

Assessment & Award Regulations

1.	Course Postgraduate Diploma in Veterinary Clinical Practice
2.	Year All Years
3.	Applicable to: Students commencing from June 2026
4.	<p>Aspects of Course Covered by Examination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All subjects taught on the course modules (module assessments) • Clinical / Pathology Clinical skills • Professional Skills
5.	<p>Form of Examination</p> <p>5.1. Formative</p> <p>Opportunities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (MiniCEX) • Case Based Discussion (CbD) • Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS) • Presentations • Multi-source feedback (MSF) <p>5.2. Summative</p> <p>5.2.1. Progress Assessment</p> <p>An assessment led by the supervisor to evaluate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of clinical competencies and professional behaviours • Rate of progress in respect of academic and study requirements for the programme <p>5.2.2. Modules</p> <p>Written Assessments associated with each module (format individualised by module: e.g. case reports, literature review)</p> <p>Practical Assessments associated with each module (format individualised by module: e.g. mini clinical examination, DOPS).</p> <p>Multi source feedback evaluations per module relating to the clinical work associated with the module.</p> <p>Practical assessments and multi source feedback should be obtained within 3 months of the submission deadline.</p>
6.	<p>Marking Criteria</p> <p>6.1. The RVC Common Grading Scheme (clinical case reports & CPRQ – Postgraduate) will be used for marking the case reports.</p> <p>6.2. The RVC 0-10 Marking Scheme will be used for assessments to which it is better suited.</p> <p>6.3. The College marking scheme for Oral Presentations will be used for all presentations assessed as part of a module.</p>

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6.4

Journal Club Assessment Form

Students' performance will be graded to assess the categories below:

- Presenter's style & delivery
- Knowledge gap (why is it important to investigate this)
- Design appropriate for the study (demonstrates detailed understanding of applicable techniques for research)
- Validity of study (does it answer the question?)
- Limitations and applications to patients/population
- Ability to link prior learning with new information
- Handling questions and ability to make an informed judgement on the study

The grades are: Demonstrates excellent practice: Demonstrates good practice: Below appropriate level.

An overall result of "Competent" will be given for each Journal Club assessment when there are no grades below appropriate level. Any grade of below appropriate level (competency) will be given a result of 'Not Yet Competent'.

6.5

Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS)

Students' performance will be graded to assess the categories below:

- Preparation
- Communication
- Technical ability
- Wrap up (post procedure management, patient/personnel safety)

The grades are: Demonstrates excellent competency: Meets expected competency level: Borderline expected competency level: Below expected competency level.

An overall result of "Competent" will be given for each DOPS performed when there are no grades below expected competency. Any student with a grade of below expected competency will be given a result of 'Not Yet Competent'.

6.6

Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (MiniCEX)

Students' performance will be graded to assess:

- Initial approach (introductions)
- History and information gathering
- Examination
- Investigation
- Clinical decision making and judgement
- Communication with owner, staff
- Overall plan
- Professionalism

The grades are: Demonstrates excellent practice; Should address learning point highlighted below; Must address learning points highlighted below: Further core learning needed.

An overall result of "Competent" will be given where there are no grades of 'further core learning needed'. If there are any grades of 'Further core learning needed' an overall result of "Not Yet Competent" will be given.

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6.7	<p>Case Based Discussion (CBD) Students' performance will be graded to assess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical record keeping • Review of investigations • Diagnosis • Treatment • Planning for subsequent care (in-patient or discharge) • Clinical reasoning • Overall clinical care <p>The grades are: Demonstrates excellent practice; Should address learning point highlighted below; Must address learning points highlighted below and Further core learning needed.</p> <p>An overall result of "Competent" will be given where there are no grades of 'further core learning needed'. If there are any grades of 'Further core learning needed' an overall result of "Not Yet Competent" will be given.</p>
6.8	<p>Multi Source Feedback (MSF) Students' professionalism, clinical behaviours and skills will be subject to evaluation by colleagues.</p> <p>Where a student has gained no more than one grade of 'Unsatisfactory' from feedback the overall grade of 'Progress' will be given.</p> <p>Where a student has gained two or more grades of "Unsatisfactory" from feedback the grade of "Review Progress" will be given.</p>
7.	<p>Allocation of Marks</p> <p>The allocation of marks and credits to modules is described in Annexe A.</p>
8.	<p>Requirements to Progress</p>
8.1	<p>Six Monthly Progress Review (all students) In order to pass the six-monthly progress review the student is required to have:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Passed one module</p> <p>AND</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Passed the six month progress assessment</p>
8.2	<p>Interim Progress Assessment (as required for individual students) A student is required to attend an interim Progress Assessment if deemed necessary by the supervisor or if the student has gained a result of "Review Progress" as a result of a Multi Source Feedback in a module. An Interim Progress Assessment is led by the Supervisor, specialty Programme Director and an independent external person.</p>
8.3	<p>Outcome of Progress Assessment The outcome of an annual (or Interim) Progress Assessment can be any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Satisfactory progress: the student should proceed 2. Satisfactory progress with advice: the student should proceed 3. Progress under Review: further and/or ongoing concerns identified, with advice and recommendations given with regard to addressing these before the student can progress. Student will be referred to the Student Performance and Development

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	<p>System (SPD) at this stage for additional advice and support in addressing these concerns. A further Progress Assessment meeting will be scheduled, normally a month after the prior SPD meeting. If satisfactory progress has not been achieved by this further Progress Assessment, the student will normally be required to withdraw from the course. The student has a right of appeal against the decision to remove them from the course as described in College Regulations. The student may be given a further “Progress Under Review” decision if some progress has been demonstrated but further monitoring is required before progression can be confirmed.</p>
9.	Requirements to Pass
9.1	<p>Individual Modules</p> <p>To have gained a mark of 50% or more from the written assessment</p> <p>AND</p> <p>To have gained a mark of Competent/Satisfactory/Progress from a CbD/Mini-CEX and another practical assessment (Mini-CEX/CbD/DOP) and have submitted at least another two practical assessments (Mini-CEX/CbD/DOP), which can be graded as competent or not yet competent.</p>
9.2	<p>Postgraduate Diploma Overall</p> <p>To have completed the full 12 month clinical schedule</p> <p>AND</p> <p>To have successfully completed all Progress Assessments</p> <p>AND</p> <p>To have passed individual modules (including exemptions) amounting to 120 credits</p>
10.	Consequences of Failure
10.1	<p>Progress Review</p> <p>A student who fails to receive a recommendation to continue as a result of a Progress Assessment will be considered to be ‘on probation’ for a period of not less than one month and not greater than three months, until progress is reviewed at a follow-up assessment. The student will be referred to the Student Performance and Development System (SPD) at this stage for additional advice and support in addressing these concerns. A further Progress Assessment meeting will be scheduled, normally a month after the SPD meeting. If satisfactory progress has not been achieved by this further Progress Assessment, the student will be required to withdraw from the course. The student has a right of appeal against the decision to remove them from the course as described in College Regulations.</p>
10.2.	Failure of Modules
10.2.1	<p>A student who achieves less than 50% for a module will be required to resit the written assessment at the next available opportunity. The mark obtained for any module where an assessment activity has been repeated, will be awarded a mark no greater than 50%.</p>
10.2.2	<p>A student who has not achieved a mark of Competent/Satisfactory/Progress in a practical assessment will be given further opportunity to gain competency. Marks/Grades from items that have already been passed will be carried forward.</p>
10.2.3	<p>A student who fails a module, having submitted the written assessment for a second time or who has not submitted sufficient competent practical assessments by the 1st and resit deadline for a module, is required to relinquish the course and will have a right of appeal as described in College Regulations.</p>

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10.2.4	Students who have passed individual module(s) (including exemptions) amounting to 60 credits will be eligible for the exit award of Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Clinical Practice.
11.	Classification This award is not classified.
12.	Disclosure of Marks Results will be published by candidate number.
13.	Absence From In-Course Assessment
13.1	Where a student has an <i>allowable</i> absence, they will be marked absent (A) from a summative assessment and permitted to defer the sitting.
13.2	An allowable absence is one that is for a significant unforeseeable event such as illness.
13.3	Any other foreseeable absence will only be considered allowable if agreed by the Student Performance and Development System (formerly PG Academic Progress Committee) and this will only apply in very strictly limited circumstances. A student absent for any other reason will be awarded 0 (zero) for the assessment.
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14.	Late Submission of Work Reports, Projects and Assignments submitted after the due deadline will be subject to the late submission policy set out in the College's General Assessment Regulations. Within this course all written assignments (case reports / literature review) are classed as major pieces of work (50% minimum mark).

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Annexe A

Assessment (For all modules listed below)	Weighting
1. Written (case report)	100%
2. MiniCEX or CbD	Pass/Fail
3. Practical A (MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS or Presentation)	Pass/Fail
4. Practical B (MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS)*	Pass/Fail
5. Practical C (MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS)*	Pass/Fail
6. MSF A	Progress/Refer
7. MSF B	Progress/Refer
* For practical B and C, forms must be submitted regardless whether competency has been achieved or not	

Module Title	Credit Value	Compulsory for	Optional For
Small Animal Anaesthesia	30	Small Animal Pathway	
Small Animal Medicine	30	Small Animal Pathway	
Small Animal Diagnostic Imaging	30	Small Animal Pathway	
Small Animal Surgery	30	Small Animal Pathway	
Cattle 1 - Individual	30	Production Animal Pathway	
Cattle 2 - Herd	30	Production Animal Pathway	
Cattle 3 - Individual	30		Production Animal Pathway

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Cattle 4 - Herd	30		Production Animal Pathway
Camelid 1 - Individual	30		Production Animal Pathway
Camelid 2 - Herd	30		Production Animal Pathway
Pig 1 - Individual	30		Production Animal Pathway
Pig 2 - Herd	30		Production Animal Pathway
Small Ruminant 1 - Individual	30		Production Animal Pathway
Small Ruminant 2 - Flock	30		Production Animal Pathway
Equine Anaesthesia	30	Equine Pathway	
Equine Diagnostic Imaging	30	Equine Pathway	
Equine Medicine	30	Equine Pathway	
Equine Surgery	30	Equine Pathway	
Equine Diagnostic Imaging – Computed Tomography	30	Equine Diagnostic Imaging Pathway	
Equine Diagnostic Imaging – Radiology and Ultrasound	30	Equine Diagnostic Imaging Pathway	
Equine Diagnostic Imaging – Magnetic Resonance Imaging	30	Equine Diagnostic Imaging Pathway	
Equine Diagnostic Imaging -Scintigraphy	30	Equine Diagnostic Imaging Pathway	

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Equine (Surgery Weighted) – Soft Tissue Surgery	30	Equine (Surgery Weighted) Pathway	
Equine (Surgery Weighted) Lameness and Diagnostic Anaesthesia/Analgesia	30	Equine (Surgery Weighted) Pathway	
Equine (Surgery Weighted) Diagnostic Imaging	30	Equine (Surgery Weighted) Pathway	
Equine (Surgery Weighted) Orthopaedic Surgery	30	Equine (Surgery Weighted) Pathway	
Oncological Anaesthesia	30	Oncology Pathway	
Oncological Diagnostic Imaging	30	Oncology Pathway	
Oncological Medicine	30	Oncology Pathway	
Oncological Surgery	30	Oncology Pathway	
Exotic Animal Avian	30	Exotic Animal Pathway	
Exotic Animal Reptiles	30	Exotic Animal Pathway	
Exotic Animal Small Mammals	30	Exotic Animal Pathway	
Exotic Animal Zoo / Wildlife	30	Exotic Animal Pathway	
Large Animal Anaesthesia	30	Large Animal Pathway	
Large Animal Diagnostic Imaging	30	Large Animal Pathway	
Large Animal Medicine	30	Large Animal Pathway	
Large Animal Surgery	30	Large Animal Pathway	
Pig Health & Production - Breeding	30		Pig Health & Production Pathway

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Pig Health & Production - Growing	30		Pig Health & Production Pathway
Pig Health & Production - Health	30		Pig Health & Production Pathway
Pig Health & Production - Welfare	30		Pig Health & Production Pathway
Pig Health & Production - Biosecurity	30		Pig Health & Production Pathway
Pig Health & Production – Antibiotic Stewardship	30		Pig Health & Production Pathway