

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	Postgraduate Certificate Equine Behaviour and Welfare		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None		
Highest Award Title	Postgraduate Certificate Equine Behaviour and Welfare		
Default Award Title	None		
Interim Award Titles	None		
Mode(s) of Study	Part time/blended learning		
Codes	UCAS: Not applicable		JACS: D422
	UNIT-e: PGCEEBWX		HESA:
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer sciences		
Last Major Approval Date	31 August 2018	Valid from	1 September 2018
Amendment Approval Date	V2.2 – 10 September 2020	Amended with effect from	V2.2 - 01 September 2020
Version	2.2		
Review Due By	1 September 2024		

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Behaviour and Welfare programme has been developed to enable students to gain a systematic knowledge of selected aspects of key research based subject areas that underpin equine behaviour and welfare. As an important contributor to the UK economy the equine industry is subject to complex, and frequently competing, pressures. Recognition of the importance of equine welfare has never been higher, both with industry lead bodies and the general public. Equine welfare underpins the safe management of the horse and facilitates a longer and more successful career in every area of their use. To achieve a high standard of welfare understanding the principles of the study of equine behaviour is essential. This programme develops an applied understanding of the principles of equine behaviour and welfare, and supports the students in gaining and applying the research techniques necessary to evaluate and contribute to current understanding. This area is constantly updating and graduates will have the skills to engage with information at the boundaries of current knowledge.

The student experience provided by the Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Behaviour and Welfare aims 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 behavior and welfare underpinned by staff research, consultancy and scholarship;
3. Enable students to develop further their capacity for critical analytical thought;
4. Develop the student's depth of awareness and understanding of equine behaviour and welfare through a stimulating, supportive and flexible framework of learning;
5. Enable students to become involved in new and developing areas of research relating to assessment, evaluation and improvement of equine welfare;
6. Develop the ability to evaluate the impact that the management decisions of carers can have on the horse;
7. Enable students to add depth to their specific knowledge, qualities and transferable skills necessary to prepare students for employment and/or further postgraduate study;
8. Provide a highly scientific programme that conforms to the institution's 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 engage in evaluative discussion and analytical thought processes, questioning and justifying scientific protocols and concepts. Through the research and intellectual skills required as part of their study, Postgraduate Certificate Equine Behaviour and Welfare graduates should be able to take a more critical and objective 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 :
Postgraduate Certificate Equine Behaviour and Welfare**

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from Entry through to Graduation for a typical student, including:

- 1 level and credit requirements
- 2 interim award requirements
- 3 module diet, including compulsory and optional modules

		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Awards
	Year 1	Equine Behaviour and Welfare (HEQXQW-30-7)	Applied Equine Exercise Physiology (HEQKKX-30-7) Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete (HEQXKS-15-7) The Research Process (HANXKT-15-7) Investigating Equestrian Research (HEQV6Y-15-7) Postgraduate Independent Study (HANVL4-15-7)	<u>PGCert Equine Behaviour and Welfare</u> Credit Requirements: 60 credits at level 6 or above of which not less than 45 are at level 7, and to include: Equine Behaviour and Welfare (HEQXQW-30-7).

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 (HEQXQW-30-7)	Applied Equine Exercise Physiology (HEQXKX-30-7)	Investigating Equestrian Performance (HEQV6Y-15-7)	Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete (HEQXKS-15-7)
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 including: equine behaviour; equine management practices; and; appraising equine welfare.	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. A comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to research in the area of equine behaviour and welfare leading to potential publication or advanced scholarship	✓	✓	✓	✓
By the conclusion of their studies, all students of the programme will have the ability to:				
1. Demonstrate an ability to engage in postgraduate level academic enquiry through the application of cognitive skills of critical thinking, analysis and synthesis (including the capability to identify assumptions, evaluate statements in terms of evidence, detect false logic or reasoning, identify implicit values, define terms adequately and generalise appropriately).	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. To evaluate critically current research in the area of equine behaviour and welfare.	✓		✓	
3. Analyse and solve complex problems relating to equine welfare.	✓			
4. Synthesise information from a number of sources in order to gain a coherent understanding of theory and practice.	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. Apply strategies for appropriate selection of relevant information from a wide source and evolving body of knowledge across a range of species.	✓	✓	✓	✓
6. Utilise problem solving skills.	✓	✓	✓	✓
7. Analyse, evaluate and interpret the evidence underpinning equine behaviour and welfare critically and initiate change in practice appropriately.	✓			

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

8.	Demonstrate an ability to engage in postgraduate level academic enquiry through the application of cognitive skills of critical thinking, analysis and synthesis (including the capability to identify assumptions, evaluate statements in terms of evidence, detect false logic or reasoning, identify implicit values, define terms adequately and generalise appropriately).	✓	✓	✓	✓
9.	To evaluate critically current research in the area of equine behaviour and welfare.	✓			
By the conclusion of their studies, all students of the programme will have developed the skills to:					
1.	Make judgements on the ethics of different management regimes designed to enhance performance.	✓	✓	✓	✓
2.	Develop methods for assessing the efficacy of management regimes designed to improve equine welfare.	✓			
3.	Design, implement and evaluate studies of equine behavior.	✓			
4.	Utilise principles from animal science to inform the study of equine behaviour and welfare and show a critical awareness of their limitations.	✓			
5.	Justify a protocol (including analysis, target setting and monitoring) in order to optimise equine welfare.	✓			
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.	Make effective use of 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: 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.

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 part time approach incorporating study weekends designed to meet the needs of students, make accessible specialist resources and the ability to utilise specialist external consultants/academics. Taught modules hold either a 15 or 30 credit rating and will be delivered over at least two study weekends; this will equate to respective notional study time of 150 or 300 hours. The Post Graduate Certificate programme will therefore be delivered during blocks throughout the academic year during which attendance at the institution will be required. A student can manage their own workload during the academic year to decide how many modules they wish to do in each semester by selecting which optional module they engage with.

Students will have the opportunity to meet and interact with other postgraduate students during an induction period, which contains sessions and activities common to all the institution's 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 package along with individual study packs produced to supplement and support each module. They will also 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 counseling from their Personal Academic Tutor, Student Advisor or approach the Programme Manager.

Students will have the opportunity to explore areas of equine behavior and welfare of particular interest to themselves. The opportunity to conduct small projects of primary research is available at several points in the programme and within several modules. The preparation of a research proposal and its presentation for ethical approval will enable students to present their developing research ideas and experiences at appropriate stages. The extent to which a student engages with primary research is a matter of personal choice and will be guided by their Programme Manager, however all students will engage in some primary research. Other project and assignment work in the assessment of other modules will enable students to gain skills in research with secondary data as well.

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 Behaviour and Welfare 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.

The flexible, modular structure of the programme allows a student to complete the Postgraduate programme within an academic year or to spread studying over a longer period of time to fit in with external commitments. At the end of this programme students may elect to continue their postgraduate studies and as such can apply to progress to the Postgraduate Diploma Equine Science programme at the institution or apply for other programmes. Students may also elect to progress into employment. As students on the Postgraduate Certificate have access to the resources available through the Career Development Unit, and this access continues following graduation.

Part 6: Assessment

This module will be assessed according to the Academic Regulations published for the academic year on the website <http://www.hartpurv.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 Equine Behaviour and Welfare

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 Postgraduate Certificate Equine Behaviour and Welfare

		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	Equine Behaviour and Welfare HEQXQW-30-7						A (40)		B (60)		
Optional Modules Level 7	The Research Process HANXKT-15-7						A (30)	B (70)			
	Applied Equine Exercise Physiology HEQXKX-30-7	A (50)						B (50)			
	Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete HEQXKS-15-7	A (100)									
	Investigating Equestrian Performance HEQV6Y-15-7							A (100)			
	Postgraduate Independent Study HANVL4-15-7							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 6.5 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'.

This programme has been developed taking into consideration the QAA Master's Degree Characteristics Statement to support graduates to have in-depth and advanced knowledge and understanding of their subject and/or profession, informed by current practice, scholarship and research. This will include a critical awareness of current issues and developments in the subject and/or profession; critical skills; knowledge of professional responsibility, integrity and ethics; and the ability to reflect on their own progress as a learner.

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.

Programme Amendment Log

Programme Title:	PGCert Equine Behaviour and Welfare
Programme Code:	D23D12
Initial Approval Date:	01 September 2017
Approved by:	Hartpury Curriculum Approval Committee
Approved until:	01 September 2024
Original version number:	V1.0

Changes:

Current version number: 2.1	
Outline Change Details: Part 6: assessment for Investigating Equestrian Research changed from oral examination to written assignment. Part 6, Equine Behaviour and Welfare added as the distinctive module used by the Programme Examination Board.	
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	
Date: 30/07/2020	
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC Chair's action 2020 09 10
Change approved with effect from:	1 September 2020
Resulting new version number:	2.2

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 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:	V2.1

Version v1.1

Rationale: The module portfolio on the PG Certificate Equine Behaviour and Welfare is currently very broad and largely reflects that offered on the PG Equine Science programme provisions (MSc, PG Dip and PG Cert) with the exception of the core and optional module allocations. In contrast to this, the PG Certificate in Equestrian Performance and Rehabilitation, the only other named PG Certificate, has a much more refined module offering, more targeted to the aims of the programme and enabling a stronger programme identity. We are therefore proposing to refine the module offering to a smaller selection of modules linked more strongly to the aims and focus of the programme, namely Equine Behaviour and Welfare. As such, we are putting forward the intent to remove Rider Performance from the programme map for 2018.

As our PG Certificates are often undertaken as CPD by those working in industry, a market we want to explore further with the PG Certificate EBW, the removal of this module supports an enhanced programme identity and focused programme aims making it more attractive to potential applicants. Students interested in the Rider Performance module would then also be an option available to those who wish to undertake it as part of the broader studies included within their PG Diploma or Masters programmes.

Material Alteration: No

Outline Change Details: Removal of the following optional module from the programme:
HEQXKR-15-7 Rider Performance

Change requested by:	Kirsty Lesniak
CVC approval date:	01 March 2018
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2018
New version number:	V1.1

