

RVC

**Royal
Veterinary
College**

University of London



MSc in Veterinary Education

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The LIVE Centre is a globally unique powerhouse for research and development in veterinary education. As its name suggests, its vision is a fundamental transformation of the veterinary and allied professions, breeding a generation who will be lifelong, independent learners from induction to retirement. LIVE's multi-professional team focuses on developing and evaluating new tools for teaching, learning and assessment. Some originate in veterinary education itself, whilst others are cherry-picked from other disciplines and then adapted to work successfully in the veterinary milieu.

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Why Choose the RVC?

Founded in 1791, the Royal Veterinary College has a unique heritage of innovation in veterinary and biomedical sciences, clinical practice and education. At the RVC, students from all over the world benefit from the privilege of learning from and working with some of the field's leading individuals whose research interests and expertise lie at the cutting edge of science today.

In 2005, the RVC became the only veterinary school to be designated a 'Centre for Excellence' by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). HEFCE awarded the college £4.9 million over a five year period to create a Centre for Lifelong and Independent Veterinary Education – LIVE. The LIVE centre is unique in the veterinary field, developing a critical mass of reflective practitioners looking to the future of Veterinary Education.

Recognising the need to engage veterinary educators using a discipline-specific programme, the RVC embarked on designing and developing the world's first postgraduate training programme in veterinary education. This newly created MSc in Veterinary Education is the first discipline specific postgraduate education programme in the world. The programme utilises the extensive expertise and experience of veterinary educators at the LIVE Centre and beyond.

For more information on LIVE, please visit www.live.ac.uk

MSc, Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate, Associate Levels in Veterinary Education

Part Time:

Over 1 to 5 years

Key academic staff:

Dr Ayona Silva-Fletcher: Course Director, Senior Lecturer in Veterinary Education

Professor Stephen May: Academic Director LIVE Centre, Professor of Equine Medicine and Surgery and Vice Principal for Teaching

Mr Kim Whittlestone: Senior Lecturer in Independent Learning, Deputy Strand Leader for Professional Studies, Director for Development of Academic Staff

Introduction

The MSc in Veterinary Education is a unique programme that has been designed to address a growing need in the veterinary and para-veterinary sectors in educator training. The programme encompasses a wide range of topics that are relevant to educators to enhance their knowledge, skills and practice in a rapidly changing environment in education. An MSc graduate of the programme will be able to:

1. Evaluate educational theories, methods and practice which can be applied to Veterinary Education
2. Develop, design and deliver courses and programmes using a wide range of appropriate course development and delivery tools
3. Appraise curriculum design and models to ensure that teaching methods comply with standards and quality appropriate to the level of skill development
4. Select and use appropriate assessment and evaluation strategies to ensure that learning outcomes are met
5. Identify, critically assess and address the emerging needs of the training requirements to match the demands of the local provision

6. Adopt new teaching technologies to maximise skill development
7. Be a reflective and self-evaluative practitioner
8. Critically appraise research in veterinary and related educational fields, and develop skills to undertake qualitative and quantitative research using appropriate methodologies
9. Continue to develop independent and lifelong learning skills to promote their own personal and professional development as veterinary educators, researchers and leaders.

Who is the programme aimed at?

The MSc in Veterinary Education is designed for:

1. Professionals who are involved in the delivery of veterinary or para-veterinary education and training at either undergraduate or postgraduate levels
2. Practising veterinary surgeons and other para-veterinary professionals involved in work-place training

The programme will develop individuals as reflective practitioners, enabling them to offer an enhanced learning experience to anyone they teach or train.



The programme structure

MSc

PG Diploma ↗

PG Certificate ↗

Associate Level ↗

Method of study

All courses can be studied via the following methods of delivery:

Distance Learning - This mode is delivered entirely online using RVC LEARN (based on Moodle VLE) and makes the most effective use of virtual learning tools, including online conferencing software to encourage participation and discussion between participants and course tutors. Candidates are not required to attend the campus for any workshops.

Blended Mode - The delivery mode is mixed; participants can come to the RVC in Hawkshead to participate in some of the monthly workshops, combined with studying using distance learning materials.

Face to Face - Students attend and participate in monthly workshops at the RVC's Hawkshead campus.

Associate in Veterinary Education

The aim of the Associate in Veterinary Education programme is to facilitate the development of staff who undertake a relatively small range of teaching and learning support activity. This programme is ideal for early career researchers with some teaching responsibilities, PhD students, staff new to teaching with part-time academic responsibilities, staff who support academic provision such as learning technologists, learning developers, library staff and staff who have a demonstrator or laboratory technician role.

Course Structure

The Associate in Veterinary Education consists of five themes of study, selected from the ten themes covered by the Postgraduate Certificate modules (see module diagram on opposite page). Participants can choose relevant themes, but must make their selection before they start the programme. This will allow tutors to offer guidance and map the participant's requirements.

Assessment

The assessment will utilise the 'patchwork text' approach (used in the Postgraduate Certificate) and the student will submit five assignments. The first three assignments will be formatively assessed and the final two assignments will be summatively assessed.

Entry Requirements

Entry to the Associate level will be open to staff listed above and involved in teaching and training.



Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Education

The aim of the PG Certificate in Veterinary Education is to enhance the professional development of educators in veterinary and para-veterinary sectors. The course aims to facilitate skills and knowledge in all areas of teaching and assessment, to maintain evidence based professional practice, and to develop competent and reflective practitioners. The PG Certificate is the entry level now required by many UK universities involved in higher level education.

Course Structure

The Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Education consists of two compulsory modules of 30 credits each:

1. Principles and Practice in Veterinary Education (PPVE)
2. Current Issues in Veterinary Education (CIVE)

Each module comprises 5 themes (see opposite):

Assessment

The main form of assessment for each module will be by the development of a 'patchwork text' built from a series of short, formatively assessed reflective essays into a summatively assessed final piece. Participants will also be expected to pass a Teaching Observation session with students, delivered (in English) in Module 1 and a Teaching Development and Presentation session in Module 2.

Entry Requirements

Entry to the PG Certificate will be open to graduates with a university degree or equivalent educational experience which is acceptable to the University of London.

Module 1 (PPVE)



Module 2 (CIVE)



Postgraduate Diploma in Veterinary Education

The aim of the PG Diploma in Veterinary Education is to develop the educators further in specific areas, as identified by the learners, to match their own needs.

Course Structure

The Diploma in Veterinary Education consists of four optional modules of 15 credits each, chosen from:

- Enhancing teaching and learning with technology
- Teaching the basic sciences in a clinical context
- Assessment, feedback and learning
- Skills – communication and clinical
- Clinical reasoning and patient-based teaching
- Small group teaching
- Lecturing and large group teaching
- Integrated curriculum design and practice
- Evidence-based veterinary education
- Educational research methods – qualitative and quantitative (compulsory for the MSc)

Assessment

The assessment for each module involves a combination of summative written and practical assignments. In all of the modules, assessments have been designed to incorporate the learner's own work requirements and facilitate reflective practice.

Entry Requirements

Entry to the PG Diploma will be open to candidates with a PG Certificate in Higher Education, as well as HEA/APEL accredited candidates.



MSc in Veterinary Education

The aim of the final phase in the MSc in Veterinary Education is to enable learners to critically appraise research in veterinary and related educational fields, and develop skills to undertake qualitative and quantitative research using appropriate methodologies.

Course Structure

Two compulsory core modules:

1. Research Project (45 credits)

AND

- a. Educational Research Methods - Qualitative and Quantitative (15 credits)

OR

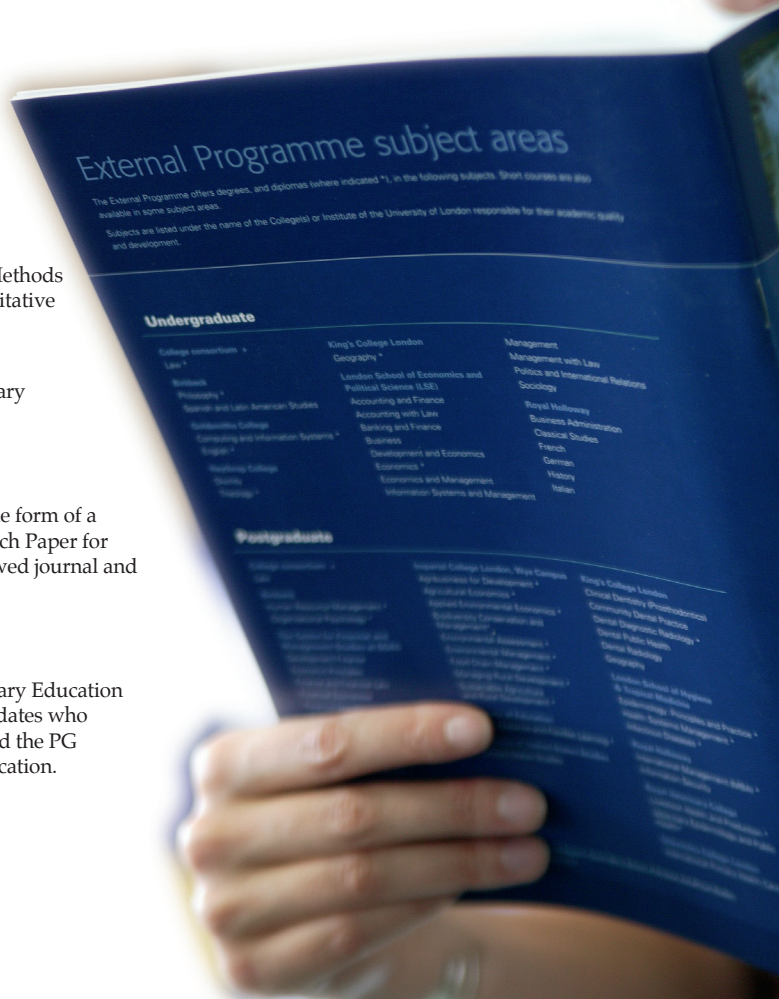
- b. Evidence-based Veterinary Education (15 credits)

Assessment

The assessment will take the form of a Literature Review, a Research Paper for publication in a peer-reviewed journal and an Oral Examination

Entry Requirements

Entry to the MSc in Veterinary Education will be open to those candidates who have successfully completed the PG Diploma in Veterinary Education.



Entry Requirements

The entry requirements for each stage:

Associate level

Entry will be open to staff new to higher education teaching with no prior qualification or experience.

PG Certificate

Entry will be open to graduates with a university degree or equivalent educational experience which is acceptable to the University of London.

PG Diploma

Entry will be open to candidates with a PG Certificate in Higher Education, as well as HEA / APEL accredited candidates.

MSc in Veterinary Education

Entry will be open to those candidates who have successfully completed the PG Diploma in Veterinary Education.

English Requirements

Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to provide evidence of proficiency in spoken and written English, including scientific usage and comprehension. They will be required to achieve an overall score of 7.0 in IELTS with a minimum of 6.5 in each sub-test; or a TOEFL score of at least 93 (internet-based test with no element below 23), or 580 (paper-based test plus 4.5 in the Test of Written English (TWE)/ Essay rating).

All teaching observation sessions **MUST** be presented in English.

Fees 2014-15 *

Associate Level -	£1,375
PG Certificate -	£2,750
PG Diploma -	£2,750
MSc -	£2,750

Fees will be the same whether studying at the RVC or by Distance Learning.

*Discounts:

10% discount for students paying for the full MSc up front
5% discount for sponsors providing 4 or more students





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LIVE, established in 2005, is the only veterinary-themed Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning in the UK. LIVE is specifically focused on capturing and expanding best teaching and learning practice in veterinary education, both nationally and internationally, through inter-professional collaboration.

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The RVC's Vet Ed Certificate programme supported my continuing development as an educator on many levels. In the short term it provided a number of new approaches which could be deployed quickly to improve my current teaching. On a deeper level it challenged my thinking around what effective higher education is and how I can respond to the evolving needs of students.

James Gazzard, 2011 PG Certificate graduate



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