

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# VETERINARY MEDICINE

### TEACHING & ASSESSMENT

<b>How is the first semester structured?</b>	<p>You would have 4 modules in your first Semester. A typical 15 credit module requires 33 hours of lectures, 41 hours of practice, 3 hours of workshop and 73 hours of self study, so around 150 hours in total. OR another example 27hours lectures, 24 hour practical and 99 hours self study.</p> <p>During the first semester you split your time between professional skills (communication, teamwork), animal handling, one anatomy and physiology module and one cells and genes in context module, where you start learning about 'normal'. You'll undertake anatomy practicals, workshops, small-group teaching, lectures, and of course social activities! Timetable will be about 25-30 hours contact time per week.</p>
<b>Is teaching delivered in small groups or large lecture theatres?</b>	<p>We only have two lecture theatres and lots of small group teaching spaces so the emphasis is certainly not on lectures! There are still some lectures but these tend to be pretty interactive. We also have seminars and case-based learning sessions.</p>
<b>Are all lectures recorded?</b>	<p>As we were able to design our buildings we fitted them out with state-of-the-art recording equipment, so each lecture is filmed from back of the room, as well as capturing the slides and voice of the lecturer.</p>
<b>Are there on campus facilities for large animals?</b>	<p>We do have large animals onsite in our large animal Veterinary Clinical Skills building. We also offer hands-on experience off campus, some around an hour away by coach. We organise transportation or reimburse you if train travel is required.</p>
<b>How much animal contact time is there in the first year?</b>	<p>In the 1st year you spend a lot of time with live animals, learning animal handling and restraint skills across species.</p>
<b>When do exams and assessments take place?</b>	<p>In each semester you'll be doing a number of modules. Each module has a few assessments, some of which include coursework and nearly all include a written exam as well. The 'exam times' for written exams are at the end of the semester, so at the end of January/early February for Semester 1, and May/June for Semester 2.</p>
<b>What are Clinical Oral and Practical (COP) exams?</b>	<p>The COP exams are 20-minute long oral exams where students are given some case details and need to talk through their interpretation of the findings. It's a chance for us to assess their clinical reasoning ability, our students do seem to enjoy them.</p>
<b>Do you have a personal tutor?</b>	<p>We have a personal tutoring system, so each first year is allocated a personal tutor who is with them until year 4 at which point they have a different clinical tutor for years 4 and 5. We also have peer support scheme that you can contact your peers with any difficulties you may have.</p>

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#### COURSE OPTIONS

<b>Is it possible to do an intercalated year?</b>	Yes, you can undertake this year after Year 2.
<b>Do you offer accelerated entry into Year 2 for applicants with relevant first degree?</b>	Not at the moment.
<b>How soon do we learn about surgery?</b>	From the first year – you cover functional anatomy which is the basics of surgery. First year anatomy practicals often includes our clinicians teaching as well. Our surgical teaching comes in our third year, following two years of normal and abnormal – in the third year you start to learn how to fix them!

#### PLACEMENTS

<b>Do you have complete a certain number of weeks practical experience?</b>	As per RCVS guidelines students are expected to carry out 38 weeks of extramural studies (EMS). However this was under review before Covid-19, so is likely to change somewhat in the near future.
<b>Can I undertake placements abroad?</b>	Yes, you can do some overseas EMS placements. For clinical EMS (we ask for 12 weeks animal husbandry, and 26 weeks clinical currently) we expect the vet practice to be of an equivalent standard to UK practice.
<b>When do students undertake placements?</b>	As with all UK schools you need to do this in your 'holiday' times. In a 52 week year, there are two 15-week semesters so you'd have plenty of time to fit it in! However, as mentioned above, EMS is likely to change soon.
<b>Are we given help to find placements?</b>	We have a dedicated Vet placements team, students can meet them every Wednesday in the atrium. Also your personal tutors guide you as well.
<b>How do 5<sup>th</sup> year rotations work?</b>	We call our final year 'IMR' (intramural rotations). This consists of 7 4-week placements where you go and work with a partner practice. In this practice there are trained Clinical Instruction Mentors (CIMs) who assess and develop you. You get to put forward preferences for where you want to go at the start. Our team of Veterinary Clinical Teaching Fellows (VCTFs) come out and meet you at the practice every other week to see how you're getting on and help you plan your development. There is a budget to cover your travel and accommodation during this time.

#### OTHER

<b>What makes Surrey different from other Vet Schools?</b>	A number of things... Our focus on Partnership working sets us apart. Plus, because we're a new school, we've been able to design our buildings and course to do what we want it to, so we can create day-1 ready vets who can adapt in the future. Also, we are truly unique to have small teaching practical workshops in the 4th year, its very hands on and you are almost consolidating during your 5th year in real practice setting.
<b>I know the course is RCVS accredited but are their plans to pursue other accreditations?</b>	Yes, we're looking at our next accreditation steps, over the next few years we'll be looking at EAEVE and AVMA accreditation as well. Many of these accrediting boards are linked, for example RCVS accredited UK schools can practice in Australia. Brexit may affect EU recognition of RCVS accredited UK degrees, but we're not sure yet.
<b>Do you have specific careers fairs?</b>	Yes, we hold these in Year 1, 3 and 5.

