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	Animal
Programme Title	MRes Anthrozoology
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None
Highest Award Title	MRes Anthrozoology
Default Award Title	None
Interim Award Titles	Postgraduate Certificate in Anthrozoology Postgraduate Diploma in Anthrozoology
Mode(s) of Study	Full time, part time, blended learning
Codes	**UCAS:** L6C31 **JACS:** **UNIT-e:** MSRAAZXX **HESA:**
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences QAA Master's Degree Characteristics
Last Major Approval Date	31 August 2018 Valid from 1 September 2018
Amendment Approval Date	Amended with effect from
Version	2.1
Review Due By	1 September 2024

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

Historically animals formed a fundamental part of the development of global cultures, understanding the role of human-animal interaction is central to appreciating the value of animals in modern society. This programme couples multi-disciplinary knowledge across a range of topics related to the human-animal bond, with critical skills and industry awareness. Taught modules provide underpinning knowledge and a framework for critical analysis, whilst the research-based modules develop application, higher level graduate skills and critical thinking. The programme has been designed to enhance career prospects in this rapidly developing field, fully supported by expert staff, industry partners and good facilities. Research at the institution involves a range of projects and collaborative work with other academic institutions and industry-related bodies. This research active ethos will facilitate high quality student research output and a positive postgraduate experience.

This programme will deliver focused specialist study in anthrozoology, at an advanced, research-led level. A combination of taught and research-based modules are included in delivery. Students will formulate and execute a significant investigative research project in the field of anthrozoology to consolidate and extend their specialist knowledge and critical thinking. Students will have the opportunity to develop and use a range of specialised research skills and methods, including data analysis and modelling, benefitting from application of new skills in the practical environment.

The programme's educational aims will:
1. Develop a detailed knowledge and understanding of anthrozoology, underpinning recent scientific developments with comprehension of philosophical and ethical aspects of the topic;
2. Promote a robust critical awareness of the application of scientific principles in anthrozoology, in a real world context;
3. Critically analyse the value of animals in society and the role they play in human lives;
4. Develop the ability to critically analyse scientific knowledge and technical skills in research;
5. Establish the ability to utilise effective and modern methods for interpreting, analysing and presenting scientific data;
6. Develop active and reflective students with the desire to progress within the field of Anthrozoology, able to meet the demands of the multi-disciplinary field;
7. Embed the skills required to enable the undertaking of independent research;
8. Develop the ability to apply knowledge from a range of disciplines to solve complex problems by critical understanding, analysis and synthesis;
9. Enhance the ability to effectively communicate, in writing and verbally, scientific results and information in research, with a wide range of audiences for a variety of purposes.

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

Graduates in MRes Anthrozoology will have in-depth knowledge of a range of topics relating to anthrozoology complemented by completing a research project. They will have developed skills in critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation, and applied these to the latest research published in anthrozoology. They will be able to apply critical skills to solve complex problems, develop new ideas and evaluate current practices in theoretical and practical situations. Students will have developed the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of audiences using a variety of means, and applied skills of team work, debate, negotiation and conflict resolution.

Part 3: Programme Structure
This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical full time student, including: - level and credit requirements   - interim award requirements   - module diet, including compulsory and optional modules
The regulations state that the minimum amount of time a full-time student can take to complete is 12 months and the maximum is 18 months.

		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Awards
	Foundation Year	Not applicable.	Not applicable.	**PG Certificate Anthrozoology** Credit requirements: 60 credits at level 6 or above of which not less than 45 are at level 7, and to consist of a combination of any of the below.
	Year 1	The Research Process (HANXKT-15-7) The Human-Animal Bond (HANV6C-15-7) Extended Postgraduate Dissertation (HANVL6-120-7)	Combination of any of the below modules to make a total of 30 credits: Wildlife Conflict (HANV6D-15-7) Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7) Reflection on Practice (HANV6B-15-7) Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science (HANXKM-15-7) Anthrozoology (HANV38-15-6)	1 The Research Process (HANXKT-15-7) 2 The Human-Animal Bond (HANV6C-15-7) 3 Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science (HANXKM-15-7) 4 Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7) 5 Wildlife Conflict (HANV6D-15-7) 6 Reflection on Practice (HANV6B-15-7) **PG Diploma Anthrozoology** Credit requirements: 120 credits at level 6 or above of which not less than 90 are at level 7, and to consist of a combination of any of the below. 1 The Research Process (HANXKT-15-7) 2 The Human-Animal Bond (HANV6C-15-7) 3 Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science (HANXKM-15-7) 4 Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7) 5 Wildlife Conflict (HANV6D-15-7) 6 Reflection on Practice (HANV6B-15-7) 7 Postgraduate Dissertation (HANVL5-60-7) **MRes Anthrozoology** Credit requirements: 180 credits at level 6 or above of which not less than 150 are at level 7 and must include the following; 1 The Research Process (HANXKT-15-7) 2 The Human-Animal Bond (HANV6C-15-7) 3 Extended Postgraduate Dissertation (HANVL6-120-7) and an additional 30 credits from below: 1 Wildlife Conflict (HANV6D-15-7) 2 Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7) 3 Reflection on Practice (HANV6B-15-7) 4 Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science (HANXKM-15-7) 5 Anthrozoology (HANV38-15-6)

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:	Extended Postgraduate Dissertation	The Research Process	The Human-Animal Bond	Wildlife Conflict	Reflection on Practice	Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science	Postgraduate Independent Study	Anthrozoology
A) Knowledge and understanding of:								
1. A broad knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts, research paradigms and critical awareness of problems associated with the field of anthrozoology, pertaining to the individual's subject specialism	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. A comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to research in the area of anthrozoology leading to potential publication or advanced scholarship	✓	✓					✓	
3. Theoretical and practical scientific methodology to enable them to be competent, within their field, in designing research and facilitating management of research projects, including data interpretation and analysis, and scientific writing and presentation.	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
(B) Intellectual Skills								
1. Apply the skills needed for academic study or enquiry	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Apply critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis to their subject area	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
3. Construct a coherent argument or debate	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Evaluate research hypotheses, methodologies and evidence within the context of anthrozoology, and their individual field	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. Articulate reason from the particular to the general	✓		✓	✓		✓		
6. Plan, conduct and report a programme of original research	✓	✓					✓	
7. Evaluate best practices and apply to problem solving in the context of their subject field	✓				✓	✓	✓	
8. Demonstrate proficiency in data analysis appropriate to the field	✓	✓						
9. Engage directly with current research and employ knowledge gained to apply a multidisciplinary approach to solve and propose solutions to research paradigms in their field	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10. Complete and disseminate the results of an independent research project to the wider field of anthrozoology	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
(C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills								
1. Demonstrate project management skills and manage a research project from conception to successful conclusion	✓						✓	

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2. Display advanced critical skills in their area of expertise	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Demonstrate detailed knowledge of appropriate statistical techniques	✓	✓						
4. Display fluent practical competency in the use of technical equipment related to their field of research	✓					✓		
5. Communicate information regarding scientific studies to academic, professional and lay audiences	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6. Conduct independent research	✓						✓	
(D) Transferable skills and other attributes								
1. Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Evaluate his/her own academic, vocational and professional performance	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Manage change effectively and respond to changing demands	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. Take responsibility for personal and professional learning and development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6. Manage time, prioritise workloads and recognise and manage personal emotions and stress	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7. Understand career opportunities and challenges ahead and begin to plan a career path	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8. Develop information management skills e.g. IT skills	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9. Develop an ability to use a range of forms of media to communicate effectively with a wide variety of audiences	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Part 5: Student Learning and Student Support

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

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 MRes programmes teaching is a mix of scheduled and independent sessions with a distinct emphasis on supporting the development of autonomous learning. Students will be expected to engage in a significant amount of independent study during this programme. Successful completion of the programme will be dependent on undertaking the required amount of independent learning, via a combination of individual and group activities to ensure that students remain engaged with their programme while not on campus. Furthermore, during these learning activities students will be required to assimilate complex theories and concepts to solve real world problems and advance current scientific thinking. Engagement with staff research currently undertaken within the institution will further these skills, with a focus on publication in peer reviewed literature and conference attendance.

Blended learning will be integral throughout delivery of the programme, supported by the VLE and a variety of media. This will facilitate learning in a variety of modes, whilst supporting international recruitment and students seeking distance learning opportunities. With access to a wide range of academic journals online and software to enhance learning. Studying for this course remotely will be supported by block teaching as appropriate.

In order to support students progressing onto Masters level study, students will receive a detailed induction and tutorial support (either in person or via electronic means) to ensure they develop appropriate skills and depth of knowledge. Students will be allocated subject specialist tutors for modules as appropriate, for example to support the research project. The flexibility of the regularity and mode of support will ensure all students, regardless of location or academic experience will be supported.

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

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) (or equivalent)
This programme is supported by a VLE where students will be able to find all necessary programme information. Direct links to information will also be provided from within the VLE.

Description of any Distinctive Features

1. The delivery mode encompasses a blended approach with taught component delivery incorporating condensed block delivery, designed to meet the needs of national and international students, facilitate access to specialist resources and work alongside specialist external consultants/academics, with further learning materials provided via the VLE.
2. Students will be supported throughout the programme through the VLE, individual module material and tutorial sessions with a designated academic tutor. Students will attend 6 compulsory tutorials with their academic tutor during the academic year to support their learning.
3. Additional support and interaction with other students will be enabled remotely via current technologies (e.g. videoconferencing, Skype, email etc.).

4. Students will have the opportunity to interact with postgraduate students by holding a series of events both at the institution and virtually (e.g. webinars) to which postgraduates from other local HEIs, employers and sponsors of research will be invited. The event will comprise of seminars by postgraduate students at an advanced stage of their dissertation research and seminars by postgraduate students at an advanced stage of their dissertation research and workshops and discussion on research-related topics and experiences as well as opportunities to interact informally.

5. Academic guidance in relation to module content rests primarily with the module leader. Where students are experiencing continuing difficulties, they may seek general counselling from their personal tutor, or approach the award leader.

6. Students will be supported for the Dissertation module by allocation of an individual supervisor who is a member of staff with suitable subject expertise. Supervisors can be drawn from other Faculties within the institution, whilst project advisors can also be drawn from the institutions professional colleagues in the field. This will enable students to benefit from the expertise of practitioners and experienced researchers outside the Academic institution as well as within its own academic staff. The provision of general and specialist laboratory facilities will, as has previously happened for undergraduate work, be either within the institution or at any other appropriate institution. Access to the institutions resources will be timetabled to suit the mode of study of the student.

7. An optional residential field course will provide students with first-hand experience of solving real world problems and engaging with practitioners to developing their depth of knowledge and skill set.

8. The flexible, modular structure of the programme allows a student to complete the programme within a twelve month period or to spread studying over a longer period of time to fit in with external commitments.

9. The Animal industry is complex and continually developing in response to emerging knowledge and understanding of animals and our relationships with them. This creates a vibrant market for the postgraduate researcher to impact on improvements in human-animal interaction and animal welfare. With advanced research skills and strong industry links employability will be developed, exploring opportunities both nationally and internationally in a wide range of roles.

10. The MRes offers students a unique opportunity to conduct a personalised research project, and enhance their career prospects, fully supported by world class staff and facilities. Research at the institution involves a range of research projects and collaborative work with other academic institutions and industry related bodies. This cultures a research active environment which will facilitate high quality student research output and a positive postgraduate experience.

11. The institution has an outstanding reputation for the quality of its animal programmes, events and facilities. The resources that support the programmes are state-of-the-art and are continually developing.

12. Our established record of individual academic and research success offers exceptional facilities to help a student achieve their full potential. The lecturing team are highly qualified in a broad range of specialisms and are enthusiastic in imparting knowledge to, and supporting, keen and willing students. We strongly encourage students to attend and participate in National and International Conferences.

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:
Assessment throughout the programme has been designed to assess the student's ability to apply theoretical principles and philosophies to practice in order to resolve and make an impact on real world issues within the field of Anthrozoology. This will be achieved via a wide variety of assessment methods, including innovative utilization of media (such as video production, webinar

Part 6: Assessment

delivery and e-portfolios), traditional examinations, reports and assignments, and a thesis for the independent research project.

Such assessments will focus on skill development, including the appropriate use of media, methods of communication and negotiation. This will be facilitated through formative and summative group tasks, activities both in person and online, and engagement with academic and industry professionals within the international Anthrozoology field.

Development of research skills and autonomy in learning will be crucial for the successful graduate from this programme, with independent learning inherent within all assessment. Students will be expected to independently research topics thoroughly, produce robust novel research and conduct comprehensive literature reviews to inform future developments. On completion of the programme students will be expected to be autonomous learners, able to enter doctorate level study or appropriate employment.

The assessment strategy has been designed to promote effective learning and engagement and to ensure that student knowledge, understanding, abilities and skills required for this programme can be comprehensively evaluated. 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 MRes Anthrozoology

		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 7	Extended Postgraduate Dissertation				A (10)			A (30)	A (60)		
	The Research Process						A (30)	B (70)			
	The Human-Animal Bond	A (50)						B (50)			
Optional Modules Level 7	Wildlife Conflict						A (50)		B (50)		
	Postgraduate Independent Study							A (100)			
	Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science				A (50)				B (50)		
	Reflection on Practice						A (30)				B (70)
Optional Modules Level 6	Anthrozoology	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 institution 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 6.5 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'.

This programme has been developed taking into consideration the QAA Master's Degree Characteristics Statement to support graduates to have in-depth and advanced knowledge and understanding of their subject and/or profession, informed by current practice, scholarship and research. This will include a critical awareness of current issues and developments in the subject and/or profession; critical skills; knowledge of professional responsibility, integrity and ethics; and the ability to reflect on their own progress as a learner.

Institutions Mission Statement

Students with a science background will have an educational opportunity to establish a career foundation in research, together with the development of an analytical approach to research that will further enhance their career and further study opportunities. The programme builds on subjects currently delivered at the institution which have a high reputation for teaching excellence, and makes extensive use of advanced learning strategies which build on the successes of consultancy and research.

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.

Research carried out by staff
1 The institution Research and Knowledge Exchange Strategy
2 Research and Knowledge Exchange R4 forms

Research and consultancy is undertaken in the following areas of particular relevance to the Masters in Research (Anthrozoology)
Interaction between assistance animals and owners
Animal performance including horse and rider interaction
Education in the zoo environment
Pet ownership and attachment
Managing wildlife conflict
Reintroduced and invasive species
Welfare of captive exotic and domestic species
Public perception of, and attitudes to, species and management

---

What methods have been used in the development of this programme to evaluate and improve the quality and standards of learning? This could include consideration of stakeholder feedback from, for example current students, graduates and employers.

Both students and employers were consulted during the development of the programme. They completed stakeholder feedback forms which resulted in slight modifications being made to the programme. The institution has excellent links with employers and research collaborators and regular meetings are held to ensure that the curriculum is current and appropriate. Current students and graduates also provide feedback and suggestions for improving the quality and standards of learning.

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 Amendment Log

Programme Title:	Mres Anthrozoology
Programme Code:	L6C311/MSRAAZXX
Initial Approval Date:	1st September 2016
Approved by:	Hartpury Curriculum Approval Committee
Approved until:	01 September 2022
Original version number:	1.1

Version 2.1

Rationale: 1. Part 1: Basic Data requires the Awarding Body to be amended from Hartpury College to Hartpury University. . 4. Subject Benchmark Statements updated where required	
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.	
Change requested by:	Academic Registrar
CVC approval date:	31 August 2018
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2018
New version number:	2.1