

MSci Applied Bioveterinary/Biological Research degree programme

Information sheet

2023/24

Duration of the Degree,

The MSci Applied Biological/Bioveterinary Research degree programmes are four-year courses with a placement in the final year. There are three terms a year with holiday periods in winter, spring and summer in years 1 to 3. Year 4 is in the workplace. The study years of the degrees will be taught at the RVC's Camden Campus but there may be some teaching at our Hawkshead Campus. Final results are released in September.

Methods of Teaching

You will be taught through lectures and seminars with an emphasis on small group teaching and extensive laboratory practical work. We deploy blended modes of delivery which accommodate the needs of all our students. There is extensive project and practical work throughout the course. The fourth year consists of an industrial placement. 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/msci-applied-bioveterinary-research>

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

Accreditation

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

Core and Optional Modules for students starting in 2023

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
- Applied Pharmacology

Core Module in Year 3

- Advanced Concepts in BioBusiness
- 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.

- Advanced Concepts in Reproduction
- Advanced Skeletal Pathobiology
- Comparative Animal Locomotion
- Comparative Models of Disease
- Development and Disease
- Endocrine and Metabolic Syndromes
- Epidemiology: the Bigger Picture
- Infection and Immunity
- Parasitology of Human and Veterinary Tropical Diseases
- Practical Investigative Biology
- Animal Behaviour and Cognition
- Science of Animal Welfare
- Applied Animal Welfare
- Animals and Human Society
- Ecology: Individuals, Populations and Communities

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 for, applying to and securing their own placement, although support and guidance on finding a placement will be provided through specific timetabled sessions. 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 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 through lectures, seminars and practicals and also work with students in tutorial groups.

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|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Course Director | Dr Charlotte Lawson |
| • Year One Leader | Dr Donald Palmer |
| • Year Two Leader | Dr Abir Mukherjee |
| • Year Three Leader | Dr Isabel Orriss |
| • 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 2023-24 is £9,250.

The fee for the first year for EU and international students on the BSc Biological Sciences degree is £22,670 *per annum*.

The fourth year of the degree is a placement year and the fees for this are £1,850, for all 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>

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 years (see below). 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.

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/tuition-fee-policy.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). We therefore, advise all UK students considering study at the RVC to plan their finances based on such year-on-year inflationary increases.

The fees for EU and international students are also listed at the above links. These are substantially higher than UK fees as the RVC receives no government subsidy or support for such students and therefore has to charge "full cost fees". In deciding the annual level of increase for EU and international students, 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.

Additional costs

The fees do not cover accommodation costs, which for 2022/23 ranged from £191.50 to £255.15 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 decide to do. Current A4 prices are 4.8p 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. At the time of writing, the price is £17 and they can be purchased from the Students Union. There are no other charges for practical classes.

Any student wishing to study a year three 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.

EU students and Brexit

For EU students accepting a place on a programme for entry in the academic year 2023/24 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>

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 <https://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.

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>

This document is available on the RVC website.