Graduate Diploma in Professional and Clinical Veterinary Nursing

Programme Specification. Applies to cohort co6.7(h)13.2(o)-6.-noLondon)

3. Programme accredited by	Students who are successful in completing the Graduate Diploma can achieve 50 credits (depending on RCVS DipAVN core modules and up to a further 40 credits on completion of some of the elective modules.
4. Final award	Graduate Diploma of the University of London
5. Programme Title	Graduate Diploma in Professional and Clinical Veterinary Nursing
6. Date of First Intake	9.uThe2ng of Examination Board meetings

	Yearly after end of year exams (August & September)
10. Date of Last Periodic Review	N/A
11. Date of Next Periodic Review	2013
12. Entry Requirements	Hold a Veterinary Nursing Certificate awarded by the RCVS,

Be on the current RCVS Register of Veterinary Nurses,

Have a minimum of one year post-qualification clinical experience,

Successful completion of Contemporary Study Skills bridging module (assessment includes attendance of study week and completion of module assignments and assessment),

Be employed in, or have agreed access to placement in a suitable* veterinary clinical environment,

Have the support of their employing/supervising veterinary practice, who, will be required to: allow time and access for training and validate any workplace activities for practical elements of the course.

*Suitable clinical environments must be general veterinary practices which are able to demonstrate a minimum of RCVS PSS tier 2 (or TP standard). A minimum of four full-time |

The programme outcomes have references to the Draft Subject Benchmark Statements For Veterinary Nursing and the QCA level descriptors for positioning units in the Qualifications and Credit Framework).

Learning outcomes: Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate a comprehensive and detailed knowledge and understanding of:

1. The theory and principles that underpin veterinary nursing practice
2. The application and integration of theory and practice
3. The legal, ethical and professional issues that affects veterinary nursing practice
4. The developing role of the veterinary nurse within the veterinary team and profession
5. The basis of patient assessment, therapeutic intervention, and models of care
6. Evidence-based nursing and reflective practice

Learning Outcomes: Cognitive skills

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply knowledge and understanding of the theory and principles underpinning veterinary nursing practice to provide creative solutions in care situations
2. Analyse and transform data, concepts and information to assess, prioritise and formulate care plans in the clinical setting, with minimum guidance
3. Assess complex problems and apply appropriate knowledge and skills to provide creative solutions in care situations
4. Critically evaluate evidence (reviewing reliability, validity and significance) to support conclusions and recommendations to the provision of veterinary nursing practice

Learning Outcomes: Generic skills

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Interact and work effectively within the veterinary team and professional group
2. Negotiate in a professional context and resolve conflict
3. Reflectively evaluate and manage own learning and personal planning processes using a full range of resources
4. Select and manage information, competently undertake reasonable straight-forward research tasks with minimum of guidance
5. Recognise personal strengths and weaknesses in learning and clinical practice and take

Teaching/learning methods

Teaching, learning and assessment activities are aligned to ensure the objectives of the programme are clearly defined and that students have the opportunities to achieve these outcomes. Assignment tasks within each module help to establish the theoretical knowledge base and assessment activities are designed to enhance the learning process and help students to measure their own progress. All teaching, learning and assessment activities are designed to help students become actively involved in their learning and provide tools for them to identify and manage their learning to achieve the learning objectives to the best of their ability.

We recognise that each student's learning requirements are different and that they will change throughout their progression through the course. At the start of the programme, students are given structured guidance and learning support via on-line academic tutors and peer discussion boards. These facilitators provide feedback and hints for improving performance and learning. Discussion and sharing of learning points with others on the course is encouraged to help each learner develop his or her own understanding of the content.

As students progress through the programme, there will be increasing reliance on student-centred modes of learning, which will encourage and facilitate independent study and foster the development of a professional approach to lifelong learning.

Specific Teaching and Learning Activities

- **x** Lectures
- **x** Tutorials   Face to face
- **x** Seminars   during study week
- **x** Practical skills workshops   for the Contemporary Study Skills Module

- **x** On-line interactive lectures
- **x** On-line peer discussion board
- **x** On-line student presentations   E-learning activities via the VLE

- **x** Problem-Based Scenarios (PBS)
- **x** Problem-Based Exercises (PBE)   Module assignments via the
- **x** Extended Patient Care Reports (EPCR)   VLE
- **x** Work-

Assessment

The range of assessment strategies deployed on this course have been selected and managed to promote deep and effective learning, leading directly to an improved understanding and application of learning.   All assessment tasks will be aligned to the module learning outcomes and will monitor integrative and extended understanding of the subjects.

Formative assessment activities are designed to enable students to assess their progress and help them identify and plan their further learning needs: dialogue between the student and their tutor and peers via on-line formative assessment and discussion, provides individualised feedback, to help reinforce good practice and importantly, help show where and how work can be improved.

Summative assessments are used at the end of each module and at the end of the programme to ensure that students demonstrate the baseline competencies required from the range of knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for the veterinary nurse practitioner at Graduate Diploma level.

Formative Assessment Activities throughout each module:

- **x** Tutor Assessed Assignments   (PBS, PBE, EPCR)
- **x** Peer Assessed Assignments   (PBS, PBE, EPCR)

- **x** Participation in the on-line peer discussion board
- **x** Delivery of on-line presentation

- **x** Tutor and supervisor assessed Work-based Directed Tasks
- **x** Peer-assessed Objectively Structured Practical Examinations (OSPEs)

- **x** On-line interactive assessments (MCQs, EMQs)

Summative Module Assessment Activities at the end of each module:

   Unseen examinations:

- **x** MCQs
- **x** EMQs
- **x** Short answer question papers

- **x** OSPVEs
- **x** Project reports (PBS, PBE, EPCR)

To be awarded the full Graduate Diploma in Professional and Clinical Veterinary Nursing, students must successfully complete and demonstrate satisfactory scores in the continuous formative assessment and summative assessment.

All course assignment work submitted by the specified assessment deadline will be guided by and marked in accordance with RVC Award and Assessment Regulations provided by the course.

Please see below table and attached chart for programme structure

Module	Level	Year	Credits	Comments
Contemporary Study Skills	6	1	10	Bridging module (Compulsory pre-requisite module). This module must be passed before the student registers for any of the modules below
Applied Clinical Nursing	6	1	20	

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Pre - requisite Bridging Module	credits
Contemporary Study Skills	(L6)10

Core Modules

Applied Clinical Nursing	(L6) 20
Problem Solving in Veterinary Physiology	(L6) 20
Professional Studies	(L6) 10

Elective Modules

60 Credits from Elective Modules	(L6) 6 0

20. Work Placement Requirements (BVetMed and FdSc only)	Refer to entry requirements

ASSESSMENT

21. Form of Examination	8
Assessment Regulations	Please refer to RVC Award and
22. Any requirements to be completed to permit entry to the examination	
23. Marking Criteria	
24. Allocation o f Marks	
25. Any additional requirements	
26. Requirements to Pass Overall	
27. Consequences of Failure	
28. Classification	
29. Disclosure of Marks	
30. Dates of Examinations	
31. Date of production/revision	March 2012