

BSc Honours Veterinary Nursing

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	BSc Honours Veterinary Nursing Top Up
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a Teaching institution	Middlesex University and The College of Animal Welfare
3b Language of study	English
4a Valid intake dates	September
4b Mode of study	Full time or Part Time
4c Delivery method	<input type="checkbox"/> On-campus/Blended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distance Education
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body	N/A
6. Apprenticeship Standard	N/A
7. Final qualification(s) available	Diploma of Higher Education in Animal Health Studies Ordinary Degree in Animal Health Studies
8. Academic year effective from	2024/25 (year of validation)

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Middlesex University Admissions Department will be responsible for ensuring that prospective students meet the programme's minimum entry requirements.

Minimum of a Level 3 qualification in Veterinary Nursing and registered as an RVN with the RCVS or equivalent Veterinary Nursing qualification and professional body registration if registered and practising internationally.

Applications from international candidates are welcomed. International applicants holding equivalent international qualifications are required to have all certificates officially translated into English with a notarised stamp and to have proof of competence in the English Language by holding either the ESOL qualification or IELTS at a minimum score of 6.5 (minimum 6.0 in each component) plus equivalent qualifications in the sciences. Further details can be found on the [English Language requirements for international students webpage](#).

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is permitted following [university policies](#).

Applicants will be invited to an informal interview with a member of the programme team.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- equip graduates for employment as safe, competent and reflective Graduate Veterinary Nurses who can enhance the standing of the Veterinary Nursing Profession by subject-specific education to BSc (Hons) level
- prepare students to be critically thinking individuals who can demonstrate competent and holistic veterinary patient care in a range of veterinary settings
- foster analytical, problem solving and reflective approaches whilst utilising the evidence base to provide veterinary nursing care to a range of species
- facilitate students to develop the skills required for autonomous practice, complex decision-making and team working in a veterinary environment
- encourage students to engage with life-long learning and develop transferable skills to enhance their veterinary nurse role and maintain their continued personal and professional development
- inspire graduates to enhance the veterinary nursing profession through areas such as research, education, leadership, mentorship and inter-professional collaboration

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :

1. the subjects underpinning Veterinary Nursing
2. the legislation and professional codes of conduct applicable to Veterinary Nurses
3. how to communicate information effectively to support decision making and create a logical and coherent argument
4. critical analysis and interpretation of data and how to appraise its value for delivery and management of veterinary nursing care
5. application of the principles of evidence-based practice in the veterinary clinical environment
6. critical evaluation of areas of responsibility and decision making across a range of complex situations
7. selection and implementation of a range of quality assurance and risk management

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through acquisition (reading, watching, listening), collaboration with others (problem solving), discussion in tutorials/seminars/groups/online, investigation using a range of resources and synthesis via production of artefacts.

Assessment methods

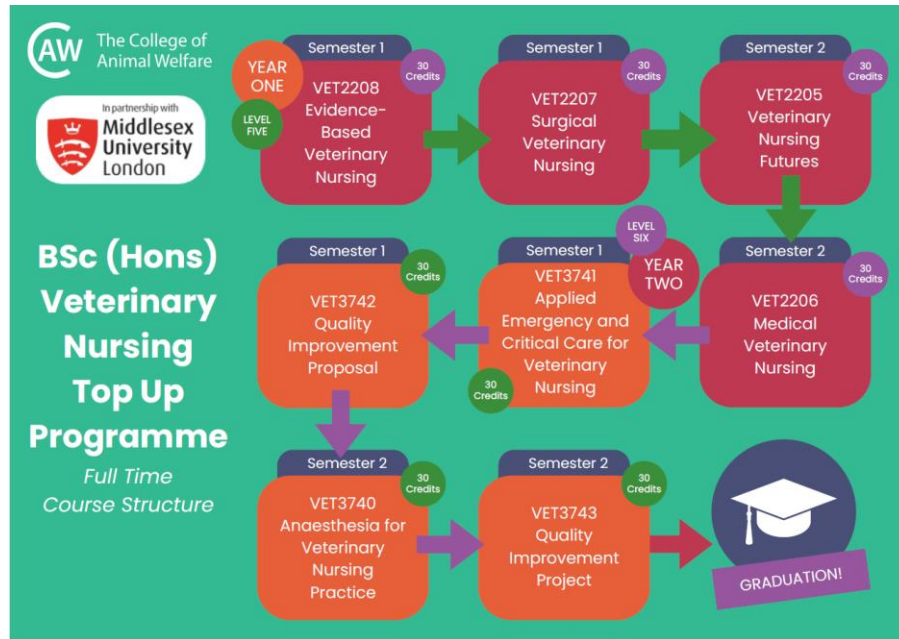
Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by written case studies, articles and reflective accounts, presentations, blogs/vlogs and a quality improvement project.

<p>strategies to create and maintain a safe veterinary clinical environment</p> <p>8. the scope of the Veterinary Nurse role and requirements for personal professional development and the advancement of the Veterinary Nursing Profession</p>	
<p>B. Skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. demonstrate knowledge within the workplace to provide competent, safe and confident veterinary nursing care 2. monitor and update priorities within a changing environment and communicate effectively 3. articulate and justify decision making and problem-solving approaches associated with delivery of veterinary nursing care 4. application of evidence-based veterinary nursing practice 5. use reflection to appraise, evaluate and enhance veterinary nursing care 6. contribute to research and quality improvement to drive the provision of quality veterinary nursing care 7. demonstrate resilience to evaluate own professional practice and that of colleagues in accordance with professional codes of conduct 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn skills through acquisition (reading, watching, listening), collaboration with others (problem solving), discussion in tutorials/seminars/groups/online, investigation using a range of resources and synthesis via production of artefacts</p> <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' skills are assessed by written case studies, articles and reflective accounts, presentations, blogs/vlogs and a quality improvement project.</p>

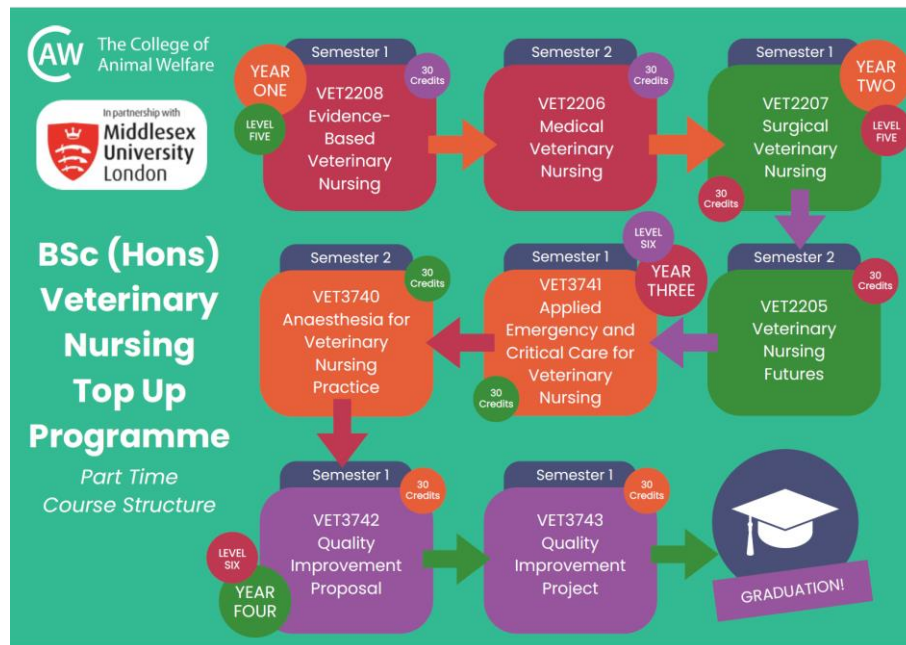
12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12.1 Structure of the programme

Full time route



Part time route



12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 5 – Year 1		
Compulsory	Optional	Progression requirements
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>VET2205 Veterinary Nursing Futures</p> <p>VET2206 Medical Veterinary Nursing</p> <p>VET2207 Surgical Veterinary Nursing</p> <p>VET2208 Evidence- Based Veterinary Nursing</p>		<p>All level 5 modules must be passed before students can progress to level 6</p>
Level 6 – Year 2		
Compulsory	Optional	Progression requirements
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>VET3740 Anaesthesia for Veterinary Nursing Practice</p> <p>VET3741 Applied Emergency and Critical Care for Veterinary Nursing</p> <p>VET3742 Quality Improvement Proposal</p> <p>VET3743 Quality Improvement Project</p>		

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	Module code
5	VET2205
5	VET2206
5	VET2207
5	VET2208
6	VET3740
6	VET3741
6	VET3742
6	VET3743

13. Information about assessment regulations

The programme will run in line with MU University Regulations.

It is emphasised to students that their education does not end at graduation but that professional development must be ongoing. RVNs are required to complete continual professional development (CPD) yearly to maintain their registrations. The most current CPD requirements can be found the [RCVS website](#).

14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

Students are already registered and practising veterinary nurses and hence there are no professional placement requirements as part of the programme.

15. Future careers / progression

The demand for veterinary nurses remains high and, as such, job prospects are excellent both within veterinary practice and in other related areas. In addition to working in first opinion general veterinary practice, graduate veterinary nurses will find a wealth of opportunities in other parts of the veterinary profession such as referral practice, veterinary hospitals, practice management, research or academia.

Opportunities exist in specialised areas such as emergency and critical care, anaesthesia, dentistry, surgical nursing, exotic animal nursing and equine practice. There are many roles within animal welfare organisations working with animal shelters, rescue or charities by providing nursing care, assisting in rehabilitation and promoting animal welfare both in the UK and internationally. Education opportunities include becoming educators in veterinary nursing, science of animal health related programmes or in veterinary practices or corporate groups. Many of the pharmaceutical or pet nutrition companies have roles in sales, education or product development providing scope for specialising in veterinary

pharmaceuticals or pet nutrition. There are significant opportunities for those with an interest in research and development to work in a research setting, contributing to studies, trials or advancements in veterinary medicine. Some of the larger wildlife centres, zoos and sanctuaries have veterinary nurses involved in conservation efforts, providing veterinary nursing care and assisting in preservation programmes.

16. Particular support for learning

Students will have access to the full range of student support services of the University.

Each student will have an academic advisor allocated to them by The College of Animal Welfare. Academic advisors will support students with their academic studies. The Programme Leader will maintain a watching brief regarding the support of the students and deal with problems, should they arise. This mechanism will allow for proactivity rather than reactivity, and facilitate the early detection of potential/actual problems.

The Learning Enhancement Team provide sessions for our students which are integrated into the programme in addition to students being able to access the usual range of services and support they offer. Support from our librarian and external speakers (where relevant) is also integrated into the programme.

17. HECos code(s)

100532

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)

Veterinary Nursing

19. Reference points

[Middlesex University Regulations](#)
[Middlesex Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook](#)
[QAA Qualifications Frameworks](#)
[QAA Veterinary Nursing Subject Benchmark Statement](#)
[The RCVS Code of Professional Conduct for Veterinary Nurses](#)

20. Other information

The following programme-related costs are not included in the fees, and you may be required to purchase these to complete the programme.

- Computer for programme related activities (desktop or laptop are recommended)
- Stable internet connection
- Webcam, microphone and headset
- Travel costs to and from a campus for teaching, learning and assessment or other course related activities if applicable
- Additional books that you wish to purchase

There are a range of [welfare and financial support options](#) available that students are welcome to apply for if required.

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

21. Curriculum map for BSc (Hons) Veterinary Nursing Top Up

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding	
A1	the subjects underpinning Veterinary Nursing
A2	the legislation and professional codes of conduct applicable to Veterinary Nurses
A3	how to communicate information effectively to support decision making and create a logical and coherent argument
A4	critical analysis and interpretation of data and how to appraise its value for delivery and management of veterinary nursing care
A5	application of the principles of evidence-based practice in the veterinary clinical environment
A6	critical evaluation of areas of responsibility and decision making across a range of complex situations
A7	selection and implementation of a range of quality assurance and risk management strategies to create and maintain a safe veterinary clinical environment
A8	the scope of the Veterinary Nurse role and requirements for personal professional development and the advancement of the Veterinary Nursing Profession
Skills	
B1	use knowledge within the workplace to provide competent, safe and confident veterinary nursing care
B2	monitor and update priorities within a changing environment and communicate effectively
B3	articulate and justify decision making and problem-solving approaches associated with delivery of veterinary nursing care
B4	application of evidence-based veterinary nursing practice

B5	use reflection to appraise, evaluate and enhance veterinary nursing care
B6	contribute to research and quality improvement to drive the provision of quality veterinary nursing care
B7	demonstrate resilience to evaluate own professional practice and that of colleagues in accordance with professional codes of practice

Programme outcomes														
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7
Highest level achieved by all graduates														
L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6	L6

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7
		Evidence Based Veterinary Nursing	Level 5	X	X	X	X				X	X			X	X
Medical Veterinary Nursing	Level 5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Surgical Veterinary Nursing	Level 5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Veterinary Nursing Futures	Level 5	X	X	X					X					X	X	X
Anesthesia for Veterinary Nursing Practice	Level 6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Applied Emergency and Critical Care for Veterinary Nurses	Level 6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Quality Improvement Proposal	Level 6	X		X	X	X			X	X			X	X	X	X
Quality Improvement Project	Level 6	X		X	X	X			X	X			X	X	X	X