantel Chenu
- Year Three Leader: Dr Rachel Lawrence

**Fees and Costs**

The fee for UK and EU students studying undergraduate degrees at RVC in 2017-18 is £9,250 per annum.

The fee for international students on the BSc Bioveterinary/BSc Biological Sciences degree is £18,030 per annum.

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: [http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-bioveterinary-sciences](http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-bioveterinary-sciences)

[http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-biological-science](http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-biological-science)

Further information about fees can be found here: [http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding](http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding).

The fees do not cover accommodation costs which for 2016-17 ranged from £159.50 to £210.39 per week over a 40, 48, 50 or 51 week contract depending on hall of residence and catering options. The majority of RVC science students paid between £159.50 and £185 per week for accommodation in this period.

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 decide to do. Current prices are 5p per sheet for black and white copies and 10p for colour copies.

You will have to purchase a laboratory coat for use during practical classes. At the time of writing, the price is £15 and they can be purchased from the Students Union. There are no other charges for practical classes.

August 2016
Explanation of Fees

The RVC adheres to the UK Government’s legislation regarding fees for UK and EU students which sets the maximum fee for these categories.

Subject to formal parliamentary approval, the statutory maximum cap on the full-time UK/EU undergraduate tuition fee will increase by £250 to £9,250 in the 2017/18 academic year. This change addresses the declining real term value of the £9,000 fee which has been held steady since its implementation and what was worth £9,000 is now estimated to be worth only £8,546. Consistent with our tuition fee policy and in order to maintain its offering, the RVC intends to institute this fee increase for all new UK/EU undergraduate students in 2017-18.

Subject to the approval of legislation in parliament in future years, and following judgements as to the quality of taught provision made via an exercise called the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), institutions including the RVC will be permitted to raise fees for UK/EU students at an inflationary rate linked to the Retail Price Index (RPI) as long as they meet a quality threshold for their teaching. We are, therefore, advising all UK/EU students considering study at the RVC to plan their finances based on such year-on-year inflationary increases. In deciding the annual level of increase for all other categories of student, the College will take into account a range of factors, including rises in the costs of delivery of 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.

The fees for non-EU international students are also listed at the above links. These are substantially higher than UK/EU fees as the RVC receives no government subsidy or support for such students and therefore has to charge “full cost fees”.

Potential Fee Changes

The RVC’s governing body, its Council, has decision-making powers on other costs and these may be adjusted each year. These include such costs as board and accommodation. Should it be necessary to increase these costs, you will be consulted and notice given as to when such increases may occur and by how much.

Procedures, Policies and Processes

The RVC has a range of policies and statutory requirements with which it must comply. These documents are available on the college’s website from which the full documents can be accessed. This link is at www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures. Information on Complaints Procedures is also available.
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.

This document is available on the RVC website.