

Prifysgol Wreccsam Wrexham University

Module specification

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Module Code	ANM535
Module Title	Animal Health and Disease
Level	5
Credit value	20
Faculty	Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
HECoS Code	100522
Cost Code	GAAN
Pre-requisite module	N/A

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
FdSc Canine Behaviour Training and Performance	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	20 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0 hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	10 hrs
Project supervision hours	0 hrs
Active learning and teaching hours total	30 hrs
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	170 hrs
Module duration (Total hours)	200 hrs

Module aims

This module will develop students' applied understanding of animal health and disease to inform evidence based welfare practice across animal species. Students will evaluate indicators of good and poor health and interpret how health status impacts welfare in different contexts, analyse the pathobiology of common infectious and non-infectious conditions, explain the roles of innate and adaptive immunity and justify preventative measures such as vaccination, environmental management, and parasite control. They will appraise intra and interspecific risks, including key zoonoses, and identify health threats to animals and humans. Students will develop reporting, biosecurity and mitigation strategies aligned with professional

standards, and devise health assessment tools and first aid skills for a range of realistic scenarios, demonstrating safe handling and clinical reasoning.

Module Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Evaluate indicators of good and poor animal health and assess how health status affects welfare across species and contexts. K5, K6
2	Analyse the pathobiology of common infectious and non-infectious diseases and evaluate the roles of the immune system and preventative measures in disease control. K7, K8
3	Evaluate intra- and inter-specific risks, including zoonoses, and identify relevant threats to animals and humans, appropriate reporting, biosecurity and mitigation strategies. K8
4	Devise effective health assessments and first aid protocols for a range of scenarios.

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

Assessment 1: Portfolio (2,000 words)

Students select two contrasting canine contexts (e.g., kennel-housed working dog and geriatric companion dog; rescue dog and agility competition dog). For each context, students must:

1. Identify and justify indicators of good/poor health (clinical, behavioural, physiological), and analyse how the observed/expected health status affects welfare in that context, noting species and context-specific considerations.
2. Devise assessment tools and first-aid protocols:

Students complete a range of practical tasks to assess the health of animals in a range of scenarios and complete first aid procedures.

Examples of practical tasks:

Complete health assessments for a specified animals in given scenarios.

Demonstrate first-aid procedures on a specified animal or mannequin for given scenarios from those listed below:

- A dog in your care has cut its pad and is bleeding, demonstrate on the model how you would apply a basic dressing to control the bleeding.

- Select two items from the first aid kit provided and explain a possible application of each one in a first aid situation.
- On the model dog demonstrate the recovery position and explain how you would assess breathing and circulation.

Assessment 2: Disease, Immunity & Biosecurity (closed book) Test duration: 90 minutes

- Section A (MCQs)
- Section B (Short Answer questions)

Total: 100 marks

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1 & 4	Portfolio	2,000 words	60%	N/A
2	2 & 3	In-class test	90 minutes	40%	N/A

Derogations

N/A

Learning and Teaching Strategies

This module is delivered through a blended approach incorporating lectures, interactive seminars and practical sessions within an Active Learning Framework (ALF). The approach adopts a high challenge, high support model, supporting the development of both theoretical understanding and practical competence in animal health and disease.

Core concepts, including health indicators, disease pathobiology, immunity and zoonotic risk, are introduced through lectures and guided discussion, enabling students to analyse and apply scientific principles across species and contexts. Case studies and problem-based activities support the evaluation of real-world scenarios, including disease outbreaks, welfare challenges and biosecurity failures.

Practical workshops and demonstrations enable students to develop clinical assessment, health monitoring and first aid skills in controlled environments. Independent study, supported by digital resources and directed reading, underpins and consolidates learning.

Welsh Elements

The module will incorporate awareness of the Welsh language and cultural context within professional canine training practice. Students will be encouraged to consider inclusive

communication strategies appropriate to bilingual service delivery and may utilise Welsh language resources where appropriate. Opportunities will be provided to reflect on client engagement within the Welsh professional landscape.

Students can present their work, access forms, resources, email correspondence, work placements and personal tutorials in Welsh.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Indicators of good / poor health across a range of species - health assessment techniques
- Species specific considerations in assessing health and welfare
- Pathobiology of infectious and non-infectious diseases: viral, bacterial, fungal, parasitic mechanisms, metabolic, nutritional, genetic, environmental
- Transmission routes, vectors, reservoirs, and host–pathogen interactions
- Innate and adaptive immune
- Preventative health planning and disease prevention
- Intra- and inter-specific risks to health and welfare
- Key zoonotic diseases and human–animal interface risks
- Public health implications and UK reporting requirements (including notifiable diseases)
- Biosecurity principles: PPE, sanitation, quarantine, isolation, and movement control
- Risk assessment models and mitigation strategies in varied animal management contexts
- First aid principles: triage, stabilisation, wound management, fractures, shock, toxicity, heat stress
- Safe handling and restraint across species during emergency interventions
- Referral decision-making and communication/record-keeping in health incidents
- Applied case studies integrating assessment, diagnosis, risk interpretation, and response planning

Indicative Bibliography

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads:

Cooper, B., Turner, L. and Mullineaux, E. (2020), *BSAVA Textbook of Veterinary Nursing*, 6th ed. Gloucester: British Small Animal Veterinary Association.

Other indicative reading:

Merrill, L. (ed) (2012), *Small Animal Internal Medicine for Veterinary Technicians and Nurses*, Chichester: Wiley Blackwell.

Weese, J.S. and Evason, M. (eds) (2020), *Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat* New York: CRC Press.

Administrative Information

For office use only	
Initial approval date	April 2026
With effect from date	September 2026
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1