

1. Applies to cohort commencing in:	2021			
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	N/A			
6. Name and title	Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Clinical Studies (PG Cert VCS)			
7. Intermediate and Subsidiary Award(s)	N/A			
8. Course Management Team	Director of Intramural Rotations (IMR), Prof Daniel Chan			
9. FHEQ Level of Final Award	Level 7			
10. Date of First Intake	2015			
11. Frequency of Intake	May 2021 Intake			
12. Duration and Mode(s) of Study	<p>Full-time, face to face. However, during the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, the mode of delivery will be blended, which will include aspects of onsite (face-to-face) and digital delivery. The proportions of onsite (face-to-face) and digital delivery will vary according to Covid restrictions, such as social distancing requirements, in place at the time of delivery.</p> <p>At least 48 weeks with at least 22 weeks of intramural rotations (IMR)</p>			
13. Registration Period (<i>must be in line with the General Regulations for Study and Award</i>)	Full Time		Part Time	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
	48 weeks	52 weeks		
14. Timing of Examination Board meetings	Annually in June and September			
15. Date of Last Periodic Review	In tandem with BVetMed 2016/17			
16. Date of Next Periodic Review	In tandem with BVetMed 2023			
17. Language of study and assessment	English			
18. Entry Requirements	<p>https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-certificate-in-veterinary-clinical-studies#tab-entry-requirements</p> <p>Prospective students must hold the equivalent of 120 specific credits at FHEQ level 6 and a further 240 specific credits (360 credits overall) in essential pre-clinical knowledge of anatomy, physiology and disease processes gained from a course intended to lead to professional registration as a veterinary surgeon.</p> <p>Prospective students must not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be currently registered for the BVetMed • or have been previously, registered for the BVetMed and required to leave the course by the RVC 			
19. UCAS code	n/a			

20. HECoS Code

100531 - Veterinary Medicine

21. Relevant QAA subject benchmark	N/A
22. Other External Reference Points	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Veterinary Surgeons Act (1966) ii. EU Directive 78/1027/EEC (1978) iii. Report of the Committee of Enquiry into Veterinary Research ("Selborne") (1997) iv. QAA Benchmark Statement, Veterinary Science (2019) v. Veterinary Education and Training: a Framework for 2010 and beyond. (RCVS, 2002) vi. EU Directive 2005/36/EC (2005) vii. RCVS Guidelines on the Essential Competencies Required of the New Veterinary Graduate (2006) viii. RCVS EMS Recommendations, Policy and Guidance (2009) ix. Report of the North American Veterinary Medical Education Consortium (NAVMEC) (2011) x. Criteria and guidance for RCVS approval of veterinary degree courses in the UK & overseas (2011) xi. Accreditation Policies and Procedures of the AVMA Council on Education (2012) 	
23. Aims of programme	
<p>To provide a sound training in essential basic veterinary clinical skills for those:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • training to be a veterinary surgeon at establishments other than RVC • qualified surgeons in jurisdictions other than the UK/EU seeking to update and develop their skills <p>The Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Clinical Studies at the RVC provides the career-building opportunity for students studying outside the UK to undertake training in the RVC's comprehensive clinical educational programme, including at the RVC's leading hospitals.</p> <p>Features of certificate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The certificate is a 48-week programme – with a minimum of 28 weeks in the hospitals and practices linked to the RVC • The opportunity to take placements at veterinary practices throughout the world (completing the 48 week programme). • Seminars and small group, workplace based learning led by world-class clinicians. • Working as a member of the clinical team, you will learn in small groups through observation, discussion and practical experience. While at the RVC, you will receive feedback on your clinical work each week and be formally assessed at the end of each clinical rotation. Mentors on external placements will also provide feedback on your work with them. <p>Further Details</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May start date, subject to availability. • Completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Clinical Studies leads to a Master's level qualification 	
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.	
E.g. On successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Clinical Studies, students will be able to:	Modules in which each learning outcome will be developed and assessed:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the key components that constitute primary and preventative healthcare and advise on, and implement, recommended prophylaxis, nutrition and husbandry programmes in order to improve animal care, prevent disease and inform client education. 	Assessment of learning objectives to be integrated in Rotation Assessment – see below

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise on animal management and welfare, and safeguard human, animal and environmental health (One Health); including principles of biosecurity, food safety, risk assessment & mitigation, zoonosis and surveillance. • Recognise, prevent and diagnose diseases and disorders of animals. • Be able to select and interpret appropriate diagnostic tests and formulate a treatment plan; considering pain management, client financial status & patient referral when indicated. • Develop sound clinical reasoning skills including a logical problem solving approach in order to effectively solve clinical problems and make decisions. • Demonstrate technical and procedural competence • Apply scientific principles, method and knowledge to clinical practice and research. • Proficiently search for and critically analyse literature and use evidence-based medicine to influence clinical decision-making. • Explain how knowledge of the veterinary business environment influences the practice, its team, its clients, marketing and financial management • Communicate effectively with the public, colleagues and other professionals both verbally and in writing; including constructing and updating clinical records and correspondence, using appropriate terminology for the audience concerned. 	<p>Assessment of learning objectives to be integrated in Rotation Assessment – see below</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the principles and behaviours that underpin professionalism, teamwork and ethical decision-making (judgement) and apply these in a veterinary setting. • Engage in life-long learning and self-reflection to improve overall competence. • Recognise professional limits and seek support when needed. 	<p>Assessment of learning objectives to be integrated in Rotation Assessment – see below</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to cope with incomplete information and effectively use information services and information technology. • Explain fundamental scientific, pharmacological and medical principles that underpin veterinary medicine • Use the principles of anaesthesia to suggest and safely perform an anaesthetic plan, from carrying out an anaesthetic risk assessment through to patient recovery. • Understand the relationship between productivity, production systems and economics 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Learning Outcomes of each IMR can be found here: https://learn.rvc.ac.uk/mod/folder/view.php?id=69044 	
25. Teaching/learning methods	Approximate total number of hours These figures may differ during the COVID-19 pandemic
Lectures	N/A
Practical Classes	N/A
Clinical Rotations	In tandem with BVetMed Final Year – approximately 2300 hr with assumption that per rotation week there is a maximum of 48 of workplace learning
Seminars	Not relevant – counted as lectures
Tutorials	N/A
Directed Learning Sessions	N/A
26. Assessment methods	Percentage of total assessment load
Coursework	N/A
Written Exams	N/A
Work-based Assessment on Rotations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous assessment in the clinical environment in the areas of professional activity, practical skills and clinical reasoning and application of knowledge. • Competencies are assessed in each rotations and students must achieve competence by the end of rotations • Practical skills are also assessed by Direct Observations of Practical Skills assessment <p>Assessment of Learning Objectives will take place during rotations as is done on Intramural Rotation of BVetMed:</p> <p>Students performance will be assessed on each rotation. For two-week rotations students will receive a formative grade and feedback after one week, followed by a final grade after two weeks. For rotations of a single week's duration students will be assessed on the basis of their performance during that week.</p>

Work-based Assessment on Rotations

Students will be formally assessed in 14 competencies during each rotation and must achieve competence by completion of rotations. The 14 competencies fall within the following categories

- **Professional Activity**
- **Practical Skills**
- **Clinical Reasoning and application of Knowledge**

A student will obtain one of the following for the overall rotation mark based on achieving competencies

- **Pass**
- **Fail**

All core and track rotations must achieve a pass to meet requirements

The types of knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours that guide assessment during rotations are summarised in the table on page 9.

Cause for Concern

If the clinical team have concerns regarding the overall performance of a student, but do not feel these concerns warrant a fail grade they are at liberty to record a "Cause for Concern" notification.

Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS)

Students will be required to be deemed competent in a published list of Day 1 competencies by the end of rotations.

An overall result of "Competent" will be awarded for an individual DOPS assessment when a student has gained no more than one 'Borderline Expected Competency' grade (BLEC) for any assessment component, with all others graded as competent. If a student gains a grade of 'Below Expected Competency' (BEC) or gains two 'Borderline Expected Competency' grades within a DOPS assessment, an overall result of "Not Yet Competent" will be awarded.

27. Feedback

Describe how and when students will receive feedback, individually or collectively, on their progress in the course overall:

Feedback and Recording of Grades

During each rotation, students will receive ongoing informal feedback on their progress and performance in the three areas of: 1) knowledge and problem solving, 2) professional activities and 3) practical skills. At the end of each rotation, students will receive grades and written feedback on their performance throughout the rotation.

Generally, this will be delivered verbally towards the end of the week and the grades entered into Gradebook before the middle of the week following completion of the rotation. For certain rotations, timing of activities will prevent the delivery of face to face feedback. For those rotations, grades and formal feedback will be entered in Gradebook before the middle of the week following completion of the rotation.

On all occasions when students are adjudged to have failed a component of the rotation or their performance has been deemed to be of "cause for concern" a summary of the feedback and reasons for the grade will be logged and recorded on Gradebook. Students can use the Gradebook tool to review and reflect on their grades at any time.

Students also receive feedback relating to 14 competencies which are assessed formally during rotations and following attempts/completion of Direct Observations of Practical Skills.

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

Year	Module Title	FHEQ Level	Credits	Compulsory or optional
Year 1 (48 weeks)	<i>Intramural Rotations</i>	7	N/A	Compulsory

29. Work Placement Requirements or Opportunities

In tandem with the final year of

BVetMed IMR

30. Student Support

<https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students>

31. Assessment

Assessment and Award Regulations

<https://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures>

Version Number	Amended by	Date
1	Academic Quality Manager	10.08.2020
2	Academic Quality Manager	23.06.2021

