



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	FdSc Equine Performance		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None		
Highest Award Title	FdSc Equine Performance (SW)		
Default Award Title	None		
Interim Award Titles	Cert HE Equine Performance Cert Equine Studies		
Mode(s) of Study	Accelerated FT / Intensive FT / FT / SW / PT		
Codes	UCAS: BUWE B80 D427	JACS: D422	
	UNIT- e: EPXX	HESA:	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, forestry, agricultural sciences, food sciences and consumer sciences		
Last Major Approval Date	1 September 2017	Valid from	1 September 2018
Amendment Approval Date	V1.2- 13 February 2018	Amended with effect from	1 September 2018
Version	1.2		
Review Due By	1 September 2023		

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme is designed to develop the learner's interest and knowledge in Equine Performance, including specific subject areas integrating management of the performance horse in relation to the modern equine industry. The programme design utilises a number of applied science modules and a series of professional practice modules, ensuring students develop a strong theoretical knowledge in combination with practical application. Graduates may continue in academic study and or enter employment. The programme will prepare the learner with a foundation for lifelong learning and enable them to:

1. Access a distinctive approach to teaching, learning and assessment through the utilisation of work related and work based learning throughout the programme.
2. Enter a clear structure for training and progression within the equine industry, which specifically involved with the performance horse, encouraging staff retention within the industry.
3. Raise standards and skills levels within the equine industry, improving the industry's image and economic performance.
4. Develop technical knowledge in combination with underpinning scientific principles, equine husbandry, industry specific legislation and industry awareness and practice.
5. Appreciate health and safety legislation influencing work within the equine industry.
6. Develop a wide range of equine based physical and intellectual skills, engaging interest and improving attainment of some people who may not otherwise have access or motivation to enter higher education.
7. Effectively communicate information, arguments, and analysis, in a variety of forms, to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques effectively in the Equine industry and specifically in the management of the performance horse.
8. Undertake further training, develop existing skills, and acquire new competences that will enable learners to assume responsibility within the equine industry.
9. Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis in their field of study and in a work context; and.
10. Effectively develop and utilise employability skills including communication, information technology, numeracy, problem solving, team work, personal attributes and leadership, supervisory skills and people management, to function effectively as members of a flexible, adaptable and competitive workforce.

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

To successfully pass this programme the student must develop fundamental practical horse management skills, while developing a critical awareness behind management decisions. Work experience forms an important part of this course including the opportunity to spend 12 months gaining specialist experience in an area of performance horse management.

The programme has access to some excellent opportunities and experiences to advance knowledge of performance horses, including the Olympic equestrian disciplines of Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing, as well as the Paralympic discipline of Para-Dressage. Seminars and speakers from a wide range of equestrian sport related areas are used to enhance the learning experience.

Part 3: Programme Structure for : FdSc Equine Performance

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
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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:

Learning Outcomes:

A) Knowledge and understanding of:

	Equine Veterinary Science	Equitation	Management of Equestrian Facilities	Equine Structure & Function	Equine Industry	Equestrian Practice	Introduction to Equitation	Principles of Animal Biology	Sandwich Year Work Placement	Management of the Performance Horse	Ground Schooling and Rehabilitation	Equine Performance	Advanced Equitation	Applied Equine Nutrition	Equine Event Organisation	Applied Equine Diagnostics and Therapy	Undergraduate Research Process	Equine Biomechanics	New Venture Creation
1. The theoretical basis of equine performance principles comprising of anatomy and physiology, veterinary science, equitation, equestrian practice, exercise physiology, nutrition and management practices to facilitate the intellectual context of a foundation degree.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2. The principles which relate theory to practice in equine performance and related wider subject disciplines which inform the equine industry including equestrian facilities management, equine event organisation, equitation and equine therapy.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
3. Knowledge and understanding of current developments in equine performance and related disciplines which would combine to support continuing best practice.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
4. An understanding of a range of techniques in equine performance to allow successful management of the performance horse.	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
5. The combination of academic and applied knowledge to develop competency in the subject specific/professional/practical skills	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

[illegible]

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme
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[illegible]

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: 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 FdSc Equine Performance programme teaching is a mixture of lectures, seminar sessions, practical sessions both in the laboratory and on the yard combined with scheduled and independent learning.

Scheduled learning

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

Independent learning

May include hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc. These sessions constitute an average time per level as indicated in the table below. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made.

Placement learning

All students are expected to complete a period of work placement as part of level 2, which forms the basis for their reflection on employment that is a key feature of all foundation degrees. Many students find this experience invaluable when applying for jobs and making career decisions later on in the programme.

Will include an optional sandwich year as part of this 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.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), or equivalent

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.

Careers

To support learner's career preparations, careers personnel visit the institution on a regular basis and the students can use all the 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 this programme is to develop intellectual attainment and skills relevant to pursuing a career within the equine industry and or progressing to further academic study. Academic knowledge and understanding reinforces and supports the development of new skills, equipping each student with the ability and knowledge relevant to future career paths in the specialist area of equine performance.

The programme has been designed to facilitate students in gaining competencies to enable them to take up appropriate positions of responsibility within a range of enterprises concentrating on Equine Performance. This is a growing area of the equine industry with increasing recognition including the development of the British Grooms Association. The recent 'Strategy for the Horse Industry in England and Wales, 2005' produced by DEFRA and the British Horse Industry Confederation (BHIC), enforced the importance of raising equestrian skills, training and standards.

The institution is one of the largest providers of foundation degree programmes in the south west region. The FdSc Equine Performance aims to build upon our existing experience and support structure for foundation degree students, by integrating work related and work based learning fully within the programme design. A large proportion of core credits within the programme will be professional practice based, utilising both on site work related learning opportunities and a period of work based learning with outside organisations. The incorporation of a sandwich placement ensures work based learning is embedded in the programme of learning. The combination of academic study with periods of practical work experience provides students with an opportunity to develop both academic and work-related skills. This structure has been developed to ensure that students are awarded for the development of professional competencies applicable to the equine industry.

At the institution we pride ourselves on the support we offer to students throughout their time with us and the placement year is no different. Students will receive advice on CV and application writing, interview techniques plus much more whilst they are searching for a placement. We have support staff to help the students with all aspects of a placement (including support for the student whilst they are on placement). This is in addition to the wide range of resources available to all students within the Careers Service.

Learners will be supported throughout the programme through online web-based support such as the VLE. The library facilities have a comprehensive array of resources to support this programme. Many of these resources can be accessed remotely. Physical resources will also be fully utilised and integrated to support the delivery of this programme and the acquisition of industry standard practical skills enabling our students to lead the way in the management of the performance horse. These resources includes:

- World Class Championship arena (indoor and outdoor).
- Outdoor and indoor arenas (60m x 24m, 60m x 21m).
- Horse trials courses and cross-country schooling field.
- Stabling for over 200 horses.
- The Equine Therapy Centre including: water treadmill; high speed treadmill; diagnostic equipment including digital radiography, video endoscope, ECG etc; electrotherapy equipment; rider performance centre.

The International Equine Arena also includes:

- 70 x 40 metre competition arena.
- Additional indoor warm up facilities.
- Seating for six hundred spectators.
- Panoramic restaurant.
- Hospitality boxes.
- Classrooms.

All of these facilities provide a world class setting for the development of the students.

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:

Testing of the knowledge base is through a variety of formative and summative means including written assignment, poster defence, practical assessment, unseen written examination, production of portfolios of competencies and employer assessment (1-5).

The assessment strategy for intellectual skills is intended to: consolidate learning; ensure appropriate feedback; strengthen motivation; develop analytical skills; encourage reflection on theoretical, practical and work based learning. The programme is monitored to ensure that assessment in modules: is in relation to outcomes made explicit to students; is based upon the range of strategies through which a student can demonstrate what he or she knows, understands or can do; and; is based on a range of evidence appropriate to the activity. A variety of assessment methods is employed. The learner's ability to demonstrate skills 1-5 is tested through written assignments, written examinations, practical examinations, oral examinations and portfolios of evidence which are used to consolidate learning and develop appropriate analytical skills.

Professional and practical skills are assessed through appropriate forms of assessed coursework and written examinations. These take the form of professional practice portfolio's, oral examinations and practical assessments.

Transferable skills are assessed to some extent in all modules within the programme and the institutions marking criteria also make explicit the requirements at the different academic levels.

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 FdSc Equine Performance

		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 4	Equestrian Practice					A (100)					
	Equine Veterinary Science							A (100)			
	Introduction to Equitation				A (50)			B (50)			
	Management of Equestrian Facilities						A (60)	B (40)			
	Equine Structure and Function										A (100)
	Equine Industry	A (100)									
	Equitation	A (50)						B (50)			
	Principles of Animal Biology	A (50)							B (50)		
Optional Year	Sandwich Year Work Placement										A (100)
Compulsory Modules Level 5	Management of the Performance Horse						A (50)	B (50)			
	Equine Performance	A (50)						B (50)			
Optional Modules Level 5	Ground Schooling and Rehabilitation					A (60)			B (40)		
	Advanced Equitation	A (50)						B (50)			
	Applied Equine Nutrition						A (100)				
	Equine Event Organisation						A (60)	B (40)			
	Applied Equine Diagnostics and Therapy						A (100)				
	Equine Biomechanics		A (50)					B (50)			
	New Venture Creation						A (100)				
	Undergraduate Research Process								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).

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 and qualification benchmark statements (Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences)

Foundation Degree: qualification benchmark (QAA May 2010); 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.

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.

Staff research projects:

The proposed modules for the Equine Performance programme are based on well-established teaching areas within the institution. These modules will be taught by staff who are either research or consultancy active, or actively engaged in scholarly activity, and who bring their current experience to bear on their teaching.

Employer interaction/feedback:

Field of Equine Science 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.- QAA Subject benchmarks: Agriculture, Forestry, Agricultural Sciences, Food Sciences and Consumer Sciences (2009)

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.