

VM4116: PRODUCTION ANIMAL CLINICAL STUDIES

Effective Term

Semester A 2024/25

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Production Animal Clinical Studies

Subject Code

VM - Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

Course Number

4116

Academic Unit

Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS)

College/School

Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences (VM)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

8

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Completion of Year 4 courses with C grade or above

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The Production Animal Clinical Studies course is structured around the investigative approach, forming a comprehensive framework that students can build on as they integrate material from Livestock Husbandry, Animal Nutrition and Welfare, Function and Dysfunction, and Host, Agent and Defence, and assimilate knowledge and skills during this course. Integrated animal health planning and preventative medicine is an essential component of profitable and sustainable farming. This course will assist students in developing the competence and confidence to provide the service of integrated herd/flock health planning. Although populations (herds/flocks) are the core focus, individual animal medicine and surgery will also be discussed. Species covered include dairy and beef cattle, small ruminants, pigs and poultry. Production Animal Clinical Studies provides a sound foundation for clinical rotations in later parts of the programme. A variety of pedagogical techniques are used; including lectures, live animals, models and simulations, wet lab exercises, dry lab exercises and discussion, demonstrations, large group case discussions and auto-tutorials.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Gather and assimilate relevant information at an individual animal, mob/flock/herd, and farm-level, by collecting a complete history, conducting thorough environmental and physical examinations and selecting and interpreting appropriate diagnostic tests and samples	x	x	x
2	Evaluate mob/herd/flock reproductive data and information acquired from breeding soundness or reproductive examinations to advise on optimization of breeding management systems	x	x	x
3	Discuss nutritional and metabolic diseases in production animals including risk factors, treatment and preventative measures and advise on appropriate management strategies during transition periods	x	x	x
4	Discuss principles of endo- and ecto-parasite management in production animals including epidemiology, treatment and preventative methods	x	x	x
5	Evaluate protocols for biosecurity including isolation protocols, appropriate use of PPE and strategies for animal movement	x	x	x
6	Discuss the clinical presentation, transmission potential and pathogen(s) associated with important infectious diseases in production animals and the appropriate response to be taken to such a diagnosis	x	x	x
7	Assess an individual animal and design an appropriate sedation/anaesthesia/analgesia protocol for a given situation (e.g. a routine surgical procedure)	x	x	x
8	Outline a suitable approach to common surgical procedures performed in production animal species and perform common surgical procedures	x	x	x
9	Assess and resolve common dystocia presentations in cattle and small ruminants	x	x	x

10	Produce a preventative animal health plan, tailored to an individual farm		x	x	x
11	Collate, analyse and interpret farm production data with reference to existing target KPI's to identify areas for improvement		x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lectures, case discussions and tutorials	Lectures will provide essential facts. Case discussions will allow students to work through real-life clinical cases. During tutorials students will analyse and interpret data.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	74 hours
2	Practical classes*	Hands-on teaching of practical skills, both on-farm and in the clinical skills laboratory.	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	30 hours

Additional Information for LTAs

*Practical classes are COMPULSORY. Students can be absent from no more than one practical session per semester. Additional absence(s) from these session(s) constitute a course failure. Permission to make up missed practicals may be granted for excused absences only, and only where feasible (i.e., may not be possible for live animal or clinical skills classes). Unexcused absences do not entitle students to any make-up or alternative arrangements.

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Written sheep flock health and cattle herd health report assignments*	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11	20	
2	Quiz	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11	10	
3	Mid-semester examination (2.5 hrs)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	25	

4	Final examination (2.5 hrs)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11		25%
5	OSCE assessment	1, 2, 7, 8, 9	20	

Continuous Assessment (%)

75

Examination (%)

25

Examination Duration (Hours)

2.5

Additional Information for ATs

*A penalty of 5% of the total marks for the assessment task will be deducted per working day for late submissions, and no marks will be awarded for submissions more than 10 working days late.

1. Students must obtain at least 50% in the course overall, as well as obtain 50% in each of the examinations (Mid-Semester and Final) and pass the OSCE in order to pass the course as a whole.
2. Examinations and the OSCE will be held at scheduled examination times

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Written herd/flock health report assignments

Criterion

Ability to discuss, apply and integrate knowledge. Ability to interpret and present information in a manner appropriate for the intended audience (farmer).

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent integration and application of knowledge. Comprehensively discusses topic while considering clinical relevance. Evaluates solutions. Excellent interpretation and recommendations – factually correct, relevant and feasible – presentation excellent.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good integration and application of knowledge. Discusses topic while considering clinical relevance. Explains solutions. Good interpretation and recommendations – factually correct – presentation good.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Some integration and application of knowledge. Explains key concepts and recognizes clinical relevance. Suggests appropriate solutions. Some interpretation. Recommendations factually correct, however not tailored to scenario. Fair presentation.

Failure (F)

Inadequate knowledge with limited or no ability to integrate or apply to a clinical scenario. Suggests inappropriate solutions. Limited interpretation. Only a few correct or relevant recommendations and/or not feasible. Poorly presented.

Assessment Task

Quizzes and Examinations

Criterion

Ability to discuss, apply and integrate knowledge.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent integration and application of knowledge. Comprehensively discusses topic while considering clinical relevance. Evaluates solutions.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good integration and application of knowledge. Discusses topic while considering clinical relevance. Explains solutions.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Some integration and application of knowledge. Explains key concepts and recognizes clinical relevance. Suggests appropriate solutions.

Failure (F)

Inadequate knowledge with limited or no ability to integrate or apply to a clinical scenario. Suggests inappropriate solutions.

Assessment Task

OSCE assessment

Criterion

Demonstrates safety and competency in practical skills. Can ask and answer questions for a consultation in a professional manner.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent execution of task with few or no errors. No safety concerns. Excellent communication skills.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good execution of task, with some minor permissible errors. No safety concerns. Good communication skills.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate execution of task, but with more significant errors. No safety concerns. Adequate communication skills but makes some errors.

Failure (F)

Fails to demonstrate appropriate level of competency in practical procedures or completes procedures in an unsafe manner. Poor communication skills or unprofessional.

Additional Information for AR

Mark Range

The following is the mark range for each letter grade that must be used for assessment of any examinations or coursework of BVM courses (VM- and GE-coded) offered by PH and VCS:

A+: ≥85% A: 80-84.99% A-: 75-79.99% B+: 70-74.99% B: 65-69.99% B-: 60-64.99% C+: 55-59.99% C: 50-54.99%, F:<50%

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Animal health, Disease, Pathology, Population medicine, Surgery, Anaesthesiology, Theriogenology, Animal production, Clinical procedures, Nutrition, Pathogen, Biosecurity

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Lecture materials and accompanying notes provided by lecturers.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	These textbooks are meant to supplement the information presented in lecture and are best reviewed after lectures on an as-needed basis. We do not recommend that students read any of these texts prior to lecture due to the sheer volume of information.
2	Rebhun' s Diseases of Dairy Cattle 2nd edition by Thomas J Divers and Simon F Peek (2008) ISBN: 9781416031376.
3	Diseases of Cattle in Australasia 2nd edition by Tim J Parkinson, Jos J. Vermunt, Jakob Malmo and Richard A. Laven (2019) ISBN: 9780995102958
4	The Sheep: Health, Disease and Production by AL Ridler, N Bruere and D West (2018) ISBN: 978-0-9951001-1-4
5	Sheep flock health: a planned approach by Neil Sargison (2009) ISBN: 9781444302608
6	Smith, M.C. and Sherman, D.M.: Goat Medicine 2nd. Blackwell, Ames IA, 2009
7	Sheep and Goat Medicine 2nd edition by David G Pugh and Aubrey Nickie Baird (2012) ISBN: 9781437723533
8	Bovine Reproduction by Richard Hopper (2014) ISBN: 9781118470831.
9	Diseases of Swine 11th edition by Zimmerman et al. (2019) ISBN: 1119350921
10	Diseases of Poultry 14th edition by Swayne et al. (2020) ISBN: 1-119-37119-8