

## MRes Animal Behaviour and Welfare

UCAS Code: D32A1

**Award on completion of programme:** MRes Animal Behaviour and Welfare

**Professional body accreditation:** None.

**Location of study:** Hartpury University.

**Length of programme:** One year full-time. Part time options are available.

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

### Entry Requirements:

**General:** At least a lower second class (2:2) Honours Degree in a relevant subject

Students with non-relevant qualifications but with two or more years of relevant work experience will be considered on an individual basis.

**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:** This programme has been specially designed to fit around those working or volunteering within the sector. As such timetables have been carefully designed and include block teaching. This means that the teaching is condensed to allow the Masters study to occur round other commitments in our students' lives. Timetables are normally available during registration. It is recommended that you discuss potential timetables and how this may fit alongside working or volunteering with a member of Hartpury staff in person.

**Programme Composition:** This programme is comprised 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 these modules contribute towards your overall award mark and outcome. This programme offers students a mixture of classroom learning and independent research. Modules are taught in two day blocks, allowing students to work around their other commitments. A field course of approximately 12 days forms the teaching for one optional module. In addition, students are expected to dedicate at least two to three hours of independent study per contact hour. Some modules may bring in guest lecturers to provide topical and industry-relevant talks.

### **Compulsory Modules**

- **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.
- **Extended Postgraduate Dissertation**  
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**

This gives students the opportunity to study topics that they are particularly interested in. These may include Postgraduate Independent Study, Reflection on Practice and Wildlife Conflict.

- **Postgraduate Independent Study**  
Critical analysis of literature is central to academic study, and provides the focus of this module. Under the supervision of a member of the academic team you will engage in an exploration of a topic of your choice, critiquing key literature along the way.
- **Reflection on Practice**  
With voluntary experience in an appropriate organisation underpinning reflective practice, this module enables the application of theory into practice and reflection on your own and organisational practices in the animal industry.
- **Wildlife Conflict**  
With a field course to South Africa forming part of the learning experience, this module will explore the challenges presented by wildlife conflict, explore solutions and propose strategies for resolving issues in our changing world.

**Assessment Method:** You will be assessed through a mixture of written exams, poster assessments, practical exams, portfolios, media-based assessments and written assignments. 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.

**Discounts and special support associated with enrolling on the programme:** Hartpury 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, detailed at: <http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/university-centre/facilities/life-at-hartpury/studentsupport/>.

**Costs associated with the programme:** The cost of the programme will be £5512 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 £40. Additional costs associated with the programme include the field trip (approximately £1500) if 'Wildlife Conflict' is taken. Currently, a £1000 bursary can be available towards research costs and this can be discussed with the programme manager. Hartpury alumni are currently entitled to a 20% discount on full-time postgraduate study fees or 10% off part-time fees.

For Part Time costs please refer to the Hartpury Fee policy  
<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 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018

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