



## 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	Equine		
Programme Title	BSc (Hons) Equestrian Sports Science		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None		
Highest Award Title	BSc (Hons) Equestrian Sports Science (SW)		
Default Award Title	None		
Interim Award Titles	BSc Equestrian Sports Science BSc Equestrian Sports Science (SW) DipHE Equestrian Sports Science CertHE Equestrian Sports Science Cert Equestrian Sports Science		
Mode(s) of Study	FT / SW / PT		
Codes	UCAS: Year 1: DC46 Foundation Year: DF46		JACS: D422
	UNIT-e: ESSX		HESA:
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, forestry, agricultural sciences, food sciences and consumer sciences Hospitality, leisure, sports, tourism		
Last Major Approval Date	01 September 2017	Valid from	01 September 2018
Amendment Approval Date	V3.0- 13 February 2018	Amended with effect from	V3.0- 01 September 2018
Version	3.0		
Review Due By	1 September 2023		

## Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The Equestrian Sports Science programme is a three year full time programme, with the option of doing a four year degree with a Sandwich Year between the second and third year. The degree offers students a unique opportunity to investigate both the human and equine athlete, and enhance their career prospects, fully supported by reputable staff and facilities. This programme will deliver focused and specialist study concentrating on both the horses and the riders performance.

### General aims:

The programme will enable students to:

1. Develop a knowledge and understanding of equestrian and interdisciplinary sport and exercise concepts theories and approaches.
2. Develop an understanding of the scientific principles that govern biological, physical, sociological stressors in an equestrian sports context.
3. Provide an applied science programme of study in the field of equine science and sports science underpinned by staff research, consultancy and scholarship.
4. Provide an opportunity for undergraduate students to develop and realise their potential.
5. Enable students to develop their capacity for critical analytical thought.
6. Enable students to develop transferable skills.
7. Prepare students for employment and/or further research.
8. Provide a highly scientific programme that conforms to the institution's requirements on quality assurance, management and enhancement.

### Specific aims:

The specific aims of the programme are to:

1. Enable students to develop in depth subject specific knowledge to understand the multidisciplinary area of sports science and apply these principles to equestrian sports.
2. Enable students to become involved in new and developing areas of research relating to sports performance and the equestrian athlete.
3. Familiarise students with the physical resources and techniques necessary for appraisal and interaction of equine and human athletic performance.
4. Demonstrate investigative skills necessary to undertake independent investigations in the area of equestrian sports sciences.

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

Graduates from the BSc (Hons) Equestrian Sports Science programme will have gained a thorough knowledge of multidisciplinary areas of sports science and will be able to apply this specifically in an equestrian context. From this programme, students will be able to not only apply their knowledge to the horse and rider, but also to wider sporting disciplines and will be able to progress to careers in both equestrian sports and general sporting sectors.

Students will have been required to pass core modules that contain information on human and equine anatomy and exercise physiology, nutrition, and research methods. Students will have also completed an independent scientific investigation. In addition to these core subject areas, equestrian sports science students will have undertaken modules that specifically investigate equestrian sport and the development of research on both the horse-rider and equine athletes which is unique to this programme. Optional modules include a variety of multidisciplinary subject areas such as equitation science, fitness and conditioning, human and equine therapy, and sports psychology.

Students can benefit from gaining valuable work experience during the sandwich year work placement which is optional on this programme.

**Part 3: Programme Structure for :  
BSc (Hons) Equestrian Sports 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

ENTRY		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Interim Awards
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">ENTRY TO FOUNDATION YEAR</div> <div style="margin-left: 10px;">↓</div> </div>	Foundation Year	Foundation Skills Development (HANV8A-30-3) Academic Skills in Practice (HANV8B-30-3) Reviewing Literature (HANV8C-15-3) Foundation Equine Studies (HANV8H-15-3) Foundation Biological Principals (HANV8E-30-3)	Not applicable.	<u>Cert Equestrian Sports Science</u> Credit requirements: 60 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 50 are at level 4 or above.  <u>Cert HE Equestrian Sports Science</u> Requirements: 120 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 100 are at level 4 or above.  <u>DipHE Equestrian Sports 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.
	Year 1	Equine Functional Anatomy (HEQXN8-30-4) Introduction to Functional Anatomy and Sports Biomechanics (HSPXL8-30-4) Introduction to Equestrian Sports (HEQXN7-30-4) Equitation (HEQXN6-15-4) Introduction to Sport and Exercise Psychology (HSPXLE-15-4) Animal Nutrition (HANXK5-15-4)	Not applicable.	<u>BSc Equestrian Sports 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.  <u>BSc Equestrian Sports Science (SW)</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 all compulsory modules and the Sandwich Year Work Placement module.
	Year 2	Equine Exercise Physiology (HEQXRG-30-5) Horse and Rider Performance (HEQXRH-30-5) Undergraduate Research Process (HANXU5-15-5)	Students are normally required to select 45 credits from the optional modules listed below:  Advanced Equitation (HEQXR5-15-5) Fitness Training and Testing (HSPXRU-15-5) Exercise Physiology (HSPXSB-15-5) The Injured Athlete (HSPXSD-15-5) Soft Tissue Techniques (HSPXSC-15-5) Equine Nutrition (HEQXRC-15-5) Equine Diagnostics & Therapy (HEQXR9-15-5) Equine Biomechanics (HEQXR8-15-5) Sport Psychology (HSPXRV-15-5) Sports Nutrition (HSPXS9-15-5) International Academic Study Portfolio (HANXRP-15-5) International Academic Study Project (HANXRQ-30-5) International Academic Study Extended Project (HANXRR-45-5)	<u>TARGET AWARD</u> <u>BSc (Hons) Equestrian Sports Science</u> Credit Requirements: 360 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 300 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.  <u>BSc (Hons) Equestrian Sports Science (SW)</u> Credit Requirements: 360 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 300 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 Sandwich Year Work Placement module.
	Optional Year	Sandwich Year Work Placement (HANVK6-15-5)		
	Year 3	Undergraduate Dissertation (HANV3R-45-6) Advances in Horse and Rider Performance (HEQV4G-30-6)		

GRADUATION

**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:

[illegible]

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme	
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[illegible]

## Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

8.	Make judgments on the analysis of the horse and rider in order to monitor and enhance performance within a given role.			√					√	√									√	√	√				√	√					√	√
9.	Principles of human sports massage.													√						√	√	√								√		
(D) Transferable skills and other attribute																																
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 independent personal and professional learning and development (Personal Development Planning).	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
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.	Information management skills, eg IT skills.	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
9.	Undertake an independent research project.																			√	√	√				√						

## **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-to-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.

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

There is a commitment for a minimum average requirement of 15 hours/week contact time over the Foundation Year and Year One of the full undergraduate programme. This contact time encompasses a range of face-to-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) Equestrian Sports Science programme, teaching is a mix of scheduled and independent sessions with an emphasis on supporting development of autonomous learning. Students will be expected to engage in a significant amount of independent study during this programme.

#### ***Scheduled learning***

Includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and workshops; fieldwork; external visits; work based learning; supervised time in studio/workshop. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made. Within the Foundation Year a feature will be the facilitated workshops and individual study, enabling students to benefit from small-group study.

#### ***Independent learning***

Includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made. Although there is no period of compulsory work placement within this programme, students will be given opportunities to engage in valuable industry experiences throughout their programme.

#### ***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.

#### ***Placement Learning***

Will include an optional sandwich year between the second and third year of the 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.

**Careers**

To support learner's career preparations, careers personnel visit the institution on a regular basis and the students can use all the careers 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 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 and sport 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 and sport industries. It considers the horse and rider as an athletic partnership and as such there are modules in human and equine sports science.

Having entry points into both a Foundation Year and Level Four, enables the programme experience to facilitate the development of a successful undergraduate supporting a wide range of study backgrounds. The Foundation Year will prepare students with general study skills and opportunities to develop subject specific skills and knowledge. Additionally the Foundation year includes an internship enabling a student to put their skills into practice and develop an early appreciation of employment opportunities and attributes necessary for enhanced employability.

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 their employment and to the needs of employers. Core modules in level 4 provide the student with a basic understanding of science and anatomical concepts as well as developing investigative skills for research.

This knowledge is expanded in the subsequent modules at level 5 with the option modules enabling the student to specialise in areas of particular interest to them.

The programme prepares graduates for the future needs of the equine sporting 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 sandwich award.

This programme is distinctive in many features. It allows students to study sports science whilst considering equestrian sports their specialism. This unique design is facilitated by both equine and sport science staff that are actively researching performance subject areas supported by world class facilities. The facilities available to support the students learning and teaching experiences include a state of the art human performance laboratory, extensive sporting facilities (including the sports academy, power gym, multiple pitches, a sports rehabilitation suite, and cross training gyms) and expertise in all areas of human sports performance. In addition to this, unlike many sports science programmes, equestrian sports scientists will also have access to extensive world class equestrian facilities (Indoor Championship Equine Arena, the institutions Equine Therapy Centre, three indoor and outdoor arenas, stabling for over 230 horses including 125 boxes for student DIY livery) both personally and as part of teaching facilities on this programme. The strength of the sport and equine facilities available to equestrian sports science students make this programme a unique learning experience for students who wish to study sports science and specialise in equestrian disciplines.

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 and sporting industries. It is hoped that the balance of skills developed on this applied science programme.

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) Equestrian Sports 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:

Assessment within the Foundation Year had been designed to prepare a student for the assessment to come in following years. As such, it demonstrates a breadth of type and gradual introduction to the expectations for HE level study.

Module assessments are designed to apply the knowledge and experience gained from a wide range of learning opportunities to a real world context using a range of skills.

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) Equestrian Sports 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 3	Foundation Skills Development	A (25)				B (75)					
	Academic Skills in Practice						A (25)		B (75)		
	Reviewing Literature							(A100)			
	Foundation Equine Studies			B (50)			A (50)				
	Foundations Biological Principals				A (50)						B (50)
Compulsory Modules Level 4	Equine Functional Anatomy	A (40)									B (60)
	Introduction to Functional Anatomy and Sports Biomechanics						A (50)				B (50)
	Introduction to Equestrian Sports		A (50)					B (70)			
	Equitation	A (50)						B (50)			
	Introduction to Sport and	A (50)						B (50)			

	Exercise Psychology										
	Animal Nutrition	A (50)							B (50)		
<b>Compulsory Modules Level 5</b>	Equine Exercise Physiology	A (36)				A (24)		B (40)			
	Horse and Rider Performance								A (100)		
	Undergraduate Research Process								A (100)		
<b>Optional Modules Level 5</b>	Advanced Equitation	A (50)						B (50)			
	Fitness Training and Testing	A (50)			B (50)						
	Exercise Physiology	A (50)							B (50)		
	The Injured Athlete			A (100)							
	Soft Tissue Techniques	A (30)			B (70)						
	Equine Nutrition	A (100)									
	Equine Diagnostics and Therapy	A (75)			A (25)						
	Equine Biomechanics			A (50)				B (50)			
	Sport Psychology										A (100)
	Sports Nutrition	A (40)						B (60)			
<b>Optional Year</b>	Sandwich Year Work Placement										A (100)
<b>Compulsory Modules Level 6</b>	Undergraduate Dissertation									A (100)	
	Advances in Horse & Rider Performance					A (60)		B (40)			
<b>Optional Modules Level 6</b>	Contemporary Issues in Equestrian Sport					B (25)		B (75)			
	Equine Nutrition for Performance	A (100)									
	Applied Sport and Exercise Physiology					A (100)					
	Performance Analysis					A (100)					
	Undergraduate Independent Study								A (100)		
	Equine Therapy and Rehabilitation			A (100)							
	Equine Sports Medicine	A (50)						B (50)			
	Injury Prevention and Rehabilitation					A (50)		B (50)			
	Sports Injury Assessment					A (100)					
	Sports Psychology in Action							A (100)			
	Contemporary Practice in Sports Conditioning										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](http://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'.

### **Relevant subject benchmark statements:**

#### **Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences**

Work based and Placement Learning (QAA 2007)) have informed the characteristics of the subject matter and curriculum development of the programme, the programme learning outcomes and the attributes that a graduate of this programme should be able to demonstrate.

#### **Events, Hospitality, Leisure, Sport and Tourism**

Have informed the characteristics of the subject matter and curriculum development of the BA (Hons) Equine Business Management, the programme learning outcomes and the attributes that a graduate of this programme should be able to demonstrate.

Study of organisations, their management and the changing external environment in which they operate.

Preparation for and development of a career in business and management.

Enhancement of lifelong learning skills and personal development to contribute to society at large.

### **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: Field of Equine Science Vocational Panel Meetings**

Field 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.

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.