Veterinary Science at Bristol BVSc

Slides Dr Louisa Slingsby, BVSC, Phd, MRCVS – School of Veterinary Sciences Admissions Tutor and Faculty Admissions and Recruitment Officer
The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons accredits the programmes of all UK Vet schools to ensure that UK graduates meet a high standard of clinical and professional competence when they graduate.......

SO WHY COME TO BRISTOL?
Don’t underestimate the attraction of Bristol as a student city.

The Bristol Vet programme offers a unique city experience alongside training at our clinical campus in Langford.
Bristol is a big, multi-faculty university with programmes spread across all disciplines. Lots of clubs and societies. Opportunities to mix with people from other programmes. Large range of facilities. Exciting development plans.
Langford Vets

Two state of the art referral hospitals for small animals and equines

Full diagnostic laboratory service

First opinion small animal, equine and farm animal practices
‘.................there has never been a greater need for investment into disease prevention, from both an animal welfare perspective and from a human health angle, especially in reducing reliance on the use of antimicrobial drugs and replacing them, where possible, with preventive approaches to disease control. ‘

‘......There also remains a real concern about the dearth of veterinary qualified researchers...’

Julie Fitzpatrick – Head of the Moredun Group in Scotland. Veterinary Record May 2017
One of only 2 UK universities to offer Veterinary Science, Medicine and Dentistry programmes

Good collaboration between staff and students within the Faculty of Health Sciences to promote excellence in all aspects of clinical healthcare education
Organise wide range social and sporting events
Student representation at school and national level
Peer support mechanisms
What do our BVSc graduates do?

Get jobs in all areas of the profession
Some undertake a PhD
Get jobs quickly – some before graduation and the rest shortly afterwards
The journey to graduating as a BVSc
Final Clinical Year

Working in small groups primarily within our own excellent clinical facilities at Langford

Working alongside specialists in clinical disciplines, many of whom are world leaders
Example of a current student’s final year
Classrooms to clinics: 3 weeks
Core rotations: May - December
Student Choice: January – April working in an area of your interest e.g. farm animal medicine, cardiology
  • Track rotations
  • An elective
Professional Studies and Global Health: 2 weeks
Revision and exam period: May
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<td>Integrated farm animal science and pathology</td>
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Classroom to Clinic

Special 3 week course prior to entering clinics
Students spend time in clinical skills lab honing own skills and teaching year 2 students
Hospital orientation
CPR training, etc
Animal Health Science (BVSc 1&2)
Integrates the disciplines of Anatomy, Physiology and Biochemistry with an emphasis on clinical relevance

Animal Disease (BVSc 2&3)
Immunology, Pathology, Parasitology, Pharmacology

Professional studies
Animal management
Evidence based veterinary medicine
Veterinary public health
Clinical and practical skills

Clinical Veterinary Science (BVSc 3&4)
Basic clinical sciences, therapeutics, farm and companion animal sciences

Extended clinical final year (BVSc 5)
Clinics – core, track and elective
Intercalation

✓ An opportunity to leave the BVSc programme for a year
✓ Take 1 year to complete an intercalated degree at Bristol or elsewhere
✓ Information and application in BVSc year 3
✓ See specific intercalation pages on the website for more details
Gateway to Veterinary Science
Gateway to Medicine
Gateway to Dentistry

✓ Foundation in Biosciences 1&2 & Chemistry
  lectures, tutorials, lab work, e-learning & coursework

✓ Personal & professional development
  clinical work placements, core skills & numeracy, team-working, professional attitudes & reflection

✓ Successful completion of year 1 gives automatic entry into the standard 5 year course
BVSc vertical themes

✓ Professional Studies
✓ Animal management
✓ Evidence based veterinary medicine
✓ Veterinary public health
✓ Clinical and practical skills
Clinical and practical skills

Clinical Skills: Finger Trap

1. Thread a needle with a length of suture material. In real life you would probably use a monofilament such as Monocryl. Suture a mattress style suture around the 'drain' as shown.
2. Mattress sutures are preferred to a simple suture because they spread the tension and are less likely to cut off the blood supply and cause necrosis.
3. It is best to aim to have your knot on the side the drain is hanging i.e. to the right in this picture. Start the suture at point A.
4. Position your needle to enter the skin (point C) as close as you can to the exit hole of the 1st part of the suture (B).
5. Exit at point D.
6. Reposition the needle to enter the skin at point E. This time create a right angle to length C-O of the suture, and parallel to length A-B of the suture. In effect you will create a purse string when you tie the knot. Exit at point F.
State of the art clinical skills laboratory (CSL)

CSLs in Bristol and Langford

Taught in every year

Innovative models

Open access

International reputation & award winning

Clinical Skills: Jugular Blood Sampling

1. With your free hand raise the jugular by pressing your thumb firmly into the jugular groove. Make sure you have enough space above this to perform your sample.

2. Hold the needle over the raised jugular cranially to where you are raising at an angle of about 45 degrees to the skin surface.

3. Slide the needle into the jugular making sure you follow the direction of jugular with your needle. You should continue to raise with your thumb during needle placement.

4. Stabilise the vacutainer between your thumb and finger while using your free fingers to continue raising the jugular.

5. Have your first blood tube ready in your other hand.

6. Hook your 1st and 2nd finger over the base of the vacutainer case while using your palm to push the blood tube firmly onto the capped needle.

7. Your other hand maintains the position of the needle in the jugular by stabilising the vacutainer case.

8. If you have placed your needle correctly the tube will rapidly fill with blood. You want to fill about two thirds of the tube.
Professional Studies

- Communication Skills
- Professional Conduct, Ethics and the Law
- Business Management
- Health and Safety
- Study, Learning, Investigation, Employability
Year 1
What is good communication?
Written communication between professionals
Digital professionalism
Computer based task assessing communication between a client and a vet
Exam questions

Year 2
Communication with clients
Practical small group sessions with clients and their pets

Year 3
Calgary Cambridge model of communication
Communication skills in the veterinary consultation
Practical small group sessions with trained medical actors
Assessed video task (gaining consent for a procedure) and written reflection
Exam questions

Year 4
Empathy Grief and attachment
Practical small group sessions with trained medical actors
Seminar on decision making and negotiation skills
Assessed communication scenario (OSCE format)
Exam questions

Year 5
Communication skills assessed on every clinical rotation
Possibility to undertake a communication elective
Exam questions
Teaching block 1 = 12 weeks
✓ January assessment period (1-2 weeks)
✓ Teaching block 2 = 12 weeks
✓ Summer revision week
✓ Summer assessment period (2 weeks)

We expect our students to work around 38 hours a week on average during term time.

In years 1 and 2 around 48% is contact time (includes lectures, seminars, practical classes etc) and 52% private self directed study.
Our programmes of study that lead to a veterinary qualification

✓ Veterinary Science (UCAS code D100)
  5 years leading to a BVSc

✓ Veterinary Gateway (UCAS code D108)
  1 year Gateway followed by progression onto the 5 year BVSc
NEW!
Coming for 2019 entry

✓ Accelerated graduate entry programme leading to a BVSc qualification
✓ 4 years of study
✓ 100% based at Langford
✓ More details will appear on our website in autumn 2017
Veterinary Gateway

a widening participation initiative

✓ MUST ATTEND OR HAVE RECENTLY LEFT A UK SCHOOL ON OUR LIST – see website or ask today

✓ Work experience recommended but not essential

✓ No offers will be made without an interview

Please refer to our posters, the subject leaflet and the website for further details of GCSE and A levels (or equivalents)

We accept a wide range of qualifications
Selection onto the Veterinary Gateway

Successful completion and academic attainment at the end of the Gateway year automatically feeds into the 5 year BVSc programme

✓ Apply through UCAS by 15 October 2017
✓ Selection to interview based on academic grades (20%) and personal statement (80%)
✓ 20 people will be invited to interview for 5 places
For application in October 2017

Work experience (WE) since October 2014; a minimum of:

- 1 week at a vet practice
- 1 week other animal

*New this year WE assessed through a form that will be sent out on application
5 year BVSc

Academic qualifications

At a glance:
GCSE minimum of C in English language and maths
A level AAA (AAC contextual) chemistry; biology/physics and a suitable third subject (includes most A levels except those with content cross over with the two science A levels)

Please refer to our posters, the subject leaflet and the website for further details of GCSE and A levels (or equivalents)

We accept a wide range of qualifications
Selection onto the 5 year BVSc

✓ Apply through UCAS by 15th October 2017
✓ Complete the work experience and personal and professional attributes form we send you
✓ International applicants will be called to interview provided you meet the minimum entry criteria
✓ 150 places to start in September 2018
In the 2017/2018 cycle the majority of the BVSc offers to home fee status applicants will be made without interview and be based on the following:

- A level score – 30%
- GCSE score – 20%
- Work experience score* - 25%
- Personal & professional attributes score* - 25%

*from the form we will send out once we have checked that the application has met our minimum academic entry criteria
Veterinary interviews in 2017-2018 application cycle

New for this year - Interviews specially tailored to our Gateway and Overseas applicants

Overseas applicants can choose interview location (Langford or in SE Asia)

UK applicants – No interviews!
This talk has just touched the surface! To find out more......

✓ Look at our posters and talk to staff and students in the display areas (Langford café and Bristol Biomedical sciences library)
✓ Take at tour of Langford (tour desk at the Langford café)
✓ Take our subject leaflets today
✓ University online prospectus
✓ Bristol Vet School homepage