

Appendix 1: Programme Specification

BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing

Programme Specification

1. Programme title	BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Top Up
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University/College of Animal Welfare
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	Middlesex University
5. Final qualification	BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing
6. Year of validation Year of amendment	2018
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time/Part-time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Admissions will be responsible for ensuring that prospective Top Up students meet the programme's minimum entry requirements.

Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing

Registered with the RCVS

All applicants are considered on their individual merits.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

reflect both its academic and professional nature that will equip graduates for employment as Graduate Registered Veterinary Nurses. At the end of the programme students will be:

- Safe, competent, reflective veterinary nurses
- Critical thinking individuals who can enhance the standing of the Veterinary Nursing Profession by subject-specific education to BSc (Hons) level.

The programme aims to enable the student to:

- Develop analytical and problem-solving approaches to the holistic assessment, planning and implementation of veterinary nursing care illustrating understanding of the evidence informing the care of a range of species
- Practise in a range of veterinary settings
- Become a reflective practitioner
- Develop the skills required for autonomous practise, decision-making and team-working in a veterinary environment
- Engage with life-long learning, develop transferable skills to enhance their Veterinary nursing role and maintain their continued personal and professional development

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :

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1. Apply knowledge and understanding of the subject underpinning Veterinary Nursing
2. Recognise and challenge discriminatory practice
3. Present information orally and in writing using ICT to provide coherent and logical arguments in support of decision making.
4. Critically analyse and interpret data and appraise its value for veterinary health care delivery and management
5. Apply principles of evidence based practice in the clinical environment
6. Critically evaluate areas of responsibility and decision making across a range of situations

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through doing, reading, listening, acting, constructing presenting and evaluating own methods of study e.g. learning styles

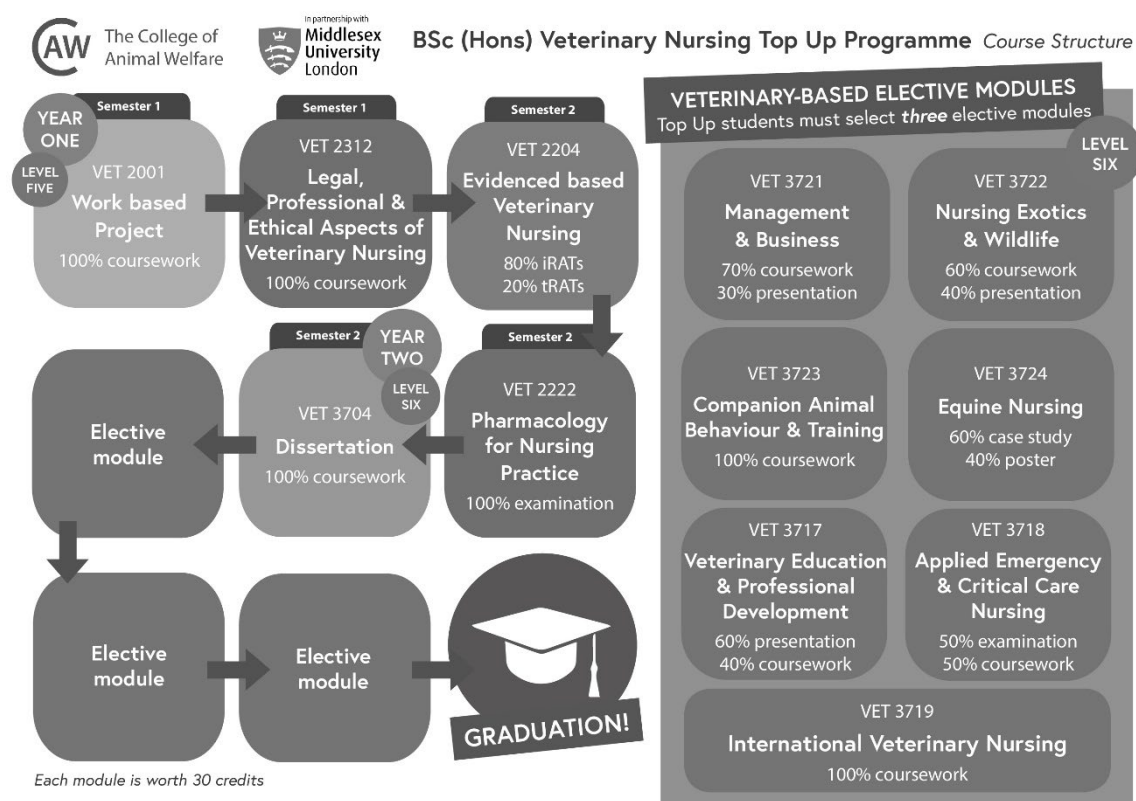
Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by written, online examinations, assignments, reflective reports, presentations and completion of case studies .

<p>7. Select and implement a range of quality assurance and risk management strategies to create and maintain a safe clinical environment.</p>	
<p>B. Skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use practical skills and knowledge with confidence and creativity to enhance veterinary care 2. Monitor and update priorities within a changing environment and communicate appropriately 3. Articulate and justify decision making and problem solving processes associated with veterinary practice 4. Integrate theory with practice 5. Apply appropriate skills at the threshold of professional competence 6. Use reflection to appraise, evaluate and enhance professional practice (self and colleagues) 7. Contribute to the development of protocols to guide the provision of quality veterinary health care and minimise risk 8. Manage own professional practice and that of others in accordance with The Code of Professional Conduct. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn skills through application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and problem solving</p> <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' skills are assessed by:</p> <p>Exams, case studies, reflective journal, observed performance and presentations.</p>

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme



This course is studied over two years full time. The part time programme completion period will depend on the number of modules completed and credits gained per semester .

The programme is comprised of four modules per year, commencing in October each year. Each module has a credit value of 30 credits. A module represents approximately 300 hours of student learning, endeavour and assessment including approximately 60 hours direct classroom contact. Modules are accessed at two levels, levels 5 & 6. 120 credits must be gained at each level to achieve a BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing.

The modular structure for this programme leading to the BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Top Up award is detailed above..

The programme structure for each year is published in the Programme Handbook. A Module Handbook is issued at the beginning of each module. This includes the module aims, syllabus and learning outcomes.

The programme is made up of core and elective modules. Core modules are those modules which are compulsory and must be studied, whilst the elective modules may be studied as a free choice over which the student has autonomy. Elective modules provide an opportunity for students to study a subject that interests them and is normally connected with their programme. Top Up students may select three elective modules depending on their preferred pathway – clinical / non clinical

There are full-time step off points which are clearly identified within the programme handbook. Both the full time and part time Top Up pathway have been clearly outlined in the handbook.

Compensation: Students cannot be compensated for any practice or veterinary related module.

Transferable Skills have been included within the Level 5 modules in VET 2001 Project Module, VET 2204 Evidence- Based Veterinary Nursing ,VET2222 Pharmacology for Nursing Practice and the Level 6 VET 3704 Dissertation .

A Diploma in Animal Health Studies will be awarded on the completion of 120 credits, of which they must all be at Level 5.

An Ordinary degree in Animal Health Studies will be awarded on the completion of 210 credits of which at least 90 credits must be at Level 6.

An Honours degree will be awarded in Veterinary Nursing to Registered Veterinary Nurses on the completion of 360 credits of which there must be 120 credits at L5 and 120 credits at level 6.

12.2 Levels and modules

Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University is changing the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This is to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.

Level 5 (2)

COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
VET2222 Pharmacology for Veterinary Nursing Practice 30 credits VET2204 Evidence- Based Veterinary Nursing 30 credits VET2001 Work Based Project 30 credits VET2312 Legal, Professional and Ethical Aspects of Veterinary Practice 30 credits		All Level 5 modules must be passed

Level 6 (3)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>VET 3704 Dissertation</p> <p>30 credits</p>	<p>Students must take three of the following level 6 30 credit modules :</p> <p>VET 3721 Management & Business</p> <p>VET 3722 Nursing Exotics & Wildlife</p> <p>VET 3723 Companion Animal Behaviour & Training</p> <p>VET 3724 Equine Nursing</p> <p>VET 3717 Veterinary Education and Professional Development</p> <p>VET 3718 Applied Emergency and Critical Care</p> <p>VET 3719 International Veterinary Nursing</p>	<p>All Level 6 compulsory and 3 elective modules must be passed</p>

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	Module code
5	VET2001
5	VET2004
5	VET2222
5	VET2312
6	VET3721 – 3719 (Elective modules, 3 to be selected)
6	VET3704
13. Curriculum map	
See attached.	
14. Information about assessment regulations	
<p>Assessment schedules and programme regulations will be published in the Programme Handbook, so that the student has a clear indication of the assessment criteria and retrieval mechanisms.</p> <p>For some modules, students may be taught with others from a range of different programmes so that they will gain a broader experience of student life, although for tutorials they will be in smaller, vocationally specific groups. They will also be encouraged to set up small discipline-specific groups for peer support and to study and learn from each other.</p> <p>In order to progress students must meet the attendance requirements of the programme, and students accumulating sickness or absence exceeding 10 days per year may be discontinued or deferred.</p> <p>Students will not normally be able to self defer or proceed without having passed each module (i.e. clinical modules cannot be compensated).</p> <p>Students will have the opportunity to be involved during the programme with programme developments. Each module leader will obtain feedback from students through module evaluation. The Student Voice Groups Committee will enable students to have their views heard and there will be student representation on the Committee.</p>	
15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support	
<p>A Quality Assurance Supervisor from The College of Animal Welfare will fulfil a number of key functions in supporting the students' educational experience in practice. They will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support and advice to Project Supervisors/Clinical Coaches in carrying out their role; • Ensure Project Supervisors /Clinical Coaches are familiar with the programme, providing updates as necessary; • Provide an initial point of contact within the programme, dealing with specific questions or difficulties relating to the programme; 	

Each student will be supported by a Project Supervisor (a Registered Veterinary Nurse or Veterinary Surgeon) who holds either the Assessor Award A1 unit or the TAQA qualification .

16. Future careers (if applicable)

The demand for registered graduate veterinary nurses continues to remain high and, as such, job prospects are excellent both within veterinary practice and in other related areas. The opportunities afforded to particularly graduate RVNs to choose to work in general practice or to move into posts in other parts of the veterinary profession such as referral practice, hospitals, practice management, research or academia are very strong.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Students will have access to the full range of Student Support Services of the University. These include: student counselling, Students' Union, special needs services, English Language and Learning Centre, sports and recreation facilities, Accommodation Office, Occupational Health Service, careers advice and International Office.

Each student will have a personal tutor allocated to them for their programme by the College of Animal Welfare. They will support them with their academic studies.

The Programme Leader will maintain a watching brief regarding the support of the students and deal with problems, should they arise. This mechanism will allow for proactivity rather than reactivity, and facilitate the early detection of potential/actual problems.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)

D310

19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)

HE Veterinary Nursing Benchmarks

20. Reference points

The RCVS new framework for post registration qualifications for Veterinary Nurses

21. Other information

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding	
A1	VET3704 , VET3721 VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
A2	VET3721, VET3719
A3	VET3704, VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
A4	VET3704, VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
A5	VET3704, VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3718, VET3719
A6	VET3704, VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
A7	VET3704, VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
Skills	
B1	VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
B2	VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
B3	VET3704
B4	VET3704, VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
B5	VET3704, VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
B6	VET3704, VET3721, VET3719
B7	VET3704, VET3721, VET3722, VET3723, VET3724, VET3717, VET3718, VET3719
B8	VET3704

Programme outcomes														
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
Highest level achieved by all graduates														
L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
Evidence Based Veterinary Nursing	VET2204			X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X		
Pharmacology for Nursing Practise	VET2222	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Legal Professional & Ethical Aspects of Veterinary Practice	VET2312	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Work Based Project	VET2001	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dissertation	VET3704	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Management & Business	VET3721	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X		X	X	X	X	
Nursing Exotics & Wildlife	VET3722	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
Companion Animal Behaviour & Training	VET3723	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
Equine Nursing	VET3724	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
Veterinary Education & Professional Development	VET3717	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
Applied Emergency & Critical Care Veterinary Nursing	VET3718	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
International Veterinary Nursing	VET3719	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	