

MSci Animal Behaviour and Welfare

UCAS Code: D32X

Award on completion of programme: MSci Animal Behaviour and Welfare

Professional body accreditation: None.

Location of study: Hartpury University

Length of programme: Four years full-time. Part-time options are available.

Language of the programme: This programme is taught in English.

Entry Requirements:

General: A minimum of 5 GCSE A* to C, (or 9 to 4 where numeric grades are being awarded), including English Language, Mathematics and a Science.

A-levels: Typical offer is ABB or equivalent. This must include a minimum of two A Levels including one in a Biological Science and excludes General Studies.

Vocational Award: Typical offer is a DDM in an Extended Diploma or equivalent in a science subject

International Baccalaureate: We welcome students with the International Baccalaureate Diploma qualification. Offers will be based upon the constituent components to include a grade 3 at higher level biological science. Please contact the admissions team for more information.

Access: We welcome students with Access qualifications. Certain programmes require a pass at level 3 in specific units. Please contact the admissions team for more information.

Mature and international applicants: Mature and international applicants are welcomed. Mature applicants that are not applying for a programme straight from formal education will be expected to demonstrate suitability for the course.

In the case of international applications, we will attempt to establish the equivalency of qualifications and the same criteria and assessment is used as for home students. An IELTS English qualification is expected for international applicants without a GCSE Grade C or above (or 9 to 4 where numeric grades are being awarded) in English Language.

If you have completed learning towards a university level qualification, perhaps at another institution or with a professional body or have relevant work experience then you may be able to gain credit for this and/or enter the course at a later point than standard year one entry. For further information please contact our Admissions team, who will be pleased to help you.

Personalised offers will be made to each applicant based on their own merits. Non-academic and academic achievement will be considered.

Timetables: Both full-time and part-time students on the programme will start in September 2019. This programme is taught over two semesters normally consisting of 12 weeks of scheduled teaching and then assessment weeks. The academic calendar can be found at: <http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/uni-termdates/>. During scheduled teaching you will have a day without timetabled sessions to support you in managing your workload, gaining valuable volunteering and work experience and completing part-time work. For the 2018/19 academic year that day is currently a Friday. During the final year of this programme, modules may be taught in block days. Timetables for the year are normally available during each registration. Please note that while we make every effort to ensure that timetables are as student-friendly as possible, scheduled teaching can take place at any time between 8:30 to 20:30 Monday to Friday, although Wednesday afternoons are normally reserved for sports and cultural activities. Part-time students should be advised that as their route is dependent on the full-time course's timetable there is the possibility depending on the modules chosen that the student could be required to attend five days a week.

Programme Composition: This programme comprises of different modules, which focus on specific subjects. The modular structure of the programme gives you flexibility and choice and you can attend introductory sessions for optional modules before having to finally decide which ones you wish to study. We usually offer all optional modules available to students however if we believe that we are unable to offer a high quality student experience (which can be particularly affected by low student demand) then we may make the decision not to offer it. If an optional module will not be run, we will advise you as soon as possible and help you choose an alternative module. Our teaching is informed by research, and modules change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline. These changes are informed by both industry and student consultation.

On completion and passing of these modules you gain academic credit that accumulates towards your award. The marks you gain for the modules completed after your first year may contribute towards your overall award mark and outcome.

	Scheduled Contact Learning (%)	Placement Learning (%)	Independent Learning (%)
Year 1	24	0	76
Year 2	24	0	76
Year 3	18	0	82
Year 4	24	2	74

For their first year students can expect approximately 15 contact hours per week in the form of lectures, seminars, and practicals. In subsequent years scheduled contact will vary depending on the modules you select but is typically around 12 hours per week. In the final year, modules are taught in two day blocks, allowing students to work around their other commitments. Students are expected to dedicate at least two to three hours of independent study per contact hour. Some modules offer trips to locations such as zoos or assistance animal breeding centres to show students how their knowledge can be applied within the animal industry. Some modules may bring in guest lecturers to provide topical and industry-relevant talks.

Year 1

- **Animal Behaviour**
The factors affecting animal behaviour including evolution, development and human influence.
- **Animal Genetics**
The application of genetics and heredity in the animal industry.
- **Animal Health and Disease**
How diseases affect animals, health monitoring and animal first aid.
- **Introduction to Animal Welfare**
An introduction to animal welfare, including stress, abnormal behaviours, influence of management systems and legislation.

- **Systems Biology**
An introduction to the anatomy and physiology of animals.
- **Biodiversity**
Study of the natural world and wildlife.
- **Fundamental Skills for the Animal Scientist**
An introduction to the key academic and vocational skills and personal attributes needed to be successful in a career in the animal industry.

Year 2

- **Animal Welfare Assessment**
Use of behavioural, physiological and physical measures of welfare and welfare assessment in different contexts.
- **Ethics and Welfare**
The influence of ethical theories upon attitudes towards animals and consideration of animal ethics and welfare in a range of contexts.
- **Undergraduate Research Process**
This module introduces students to the methods of research and analysis, helping to prepare them for the research project in the third year.

Optional modules: Students usually select 75 credits from a range of optional modules. As a guide, these have previously included Companion Animal Behaviour and Training, Management of Domestic Animals and Behavioural and Evolutionary Ecology. There is also an optional Field Course module to South Africa with the chance to study African ethology and ecology.

Year 3

- **Applied Research Project**
Students will undertake a research project in an area of their choosing.
- **Animal Trade and Welfare**
The influence of the marketplace on animal welfare including commercial use of wildlife, animals as entertainment and transport of animals.
- **Postgraduate Independent Study**
Students will produce an in depth critical evaluation of a current topic.

Optional modules: Students usually select 60 credits from a range of optional modules. As a guide, these have previously included Wildlife and Zoo Management, Anthrozoology, Animal Psychology, Biodiversity and Conservation and Pet Behaviour Counselling.

Year 4

- **Advances in Animal Behaviour**
Analysis of recent advances in the field of animal behaviour, including animal cognition, animal personality, animal social behaviour and animal communication.
- **Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science**
Analysis of contemporary issues in animal welfare, including legislation, welfare concerns and welfare assessment.
- **Postgraduate Independent Project**
Students will develop and undertake a research project of their choosing.
- **The Research Process**
Discussion of research methodologies and applications, as well as strengths, weaknesses, and limitations of different methods.

Optional modules: Students usually select 45 credits from a range of optional modules. As a guide, these include Reflection on Practice, The Human-Animal Bond and Equine Behaviour and Welfare.

Assessment Method: You will be assessed through a mixture of written exams, practical exams and coursework. Many of the modules will be marked based on a mixture of assessment types, whilst others will be based solely on one type of assessment.

	Written Examination (%)	Coursework (%)	Practical Examination (%)
Year 1	38	44	18
Year 2	29	57	14
Year 3	45	49	6
Year 4	11	51	38

Discounts and special support associated with enrolling on the programme: Hartpury also subsidises optional short courses for a reduced cost that give students the opportunity to gain relevant experience and qualifications prior to graduation. These are in addition to the discounts Hartpury usually offers to its students, such as free Wi-Fi on site and Microsoft Office packages etc. There is lots of support available to you whilst you study including allocation of a personal academic tutor that you will meet for 1:1 sessions and other services detailed at <http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/university-centre/facilities/life-athartpury/student-support/>.

Costs associated with the programme: The cost of the programme will be £9250 per year for UK and EU students subject to government approval. We will only increase our fees in accordance with guidelines laid down by OFFA. Students are required to purchase appropriate clothing and footwear which is available from our supplier's online shop for approximately £100. One of the optional modules in the second year, Field Course, offers a trip to South Africa that costs in the region of £1500 to study the ecology and ethology of the area. In the third year of the course there is an optional residential trip to a UK zoo, as part of the Wildlife & Zoo Management module. This will incur an additional cost of around £150.

For Part Time costs please refer to the Hartpury Fee policy, at:
<http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/aboutus/governance-and-policies/governance-and-policies/>.

For more information on the admissions policy, please visit:
<http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/aboutus/governance-and-policies/governance-and-policies/>

This Course Information Sheet is accurate as at 13th September 2018
