Royal Veterinary College
University of London

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Applies to cohort commencing in:	2019
2. Degree Granting Body	University of London
3. Awarding institution	The Royal Veterinary College
4. Teaching institution	The Royal Veterinary College
5. Programme accredited by	e.g. Royal Society of Biology, RCVS
6. Name and title	Bachelor of Science with Honours (Intercalated) Comparative Pathology
7. Intermediate and Subsidiary Award(s)	N/A
8. Course Management Team	Dr Rob Noad (Course Director), Dr Norelene Harrington (Deputy)
9. FHEQ Level of Final Award	See https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/qualifications-and-credit-frameworks
10. Date of First Intake	September 2013
11. Frequency of Intake	Annually
12. Duration and Mode(s) of Study	One Year, Full-Time.
13. Registration Period ***(must be in line with the General Regulations for Study and Award)***	Full Time: Minimum 1 year, Maximum 1 year; Part Time: Minimum N/A, Maximum N/A
14. Timing of Examination Board meetings	Annually in June
15. Date of Last Periodic Review	2011-2012
16. Date of Next Periodic Review	2019-2020
17. Language of study and assessment	English
18. Entry Requirements	A veterinary or medical undergraduate, who has completed and passed at least the first 2 years of their course. https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/intercalated-bsc-comparative-pathology#tab-entry-requirements
19. UCAS code	n/a
20. HECoS Code	100938
21. Relevant QAA subject benchmark	Biosciences

22. Other External Reference Points

Regulations of the University of London

The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, Quality Assurance Agency, 2008

SEEC Level Descriptors for Higher Education, SEEC, 2010
Report of the Committee of Enquiry into Veterinary Research (the Selborne Report)

23. Aims of programme
To offer a high quality course in which students: • Develop an understanding of the disease process in animals and people and how this is assessed at the molecular level, in the cell, the organ, and the whole animal. • Show how contemporary techniques are applied to dissecting and interpreting tissue responses in the pathological process. • Understand how pathology can be used for research and diagnosis. • Design experimental programmes appropriate for evaluating disease; to prepare and evaluate data; and to develop written and oral skills of communication.

24. Overall Programme Level Learning Outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes. Learning outcomes should be specified for all intermediate awards as well as for the terminal award.	
On successful completion of the Intercalated BSc in Comparative Pathology, students will be able to:	Modules in which each learning outcome will be developed and assessed:
Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of: • Specialised terminology which underpins pathology. • Understanding of mechanisms of pathogenesis and pathology of infectious disease. • Cognate sciences	Principles of Pathology and Applications of Pathology modules. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding through attendance at lectures, seminar, workshops and through a variety of directed and self-directed learning activities, including practical exercises.
Display the following cognitive (thinking) skills, including the ability to: • Access information and skills as required by a task. • Make methodical observations on the normal and abnormal functioning of biological systems. • Discriminate between important and relatively unimportant information and observations. • Reflect on information and observations, and solve problems. • Discuss uncertainty in relation to scientific “facts”, and balance different schools of thought.	In the taught modules (Principles of Pathology and Applications of Pathology) students will develop their cognitive skills through problem solving, case studies, reflection, and scientific publication critique. In the research component of the course, student cognitive skills will be developed by designing and undertaking personal scientific research projects and presenting their findings in the form of a written report and oral presentation.

Display the following practical skills, including the ability to: • Design and execute experiments, and to analyse and interpret the resultant data. • Present conclusions in a variety of formats. • Read and assess published papers.	Both taught modules: Students will learn practical skills through observation, prosecution, feedback, role modelling, review of published papers, and experimentation. During the course students have the opportunity to take part in dissection and practical pathology classes. In the research component of the course students will conduct a literature review, design and execute experiments, analyse data and present conclusions in written and oral formats.
The following are considered to be Key Skills: • Communication • Teamwork • Personal management and career development • Effective learning. • Problem solving. • Information technology. • Numeracy. • Acting with integrity, being honest, fair and compassionate in your work. • Maintaining high ethical principles in relation to business dealings, the use of information and experimentation in man and animals.	Students will learn key skills through group work and exercises, structured learning, practical work, reflection, oral presentations and problem solving exercises. These are incorporated into both the taught modules and research components of the course.

25. Teaching/learning methods	**Approximate total number of hours (contact time)**
Lectures	**68.5**
Practical Classes	**41.5**
Clinical Rotations	**0**
Seminars	**11**
Tutorials	**15**
Directed Learning Sessions	**30**
Research project	**150**
26. Assessment methods	**Percentage of total assessment load**
Taught Module Coursework	**16.5**
Written Exams	**33.5**
Project Written Report	**40**
Project Supervisor's mark	**5**
Project Oral presentation	**5**
27. Feedback	

Students will receive feedback throughout the course at both an individual and group level. Over half the contact time for the taught modules is allocated to practical classes, seminars, tutorials and directed learning sessions and students are actively encouraged to engage with the staff during these sessions. There is a cap of 20 students on the course so teaching and learning tends to be in an informal atmosphere with plenty of opportunity for peer-to-peer learning.

In addition to the general opportunities for feedback enabled by the course design there are specific tasks (in course assessments, journal club presentations, role play situations) where students are given feedback at a group or individual level.

During the research projects students interact regularly with academic staff and have the opportunity to receive written feedback on a draft of their project report before the final deadline.

28. Programme structures and requirements, levels, modules, credits and awards

	Module Title	FHEQ Level	Credits	Compulsory or optional
Year 1, Term 1	***Principles of Pathology***	6	30	C
Year 1, Term 1	***Applications of Pathology***	6	30	C
Year 1, Term 2-3	***Research Project***	6	60	C

29. Work Placement Requirements or Opportunities	Not currently part of the intercalated degree.
30. Student Support	http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students

31. Assessment
Hyperlink to A&A Regs
https://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures#panel-course-assessment-and-award-regulations-2019-20

Version Number	Amended by	Date
1 – added Subsidiary awards to section 7	Sandra Ward	30/04/19