

## Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data			
Awarding Institution	Hartpury University		
Teaching Institution	Hartpury		
Delivery Location	Hartpury		
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	Exchange / Credit recognition arrangement in the programme		
Department responsible for programme	Agriculture		
Programme Title	BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International)		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None		
Highest Award Title	BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International) BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International) with Integrated Placement Year		
Default Award Title	None		
Interim Award Titles	BSc Agriculture (International) BSc Agriculture (International) with Integrated Placement Year Dip HE Agriculture Cert HE Agriculture Cert Agricultural Studies		
Mode(s) of Study	FT / IP / PT		
Codes	UCAS: D404	JACS: D400	
	UNIT-e: BSHCAGIX	HESA:	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences		
Last Major Approval Date	1 September 2017 V2.0- 13 February 2018 V3- 1 August 2018 V4- 01 September 2018	Valid from	1 September 2018
Amendment Approval Date	V4.6- 19 October 2020	Amended with effect from	V4.6- 01 September 2020
Version	4.6		
Review Due By	1 September 2024		

## Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

The target award of a BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International) is a three-year full-time programme, with an optional placement year.

### General Aims

This programme aims to introduce students to the diversity of the agricultural sector at an international level. Students will develop comprehensive knowledge and understanding of modern day international agriculture and will be able to contextualise their knowledge to evaluate management practices and propose solutions to problems in livestock and agronomy businesses from a global perspective. A further key focus of the programme is to develop students' vocational competency to enable them to work effectively both independently and as a part of a team across a range of agricultural businesses. Throughout the programme, students will be consistently exposed to industry best practice, internationalisation in agriculture, technological advances and how emerging research is informing agricultural practice to equip them with the skills and knowledge to be a valuable attribute to any agricultural business around the world.

The specific aims of the programme are:

1. To equip students with the scientific and business principles that underpin modern global agricultural practice for a range of livestock species and within agronomy supporting careers across sectors and in farm business management.
2. To cultivate students' knowledge and understanding of the global perspective of modern agriculture.
3. To expose students to diverse cultures within and outside global agriculture.
4. To provide students with the opportunity to think constructively and critically, and to engage in professional debate to evaluate international agricultural concepts and theories with industry representatives in the UK and overseas.
5. To articulate theory into practice to propose and defend realistic and novel solutions to emerging issues within the agricultural sector.
6. To encourage the effective use of reflective practice to enhance personal and professional development to develop confidence and positive self-esteem.
7. To give the students the opportunity to design, construct and undertake scientific research in global agriculture.
8. To evaluate sustainable mechanisms used within agricultural practice to promote livestock welfare and improve yield to expose students to global agricultural practices and different cultures, though opportunities to engage in international study and work experiences.
9. To create autonomous and determined individuals who question practice and apply the skills they have learnt to propose effective solutions to real-world problems in a professional manner.
10. Demonstrate agricultural industry relevant competencies and graduate attributes to enhance employability prospects in the international job market.
11. Provides students with the ability to transfer skills to different working environments through international placement opportunities.
12. Assists students to be adaptable to the changing demands of international agri-business and society.
13. Be aware of and appreciate current international agricultural legislation, industry standards and methods of good practice including health and safety to minimise risk to people and property on-farm and within the wider international context within industry, improve international production methods and optimise international agricultural performance.

<b>Programme requirements for the purposes of the Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR)</b>
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<p>The honours degree in Agriculture (International) with integrated placement year produces graduates who understand the global complexity of modern agriculture and who are capable of work within the global industry in a variety of roles. Graduates have been exposed to a range of agricultural practices and will be confident to assist with the practical application of production methods including agronomy, livestock and land management to support modern global agriculture. Graduates will also be able to evaluate the use of contemporary technology and business management practices in global agriculture producing a graduate who is capable of applying their knowledge and understanding of the diversity of the agricultural sector to propose effective solutions to global industry problems to support and optimise production and performance.</p>
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<p>Graduates will have developed independence and the ability to manage themselves in different cultures through a compulsory period of international study, placement year and placement opportunities within the programme.</p>
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### Part 3: Programme Structure for BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International)

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

		Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Awards
	Foundation Year	Foundation Skills Development HANV8A-30-3 Academic Skills in Practice HANV8B-30-3 Reviewing Literature HANV8C-15-3 Foundation Agricultural Studies HAGV8V-15-3 Foundation Biological Principles HANV8E-30-3	Not applicable.	<u>Cert Agricultural Studies</u> Requirements: At least 60 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 45 at level 4.  <u>Cert HE Agriculture</u> Requirements: 120 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 90 are at level 4 or above.
	Year 1	HAGV74-45-4 Skills Development for Agriculture HAGV75-30-4 Crop Production and Soil Management HAGV76-30-4 Livestock Science and Husbandry HAGV77-15-4 Sustainable Agriculture	Not applicable.	<u>Dip HE Agriculture</u> Requirements: 240 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 210 are at level 4 or above and not less than 90 at level 5 or above.  <u>BSc Agriculture (International)</u> Requirements: 300 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 270 are at level 4 or above, not less than 150 at level 5 or above and not less than 60 at level 6 or above.
	Year 2	HAGV78-30-5 Farm Business Management and Agricultural Policy HANXU5-15-5 Undergraduate Research Process HANXRQ-30-5 International Study Academic Project	<b>Students must choose 45 credits from the following options;</b> HAGV79-30-5 Agronomy HAGV7G-30-5 Ruminant Livestock Production HAGV7A-15-5 Agricultural Technologies HANRX-15-5 Independent Report HAGV7H-15-5 Pig and Poultry Production	<u>BSc Agriculture (International) with Integrated Placement Year</u> Requirements: 300 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 270 are at level 4 or above, not less than 150 at level 5 or above and not less than 60 at level 6 or above. This must include the Integrated Placement Year module HANVK6-15-5.
	Placement Year	Placement Year: Students can undertake an optional year for work placement in agricultural or allied industries, which can be completed in the UK or abroad and must be equivalent to 24 weeks' worth of work. Examples of year placements would include on farm positions, working within agricultural consultancy (crop and livestock production), agricultural marketing, business management and food security / food safety positions. Students will complete module HANVK6-15-5 as part of their placement year.		<u>BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International)</u> Credit Requirements: 360 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 330 are at level 4 or above, not less than 210 are at level 5 or above and not less than 90 at level 6 or above. This must include all compulsory modules.
	Year 3	HANV3R-45-6 Undergraduate Dissertation  HAGV7D-30-6 Industry Reflection on Agricultural Practice (This must be completed in a placement that has an international aspect)	<b>Students must choose 45 credits from the following options;</b> HAGV7E-15-6 Developments in Crop Production  HAGV7J-15-6 Developments in Livestock Production HANV3M-15-6 Undergraduate Independent Study HAGV7F-15-6 Supply Chain Management HSPV54-15-6 Strategic Management HSPV44-15-6 People Leadership and Change.	<u>BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International) with Integrated Placement Year</u> Credit Requirements: 360 credits at level 3 or above of which not less than 330 are at level 4 or above, not less than 210 are at level 5 or above and not less than 90 at level 6 or above. This must include all compulsory modules and the Integrated Placement Year module HANVK6-15-5.

#### 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:

<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	<b>Skills Development for Agriculture</b>	<b>Crop Production and Soil Management</b>	<b>Livestock Science and Husbandry</b>	<b>Sustainable Agriculture</b>	<b>Farm Business Management and Agricultural Policy</b>	<b>Undergraduate Research Process</b>	<b>Agromony</b>	<b>Ruminant Livestock Production</b>	<b>Agricultural Technologies</b>	<b>Pig and Poultry Production</b>	<b>Independent Report</b>	<b>International Study Academic Project</b>	<b>Integrated Placement Year</b>	<b>Undergraduate Dissertation</b>	<b>Industry Reflection on Agricultural Practice</b>	<b>Developments in Crop Production</b>	<b>Developments in Livestock Production</b>	<b>Undergraduate Independent Study</b>	<b>Supply Chain Management</b>	<b>Strategic Management</b>	<b>People Leadership and Change</b>
<b>A) Knowledge and understanding of:</b>																					
1. A range of techniques, technologies and management theories used within global agriculture to support livestock and crop production.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
2. The key vocational skills and techniques required to work safely and effectively in the global agricultural industry.	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
3. Diverse international cultures within and outside agricultural												✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
4. Global agricultural science and its application into practice to propose solutions to industry problems with respect to crop production, crop protection, soil management, livestock husbandry, nutrition, behaviour and welfare and farm management.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				✓			
5. Sustainable global planning and management of land, capital, labour and machinery		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
6. Global agricultural policy, legislation and industry standards in relation to management of livestock and crop production enterprises and farm management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
7. The moral, ethical, welfare and social issues related to global agriculture.	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓				✓
8. The broad range of techniques and technologies utilised within modern global agriculture to monitor crop yield, livestock performance and animal welfare.		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	

<b>(B) Intellectual Skills</b>																			
1. Evaluate best practices and apply to international problem solving within a range of agricultural sectors including livestock and crop production.					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓
2. Identify, analyse and discuss key global theories, concepts and principles from a range of disciplines professionally in written and oral communication.	✓			✓	✓						✓	✓		✓				✓	✓
3. Use self-reflection to monitor their own progress in theoretical and practical agriculture, especially whilst engaged with overseas placements and study	✓		✓									✓	✓		✓				
4. Critically analyse a range of data to produce reports for an international audience					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. Demonstrate the ability to apply informed decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts in global agricultural management.					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓	✓
6. Critically evaluate strategies used to increase crop and livestock production with respect to animal welfare, sustainability and policy from a global agricultural perspective		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓					✓	✓			
7. Combine theoretical knowledge and practical experience appreciating and analysing financial and other management information and using it in decision-making to devise realistic agricultural management and business plans.					✓		✓	✓		✓								✓	✓
<b>(C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills</b>																			
1. Demonstrate the vocational and personal skills to work safely and effectively within global livestock and crop production sectors.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Engage with overseas work placement providers to develop industry experience in a range of crop and livestock enterprises.													✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
3. Demonstrate the academic and vocational skills developed through study and industry placements in order to progress through the degree programme.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Communicate with tutors and support through a range of media whilst on international study or placement year,											✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. Benchmark livestock, crop and farm performance in the context of national and international standards, and carry out comparison across businesses or sectors within the agricultural industry					✓		✓	✓		✓					✓				✓

## Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

6.	Develop written and oral communication skills to disseminate information to a wide audience of peers, farmers and industry representatives.	✓				✓		✓	✓		✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
7.	Collaborate with placement providers to undertake industry relevant research													✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
8.	Identify, present and defend realistic proposals and solutions to industry problems within chosen industry placement															✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
9.	Demonstrate a commitment to continuing professional development and lifelong learning through the development of initiative, leadership and team skills in relation to self-directed and independent study, developing an adaptable and flexible approach to study and work.	✓				✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
<b>(D) Transferable skills and other attributes</b>																						
1.	Communicate effectively through written and verbal means with the wider agricultural industry both nationally and internationally					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2.	Prepare and present data using a range of sources and techniques for peers, enterprise managers and the global agricultural industry.											✓	✓	✓	✓							
3.	Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4.	Take responsibility for personal and professional learning within an international context					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.	Manage time effectively in order to prioritise workloads during production within agriculture in order to meet targets and objectives					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6.	Possess the ability to work successfully both independently or as part of a team within agronomy, livestock enterprises and crop production and farm management or within farm management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7.	Liaise with a range of academic and industry support to achieve a successful placements and study in the international arena.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## 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-to-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.

The Agriculture (International) with integrated placement year programme utilises a mixture of teaching approaches which aim to support the student to develop a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the principles of agriculture. Learning opportunities are varied with students able to apply theory to practice on the institutions farm, during industry engagement, and through periods of international work placement and international study exchanges. The teaching and learning strategies employed within modules aims to develop graduates who can assimilate complex paradigms and propose justified solutions to problems related to agriculture. A feature of the Foundation Year will be the facilitated workshops and individual study, enabling students to benefit from small-group study.

In the year two, the placement year and the final year, students will spend time overseas engaged in placements and international study. Support for these students will be carried out by tutors through a number of strategies. Tutorials will be conducted via skype and telephone on a regular basis as well as optional 'drop in' sessions at times to suit students wherever they are in the world. Students will also have access to support from exchange partners during their placements and study periods. Access to study material will be through the VLE and students will be able to submit formative and summative assessment online.

The BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International) with integrated placement year will have the following distinct unique selling points for each year of delivery:

#### **Foundation Year: delivery focuses on developing a foundation in scientific and academic knowledge alongside a grounding in vocational skills.**

The Foundation Year will prepare students with general study skills and opportunities to develop subject specific skills and knowledge. Additionally the Foundation year includes an internship enabling a student to put their skills into practice and develop an early appreciation of employment opportunities and attributes necessary for enhanced employability.

#### **Year 1: delivery is focused on providing a practical and scientific foundation in agriculture to support students' academic and interpersonal skill development alongside vocational competency.**

To achieve this the first year takes an experiential approach to learning and concentrates on the development of fundamental knowledge and understanding of the agricultural industry and intellectual skills through lectures, seminars, practical and academic workshops and industry engagement. This enables students to analyse, evaluate and synthesise information and opportunities are provided for students to apply the knowledge they have gained into practice on the institutions farm, that consists of a range of mixed enterprises (dairy, sheep, beef, veal, deer and arable), as well as through visits to external farms and industry. Students will also develop their vocational skills during their time on the institutions farm and during work experience and practical sessions. Access to a skills development bursary will also allow students to undertake and achieve industry recognised competency certificates to support their work readiness.

#### **Year 2: delivery aims to consolidate the practical and vocational skills developed in the first year of study within industry environments. Students are encouraged to evaluate the impact and constraints of management systems and practices within agronomy and livestock production,**



In the second, year students continue to apply their knowledge and understanding through evidenced based learning, application into practice and exposure to best practice through a range of visits to industry and guest speakers. Optional modules allow students to tailor and build their specialist knowledge and begin to focus on their chosen career path. Delivery will encourage students to develop their autonomy, engage in reflection and will reinforce the competencies developed in year one. Students will undertake a period of international study with partner universities in the USA and Canada which will enable the students to experience a different culture and develop an international view of the agricultural industry. This will allow them to apply different production and management techniques and strategies to propose solutions to global industry problems, as well as gain professional practice experience which will allow students to apply their knowledge and understanding within industry and will develop their academic and vocational skills.

**Integrated Placement Year (optional):** Students have the opportunity to further develop their employability and can experience different husbandry and production methods used within modern agriculture within either a regional, national or international environment.

**Year 4:** Delivery aims to provide students with opportunities to apply research and the skills they have developed into practice facilitating individual specialisation within their chosen career path.

The final year concentrates on the individual development of the student and their expansion of their specialist career path. Students will engage with an extended period of work placement with an international context which will refine their ability to work effectively in the global agriculture sector and further develop core graduate attributes to support employability. Taught content will focus on evaluation of emerging issues across the diversity of global agriculture and students will be encouraged to engage critical review and in evidence based learning, with opportunities to put this into practice provided during industry or research focused projects. Teaching will be delivered in blocks to facilitate placement opportunities with additional content placed on the VLE.

On the Agriculture (International) with integrated placement year programme, teaching is a mix of scheduled, independent and placement learning

**Scheduled learning** includes: lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes with livestock, machinery and crops; fieldwork, including crop walking and agronomy; external visits to farms and allied industries including abattoirs, processors; work based learning on the institutions farm; supervised time in laboratories. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made.

**Independent learning** includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion, attendance at conferences and relevant industry shows / demonstrations. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made.

**Placement learning:** includes industry placements, farm duties on the institutions farm and an optional placement year overseas.

#### **International Academic Study**

Within this programme students will gain academic credit for a period of studying abroad. The student would be supported to identify an international opportunity of interest, which may be with established institution partners or by individual arrangement. All periods of study abroad have to meet the institutions requirements before enrolment on the International Academic Study opportunity modules

#### **Description of the teaching resources provided for students**

Students will have access to the onsite institutions farm consisting of the dairy herd and replacements, a semi intensive beef enterprise, the veal production system, a sheep flock of ewes with both indoor and outdoor lambing flocks, and a deer herd consisting of both native and European bloodlines and arable production. The students will have access to the farm and the

institutions estate for vocational skills development in the first year as well as allowing the students to apply their knowledge and understanding into practice within the various commercial enterprises, throughout all years of study. Students will have access to the livestock enterprises and the wider institutions estate in order to conduct research throughout their study alongside industry partners, working in crop production, crop protection and the livestock sector. During their research students will be fully supported by academic staff, laboratory staff and industry mentors.

A range of equipment is available for students to develop their vocational skills in a safe teaching environment on the farm, this includes modern agricultural machinery from a number of manufacturers (tractors, drills, mechanical handlers), links to machinery manufacturers, livestock handling systems and electronic data collection which will allow students to collect data and monitor weights, growth rates and production performance and laboratories which can facilitate soil analysis (pH, texture and mineral content), forage analysis and animal health analysis.

A specialist classroom is situated at the farm which allows for a seamless transfer between theory and practical activities. The teaching team have a high degree of industry relevant experience that covers all aspects of the programme and are actively engaged in research and knowledge exchange activities. An extensive list of placement providers has been built up over the past five years alongside a comprehensive network of farms and industry visits, which are used to allow students to see alternative practice and management systems.

Existing placement providers offer a range of opportunities in the UK and overseas (New Zealand, Australia, Africa, Canada). These opportunities cover the wide spectrum of agriculture (livestock and crop production, management) and allied industries (abattoirs, processors and consultancy). These placements will expose students to real world agriculture as well as allowing students to further develop a range of vocational skills, develop their knowledge and understanding and apply theory into practice.

Agreements with partner establishments overseas will allow students to undertake a period of academic study abroad. Partnerships with Delaware Valley in the USA and Dalhousie in Canada will allow students the opportunity to study overseas for a semester in their second year and gain credit for this in the form of short course certificates as well as module completion. Existing connections overseas will assist students in finding appropriate placements for both the placement year and the final year of the degree programme.

Staff and tutors will have access to skype to maintain contact with and support students during placements and international academic study through years two and three and the placement year.

Students have access to the institutions learning Centre (ULC) 24 hours a day, seven days a week to support their studies. The ULC contains a wide range of text books and journals alongside ICT facilities which include agricultural specific software such as Farmplan and Gatekeeper. Within the ULC there are specific areas for individual study, group study and a higher education flexible study zone. These facilities are all available to students to support their studies.

### **Description of any Distinctive Features**

The BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International) with integrated placement year is designed to expose students to real-world agricultural practice, with opportunities embedded at all levels to engage with industry in teaching, observing practice and during study trips in the UK and overseas. This approach will provide a balanced vocational and academic study that is intellectually challenging, vocationally relevant, and provides a foundation for pursuing a career within international agriculture and its allied industries. The programme will have the following distinctive features

- Teaching and learning strategies are designed to ensure students are given opportunities to apply theory into practice on a fully commercial mixed farm onsite that includes a range of enterprises (arable, beef, veal, sheep, dairy and deer).

- Placement opportunities with a range of regular employers and providers throughout the programme both in the UK and Overseas. These placements cover a wide range of opportunities in all sectors of agriculture and its allied industries.
- Overseas study trip and extended international academic study with partner universities in the USA and Canada.
- An optional overseas placement year that will expose students to different working practices and cultures and to real world agriculture.
- Students are able to shape and personalise their own individual learning experience and journey throughout the programme in order to match future career aspirations. This will be achieved through optional module choices and placement opportunities within industry throughout the degree and particularly in the final year, supported by a training bursary of £1,000.
- Research opportunities with industry partners throughout the programme that is fully supported by academic and industry mentors / supervisors.
- Modules are timetabled to allow students to follow the agricultural production cycle.
- The final year of the programme is spent in predominately in industry overseas, in a self-selected placement, during which students will be working with industry peers to engage in industry relevant practice and research to propose novel solutions to placement specific problems.
- Industry involvement in assessment setting and assessing alongside teaching and opportunities to put knowledge into practice.
- Develop theoretical and vocational skills contextualised to support employment in the agricultural industry but which are transferable to allied agriculture sectors.
- Designed to develop and support a can do attitude in graduates, to produce autonomous and determined individuals who question practice and apply the skills they have learnt to propose effective solutions to real-world problems in a professional manner.
- This programme will be assessed according to the published academic regulations and associated procedures.

## 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: Industry Reflection on Agricultural Practice.

## Assessment Strategy

Assessment throughout the programme has been designed to assess the student's ability to apply theoretical principles and current research to practice in order to resolve and provide solutions to real world issues within the field of Agriculture. This will be achieved via a wide variety of assessment methods, including a range of single assessment portfolios, traditional examinations, written reports, oral presentations, practical exams and practical skills assessment and assignments.

Students on international placements will be supported during assessments with online revision sessions, formative tasks and tutorials via the VLE, skype and telephone. Industry mentors will also be available to support and guide students through the assessment process.

Portfolios have been selected because they capture within a single point of assessment a number of opportunities for the student to demonstrate the skills and experience of learning opportunities that can be synthesised into practice. The portfolios will include elements of personal and industry reflection, short answer questions, practical skills assessment and written reports.

The inclusion of oral presentations and mock interviews in the first year will help prepare students for placement application throughout the programme as well as building their confidence in delivering information to industry in the form of business plans, crop protection plans and research findings.

The assessment strategy also embeds opportunities for students to achieve practical 'employment ready' vocational skills applicable to agriculture across different modules and levels of the programme. Simultaneously opportunities to develop key graduate attributes such as critical writing, team working, communication and other interpersonal skills are also embedded within modules across each year of the programme to ensure the BSc (Hons) Agriculture (International) with integrated placement year student can function effectively within the international agricultural sector. There will be a number of formative assessment opportunities to support students towards their summative assessment, these will be through academic and practical skills workshops through the Achievement and Success Centre at the institution, on the institutions farm, individual and group tutorials with tutors and industry support during employment on placements.

In response to industry feedback there has been a conscious move through the years of the programme to develop students' autonomy, confidence, critical and problem solving skills with increasing access and involvement with employers in assessment. This will provide students with 'live briefs' for assessment that will allow them to propose solutions to industry specific challenges and scenarios that they will face in their future careers in the industry. This will develop their industry ethos and show them that they can succeed in signposting their personal, academic and professional development

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 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. The range of assessments utilised are detailed in the following assessment map:

## Assessment Map

The programme encompasses a range of **assessment methods** and these are detailed in the following assessment map:

		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 3	Foundation Skills Development	A (25)				B (75)					
	Academic Skills in Practice						A (25)		B (75)		
	Reviewing Literature							(A100)			
	Foundation Agricultural Studies			B (50)			A (50)				
	Foundation Biological Principles				A (50)						B (50)
Compulsory Modules Level 4	Skills Development for Agriculture					A (100)					
	Crop Production and Soil Management										A (100)
	Livestock Science and Husbandry					A (100)					
	Sustainable Agriculture						A (50)		B (50)		
Compulsory Modules Level 5	Farm Business Management and Agricultural Policy		A (50)				B (50)				
	Undergraduate Research Process								A (100)		
	International Academic Study Project						A (25)				B (75)
Optional Modules Level 5	Agricultural Technologies						A (100)				
	Agronomy				A (30)	B (70)					
	Ruminant Livestock Production				A (30)	B (70)					
	Pig and Poultry Production	A (50)							B (50)		
	Independent Report		A (25)					B (75)			
Optional Year	Integrated Placement Year										A (100)
Compulsory Modules Level 6	Undergraduate Dissertation									A (100)	
	Industry Reflection Agricultural on Practice										A (100)
Optional Modules Level 6	Developments in Crop Production		A (100)								
	Developments in Livestock Production		A (100)								

	Undergraduate Independent Study							A (100)				
	Supply Chain Management						A (100)					
	Strategic Management								A (100)			
	People Leadership and Change					A (25)			B (75)			

\*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](http://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'.

#### ***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 expertise and research:***

The institutions staff have a number of years of industry experience and remain active in key areas of the agricultural industry. The proposed modules for the Agriculture programme are based on well-established teaching areas within the institution. All modules will be taught by staff who are either research, industry or consultancy active, or actively engaged in scholarly activity, and who bring their current experience to bear on their teaching.

***Employer interaction/feedback:***

Feedback has been sought from a range of employers within the agricultural sector. These industry panel discussions centred on the purpose of the programme and the skills and knowledge needed to ensure the programme is current and relevant to employers. Industry employers were also included on the periodic curriculum review

Feedback was also sought on the programme from Alumni, present and future students.

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

<b>Programme Title:</b>	BSc (Hons) Applied Agriculture (International)
<b>Programme Code:</b>	D404/AAIX
<b>Initial Approval Date:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2017
<b>Approved by:</b>	Hartpury Curriculum Approval Committee
<b>Approved until:</b>	01 September 2023
<b>Original version number:</b>	V1.0

#### Changes:

<b>Current version number: 4.5</b>	
<b>Outline Change Details:</b> Parts 3, 4, 5 & 6: Module HANVK6-15-5 name changed from Year Work Placement to Integrated Placement Year, in line with module amendment. Part 3: placement changed from 40 weeks to 24 weeks, in line with module amendment.  Part 6: Addition of the Distinctive Module for the PEBs	
<b>Material Alteration: Yes</b>	
<b>Rationale: to ensure accuracy</b>	
<b>Change requested by: CVC</b> 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	
<b>Date: 30/07/2020</b>	
<b>Approval Committee and Date:</b>	CVC Chair's 19 October 2020
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	1 September 2020
<b>Resulting new version number:</b>	4.6 (intakes 2018)

#### Version 4.0

<b>Rationale:</b> After the successful application for University Title, amendments were required to all specifications.	
<b>Material Alteration:</b> Yes and Course Information Sheet amended appropriately: Not required	
<b>Outline Change Details:</b> 1. Part 1: Basic Data requires the Awarding Body to be amended from Hartpury College to Hartpury University. 2. Award Titles amended to replace (SW) with (IP) 4. Subject Benchmark Statements updated where required. <span style="color: red;">(Remove any not relevant text)</span>	
<b>Change requested by:</b>	Academic Registrar
<b>CVC approval date:</b>	31 August 2018
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	01 September 2018
<b>New version number:</b>	V4.0

#### Version 3.0

<b>Rationale:</b> The UCAS Course Search mechanism was altered leading up to 2018, and this meant that if a prospective applicant typed in 'Agriculture' the Applied Agriculture (International) title was not returned. An
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amendment was therefore required and following consultation a simpler title of Agriculture (International) was chosen.	
<b>Material Alteration:</b> Yes and Course Information Sheet amended appropriately: Yes	
<b>Outline Change Details:</b> Programme title changed from BSc (Hons) Applied Agriculture to BSc (Hons) Agriculture	
<b>Change requested by:</b>	Phillip Watson
<b>CVC approval date:</b>	01 August 2018
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	01 September 2018
<b>New version number:</b>	V3.0

#### Version 2.0

<b>Rationale:</b> Addition of Foundation Year as an entry point into this programme and therefore this has been reflected in the appropriate sections.	
<b>Material Alteration:</b> Yes and Course Information Sheet amended appropriately: Yes	
<b>Outline Change Details:</b> To increase access and widening participation opportunities for this programme.	
<b>Change requested by:</b>	Phillip Watson
<b>CVC approval date:</b>	13 February 2018
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	01 September 2018
<b>New version number:</b>	V2.0