

Prifysgol Wreccsam Wrexham University

Module specification

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Module Code	VEN502
Module Title	Clinical Skills and Professional Practice
Level	5
Credit value	20
Faculty	FSLS
HECoS Code	100532
Cost Code	GAAN
Pre-requisite module	N/A

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
FdSc Veterinary Nursing	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0 hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 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 aims to consolidate learning from academic study and work-based placement in preparation for professional practice as a Registered Veterinary Nurse. It focuses on developing students' understanding of professional responsibilities, including legal and ethical frameworks, and the challenges encountered within veterinary practice. The principles of clinical governance are explored, with emphasis on their role in maintaining standards, promoting continuous improvement, and improving outcomes for patients and clients.

The module provides opportunities for students to demonstrate competence in delivering veterinary nursing clinics under supervision, including patient assessment, preventative healthcare, and effective professional communication. Throughout the programme, the RCVS Day One Skills and Day One Competences are embedded and developed; within this module, students are formally assessed against a representative sample of these requirements through a ten-station scenario-based Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

In addition, students must provide evidence of completion of the required minimum of 1,800 hours of work-based learning in an approved training practice and full completion of the Nursing Progress Log (NPL). Both the NPL and work-based learning hours must be completed at least three weeks prior to the OSCE.

Module Learning Outcomes

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

1	Analyse the professional responsibilities of a Registered Veterinary Nurse
2	Evaluate the concept of clinical governance and the impact it has on the veterinary profession.
3	Demonstrate competency in the RCVS Day One Skills (DOS) and Day One Competences (DOC) for Veterinary Nurses.

RCVS Standards	Day One Competences (DOC)	Day One Skills (DOS)
Learning outcomes for this module are mapped to the following RCVS day one competences (DOC) and day one skills (DOS)	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, 37	Section 1: Legislation affecting practice 1.1, 1.2 Section 2: Communication 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.12 Section 3: Handling and restraint 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5

		Section 4: Nursing care 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12 Section 5: Laboratory techniques 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9 Section 6: Diagnostic imaging 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5 Section 7: Dispensing 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 Section 8: Infection control 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5 Section 9: Theatre practice 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.5, 9.7, 9.8, 9.9, 9.10 Section 10: Anaesthesia 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5
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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: Students will deliver an individual 20-minute presentation analysing the professional responsibilities of a Registered Veterinary Nurse and evaluating the concept of clinical governance and its impact on the veterinary profession.

Assessment 2: Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) are used to assess students' practical skills, clinical reasoning and professional behaviours in a controlled environment. Students rotate through a series of stations designed to reflect real veterinary nursing scenarios, demonstrating safe and effective practice in line with RCVS Day One Skills and competences.

*To enter the OSCE, students must have completed their NPL and accrued the required minimum work-based learning hours in a veterinary training practice (1800 hours) three weeks prior to the examination.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1,2	Presentation	20 minutes	100	N/A
2	3	OSCE	120 minutes	Pass/fail	N/A

Derogations

Students are required to pass all assessment elements with a minimum mark of 40% for all modules.

Learning and Teaching Strategies

Learning and teaching on this module will be underpinned by the University's Active Learning Framework (ALF) and will adopt a student-centred, practice-focused approach that supports the development of placement readiness, professional judgement and evidence-based veterinary nursing practice.

A range of learning and teaching methods will be utilised, including:

- Interactive lectures
- Seminars and workshops
- Scenario-based learning activities
- Guided communication activities and role-play,
- Directed academic skills sessions

Opportunities for formative learning and feedback will be embedded throughout the module to support skill development and prepare students for summative assessment and placement expectations, including communication role play / risk assessment activity / study skill activities (literature searches, peer review writing tasks). A range of modalities will be used by the tutor to provide feedback to students.

Learning and teaching will take place in classroom and simulated clinical environments where appropriate, enabling students to make clear connections between theory, professional behaviour and practice.

Welsh Elements

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

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Learning Outcome 1

- Legal and professional requirements for veterinary nursing practice
- RCVS Code of Professional Conduct and Principles of Practice
- Professional responsibilities and accountability
- Registration, declaration and regulatory processes
- Disciplinary procedures and Fitness to Practise
- Ethical dilemmas in veterinary nursing

Learning Outcome 2

- Principles of clinical governance and continuous improvement
- Seven pillars of clinical governance
- Clinical audit and effectiveness
- Evidence-based practice
- Staff wellbeing and professional responsibility
- Continuing professional development (CPD) and lifelong learning

Learning Outcome 3

- RCVS Day One Competences (DOC) and Day One Skills (DOS)
- OSCE preparation and practice
- Development of clinical competence for professional registration

Indicative Bibliography

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

Essential reading:

Aspinall, V. (2019) *Clinical procedures in veterinary nursing*. 4th edn. Edinburgh: Elsevier.

Cooper, B., Turner, L. and Mullineaux, E. (2020) *BSAVA textbook of veterinary nursing*. 6th edn. Gloucester: British Small Animal Veterinary Association.

Other indicative reading:

Eckstein, E.E. (2019) *Lean veterinary practice management: higher quality, less waste, better resource utilization and continuous improvement*. Boca Raton: CRC Press.

Lakeman, N. (2026) *The consulting veterinary nurse*. 2nd edn. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Administrative Information

For office use only	
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