Assessment & Award Regulations

1.	**Course** Masters of Veterinary Medicine, MVetMed
2.	**Year** All Years
3.	**Applicable to:** Students commencing from July 2018
4.	**Aspects of Course Covered by Examination** • Specialty knowledge acquisition • Clinical / Pathology / Professional skills • Research, scientific writing and presentation skills
5.	**Form of Examination**
5.1.	**Formative** Research module formative opportunities: • Taught course assignments with written and/or verbal feedback • Continuous assessment with verbal feedback of participation in taught sessions • Continuous assessment of participation in and progress of research project with verbal feedback during one to one meetings with research supervisor Didactic modules formative opportunities: • Continuous assessment of participation and performance (including oral presentations) in journal and book clubs (on a weekly basis) by senior clinicians/pathologists • 1st year MCQ examination and oral presentation assessments are formative Clinical modules formative opportunities: • Continuous assessment of case management and participation in clinical rounds (on a daily basis) by senior clinicians/pathologists • The summative work place based assessments (WPBA) and multi-source feedback (MSF) are repeated assessments throughout the clinical modules so feedback for these is also formative the next assessment.
5.2.	**Summative**
5.2.1.	**Progress Assessment** An annual progress assessment led by the supervisor, specialty programme director and an independent external person to evaluate: • Development of clinical competencies and professional behaviours • Rate of progress in respect of research, academic, and study requirements for the programme
5.2.2.	**Modules** Research module summative assessment (third year): • Research project poster presentation OR oral presentation • Research project assessment • Oral defence of research project Didactic module summative assessment (by 1st May of 2nd and 3rd year): • Lead 45 mins critical article(s) appraisal oral presentation • 1hr online MCQ examination Clinical modules summative assessment (by 1st May every year): • 4 x WPBA: choose 1 from Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (MiniCEX) or Case Based Discussion (CbD), and 3 from MiniCEX, CbD or Direct Observation of Practical Skills (DOPS) • 2 x Multi-source feedback (MSF)

6.	**Marking Criteria**
6.1.	The **RVC Common Grading Scheme (Projects)** will be used for the research project submission
6.2.	The **RVC 0-10 Marking Scheme** will be used for the project poster evaluation
6.3.	The **RVC Marking Scheme for Masters Research Project Oral examinations** will be used for marking the oral defence of the research project.
6.4	The **RVC marking scheme for Oral Presentations** will be used for oral research project presentations summatively assessed.
6.5	**Journal Club Oral Presentation** Students' performance will be graded to assess the presenter's oral delivery, as well as ability to critique the study, link prior learning with new information and answer questions about the study. The grades are: Demonstrates excellent competency: Meets expected competency level: Borderline expected competency level: Below expected competency level. An overall result of "Competent" will be given for each Journal Club Oral Presentation performed when there are no grades below expected competency. Any grade of below expected competency will be given a result of 'not yet competent'.
6.6	**Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS)** Students' performance will be graded to assess the categories below: • Preparation • Communication • Technical ability • Wrap up (post procedure management, patient/personnel safety) The grades are: Demonstrates excellent competency: Meets expected competency level: Borderline expected competency level: Below expected competency level. An overall result of "Competent" will be given for each DOPS performed when there are no grades below expected competency. Any grade of below expected competency will be given a result of 'not yet competent'.
6.7	**Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (MiniCEX)** Students' performance will be graded to assess: • Initial approach (introductions) • History and information gathering • Examination • Investigation • Clinical decision making and judgement • Communication with owner, staff • Overall plan • Professionalism The grades are: Demonstrates excellent practice; Should address learning point highlighted below; Must address learning points highlighted below: Further core learning needed. An overall result of "Competent" will be given where there are no grades of 'further core learning needed'. If there are any grades of 'Further core learning needed' an overall result of "Not yet competent" will be given.

6.8	**Case Based Discussion (CbD)** Students' performance will be graded to assess: • Clinical record keeping • Review of investigations • Diagnosis • Treatment • Planning for subsequent care (in-patient or discharge) • Clinical reasoning • Overall clinical care The grades are: Demonstrates excellent practice; Should address learning point highlighted below; Must address learning points highlighted below and Further core learning needed. An overall result of "Competent" will be given where there are no grades of 'further core learning needed'. If there are any grades of 'Further core learning needed' an overall result of "Not yet competent" will be given.
6.9	**Multi Source Feedback (MSF)** Students professionalism, clinical behaviours and skills will be subject to evaluation by colleagues. Where a student has gained no more than one grade of 'Unsatisfactory' from feedback the overall grade of 'Progress' will be given. Where a student has gained two or more grades of "Unsatisfactory" from feedback the grade of "Review Progress" will be given.
6.10	**Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ)** The number of marks available for each type of question will be clearly stated on the examination paper. A question left unanswered or deleted by the candidate will score zero.
7.	**Allocation of Marks** The allocation of marks and credits to modules is described in Annexe A
8.	**Requirements to Progress**
8.1	**First Year Annual Progress Assessment (all students)** In order to pass the first Annual Progress Assessment the student is required to have**:** Passed the first Clinical module AND Completed the First Year Didactic module formative MCQ examination and oral presentation AND Completed the formative assessments for the taught components of the Research module that occur prior to 1st May in the First Year AND Passed the Year 1 annual progress assessment, including satisfactory clinical progress (with feedback from clinical supervisor), academic progress and research project progress (with feedback on submitted research abstract and from research supervisor)

8.2	**Second Year Annual Progress Assessment (all students)** In order to pass the second Annual Progress Assessment the student is required to have: Passed the second Clinical module AND Gained a mark 50% or more in the Second Year Didactic module summative MCQ examination AND gain a 'competent' mark in Journal Club Oral Presentation AND Completed the formative assessments for the taught components of the Research module that occur prior to May 1st in the Second Year AND Passed the Year 2 Annual Progress Assessment, including satisfactory clinical progress (with feedback from clinical supervisor), academic progress and research project progress (with assessment of project poster presentation or oral presentation, and feedback from research supervisor)
8.3	**Interim Progress Assessment (as required for individual students)** A student is required to attend an Interim Progress Assessment if deemed necessary by the supervisor or if the student has received a "Review Progress" as a result of Multi Source Feedback in a module. An Interim Progress Assessment is led by the supervisor, specialty programme director and an independent external person.
8.3.1	**Outcome of Interim Progress Assessments** The outcome of an Interim Progress Assessment will be one of the following: 1. Satisfactory progress: the student should proceed 2. Satisfactory progress with advice: the student should proceed 3. Progress Under Review: further and/or ongoing concerns identified, with advice and recommendations given in regard to addressing these before the student can progress. Student will be referred to the SSPG (Student Support & Progress Group) at this stage for advice and support in addressing these concerns. A further progress assessment meeting will be scheduled within three months. If satisfactory progress has not been achieved by the 3 month follow-up, the student will be will be required to relinquish the course.
9.	**Requirements to Pass**
9.1	**Clinical Modules 1, 2 and 3** To have gained a mark of Competent/Satisfactory/Progress from each summative practical assessment
9.2	**Didactic Modules** To have gained a mark of 50% or more from each MCQ summative examination and to have gained a mark of 'competent' in each summative Journal Club Oral Presentation
9.3	**Research Module** To have gained an aggregated average of 50% or more from the summative assessment activities
9.4	**Masters of Veterinary Medicine Overall** To have completed the full clinical training as per the duration of the residency AND To have successfully completed all progress assessments AND To have passed individual modules amounting to 180 credits

10.	**Consequences of Failure**
10.1.	**Annual Progress Assessment** The outcome of an Annual Progress Assessment will be one of the following: 1. Satisfactory progress: the student should proceed 2. Satisfactory progress with advice: the student should proceed 3. Progress Under Review: further and/or ongoing concerns identified, with advice and recommendations given in regard to addressing these before the student can progress. Student will be referred to the SSPG (Student Support & Progress Group) at this stage for advice and support in addressing these concerns. A further progress assessment meeting will be scheduled within three months. If satisfactory progress has not been achieved by the 3 month follow-up, the student will be will be required to relinquish the course.
10.2.	**Failure of Modules**
10.2.1.	A student who achieves less than 50% in a Didactic module summative MCQ assessment or a 'not yet competent' in a summative Journal Club Oral Presentation will be required to resit the assessment at the next available opportunity, unless already taken for second time.
10.2.2.	A student who achieves less than 50% for the Research module will be required to resit **all** assessment activities at the next available opportunity, unless already taken for second time. The mark obtained for any module where an assessment activity has been repeated, will be awarded a mark no greater than 50%.
10.2.3	A student who has not achieved a mark of Competent/Satisfactory/Progress in a practical assessment will be given further opportunity to gain competency. Marks/Grades from items that have already been passed will be carried forward.
10.2.4	A student who fails a module, having taken the assessments for a second time or who has not submitted sufficient competent practical assessments for each module is required to relinquish the course and will have a right of appeal as described in College Regulations.
11.	**Classification** This award is not classified.
12.	**Disclosure of Marks** Results will be published by candidate number.
13.	**Absence From In-Course Assessment**
13.1.	Where a student has an *allowable* absence, s/he will be marked absent (A) from a summative assessment and permitted to defer the sitting.
13.2.	An allowable absence is one that is for a significant unforeseeable event such as illness.
13.3.	Any other foreseeable absence will only be considered allowable if agreed by SSPG (Student Support & Progress Group) and this will only apply in very strictly limited circumstances. A student absent for any other reason will be awarded 0 (zero) for the assessment.

14.	**Late Submission of Work** Reports, Projects and Assignments submitted after the due deadline will be subject to the late submission policy set out in the College's General Assessment Regulations. Within this course all written assignments (e.g. research project) are classed as major pieces of work (50% minimum mark).

Annexe A

Module Title	Credit Value	Assessments	Assessment Weighting	Compulsory for	Optional For
Clinical 1	30	1. MiniCEX or CbD 2. Three of: MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS 3. Two MSF	Pass/Fail Pass/Fail Progress/Review	All	
Clinical 2	30	1. MiniCEX or CbD 2. Three of: MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS 3. Two MSF	Pass/Fail Pass/Fail Progress/Review	All	
Clinical 3	30	1. MiniCEX or CbD 2. Three of: MiniCEX or CbD or DOPS 3. Two MSF	Pass/Fail Pass/Fail Progress/Review	All	
Didactic	45	1. 2nd year 45 mins oral presentation 2. 2nd year 1hr MCQ examination 3. 3rd year 45 mins oral presentation 4. 3rd year 1hr MCQ examination	25% 25% 25% 25%	All	
Research	45	1. Poster or oral presentation 2. Written project submission (word count <5000) 3. Oral defence of project	10% 80% 10%	All	