





## Important information regarding the Programme Regulations

Last revised 10 December 2021

As a student registered with the University of London you are governed by the current General Regulations and Programme Regulations associated with your programme of study.

These Programme Regulations are designed and developed by the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) which is responsible for the academic direction of the programme. The regulations take account of any associated arrangements at the RVC. Programme Regulations, together with the [Programme Handbook](#), will provide the detailed rules and guidance for your programme of study.

In addition to Programme Regulations you will have to abide by the [General Regulations](#). These regulations apply to all students registered for a programme of study with the University of London and provide the rules governing registration and assessment on all programmes; they also indicate what you may expect on completion of your programme of study and how you may pursue a complaint, should that be necessary. Programme Regulations should be read in conjunction with the General Regulations.

The relevant General Regulations and the Programme Regulations relating to your registration with us are for the current year and not the year in which you initially registered.

On all matters where the regulations are to be interpreted, or are silent, our decision will be final.

Further information about your programme of study is outlined in the Programme Specification which is available on the relevant Courses page of the website. The Programme Specification gives a broad overview of the structure and content of the programme as well as the learning outcomes students will achieve as they progress.

### Terminology

The following language is specific to the Livestock Health and Production and the Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health programmes:

**Module:** Individual units of a programme are called modules. Each module is a self-contained, formally structured learning experience with a coherent and explicit set of learning outcomes and assessment criteria

**TMA:** A Tutor Marked Assignment. These are a component of each module other than the Research project. They take the form of a written assignment or short answer paper, as specified by each module, and carry a weighting of 20% of the overall pass mark for the module.

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mean the student, or where applicable, all students.

If you have a query about any of the programme information provided please contact us.



## Alternative Assessments during the Coronavirus (COVID -19) Outbreak

In line with our current General Regulations, the University may offer you alternative assessments where necessary. This includes holding online timed assessments in place of written examinations, which are usually held at examination centres. Please note that this statement replaces any published information relating to assessments or written examinations in any of our materials including the website. Previously published materials relating to examinations should therefore be read in conjunction with this statement.









## Registering afresh

### 2.9

If you register afresh, we will not allow you to carry credit for any subjects previously passed, either to the programme concerned or, in the event of a subsequent transfer, to another programme.

### 2.10

If we terminated your registration because you exhausted the maximum number of examination attempts while registered previously for either the Livestock Health and Production or Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health programme, we will not allow you to register again for either programme.

## Transferring registration between the programmes

### 2.11

If you satisfy the rules of progression you may transfer your registration from the:

- x MSc Livestock Health and Production to the MSc Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health and vice versa;



5.8

If you fail to complete the annual continuing registration process by the deadline given, you will not be permitted access to RVC Learn.

See the Section 1 of the [General Regulations](#) for more information on continuing your studies.

5.9

All TMAs should be new pieces of work; you may not revise and answer the same TMA question twice for assessment. However, should you choose to re-use previously submitted work in a subsequent TMA you must reference the original use of that work, and comply with the regulations governing plagiarism.

Assessment methods 0.8 54.024 T23 0 1 53.88 632.74 Tm 0 g 0 G [(sub)3(seq)3(ue)3(nt)-7(T)13(M)-3(A)13





6 Number of attempts permitted at an assessment [(a)-.7T /F1 15 T71 0 5 BT /

#### 6.9

If you fail the Research project paper component, then both the paper and any associated oral examination will need to be retaken.

If the Research project proposal was approved prior to the paper submission it would not be expected that this would need to be resubmitted.

#### Failure at a second attempt

#### 6.10

If you fail to achieve an overall combined mark of 50% for any module at your second attempt, your registration will cease and you will not be permitted to re

#### 7.5

Previous attempts at the assessments for modules of the Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma, will count towards the maximum number of attempts permitted for those modules, if you progress to the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc degree respectively.

Progression from the Postgraduate Certificate to the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc degree

#### 7.6

To progress from the:

- x Postgraduate Certificate to the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc Livestock Health and Production, or from the
- x Postgraduate Certificate to the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health,

you must pass each of the two Postgraduate Certificate modules and receive a recommendation from the Examiners that you may proceed to the remaining modules of the respective Postgraduate Diploma or MSc degree.

Progression from the Postgraduate Diploma to the MSc degree

#### 7.7

To progress from the:

- x Postgraduate Diploma to the MSc Livestock Health and Production, or from the
- x Postgraduate Diploma to the MSc Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health,

you must pass each of the four Postgraduate Diploma modules and receive a recommendation from the Examiners that you may proceed to the remaining modules of the MSc degree.

If you progress but do not complete

#### 7.8

If you pass the Postgraduate Certificate and choose to progress to the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc degree, but do not subsequently satisfy the requirements of the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc degree, then the Board of Examiners may decide to award you the Postgraduate Certificate with effect from the year that you passed the requirements of the award.

#### 7.9

If you pass the Postgraduate Diploma and choose to progress to the MSc degree, but do not subsequently satisfy the requirements of the MSc degree, then the Board of Examiners may decide to award you the Postgraduate Diploma with effect from the year that you passed the requirements of the award.



within your period of registration, you may be granted the award that you passed with effect from the year that you passed it.

Progression from 240 -hour Individual modules

#### 7.12

Progression may be permitted from a 240-hour Individual module(s) to one of the following related awards:

- x Postgraduate Certificate in Livestock Health and Production
- x Postgraduate Diploma in Livestock Health and Production
- x MSc Livestock Health and Production
- x Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health
- x Postgraduate Diploma in Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health
- x MSc Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health.

#### 7.13

If we allow you to progress from a 240-hour Individual module(s) to one of the related awards, and you would like the completed Individual module(s) to contribute to the new award, you must apply within three years of completing the Individual module(s). If permitted, the mark achieved for the Individual module(s) may contribute to the related award.

#### 7.14

If we allow you to progress from an Individual module(s) to one of the related awards, we may allow you to transfer a maximum of two 240-hour Individual modules if registering for the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc degree, or one 240-hour Individual module if registering for the Postgraduate Certificate. A condition of the transfer is that the Individual module(s) you have successfully passed forms part of the structure of the degree, diploma or certificate to which you wish to transfer.

#### 7.15

If we allow you to transfer and give you credit on the basis of modules previously passed, we will not allow you to re-enter the examination for those modules. The marks obtained for the assessments will contribute towards your final qualification as appropriate.

Progression from 35 - and 50-hour Individual modules

#### 7.16

There is no progression from the 35-hour Individual modules to the 50-hour or 240-hour Individual modules or the related qualifications, and there is no progression from the 50-hour Individual modules to the 240-hour Individual modules or related qualifications. Students of the 35- and 50-hour Individual modules who wish to register for the Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma or MSc should make an application in the normal way.





## Appendix A ±Structure of the programmes

A detailed outline of the syllabus, including any applicable software requirements for each module is provided on the [course pages](#), under the Programme structure tab.

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### Postgraduate Certificate in Livestock Health and Production

One compulsory core module:

- x Animal disease (current concepts) [LHM001]

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One further core module from:

- x Developing and monitoring of livestock production systems [VPM018]
- x Principles of livestock production [LHM002]

### Postgraduate Diploma in Livestock Health and Production

## MSc Livestock Health and Production

Three compulsory core modules:

x



50-hour Individual modules

- x Advanced risk analysis using @RISK software [LVM501]
- x Herd health management [LVM502]
- x Animal disease surveillance [LVM503]
- x Introduction to veterinary public health, risk analysis and risk assessment [LVM506]
- x Zoonoses of parasitic, bacterial and viral origin [LVM507]
- x Control of food safety: red meat, poultry, eggs, milk and milk products [LVM509]
- x Development of a disease control programme: salmonella in pigs and bovine TB [LVM510]
- x Introduction to statistics, hypothesis testing, study design and analysis of data [LVM511]





### Animal welfare [LHM016]

This course will provide a comprehensive appreciation of welfare and ethical issues connected with farm animal practice, animal breeding, transport and slaughter, companion animals, laboratory animals, animals used in competition and wildlife.

Subject areas:

- x An introduction to veterinary ethics; the physiology of pain, distress, fear and anxiety
- x The effects of genetics on animal welfare
- x Specific welfare issues in companion, farmed, laboratory, wild and competitive animals
- x Welfare issues in animal husbandry systems transport and slaughter

Assessment: one three-hour unseen written paper containing essay and/or short answer questions (80%) and a TMA (20%).

### Epidemiology and animal health economics [LVM004]

This course will enable students to understand the role of epidemiology and economics in the design and delivery of effective veterinary services aimed at improved animal health and productivity.

Subject areas:

- x Introduction to statistics
- x Introduction to veterinary epidemiology ±basic principles, descriptive epidemiology, study design, sampling, qualitative and quantitative data analysis (including decision tree analysis)
- x Animal health economics ±principles, partial budgets, decision tree analysis, cost benefit ratio, economics and project planning

Assessment: one three-hour unseen written paper containing essay and/or short answer questions (80%) and a TMA (20%).

### Veterinary public health [LVM006]

The course will examine the role of veterinarians and other related professionals in the protection of human health through the safe production of foods of animal origin, control of zoonotic disease and environmental contamination.

Subject areas:

- x Disease surveillance recording and risk analysis
- x Zoonoses and their control
- x Disseminating information on veterinary public health





- x Introduction to measures of effect
- x Analysis of cohort studies and case-control studies
- x Likelihood, Multivariable analysis and statistical modelling
- x Simple logistic model, Logistic regression, Poisson regression and Cox regression

Assessment: one three-hour unseen written paper containing essay and/or short answer questions

Assessment: one three-hour unseen written paper containing essay and/or short answer questions (80%) and a TMA (20%).

Developing and monitoring of livestock production systems [VPM018]

This course will adopt a farming systems approach to permit the student to place livestock production within the context of the utilisation of resources. This will allow a critical consideration of appropriate husbandry for different animals in diverse environmental and socio-economic

monitoring the control of endemic diseases. The evaluation of surveillance is another integral part of any system and must be considered at design stage. This course will introduce you to the principles of disease control, the components of such programmes and their implementation and evaluation, focused on infectious diseases. The detailed description of the traditional disease control strategies will provide you with a deep understanding of the complexity of the decision-making process and how epidemiological tools can help in the control and eradication of animal diseases at regional and national level.

Assessment: Written VMA BT /F1 12 Tf 1 0 0 1 533.5 635.26 Tm 0 g 0 G [( )] TJ ET Q EMC /P512t265.13( )

Introduction to veterinary public health, risk analysis and risk assessment [LVM506]

In this course the diverse nature of Veterinary Public Health (VPH) is explored and your perceptions of what constitutes VPH are challenged. This introductory course to VPH will introduce 32 841.92 re W\* n BT /

Development of a disease control programme: salmonella in pigs and bovine TB [LVM510]

This course will allow you to analyse two examples of national disease control programmes in veterinary public health, namely the salmonella control programme in pig herds in Denmark and the tuberculosis control programme of cattle in the UK. Examples from these two programmes will be used extensively to illustrate the important elements of a disease eradication programme. At the end of this course you will be encouraged to develop your own strategies for combating similar chronic farm animal diseases.

Assessment: one TMA

Introduction to statistics, hypothesis testing, study design and analysis of data [LVM511]

This course is designed to explain the basic concepts of statistics and provide a basic introduction to statistical analysis in veterinary and animal health fields. You will also learn about the principles of hypothesis testing, concepts of sampling, study design and parametric and nonparametric methods of data analysis. It is assumed that you have not previously attended any statistics courses, so that the whole subject of statistical analysis is new to you.

Assessment: one TMA

Principles, methodology and sampling in epidemiological investigations [LVM512]

This course is intended to provide you with an overview of the scope of modern epidemiology and to introduce the basic concepts of epidemiological investigations. The course will introduce methods for describing the frequency of disease occurrence in animal populations, including risks and rates. During the course you will examine the technique of making inferences about large populations on the basis of examination of a sample. You will learn about the techniques required for the effective sampling of populations and examine the statistical assumptions that underpin sampling theory. The course emphasises the practical use of sampling theory to answer epidemiological questions, giving examples of how sampling techniques may be used effectively in epidemiological investigations.

Assessment: one TMA

Design and analysis of epidemiological investigations ±observational and intervention studies [LVM513]

This course will introduce you to observational and intervention studies that are conducted on populations. The course will demonstrate techniques for measuring association between disease and risk factors from these studies. You will learn about the subtle but important differences between the measures of association and the most suitable application for each measure. The strengths and weaknesses of these studies will be presented and the statistical testing requirements will be discussed.

Assessment: one TMA

Tools for economic analysis in epidemiology [LVM515]

This course will introduce the principles of economic analysis and a number of tools used to aid decision-making in the field of animal health economics. This is a very practical module, throughout which you will learn how to use the tools in a number of activities and case studies at the same time as gaining an appreciation of the issues involved so as to be able to critically review the work of others. It is assumed that you have not previously studied animal health economics, so that the whole subject is new to you.

Assessment: one TMA

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## 35-hour Individual modules

Welfare issues in systems involving confinement [LVM303]

Intensive farming systems have reduced production costs and maximised outputs but have led to







Programme Regulations 2021 Livestock Health and Production, and Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health  
(MSc/PGDip/PGCert/Individual modules)

| Mark descriptor       | Long Answer Questions   | Clinical and/or Professional Reasoning Questions<br>(some or all descriptors may apply)  | Mark (%) | BSc class | BVM/VN/MSc/<br>CertAVP Grade |
|-----------------------|---|--|----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Extremely poor answer | <p>Selection and coverage of material<br/>Hardly any information or information that is almost entirely incorrect or irrelevant.<br/>And/or</p> <p>Understanding of concepts and critical ability<br/>No or almost no understanding evident. No, or almost no, evidence of wider reading of an appropriate nature.<br/>And/or</p> <p>Structure, clarity and presentation<br/>None or very poor.</p> | <p>Selection and coverage of material<br/>Hardly any information provided or information that is almost entirely incorrect or irrelevant and/or patient/client/colleague safety or welfare seriously at risk.<br/>And/or</p> <p>Understanding of concepts and critical ability<br/>No or almost no understanding evident. Virtually no interpretation of clinical information or explanation of clinical or professional approach<br/>And/or</p> <p>Structure, clarity and presentation<br/>None or very poor.</p>   | 15       | Fail      | Fail                         |
| Very poor answer      | <p>Selection and coverage of material<br/>Very limited amount of information that is correct and relevant.<br/>And/or</p> <p>Understanding of concepts and critical ability<br/>If any, extremely limited evidence of understanding. No, or almost no, evidence of wider reading of an appropriate nature.<br/>And/or</p> <p>Structure, clarity and presentation<br/>Very poor.</p>                 | <p>Selection and coverage of material<br/>Very limited amount of information provided that is correct and relevant and/or patient/client/colleague safety or welfare seriously at risk.<br/>And/or</p> <p>Understanding of concepts and critical ability<br/>If any, extremely limited evidence of understanding. For relevant questions, no, or almost no, evidence of wider reading of an appropriate nature. And/or no discernible critical thinking/synthesis of information.<br/>And/or</p> <p>Structure, clarity and presentation<br/>Very poor.</p> | 27       | Fail      | Fail                         |





Programme Regulations 2021 Livestock Health and Production, and Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health  
(MSc/PGDip/PGCert/Individual modules)

| Mark descriptor | Long Answer Questions   | Clinical and/or Professional Reasoning Questions (some or all descriptors may apply)  | Mark (%) | BSc class | BVM/VN/MSc/ CertAVP Grade |
|-----------------|---|---|----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Adequate answer | As for 55 but with more numerous, and/or more significant omissions/ inaccuracies/ errors, flaws in understanding, presentation and/or communication of information. If relevant, there may be less evidence of wider reading of an appropriate nature. | As for 55 but with more numerous, and/or more significant omissions/ inaccuracies/ errors, flaws in understanding, presentation and/or communication of information and/or patient, client or colleague safety concerns. If relevant, there may be less evidence of wider reading of an appropriate nature. | 52       | 2:ii      | Pass                      |
| Sound answer    | Selection and coverage of material<br>Basic coverage of main aspects of topic but with some significant omissions/inaccuracies/errors.<br>Understanding of 51 parts (a) - (n) f /F2 1 2an   |   |          |           |                           |



Programme Regulations 2021 Livestock Health and Production, and Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health  
(MSc/PGDip/PGCert/Individual modules)

| Mark descriptor | Long Answer Questions  | Clinical and/or Professional Reasoning Questions<br>(some or all descriptors may apply) | Mark (%) | BSc class | BVM/VN/MSc/<br>CertAVP Grade |
|-----------------|--|---|----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Good answer     | <p>Selection and coverage of material</p> <p>Good coverage of relevant material and clear evidence of critical judgement in selection of information. Few or no significant omissions or errors.</p> <p>Understanding of concepts and critical ability</p> <p>Thorough grasp of concepts and evidence of</p> |   |          |           |                              |





Programme Regulations 2021 Livestock Health and Production, and Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health  
(MSc/PGDip/PGCert/Individual modules)

| Mark descriptor    | Long Answer Questions   | Clinical and/or Professional Reasoning Questions<br>(some or all descriptors may apply) | Mark (%) | BSc class | BVM/VN/MSc/<br>CertAVP Grade |
|--------------------|---|---|----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Exceptional answer | Selection and coverage of material<br>Exceptional depth of coverage with no identifiable errors or omissions.<br>Understanding of concepts and critical ability<br>Exceptional powers of concept, (p)-15(t,(pd9c TJ |   |          |           |                              |

## Appendix D ±RVC Common Grading Scheme ±Research project reports

MSc only

| Mark descriptor       | Research Project Reports   | Mark (%) | BSc class | BVM/VN/MSc/<br>CertAVP Grade |
|-----------------------|--|----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| No answer             | <p>Selection and coverage of material<br/>Nothing presented and/or completely incorrect information and/or containing nothing at all of relevance.<br/>And/or<br/>Understanding<br/>None evident.<br/>And/or<br/>Structure, clarity and presentation<br/>None or extremely poor.</p>       | 0        | Fail      | Fail                         |
| Extremely poor answer | <p>Selection and coverage of material<br/>Hardly any information or information that is almost entirely incorrect and/or irrelevant.<br/>And/or<br/>Understanding<br/>No or almost no understanding evident.<br/>And/or<br/>Structure, clarity and presentation<br/>None or very poor.</p> | 15       |           |                              |







Programme Regulations 2021 Livestock Health and Production, and Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health  
(MSc/PGDip/PGCert/Individual modules)

| Mark descriptor    | Research Project Reports   | Mark (%) | BSc class | BVM/VN/MSc/<br>CertAVP Grade |
|--------------------|--|----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Outstanding answer | As for 82 but with strong evidence of original/innovative thinking throughout and no omissions or factual errors. Would be of publishable standard with only minor modifications to content.   | 90       | First     | Distinction                  |
| Exceptional answer | <p>Selection and coverage of material</p> <p>Exceptional depth of coverage with no identifiable errors or omissions.</p> <p>Understanding</p> <p>Exceptional powers of analysis, argument, synthesis and insight.</p> <p>Structure, clarity and presentation</p> <p>Flawless. Of publishable standard with only amendments in style/formatting required.</p> | 100      | First     | Distinction                  |









