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Important information regarding the Programme Specification

Last revised 5 December 2023

About this document

The Programme Specification gives a broad outline of the structure and content of the programme,

Programme Title and Qualifications

Programme title

Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health

Qualifications

Students are registered on one of the following:

- x Master of Science in Livestock Health and Production
- x Postgraduate Diploma in Livestock Health and Production
- x Postgraduate Certificate in Livestock Health and Production
- x Master of Science in Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health
- x Postgraduate Diploma in Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health
- x Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Epidemiology and Public Health

Exit qualifications

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

Students who for academic or personal reasons are unable to complete the Master of Science degree, may be awarded the related Postgraduate Diploma, or Postgraduate Certificate, if they have successfully completed the modules required for those respective qualifications. Exit qualifications are granted at the discretion of the Board of Examiners and once a student has accepted an exit qualification they will not be permitted to continue their study of the same award with the University of London.

Individual modules available for study on a stand-alone basis

Modules of the programme may be studied and assessed on an individual, credit-bearing, stand-alone basis; these modules comprise a notional 240 study hours. Additionally, there are a selection of shorter, 50-hour and 35-hour, non-credit bearing individual modules available primarily for continuing professional development.

Award titles may be abbreviated as follows:

Master of Science ±MSc

Postgraduate Diploma ±PGDip

Postgraduate Certificate ±PGCert





Entrance requirements

Postgraduate entrance requirements

Applicants must submit an application in line with the procedures and deadlines set out on the [website](#).

Entrance requirements for a postgraduate qualification, or individual modules, vary. Full details are provided on the programme pages under the Requirements tab.

All details of the programme-specific requirements are given on the [programme page](#).

English language requirements

All applicants must satisfy the English language requirements for the programme. These are set out in detail under the Entry Requirements tabs of the course pages on the website.

Where an applicant does not meet the prescribed English language proficiency requirements but believes that they can demonstrate the requisite proficiency for admission the University may, at its discretion, consider the application.

Computer specification

Students will require regular access to a computer with an internet connection to use the Royal Veterinary College and University of London

Students must be able to download and install software to their Windows or MacOS device to include secure examination browsers for online assessment purposes (if offered on your programme of study).

The computer must have at least the following minimum specification:

- x Windows: 10 and 11 on 64-bit platforms
- x MacOS Big Sur (version 11) and higher CPUs newer than 2011 (Intel Sandy Bridge (Core i3, i5 and i7 or newer)
- x OpenGL 2.0 graphics driver
- x Local storage for the recording of proctored examinations (75MB per hour)
- x Web camera & microphone (internal or external)
- x A broadband internet connection capable of streaming video and a minimum of 0.15Mbps upload speed.
- x Minimum device requirements are subject to change and older operating systems may become obsolete over time.
- x

The following modules require specific software:

- x Advanced statistical methods in veterinary epidemiology [VPM013]
- x Management of infectious disease outbreaks in animal populations [LVM017]
- x Statistical methods in veterinary epidemiology [VPM012]
- x Surveillance and investigation of animal health [VPM015]

For further information regarding specific software requirements for the above modules, please refer to the [module outlines on the RVC web page](#).

Students must be able to download and install software to their Windows or MacOS device to include secure examination browsers for online assessment purposes (if offered on your programme of study).

Students with specific access requirements

The University of London welcomes applications from disabled students and/or those who have access requirements. The University will make every effort to provide reasonable adjustments to enable those with a disability, learning difficulty or access requirements to

Educational aims and learning outcomes of the programmes

This programme is

- x Spatial data analysis methods to interpret geographic data.
- x The role in the protection of human health through the safe production of foods of animal origin, control of zoonotic disease and environment.
- x Future livestock development and the provision and use of tools to analyse the issues confronting producers, their advisers, planners and policy makers.
- x Appropriate husbandry for different animals in diverse environmental and socio-economic conditions.
- x Disease surveillance programmes and the tools that can be used to assist decision-making in relation to disease control and prevention.
- x Principles of undertaking a research project, including how to formulate a hypothesis, analyse and present data and how to develop a grant application.

A Postgraduate Diploma student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of:

- x Concepts of epidemiological investigations and how to use economic methods in animal health and production.
- x Statistical methods used in veterinary epidemiology to analyse data.
- x The role in the protection of human health through the safe production of foods of animal origin, control of zoonotic disease and environment.
- x Future livestock development and the provision and use of tools to analyse the issues confronting producers, their advisers, planners and policy makers.

A Postgraduate Certificate student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of:

- x Concepts of epidemiological investigations and how to use economic methods in animal health and production.
- x The role in the protection of human health through the safe production of foods of animal origin, control of zoonotic disease and environment.

Practical skills

Depending on the level of qualification achieved, a student will be able to:

- x Analyse epidemiological data and interpret them clearly.
- x Display spatial maps using geographical information systems software.
- x Perform risk analysis and build and analyse risk models.
- x Develop scientific skills, including critical review of the scientific literature.
- x

Assessment methods

MSc, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate

With the exception of the Research Project, modules are assessed by one four-hour time-limited assessment, which may contain essay and/or shorter questions.

Students are required to submit up to two TMAs per module, the highest mark of which will count as part of the formal assessment.

The mark awarded for each module will be based on both the written examination and the TMA weighted in the scale 80:20 respectively.

All candidates must have completed and been assessed in one TMA prior to the examination. Written examinations take place annually in October at established examination centres worldwide. TMAs are subject to deadlines but can be submitted at any time during the year



