

BSc (Hons) Agriculture (Crop Production) (with Foundation Year)

UCAS Code: D402

Award on completion of programme: BSc (Hons) Agriculture (Crop Production) OR BSc (Hons) Agriculture (Crop Production) with integrated placement year.

Professional body accreditation: None.

Location of study: Hartpury University. Potential work placements can be discussed with the programme manager and can be based in the UK or overseas.

Length of programme: Four years full-time. Five years full-time with an integrated placement year. Part-time options are available.

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

Entry Requirements:

General: A minimum of 5 GCSE A* to C, (or 9 to 4 where numeric grades are being awarded), including English Language and Mathematics

All applications for the Foundation year will be considered individually, however evidence of previous relevant study at level 3 (i.e. A Level, BTEC etc) is required.

A-levels: Typical offer is DD or equivalent. This must include a minimum of two A Levels preferably in a Biological Science and excludes General Studies.

Vocational Award: Typical offer is a PPP in an Extended Diploma or equivalent in a relevant subject.

International Baccalaureate: We welcome students with the International Baccalaureate Diploma qualification. Offers will be based upon the constituent components to include a grade 3 at higher level biological science. Please contact the admissions team for more information.

Access: We welcome students with Access qualifications. Certain programmes require a pass at level 3 in specific units. Please contact the admissions team for more information.

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 Both full-time and part-time students on the programme will start in September 2020. This programme is taught over two semesters, normally consisting of 12 weeks of scheduled teaching and then assessment weeks. The academic calendar can be found at: <https://www.hartpury.ac.uk/uni-termdates/>. During scheduled teaching you will have a day without timetabled sessions to support you in managing your workload, gaining valuable volunteering and work experience and completing part-time work. Timetables are normally available during registration. Please note that while we make every effort to ensure that timetables are as student-friendly as possible, scheduled teaching can take place at any time between 8:30 to 20:30 Monday to Friday, although Wednesday afternoons are normally reserved for sports and cultural activities. Work placements may entail working on different days and different hours, depending on the opportunity you identify. Part-time students should be advised that as their route is dependent on the full-time course's timetable there is the possibility depending on the modules chosen that the student could be required to attend five days a week.

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 the modules completed after your first year may contribute towards your overall award mark and outcome. The first and second years of the programme contain a mixture of scheduled contact hours with lecturers, independent learning, mandatory placement hours, and independent study.

	Scheduled Contact Learning (%)	Placement Learning (%)	Independent Learning (%)
Year 0	30	0	70
Year 1	21	23	56
Year 2	20	21	69
Year 3	10	32	58

NB The integrated placement year would involve a minimum of 40 weeks of placement and independent learning.

A minimum of 15 contact hours per week will be divided into lectures, seminars, and practical sessions in the first year. In subsequent years scheduled contact will vary depending on the modules you select but is typically around 12 hours per week. Students are expected to dedicate at least two to three hours of independent study per contact hour. The second year also contains an option for students to study abroad for a term or complete an industry placement to achieve credits towards their degree. There is an optional placement year after year two in which students can work within the industry either in the UK or abroad. The final year of the programme is spent predominately in industry combined with block teaching periods to facilitate the development of core industry and personal attributes required to secure a career within the agricultural sector. Trips are offered in a number of key modules to give the students a better understanding of the industry. Some modules may bring in guest lecturers to provide topical and industry-relevant talks.

Module Information including outlines of compulsory modules.

Foundation Year

The foundation year includes lectures in agriculture, study skills, and biological science. Within the year, you will be supported to enhance your skills and knowledge to ensure you are fully prepared to succeed in year 1.

Compulsory Modules

Foundation Year:

- **Foundation Agricultural Skills**
The aim of the module is give students underpinning knowledge of health and safety in industry, husbandry practices within both crop and livestock production and the range of skills required within agriculture.

- **Academic Skills in Practice**
The module aims to develop the student's academic, practical and transferable skills in preparation for year one study.
- **Foundation Biological Principles**
The module aims to give students a basic understanding and knowledge of biological principles including cells, cell life, metabolic pathways, genetics and organism physiology.
- **Foundation Skills Development**
The module aims to give students an understanding of the scientific method and enquiry, team working, research skills and effective time management.
- **Reviewing Literature**
The aim of the module is to develop student understanding and knowledge of literature reviews including constructing a rationale, summarising and presenting relevant information to suit a purpose, subject and audience.

Year 1:

- **Skills Development for Agriculture (includes industry placement)**
The aim of the module is to develop the student's skills in key areas of university life (academic writing, research methods, critical evaluation) and the agricultural industry (machinery operations, livestock handling) prior to completing a work placement.
- **Crop Production and Soil Management**
The module will introduce students to crops and the interaction / importance of soil and soil management in production. Students will be involved with cultivations on the college farm and visits to farms to expose them to a wide variety of crops and soils.
- **Livestock Science and Husbandry**
This provides an introduction to livestock health and husbandry, in particular discussing the interaction between anatomy and physiology, ethics and welfare, disease, reproduction and legislation. The module will cover both ruminant and non-ruminant livestock. Practical skills will be taught and developed (in handling and carrying out routine husbandry tasks) using the college enterprises.
- **Sustainable Agriculture**
This module aims to address key principles which impact sustainable agriculture systems and will include a short study trip.

Year 2:

- **Farm Business Management & Agricultural Policy**
This module provides an introduction to the principles of business management and how they are applied to the modern agricultural business. This will enable students to plan and manage staffing, capital and resource use on the farm and prepare effective budgets and business plans for future development of the business. In addition it will allow students to consider the legislative and policy boundaries that the modern farmer has to work within, enabling them to understand, manage and plan within guidelines and offer consultation to others.
- **Undergraduate Research Process**
This module introduces students to the methods of research and analysis required to successfully plan and complete projects, and research studies.
- **Agronomy**
Students will observe crops on the college farm (and during visits) and will develop their agronomy skills and make recommendations for crop protection.
- **Agricultural Technologies**
This module aims to introduce students to the role of technology within modern agriculture.

Optional modules:

Students are usually required to study 30 credits worth of optional modules

- **Independent Report**

The specific content of the module will be negotiated between the student and a member of academic staff and the module will develop into a student-led literature investigation with tutorial support.

- **International Study Academic Project (study exchange)**
This module will allow students to gain experience of study abroad with an overseas university partner, for example in Canada.
- **Professional Practice Portfolio (industry placement)**
This module will allow students to gain work experience in an industry placement.

Year 3

- **Optional integrated Placement**
Students will complete an optional placement year in an industry placement in an area of personal interest.

Final Year

The final year is spent predominately in industry, giving students the opportunity to put the theory learnt in years one and two into practice. Taught module delivery is structured around the industry placement, with students coming in to Hartpury for block periods for example weeks and / or weekends.

Core Modules:

- **Undergraduate Dissertation**
Students will partake in independent research and analysis in a related area with support from an academic tutor.
- **Industry Reflection on Practice (industry placement)**
The module enables students to reflect on the skills and experiences they have gained during the time spent in industry.
- **Developments in Crop Management**
The module will look at a broad range of topics which allows the students to gain knowledge and understanding of the key developments in crop management.

Optional Modules:

Students are usually required to study 30 credits worth of optional modules

- **Strategic Management**
The aim of the module is to develop the skills learnt in farm business management module and identify the importance of planning and managing strategically.
- **Supply Chain Management**
This module will provide students with a working understanding of the journey produce (arable, milk, meat etc) takes from farm to consumer.
- **Independent Study**
The specific content of the module will be negotiated between the student and a member of academic staff and the module will develop into a student-led literature investigation with tutorial support.
- **People Leadership and Change**
The aim of the module is to develop the understanding of managing within business, managing people and entrepreneurship.

Assessment Method: You will be assessed through a mixture of written exams, practical exams and coursework. 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. Industry will be involved in designing and setting assessment throughout the programme alongside academic staff, particularly in the final year of the programme (including the dissertation). Assessment for modules will often focus on key industry questions set by industry professionals to enable students to investigate and address current and relevant issues with industry supervision and guidance.

	Written Examination (%)	Coursework (%)	Practical Examination (%)
Year 0	12	44	44
Year 1	0	55	45
Year 2	21	47	32
Year 3	12	88	0

NB. The integrated placement year will involve 100% coursework.

Discounts and special support associated with enrolling on the programme: Hartpury also 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 and other services detailed at: <http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/university/facilities/life-at-hartpury/student-support/>

Costs associated with the programme: The cost of the programme will be £9250 per year for UK and EU students subject to government approval. We will only increase our fees in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Office for Students (OfS). This course offers an optional integrated placement year at a cost in the region of £925 (for students who want more experience working within the industry). The integrated placement year may incur additional costs depending on your choice of placement location and whether you choose a paid or unpaid position.

Students are required to purchase appropriate clothing and footwear which is available from our supplier's online shop for approximately £100. Students are encouraged to engage in various trips and visits as part of the programme. While many of these are included in the course fees, there is the opportunity to engage in additional study tours with additional costs involved. A comprehensive package of non-repayable financial support is available to facilitate engagement with placements and study tours / trips where additional costs are involved.

For part-time costs and information about financial support please refer to the Hartpury Fee policy: <http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/about-us/governance-and-policies/governance-and-policies/>

For more information on the admissions policy, please visit: <http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/about-us/governance-and-policies/governance-and-policies/>

This Course Information Sheet is accurate as at 1 September 2019.