

# Veterinary Science



**Undergraduate study**

# Courses

## Single Honours

### **BVSc Veterinary Science**

five years D100

### **Gateway to Veterinary Science**

one year (plus five years) D108

### **BVSc Veterinary Science – Accelerated Graduate Entry**

four years D102

This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2019. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (June 2018). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, [bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study), for the latest updates.

## Why study veterinary science at Bristol?

Our Veterinary Science courses help you to become a skilful and knowledgeable graduate, adept at problem solving, innovation and entrepreneurship, with an appetite for lifelong learning.

We offer you a vibrant city experience at our Bristol campus, combined with immersion in animal science and welfare at our rural site in Langford. You will receive a strong scientific education alongside exceptional professional skills training, enabling you to succeed in a wide range of careers in the exciting world of veterinary science.

Our Langford campus has first-class clinical facilities and encompasses equine and small animal hospitals, a dairy farm and diagnostic laboratories. We have farm animal, small animal and equine practices on site, giving you experience of working on first-opinion cases on farms and in clinics.

Bristol Veterinary School links with other areas of health sciences, including medicine, dentistry and anatomy, to give you an excellent pre-clinical education taught by leading academics in medical and scientific research. This allows you to become acquainted with current thinking in a range of scientific fields and gives you a broad base of knowledge for the start of clinical teaching.

Bristol has been training veterinary professionals for over 50 years. We are known for providing an outstanding education in animal science, animal welfare and veterinary public health, and for approaching veterinary science from a global perspective. Our curriculum is innovative, informed by current research, and delivered in a friendly and supportive environment.

**'I was really nervous about starting vet school, studying on an intense course and living away from home, but now I can't imagine being anywhere but Bristol. The staff are all really engaging and I've met some friends for life. I definitely made the right decision coming here.'**

Liz (BVSc Veterinary Science)

# What will you study?

## BVSc Veterinary Science D100, five years

Our curriculum introduces you to the integrated structure and function of healthy animals, followed by the mechanisms of disease and their clinical management.

Year one starts with a six-week foundation course in animal health sciences, covering anatomy, physiology and biochemistry. You will continue to focus on animal health sciences for the remainder of year one and part of year two, and you will have hands-on experience of animal management from your first year.

In years two and three you will study animal disease – immunology, microbiology, parasitology and pharmacology – followed by clinical management in years three and four. This covers basic clinical science, therapeutics, and farm and companion animal sciences.

Vertical themes run through the course to build your core competencies and subject-specific knowledge. These instil vital professional skills, as well as an understanding of animal health and welfare and veterinary public health across all disciplines.

Between years three and four you can choose to intercalate onto an additional degree, enhancing your career prospects and giving you the option to explore a developing interest. See [bristol.ac.uk/intercalate](http://bristol.ac.uk/intercalate) for details.

Most lecture-based teaching is completed by the end of year four, giving you an almost lecture-free final year. In year five you will work alongside clinical staff to provide veterinary care and demonstrate clinical cases to peers, more junior years and staff. The year includes employability workshops and a careers fair, and finishes with an elective period offering a diverse range of clinical, research and industry opportunities.

## What support can you expect?

The University's support package includes a health service, disability services, a counselling service and a multi-faith chaplaincy. You will be allocated a personal tutor within Bristol Veterinary School who will offer support and guidance on academic issues and provide opportunities to reflect on your personal and professional development. We have an open-door policy, which gives you easy access to feedback and guidance from academic staff.

Our veterinary students' society, Centaur, organises a 'parenting' scheme, which supports new undergraduates before they come to Bristol and during their first year. Centaur also provides further support throughout the course, including welfare representatives for pre-clinical and clinical students. Students elect year representatives who are members of many vet school committees, enabling feedback on academic and pastoral issues. An annually-elected student represents the student body at national level.



**'The vet school has a real community feel; all students from first year to fifth are integrated into academic and social events. Lecturers are supportive, and having a personal tutor system provides support when you need it.'**

Stephanie (BVSc Veterinary Science)



## How will you study?

Teaching methods include lectures, tutorials, seminars, case-based learning and practical classes. We nurture lifelong learning skills through self-directed education, incorporating problem-based learning and individual and group projects. Teaching material is available online and many lectures are recorded, allowing you to review the content later.

During your time with us we assess a range of skills, which include knowledge and understanding, problem-solving, clinical reasoning, professionalism and practical skills. A high aggregate score across the course may result in a BVSc with Merit or Distinction.

### Where will you study?

Our course offers you both lively city living and a beautiful rural setting in which to develop your understanding of veterinary science. For the first three years you will be based on the Bristol campus, with at least one day a week spent at Langford. Years four and five are based at Langford, although you will also spend time off-site at clinical placements. Most of our students move to Langford for years four and five.

The Langford campus sits on the edge of the Mendip hills and is home to Langford Vets, which provides an extensive range of specialist services. It has two state-of-the-art referral hospitals for small animals and equines, a full diagnostic laboratory service, and equine, farm and small animal first-opinion practices. The campus also has a 250-acre dairy and sheep farm. Clinics are supported by specialised clinicians, diagnostic imagers, anaesthetists, nurses and other support staff.

The campus is a hub for cutting-edge research, allowing you to gain insights into exciting new areas of veterinary science. Our research is focused on three areas:

- Animal behaviour and welfare
- Comparative and clinical research
- Infection and immunity.

Langford has many facilities on site, including accommodation, a café, a gym and tennis courts. We arrange free transport between our Bristol and Langford campuses in years one to three. Langford and the surrounding villages are well served by shops and pubs, and many students enjoy getting involved in community life through local clubs and societies.



## Extra-mural studies

Extra-mural studies (EMS) is a mandatory RCVS requirement for all veterinary programmes in the UK. You must complete 38 weeks of EMS during university vacations, which should consist of 12 weeks of pre-clinical placements in years one and two and 26 weeks of clinical placements in years three to five.

We have good relationships with EMS providers across the UK and a dedicated, friendly EMS team at Langford. Your first placement at Easter, lambing, is arranged for you, and the team will help you to find subsequent placements. They will also offer you support in completing your RCVS student experience log.

You will have opportunities for overseas EMS (a maximum of 13 weeks clinical) and research placements (up to six weeks clinical). Previous overseas placements have included the Hong Kong Jockey Club, the Blue Paw Trust in Sri Lanka and Mission Rabies in India.

### Foster practice scheme

Most students spend ten to 14 weeks of clinical EMS with a foster practice, first going in year three and returning to the practice in years four and five. This allows you to develop an ongoing relationship with the practice, and you will have greater opportunities to learn and contribute to its work than you can expect on shorter placements.

Some of our previous students have been offered jobs at the end of their course by foster practices and other EMS placement providers.



**99 per cent of BSc Veterinary Science graduates are in work or further study six months after graduation.**

(Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education 2016/17)

## Gateway to Veterinary Science

### Gateway to Veterinary Science D108, one year (plus five years)

Our one-year Gateway to Veterinary Science course is a widening participation initiative targeted at UK students who have the potential to become vets but do not meet the academic entry criteria to apply directly to BVSc Veterinary Science. We have specific entry criteria for this course, which are available at [bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience).

You will spend the year developing your knowledge of the basic sciences which underpin veterinary science at our Clifton campus. Veterinary and related animal work experience will form part of the course. Successful completion of the Gateway course will enable you to automatically progress to the five-year BVSc Veterinary Science degree.

### Entry requirements

**A-levels** BBC including BB in Chemistry and one of Biology, Physics or Mathematics. Applicants with predicted/achieved grades of AAB or above are not eligible for this course.

**GCSEs** Higher numeracy requirement (B in GCSE Mathematics or equivalent) and standard literacy requirement (C in GCSE English or equivalent) and two higher science requirements (B in GCSE Science or equivalent).

Work experience is desirable but not essential. Other academic qualifications may be considered; please see our website for details.

For more information please visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience).

'I would definitely recommend this course to anyone who is serious about becoming a vet, but just needs a little more help to get there. It is an extra year, but I feel I have had an advantage. I've been able to have a taste of university life and all the University has to offer. It has helped me both academically and professionally.'

Cheyenne (Gateway to Veterinary Science)

[bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study)

## Accelerated Graduate Entry

### BVSc Veterinary Science: Accelerated Graduate Entry D102, four years

Our new fast-track programme for science graduates enables completion of BVSc Veterinary Science in four years instead of five.

Designed to support independent, self-directed and collaborative learning, the programme adopts best practice in adult education. We deliver a strong scientific education combined with exceptional professional skills training, enabling you to succeed in a wide range of careers.

During the programme, you will be guided through case-based, tutor-facilitated teaching and learning. This is a distinctive, student-led approach that sets the programme apart from other graduate entry programmes in the UK.

### What will I study?

In years one and two, you will study the integrated structure and function of animals, principles of disease, clinical veterinary science and professional studies. Towards the end of your second year, the programme will integrate with the five-year BVSc Veterinary Science to further develop your clinical and professional skills.

'As someone who was a graduate entry veterinary student myself, I feel passionately about providing opportunities to those who make the choice to train as a vet later on in their educational journey. This new programme will focus on a student-centred, case-based approach in small groups, with lots of tutor support.'

Professor Richard Hammond, Head of Bristol Veterinary School

### Entry requirements

**Degree** First or Upper Second Class honours degree (or international equivalent) in a science subject. See [bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience) for accepted subjects.

### English Language profile A<sup>†</sup>

**GCSEs** Standard numeracy requirement (C in GCSE Mathematics or equivalent) and standard literacy requirement (C in GCSE English or equivalent).

<sup>†</sup>For details of English language profiles, visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements).

Work experience is essential; for more information, please see the Admissions Statement on the online course entry.

All applicants will be invited to interview, with the option of attending an interview in Bristol, the USA or South-East Asia.

Due to the nature of the course, all offers are subject to clearance from the Occupational Health Service.

For more information please visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience).

[bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study)

# Making your application

## Typical offer for BVSc Veterinary Science\*

Visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug19-vetscience) for other qualifications.

**A-levels** AAA (contextual AAC<sup>†</sup>) including AA in Chemistry and either Biology or Physics. Graduate applicants are required to obtain a 2:1 in their degree and BBB at A-level including Chemistry and either Biology or Physics.

**IB Diploma** 36 points overall (contextual 32<sup>†</sup>) with 18 at Higher Level (contextual 16<sup>†</sup>), including 6, 6 at Higher Level in Chemistry and either Biology or Physics.

## English Language profile B<sup>††</sup>

**GCSEs** Standard numeracy requirement (C in GCSE Mathematics or equivalent) and standard literacy requirement (C in GCSE English or equivalent).

<sup>†</sup>For information on contextual offers, visit [bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers](http://bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers).

<sup>††</sup>For details of English language profiles, visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements).

\*The typical offer is indicative only and the University accepts a wide range of qualifications. The information is correct at the time of printing (June 2017); however, we recommend you check the University's website for the most up-to-date information: [bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study).

We are looking for students who are passionate about studying veterinary science and have the outlook and qualities needed to become an excellent vet. You will need to be able to demonstrate that you have:

- a realistic interest in veterinary science;
- veterinary work experience, which must have been undertaken within the previous 3 years for D100 and within 18 months for D102 (a minimum of one week, but ideally four or more weeks at more than one placement);
- other related work experience, which must have been undertaken within the previous 3 years for D100 and within 18 months for D102 (a minimum of one week, but ideally four or more weeks in more than one setting);
- interests outside veterinary science (these can include paid employment as well as volunteering, hobbies etc);
- contributed to school/college/community activities.

We will also be looking for examples of your practical, analytical, problem-solving and communication skills.

Due to the nature of the course, all offers are subject to clearance from the Occupational Health Service.

## References

These should ideally be from a school or college, confirming the academic potential of the applicant to study at degree level. Where this is not possible, a non-academic reference should confirm the relevant experience of the applicant and indicate their potential for degree-level study.

## Work experience and personal and professional attributes

The work experience and personal and professional attributes form (WEPAPA) will be used to assess all applications for D100 and D102, but not D108. You will complete the electronic form after we have received your application. You will need to detail your work experience placements and give evidence of your personal and professional attributes, providing written reflection on how they fit your proposed career.

## Interview

We compile a shortlist for consideration after academic and personal attribute assessment, including work experience and interests; we assess the latter using your personal statement for D108 and the WEPAPA form for D100 and D102. Some applicants may be made an offer directly after this first shortlisting, and others may be invited to interview; both are at the discretion of the admissions tutor. Typically, applicants for D102 and D108, and overseas (non-EU) applicants for D100, are likely to be invited to interview.



Interviews for UK/EU applicants are held on the Langford campus between November and March. The interview day also gives you the chance to tour the vet school, meet current students and ask questions about studying at Bristol. Overseas (non-UK/EU) applicants can attend an interview in Langford, but we also aim to provide some interview opportunities overseas. You are expected to be available throughout the interview period.

Interview candidates and offer holders will be invited to visit the campus before the UCAS deadline.

## Further information

Find out more about Bristol Veterinary School: [bristol.ac.uk/vetscience](http://bristol.ac.uk/vetscience).

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons:  
[www.rcvs.org.uk](http://www.rcvs.org.uk)

# Contact us

## Enquiries Team

Tel +44 (0)117 394 1649

Email [choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk)

If you have any questions about courses, applications or any aspect of being a UK or international student at Bristol please contact the Enquiries Team.

## Accommodation Office

Tel +44 (0)117 954 6640

Email [accom-office@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:accom-office@bristol.ac.uk)

[bristol.ac.uk/accommodation](http://bristol.ac.uk/accommodation)

## Disability Services

Tel +44 (0)117 331 0444

Email [disability-services@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:disability-services@bristol.ac.uk)

[bristol.ac.uk/disability-services](http://bristol.ac.uk/disability-services)

University guide to the city of Bristol

[bristol.ac.uk/citybristol](http://bristol.ac.uk/citybristol)

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