

Veterinary Business Management: Finance, Accounting and Resource Management

Credits: 10 (100 hours)

Provider: Veterinary Postgraduate Unit – School of Veterinary Science

Aim of the Module

To apply practice-based experience and previously acquired knowledge to the understanding and implementation of current financial and accounting theory.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the module candidates will be able to:

1. critically evaluate financial accounting, management accounting and financial management;
2. critically analyse and prepare the three main financial statements (balance sheet, profit/loss statement and cash flow projections);
3. critically appraise the centrality of inventory control in effective cash flow management and discuss the different strategies that may be used in inventory control;
4. critically evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of different means of capital acquisition and an ability to deal with related issues both systematically and creatively;
5. review and critically reflect on their current practices in light of the knowledge gained;
6. demonstrate critical awareness of the ethical, economical and social issues that apply to Veterinary Business Management.

Module Structure

The syllabus will be divided into 4 study units, each containing basic lecture and reading material supported by weekly interactions in the form of asynchronous discussions. The syllabus will cover the importance and role of financial accounting, management accounting and financial management in the modern veterinary business and tools in each discipline. Further it will cover the critical aspects of resource management including inventory control and discussion on the various methods of capital acquisition.

Assessment Strategy

- **8 x 250-word discussions (40%)**
Designed to reflect examples of business practice, theories, professional issues, legal issues, ethical issues or other issues relating to the topics covered in that unit. The first post each week is limited to 250 words. You are then expected to comment on at least 2 of your peer's posts and can use these posts to expand on the points raised in your original post.
- **2 x 1500-word essays (60%)**
The essays intend to focus on the topic specifically covered within the study unit. Designed to promote reflection, synthesis of new ideas, solving of complex issues and

in-depth research and understanding of a topic. Will always involve referencing the literature and evidencing answers from the literature.

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

Confidentiality

A general note on confidentiality: Throughout the business management programme in general, we will at times discuss matters that may be of a confidential nature. All assessments submitted directly for assessment will be dealt with in the strictest confidentiality, however it must be remembered that anything posted on a discussion board is viewable by all members of the module.

Because the emphasis of the programme is on the concepts of business management it is acceptable to use aliases or fictional results (such as altered profit/loss statements) in your submissions. This should remove any remaining confidentiality issues.