BSc Biological Sciences Programme Specification
Applies to Cohort Commencing 2014

1. Awarding institution	The Royal Veterinary College
2. Teaching institution	The Royal Veterinary College (University of London)
3. Programme accredited by	N/A
4. Final award	Bachelor of Science
5. Programme Title	Biological Sciences
6. Date of First Intake	2014
7. Frequency of Intake	Annually in September
8. Duration and Mode(s) of Study	Three years full-time
9. Timing of Examination Board meetings	Annually in July
10. Date of Last Periodic Review	N/A
11. Date of Next Periodic Review	2019/20
12. Entry Requirements	*Academic requirements (http://www.rvc.ac.uk/Undergraduate/BScBiovetSci/EntranceReq.cfm)* Three B grades or above at Advanced-Level/A2 or equivalent. One must be Chemistry or Biology/Human Biology, plus one other Science (Chemistry, Biology/Human Biology, Physics, Maths), plus one other subject (not General Studies). Other courses that will be accepted include: Access to HE Diploma. BTEC National Diploma in Animal Management. Cambridge Pre-U. International Baccalaureate. Scottish Qualifications. Welsh Baccalaureate. Irish Leaving Certificate. UCL University Preparatory certificate for Science & Engineering (UPCSE) for International Students. And GCSEs at grade B in English, Mathematics (if not studied at A-Level) and Double Science (or in two individual science subjects, if taken separately)
13. UCAS code	C100
14. JACS Code	C000

15. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Biosciences

16. Reference points

Report of the Committee of Enquiry into Veterinary Research (the Selborne Report)

Quality Assurance Agency, The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Regulations of the University of London

Future Fit, CBI 2009

Degree Accreditation Criteria, Society of Biology

17. Educational aims of programme

To offer a high quality course, in which students are challenged by, and stimulated to challenge, accepted wisdom in all fields of biological sciences.

To prepare graduates for careers in academic and industrial research, biotechnology and the pharmaceutical industry in general, and in other biological, veterinary and medicine-related industries.

18. Programme outcomes - the programme offers opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

At the time of graduation students should, to a standard appropriate for a new bachelor of science graduate, be able to:

A. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

1. Specialised terminology which underpins an individual discipline or subject area.
2. Cognate sciences.
3. The political, social and economic context of the applications of science.

B. Display the following cognitive (thinking) skills:

The ability to:

1. Access information and skills as required by a task
2. Make methodical observations on the normal and abnormal functioning of biological systems
3. Discriminate between important and relatively unimportant information and observations
4. Reflect on information and observations, and solve problems
5. Discuss uncertainty in relation to scientific “facts”, and balance different schools of thought.

C. Display the following practical skills including the ability to:

1. Design and execute experiments, and to analyse and interpret the resultant data.
2. Present conclusions in a variety of formats.

D. The following are considered to be Key skills:

1. Communication.
2. Teamwork.
3. Personal management and career development.
4. Effective learning.
5. Problem-solving.
6. Information technology.
7. Numeracy.
8. Acting with integrity, being honest, fair and compassionate in all your work.
9. Maintaining high ethical principles in relation to business dealings, the use of information and experimentation in man and animals.

Teaching/learning methods

Students develop their knowledge and understanding through attendance at lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials and through a variety of directed and self-directed learning activities, including practical exercises. They will learn cognitive skills through problem solving, case studies, reflection and role modelling. Practical skills will be learned through demonstration, observation,