

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

<b>1. Applies to cohort commencing in:</b>	October 2020												
<b>2. Degree Granting Body</b>	University of London												
<b>3. Awarding institution</b>	The Royal Veterinary College												
<b>4. Teaching institution</b>	The Royal Veterinary College												
<b>5. Programme accredited by</b>	N/A												
<b>6. Name and title</b>	Master of Research												
<b>7. Intermediate and Subsidiary Award(s)</b>	N/A												
<b>8. Course Management Team</b>	Course Director: Prof. Brian Catchpole Deputy Course Leader: Dr Claire Thornton												
<b>9. FHEQ Level of Final Award</b>	Level 7												
<b>10. Date of First Intake</b>	September 2008												
<b>11. Frequency of Intake</b>	Full time annually in October. Part-time October or April (the latter with Course Director approval).												
<b>12. Duration and Mode(s) of Study</b>	Full time; one calendar year Part-time; two calendar years												
<b>13. Registration Period (<i>must be in line with the General Regulations for Study and Award</i>)</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Full Time</th> <th colspan="2">Part Time</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Minimum</th> <th>Maximum</th> <th>Minimum</th> <th>Maximum</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 year</td> <td>24 months</td> <td>2 years</td> <td>36 months</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Full Time		Part Time		Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	1 year	24 months	2 years	36 months
Full Time		Part Time											
Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum										
1 year	24 months	2 years	36 months										
<b>14. Timing of Examination Board meetings</b>	Not applicable as individual students are examined by internal and external examiners with either Course Director or Deputy Course Director as the Independent Chair, to validate the assessment process. Vivas take place during the last two weeks of September, annually.												
<b>15. Date of Last Periodic Review</b>	10th December 2015												
<b>16. Date of Next Periodic Review</b>	Unknown												
<b>17. Language of study and assessment</b>	English												
<b>18. Entry Requirements</b>	<a href="https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/mres#tab-entry-requirements">https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/mres#tab-entry-requirements</a>												
<b>19. UCAS code</b>	N/A												
<b>20. HECoS Code</b>	To be advised by Student Records and Planning Officer as part of course development process												
<b>21. Relevant QAA subject benchmark</b>	N/A												
<b>22. Other External Reference Points</b>													

### 23. Aims of programme

The programme aims to:

- provide experience of planning and executing a substantial research project in an area of biological, biomedical or veterinary science;
- equip the student to critically evaluate the research literature, laboratory methodologies and data analysis techniques;
- provide the generic and transferable skills training to support the development of an early stage postgraduate researcher.

**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 Masters in Research, students will be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes and achieve:

Teaching and learning methods and assessment

#### **Knowledge and understanding of:**

- Research skills and techniques
- Research planning
- Good research practice
- Safety and legal requirements, when undertaking scientific research
- Research project management
- Presentation skills (written, visual and verbal)
- Statistical methods underpinning research

#### **Teaching/learning methods:**

Students acquire knowledge and understanding through participation in:

- research presentations (attending and giving)
- workshops
- classes in statistics
- undertaking research project
- scientific writing (abstracts, project dissertation)

#### **Assessment by:**

- statistics examination
- preparation of a scientific abstract and poster presentation
- written research project dissertation
- oral examination

<p><b>Cognitive (thinking) skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematic understanding and critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights into the forefront of the fields of study</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• Logic and reasoning</li> <li>• Comprehension</li> <li>• Visual and auditory processing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods:</b> Students' cognitive skills are developed / reinforced through participation in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• research presentations (attending and giving)</li> <li>• journal clubs / research paper review</li> <li>• workshops</li> <li>• classes in statistics</li> <li>• undertaking research project</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• statistics examination</li> <li>• preparation of a scientific abstract and poster presentation</li> <li>• reflective essay on engagement with research talks/seminars</li> <li>• written research project dissertation</li> <li>• oral examination</li> </ul>
<p><b>Practical skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific skills, including the execution and analysis of laboratory, field or epidemiological studies</li> <li>• Use of software for data analysis and research reference management</li> </ul>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods:</b> Students learn practical skills through participation in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• classes in statistics</li> <li>• individual research project</li> <li>• workshops</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• statistics examination</li> <li>• written research project dissertation</li> <li>• oral examination</li> </ul>

<p><b>Key skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• communication skills</li> <li>• personal effectiveness</li> <li>• organisational skills</li> <li>• learning skills</li> <li>• information gathering and analytical skills</li> <li>• problem solving skills</li> <li>• information technology skills</li> <li>• entrepreneurial skills</li> <li>• networking and team-working</li> <li>• career management</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods:</b> Students learn key skills through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops</li> <li>• regular interaction with supervisors and research groups</li> <li>• preparation of scientific abstracts, oral presentation and a scientific poster</li> <li>• use of computer software in the preparation of oral presentations and research project dissertation , analysis of field and experimental data</li> <li>• planning and executing research project</li> <li>• critical review of scientific papers</li> <li>• reflection on effective engagement with research talks/seminars</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• formative assessment of critical ability in reviewing scientific papers</li> <li>• preparation of scientific abstracts and poster presentation</li> <li>• reflective essay on engagement with research talks/seminars.</li> <li>• written research project dissertation</li> <li>• oral examination</li> </ul>
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25. Teaching/learning methods	Approximate total number of hours
Seminars/research talks/presentations	12
Classes in statistics	21
Key skills training e.g. presentations	40
26. Assessment methods	Percentage of total assessment load
Reflective essay	2%
Statistic Examination	5%
Scientific abstracts and poster presentation	3%
Written research project dissertation	70%
Oral examination	20%

27. Feedback
<p>Describe how and when students will receive feedback, individually or collectively, on their progress in the course overall:  Student will have an interim progress review with the Course Director after 3 months of commencing the course (pro-rata for part-time students)  Feedback on reflective essay  Statistics examination result – March  Feedback on final dissertation and oral exam at the end of the course</p>

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

	Module Title	FHEQ Level	Credits	Compulsory or optional

**29. Work Placement Requirements or Opportunities** N/A

**30. Student Support** <http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students>

**31. Assessment**  
 Hyperlink to A&A Regs  
 [https://www.rvc.ac.uk/Media/Default/About/Academic%20Quality,%20Regulations%20and%20Procedures/assessment-and-award-regs/2019-20/MRes%20AA%20Regulations%20-%202019-20%20Final.pdf Link to 19/20 A&A to be updated once 20/21 A7As approved

Version Number	Amended by	Date