Module Descriptor

Part 1: Basic Data						
Module Title	Animal and Agriculture Dissertation					
Module Code	HANVKS-45-6		Level	6	Version	1.0
Credit Rating	45		ECTS Credit Rating	22.5		
Teaching Institution	Hartpury	Department	Animal and Agriculture	Module Type	Standard	
Contributes towards	BSc (Hons) Agriculture BSc (Hons) Animal Behaviour and Welfare BSc (Hons) Animal Training and Performance BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Science with Therapy BSc (Hons) Bioveterinary Science BSc (Hons) Canine Training and Performance BSc (Hons) Human-Animal Interaction BSc (Hons) Zoology					
Professional Accrediting Body	None		Module Entry requirements	None		
Pre-requisites	None		Excluded Combinations	None		
Most recent Validation Date	21 March 2022		Due for re-validation by	01 September 2027		
Amendment Approval Date			Approved with effect from	V1.0 - 01 September 2022		

Part 2: Module Content	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to: 1. Apply appropriate research techniques to address an area of inquiry from their subject discipline. (A) 2. Critically evaluate literature relevant to an area of investigation. (A) 3. Select and apply methods of analysis suitable to the subject discipline. (A) 4. Evaluate the outcomes of the inquiry drawing upon relevant literature. (A) 5. Disseminate the outcomes of the research inquiry effectively. (A) 6. Conduct a research project in a professional and effective manner. (B)
Syllabus Outline	The nature of the dissertation will vary for each student, therefore, the following content is indicative of the scheduled learning opportunities that will be made available to the students. • Writing a research proposal • Pitching an industry relevant enquiry

	- Ethical and data security considerations - Quantitative research design - Qualitative research design - Analysis of data - Communicating research findings (articles, posters, social media) to varied audiences (scientists, industry, lay people) - Project management skills to successfully complete the dissertation in a set timeframe - The place of the researcher within research (e.g. biases, conflicts of interest) - Self-reflection on professional conduct and skills, including in relation to wellbeing

Part 3: Learning, Teaching and Assessment	
Description of Learning and Teaching	During this module, students will be introduced to the assessment, learning and teaching methods employed and will be allocated an individual project supervisor to guide them towards completion of their chosen inquiry. **Scheduled learning** includes lectures, e-lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision. **Independent learning** includes hours engaged with essential reading, assignment preparation and completion etc. The nature of the dissertation will be individually negotiated and may also include work placement, by application. These sessions constitute an average time per level as indicated in the table below. **Virtual learning environment (VLE):** 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.
Resource Strategy	**Essential reading** Essential material will be indicated to the student via pre-course material, module guides and through their accessing a dedicated VLE presence. No requirement for the purchase of set text(s) will be made unless explicitly stated and students will have full access to library services, online applications, and inter-library loans. **Further reading** Students are expected to identify all other reading relevant to their chosen topic for themselves. They will be required to read widely using the library catalogue, a variety of bibliographic and full text databases, and Internet resources. Many resources can be accessed remotely. The purpose of this further reading is to ensure students are familiar with current research, classic works and material specific to their interests from the academic literature and wider professional sources. **Access and skills** Formal opportunities for students to develop their library and information skills are provided within the induction period and student skills sessions. Additional support is available through online resources. This includes interactive tutorials on finding books and journals, evaluation information and referencing. Sign up workshops are also offered.

Assessment Strategy	This module will be assessed according to the approved Hartpury Academic Regulations including any specific regulations detailed within the student's programme specification.
	The strategy will provide optional assessment briefs within the framework of a final dissertation thesis to enable students to select an assessment appropriate to their subject discipline and area of inquiry. In each case, the assessment will require the student to produce a summative account of their research inquiry. The nature of the inquiry and assessment option should be negotiated with a supervisor prior to the commencement of the project itself. The options are an undergraduate research article, a report on a vocationally relevant inquiry (that should involve data handling) and a systematic and/or meta-analytic review of literature.
	As part of the project all students are expected to produce an ethics application, though this can be deemed low-risk and signed off by the supervisor (and lodged with the Ethics committee) rather than needing full ethics scrutiny. To ensure students plan appropriate timescales for their project a deadline is included for the submission of this paperwork as a pass-fail coursework element.
	Students will additionally be assessed on their professional conduct in undertaking their dissertation. Part of this assessment will require students to develop a project timeline, submit their ethics application by a set date, record all stages of their project, and then submit this record as a logbook to verify their progress, professionalism, initiative, problem-solving, use of feedback, and conscientiousness. Students will be required to self-assess and reflect on their progress, skills and professionalism. In particular, a portion of the marks in this assessment will be determined by whether students successfully submit their ethics paperwork by the date set by the module leader.
	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.

Identify final assessment component and element	A1	
	A:	**B**:
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	**100%**	**0%**

First Sit

Component A Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. Project Report (up to 6,000 words)	90%
2. Practical Skills Assessment	10%

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)

Component A Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. Project Report (up to 6,000 words)	90%
2. Practical Skills Assessment	10%
If a student is permitted a retake of the module under the Academic Regulations, the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Specification at the time that retake commences.	

Part 4: Unistats Information	
Unistats Information	The Office for Students (OfS) require Unistats information to be produced at programme level for all undergraduate programmes of more than one year in length. These are comparable sets of standardised information about undergraduate courses allowing prospective students to compare and contrast between programmes they are interested in applying for. Expected learning hours for the module:

Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours
450	22	428	0

Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section of this module description:

Total assessment of the module	Percentage
Written Examination (Written Examination / Written Test)	0%
Coursework (Report)	90%
Practical Examination (Practical Skills Assessment)	10%
Total	100%

Module Amendment Log

Module Title:	Animal and Agriculture Dissertation
Module Code:	HANVKS-45-6
Initial Approval Date:	21 March 2022

Approved Module Changes (most recent at the top):

Outline Change Details: new module.	
Approval Committee and Date:	Refresh Approval Panel action 2022 03 21
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2022
Resulting new version number:	1.0

Initial HECOS code:	100523 Animal Science
Initial module description for Course Marketing Purposes: This module involves independent research and analysis in an animal or agriculture-related field with one-to-one support from an academic.	