

Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data			
Awarding Institution	Hartpury University		
Teaching Institution	Hartpury		
Delivery Location	Hartpury		
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	None		
Department responsible for programme	Equine		
Programme Title	BSc (Hons) Equine Science		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None		
Highest Award Title	BSc (Hons) Equine Science with Integrated Placement Year BSc (Hons) Equine Science		
Default Award Title	None		
Award Titles	BSc Equine Science with Integrated Placement Year BSC Equine Science DipHE Equine Science CertHE Equine Science		
Mode(s) of Study	FT / IP / PT		
Codes	UCAS: D334	JACS: D422	
		HESA:	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences Events, Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism		
Last Major Approval Date	31 August 2018	Valid from	1 September 2018
Amendment Approval Date		Amended with effect from	
Version	2.0		
Review Due By	1 September 2024		

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The target award of a BSc (Hons) Equine Science is a three year full-time programme, with the option of doing a four year degree with a placement year between the second and third year. The degree is designed to develop a sound general knowledge of the world of equine science, whilst providing a broad spectrum of modules to enable the student to tailor the degree programme to suit their interests and support their progression into employment into their career.

General Aims

The programme aims to encourage students to think constructively and critically, discuss and evaluate concepts and theories in the field of equine science, and propose sound and reasoned solutions to problems. Throughout the programme, students are encouraged to build on scientific mammalian principles to enable them to develop a knowledge and understanding of the normal equid in health and disease, and to use this knowledge to study the equid comparatively, and in the context of the modern global equine industry. Through the inclusion of the optional work placement and international study opportunities, the BSc (Hons) Equine Science programme allows students to develop their subject and personal skills within a range of professional environments both in the UK and overseas.

Specific Aims

1. To allow students the opportunity to choose from a range of current topical subject areas, whilst including nutrition, equine therapy, breeding and equine behaviour;
2. To develop the abilities of the student in a rigorous but constructive way through a range of assessment methods including case study analysis and practical assessments;
3. To develop students practical skills through the application of a range of professional techniques and equipment including nutritional analysis, haematological and biochemical analysis, equine first aid and husbandry techniques;
4. To offer students the opportunity to engage in facilities and events through volunteer opportunities, modules requirements, such as equine therapy, or work experience;
5. To give the students the opportunity to design, construct and undertake scientific research relevant to the field of equine science;
6. To facilitate the students ability to recognise and utilise constructive, general feedback and apply it across a range of subjects and tasks undertaken;
7. To enable students to progress onto postgraduate study or research within a range of subject areas.

Programme requirements for the purposes of the Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR)

Graduates from the BSc (Hons) Equine Science programme will have gained a thorough knowledge of the normal horse in health and disease and use this knowledge to study the horse in the context of the present day equine industry. The programme will have allowed the student to explore and develop the theme of the horse as an athlete and consider all aspects contributing to its performance.

Students will have been required to pass core modules that contain information on equine and comparative animal anatomy, as well as exercise physiology, nutrition, and research methods. Students will have also completed an independent scientific investigation. In addition to these core subject areas, equine science students will have undertaken a number of optional modules that investigate a broad spectrum of subject areas within the field of equine science, including behaviour, stud and reproductive techniques, therapy and rehabilitation, as well as the equine business industry.

Students can benefit from gaining valuable work experience during the year work placement which is optional in this programme. There are also study abroad and exchange opportunities available to students on the equine science degree.

Part 3: Programme Structure for : BSc (Hons) Equine Science

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student**, including:

- 1 level and credit requirements
- 2 interim award requirements
- 3 module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Awards
	Foundation Year	Not applicable.	Not applicable.	<p><u>CertHE Equine Science</u> Credit requirements: 120 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 90 are at level 4 or above.</p> <p><u>DipHE Equine Science</u> Credit Requirements: 240 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 210 are at level 4 or above and not less than 90 at level 5 or above.</p>
	Year 1	Equine Functional Anatomy (HEQXN8-30-4) Fundamental Skills for the Equine Scientist (HEQXNL-30-4) Equine Veterinary Science (HEQXN5-15-4) Animal Nutrition (HANXK5-15-4) Equine Industry (HEQXNK-15-4) Animal Genetics (HANXNV-15-4); or Equitation (HEQXN6-15-4)	Not applicable.	<p><u>BSc Equine Science</u> Credit Requirements: 300 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 270 are at level 4 or above, not less than 150 at level 5 or above and not less than 60 at level 6 or above.</p> <p><u>BSc Equine Science (IP)</u> Credit Requirements: 300 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 270 are at level 4 or above, not less than 150 at level 5 or above and not less than 60 at level 6 or above. This must include the Year Work Placement module.</p>
	Year 2	Equine Exercise Physiology (HANXRG-30-5) Undergraduate Research Process (HANXU5-15-5) Equine Nutrition (HEQXRC-15-5)	Students are normally required to select 60 credits from the optional modules listed below: Applied Stud Management (HEQXRJ-30-5) Introduction to Equine Behaviour (HEQXRF-15-5) Equine Disease & Disorders (HEQXRA-15-5) Advanced Equitation (HEQXR5-15-5) Equine Biomechanics (HEQXR8-15-5) New Venture Creation (HSPXTX-15-5) Animal Microbiology (HANXRK-15-5) Equine Diagnostics and Therapy (HEQXR9-15-5) International Academic Study Portfolio (HANXRP-15-5) International Academic Study Project (HANXRQ-30-5) International Academic Study Extended Project (HANXRR-45-5)	<p><u>BSc (Hons) Equine Science</u> Credit requirements: 360 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 330 are at level 4 or above, not less than 210 are at level 5 or above and not less than 90 at level 6 or above. This must include all compulsory modules.</p> <p><u>BSc (Hons) Equine Science (IP)</u> Credit Requirements: 360 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 330 are at level 4 or above, not less than 210 are at level 5 or above and not less than 90 at level 6 or above. This must include all compulsory modules and the Year Work Placement module.</p>
	Optional Year	Year Work Placement (HANVK6-15-5)		
	Year 3	Developments in Equine Science (HEQV4K-15-6) Undergraduate Dissertation (HANV3R-45-6)	Students are normally required to select 60 credits from the optional modules listed below: Equine Sports Medicine (HEQV4N-15-6) Equine Ethics and Welfare (HEQV4L-15-6) Contemporary Issues in Equestrian Sport (HEQV4H-15-6) Equine Therapy and Rehabilitation (HEQV4P-15-6) Applied Equine Ethology (HEQV4R-15-6) Equine Nutrition for Performance (HEQV4M-15-6)	

			Undergraduate Independent Study (HANV3M-15-6) Epidemiology (HANV3H-15-6) Advanced Animal Microbiology (HANV4T-15-6) Neonatal and Foal Medicine (HEQV4Q-15-6)	

Part time:

The part time student journey from Entry through to Graduation is individually negotiated with the student.

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

The award route provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

Learning Outcomes:	Equine Functional Anatomy	Fundamental Skills for the Equine	Equine Veterinary Science	Equine Industry	Equitation	Animal Nutrition	Animal Genetics	Equine Exercise Physiology	Undergraduate Research Process	Equine Nutrition	Introduction to Equine Behaviour	Equine Disease and Disorders	Advanced Equitation	Equine Biomechanics	New Venture Creation	Animal Microbiology	Equine Diagnostics and Therapy	Applied Stud Management	International Academic Study Portfolio	International Academic Study Project	International Academic Study Extended Project	Year Work Placement	Undergraduate Dissertation	Developments in Equine Science	Contemporary Issues in Equestrian Sport	Applied Equine Ethology	Undergraduate Independent Study	Equine Nutrition for Performance	Equine Sports Medicine	Equine Therapy and Rehabilitation	Neonatal and Foal Medicine	Epidemiology	Equine Ethics and Welfare	Advanced Animal Microbiology
1. Knowledge and critical awareness of the strengths, weaknesses and future developments of key areas of science relating to the equine industry, normally including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equine anatomy and physiology. Equine exercise physiology. Equine nutrition. Equine sports medicine. Equine veterinary science. Equine reproduction. Statistics and research methods. 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. A thorough comprehension of the current developments in equine science and related disciplines which would combine to support continuing best practice.	✓		✓	✓				✓		✓			✓					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3. A comprehensive understanding of the broad range of techniques utilised within equine science research.	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. An understanding of legislative, ethical and moral constraints within the equine industry as a whole.			✓	✓				✓		✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5. Innovative individual approaches to the application of knowledge gained through the programme in order to identify and resolve problems encountered.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
6. The combination of applied and academic knowledge to develop competency in the subject specific/professional/practical skills required to gain employment within the biological science industry.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓								

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

[illegible]

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[illegible]

Part 5: Student Learning and Student Support

Teaching and learning strategies to enable learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

There is a policy for a minimum average requirement of 15 hours in year one and 12 hours/week contact time over the course of the full undergraduate programme. This contact time encompasses a range of face: face activities as described below. In addition a range of other learning activities will be embedded within the programme which, together with the contact time, will enable learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated.

On the BSc (Hons) Equine Science programme teaching is a mixture of lectures, seminar sessions, practical sessions both in the laboratory and on the yard combined with scheduled and independent learning.

Scheduled Learning

May include lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and workshops; fieldwork; and external visits. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made.

Independent Learning

May include hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc. These sessions constitute an average time per level as indicated in the table below. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made.

Placement Learning

Will include an optional placement year and students may elect to study abroad as part of this programme. By the end of the course these students will have benefitted from completing work experience with opportunities to reflect upon their personal development and improving levels of skills relevant to their programme. This experience will give each student a valuable insight into different aspects of industry (national or international) and may have helped formulate ideas of possible careers available following graduation.

International Academic Study

Within this programme there is an opportunity to gain academic credit for a period of studying abroad. The student would be supported to identify an opportunity of interest, which may be with established institution partners or by individual arrangement. All periods of study abroad would have to meet the institutions requirements before enrolment on the International Academic Study opportunity modules.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

This specification is supported by a VLE where students will be able to find all necessary module information. Direct links to information sources will also be provided from within the VLE.

Careers

To support learner's career preparations, careers personnel visit the institution on a regular basis and the students can use all the on line resources. Tutors will also offer subject specific careers advice through module sessions or individual tutorials. Careers Fairs are arranged periodically to allow students to engage directly with employers from the industry sector.

Description of any Distinctive Features

The purpose of the programme contained in this submission for validation is to provide a balanced vocational and academic study that is intellectually challenging, vocationally relevant, and provides a foundation for pursuing a career within the equine-related industries.

The programme has been designed to build on the competencies of a wide spectrum of students who should be capable of taking up appropriate positions of responsibility within the varied range of enterprises to be found operating within the equine industries.

In the Honours degree programme, academic knowledge and understanding will reinforce and support the development of practical skills to equip the student with the knowledge base and skills relevant to this very broad area of applied science.

Compulsory modules in level 4 provide the student with a basic understanding of science and anatomical concepts. This knowledge is expanded in the subsequent modules at levels 5 and 6 with the option modules enabling the student to specialise in areas of particular interest to them as well as developing investigative skills for research. Equine Science students at level 4 through to level 6 are taught by subject specialists who have had experience in equine related industry. The programme prepares graduates for the future needs of the equine industry in the UK and abroad, the nature of the academic programmes gives students the opportunity to work within the industry during vacation periods which will be encouraged to add to their personal vocational and practical skills in addition to knowledge base. Those students that wish to develop their vocational skills can do so by completing 40 weeks in placement, as part of a placement award.

Support:

For the placement year, students will receive additional support and advice on CV and application writing, interview techniques plus much more whilst they are searching for a placement. We have support staff to help the students with all aspects of a placement year process (including support for the student whilst they are on placement). This is in addition to the wide range of resources available to all students within the careers service.

Learners will be supported throughout the programme through online web-based support such as the VLE. The library facilities have a comprehensive array of resources to support this programme. Many of these resources can be accessed remotely.

Physical resources will also be fully utilised and integrated to support the delivery of this programme and the acquisition of industry standard practical skills enabling our students to lead the way in the management of the performance horse.

Progression:

Overall, the programme combines the development of knowledge via teaching, research and practical skills to develop a graduate who can make an effective contribution to the equine related industries. It has been shown that the balance of skills developed on the programme will also enable graduates to gain employment in other occupational areas, if they so wish or continue with postgraduate education.

This programme offers the opportunity for students to undertake an approved Exchange Programme, for an agreed period (one/two semesters), of overseas study at a higher education institution studying modules appropriate to their programme aims and which have been pre-approved by the Programme Manager. The Exchange Programme is dependent on an approved agreement between the institution and an approved International Institution for BSc (Hons) Equine Science.

Part 6: Assessment

This module will be assessed according to the Academic Regulations published for the academic year on the website <http://www.hartpury.ac.uk>

Assessment Strategy

Assessment strategy to enable the learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:

Knowledge is tested through a variety of methods including written assignment, poster presentation/ defence, unseen written and the development of portfolios of competencies. An element of formative assessment appears in some modules on the programme to provide additional support.

The assessment strategy for intellectual skills is intended to:

Consolidate learning;
Ensure appropriate and developmental feedback is provided;
Strengthen motivation;
Develop analytical skills;
Encourage reflection on theoretical and practical learning.

A variety of assessment methods are utilised throughout the programme and these are monitored to ensure they relate to learning outcomes.

Professional skills are assessed through a range of appropriate forms of written coursework, examinations, and oral based scenarios, under controlled conditions.

Transferable skills are developed and assessed through the assessment strategy using a carefully selected range of coursework and examinations, which complement the assessment of transferable skills for example; reflective portfolios, group work, coursework which requires the use of I.T. skills, presentations, and oral examinations.

In line with the institutions commitment to facilitating equal opportunities, a student may apply for alternative means of assessment if appropriate. Each application will be considered on an individual basis taking into account learning and assessment needs. For further information regarding this please refer to the VLE.

Assessment Map

The programme encompasses a range of **assessment methods** and these are detailed in the following assessment map:

Assessment Map for BSc (Hons) Equine Science

		Type of Assessment*									
		Unseen Written Exam	Open Book Written Exam	In-class Written Test	Practical Exam	Practical Skills Assessment	Oral assessment and/or presentation	Written Assignment	Report / Project	Dissertation	Portfolio
Compulsory Modules Level 4	Equine Functional Anatomy	A (40)									B (60)
	Fundamental Skills for the Equine Scientist						A (25)				B (75)
	Equine Veterinary Science	A (50)					B (50)				

	Animal Nutrition	A (50)						B (50)		
	Equine Industry	A (100)								
	Animal Genetics					A (100)				
	Equitation	A (50)						B (50)		
Compulsory Modules Level 5	Equine Exercise Physiology	A (36)				A (24)		B (40)		
	Undergraduate Research Process							A (100)		
	Equine Nutrition	A (100)								
Optional Modules Level 5	Applied Stud Management							A (100)		
	Introduction to Equine Behaviour					A (100)				
	Equine Disease and Disorders	A (50)						B (50)		
	Advanced Equitation	A (50)						B (50)		
	Equine Biomechanics		A (50)					B (50)		
	New Venture Creation					A (100)				
	Animal Microbiology	A (30)		A (20)				B (50)		
	Equine Diagnostics and Therapy	A (75)		A (25)						
	International Academic Study Portfolio									A (100)
	International Academic Study Project					A (25)				B (75)
	International Academic Study Extended Project					A (25)				B (75)
	Year Work Placement									A (100)
Compulsory Modules Level 6	Developments in Equine Science				A (100)					
	Undergraduate Dissertation							A (100)		
Optional Modules Level 6	Equine Sports Medicine				A (100)					
	Equine Ethics and Welfare							A (100)		
	Contemporary Issues in Equestrian Sport	A (50)						B (50)		
	Equine Therapy and Rehabilitation					A (100)				
	Applied Equine Ethology					A (25)		B (75)		
	Equine Nutrition for Performance		A (100)							
	Undergraduate Independent Study					A (100)				

*Assessment should be shown in terms of either **Written Exams**, **Practical exams**, or **Coursework** as indicated by the colour coding above.

Part 7: Entry Requirements

Applicants will have achieved entry criteria appropriate for the year of entry, which can be found through the institutions website (www.hartpury.ac.uk).

We also welcome applicants from a diverse range of backgrounds who do not have the entry requirements outlined above. Applicants will be considered on the basis of evidence of personal, professional and educational experience which indicates an applicant's ability to meet the demands of the programme. Where appropriate experience or learning has been gained prior to enrolment on the programme RPL/RPEL may be possible.

Applicants whose first language is not English must also gain a minimum IELTS score of 6.0 prior to entry onto the programme.

Part 8: Reference Points and Benchmarks

Description of **how** the following reference points and benchmarks have been used in the design of the programme:

QAA UK Quality Code for HE

Has been used to define the minimum level of achievement that students need to achieve to succeed on this programme and achieve the qualification. It has also been used to inform the academic quality of the programme and enhance the quality of the learning opportunities and the assessment methods used to measure achievement on the programme.

The Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) 2015

The programme has been designed considering how it addresses aspects of part one of the ESG. In particular the programme has been designed so that it meets 'the objectives set for them, including the intended learning outcomes. The qualification resulting from a programme should be clearly specified and communicated, and refer to the correct level of the national qualifications framework for higher education and, consequently, to the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.'

Additionally the design and teaching, learning and assessment strategy within this programme encourages the programme to be 'delivered in a way that encourages students to take an active role in creating the learning process, and that the assessment of students reflects this approach'.

Hartpury 2020 Strategy and the Teaching and Research Excellence Strategy 2017-2021

These have been used in designing this programme to ensure that the programme is: learning-centred; underpinned by sound health and safety practices and informed by research and professional practice; inclusive, flexible and accessible, exemplified in particular by the part-time and accelerated study routes; and, provides a diverse assessment diet. Furthermore, the programme aims to produce graduates who: know and value themselves as open-minded, reflective and inter-dependent learners, and participants, employees, self-employed professionals and entrepreneurs in global settings and as global citizens; and, reflect on their own learning and practice, who value others as collaborators in their learning and its exchange.

Assessment within the programme: is an integral part of a dynamic learning and teaching process and not separate from it; plays a key part in the rigorous setting and maintaining of academic standards; provides all students with the entitlement to parity of treatment; makes no distinction between different modes of study; ensures that progression is achieved by credit accumulation and the completion of pre-requisites and co-requisites; recognises different module learning in different forms of assessment; and, affords students the maximum opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, skills, competencies and overall strengths through a variety of assessed activities.

Professional and Vocational Interaction: Equine Vocational Panel Meetings

Department of Equine Vocational Panel meetings involve discussions about the purpose of the programme, its distinctiveness as a programme and the skills and knowledge needed to ensure the programme is current and relevant to employers.

What methods have been used in the development of this programme to evaluate and improve the quality and standards of learning?

Feedback about the current programme development has been gathered from current students, graduates and liaison with subject area teams.

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found in module specifications, available on the Institution's website.

Programme Title:	BSc (Hons) Equine Science
Programme Code:	BSHEESXX
Initial Approval Date:	01 September 2017
Approved by:	Hartpury Curriculum Validation Committee
Approved until:	01 September 2024
Original version number:	V2.0

Rationale: After the successful application for University Title, amendments were required to all specifications.	
Material Alteration: Yes and Course Information Sheet amended appropriately: Not required	
Outline Change Details: 1. Part 1: Basic Data requires the Awarding Body to be amended from Hartpury College to Hartpury University. 2. Award Titles amended to replace (SW) with (IP) 3. Subject Benchmark Statements updated where required.	
Change requested by:	Academic Registrar
CVC approval date:	31 August 2018
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2018
New version number:	V2.0