

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	MRes Equestrian Performance		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None		
Highest Award Title	Masters in Research in Equestrian Performance		
Default Award Title	None		
Interim Award Titles	Postgraduate Certificate in Equestrian Performance		
Mode(s) of Study	Accelerated Full Time / Full Time / Part Time		
Codes	UCAS: n/a	UNIT-E: MRTEEQPX	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food and Consumer Sciences		
Most recent Validation Date	31 August 2018	Due for re-validation by:	1 September 2024
Amendment Approval Date	V2.3 – 13 February 2019 V2.4 – 6 August 2019 V2.5 – 10 September 2020	Amended with effect from	V2.4 – 1 September 2019 V2.5 – 1 September 2020
Version	2.5		
Review Due By	1 September 2024		

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The MRes offers students a unique opportunity to conduct a personalised research project, and enhance their career prospects, fully supported by expert staff and good facilities. Research at the institution involves a range of research projects and collaborative work with other academic institutions and industry related bodies. This research active ethos will facilitate high quality student research output and a positive postgraduate experience.

This programme will deliver focused specialist study in the field of equestrian performance at an advanced, research-led level. This programme involves a combination of taught and research based modules. Students will formulate and execute a significant investigative project of research in their subject area to consolidate and extend their specialist knowledge and critical thinking. Students will have the opportunity to develop and use a range of specialised research skills and methods, including data analysis and modelling, benefitting from application of new skills in the practical environment offered. The programme's educational aims will:

1. Provide students with a detailed knowledge and understanding of equestrian performance affiliated to their own subject specialism;
2. Promote an increased understanding and awareness of the application of scientific principles to their subject specialism;
3. Develop the ability to apply scientific knowledge and technical skills in research;
4. Establish the ability to utilise effective and modern methods for interpreting, analysing and describing scientific data;
5. Promote active and reflective students with the desire to progress within their field;
6. Embed the skills required to enable the undertaking of independent research;
7. Develop the ability to solve complex problems by critical understanding, analysis and synthesis;
8. 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)

Students who have completed the MRes programme will have demonstrated their ability to conduct and complete independent research and manage a research project from conception to a successful conclusion. They will have expanded their knowledge and understanding within their subject specialism 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. Students will have developed the ability to communicate effectively with a wide 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 :
MRes Equestrian Performance**

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
<p>Extended Postgraduate Dissertation (HANVL6-120-7)</p> <p>The Research Process (HANXKT-15-7)</p>	<p>Applied Equine Exercise Physiology (HEQXKX-30-7)</p> <p>Equine Behaviour and Welfare (HEQXQW-30-7)</p> <p>Investigating Equestrian Research (HEQV6Y-15-7)</p> <p>Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7)</p> <p>Rider Performance (HEQXKR-15-7)</p> <p>Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete (HEQXKS-15-7)</p>	<p><u>Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Science</u></p> <p><u>MRes in Equestrian Performance</u> Credit requirements include the compulsory modules.</p>

Part time:

The following structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical **part time student**.

The part time student journey from Entry through to Graduation is individually negotiated with the student, however will take at least three years..

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:	Extended Postgraduate Dissertation	The Research Process	Postgraduate Independent Study	Equine Behaviour and Welfare	Applied Equine Exercise Physiology	Investigating Equestrian Research	Therapy and Rehabilitation for the Equine Athlete	Rider Performance
A) Knowledge and understanding of:								
1 A broad knowledge and understanding of theories, concepts, research paradigms and critical awareness of problems associated with the field of equestrian performance, pertaining to the individual's subject specialism.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2 A comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to research in the area of equestrian performance leading to potential publication or advanced scholarship.	✓	✓						
3 Theoretical and practical scientific methodology to enable them to be competent, within their field, in designing research and facilitating management of research projects, including data interpretation and analysis, and scientific writing and presentation.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(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 equestrian performance and their individual field.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5 Articulate reason from the particular to the general.	✓		✓				✓	
6 Plan, conduct and report a programme of original research.	✓							
7 Evaluate best practices and apply to problem solving in the context of their subject field.			✓				✓	
8 Demonstrate proficiency in data analysis appropriate to the subject area.	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

9 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.	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10 Complete and disseminate the results of an independent research project to the wider field of equestrian performance.	✓		✓						
(C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills									
1 Demonstrate project management skills and manage a research project from conception to a successful conclusion.	✓	✓	✓						
2 Display advanced critical skills in their area of expertise.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 Demonstrate detailed knowledge of appropriate statistical techniques.	✓	✓							
4 Display fluent practical competency in the use of technical equipment related to their field of research.	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	
5 Communicate information regarding scientific studies to academic, professional and lay audiences.	✓			✓	✓		✓		
6 Conduct independent research.	✓	✓	✓						
(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

On the MRes programmes teaching is a mix of scheduled and independent sessions with a distinct emphasis on supporting the development of autonomous learning in the student. Students will be expected to engage in a significant amount of independent study during this programme. Students will not be able to complete the programme successfully without 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.

Scheduled learning

Includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, practical work and fieldwork. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made.

Independent learning

Includes the hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

Description of the teaching resources provided for students

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) (or equivalent)

This 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

Description of any Distinctive Features

- 1 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.
- 2 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).
- 3 Students will have the opportunity to meet and interact with other postgraduate students by holding a 'postgraduate' event at the institution to which postgraduates from other local HEIs, employers and sponsors of research will be invited. The event will comprise of seminars by postgraduate students at an advanced stage of their dissertation research and workshops and discussion on research-related topics and experiences as well as opportunities to interact informally.
- 4 Academic guidance in relation to module content rests primarily with the module leader. Where students are experiencing continuing difficulties, they may seek general counselling from their personal tutor, or approach the award leader.
- 5 Students will be supported for the Dissertation module by allocation of an individual supervisor who is a member of staff with suitable subject expertise. Supervisors can be drawn from within the institution, whilst project advisors can also be drawn from the institution's professional colleagues in the field. This will enable students to benefit from the expertise of practitioners and experienced researchers outside the institution as well as within its own academic staff. The provision of general and specialist laboratory facilities will, as has previously happened for undergraduate work, be either within the institution or at any other appropriate institution. Access to resources will be timetabled to suit the mode of study of the student.
- 6 The flexible, modular structure of the programme allows a student to complete the programme within a twelve month period or to spread studying over a longer period of time to fit in with external commitments.
- 7 The Animal and Equine industries are complex and continually developing in response to emerging knowledge and understanding of individual animals and our relationships with them. This creates a vibrant market for both the equine and animal postgraduate researcher to underpin improvements in health, welfare and performance. Students are in a strong position to learn advanced research skills

Part 5: Student Learning and Student Support

and develop strong industry links supporting employability providing them, both nationally and internationally, with much needed opportunities to complete a focused research degree.

- 8 The MRes offers students a unique opportunity to conduct a personalised research project, and enhance their career prospects, fully supported by world class staff and facilities. Research at involves a range of research projects and collaborative work with other academic institutions and industry related bodies. This cultures a research active environment which will facilitate high quality student research output and a positive postgraduate experience.
- 9 The institution has an outstanding reputation for the quality of its animal and equine programmes, events and facilities. The resources that support the programmes are state-of-the-art and are continually developing.
- 10 Our established record of individual academic and research success, the institution 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.

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:
Extended Postgraduate Dissertation.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment strategy to enable the learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:

The assessment strategy 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.

In line with the institution's 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:

		Unseen Written Exam	Practical Exam	Poster Assessment	Oral assessment and/or presentation	Written Assignment	Report / Project	Dissertation	Portfolio
Compulsory Modules Level 7	The Research Process				A (30)	B (70)			
	Extended Postgraduate Dissertation		A (10)			A (30)	A (60)		
Optional Modules Level 7	Equine Behaviour and Welfare				A (40)	B (60)			
	Applied Equine Exercise Physiology	A (50)				B (50)			
	Therapy and Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete	A (100)							
	Investigating Equestrian Research					A (100)			
	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 Hartpury website (www.hartpury.ac.uk).

Applicants must provide evidence which demonstrates that they can benefit from study on this programme and are likely to achieve the required standard.

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 an undergraduate degree programme. Applicants with non-standard entry criteria may be reviewed on an individual basis. This may take the form of an individual interview with members of the programme team and possibly the completion of a set task such as a written assignment.

Where appropriate experience or learning has been gained prior to enrolment on the programme, Hartpury will consider applications for advanced entry, e.g. into year two or three of a programme. More details on how to apply for this can be found through the Hartpury website.

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 through Hartpury's website.

Programme Amendment Log


Programme Title:	MRes Equestrian Performance
Programme Code:	MRTEEQPX
Initial Approval Date:	1 September 2017
Approved by:	Hartpury Curriculum Approval Committee
Approved until:	1 September 2024

Changes:

Current version number: 2.4	
Outline Change Details: Part 6: assessment for Investigating Equestrian Research changed from oral examination to written assignment.	
Material Alteration: Yes	
Rationale: to ensure accuracy	
Change requested by: CVC n/a I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change n/a I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted n/a I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report <p style="text-align: right;">Date: 30/07/2020</p>	
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC Chair's action 2020 09 10
Change approved with effect from:	1 September 2020
Resulting new version number:	2.5

Outline Change Details: Unit E code amended from MSREEQPX to MRTEEQPX in line with agreed convention. (All previous versions also updated.)	
CVC approval date:	CVC 2019 08 06
Change approved with effect from:	1 September 2019
New version number:	2.4

Current version number: 2.2	
Outline Change Details: Amended whole document to create this programme on its own programme specifications and MRes Animal Behaviour and Welfare on its own programme specification. Part 1 – amend to ensure Accelerated Full Time is a mode of attendance Part 3 – amend to refer clearly to each award 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: 13/2/2019
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2019 02 13
Change approved with effect from:	1 September 2019
Resulting new version number:	V2.3

Version 2.1

Rationale: Amended to create separate documents for the two programmes included in version 2.1 and in line with the latest template.	
Material Alteration: No and Course Information Sheet amended appropriately: Not required	
Outline Change Details: Removal of information specific to animal behaviour and welfare, and layout amended in line with new template.	
Change requested by:	Academic Registrar
CVC approval date:	13 February 2019
Change approved with effect from:	1 September 2019
New version number:	2.2

Version 2.1

Rationale: 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.	
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.	
Change requested by:	Academic Registrar
CVC approval date:	31 August 2018
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2018
New version number:	2.1