

Module specification

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Module Code	VEN605
Module Title	Research Project
Level	6
Credit value	40
Faculty	SLS
HECoS Code	100532
Cost Code	GAAN
Pre-requisite module	N/A

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional
BSc Hons Top Up Veterinary Nursing	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	24 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	6 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	6
Total active learning and teaching hours	36hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	364 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	400 hrs

Module aims

To develop the ability to critically evaluate research. To enable a research-based study of a specialised area related to the field of veterinary nursing.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Critically review the literature pertinent to the chosen area of veterinary nursing.
2	Critically evaluate relevant research design.
3	Justify a suitable method for data collection and analysis.
4	Analyse and interpret data collected, critically discussing findings in relation to the existing knowledge of veterinary nursing research.
5	Present research in a format appropriate to the discipline.

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. Literature Review.

Literature relevant to the dissertation topic will be critically reviewed and presented it in the form of a digital booklet. The choice of review topic must be relevant to their degree programme. (2,000 words)

Assessment 2. Dissertation.

The dissertation will be submitted in the form of a journal article of approximately 4,500 words in length (excluding appendices and references). It will focus on a suitable research issue, critically review relevant literature, utilise appropriate research methods, analyse data and discuss outcomes. The project will be supported by an abstract. (4,500 words)

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1	Written Assignment		25	
2	2,3,4,5	Dissertation/Project		75	

Derogations

NA

Learning and Teaching Strategies

Students will be provided with lectures (e.g. writing up the Research Project and analysing data) and seminars aimed to support them through the research process. In addition to the learning and teaching hours, students will be allocated a research supervisor who may not be the module leader. They will be expected to seek support from their research supervisor

outside of the learning and teaching hours. Meetings should take place regularly, and students are expected to lead the research process, i.e. they will independently arrive at a suitable theme, be able to justify this choice of topic, specify research questions and/or hypotheses, collect data using an appropriate data collection method, conduct data analysis, and then report on the findings in a format that is consistent with quantitative or qualitative research practices. The supervisor's role is to facilitate the research process and offer students guidance and advice on all aspects of their research project. Throughout this process, the student is expected to demonstrate initiative and independence. This involves preparing thoroughly for supervisory meetings so that students can discuss their progress and ideas with their supervisor and respond to questions regarding their decisions and choices.

During the first semester in particular, the Research Project module will be taught closely with the Research Skills and Professional Development module. The research ethics application for the Research Project will form part of the Research Skills and Professional Development module. Ethical clearance status must be achieved prior to the commencement of the Research Project. If students make changes to their proposals prior to starting the Research Project, they must go through the ethics application process again.

Welsh Elements

Learning resources will be available in a bilingual format as required, and students may choose to complete their assessment in Welsh or English, or a combination of both languages. Tutorial and research supervisor support may also be provided in Welsh if requested.

Students will be guided to Welsh resources where appropriate such as the Wales Veterinary Science Centre <https://www.wvsc.wales/>

The centre was set up in 2015 by Iechyd Da (a consortium of Welsh Veterinary practices together with Welsh Lamb and Beef Producers Ltd) to provide up to date advice around new and emerging diseases. Such a resource may be useful for student research as the centre publishes regular newsletters keeping Veterinary professionals and researchers up to date.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Support seminars could include:

- Managing your research project
- Guidelines for the treatment of animals in behavioural research
- Refining the proposal
- Operationalising qualitative methods
- Operationalising quantitative methods
- Analysis of qualitative data
- Analysis of quantitative data
- Writing up the research project
- Presentation of the research project

Indicative Bibliography:

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

Essential Reads

Kumar, R. (2019), *Research Methodology: A Step-by-Step Guide for Beginners*. 5th ed. Los Angeles: Sage.

Other indicative reading

Dytham, C. (2011), *Choosing and Using Statistics: A Biologist's Guide*. 3rd ed. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.

Ennos, R. (2018), *Statistical and Data Handling Skills in Biology*. 4th ed. Upper Saddle River: Pearson.

Pallant, J. (2020), *SPSS Survival Manual*. 7th ed. London: Open University Press.

Reference will be made to contemporary research articles from journals such as:

Veterinary Nursing Journal

The Veterinary Nurse

The Veterinary Journal

Administrative Information

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