HARTPURY
UNIVERSITY

Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data			
Awarding Institution	Hartpury University		
Teaching Institution	Hartpury		
Delivery Location	Hartpury		
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	None		
Department responsible for programme	Equine		
Programme Title	Master of Science in Equine Science		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None		
Highest Award Title	Master of Science in Equine Science		
Default Award Title	None		
Award Titles	Postgraduate Diploma in Equine Science Postgraduate Certificate in Equestrian Performance and Rehabilitation Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Behaviour and Welfare Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Science		
Mode(s) of Study	Accelerated FT / FT / PT		
Codes	**UCAS:** D23412	**JACS:** D422	
	UNIT-e: MSTEESXX	**HESA:**	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food and Consumer Sciences		
Last Major Approval Date	31 August 2018	Valid from	V2.0 - 01 September 2018
Amendment Approval Date	V2.3 – 13 February 2019	Amended with effect from	v2.3 - 01 September 2019
Version	2.3		
Review Due By	1 September 2024		

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme aims to increase student's knowledge and understanding with a key focus in the application of how equine science can maximise performance, enhance career longevity or aid in selection of the performance horse, with a core goal of optimising the horse's welfare. Throughout the modules, there are opportunities to gain 'hands-on' experience of modern technology, e.g. gait analysis and electromyography, utilised to assess performance which can build valuable skills for research and employability. The specific educational aims of the programme are to:

1. Provide an opportunity for postgraduate students to develop and realise their potential.
2. Provide an applied science programme of study in the field of equine science underpinned by staff research, consultancy and scholarship.
3. Enable students to develop further their capacity for critical analytical thought.
4. Enable students to add depth to their specific knowledge and transferable skills.
5. Enable students to become involved in new and developing areas of research within the field of equine science.
6. Familiarise students with the physical resources and techniques necessary for appraisal of equine athletic performance.
7. Prepare students for employment and/or further research within and outside of the equine industry; and.
8. Provide a highly scientific programme that conforms to the institutions requirements on quality assurance, management and enhancement.

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

On completion of this postgraduate programme graduates will have had to demonstrate the capability to undertake a high level of independency and dedication through managing their time and their commitments. Through the research and intellectual skills required as part of their study, MSc Equine Science graduates should be able to take a more analytical and evaluative approach to tasks required of them and to consider wider implications, ethical impacts and potential developments of the actions that they undertake. These skills and attributes are therefore supportive of either further study or employment both within and outside of the field of equine science.

Part 3: Programme Structure for :
MSc Equine Science

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

1 level and credit requirements
2 award requirements that are in addition to those described in the Hartpury Academic Regulations
3 module diet, including compulsory, core and optional modules

Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Interim Awards
Applied Equine Exercise Physiology (HEQXKX-30-7) Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete (HEQXKS-15-7) Equine Behaviour and Welfare (HEQXQW-30-7) The Research Process (HANXKT-15-7) Investigating Equestrian Research (HEQV6Y-15-7) Postgraduate Dissertation (HANVL5-60-7)	Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7) Rider Performance (HEQXKR-15-7)	Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Science Postgraduate Certificate in Equestrian Performance and Rehabilitation Credit requirements include Applied Equine Exercise Physiology (HEQXKX-30-7) and Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete (HEQXKS-15-7). Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Behaviour and Welfare Credit Requirements include: Equine Behaviour and Welfare (HEQXQW-30-7). Postgraduate Diploma in Equine Science Credit Requirements include Applied Equine Exercise Physiology, Therapy and Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete, Equine Behaviour and Welfare and Rider Performance MSc in Equine Science Credit requirements include the compulsory modules.

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:	**Equine Behaviour and Welfare**	**Applied Equine Exercise Physiology**	**Investigating Equestrian Research**	**Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete**	Rider Performance	**The Research Process**	**Postgraduate Dissertation**	Postgraduate Independent Study
A) Knowledge and understanding of:								
By the conclusion of their studies, all students of the programme will have acquired: 1. A working understanding, and a critical awareness of problems and/or new insights in the field of equine science including issues pertaining to the area of professional practice.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2. A comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to research in the area of equine science leading to potential publication or advanced scholarship.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. An innovative and individual approach to the application of knowledge gained during the programme, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in science disciplines.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(B) Intellectual Skills								
By the conclusion of their studies, all students of the programme will have the ability to: 1. Apply the skills needed for academic study or enquiry.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2. Evaluate critically current research in the area of equine science.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
3. Evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of the methodologies and, where appropriate, propose new hypotheses.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
4. Plan, conduct and report a programme of original research.	✓						✓	
5. Analyse and solve complex problems relating to equine therapy and performance.				✓				
6. Synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of theory and practice.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7. Apply strategies for appropriate selection of relevant information from a wide source and large body of knowledge.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8. Utilise problem solving skills.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9. Analyse, evaluate and interpret the evidence underpinning equine science critically and initiate change in practice appropriately.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills								
By the conclusion of their studies, all students of the programme will have the skills to: 1. Design exercise test protocols suitable for clinical, research and training feedback purposes.		✓			✓			

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

2. Make judgements on the ethics of the manipulation of breeding to enhance performance.			✓					
3. Develop methods for assessing the efficacy of therapeutic treatment programmes.				✓				
(D) Transferable skills and other attributes								
By the conclusion of their studies, all students of the programme will have developed the ability to: 1. Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using a variety of means.								
2. Evaluate their 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. Utilise information management skills, e.g. 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

On the MSc Equine Science programme teaching is a mix of scheduled, independent and autonomous learning.

Scheduled learning
May include lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and workshops; fieldwork and external visits and speakers. 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.

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.

To support learner's career preparations, 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 delivery mode encompasses a flexible approach incorporating study weekends designed to meet the needs of students and make accessible specialist resources and specialist external consultants/academics. Taught modules hold either a 15 or 30 credit rating and will be delivered over study weekends; this will equate to respective notional study time of 150 or 300 hours. The Masters of Science in Equine Science will be delivered during blocks throughout the academic year during which attendance at the institution will be required.

Students have the opportunity to meet and interact with other postgraduate students during an induction period, which contains sessions and activities common to all the institutions postgraduate students, as well as subject specific activities. Academic guidance in relation to module content rests primarily with the Module Leader. Students will have access to online support through the institutions VLE along with individual study packs produced to supplement and support each module. They will be required to engage in compulsory tutorials with their academic tutor during the academic year. Students will also be supported throughout the programme through VLE and individual module study packs. Where students are experiencing continuing difficulties, they may seek general counselling from their Personal Academic Tutor, Student Advisor or the Programme Manager.

The 60 credit Postgraduate Dissertation module accounts for one third of the total study hours for the Masters award and is the single defining element of such awards. The preparation and presentation of a research proposal will enable students to present their developing research ideas and experiences at appropriate stages throughout the research process. Students will be supported for the Postgraduate Dissertation module by allocation of a lead supervisor and a supervisory team. The lead supervisor will be a member of staff with suitable subject expertise.

The institution ensures that appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure equality of opportunity in formative and summative assessment for all students with special educational needs. We are committed to ensuring that the delivery and assessment methods of a module take account of

students with special educational needs, and this is addressed from the beginning of the module delivery period. Alternative forms of assessment may be recommended by module teams approved by the field concerned and notified to students at the beginning of the module delivery period. The institution, through the Centre for Student Affairs, provides specialist advice to students with special educational needs.

The library service is very supportive of the academic disciplines within the Equine Science programme and provides an extensive range of paper (book and periodical) and electronic based (e-book, periodical and database) resources relevant to postgraduate level study. The library further incorporates “remote access” to the majority of its holdings in order to enhance the learning experience of the student and enable postgraduate students off site access to efficiently manage their personal learning.

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

The distinctive module used by the Programme Examination Board to inform recommending differential awards for students when considering borderline performance profiles will be Postgraduate Dissertation.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment strategy to enable the learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:
Individuals learn through different methods, hence a range of teaching and assessment techniques are used throughout the programme. Theoretical lectures, practicals (computer based, laboratory, Equestrian Centre, Equine Therapy Centre), seminars and debates, industry based visits and guest speakers from within the industry enhance the students' academic knowledge, whilst giving the student the opportunity to practice and develop applied skills needed for industry. A range of assessment types appropriate for postgraduate study are utilised within the modules offering students the opportunity to excel through written examinations and assignments, oral assessments and written reports.

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 MSc Equine 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 7	**The Research Process**						A (30)	B (70)			
	Equine Behaviour and Welfare						A (40)		B (60)		
	Applied Equine Exercise Physiology	A (50)						B (50)			
	Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete	A (100)									
	Investigating Equestrian Research						A (100)				
Optional Modules Level 7	**Rider Performance**						A(100)				
	Postgraduate Independent Study							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 institution 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.

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.

Programme Amendment Log

Programme Title:	MSc Equine Science
Programme Code:	MSTEESXX
Initial Approval Date:	01 September 2017

Changes:

Current version number: 2.2
Outline Change Details: Part 1 – amend to ensure Accelerated Full Time is a mode of attendance Part 3 – amend to refer clearly to each award Part 5 – remove reference to 'at least two study weekends' as this is overly specific and is information covered in the Course Information Sheet Part 6 – change to Rider Performance assessment strategy to one point of assessment, now reflecting 100% oral exam. Part 8 – removed in line with current template
Material Alteration: No
Rationale: Rider Performance module assessment strategy has been changed and as such amendments were required to the assessment map.
Change requested by: Victoria Lewis √ I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change √ I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted √ I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report **Signature**: V.lewis **Date**: 15/5/19
Name of Head of Department: Catherine Phillips I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department **Signature**:  **Date**: 13/02/2019

Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2019 02 13
Change approved with effect from:	1 September 2019
Resulting new version number:	**V2.3**

Rationale: After the successful application for University Title, amendments were required to all specifications.
Material Alteration: Yes and Course Information Sheet amended appropriately: Not required
Outline Change Details: 1. Part 1: Basic Data requires the Awarding Body to be amended from Hartpury College to Hartpury University. 2. Removed BUWE B80 4. Subject Benchmark Statements updated where required.

Change requested by:	Academic Registrar
CVC approval date:	31 August 2018
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2018
New version number:	**V2.2**

Version v1.1

Rationale: Investigating Equestrian Research is a broader equine science module that better fits the overall ethos of the programme. The Rider Performance module which is more specialist and would be better placed as an optional module where those who do want to focus on the rider are able to take it, but those who have no interest or experience in this specific field are able to choose an alternative .

Material Alteration: No	
Outline Change Details: Investigating Equestrian Research HEQV6Y-15-7 moved from optional to compulsory and Rider Performance HEQXKR-15-7 moved from compulsory to optional.	
Change requested by:	Kirsty Lesniak
CVC approval date:	01 March 2018
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2018
New version number:	V1.1

Version 1.0 approved on 01 September 2017 until 01 September 2024 by Hartpury Curriculum Approval Committee.