

A-FAVP.1 Foundations of Advanced Veterinary Practice

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – School of Veterinary Science

RCVS Content Covered

Click [here](#) to view the module content as outlined by the RCVS.

Aim of the Module

The overall aims of this module are to:

1. develop in-depth understanding and critical application of the 'Foundation' knowledge and skills required for advanced veterinary practice;
2. develop candidates as independent learners to meet life-long professional and personal learning needs and obligations.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module successful candidates will be able to:

1. critically apply clinical reasoning and evidence-based practice;
2. critically apply the principles of animal welfare and emergency care in veterinary practice;
3. critically evaluate the roles and responsibilities which veterinary surgeons have in relation to protecting animal and human health;
4. critically evaluate the professional, legal and ethical guidelines that frame and guide veterinary practice;
5. critically evaluate the importance of effective communication, including with other professionals and clients;
6. critically reflect on their obligations towards professional conduct as laid down in the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct.

Module Structure

This module is divided into 5 study units

Study Unit 1 - Principles of Professional Reasoning and Decision Making

- Personal development - IT skills and time management
- Evidence based medicine
- Clinical reasoning
- Clinical audit

Study Unit 2 - Welfare

- Welfare assessment
- Emergency care and first aid for domestic and wild animals

- Euthanasia/humane slaughter

Study Unit 3 - Public Health and Biosecurity

- Veterinary public health
- Animal population health
- Management of animal-related risks

Study Unit 4 - Professional Conduct

- Professional conduct, ethics and legislation in veterinary practice
- Application and practicalities of the RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct
- Health & Safety and adverse events
- Veterinary pharmacy legislation and its practical implication
- Personal and professional support networks

Study Unit 5 - Communication Skills

- The effects of good and poor communication
- Development of Practice Bereavement Policies
- Consultation techniques and use of a Consultation Model
- Dealing professionally with 2nd opinions and referrals
- Practice Communication Policy development

Assessment Strategy

- **6 x 500-word assessed discussion boards (72%)**
Designed to ensure continued diverse range of interaction and involvement in the online forum, each discussion is set up as a short answer/mini essay question and will reflect examples of professional issues, legal issues, ethical issues or other issues relating to the topics covered in that unit. A proportion of marks are allocated to interaction with other posts on the discussion board.
- **1 x 500-word reflective critique (14%)**
On a topic related to the relevant study unit, requiring students to reflect on their own practice, using evidence-based veterinary medicine to inform their reflection. Details and instructions/guidance on the assessments are provided on the module. Reflective critiques are also submitted to a discussion board for discussion by/with peers. A proportion of marks are allocated to the discussion element.
- **1 x written journal critique (not more than 500 words) and short oral presentation of the critique (15 minutes) (14%)**
Hosted by a staff member online synchronously using MS Teams. Students present their critique to the group, and the tutor and the students then hold a discussion of all papers. These are assessed on the submitted critique as well as the presentation and discussion.

Assessments are submitted sequentially with feedback being given between assessments to aid in the development of writing skills.

PLEASE NOTE: It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to sufficient appropriate cases where you were the primary decision maker to produce adequate material for the module. This may not be possible with some internship positions. You must also be aware of any limitations of your facilities that may make the accumulation of appropriate cases difficult or impossible.