

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

| Part 1: Basic Data   |   |                                 |                   |
|--|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Awarding Institution</b>  | University of the West of England   |                                 |                   |
| <b>Teaching Institution</b>  | Hartpury College  |                                 |                   |
| <b>Delivery Location</b>   | Hartpury College  |                                 |                   |
| <b>Faculty responsible for programme</b>   | Hartpury  |                                 |                   |
| <b>Department responsible for programme</b>  | Animal and Land   |                                 |                   |
| <b>Modular Scheme Title</b>  | Undergraduate Modular Scheme, Hartpury College  |                                 |                   |
| <b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links</b><br><i>Name of PSRB</i><br><i>Type of approval</i><br><b>Dates</b> | The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)   |                                 |                   |
| <b>Highest Award Title</b>   | BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Science (SW)  |                                 |                   |
| <b>Default Award Title</b>   | None  |                                 |                   |
| <b>Fall-back Award Title</b>   | None  |                                 |                   |
| <b>Interim Award Titles</b>  | BSc Veterinary Nursing Science (SW)<br>BSc Veterinary Health Studies<br>Dip HE Veterinary Health Studies<br>Cert HE Veterinary Health Studies |                                 |                   |
| <b>UWE Progression Route</b>   | None  |                                 |                   |
| <b>Mode(s) of Delivery</b>   | Full time   |                                 |                   |
| <b>Codes</b>   | <b>UCAS:</b> BD71   | <b>JACS:</b> D310               |                   |
|  | <b>ISIS2:</b> D100  | <b>HESA:</b>                    |                   |
| <b>Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements</b>   | Agriculture, Forestry, Agricultural Sciences, Food Sciences and Consumer Sciences; Veterinary Nursing   |                                 |                   |
| <b>First CAP Approval Date</b>   | 11 June 2014  | <b>Valid from</b>               | 01 September 2013 |
| <b>Revision Cap Approval Date</b>  | V9.1- 29 May 2014<br>V9.2- 12 December 2015<br>V9.3- 08 June 2015<br>V9.6- 07 April 2016<br>V9.10- 07 December 2016                           | <b>Revised with effect from</b> | 01 September 2016 |
| <b>Valid until:</b>  | 01 September 2018   |                                 |                   |
| <b>Version</b>   | 9.6   |                                 |                   |

## Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme focuses on preparing individuals to become competent, flexible and accountable veterinary nurses. The student will gain a strong educational basis, integrated with professional competencies to enable them to progress in their career. The student will gain a working understanding and develop a critical awareness of the problems and/or new insights in the field of veterinary nursing science, including issues pertaining to the area of animal health, nutrition and nursing techniques. As independent learners, the BSc (Hons) student will develop analytical and reflective skills to apply within their careers and graduates may continue in academic study and/or enter employment, and upon completion will be eligible to register as a Veterinary Nurse.

The programme will prepare the learner with a foundation for lifelong learning and:

- 1 Build on basic scientific principles to develop a knowledge and understanding of the animal in health and disease and use this knowledge to study animals in the context of present day veterinary industry and nursing environment;
- 2 Provide students with the opportunity to think constructively and critically, discuss and evaluate concepts and theories in the field of veterinary nursing science, propose sound and reasoned solutions to problems and show clear developments of these skills;
- 3 Develop vocational skills, knowledge and understanding which enable students to be competent to the most recent PSRB industry standards (RCVS, LANTRA);
- 4 Provide a higher level of qualification which is still relevant to veterinary nursing and facilitate graduates registering as a Veterinary Nurse;
- 5 Assess the abilities of the students in a rigorous and constructive way;
- 6 Meet the needs of the industry sector providing the foundation for a range of careers;
- 7 Provide students with the ability to transfer skills to different working environments and enable students to be adaptable to the changing demands of veterinary business;
- 8 Develop skills and qualities appropriate to all aspects of personal and working life by completing part of their study in a work environment;
- 9 Provide students with an intellectual challenge based on a scientific and analytical approach;
- 10 Provide high quality education and professional development, supported by a strong base of creative and applicable research;
- 11 Enable students to progress into postgraduate study or research.

### Programme requirements for the purposes of the Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR)

To successfully pass this programme the student must achieve all of the learning outcomes identified in the modules, this includes a placement module of a maximum of 52 weeks (2100 hours) completed in a veterinary practice setting.

The veterinary practice setting allows students to develop their practical veterinary nursing competencies in a variety of nursing contexts, in addition the opportunity to develop career long professional relationships and future employment opportunities forms a significant part of the work based learning experience.

The Veterinary Nursing modules validated as part of this programme are accredited by the professional body, The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and successful completion allows recognition and entry to the Veterinary Nurses register.

### Part 3: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

**Learning Outcomes:**

|   | Anatomy for Veterinary Nurses   | Animal Husbandry for Veterinary Nurses | Professional Veterinary Nursing Practice | Patient Care 1 for Veterinary Nurses | Placement Preparation for Veterinary Nurses | Pharmacy Management for Veterinary Nurses | Placement for Veterinary Nurses | Diagnostics for Veterinary Nurses | Surgical and Anaesthesia Practice for Veterinary Nurses | Patient Care 2 for Veterinary Nurses | Reflective Veterinary Nursing Practice | Undergraduate Research Process | Animal Therapy 1 | The Professional Veterinary Nurse | Undergraduate Independent Study | Undergraduate Dissertation OR Applied Research Project AND | Investigative Skills for the Successful Undergraduate | Equine Ethics and Welfare | Applied Business Management | Animal Therapy 2 | Developments in Animal Science |
|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>A) Knowledge and understanding of:</b> |   |  |  |                                      |   |   |                                 |                                   |   |                                      |  |                                |                  |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |
| 1   | The principles which relate theory to practice in veterinary nursing science and related animal practice.       | √                                      | √  | √                                    | √   | √   | √                               | √                                 | √   | √                                    | √                                      |                                |                  | √                                 |                                 |  |   |                           |                             | √                | √                              |
| 2   | A sound knowledge of anatomical, physiological and nutritional principles related to animal health and disease. | √                                      | √  |                                      | √   |   | √                               | √                                 | √   | √                                    | √                                      |                                |                  |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  | √                              |
| 3   | Principles behind the healing process in animals and common diseases and malfunctions of the body systems.      | √                                      | √  |                                      | √   |   | √                               | √                                 | √   | √                                    | √                                      |                                |                  |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             | √                | √                              |
| 4   | Legislative, ethical and welfare issues in treating animals.  |  | √  | √                                    | √   |   | √                               | √                                 | √   | √                                    | √                                      |                                |                  | √                                 |                                 |  | √   | √                         |                             | √                | √                              |
| 5   | The ability to apply underpinning principles of nursing techniques to animals in health and sickness.           | √                                      | √  |                                      | √   |   | √                               | √                                 | √   | √                                    | √                                      |                                | √                | √                                 |                                 |  | √   |                           |                             | √                |                                |
| 6   | The purpose and relevance of IT applications and interpersonal relationships to the modern veterinary practice. |  |  | √                                    |   |   | √                               |                                   |   |                                      | √                                      |                                |                  | √                                 |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |
| 7   | Business organisation in relation to the veterinary practice.   |  |  | √                                    |   |   | √                               |                                   |   |                                      |  |                                |                  | √                                 |                                 |  |   |                           | √                           |                  |                                |
| 8   | Academic skills to enable further study at honours level.   | √                                      | √  | √                                    | √   | √   | √                               | √                                 | √   | √                                    | √                                      | √                              |                  | √                                 | √                               | √  | √   | √                         | √                           | √                | √                              |
| <b>B) Intellectual Skills:</b>            |   |  |  |                                      |   |   |                                 |                                   |   |                                      |  |                                |                  |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |
| 1   | Seek out, describe and interpret information in the field of Veterinary Nursing and Animal Health.              | √                                      | √  | √                                    | √   | √   | √                               | √                                 | √   | √                                    | √                                      | √                              | √                | √                                 | √                               | √  | √   | √                         |                             | √                | √                              |
| 2   | Describe, interpret and organise data which can be used to defend an opinion formed on the basis of evidence.   |  | √  | √                                    | √   | √   | √                               |                                   | √   | √                                    | √                                      | √                              |                  | √                                 | √                               | √  | √   |                           |                             |                  |                                |

| <b>Learning Outcomes:</b>                           |   |                               |  |  |                                      |   |   |                                 |                                   |   |                                      |  |                                |                  |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
|---|---|-------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|--|
|   |   | Anatomy for Veterinary Nurses | Animal Husbandry for Veterinary Nurses | Professional Veterinary Nursing Practice | Patient Care 1 for Veterinary Nurses | Placement Preparation for Veterinary Nurses | Pharmacy Management for Veterinary Nurses | Placement for Veterinary Nurses | Diagnostics for Veterinary Nurses | Surgical and Anaesthesia Practice for Veterinary Nurses | Patient Care 2 for Veterinary Nurses | Reflective Veterinary Nursing Practice | Undergraduate Research Process | Animal Therapy 1 | The Professional Veterinary Nurse | Undergraduate Independent Study | Undergraduate Dissertation OR Applied Research Project AND | Investigative Skills for the Successful Undergraduate | Equine Ethics and Welfare | Applied Business Management | Animal Therapy 2 | Developments in Animal Science |  |
| 3   | Apply given techniques/methods accurately to a well-defined problem, draw appropriate conclusions and make recommendations. | ✓                             | ✓                                      | ✓  | ✓                                    | ✓   | ✓   | ✓                               | ✓                                 | ✓   | ✓                                    | ✓                                      | ✓                              | ✓                | ✓                                 | ✓                               | ✓  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 4   | Demonstrate the ability to identify, describe and analyse problem situations when in practice.                              |                               |  |  |                                      |   | ✓   |                                 |                                   | ✓   |                                      |  |                                | ✓                | ✓                                 | ✓                               | ✓  | ✓   |                           |                             | ✓                |                                |  |
| 5   | Demonstrate skills of analysis and decision making when discussing modern nursing techniques.                               |                               |  | ✓  |                                      |   | ✓   |                                 |                                   | ✓   |                                      |  |                                | ✓                |                                   |                                 | ✓  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 6   | Reflect on actions and priorities and formulate effective strategies for achieving goals.                                   |                               |  |  |                                      |   | ✓   |                                 |                                   | ✓   |                                      |  |                                | ✓                |                                   |                                 | ✓  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 7   | Understand and apply numerical conventions, interpreting trends and data.   |                               |  |  |                                      | ✓   |   | ✓                               |                                   |   | ✓                                    |  |                                | ✓                | ✓                                 | ✓                               | ✓  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 8   | Debate issues in relation to more general ethical perspectives.   | ✓                             | ✓                                      | ✓  |                                      | ✓   | ✓   | ✓                               | ✓                                 | ✓   | ✓                                    |  |                                | ✓                |                                   |                                 |  | ✓   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| <b>C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills:</b>    |   |                               |  |  |                                      |   |   |                                 |                                   |   |                                      |  |                                |                  |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 1   | Apply practical animal nursing skills, using knowledge and understanding based on scientific principles.                    | ✓                             | ✓                                      | ✓  | ✓                                    | ✓   | ✓   | ✓                               | ✓                                 | ✓   | ✓                                    |  |                                |                  |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 2   | Be competent to relevant industry standards.  | ✓                             | ✓                                      | ✓  | ✓                                    | ✓   | ✓   | ✓                               | ✓                                 | ✓   | ✓                                    |  |                                | ✓                |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 3   | Recognise moral/ethical dilemmas and issues.  |                               | ✓                                      | ✓  | ✓                                    | ✓   | ✓   | ✓                               | ✓                                 | ✓   | ✓                                    |  |                                | ✓                |                                   | ✓                               | ✓  | ✓   |                           |                             |                  | ✓                              |  |
| 4   | Be adaptable to the changing demands of a veterinary practice and individuals who engage with it.                           |                               |  | ✓  |                                      | ✓   | ✓   |                                 |                                   | ✓   |                                      |  |                                | ✓                |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| <b>D) Transferable skills and other attributes:</b> |   |                               |  |  |                                      |   |   |                                 |                                   |   |                                      |  |                                |                  |                                   |                                 |  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 1   | Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means.  | ✓                             | ✓                                      | ✓  | ✓                                    | ✓   | ✓   | ✓                               | ✓                                 | ✓   | ✓                                    |  |                                | ✓                |                                   |                                 | ✓  |   | ✓                         | ✓                           |                  |                                |  |
| 2   | Reflect upon academic, vocational and professional performance.   |                               |  |  |                                      |   | ✓   |                                 |                                   | ✓   |                                      |  | ✓                              | ✓                |                                   |                                 | ✓  |   |                           |                             |                  |                                |  |
| 3   | Utilise problem solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations.  | ✓                             | ✓                                      | ✓  | ✓                                    | ✓   | ✓   | ✓                               | ✓                                 | ✓   | ✓                                    |  |                                | ✓                |                                   | ✓                               | ✓  |   | ✓                         |                             |                  |                                |  |

| <b>Learning Outcomes:</b> |  | <b>Anatomy for Veterinary Nurses</b>          |   |   |  |  |  |  | <b>The Professional Veterinary Nurse</b>                       |   |   |                                       |                         |  |   |                                  |                                    |                         |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
|                           |  | <b>Animal Husbandry for Veterinary Nurses</b> | <b>Professional Veterinary Nursing Practice</b> | <b>Patient Care 1 for Veterinary Nurses</b> | <b>Placement Preparation for Veterinary Nurses</b> | <b>Pharmacy Management for Veterinary Nurses</b> | <b>Placement for Veterinary Nurses</b> | <b>Diagnostics for Veterinary Nurses</b> | <b>Surgical and Anaesthesia Practice for Veterinary Nurses</b> | <b>Patient Care 2 for Veterinary Nurses</b> | <b>Reflective Veterinary Nursing Practice</b> | <b>Undergraduate Research Process</b> | <b>Animal Therapy 1</b> | <b>Undergraduate Independent Study</b> | <b>Undergraduate Dissertation OR Applied Research Project AND Investigative Skills for the Successful Undergraduate</b> | <b>Equine Ethics and Welfare</b> | <b>Applied Business Management</b> | <b>Animal Therapy 2</b> |
| 4                         | Respond to changing demands in the workplace.  |   |   |   |  |  | √                                      |  |  |   | √   |                                       | √                       |  | √   |                                  |                                    |                         |
| 5                         | Manage time effectively, prioritise workloads and recognise and manage personal emotions and stress.   | √   | √   | √   | √  | √  | √                                      | √  | √  | √   | √   |                                       | √                       | √                                      | √   | √                                | √                                  | √                       |
| 6                         | Understand career opportunities and challenges ahead and begin to plan a career path.  |   |   | √   |  | √  | √                                      |  |  |   | √   |                                       | √                       |  | √   |                                  | √                                  | √                       |
| 7                         | Use information management skills, for example: information technology, library resources, the use of information technology in the workplace. | √   | √   | √   | √  | √  | √                                      | √  | √  | √   | √   | √                                     | √                       | √                                      | √   | √                                | √                                  | √                       |

**Part 4: Student Learning and Student Support**

The purpose of the programme is to provide a balance of vocational and academic study that is intellectually challenging, vocationally relevant, and provides a foundation for pursuing a career within veterinary nursing and animal management. The programme encompasses the Veterinary Nursing Occupational Standards (LANTRA) and the RCVS Day One Skills and Competencies for Veterinary Nurses and, on successful completion of the programme, the student is able to register as a qualified veterinary nurse.

In the honours degree programme, academic knowledge and understanding will reinforce and support the development of vocational skills to equip the student with the skills and knowledge relevant to their employment and to the needs of employers. There has been substantial dialogue with the veterinary industry and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) thus identifying current needs in Veterinary Nursing and associated professions. Only on successful completion of all of the compulsory modules including the placements, and graduating, will the student become a qualified veterinary nurse and be awarded BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Science (SW). The programme design is unique to ensure the best learning experience for students.

Core modules in year 1 provide the student with a basic understanding of veterinary nursing techniques as well as developing investigative skills for research. This knowledge is expanded in the subsequent modules at level II. Students have the opportunity to study the principles of veterinary nursing science, and apply these across a wide range of animals. The diversity of experience and transferable skills will give BSc (Hons) graduates a good foundation for Continuing Professional Development.

There is a maximum of 52 weeks (2100 hours) of work experience built in to the programme which consolidates the students' academic knowledge whilst giving the student the opportunity to develop practical skills required in the industry. This placement is inextricably linked to the achievement of the RCVS Day One skills in Veterinary Nursing which is a requirement for students to achieve the BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Science (SW).

The student, whilst on placement, will produce reflective reports. The reports will develop the learner's ability to evaluate their own academic, vocational and professional performance with direct feedback from the placement provider.

Students are provided with placement opportunities, and are supported through study skills sessions and visiting speakers. The Associate Faculty must obtain permission from the Training Practice's (TP) Primary Centre before the student can commence their placement.

The professional and vocational nature of this programme requires that students are fit to practice and enter the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Veterinary Nursing Register on graduation from the university. If learners are deemed to be unfit to practice at any point during their programme of studies the current version of the University 'Fitness to Practice' policy will be invoked to protect the integrity of the award.

Learners will be supported throughout the programme through online web-based support and Digital Collection and individual tutorial sessions with a designated tutor.

Through complementary studies, students are able to acquire professional qualifications such as manual handling, first aid, health and safety, and risk assessment. Opportunities for learners to develop their information technology skills are again available through complementary studies.

#### ***Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)***

This programme is supported by a VLE where students will be able to find all necessary programme/module information. Direct links to information sources will also be provided from within the VLE.

To support learner's career preparations, careers personnel visit Hartpury on a regular basis and the students can use all the on line resources as well. Tutors will also offer subject specific careers advice through module sessions or individual tutorials. Careers Fairs are arranged periodically to allow students to engage directly with employers from the industry sector.

#### **Description of any Distinctive Features**

- 1 The purpose of the programme is to provide a balance of vocational and academic study that is intellectually challenging, vocationally relevant, and provides a foundation for pursuing a career within the veterinary and animal based sector; on successful completion of the programme, the student may register as a qualified veterinary nurse.
- 2 Learners will have the opportunity to establish and refine their professional competencies.
- 3 The programme reinforces academic knowledge and understanding, whilst supporting the development of vocational skills to equip the student with the skills and knowledge relevant to their employment. There has been substantial employer input in the design of the programme through vocational panels representing employers from the local area, thus identifying employer's needs and current skills shortages in veterinary nursing.
- 4 The programme has been designed to build on the competencies of a wide spectrum of students. The programme delivery maximises benefits of co-teaching with specialised seminars and practical sessions.
- 5 Students undertaking an Honours degree will study alongside Foundation degree students for many of their modules. Lectures and practical work may be shared, and students benefit from the differing strengths and experiences of each student cohort. Separate seminar work, assessment and tutorials given maintain the distinction between the two programmes.
- 6 For the purposes of training, students are required to enroll with The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons as a student veterinary nurse.

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 7  | In order to complete the programme and gain the highest award title; BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Science (SW) students must achieve all University module assessments, achieve (where required by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Veterinary Nursing Byelaws) RCVS examinations, and complete a maximum of 52 weeks/2100 hours (minimum) work placement in an RCVS approved veterinary nursing training practice and complete a minimum of 94 weeks of training from RCVS enrolment to UWE graduation.  |
| 8  | Students must be eligible to register with The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons prior to graduation.  |
| 9  | A maximum of 52 weeks/2100 hours (minimum) work placement is a compulsory and essential feature. The placement incorporates the completion of the RCVS Day One Skills within the relevant placement module. The students are supported by the Veterinary Nursing Team to develop their skills and prepare for placement before commencement. During placement students have continued support via tutor visits and, the placements are supported/co-ordinated by the College Primary Centre and the Placement Co-ordinator. College contacts and expertise are used to ensure students gain the most from this important part of the programme. |
| 10 | The programme may require students to undertake the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons examinations, written and or OSCE practicals.  |
| 11 | The distinctive nature of this programme means that students will incur additional costs over and above the expected University fees, this includes costs for return to college during placement (travel and accommodation) RCVS enrolment and examination fees where necessary, placement accommodation and travel, Veterinary Nursing uniforms etc.   |
| 12 | The fourth year of the programme allows learners to develop further their professional skills, with particular reference to professional obligations, the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct and Continuing Professional Development.   |

#### **Part 5: Assessment**

Approved variant to University [Academic Regulations and Procedures](#)

Students are required to gain a minimum of 40% in each component and element in any module that refers to either the current Veterinary Nursing National Occupational Standards and or RCVS Day one skills. No compensation or condonement may be applied to these modules.

Approved variant to University Academic Regulations and Procedures under B9 in order to meet professional body requirements. The requirement is that, in order to pass each module, students gain a minimum of 40% in each component and element in any module that refers to either the current Veterinary Nursing National Occupational Standards and or RCVS Day One skills for Veterinary Nurses. There will be no compensation or condonement applied to these modules, with the exception of the module titled The Professional Veterinary Nurse.

#### **Assessment Strategy**

Assessment strategy to enable the learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:

Assessments will take place throughout the programme and appropriate assessments will be used at each level to test both theoretical understanding and practical ability.

In line with the College's commitment to facilitating equal opportunities, a student may apply for alternative means of assessment if appropriate. Each application will be considered on an individual basis taking into account learning and assessment needs. For further information regarding this please refer to the VLE.

## Assessment Map

The programme encompasses a range of **assessment methods** including; written examinations, practical examinations, practical skills assessments, oral assessment/presentations, written assignments. These are detailed in the following assessment map:

### Assessment Map for BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Science (SW)

|                                   |   | Type of assessment* |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     |                    |                  |              |           |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------|
|                                   |   | Unseen Written Exam | Open Book Written Exam | In-class Written Test | Practical Exam | Practical Skills Assessment | Oral assessment and/or presentation | Written Assignment | Report / Project | Dissertation | Portfolio |
| <b>Compulsory Modules Level 1</b> | Anatomy for Veterinary Nurses                             | A (50)              |                        | B (50)                |                |                             |                                     |                    |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Animal Husbandry for Veterinary Nurses                    | A (50)              |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     | B (50)             |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Professional Veterinary Nursing Practice                  |                     |                        |                       |                |                             | A (50)                              | B (50)             |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Patient Care 1 for Veterinary Nurses                      | A (25)              |                        |                       | A (25)         |                             |                                     | B (50)             |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Placement Preparation for Veterinary Nurses               |                     |                        |                       | A (50)         |                             |                                     | B (50)             |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Pharmacy Management for Veterinary Nurses                 | A (50)              |                        |                       |                |                             | B(50)                               |                    |                  |              |           |
| <b>Compulsory Modules Level 2</b> | Placement for Veterinary Nurses                           |                     |                        |                       | A (100)        |                             |                                     |                    |                  |              | B (P/F)   |
|                                   | Diagnostics for Veterinary Nurses                         | A (100)             |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     |                    |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Surgical and Anaesthesia Practice for Veterinary Nurses   | A (100)             |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     |                    |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Patient Care 2 for Veterinary Nurses                      | A (50)              |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     | B (50)             |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Reflective Veterinary Nursing Practice                    |                     |                        |                       |                |                             | A (100)                             |                    |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Undergraduate Research Process                            |                     |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     |                    | A (100)          |              |           |
| <b>Optional Modules Level 2</b>   | Animal Therapy 1  |                     |                        |                       |                |                             | A (100)                             |                    |                  |              |           |
| <b>Compulsory Modules Level 3</b> | The Professional Veterinary Nurse (UINXQV-30-3)           |                     |                        |                       |                |                             | A (50)                              |                    |                  |              | B (50)    |
|                                   | Investigative Skills for the Successful Undergraduate AND |                     |                        | A (50)                |                |                             |                                     |                    | B (50)           |              |           |
|                                   | Applied Research Project OR                               |                     |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     |                    | A (100)          |              |           |
|                                   | Undergraduate Dissertation                                |                     |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     |                    |                  | A (100)      |           |
| <b>Optional Modules Level 3</b>   | Equine Ethics and Welfare                                 |                     |                        |                       |                |                             | A (100)                             |                    |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Applied Business Management                               |                     |                        |                       |                |                             | A (100)                             |                    |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Animal Therapy 2  | A (75)              |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     | B (25)             |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Developments in Animal Science                            | A (100)             |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     |                    |                  |              |           |
|                                   | Undergraduate Independent Study                           |                     |                        |                       |                |                             |                                     |                    | A (100)          |              |           |

\*Assessment should be shown in terms of either **Written Exams**, **Practical exams**, or **Coursework** as indicated by the colour coding above.




## Part 6: Programme Structure

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student**, including:

- 1 level and credit requirements
- 2 interim award requirements
- 3 module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

The current Veterinary Nursing National Occupational Standards (Lantra) and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) Day One Skills for Veterinary Nurses are embedded in the modules that contribute the BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Science. The UWE requirements for the award of the BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Science are assessed through the modules as outlined in the module specifications. The RCVS requirements will be assessed by UWE, within the UWE modules.

\*These modules refer to the current Veterinary Nursing National Occupational Standards and or the RCVS Day one skills

| ENTRY  |                  | Compulsory Modules   | Optional Modules   | Interim Awards  |
|--|------------------|--|--|---|
|  | Year 1 / Level 1 | Anatomy for Veterinary Nurses* (UINXNP-30-1)<br>Animal Husbandry for Veterinary Nurses* (UINXNT-15-1)<br>Professional Veterinary Nursing Practice* (UINXPX-15-1)<br>Patient Care 1 for Veterinary Nurses* UINXPY-30-1)<br>Placement Preparation for Veterinary Nurses* (UINXQ3-15-1)<br>Pharmacy Management for Veterinary Nurses* (UINXQ4-15-1) | Not applicable   | <u>CertHE Veterinary Health Studies</u><br>Credit requirements: 120 credits at level 0 or above of which not less than 100 are at level 1 or above.<br><br><u>DipHE Veterinary Health Studies</u><br>Credit Requirements: 240 credits at level 0 or above of which not less than 220 are at level 1 or above and not less than 100 at level 2 or above. |
|  | Year 2 / Level 2 | Placement for Veterinary Nurses* (UINV6H-45-2)<br>A maximum of 52 weeks (minimum) work placement in an RCVS approved veterinary nursing training practice  | Not applicable   | <u>BSc Veterinary Health Studies</u><br>Credit Requirements: 300 credits at level 0 or above of which not less than 280 are at level 1 or above, not less than 100 at level 2 or above and not less than 60 at level 3 or above.  |
|  | Year 3 / Level 2 | Diagnostics for Veterinary Nurses* (UINXQ6-15-2)<br>Surgical and Anaesthesia Practice for Veterinary Nurses* (UINXQ7-15-2)<br>Patient Care 2 for Veterinary Nurses* (UINXQ8-15-2)<br>Reflective Veterinary Nursing Practice* (UINV6G-15-2)<br>Undergraduate Research Process (UINXU5-15-2)   | Animal Therapy 1 (UINXU4-15-2)   | <u>BSc Veterinary Nursing Science (SW)</u><br>Credit Requirements: 300 credits at level 0 or above of which not less than 280 are at level 1 or above, not less than 100 at level 2 or above and not less than 60 at level 3 or above and RCVS certificate, including all compulsory modules.   |
|  | Year 4 / Level 3 | The Professional Veterinary Nurse (UINXQV-30-3)<br><br>Students need to select 45 credits from the following compulsory modules;<br><br>Undergraduate Dissertation (UINV3R-45-3) OR<br>Applied Research Project (UINV3S-30-3) AND<br>Investigative Skills for the Successful Undergraduate (UINV4Y-15-3)   | Students are normally required to select 45 credits form level 3 optional modules listed below:<br><br>Undergraduate Independent Study (UINV3M-15-3)<br>Equine Ethics and Welfare (UIEV4L-15-3)<br>Applied Business Management (UINXKU-15-3)<br>Animal Therapy 2 (UINV36-15-3)<br>Developments in Animal Science (UINV3G-15-3) | <b>TARGET AWARD:</b><br><u>BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Science (SW)</u><br>Credit Requirements: 360 credits at level 0 or above of which not less than 340 are at level 1 or above, not less than 200 at level 2 or above and not less than 100 at level 3 or above and all the compulsory modules including placement modules.                       |
| <b>GRADUATION</b>  |                  |  |  |   |

## Part 7: Entry Requirements

The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply with the following additions/exceptions:

All suitable applicants will be interviewed prior to an offer being made.

Applicants must provide evidence which demonstrates to the University's satisfaction that they can benefit from study at degree level and are likely to achieve the required standard.

Applicants will have achieved the current specified/published UCAS Tariff Points (to include the nominated subject area) or equivalent.

Students must have achieved five subjects (at Grade C or above) including English, Mathematics and Science at GCSE level, or equivalent.

We also welcome applicants from a diverse range of backgrounds who do not have the entry requirements outlined above. The university will consider applicants on the basis of evidence of personal, professional and educational experience which indicates an applicant's ability to meet the demands of an undergraduate degree programme. Applicants with non-standard entry criteria will be reviewed on an individual basis. This will take the form of an individual interview with members of the programme team and possibly the completion of a set task such as a written assignment. Where appropriate experience or learning has been gained prior to enrolment on the programme RPL/RPEL may be possible.

Applicants whose first language is not English must also gain a minimum IELTS score of 7.0 prior to entry onto the programme and in addition to this provide a NARIC equivalency certificate.

Applicants will undertake an interview with members of the programme team.

## Part 8: Reference Points and Benchmarks

The following subject benchmark statements have been used as a reference point in the design delivery and review of this programme. They have provided guidance for the articulation of the learning outcomes and assessments.

### ***QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Veterinary Nursing***

The Purpose of this Subject Benchmark Statement is to make explicit the nature and academic standards of degrees in the area of veterinary nursing. The statement clarifies the boundaries of the subject area and the specific threshold standards for foundation degrees and bachelor's degrees with honours.

This includes:

- 1 Nature and scope of veterinary nursing
- 2 Subject knowledge and understanding
- 3 Subject specific and generic skills (clinical, technical, personal and professional)
- 4 Teaching, learning and assessment

### ***QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Agriculture, Forestry, Agricultural Sciences, Food Sciences and Consumer Sciences***

- 1 This statement has informed the characteristics of the subject matter and curriculum development of the programme, the programme learning outcomes and the attributes that a graduate of this programme should be able to demonstrate.
- 2 The statement makes explicit the nature and the standard of degree awards in the subject areas of the land-based industries, related applied biological sciences, rural studies and consumer sciences and studies. The statement clarifies the boundaries of each subject area and provides valid frames of reference within which a degree in a discipline should be offered.
- 3 The statement considers programmes that include academically rigorous study of material which will be applicable in the work place and to society, and takes into account the extent to which programmes of study and work allows students entering the higher education system to choose a course with an emphasis suited to their needs and aspirations.

### ***QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Code of Practice for the Assurance of Academic Quality and Standards in Higher Education. Placement Learning (QAA 2007)***

- 1 This document is a code of practice for work-based and placement learning in programmes awarded by UK higher education institutions. It is one of a number of documents, which forms an overall Code

of practice for the guidance of higher education institutions subscribing to the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) and other bodies offering UK higher education.

2

The Code of practice supports quality assurance in higher education and identifies a series of principles covering matters relating to the management of academic quality and standards. It provides a reference point to ensure conscious, active and systematic assurance of the academic quality and standards of programmes, awards and qualifications.

**University teaching and learning policies**

- 1 University of the West of England Learning and Teaching Strategy;
- 2 University of the West of England Assessment Strategy;
- 3 University of the West of England Work based Learner Policy.

These have been used to ensure that the quality of learning, teaching and assessment on this programme adheres to the university's frame work of academic regulations, procedures and working practices that enable the assurance of academic standards.

**Teaching, Learning and Scholarship Strategy**

Has been used in designing this programme to ensure that the programme is underpinned by the five key principles which aim to enhance the student experience across the Associate Faculty. This programme will provide a high quality experience through a focus on student progression and achievement, academic currency and relevance, innovative delivery and assessment and feedback delivered by appropriately qualified staff who undergo Continuing Professional Development (CPD) that is linked to the UK Professional Standards Framework. The programme team will encourage and support individuals from diverse backgrounds and cultures to enable them to enter higher education and fulfil their potential. The programme adopts a fully integrated and collaborative approach to preparing students for future graduate level employment and to foster the inquiring mind-set, which will ultimately support lifelong learning for the benefit of both the graduate and wider society. The programme promotes an active scholarship culture that incorporates the scholarship of discovery, integration, application and inquiry-based learning that will transform students' understanding of knowledge and research. Students will be encouraged to develop knowledge exchange partnerships by fostering connections with each other as well as local businesses and other community partners.

**Regulatory body**

- 1 LANTRA Veterinary Nursing Occupational Standards;
- 2 RCVS Day One Skills for Veterinary Nurses.

These have been utilised to ensure that the programme content covers all of the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding required to competently carry out the role of a veterinary nurse in veterinary practice.

In addition the following benchmarks have been taken into consideration:

- 1 QAA Veterinary Nursing benchmark statements (on publication);
- 2 QAA Foundation Degree Qualification benchmark;
- 3 Code of Practice for the Assurance of Academic Quality and Standards in Higher Education: Placement Learning;
- 4 The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England Wales and Northern Ireland - Foundation Degree QAA document;
- 5 University Teaching and Learning Policies: University of the West of England Learning and Teaching Strategy;
- 6 Employer interaction/feedback: Field of Animal Science Vocational Panel meetings;
- 7 The University Framework;
- 8 Overview report on foundation degree reviews;
- 9 QAA guidelines for preparing for validations;
- 10 Equine Industry Occupational and Functional Map Draft Version 1 by LANTRA – Sector Skills - Council for environmental and land-based sector;
- 11 LANTRA Foundation Degree Sectoral Framework for Animal Health and Welfare;
- 12 Equine Industry Occupational and Functional Map Draft Version 1 by LANTRA – Sector Skills Council for environmental and land-based sector;
- 13 LANTRA Foundation Degree Sectoral Framework for Animal Health and Welfare.

What methods have been used in the development of this programme to evaluate and improve the quality and standards of learning? This could include consideration of stakeholder feedback from, for example current students, graduates and employers.

In order to facilitate the development of this programme and to evaluate and improve the quality and standards of learning, feedback from the professional body, current students, graduates and employers has been and continues to be requested, considered and utilised.

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications, available on the [University's website](#).