





*Unbeatable*  
**TRAINING**

FOR A

**REWARDING**

**CAREER**

**UNDERGRADUATE  
NURSING COURSES**

The RVC is the UK's only independent veterinary school and we aim to provide the best possible training facilities for nurses of the highest calibre. You'll learn from inspiring and enthusiastic experts and will benefit from a hands-on learning environment where you'll master all the essential nursing skills and techniques.

# BSc Veterinary Nursing

## D313



There is perhaps nowhere better in the world to explore the practice and the theory of veterinary nursing than at the RVC. This exciting and engaging degree offers at least 60 weeks' hands-on training at a range of excellent veterinary practices (including our own hospitals), and prepares you to take on all sorts of challenging and stimulating responsibilities.

### D313: UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

Taught at our Hawkshead Campus, this is a four-year degree. For three of those years, you will study the same modules as students on our well-established foundation degree and train with other future veterinary professionals. At the end of three years you will obtain a globally-recognised professional qualification, which will entitle you to practice as a qualified Registered Veterinary Nurse.

In your final year, you will hone your research techniques and choose from a range of cutting-edge modules taught by RVC veterinary nurse educators and world-renowned clinicians from the Queen Mother Hospital. Alongside your knowledge of the advances in veterinary nursing, your analytical and communication skills will evolve and by the time you graduate you will be:

- Conversant with the science of the healthy and sick animal, and the science of nursing
- Equipped to be a lifelong learner – an essential attribute in a rapidly-changing clinical environment
- Able to work as an equal intellectual partner in the veterinary team
- Adaptable, and thus able to perform a variety of roles in practice and beyond.

For full course details please visit: [www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-veterinary-nursing](http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bsc-veterinary-nursing), or for specific course information please email us at: [vnschool@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:vnschool@rvc.ac.uk)

### HOW TO APPLY

Applications for admission to BSc Veterinary Nursing should be made through UCAS by 15 January for entry in the following September. See the UCAS website for further information about how to apply. See [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

Mature and international students are encouraged to apply, as are people with equivalent qualifications to those listed. As this course is regulated by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), all mature and international students who have not already applied to the RVC should verify with the RCVS that the qualifications they hold meet their requirements. Please see: [www.rcvs.org.uk](http://www.rcvs.org.uk)

For more information about applying to the RVC, turn to page 86.

### INTERVIEW

The RVC does not normally offer a place on our BSc Veterinary Nursing course without an interview. These normally take place in February at our Hawkshead campus.

The RVC runs multi mini interviews involving different stations as well as a group exercise. Interviews will be made up of applicants to both the BSc and FdSc courses. Once an interview date has been allocated it will be difficult to rearrange so it is important that you state clearly on your UCAS application any dates that you may be unavailable.

## MAKE THE GRADE

**Please check the website for the most up to date entry qualifications. Those listed below are guidelines.**

**If you are not sure about your qualifications or you are an international student, please contact us.**

**A-Level grades/subjects required:** Grade B Biology (or Human Biology), along with two other subjects at grades CD (excluding General Studies).

**GCSE:** At least 5 grade C or above including grade B in English Language, Maths and a Science.

**BTEC:** DDM overall in National/ Level 3 Extended Diploma in Animal Management or Applied Science considered with specified units required.

**Access to HE Diploma:** Science based Diploma required with a minimum of 15 Level 3 credits in Biology at Merit or higher.

**Scottish Qualifications:** Advanced Higher Biology at grade B. Plus three Highers at grades CCC.

**Cambridge Pre-U:** Three Principal Subjects required at grades M2, P1, P1, including Biology at grade M2.

**Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma:** AL Biology at grade B required, plus one further AL (excluding General Studies) at grades D.

**The Irish Leaving Certificate:** B1 in Higher level Biology plus CCCCC in 5 other Higher level subjects. English Language and Mathematics required at minimum Ordinary Level grade B3.

**International Baccalaureate:** Grades 6,5,4 required at Higher Level, including Biology at grade 6.

**English language requirements:** A good working knowledge of scientific English is essential in order to follow the course,

which includes a significant proportion of oral instruction and written assessments. Applicants whose first language is not English must have an acceptable English Language qualification.

- IELTS score of 7.0 or above with minimum 6.5 in each component
- Pearson Test of English overall score of at least 65

## WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

To apply for the BSc in Veterinary Nursing you will need to have prior work experience in order to have developed animal handling skills and obtained an insight into the work of veterinary nurses. Before you apply, you must have completed the minimum requirements:

- A total of two weeks of work experience (paid or voluntary) in one or more small animal or mixed veterinary practices
- A total of two weeks in a variety of different animal environments (outside of your home environment).

We encourage you to think creatively about these environments and are interested to hear about any experiences that have helped to give you a sense of the veterinary role in the wider world. Examples of such environments might include, but are not limited to: kennels, cattery, animal shelter, rural or city farm, stables, pet shop, lambing, intensive livestock, abattoir, research laboratory, pharmacy, wild life park, zoo, etc. You do not have to have gained experience in all these areas.

You will be asked to complete a Supplementary Application Form in order for us to gain more information about your work experience placements. Further information on this can be found on our website.

For more information or advice on any aspect of our entry requirements, please don't hesitate to contact the Admissions Office. You can telephone us on: +44 (0) 20 7468 5147 or email us at: [admissions@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@rvc.ac.uk)



# Foundation Degree Veterinary Nursing D310



If you are considering a career as a qualified Registered Veterinary Nurse, this is the course that you need to complete. Not only will you secure a professional qualification that will entitle you to practice, you'll also benefit from unbeatable practical training, supported by proven academic excellence.

## D310: UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

The RVC and College of Animal Welfare (CAW) work together to offer a unique foundation degree. At the end of three years you will obtain a globally-recognised professional qualification, which will entitle you to practice as a qualified Registered Veterinary Nurse.

This is a challenging degree programme taught at our Hawkshead Campus that delivers a broad programme of learning and offers a fascinating introduction to veterinary nursing. You'll cover everything from professional development and clinical skills to more advanced modules such as diagnostic techniques. The course prepares you to work as an equal intellectual partner in the veterinary team.

You will also complete at least 60 weeks of practical training at a range of excellent veterinary practices, giving you real insight into the day-to-day role of the veterinary nurse. To ensure fair evaluation, the skills and knowledge you acquire will be assessed in a variety of ways as the course progresses.

Your hard work and commitment will be rewarded by:

- A combined academic and professional qualification in three years
- Guaranteed and fully supported veterinary practice placements
- Access to the RVC state-of-the-art veterinary school facilities
- A chance to train with other future veterinary professionals
- A direct pathway to BSc Veterinary Nursing (subject to satisfactory progress and completion of further assessment)
- Excellent career prospects.

For full course details please visit: [www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/foundation-veterinary-nursing](http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/foundation-veterinary-nursing), or for specific course information please email us at: [vnschool@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:vnschool@rvc.ac.uk)

## HOW TO APPLY

Applications for admission to FdSc Veterinary Nursing should be made through UCAS by 15 January for entry in the following September. See the UCAS website for further information about how to apply. See [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

Mature and international students are encouraged to apply, as are people with equivalent qualifications to those listed. As this course is regulated by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), all mature and international students who have not already applied to the RVC should verify with the RCVS that the qualifications they hold meet their requirements. Please see [www.rcvs.org.uk](http://www.rcvs.org.uk)

For more information about applying to the RVC, turn to page 86.

If you successfully complete the RVC FdSc in Veterinary Nursing, you may transfer on to BSc Veterinary Nursing. You'll need to do a bridging assignment before joining the last year of the BSc Veterinary Nursing degree as a full-time student.

## INTERVIEW

The RVC does not normally offer a place on our FdSc Veterinary Nursing course without an interview. Interviews normally take place in February at our Hawkshead campus.

The RVC runs multi mini interviews involving different stations as well as a group exercise. Interviews will be made up of applicants to both the BSc and FdSc courses. Once an interview date has been allocated it will be difficult to rearrange so it is important that you state clearly on your UCAS application any dates that you may be unavailable.

## MAKE THE GRADE

**Please check the website for the most up to date entry qualifications. Those listed below are guidelines. If you are not sure about your qualifications or you are an international student, please contact us.**

**A-Level grades/subjects required:** Grade D in Biology required, in addition to one other subject at grade D, excluding General Studies. Two AS-Levels at grade D (excluding General Studies) would be accepted in place of a second A-Level.

**AS Level grades/subjects required:** None.

**GCSE:** At least 5 at Grade C including English Language, Maths and a Science.

**BTEC:** National/ Level 3 Extended Diploma in Animal Management or Applied Science considered with MMP overall with specified units required.

**Access to HE Diploma:** Science-based Diploma. Pass with 45 credits at level 3 including a minimum of 15 Level 3 credits in Biology.

**Cambridge Pre-U:** At least 2 Principal Subjects required at grade P2, including Biology.

**Scottish qualifications:** Advanced Higher Level Biology at grade D plus at least two Highers at grades CC.

**Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma:** including A-Level Biology required at grade D plus one other subject (excluding General Studies).

**The Irish Leaving Certificate:** B3 in Higher Level Biology plus two other Higher Level subjects at grade C. English Language, Maths and Physics minimum grade B at Ordinary Level if not taken at Higher level.

**International Baccalaureate:** Grades 4,4,3 required at Higher Level, including Biology at grade 4.

**English language requirements:** A good working knowledge of scientific English is essential in order to follow the course, which includes a significant proportion of oral instruction and written assessments. Applicants whose first language is not English must have an acceptable English Language qualification.

- IELTS score of 7.0 or above with minimum 6.5 in each component
- Pearson Test of English overall score of at least 65

## WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

To apply for the FdSc in Veterinary Nursing you will need to have prior work experience in order to have developed animal handling skills and obtained an insight into the work of veterinary nurses. Before you apply, you must have completed the minimum requirements:

- A total of two weeks of work experience (paid or voluntary) in one or more small animal or mixed veterinary practices
- A total of two weeks in a variety of different animal environments (outside of your home environment).

We encourage you to think creatively about these environments and are interested to hear about any experiences that have helped to give you a sense of the veterinary role in the wider world. Examples of such environments might include, but are not limited to: kennels, cattery, animal shelter, rural or city farm, stables, pet shop, lambing, intensive livestock, abattoir, research laboratory, pharmacy, wildlife park, zoo, etc. You do not have to have gained experience in all these areas.

You will be asked to complete a Supplementary Application Form in order for us to gain more information about your work experience placements. Further information on this can be found on our website.

For more information or advice on any aspect of our entry requirements, please don't hesitate to contact the Admissions Office. You can telephone us on: +44 (0) 20 7468 5147 or email us at: [admissions@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@rvc.ac.uk)

## RVC INSIDER

**Currently in the third year of her BSc Veterinary Nursing degree at Hawkshead, Sam McGaw offers us an insight into life at the RVC.**

### **How would you describe a typical day?**

It varies greatly depending on whether I am in lectures or on placement; When in lectures, I wake up at seven to go to the gym on campus before starting lectures at nine. Lectures are 45 minutes long and tend to finish around four. Sometimes, we have directed learning sessions or seminars in the day too, which allow you to reflect on what you have learned and interact with lecturers a little more. In the evening I do revision or work on my assignment and cook a meal with my friends. Once all the hard work is done I will head to The Buttery (the pub on campus) or have a movie night with my housemates.

When on placement I live the life of a Student Veterinary Nurse. My most recent placement was at the RVC's Queen Mother Hospital based at the Hawkshead Campus. I spent time working on all departments in the hospital and loved every moment of it. In addition to placement, I had to complete the NPL (Nursing Progress Log) and write reflective blogs. My shifts varied depending where I worked, but I often had weekends free and I used them to visit friends and family and relax.

### **Do you have a good social life?**

My social life was at its peak when I was in first year. As I've become older it has been more challenging to balance work and play. I certainly make sure that I find time for myself and my friends – we often have nights out at local club The Forum (University of Hertfordshire's club), which is only 10 minutes away, or head to clubs and gigs in London. There are great transport links into the capital, so it's easy to get to if you fancy a spot of shopping on your day off.

### **Why did you choose to study at the RVC?**

I was initially attracted to the Veterinary Nursing degree at the RVC because of the layout of placements – having them spread out over three years appealed to me more than the 'sandwich year' of placement that many universities and colleges do. I am from Liverpool, so had quite a distance to travel, and as such I didn't visit Hawkshead Campus until I was invited for an interview. When I got here I felt totally at home and was blown away by the friendliness of staff and students, as cheesy as it sounds, everyone really feels like an extended family!

### **Has the RVC met your expectations?**

Studying at the RVC has more than met my expectations in every way. The teaching is excellent and lecturers are professionals who are passionate about their subject and are very approachable. Being taught by esteemed members of the veterinary profession (both nurses and surgeons) who are so enthusiastic certainly makes lectures memorable and helps further my thinking.

### **What are the facilities like?**

I take full advantage of all facilities at university, in particular the gym which is free to use and the library. The library has a wide range of books for both vets and nurses and has quiet rooms which I use for revision.

The computer room is open 24/7 and is especially handy for night owls who do work in the middle of the night! The Clinical Skills Centre is another amazing facility on campus where you can practice practical skills both for placement and OSPVEs (practical exams). It is run by a wonderful team of members who are happy to assist your revision and show you how the experts do it!

### **Do you feel as if you're given enough guidance and support from the College?**

The support given to students is wonderful. The Advice Centre in particular is a very useful resource, whether it is academic or personal support that you are seeking, there are some lovely members of staff working there and one-on-one counselling available for those that need it.

### **What's the best thing about studying at the RVC?**

I personally think the best thing about studying at the RVC is all of the friends that I have made along the way – my housemates are like a family and I know that university would not have been as enjoyable without them.

### **When you graduate, do you think you'll have the skills and knowledge you need for your chosen career?**

Absolutely, I enjoy a well-rounded education at university – the combination of theory modules and placement means that I develop both my academic and practical skills, which will make me a skilled Veterinary Nurse.

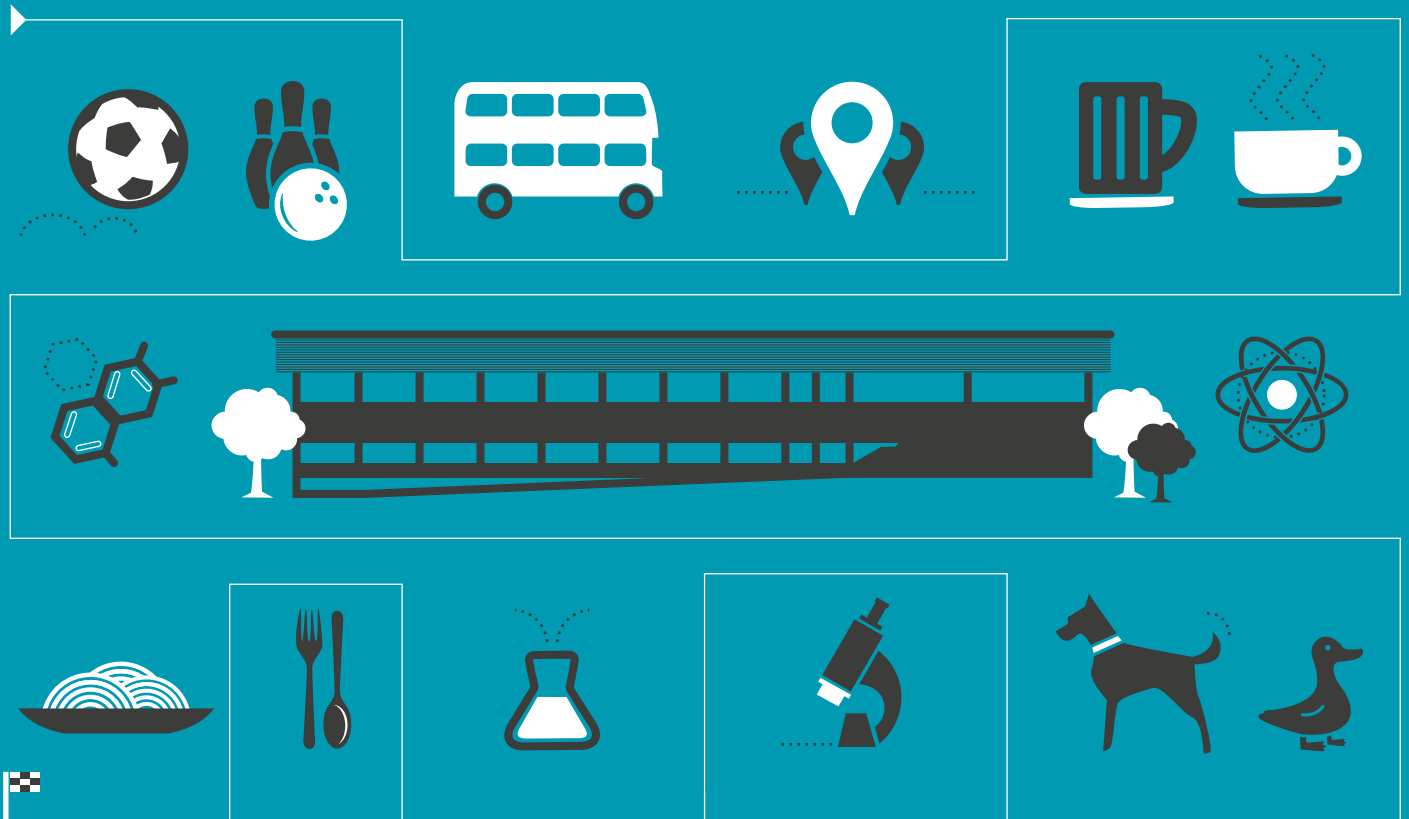
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# EXPLORE. EXPERIENCE. ENJOY.

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Get a real sense of what the RVC has to offer by coming along to one of our tours and open days. Explore our unrivalled facilities and find out more about the courses available to you. Prepare to be amazed and inspired.

**RVC OPEN  
DAYS & TOURS**



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[WWW.RVC.AC.UK](http://WWW.RVC.AC.UK)

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# Graduate Diploma in Professional and Clinical Veterinary Nursing GradDipVN



Veterinary nurses all share a desire to improve animal health and welfare. If you are a registered veterinary nurse and work in clinical veterinary practice, a Graduate Diploma in Professional and Clinical Nursing can help take you to the next level of your career.

## UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

The RVC Graduate Diploma in Professional and Clinical Veterinary Nursing is a unique online distance-learning programme for practising registered veterinary nurses.

If you are currently employed in practice – in the UK or abroad – and looking to study from home, the Diploma will help you to develop valuable knowledge and essential skills.

The Diploma is managed by leading veterinary professionals who are recognised by employers both within the UK and internationally. We focus on developing critical thinking, using both theory and its practical application, enabling you to become better equipped to care for your patients.

## A PROGRAMME OF DISCOVERY

Over the course of this Graduate Diploma you will:

- Benefit from exposure to some of the best clinical specialists in the UK
- Join a network of like-minded individuals all striving to enhance the professional status of the veterinary nurse
- Become better equipped to influence the health of animal patients within your care
- Learn to apply new solutions and approaches to often complex problems at work
- Have the potential to publish work developed as part of your course studies
- Develop an appetite for lifelong learning.

In addition, your practice will benefit from your motivation and ability to make an enhanced contribution to the workplace.

## MAKE THE GRADE

**Please check the website for the most up to date entry qualifications. Those listed below are guidelines. If you are not sure about your qualifications or you are an international student, please contact us.**

We ask that potential students:

- Hold a Veterinary Nursing Certificate awarded by the RCVS
- Are on the current RCVS Register of Veterinary Nurses\*
- Have a minimum of one year post-qualification clinical experience
- Are employed in, or have agreed access to placement in, a suitable\*\* veterinary clinical environment
- Have the support of their employing/supervising veterinary practice, who will be required to allow time and access for training.

*\*International students will need to contact the RCVS direct to apply for registration and provide a copy of their certificate with the application form.*

*\*\*Suitable clinical environments must be general veterinary practices which are able to demonstrate a minimum of RCVS PSS tier 2 (or TP standard). A minimum of 15 days per 20-credit elective module must be spent working in a directly relevant clinical setting (e.g. critical care unit if the Emergency and Critical Care Nursing module is taken).*

## FEES AND FINANCE

Our course fees are highly competitive. Over half of our students are sponsored by their employer, while the remainder fund their own studies. The programme comprises ten modules. Students need to complete the four core modules and choose three elective modules. Module costs stated below are for 2015 entry and are subject to annual increases in line with inflation and subject to VAT.

Different charges apply for International and Channel Island students. Modules are paid for on a module-by-module basis.

## EQUIPPING YOU FOR THE FUTURE

As a graduate of the course you will receive a University of London qualification and will be able to use the letters GradDipVN after your name. GradDipVNs have used their qualification to enhance their careers and have gained the confidence in their abilities to enable them to:

- Undertake further study at university
- Publish journal articles
- Take on specialist nursing roles
- Move into teaching roles.

## HOW TO APPLY

For more information or to obtain an application pack, please email [vnschool@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:vnschool@rvc.ac.uk)

The closing date for applications to enrol on the course beginning in May 2015 is Friday 20th March 2015.



MODULE	CREDITS	CORE/ ELECTIVE	UK/EU FEES	INTERNATIONAL FEES
Contemporary study skills	10	Core	£500	£600
Evidence-Based Veterinary Nursing	20	Core	£910	£1,150
Problem solving in Veterinary Physiology	20	Core	£910	£1,150
Professional studies	10	Core	£500	£600
Anaesthesia incorporating Analgesia	20	Elective	£910	£1,150
Emergency and Critical Care Nursing incorporating Fluid Therapy	20	Elective	£910	£1,150
Surgical Nursing incorporating Wound Management	20	Elective	£910	£1,150
Diagnostic Imaging	20	Elective	£910	£1,150
Medical Nursing	20	Elective	£910	£1,150
Total (four core plus three elective modules)			£5,550	£6,950