Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data	
Awarding Institution	Hartpury College
Teaching Institution	Hartpury
Delivery Location	Hartpury
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	None
Department responsible for programme	Animal
Programme Title	Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Animal Welfare
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None
Highest Award Title	Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Animal Welfare Postgraduate Certificate in Animal Studies
Default Award Title	None
Interim Award Titles	None
Mode(s) of Study	PT
Codes	**UCAS: D32C4** **JACS: D328** **HESA:**
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, forestry, agricultural sciences, food sciences and consumer sciences (QAA Master's Degree)
Last Major Approval Date	1 September 2017 Valid from 1 September 2018
Amendment Approval Date	Amended with effect from
Version	1.0
Review Due By	1 September 2023

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Animal Welfare offers students the opportunity to enhance their knowledge and critical understanding of animal welfare science fully supported by expert staff and good facilities. This enhances career prospects and allows specialist study in the field of animal welfare.

This programme involves a combination of taught and research based modules. 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. Students have the opportunity to develop a range of specialised research skills and methods benefitting from application of new skills in the practical environment offered. The programme will:

1 Develop knowledge and understanding of applied animal welfare;
2 Promote an increased understanding and awareness of the application of scientific principles to animal welfare in a real world context through volunteering or working within the industry which relates to the core module 'Reflection on Practice';
3 Promote active and reflective students with the desire to progress within their field;
4 Develop the ability to solve complex problems by critical understanding, analysis and synthesis;
5 Enhance the ability to communicate, in writing and verbally, scientific results and information in research.

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

Graduates who have completed the Postgraduate Certificate Applied Animal Welfare programme will have expanded their knowledge and understanding of animal welfare and developed skills in critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation. They will also be able to apply the critical skills they have developed to solve complex problems, develop new ideas and evaluate current processes and practices in theoretical and practical situations. Graduates will have developed the ability to communicate effectively with a range of individuals using a variety of means. They will be able to manage their own time, prioritise workloads and evaluate their own academic, vocational and professional performance.

Part 3: Programme Structure for : **Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Animal Welfare**				

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

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

ENTRY		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Interim Awards
ENTRY TO YEAR ONE	Year 1	Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science (HANXKM-15-7) Reflection on Practice (HANV6B-15-7)	Completion of at least 30 credits from the following: Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7) Wildlife Conflict (HANV6D-15-7) Equine Behaviour and Welfare (HEQXQW- 30-7) Postgraduate Independent Project (HANV5D-30-7)	**Interim Award:** Postgraduate Certificate Animal Studies requires completion of at least 60 credits from HE level 6 or above and at least 40 credits from level 7 or above. **Target Award:** Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Animal Welfare (60 credits)

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:	Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science	Postgraduate Independent Study	Postgraduate Independent Project	Equine Behaviour and Welfare	Wildlife Conflict	Reflection on Practice
(A) Knowledge and understanding of:						
1. Knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts, research paradigms and critical awareness of problems associated with the field of animal behaviour and welfare, pertaining to the individual's subject specialism.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Knowledge and understanding of theoretical and practical scientific methodology to enable them to be competent, within their field, in analysing and interpreting research.	✓		✓	✓	✓	
(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 animal behaviour and welfare, and their individual field;	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5. Evaluate best practices and apply to problem solving in the context of their subject field;	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
6. 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;	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7. Complete and disseminate the results of independent research to the wider field of animal behaviour and welfare.		✓	✓		✓	✓
(C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills						
1. Display advanced critical skills in their area of expertise;	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Display fluent practical competency in the use of technical equipment related to their field of study;	✓				✓	✓
3. Communicate information regarding scientific studies to academic, professional and lay audiences;	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
(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.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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 Postgraduate Certificate programme, 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. This independent study will be a combination of individual, pair 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. Successful completion of the programme will provide students with knowledge and understanding of a range of topics relating to animal welfare and the confidence to progress onto further study in this field.

The delivery mode encompasses a flexible approach with taught component delivery incorporating condensed block delivery geared to meet the needs of National and International students, facilitate access to specialist resources and enable utilisation of specialist external consultants/academics. Students will be supported throughout the programme through the VLE, individual module material and individual tutorial sessions with a designated academic tutor. Additional support will be provided remotely via email, phone and current technologies (e.g. video-conferencing, Skype).

In order to support students progressing onto postgraduate 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. The flexibility of the regularity and mode of support will ensure all students, regardless of location or academic experience will be supported.

Scheduled learning may include lectures, seminars, tutorials, demonstration, practical work; fieldwork. Scheduled sessions may vary depending on the module choices made.

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

Description of the teaching resources provided for students

In addition to scheduled learning sessions and set and recommended reading, the 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. The programme utilises the extensive land and animal facilities present on site including the farm and the animal management unit which has an extensive range of small and large mammals and vivarium species (including reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates). There is an optional residential field trip available within the programme to South Africa as part of the 'Wildlife Conflict' module. This provides students with an opportunity to explore African ecology and ethology.

Description of any Distinctive Features

1. The programme emphasises the application of animal welfare principles in a real world context through self-reflection whilst volunteering or working within the industry.
2. 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.
3. Students will be supported throughout the programme through the VLE, individual module material and tutorial sessions with a designated academic tutor.
4. Academic guidance in relation to module content rests primarily with the module leader. Where students are experiencing continuing difficulties, they may seek general support from their personal tutor, or approach the award leader.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. An optional residential field course will provide students with first-hand experience of solving real world problems and engaging with practitioners to develop their depth of knowledge and skill set.
8. Students will have the opportunity to interact with other postgraduate students during a series of events both at the institution and virtually (e.g. webinars). The events will comprise of seminars by postgraduate students upon their research and workshops and discussion on research-related topics and experiences as well as opportunities to interact informally.

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 promote effective learning and engagement and to ensure that student knowledge, understanding, abilities and skills required for this programme can be comprehensively evaluated. The student's ability to apply theoretical principles to practice in order to resolve and make an impact on real world issues within the field of applied animal welfare will be assessed.

This will be achieved via a wide variety of assessment methods, including innovative utilization of media (such as video production, webinar delivery and e-portfolios), traditional examinations, reports and assignments dependent on modules studied.

Such assessments will focus on skill development as well as assessing critical skills and knowledge and understanding, 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 animal welfare 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 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 further postgraduate study or appropriate employment.

In line with 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 Postgraduate Certificate Applied Animal Welfare

		Type of Assessment*									
		Unseen Written Exam	Open Book Written Exam	Poster Assessment and/or presentation	Practical Exam	Visual Media Assessment and/or presentation	Oral assessment and/or presentation	Written Assignment	Report / Project	Dissertation	Portfolio/E-portfolio
Compulsory Modules Level 7	Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science (HANXKM-15-7)				A (50)				B (50)		
	Reflection on Practice (HANV6B-15-7)					A (30)					B (70)
Optional Modules Level 7	Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7)							A (100)			
	Postgraduate Independent Project (HANV5D-30-7)								A (100)		
	Equine Behaviour and Welfare (HEQXQW-30-7)						A (40)	B (60)			
	Wildlife Conflict (HANV6D-15-7)					A (G) (50)			B (50)		

*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 6.5 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.

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

Part 8: Reference Points and Benchmarks

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

Research and consultancy is undertaken in the following areas of particular relevance to Postgraduate Certificate Applied Animal Welfare:

- Efficacy of wildlife surveying techniques
- Welfare of captive exotic species
- Welfare of domestic species
- Anthrozoology
- Animal performance
- Animal personality
- Animal production
- Human-animal interaction

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.