

## COVID 19:

### Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc)

The University's current regulations are temporarily qualified by this document for the 2020/21 academic year. The additions are in red underlined font.

1. For the purpose of these regulations 'the University' shall include those surgeries and practices that the University may use regularly or occasionally.

#### Admission

2. To be eligible for admission to the BVSc programmes, candidates shall have such qualifications and experience as described in the relevant Admissions Statements.

#### Programme Structure

3. The standard curriculum will be divided into five parts and shall extend over not less than five academic years from the commencement of professional study in the University or other institution approved for that purpose by the University. Information on the programme structure and its units are provided in the University's Programme Catalogue. Students must attend the prescribed units and may not take courses elsewhere in place of units or elements provided unless approved by the Faculty of Health Sciences.

4. The graduate entry curriculum will be divided into four parts and shall extend over not less than four years from the commencement of professional study in the University or other institution approved for that purpose by the University. Information on the programme structure and its units are provided in the University's Programme Catalogue. Students must attend the prescribed units and may not take courses elsewhere in place of units or elements provided unless approved by the Faculty of Health Sciences.

5. The next year shall not normally be entered upon until that which precedes it has been successfully completed. Exceptionally, animal management practical examinations related to Units in BVSc Year 1 and BVSc Year 2 must be passed before progression to BVSc Year 3 and BVSc Year 4 respectively; exceptionally, due to COVID-19 in 2019-20, BVSc2 students still to pass AM1 practical must do so for progression to BVSc year 4; BVSc3 students still to pass AM2 practical must do so for progression to BVSc year 5. For the Accelerated Graduate Entry Programme, animal management practical examinations must be passed before progression to BVSc (AGEP) Year 3. Exceptionally, due to COVID-19 in 2019-20, clinical practical examinations related to the 2019-20 CVS1 Unit in BVSc Year 3 must be passed before progression to BVSc Year 5.

#### Fitness to Practise

6. Students on the BVSc programmes are subject to the University's Fitness to Practise requirements.

#### Assessment

7. Each year shall comprise a range of assessments and shall cover those units or elements studied during the year. The assessment for units that contribute formally to the curriculum for the degree of BVSc may comprise several components, and which may include a mid-session examination, directed

self-education assessment and a final examination, together with practical or other assessments. Students shall be informed at the start of any academic year of the assessments they will be required to undertake in that year and the distribution of marks between the assessments and any components that are 'must pass'.

8. The Board of Examiners shall determine whether a candidate has satisfactorily completed a unit or element for the purpose of proceeding to the next year of the curriculum. The exact requirements for progression from year to year on the BVSc are provided in the University Regulations and Code of Practice and in the Standing Orders.

9. All practical classes shall be compulsory; failure to attend may necessitate the student undertaking additional work specified by the unit organiser.

10. The failure of any student to

- show satisfactory progress in a unit of study or
- attend regularly any prescribed teaching session (including such lectures, practicals, case-based learning, directed self-education (DSE), clinical commitments, field work and vacation units as may be required) or
- undertake prescribed written or other work or
- present themselves for any assessment or
- reach a satisfactory standard in any assessment,

shall be reported to the Faculty Board of Examiners, which may, at its discretion, require the student concerned to repeat a unit, to complete any additional work, to sit an examination or to withdraw from the programme.

### **Online Proctored Examinations**

When necessary, students will be required to undertake online proctored examinations away from University premises. Proctored exams are timed exams that you take while proctoring software monitors your computer's desktop, webcam video and audio.

Online proctoring will be used by the University when invigilation is required for accreditation and compliance reasons to maintain academic integrity, but in-person examination facilities are not available.

Exceptionally, if a student has a valid reason, that has been agreed by the Faculty Education Director, to not undertake the proctored examination online they will be required to either:

- Take the examination at the same time but on University premises, or
- Defer the assessment to the next assessment period.

### **Extramural Studies**

11. Before entering the third year of the programme a candidate must normally produce satisfactory evidence that they have undertaken extramural experience in accordance with arrangements approved by the Veterinary Programme Committee for a total period of not less than that required by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The progression of any student who has not undertaken the specified period will be considered by Faculty Exam Board and will take into account RCVS guidance related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

12. Before presenting himself or herself for the final examination a candidate must normally produce satisfactory evidence that they have undertaken extramural experience in accordance with arrangements approved by the Veterinary Programme Committee, for a total period of not less than that required by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The progression of any student who has

not undertaken the specified period will be considered by Faculty Exam Board and will take into account RCVS guidance related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Awards**

13. The degree classification shall be awarded in accordance with the regulations set out in the University's Regulations and Code of Practice for Taught Programmes.

14. The unclassified degree of Bachelor of Science (Veterinary Science) may be awarded at the discretion of the Faculty Examination Board. A student who has satisfactorily completed three years of the BVSc but who chooses to leave or is required to leave after this point will be eligible for the BSc.

15. A candidate who has completed satisfactorily the first year of the Degree, but who either does not proceed or does not complete satisfactorily the second year, may be awarded the Certificate of Higher Education. Similarly, a candidate who has completed satisfactorily two years of the programme, but who either does not proceed or does not complete satisfactorily the third year, may be awarded the Diploma of Higher Education.

*Approved by the Vice-Chancellor  
19 August 2020*