Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (BVN)

To be read in conjunction with Unitec's Academic Statute and associated Policies and Procedures and other relevant Policies.

These programme regulations apply to Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (Level 7, 360 credits)) (Ref:124284-1) programme, which leads to the award of the Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing (Level 7, 360 Credits) [Ref:3995-1] qualification.

These regulations come into effect from *Semester 2, 2019.*

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1. Ngā Ture Hei Whakaurunga | Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission to this programme, all applicants must meet two admission requirements:
- Requirements for either general admission, special admission, or discretionary admission
- English language requirements

1.1 Whakaurunga Whānui | General Admission

To be admitted to this programme all applicants must be at least 16 years of age on the date of the programme's commencement for the semester in which they wish to enrol (or provide a completed Early Release Exemption form), and meet the following requirements:

A minimum of 42 credits at NCEA Level 3 or higher on the National Qualifications Framework, with 14 credits at Level 3 or higher in each of two science-related subjects, with a further 14 credits at Level 3 or higher taken from no more than two additional domains on the National Qualifications Framework;
And
a minimum of 14 credits at Level 1 or higher in Mathematics or Pangarau on the National

Qualifications Framework;
And
a minimum of 8 credits at Level 2 or higher in English or Te Reo Maori; a minimum of 4 credits must be in Reading and a minimum of 4 credits must be in Writing;
Or
At least 3 'C' passes in the New Zealand University Bursaries Examinations in science or health science related field, where appropriate or equivalent;
Or
Successful completion of an appropriate qualification at Level 3 or above in a science or health science related field, where appropriate or equivalent;
Or
Equivalent.

1.2 Whakaurunga Motuhake | Special Admission

Applicants must have:

a. attained the age of 20 years on or before the first day of the semester in which study for the programme is to commence; and

b. provided sufficient evidence of aptitude or appropriate work or other life experience that would indicate a successful outcome in the qualification.

1.3 Whakaurunga Kōwhiringa | Discretionary Admission

In exceptional cases an applicant who does not meet the general admission requirements and who has not reached the age of 20 on or before the first day of the semester in which study for the Certificate is to commence may apply for discretionary admission. Applicants must have:
A minimum of 68 credits at NCEA Level 2 in their best four subjects;
Or
Have a maximum total of 12 in *New Zealand Sixth Form Certificate* in their best four subjects;
Or
Equivalent.

In assessing whether to grant discretionary admission in exceptional cases, the primary focus will be on the applicant's level of preparedness for study at the required level.

1.4 Whakaurunga Reo Pākehā | English Language Admission Requirements

Applicants must have achieved a minimum standard of English as demonstrated by a minimum of 8 credits at NCEA Level 2 in English (4 in Reading, 4 in Writing).

International applicants must also meet the English Language Entry Requirements stated in Unitec's Admission Requirements Procedure.

1.5 Whakaritenga whakauru atu| Additional Admission Requirements

In addition to meeting the requirements for general, special, or discretionary admission, applicants must:

a. have completed at least three days' work-experience in a veterinary clinic before applying for this programme;
   AND

b. provide:
   i. a letter of recommendation from the clinic at which they completed their work experience;

     ii.   a reference from an employer where the prospective student has worked with the public; and

     iii.   a reference from a teacher (or similar) attesting to the applicant's social skills.

And

c.   sign a consent form that allows Unitec to complete a search of a Ministry of Justice convictions database

     i.   In the event this search uncovers any un-declared convictions, the relevant application will be referred to the Admissions Committee.

And

d.   provide a completed medical declaration indicating there is no evidence of a medical condition that will affect their ability to practice safely as a veterinary nurse;

Or

Successfully completed the *New Zealand Certificate in Animal Technology Level 5* or equivalent

Or

Successfully completed the *New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing Level 6* or equivalent.

Applicants whose veterinary nursing qualifications include credits at Level 4 may be admitted to the *Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing* following successful completion of additional courses from the NZCAT or NZDVN schedule as required.

2.   Paearu Kōwhiri Tukanga| Selection Criteria & Process

2.1   Paearu Kōwhiri | Selection Criteria

When the number of eligible applicants for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following selection criteria will be applied:
- previous academic history;
- motivation to complete the programme;
- written and verbal communication skills; and
- general aptitude

Applicants who meet the maximum number of listed criteria will be the preferred candidates

2.2   Tukanga Kōwhiri | Selection Process

Selection will be made by Unitec staff members with the delegated authority to offer places to applicants. These staff members will select students on the basis of written information supplied on the enrolment form. At the discretion of the delegated staff members, an interview (face-to-face or electronic) may be required. A list of delegations for offering places will be noted annually by the Programme Academic Quality Committee responsible for the programme.

3.   Ngā Ture Hei Whakawhiwhi Tohu Mātauranga | Requirements for the Award of the Qualification

3.1   Whakaemi Tūtukitanga | Credit Accumulation

3.1.1   Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing

To be awarded the *Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing*, a student must successfully complete a minimum of 360 credits in the pattern set out in Table 1 from the courses set out in Table 2.

3.1.2   Table 1: Credit Requirements for Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing

Level	Compulsory Credits	Elective Credits	Total Credits
5	120		120
6	135		135
7	75		75
6 or 7		30	30
			360

Table 2: Course Details – Compulsory and Elective Courses for Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing

Compulsory courses are shown in **bold** and Elective courses* in *italics*.

CODE	TITLE	CREDITS	PRE-REQUISITES	CO-REQUISITES
Level 5				
NSCI5702	**Introduction to Animal Behaviour and Welfare**	**15**		
NSCI5705	**Animal Clinical Care**	**15**		
NSCI5710	**Animal Clinical Care Practicum**	**30**		**NSCI5705**
NSCI5711	**Veterinary Anaesthetic and Surgical Procedures**	**15**		
NSCI5712	**Introduction to Veterinary Clinical Practice**	**15**		
NSCI5720	**Vertebrate Anatomy and Physiology**	**15**		
NSCI5738	**Principles of Animal Husbandry**	**15**		
Level 6				
NSCI6101	**Veterinary Medical and Surgical Care Practicum**	**30**	**NSCI5702 & NSCI5705 & NSCI5710 & NSCI5711 & NSCI5712 & NSCI5720 & NSCI5738**	**NSCI6104**
NSCI6102	**Animal Disease and Pharmacology**	**15**	**NSCI5720 OR (NSCI5103 and NSCI5104)**	
NSCI6103	**Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging**	**15**	**NSCI5720 OR (NSCI5103 and NSCI5104)**	
NSCI6104	**Veterinary Medical and Surgical Care**	**30**	**NSCI5702 & NSCI5705 & NSCI5710 & NSCI5711 & NSCI5712 & NSCI5720 & NSCI5738**	
NSCI6300	**Veterinary Anaesthesia**	**15**	**NSCI5702 & NSCI5705 & NSCI5710 & NSCI5711 & NSCI5712 & NSCI5720 & NSCI5738**	
NSCI6504	**Veterinary Laboratory Procedures**	**15**	**NSCI5720 OR (NSCI5103 and NSCI5104)**	

NSCI6730	**Research Methods**	**15**		
NSCI6731	*Companion Animal Behaviour*	*15*		
NSCI6732	*Animal Health and Welfare*	*15*		
NSCI6737	*Animal Breeding and Nutrition*	*15*		
NSCI6741	*Vertebrate Physiology*	*15*		
NSCI6739	*Behavioural Ecology*	*15*		
NSCI6738	*Captive Wild Animal Management*	*15*		
NSCI6747	*Pacific Veterinary Nursing Practicum*	*15*	*NSCI5710*	
Level 7				
NSCI7101	**Global Issues in Animal Welfare**	**15**		
NSCI7109	**Evidence-based Veterinary Nursing**	**15**		
NSCI7731	**Negotiated Research**	**30**		**NSCI6730**
NSCI7421	**One Health**	**15**		
NZSI7103	*Anthrozoology*	*15*		
NSCI7106	*Applied Animal Behaviour Science*	*15*		
NSCI7810	*Internship*	*15*		

*The electives shown here represent a small range of those available. Those listed focus on animal welfare and behaviour; students seeking to pursue practice management may select business courses, while other students may choose to pursue a different area of interest by studying courses from other Pathways

3.2   Mahi Waehanga Pāhekoheko | Integrated and Work-based components

Students must attend 100 per cent of work-based/clinical practice components for the following courses:

i.   *NSCI5710: Animal clinical care practicum* (total of 240 clinical hours);

ii.   NSCI6101: Veterinary medical and surgical care practicum (total of 240 clinical hours)

Any student who does not meet this requirement will need to follow the process for *Special Assessment Circumstance* AND make up clinical hours as determined by the Academic Leader.

3.3   Mahi Akoranga I A Wāhanga | Course Load per Semester

The normal full-time course load is 60 credits per semester, or 75 credits with the approval of the relevant academic authority.

3.4   Whakaurunga Takiwā | Enrolment periods

a.   The normal enrolment period is three years (full-time study) or six years (part-time study).

b.   Students who are prevented by ill health, or other cause, from completing the programme requirements within the maximum period of enrolment, the relevant academic authority may approve suspension of enrolment for up to a maximum of 12 months.

c.   The maximum period to complete this qualification, with the approval of the relevant academic authority is eight years.

3.5   Hōtaka Whakarerekē O Ngā Āhuatanga Ako | Modified Programmes of Study

There are no modified programmes of study in this programme.

3.6   Whakawhiwhinga Puta | Exit or Milestone Awards

3.6.1   Exit Award

To be awarded the Exit Award of *New Zealand Certificate in Animal Technology [NZ2490; Ver:1] (Level 5, 120 credits)* **OR** *New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing [Ref: 2491; Ver:1] (Level 6, 120 credits)*, student must have:

a.   accumulated the number and level of Credits described in the regulations of that Qualification; and

b.   lodged a completed application to be awarded the Milestone Award with the Graduation Office; and

c.   as part of the application, declared that he or she does not currently intend to enrol or continue in the study of the Qualification.

An exit award will not be awarded to any Student who has, at the time of application for the award or at the time of the award, enrolled in future semesters for any Course which is part of the Qualification.

3.7   Ērā atu Whakawhiwhinga | Senior Scholar Award

To be eligible for consideration to receive a Senior Scholar Award a student:

a.   must have achieved a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 8.0 (there is no rounding) or better across all degree courses for which s/he has been assessed in the programme; and

b.   must have achieved at least 2/3 of the total credits for the degree through enrolment in Unitec courses (i.e. have achieved no more than 1/3 of the credits by cross credits from another institution or by the assessment of prior learning).

4.   Tūtukitanga Whakamihi | Credit Recognition

4.1   Whakawhiti Tūtukitanga | Cross Credit

a.   Credits will not be awarded for successful study that took place more than 5 years prior to the date of first enrolment in the programme.

b.   A student may be awarded credits or exemptions in recognition of successful equivalent study, at the same or a higher level in the context of another programme.

c.   The credit recognition may be:

   i.   specified, where there is direct equivalence of the learning outcomes of a completed course and a course in the programme; or

   ii. unspecified, where the previous study has taken place in a programme with a similar philosophy but there is no exact match in the programme's courses.

4.2   Aromatawai Tōmua | Assessment of Prior Learning (APL)

Assessment of Prior Learning is available for all courses in this programme. APL decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis under the Unitec Assessment of Prior Learning Procedure.

4.3   Ngā whakawhitinga | Credit Transfer

Students enrolling in the Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing will receive credit for courses completed as part of the *New Zealand Certificate in Animal Technology* (Level 5, 120 credits) [NZCAT] and/or the *New Zealand Diploma in Veterinary Nursing* (Level 6, 120 credits) [NZDVN]. The specific courses are identified on the table below.

Table 2a: Courses available for credit recognition from the NZCAT and the NZDVN

	Course		Credits
		Course	**Credits**
NZCAT	NSCI5720	Vertebrate Anatomy and Physiology	15
	NSCI5702	Introduction to Animal Behaviour and Welfare	15
	NSCI5705	Animal Clinical Care	15
	NSCI5710	Animal Clinical Care Practicum	30
	NSCI5711	Veterinary Anaesthetic and Surgical Procedures	15
	NSCI5712	Introduction to Veterinary Clinical Practice	15
	NSCI5738	Principles of Animal Husbandry	15
NZDVN	NSCI6104	Veterinary Medical and Surgical Care	30
	NSCI6101	Veterinary Medical and Surgical Care Practicum	30
	NSCI6102	Animal Disease and Pharmacology	15
	NSCI6103	Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging	15
	NSCI6300	Veterinary Anaesthesia	15
	NSCI6504	Veterinary Laboratory Procedures	15

5. Waeture Aromatawai | Assessment Regulations

Assessment regulations comply with Unitec's Assessment and Grading Procedures and Regulations.

5.1 Paparahi Aromatawai | Assessment basis

Assessment in this programme is achievement based using an 11 point grading scale.

Students must obtain at least 50% overall score in any achievement based course in order to pass that course.

Assessment elements in each course are generally compulsory unless noted otherwise.

5.2 Ākoranga Taumata | Course grades

Course grades will be determined by the mathematical aggregation of weighted assessment marks and reported according to the following scales. Students must obtain at least 50% overall score in order to pass achievement based assessment.

Table 3: Achievement based (11-point) assessment system

Grade	Meaning	Result	Percentage
A+	Distinction	Credits Earned	90 – 100
A	Distinction	Credits Earned	85 – 89
A-	Distinction	Credits Earned	80 – 84
B+	Merit	Credits Earned	75 – 79
B	Merit	Credits Earned	70 – 74
B-	Merit	Credits Earned	65 – 69
C+	Pass	Credits Earned	60 – 64
C	Pass	Credits Earned	55 – 59
C-	Pass	Credits Earned	50 – 54
D	Fail	No Credits Earned	40 – 49
E	Fail	No Credits Earned	0 – 39

5.3 Paearu Taumata | Grade criteria

Students may be awarded one of the following grades for a course as per the criteria described in Table 4:

Table 4: Grade Criteria

Grade	Meaning	Criteria
CR	Credit Recognition	The student has applied for and been awarded a credit recognition from another qualification
CTG	Continuing	The Course runs for more than one semester and the final Summative Assessment has not yet occurred. No Credits earned
DEF	Deferred	The student has approval to complete a Course Assessment beyond the schedule date. Unless an exception has been approved, any Deferred Grade remaining on a student's record beyond a duration equal to that of the original course will be changed to the grade to which the Student would otherwise be entitled. No Credits earned.
DNC	Did not Complete	The grade DNC (Did Not Complete) is recorded if a student has either withdrawn after 75% of the scheduled Course duration; or not attempted a compulsory item of Assessment within a Course. No Credits earned.
ES	Student Exchange	The Student has completed an approved inter-institutional exchange and it is not appropriate for another grade to be awarded. No Credits earned.
NGA	No Grade Associated	Course Assessment and reporting of results is carried out by an external agency. No Credits earned
R	Restricted Pass	The student has been awarded a restricted pass subject to Relevant clause in this schedule. Credits earned.
W	Withdrawn	The student withdraws from a Course after 10% of the scheduled Course duration and up to, or at, the date at which 75% of the scheduled Course has passed. No credits earned.
#	Estimated Grade	If any portion of Summative Assessment has been estimated, the final grade will be an estimated grade, and annotated "#" on the Student's Academic Record.

6. Aromatawai Mahinga | Assessment Procedures

6.1 Aromatawai I Roto I Te Reo | Assessment in Te Reo

All students have the right to submit any summative assessment task in Te reo Māori. The process for submission of summative assessment work in Te reo Māori is detailed in the Student Handbook.

Assessment in Te Reo Māori is governed by the Assessment in Te Reo Māori procedure.

6.2 Tāpaetanga Tōmuri | Submission and late submission of work

a. The due dates for all summative assessment work will be notified at the commencement of each course.

b. Any assessment that is submitted late (and does not have a prior approved extension) will be penalised by a deduction of 10% per day of the student's assignment mark, up to five (5) days,

inclusive of weekends.

c. Applications for extensions must be made by in writing to the relevant Academic Authority responsible for the assessment at least 24 hours before the due date. All applications must be accompanied by supporting evidence. An extension of up to five days may be awarded.

d. Any extension will be carried out within a specified time period as agreed with the relevant academic authority and no further extensions will be granted.

e. No assignments will be accepted five (5) days (inclusive of weekends) after the due date. If the assessment is not compulsory, the student will receive a 'zero' grade for that assignment. If the assignment is compulsory, then the student will receive a DNC grade for the entire course.

6.3 Whakamātautau Anō | Resubmission or Reassessment

A student may apply to undertake a resubmission/reassessment for a failed assessment within 5 days of receiving their marked assessment. Award of a re-sit and/or re-submission is offered at the point of course results ratification at the end of each semester.

a. Students are entitled to only one reassessment or resubmission per course.

b. Resubmission/Reassessment is not available for any controlled assessments (i.e. tests, and examinations).

c. All resubmissions/reassessments will be carried out within a specified time period as agreed with the relevant academic authority.

d. In all cases for resubmission, the original marked assignment will accompany resubmitted assignments. If resubmitted work is not accompanied by the original marked assignment, the resubmitted work will not be marked and the original grade will stand.

e. The maximum grade for any resubmission/reassessment of an assessment is the lowest pass grade.

f. Assignments that are handed in late are not eligible for resubmission or reassessment.

6.4 Āhuatanga Aromatawai Motuhake | Special Assessment Circumstances

Any student whose performance in a summative assessment is affected by factors beyond their control may apply for Special Assessment Circumstances under the following conditions:

a. The student was unable to complete the summative assessment item; *or*

b. The students' ability to complete the summative assessment (preparation/performance) was impaired; *or*

c. The student needs to request extra time to complete the summative assessment (see 5.4.2 above).

6.5 Pāhi Rāhui | Restricted passes

A restricted pass may be awarded in a course which was narrowly failed and where there is ample evidence that marginal failure is compensated by good overall performance.

a. A restricted pass is awarded at the discretion of the relevant academic authority and may not be applied for directly by a student. The relevant academic authority may, at their discretion, use a restricted pass to:
- set conditions for future performance in other courses;
- prevent a student from using a restricted pass to meet the prerequisite requirements of another course.

b. A student may decline the award of a restricted pass by notifying the relevant academic authority in writing not later than 20 working days from notification of the results.

6.6   Tuaruatanga | Repeating Courses

Students may enrol and repeat courses that they have failed, up to 2 times. Permission to enrol for a third time is governed by 5.4.7 below.

Students who are repeating a course would normally be required to submit all assessment items. In some cases, with the prior approval of the relevant academic authority, students may not be required to repeat an equivalent assessment item that they had previously passed. This should be negotiated within the first two weeks of the commencement of the course.

6.7   Whakakorenga | Exclusions

No student will be allowed to enrol in any course more than twice unless there are exceptional circumstances approved by the relevant academic authority.

a. Any Student who, over the last four semesters of his or her studies at Unitec and any relevant study at another institution, has not achieved a Pass Grade in Courses equivalent to one half or more of the Credits in which he or she has been enrolled over that period, may be excluded by the relevant Academic Authority from enrolment in assessed Courses in any Programme, and may not be permitted to re-enrol in any Programme without the prior written permission of the relevant Academic Authority.

b. A Student who has not achieved a Pass Grade n the same Course on two occasions shall not be enrolled again for that Course except with the permission of the relevant Academic Authority.

c. The relevant Academic Authority will advise the Student in writing of their decision, and the reasons for such decision, and any orders made.

6.8   Examination Regulations

All examinations in this programme are governed by the Unitec Examinations Regulations;

6.9   Tono Pīra | Appeals

Students may appeal the decisions made under these regulations in accordance with the Student Appeal Procedure.

7.   Āhuatanga Tauwhirowhiro Ritenga | Transitional Arrangements

7.1   Āhuatanga Tauwhirowhiro Ritenga | Transitional Arrangements

There are no transitional arrangements in this programme

7.2   Hōtaka Whakarerekē O Ngā Āhuatanga Ako | Modified Programmes of Study

There are no modified programmes of study in this programme.

8.   Whakaritenga Whānui | General Provisions

8.1   Whakamāramatanga ā-kaupapa | Definition of Terms

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions shall apply:

- 'Affected' means influenced in some way. For time-constrained items such as tests, Examinations, and presentations this may include the inability to attend any or all of the Assessment events, or diminished performance. For other items it may be the inability to meet deadlines, or diminished performance within deadlines.
- 'Factors beyond the control of the Student' means any circumstance or situation, which the Student could not have reasonably prevented, including, but not limited to, sickness or injury to the Student, or bereavement.
- 'Relevant academic authority' refers to an individual or role holder, or in some cases a committee, who have been delegated the authority to make a decision within a specific circumstance. A schedule of the various relevant academic authority delegations are maintained by the Programme Academic Quality Committee responsible for the Programme.

8.2   Ētahi Atu Whakaritenga | Other provisions not covered elsewhere

9.   Kupu Āpiti | Schedules or Appendices