

3. Assessment Procedures

3.1 Formative assessments (homework)

- 3.1.1 Homework will be set at the conclusion of each teaching weekend
- 3.1.2 Homework will be required to be submitted two weeks after the date set or two weeks prior to the next teaching weekend whichever is the later. A submission date will be clarified as the homework is set.
- 3.1.3 Students are expected to spend a *minimum* of 10 hours on each homework including research and write-up. Students should not expect classroom lectures to provide the full information expected to be shown in answers.
- 3.1.4 Homework should be typed. Diagrams where required should be hand drawn.
- 3.1.5 Homework will be designed to encourage thinking and deduction around the subject and will partly be preparative for the next taught weekend.
- 3.1.6 Homework will be formatively assessed by the lead instructor. A feedback sheet will be provided in advance of the next teaching weekend indicating areas in which further work is required. Opportunity for discussion will be available at the next taught weekend for students requiring further direction with their studies

3.2 Summative Assessments (final mark assessments at end of course)

3.2.1 Written Paper

- 3.2.1.1 The written paper will comprise a three hour paper expected to consist of a combination of essays (2 x 45 minutes) , short answer questions (4 x 10 mins) , and multiple choice questions (15 x 2 minutes) leaving 20 minutes available to read the paper and check answers within the time. This structure may be amended.
- 3.2.1.2 The paper will be sat in the usual lecture room with which students will be familiar
- 3.2.1.3 The questions will be set by the lead instructor and a marking scheme agreed in advance with the examiner.
- 3.2.1.4 The written paper will be invigilated by two persons
- 3.2.1.5 Lantra Test Regulations will be observed.

3.2.2 Practical examination

- 3.2.2.1 Students will be observed working alone on a horse for which a written history will be provided to inform the treatment. Horses taking part in the exam will be palpated in advance by a non-examining instructor and findings noted.



- 3.2.2.2 Students will be marked on horse handling skill and awareness, safe working, massage competency, professional approach.
- 3.2.2.3 Individual techniques will be marked. Basic strokes which will attract a specific mark include effleurage, compressions, tapotement, kneading, skin rolling, friction.
- 3.2.2.4 Students will be questioned as to their choice of treatment during the practical session and be expected to describe the stroke being used, reason for choice thereof, and identify the anatomical area worked upon.
- 3.2.2.5 At the end of or during the practical session (depending on the most suitable timing having regard to the welfare of the horse) students will be asked to describe a suitable stretch to benefit the horse in accordance with their treatment, and to demonstrate the same safely.
- 3.2.2.6 After the treatment students must complete a report form detailing any issues found, treatment undertaken and future recommendations/aftercare advice. Completion of this form will form part of the examination and the students' form will be compared to the examiners' pre-massage palpation assessment.
- 3.2.2.7 Two Practical Examiners will be present with the lead instructor. The Practical Examiners will each complete assessment forms. The examiners will subsequently discuss their assessments to confirm an agreed result. Where agreement cannot be reached the lead instructor will moderate the discussion and offer views on the exam performance to help achieve an agreed result.

3.2.3 Viva Voce

- 3.2.3.1 Students will speak on an individual basis with a veterinary surgeon for a period of 15 minutes
- 3.2.3.2 A horse will be present for the duration of the examination for purposes of palpation, where necessary, and gait analysis.
- 3.2.3.3 Students will be asked to direct, and observe the horse move on a straight line in walk and trot and to comment on the horse's movement.
- 3.2.3.4 Students will be expected to answer several pre-prepared questions any of which may be developed by the vet to a more in-depth discussion. The questions will allow the vet to assess the student's understanding of anatomy and basic equine healthcare, ability to use correct terminology, and ability to communicate with a fellow professional of the veterinary healthcare team.
- 3.2.3.5 An observer will sit in on the viva voce to record questions but take no part in proceedings
- 3.2.3.6 The examining vet will complete a marksheet at the end of each viva and hand it to the observer

3.2.4 Case Studies

- 3.2.4.1 Case studies will be launched at the beginning of the course. Students will be required to work on three horses on three separate occasions (three sessions for each horse) and to provide a Case Study Report for each horse covering the treatment series.
- 3.2.4.2 The complete Case Study Report for each horse should include the following compulsory elements: history form with initial static/dynamic assessment, confirmation of veterinary permission to proceed with treatment, owner's authority to proceed, and a concluding report for the animal's veterinary surgeon. The use of photographs and video is expected. Completion of all of these elements contributes 40% to the total mark for each case study.
- 3.2.4.3 The three session reports comprise 60% of the final marks for each complete Case Study Report and are expected to demonstrate the student's development of palpation, practical skill, and of the rationale behind treatment decisions. The session reports should show development of understanding of each equine's form, how this relates to its particular discipline, and responds to treatment.
- 3.2.4.4 Case Study Reports must be submitted by the date of the final (exam) weekend.
- 3.2.4.5 Case Study Reports will be marked by the lead instructor and the written paper examiner neither of whom will know the horses involved

3.2.5 Students requiring additional support

- 3.2.5.1 Students with a specific educational need will be given extra time in the written examination and reasonable adjustments will be made in accordance with Lantra Guidance contained in the Corporate Providers' Handbook.
- 3.2.5.2 Any student indisposed or unable to sit or complete any of the final summative test elements due to accident, illness, bereavement, serious disturbance, or inappropriate alternative arrangements (in the case of students requiring additional support) should apply to Lantra for Special Consideration within 5 days of the date of the test in accordance with the provisions in the Corporate Providers' Handbook.

3.3 Final Assessment Marking Schemes and Pass Criteria

3.3.1 Marking Schemes

ELEMENT	Marking system	Notes	PASS CRITERIA FOR AWARD
Written paper	0-100%	According to pre-set marking scheme for questions	50%+
Practical exam	Pass, Fail		Pass
Viva Voce	Pass, Borderline pass, Fail	Borderline may still carry a pass if all other elements passed	Pass
Case Studies	0-100% for each	Comprising 40% for compulsory elements and 60% for the treatment reports	Aggregate 50%+ from all three case studies

3.3.2 Pass Criteria

- 3.3.2.1 Students passing all elements of assessment will attain the Award in Equine Sports Massage
- 3.3.2.2 Students achieving a borderline pass in the viva voce will have their other marks taken in to consideration in deciding whether or not to allow them to achieve the final Award. Students passing all other elements *may*, at the examining vet's discretion after discussion with the lead instructor, be allowed to pass. Students achieving a borderline pass who fail any other summative element will be required to re-sit the viva voce element also.
- 3.3.2.3 Students will be notified of their results within 21 days

3.3.3 Re-sits

- 3.3.3.1 Students who fail any element will be entitled to a maximum of two retakes (for each of which a charge will be made) for each element of assessment.
- 3.3.3.2 Students failing to achieve a 50% aggregate score in the Case Study Reports will need to resubmit.



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- 3.3.3.3 Re-sits will be scheduled as soon as reasonably practicable after the results are known and within two months of the exam results release.
- 3.3.3.4 Students not meeting the required standard after the maximum number of re-sits or Case Study Report submissions will NOT achieve the final Award. No refund of fees will be given in the event of a failure to reach the assessed standard after all re-sit opportunities have been exhausted
- 3.3.3.5 Re-sits must be taken within two years from the start of the course after which time entitlement to re-sit will cease and no award will be made.

3.4 Internal and External Verification

- 3.4.1 Lantra requirements for IV and EV moderation will be met.