

Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data			
Awarding Institution	Hartpury University		
Teaching Institution	Hartpury University		
Delivery Location	Hartpury		
Study abroad / Exchange / Credit recognition	None		
Department responsible for programme	Equine		
Programme Title	MSc Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy and Rehabilitation		
Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body Links	None		
Highest Award Title	MSc Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy and Rehabilitation		
Default Award Title	None		
Interim Award Titles	PG Cert Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy PG Cert Equine Studies PG Dip Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy and Rehabilitation PG Dip Equine Studies		
Mode(s) of Study	Accelerated Full Time / Full Time / Part Time		
Codes	UCAS: N/A	UNIT-E: MSTHRTR	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements	Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences Events, Hospitality, leisure, sports, tourism		
Most recent Validation Date	V1.0 – 11 June 2021	Due for re-validation by:	01 September 2026
Amendment Approval Date		Approved with effect from	01 September 2021
Version	1.0		

Part 2: Educational Aims of the Programme

MSc Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy and Rehabilitation graduates will be able to assess, evaluate and treat injuries typical to amateur and professional horse riders. They will have the knowledge and skills to apply therapeutic interventions and devise rehabilitation plans to facilitate optimum performance in the saddle. Graduates will have the ability to integrate advanced clinical reasoning skills and reflective practice to musculoskeletal assessment and treatment, as well as injury prevention. Working within their scope of professional practice, the graduate will be an integral part of the multidisciplinary team supporting the horse-rider dyad.

The applied, practical nature of the delivery with focus on the horse rider will develop practical skills with an evidence-based approach to enhance performance of the horse-rider dyad. Awareness and understanding of the interaction between the rider and the horse, as well as horse behaviour and welfare will ensure the student can place the horse at the centre of the partnership and support social licensing. A postgraduate dissertation will enable the student to design, implement and evaluate a personal project in a contemporary area of horse rider therapy and rehabilitation.

The specific education aims of the programme are:

1. To develop advanced knowledge and understanding of the principles and practice of rider musculoskeletal therapy, through critical evaluation of evidence that supports best practice.
2. To effectively apply rider musculoskeletal therapeutic interventions and rehabilitation strategies, with critical awareness of evidence-based practice, advanced clinical reasoning and reflective practice
3. To cultivate students' knowledge and understanding of the use of the horse, relevant legislation and self-awareness as a professional within their scope of practice.
4. To develop enhanced clinical reasoning and clinical application skills for therapy and rehabilitation approaches for the horse rider.
5. To develop students' ability to critically apply knowledge and understanding of equine anatomy, biomechanics and physiology to the ridden horse ensuring a horse first approach.
6. To effectively communicate in a variety of forms and at the appropriate level, to specialist and non-specialist audiences, promoting and enabling positive equine welfare through expert knowledge of the interaction between the horse and rider.
7. To encourage reflective and critical abilities as a therapy professional to question existing practice, inform future applications and enhance their personal development as a reflective practitioner.

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

MSc Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy and Rehabilitation graduates will be able to assess, evaluate and treat injuries typical to amateur and professional horse riders. They will have the knowledge and skills to apply therapeutic interventions and devise rehabilitation plans to facilitate optimum performance in the saddle. Graduates will have the ability to integrate advanced clinical reasoning skills and reflective practice to musculoskeletal assessment and treatment, as well as injury prevention. Working within their scope of professional practice, the graduate will be an integral part of the multidisciplinary team supporting the horse-rider dyad.

Part 3: Programme Structure

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

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

Compulsory Modules	Optional Modules	Awards
HEQVJ8-15-7 Equine Biomechanics and Physiology HEQVJL-15-7 Introduction to Equine Behaviour, Welfare and Ethics HEQVJY-30-7 Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy HANXKT-15-7 The Research Process HEQVH6-30-7 Rider Performance and Rehabilitation HANVL4-15-7 Postgraduate Independent Study HANVL5-60-7 Postgraduate Dissertation		<u>PG Cert Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy</u> must include HEQVJ8-15-7, HEQVJL-15-7, HEQVJY-30-7. <u>PG Cert Equine Studies</u> <u>PG Dip Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy and Rehabilitation</u> must include all compulsory modules except Postgraduate Dissertation. <u>PG Dip Equine Studies</u> <u>MSc Horse Rider Therapy and Rehabilitation</u> must include all compulsory modules.

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 Biomechanics and Physiology	Introduction to Equine Behaviour, Welfare and	Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy	The Research Process	Rider Performance and Rehabilitation	Postgraduate Independent Study	Postgraduate dissertation
A) Knowledge and understanding:							
1. A theoretical knowledge biomechanics and physiology of the horse-rider dyad, underpinned by research	X				X		
2. Appreciate the complexity of rider function and implications for horse welfare and social license		X	X		X		
3. Demonstrate a critical understanding of rider musculoskeletal function and clinical reasoning for selection of treatment and rehabilitation.			X		X		
4. Wide appreciation of research and application to the complex demands of the industry			X		X	x	
5. Relevant areas of research in the area of rider musculoskeletal therapy and rehabilitation						X	X
6. Develop an advanced understanding and the ability to apply the scientific method to the area of study				X			X
(B) Intellectual Skills							
1. Critically evaluate current research in relation to the horse-rider dyad	X	X	X		X	X	
2. The ability to evaluate and critically reflect upon therapy practice			X			X	
3. Critically evaluate research in musculoskeletal therapeutic interventions for riders			X				
4. Select and employ appropriate research methodologies and demonstrate the ability to analyse and present the findings				X		X	X
5. Critically evaluate research in musculoskeletal rehabilitation interventions for riders						X	
6. Analyse, evaluate and interpret the evidence underpinning rider therapy and rehabilitation and propose and test new hypothesis to initiate change in practice appropriately.							X
(C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills							
1. Demonstrate the ability to effectively assess musculoskeletal function of the rider on and off a horse	X		X		X		

Part 4: Learning Outcomes of the Programme

2. Undertake skilled, evaluative and reflective rider musculoskeletal therapy and rehabilitation practice			X		X		
3. Recognise professional scope of practice and be aware of appropriate actions			X		X		
4. Demonstrate, with evidence-based practice, advanced clinical reasoning and reflective practice to select appropriate strategies in order to solve problems that may be complex in nature					X		
5. Design, implement and evaluate a personal research project in a contemporary area relating to the horse-rider dyad analysis, demonstrating critical analysis of the research process, appropriate research methods and the analysis, interpretation and dissemination of data							X
(D) Transferable skills and other attributes							
1. Communicate effectively with a wide range of audiences using a variety of appropriate means	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations					X		
3. Demonstrate an enhanced ability to respond effectively to the needs of clients			X		X		
4. Evaluation and synthesis of relevant literature to inform application to future research studies.						X	X
5. Undertake an independent research project							X

Part 5: Student Learning and Student Support

Teaching and learning strategies to enable learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

On the MSc Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy and Rehabilitation programme teaching is a mix of scheduled and independent learning. For this programme practical skills are a core component as they are directly linked to clinical reasoning and problem solving, providing foundation for skilled and successful professional practice.

This programme may include on site and online learning.

Scheduled learning may include lectures, seminars, tutorials, demonstration, practical classes and workshops; external speakers; supervised time in studio / workshop. 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.

The virtual learning environment (VLE): this programme is supported by a VLE where the students will be able to find programme and module information. Direct links to information sources will also be provided from within the VLE.

Students disclosing additional learning needs are able to access their additional support requirements, or gain advice on how to do so, via our Learning Support team. All students can access the Achievement and Success Centre (ASC) which offers one to one tutorials, group workshops, and online guidance to support the development of study skills and facilitate academic achievement.

Description of the teaching resources provided for students

The delivery mode encompasses a flexible approach to incorporating study weekends, designed to meet the needs to student and make accessible specialist resources and specialist external consultants/academics. The Master of Science in Horse Rider Therapy and Rehabilitation will be delivered during blocks throughout the academic year during which attendance at the institution will be required. Teaching blocks will encompass practical sessions with horses, clinics with riders, assessment of horse and rider performance and contact with a wide range of musculoskeletal therapy professionals.

This programme is designed with a practical orientation, towards the application and evolution of theory to practice in varied settings. Examples of Hartpury University's outstanding teaching facilities used include the equine yard and arenas, horse simulators, sports laboratories, strength and conditioning gyms, therapy suites and lecture rooms.

Part 6: Assessment

This programme will be assessed according to the approved Academic Regulations.

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

Part 6: Assessment

Assessment Strategy

Assessment strategy to enable the learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:
 A range of assessment techniques are used throughout the programme to support students' assessment for learning and progression through their postgraduate study. Professional therapists need to communicate both verbally and in a written format, therefore assessments have been selected to allow students to demonstrate key skills in these areas. In addition the range of approaches acknowledges that learners have differing strengths and preferences and have been designed to test the learning outcomes of the modules in an appropriate and fair manner, as well as to be able to discriminate ability amongst students. Furthermore, formative as well as summative assessment opportunities are provided throughout the programme to support the students ongoing learning and development.

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	HEQVJ8-15-7 Equine Biomechanics and Physiology							A (100)			
	HEQVJL-15-7 Introduction to Equine Behaviour, Welfare and Ethics						A (75)	B (25)			
	HEQVJY-30-7 Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy					A (40)		B (60)			
	HANXKT-15-7 The Research Process						A (30)	B (70)			
	HEQVH6-30-7 Rider Performance and Rehabilitation					B (50)	A (50)				
	HANVL4-15-7 Postgraduate Independent Study							A (100)			
	HANVL5-60-7 Postgraduate Dissertation						A (25)			A (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 Hartpury website (www.hartpury.ac.uk).

Applicants must hold a level 6 qualification (or above) in a human musculoskeletal therapy and be a member of their relevant professional body, holding insurance to practice. A minimum of one year working/experience as a musculoskeletal professional practitioner is desirable. All applicants will be interviewed which will include exploring their equine experience.

Applicants must provide evidence which demonstrates that they can benefit from study on this programme and are likely to achieve the required standard. 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. 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. More details on how to apply for this can be found through the Hartpury website.

For postgraduate: 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:	MSc Horse Rider Musculoskeletal Therapy and Rehabilitation
Programme Code:	MSTEHRTR
Initial Approval Date:	11 June 2021

Changes: *Most recent at the top of the page*

Current version number: 0	
Outline Change Details: New programme	
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC Chair's action 11 June 2021
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2021
Resulting new version number:	1.0