



BSc (Hons)

# Agriculture (Livestock Production)

UCAS Code: **D403**

Typical offer: **96-112 UCAS tariff points or equivalent**

Duration: **3 or 4 years full-time; part-time available**

Placement year: **Optional**

Awarding body: **Hartpury University**

**Apply for this course here: <https://www.hartpury.ac.uk/university/courses/undergraduate/bsc-hons-agriculture-livestock-production/bsc-hons-agriculture-livestock-production-2023/>**

## OVERVIEW

### Course overview

**If you want to progress into an agricultural management career, helping to find solutions to the world's most pressing issue of food production and land use, then this course focusing on livestock production is ideal for you.**

You don't need to have an agricultural background; you simply need the passion and drive to work within a fast-changing industry and make that difference.

You'll learn how to build a productive, resilient and sustainable industry - whether as a farm manager, agronomist, economist, policymaker, researcher, scientist or consultant – career opportunities are diverse.

The extensive industry experience of lecturers, an on-campus commercial farm that supplies Muller, Sainsbury's and Glencore, as well as our new £2 million Agri-Tech Centre will prepare you to make that positive impact on the future.

You'll have access to 400 hectares of commercial farmland, offering plenty of opportunities to get hands-on. You'll benefit from up to 980 hours working and applying your knowledge in the industry. This includes a supported work placement during each year of study that counts as credits towards your degree meaning you'll graduate ready for employment.

# WHAT YOU'LL STUDY

## What you'll study

This course covers a broad range of fundamental agricultural topics through core modules. From crop production and soil management to agronomy and the management of the supply chain with business management and sustainability embedded throughout.

In addition, you'll have a wide range of optional modules to choose from, allowing you to specialise to suit your interests and career goals.

Optional modules change each year in line with student, industry and research demands - you'll find recent topics studied below. You can attend introductory sessions for optional modules before deciding which ones to study.

## Level four (year one)

Your first year will focus on developing your underpinning knowledge of crop production and soil management and sustainable production systems and economics. You'll also develop your academic, professional and transferable skills that will equip you to study at higher levels. Although the programme focuses on crop production you'll study livestock science and animal husbandry in year one as well. This will allow you to understand the link between the two key sectors in the industry. You'll also complete 280 hours of placement within the industry to support your development.

## COMPULSORY MODULES

### Skills Development for Agriculture

The Skills Development for Agriculture module supports students in developing key professional, personal, academic and employment skills and competencies. This is to ensure students maximise the benefits of their degree programme and improve their employability prospects on graduation. The following areas are covered: academic skills; work placements and employability; technical agricultural competencies; research process and projects; reflective thinking.

### Crop Production and Soil Management

The module will introduce you to crops and the interaction / importance of soil and soil management in production. You'll be involved with cultivations on the university's farm and visits to farms to expose them to a wide variety of crops and soils.

### Livestock Science and Husbandry

This module provides an introduction to livestock health and husbandry, in particular discussing the interaction between anatomy and physiology, ethics and welfare, disease, reproduction and legislation. The module will cover both ruminant and non-ruminant livestock. Practical skills will be taught and developed (in handling and carrying out routine husbandry tasks) using the livestock enterprises on the university's farm.

### **Sustainable Agriculture**

This module aims to address key principles which impact sustainable agriculture systems and will include a short study trip.

### **Introduction to Agricultural Economics**

This module provides an introduction to key economic principles that are at work within the agricultural industry and their interaction with farm businesses and farm business performance.

## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **None**

There are no optional modules during this year. Your learning is focused on compulsory modules to ensure you have a thorough understanding of key topics to prepare you for module choices in your subsequent years.

## **Level five (year two)**

Core modules include farm business management and agricultural policy, ruminant livestock production, pig and poultry production and a research process module. Alongside the core modules, you'll have a choice of optional modules that include work placement and the opportunity to study overseas for a semester that will support you with your own professional development.

## **COMPULSORY MODULES**

### **Farm Business Management and Agricultural Policy**

This module provides an introduction to the principles of business management and how they are applied to the modern agricultural business. This will enable you to plan and manage staffing, capital and resource use on the farm, and prepare effective budgets and business plans for future development of the business. In addition, it will allow you to consider the legislative and policy boundaries that the modern farmer has to work within, enabling them to understand, manage and plan within guidelines and offer consultation to others.

### **Research Methods for Agricultural and Animal Scientists**

This module introduces you to the process of academic research, methods of research and analysis,

helping to prepare you for reading research literature and conducting research projects in the future.

### **Ruminant Livestock Production**

This module builds on livestock production, allowing you to engage in more depth predominately with beef, sheep and dairy production, but will also consider emerging livestock diversification.

### **Pig and Poultry Production**

You'll use visits to poultry and pig units to apply their and knowledge and understanding of the theory of production and develop practical skills.

## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **Independent Report**

A chance to independently review an approved topic area in line with the student's programme of study.

### **EITHER International Study Academic Portfolio OR Professional Practice Portfolio OR Professional Practice Project**

*EITHER International Study Academic Portfolio OR Professional Practice Portfolio OR Professional Practice Project*

#### **International Academic Study Portfolio**

*A reflection upon a period of international study.*

#### **Professional Practice Portfolio**

*The module further develops your range of skills within an agricultural placement and requires you to reflect on your degree journey (academic and applied) to review and produce a personal and professional development plan to support entry into your chosen sector.*

#### **Professional Practice Project**

*The module further develops your range of skills within an agricultural placement and requires you to reflect on your degree journey (academic and applied) to review and produce a personal and professional development plan to support entry into your chosen sector.*

## Integrated placement year (optional)

The optional integrated placement year between your second and final years gives you the opportunity to put your knowledge and skills into practice and gain valuable industry experience.

## Level six (final year)

Your final year is your chance to focus on your particular areas of interest, preparing you for your future career. You'll continue to refine and better your teaching practice through on-site practical experience and placement. Dive further into the breadth of the national curriculum, exploring modules such as reflective portfolio, where you'll experience teaching swimming and trampolining.

You'll also spend time working on your dissertation project. It's a substantial research project exploring a topic of your choice. Placement opportunities within schools are often utilised to work collaboratively on projects relating to your dissertation.

If teaching is your goal, you'll also use this year to start applying for teaching training routes, including PGCE's. We'll run a mock-PGCE interview day to support you through this process. You can also use this year to tailor your studies to suit a career outside teaching, if that's what you prefer.

## COMPULSORY MODULES

### Animal and Agriculture Dissertation

This module involves independent research and analysis in an animal or agriculture-related field with one to-one support from an academic.

### Industry Reflection on Agricultural Practice

The module will enable you to reflect on the skills and experiences you've gained during the time spent in industry.

### Developments in Livestock Production

The module will investigate a broad range of topics that'll allow you to gain further knowledge and understanding of the key developments in sustainable livestock production and management and be able to critically analyse and evaluate development impact on all stake holders in the industry (producers, consumers and animals).

## OPTIONAL MODULES

### Strategic Management

This module allows students to explore the strategic practices and principles utilised by global companies. Through an appreciation key external and internal impact factors students will

put theory into practice and create a new strategic direction for an allocated organisation.

## Supply Chain Management

In this module students will discover the mechanisms by which the agrifood supply chain takes our food supply from farm to fork. They will discuss current research and contemporary issues affecting the agrifood supply chain which will enable them to grasp current practices and trends and consider the impact these may have on the producer. They will learn about the relationships between actors in the agrifood supply chain and how these influence the business practices currently employed. They will analyse and evaluate supply chain management practices with a focus on the drive towards sustainable supply chain management (SSCM) and the mechanisms by which this can be delivered. The module will also involve a non-assessed project that enables students to gain hands on experience within the sector. Previous projects have included the making of their own cider with a local cidemaker to be marketed by the students.

## Undergraduate Independent Study

A chance to critically review an approved topic of your choice linked to the programme aims.

Please visit our document library for more module information.

# HOW YOU'LL STUDY

## How you'll study

We're committed to supporting you to fulfil your unique potential, which is why you'll receive a minimum of 15 hours of scheduled teaching time per week in your first year - this is 25% above the UK average.

## Your support network

You'll benefit from a strong support network from day one to be the best you can be. This will range from your personal tutor and specialist academic support team (our Achievement and Success Centre) to dedicated wellbeing and employability (Innovation, Careers and Enterprise) centres.

## Your learning experiences

You'll experience a range of teaching methods to strengthen your digestion of topics, including lectures, workshops and practical sessions, as well as supported work placement learning as part of many courses.

## Your career

Each year of your course will be made up of two semesters, within which you'll study compulsory and optional modules on different industry-focused topics, enabling you to develop your own unique portfolio of knowledge, skills and experience, ready for your career.

## Further details

## + Academic support

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You'll have your own personal tutor while you're here who will support you to succeed in your studies. You'll also have access to our academic and wellbeing support teams who run regular workshops and one-to-one sessions on campus and online.

Alongside this, we have a comprehensive bank of online study skills resources to help you make the most of your qualification.

## + Module credits

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On successful completion of your modules you'll gain academic credit that accumulates towards your award. The marks you gain in your second and third years may contribute towards your final degree classification.

## + Teaching modes

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The modules contain a mixture of scheduled learning – lectures, workshops and practical sessions. You're expected to dedicate at least two to three hours of independent study per contact hour. Your course may also include work placement learning as part of some modules.

The course is taught in English.

Year	Contact learning	Placement learning	Independent learning
Level four (year one)	24%	22%	54%
Level five (year two)	25%	0%	75%
Optional integrated placement year	1%	80%	19%
Level six (year three)	12%	19%	69%

## + Teaching contact time

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You'll receive a minimum of 15 hours scheduled contact time per week in your first year. In subsequent years, scheduled contact will vary depending on the modules you select but is typically around 12 hours per week.

## + Assessment and feedback

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You will be assessed through a mixture of written exams, practical exams and written assignments. Many of the modules will be marked based on a mixture of assessment types, whilst others will be based solely on one type of assessment. Feedback will be given via a mixture of written bullet point-style feedback and/or oral feedback.

Year	Written exam	Practical exam	Coursework
Level four (year one)	5%	31%	64%
Level five (year two)	16%	46%	38%
Optional integrated placement year	0%	0%	100%
Level six (final year)	13%	16%	71%

## + Timetables

Each year of this course is taught over two semesters, normally consisting of 12 weeks of scheduled teaching and then assessment weeks, with an overview below:

- Scheduled teaching takes place between 8:30 to 20:30 Monday to Friday
- Wednesday afternoons are normally reserved for sports and cultural activities
- Work placements may entail different days and hours
- Part-time students may need to attend learning activities five days each week, depending on modules selected
- Timetables are available during enrolment week

**View term dates** ►

## EMPLOYABILITY



### Your career

Industry opportunities on this course are diverse, to ensure you develop the skills, experience and connections needed for your graduate career. Many of our students get their graduate roles with their work placement employers

### Work placements and experience



These form part of core and optional modules, alongside an optional integrated placement year. We'll support you to find a placement within a sector of the industry to match your interests and career goals. Placements can be paid or unpaid, depending on position. Students have worked with organisations such as the ADAS, Woodheads, Foyles as well as on a range of commercial farms and enterprises.

## Field trips and guest lecturers

Field trips and industry professionals in lectures form an important part of your learning, enabling you to experience different businesses, careers and best practices. Recent field trips have included trips to Somerset and Devon as part of the sustainable agriculture module, ADAS field trials, livestock farms, food processors and Dairy Tech. Extra fees are required – please see the fees tab.

Recent guest lecturers have included livestock nutritionists and agricultural managers within the banking and supermarket sectors.

## Study internationally

Our Study Abroad programme means you can make the most of opportunities to study a semester or full year of your degree at one of our partner institutions, while achieving credits towards your degree.

**Discover Study Abroad** ▶

## Graduate destinations

As a Hartpury agriculture graduate, you could progress into a range of careers including:

- Livestock nutrition
- Herd/flock health planning
- Biosecurity
- Agricultural policy
- Research
- Farm manager
- Food security and safety
- Agricultural consultancy

# FACILITIES

## World-class facilities

You'll have access to a diverse range of facilities while you're here, many of which are newly built and world-class. Alongside lecture halls and workshop spaces, these include:



## 400-hectare commercial farm

The commercial farm consists of mixed farming enterprises including a dairy herd, sheep flock, beef rearing and finishing and arable production. You'll be able to apply your knowledge into practice during practical sessions on the farm and have access to farm data for a range of modules.

## Agri-Tech Centre

Our on campus Agri-Tech Centre is a joint project with the Gloucestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (GFirst LEP), the centre connects the livestock farming community with smart technologies to help drive forward productivity and sustainability. You'll have opportunities to engage with tech companies, industry and research through the centre.

## Laboratories

Our laboratories are modern and well-equipped, providing the ideal spaces for scientific activities and research. Some are used for specialist microbiological culturing and analysis, others for biochemistry and physiology.

## Study spaces

Our University Learning Centre has books, journals, ebooks, computers and breakout study spaces. In addition, we have a Study Lounge – an informal space with sports equipment, study booths and chill-out spaces to support both studying and relaxation.



# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

## Entry requirements

- **UCAS** | A typical offer for this course is 96-112 UCAS tariff points or equivalent.
- **GCSE** | A minimum of 5 GCSE A\* to C, (or 9 to 4 where numeric grades are being awarded) or equivalent, to include English Language and Mathematics.
- **A-Level** | Typical offer is CCC-BBC or equivalent. This must include a minimum of two A Levels.

- **Vocational Award** | Typical offer is a MMM-DMM in an Extended Diploma in a relevant subject.
- **Access** | Typical offer is 96-112 UCAS tariff points in an Access to Higher Education Diploma.
- **IB** | Typical offer is 96-112 UCAS tariff points in an IB Diploma, to include a minimum of two Highers at H3 or above.  
This must also include Maths and English Language at a minimum of Standard Level S3 if equivalent GCSEs have not been obtained.
- **Scottish Highers** | Typical offer is 96-112 UCAS tariff points in Scottish Highers. This must include a minimum of one Advanced Higher and one Higher.
- **Irish leaving Certificate** | Typical offer is 96-112 UCAS tariff points in the Irish Leaving Certificate. This must include a minimum of two Highers. This must also include Maths and English Language at a minimum of Ordinary Level.
- **OCR Cambridge Technical** | Typical offer is a MMM-DMM in a Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma in a relevant subject.
- **T Level** | Typical offer is Pass (C or above on the core) in your T Level overall grade in a relevant subject.
- **Other** | Some evidence of practical experience in agriculture or similar land based studies is desirable.
- We may interview mature applicants and those with non-traditional qualifications to ensure this is the right course for you.
- The minimum academic entry requirement for this programme is 72 UCAS tariff or equivalent providing this is combined with relevant experience.
- Please contact us for further information:

Email us ►

## FEES AND FUNDING

### Tuition fees and financial support

Please visit our student finance page for information on tuition fees and student loans, as well as non-repayable grants, bursaries and scholarships, eligible to different groups, to support with study costs.

#### Skills Development Bursary

Agriculture students have access to a skills development bursary (£1,000 per student) to support with developing a range of practical and vocational skills during their programme of study.

## Explore student finance ►

Below, you'll find extra costs associated with studying this course.

### **Clothing and footwear (circa £100)**

You'll need to purchase appropriate clothing and footwear before you enrol, or during enrolment week. We'll let you know exactly what you need to purchase in your enrolment guide – everything is available from our supplier's online shop for approximately £100.

## Visit Hartpury shop ►

### **Optional field trips**

Students are encouraged to engage in various trips and visits as part of the programme. While many of these are included in the course fees, there is the opportunity to engage in additional study tours with additional costs involved. In year one the sustainable agriculture field trip will cost in the region of £40 per student.

### **Short Courses**

Hartpury also subsidises optional short courses for a reduced cost that allows students to gain relevant experience and qualifications prior to graduation. Short courses include PA1, PA2, PA6, All Terrain Vehicle training, chainsaw maintenance and basic operations and Telescopic Handler (RTTLT Loadall).

### **Performance Sports Academy membership**

Find out costs and details for joining one of our performance Sports Academy teams.

### **Hartpury gym**

Find out about costs and details for joining the Hartpury gym.

### **Accommodation and living costs**

Please visit our accommodation page

## Explore accommodation ►



## Top 10

We're in the top 10 UK universities for teaching quality (The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide, 2023)

## Top 10%

We're in the top 10% of UK providers for student satisfaction (NSS, 2020)

## 100%

100% of our agriculture graduates are in employment, further study or other purposeful activity (Graduate Outcomes, 2020)

### HOW TO APPLY

You can apply for the BSc (Hons) Agriculture (Livestock Production) degree via UCAS.

### FURTHER COURSE DETAILS

For further details about this course, including the programme specification and module descriptions, please visit our document library.

### Important information

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our published course information, however our programmes are reviewed and developed regularly. Changes or cancellation of courses may be necessary to ensure alignment with emerging employment areas, to comply with accrediting body requirements, revisions to subject benchmark statements or as a result of student feedback. We reserve the right to make necessary changes and will notify all offer-holders of changes as and when they occur.

\*Reflects activities after 15 months for those who graduated in 2019.

## CONTACT US

### ADDRESS

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- <https://www.facebook.com/hartpury>



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