

## Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data			
<b>Primary Programme Title</b>	Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Equine Science		
<b>Target Award Titles</b>	<b>Mode and Typical Duration of Study</b>	<b>Professional Accrediting Body Links</b>	<b>Study Abroad / Exchange / Credit Recognition</b>
<b>Postgraduate Diploma in Equine Science</b>	Full time, 1 year Part time, 2 years	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Interim Award Titles</b>	Postgraduate Award in Equine Studies Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Performance and Rehabilitation Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Behaviour and Welfare Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Science		
<b>Teaching Delivery Method</b>	On-site		
<b>Awarding Institution</b>	Hartpury University		
<b>Teaching Institution</b>	Hartpury University		
<b>Delivery Location</b>	Hartpury		
<b>Department Responsible for Programme</b>	Equine		
<b>Unit-E Code</b>	PGDEAESX		
<b>Entry Criteria Information</b>	Applicants will have achieved entry criteria appropriate for the stage of entry, which can be found through the Hartpury website ( <a href="http://www.hartpury.ac.uk">www.hartpury.ac.uk</a> ).		
<b>Most Recent Validation Date</b>	21 March 2022	<b>Due for Re-validation By</b>	01 September 2027
<b>Amendment Approval Date</b>	V3.1 - 02 August 2022 V3.2 - 21 March 2024 V4.0 - 16 July 2024	<b>Approved With Effect From</b>	V3.1 - 01 September 2022 V4.0 - 01 September 2024
<b>Professional Accrediting Body Approval Date</b>	N/A	<b>Date for Re-accreditation</b>	N/A
<b>Version</b>	4.0		

## **Part 2: Programme Overview**

Graduates of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Equine Science can apply systematic knowledge of key research based subject areas to maximise performance, enhance career longevity or aid in selection of the performance horse, with a core goal of optimising the horse's welfare. Graduates are familiar with the physical resources and techniques necessary to critically evaluate the impact of both endogenous (internal) and exogenous (external) factors on equine athletic performance and welfare. The depth of knowledge and transferable skills that the graduate for this programme have gained have prepared them for employment and/or further research within and outside of the equine industry.

### Part 3: Programme Structure

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from enrolment through to graduation for a typical **full time student on the primary programme**, including:

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

Please note:

\*PAB these modules are subject to additional and variant regulations as part of an accreditation by a professional accrediting body

+ core modules marked + are not eligible for compensation

<sup>1</sup> these modules are accredited by a professional awarding body, but are not subject to variant regulations

<sup>AV</sup> these modules are subject to additional and variant regulations but are not accredited by a professional awarding body.

	Core Modules	Optional Modules	Target and Interim Awards
Stage 1	HEQVJN-15-7 Developing a Sustainable Equine Industry  HEQVN6-15-7 + Equine Management for Optimal Performance and Welfare  HEQV6Y-15-7 + Investigating Equestrian Research	HEQVPV-15-7 Advances in Equestrian Biomechanics  HEQVJH-15-7 Applied Equine Exercise Physiology  HEQVJT-15-7 Equine Behaviour  HEQVSN-15-7 Postgraduate Independent Study OR HANVL4-15-7 Postgraduate Independent Study <i>pre-2024 only</i>  HEQXKR-15-7 Rider Performance  HANXKT-15-7 The Research Process  HEQXKS-15-7 Therapy and Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete	<u>Postgraduate Award in Equine Studies</u>  <u>Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Science</u>  <u>Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Behaviour and Welfare</u> This must include HEQVJT-15-7 Equine Behaviour; and; HEQVN6-15-7 Equine Management for Optimal Performance and Welfare  <u>Postgraduate Certificate in Equine Performance and Rehabilitation</u> This must include HEQVJH-15-7 Applied Equine Exercise Physiology; HEQXKS-15-7 Therapy and Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete; HEQVPV-15-7 Advances in Equestrian Biomechanics  <u>Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Equine Science</u> This must include all core modules.

#### Part time:

The part time student journey from entry through to graduation is individually negotiated with the student.

## Part 4: Programme Learning Outcomes

Modules in bold are core modules and modules not emboldened are optional modules.

A denotes a module that assesses a learning outcome and B denotes a module aligned with a learning outcome.

<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	<b>Investigating Equestrian Research</b>	<b>Equine Management for Optimal Performance and Welfare</b>	<b>Developing a Sustainable Equine Industry</b>	Postgraduate Independent Study	The Research Process	Rider Performance	Applied Equine Exercise Physiology	Therapy and Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete	Equine Behaviour	Advances in Equestrian Biomechanics
<b>A) <u>Knowledge and Understanding of:</u></b>										
<b>1.</b> Problems and/or new insights in the field of equine science.	A	B	A	A	B					
<b>2.</b> Techniques applicable to research in the area of equine science leading to potential publication or advanced scholarship.	A			A	B		B		A	B
<b>3.</b> How established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in science disciplines.	B		B	A	A	B		A	B	B
<b>4.</b> The ethical and sustainable impact of in practice protocols within the equine industry		A	A				A			
<b>5.</b> The diversity of the stakeholders involved in the equine industry	A	A	A			A		B		B
<b>B) <u>Intellectual Skills</u></b>										
<b>1.</b> Critical evaluation of current research in the area of equine science.	A	B		A	A	A	B	A		A
<b>2.</b> Analysis and resolution of complex problems relating to equine science							A	A		A

<b>3.</b> Synthesis of information from a number of sources to gain a coherent understanding of theory and practice		A	B	A	A	B	B	A		
<b>4.</b> Application of strategies for appropriate selection of relevant information from wide bodies of knowledge	A		B	A	A			B		
<b>5.</b> Effective utilisation of problem-solving skills	A		A	B		B			B	A
<b>6.</b> Critical analysis, evaluation and interpretation of evidence underpinning equine science to initiate appropriate changes in practice	A	A	A	A	B			B	B	A
<b>C) Performance and Practice</b>										
<b>1.</b> Make judgements on the ethics of different management regimes designed to enhance performance	B	A	A	B				B		
<b>2.</b> Develop methods for assessing the efficacy of management regimes at maximum equine performance	B	A	B				A	A	B	A
<b>3.</b> Utilise principles from animal science to inform equine science and show a critical awareness of their limitations		B	B	A	B				A	
<b>4.</b> Critique established protocols and propose justified alternatives in equine management to enhance future practice	A	A	A	B	B				A	
<b>5.</b> Assess, and advise others, on the potential impact of changes to legislation and policy within the equine industry	B	A	B						B	
<b>D) Setting, Personal and Enabling Skills</b>										
<b>1.</b> Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals from diverse backgrounds, using a variety of means.	A	A	A			A			B	A
<b>2.</b> Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations.	A	A	A	B		B		B	B	A
<b>3.</b> Take responsibility for independent personal and professional learning and development.	B	B	A	A	B		B		B	A
<b>4.</b> Manage time, prioritise workloads and consider personal emotions and well-being.	B	B	A	A	B		B	B	B	
<b>5.</b> Utilise information management skills, e.g., IT skills.	A			A	B		B		B	A

## Part 5: Learning, Teaching and Assessment

### Learning, Teaching and Assessment Journey:

The programme will expand on students' understanding of the theoretical aspects of equine science, but with an emphasis on the application of these areas in the practical setting, for example, within the core module Equine Management for Optimal Performance and Welfare. Students will have the opportunity to apply this understanding throughout a range of modules embedded within the programme, including, but not limited to, Equine Behaviour, and Advances in Equestrian Biomechanics. In addition, they will learn the principles of managing change and understanding the broader equine industry. Throughout modules incorporated within the programmes. Students will be facilitated in applying this knowledge to the context of managing the balance of performance, health and welfare; including the contemporary concept of a social licence to operate.

The Postgraduate Diploma will use a range of teaching approaches, which will aim to support the student to develop a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the scientific principles and practices used within the equine industry. This will include a variety of didactic and discursive sessions, with academic and professional experts in their fields. Learning opportunities will be varied, with students able to apply theory to practice within learning environments on the Hartpury campus and using Hartpury's equestrian resources. Students will be required to assimilate complex theories and concepts to solve real world problems and advance current scientific thinking. Engagement with staff research currently undertaken within the institution will further these skills, with a focus on publication in peer reviewed literature and conference attendance.

Assessment throughout the programme is focused on the students' ability to apply theoretical frameworks and scientific evidence to practical issues, scenarios and contexts directly relevant to the applied field of Equine Science; particularly in relation to enhancing performance and welfare of the horse, and sustainability of the equine industry. As such, variety of assessment strategies are employed across the programme to test their in-depth understanding of these frameworks and their ability to use this information to problem solve and then communicate these solutions to a variety of academic and stakeholder audiences. Chosen assessment strategies are appropriate to the applied nature of the individual subjects, their respective stakeholders and their industry application. Specific approaches include, but are not limited to, video production, webinar delivery, written tests, oral presentations, research reports and more traditional assignments.

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

Students registered on this programme will have access to the Hartpury University support services.

The distinctive module used by the Programme Examination Board to inform recommending differential awards for students when considering borderline performance profiles will be  
Equine Management for Optimal Performance and Welfare.

Professional Accrediting Body documents to which this programme is mapped and or aligned: None

Assessment Map									
		Type of Assessment*							
		Coursework	Report	Portfolio	Written Examination	Written Test	Practical Skills Examination	Practical Skills Assessment	Oral Assessment
Core Modules Stage 1	Investigating Equestrian Research	A (100) Coursework							
	Equine Management for Optimal Performance and Welfare								A (100) Poster Defence
	Developing a Sustainable Equine Industry		A (100) Case Study Report						
Optional Modules Stage 1	Postgraduate Independent Study		A (100) Literature Review						
	The Research Process	A (90) Coursework		B (10) Coursework Portfolio					
	Rider Performance								A (100) Oral Presentation with Questions
	Applied Equine Exercise Physiology					A (100) Test			
	Therapy and Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete					A (100) Test			
	Equine Behaviour		A (100) Project Report						
	Advances in Equestrian Biomechanics		A (100) Project Report						

\*Indicative assessment types for new students enrolling on this programme after the date this specification takes effect (Part 1) are shown in terms of either **Coursework**, **Written Examination**, or **Practical Examination** as indicated by the colour coding above.

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 they take 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 ([www.hartpury.ac.uk](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk)).



## Programme Amendment Log

<b>Programme Title:</b>	PGDip Applied Equine Science (was Equine Science until version 3.0)
<b>Programme Code:</b>	PGDEAESX
<b>Initial Approval Date:</b>	01 September 2017
<b>Approved by:</b>	Hartpury Curriculum Approval Committee
<b>Approved until:</b>	01 September 2024
<b>Original version number:</b>	1.0

### Changes:

<b>Current version number: 3.2</b>	
<b>Outline Change Details:</b> Part 5: Assessment Map – assessment for optional module The Research Process changed from Oral Presentation with Questions and Coursework to Coursework and Coursework Portfolio, in line with module amendment.	
<b>Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? No</b>	
<b>Material Alteration: Yes and is accompanied by the relevant course information document.</b>	
<b>Rationale:</b> Requirement to write a research proposal has been removed from The Research Process since this duplicates the work students will be undertaking in the Applied Research Practice and dissertation module. Instead students will be better scaffolded, via two summative assessments, in their critical analysis of research methodologies.	
<b>Change requested by: Ben Brilot</b> I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report	
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b> 26/04/24
<b>Name of Head of Department: Catherine Porter</b> I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department;	
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b> 25/07/24
<b>Approval Committee and Date:</b>	CVC 2024 07 16
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	01 September 2024
<b>Resulting new version number:</b>	4.0


<b>Current version number: 3.1</b>
<b>Outline Change Details:</b> Part 3: Programme Structure - optional module Postgraduate Independent Study updated from HANVL4-15-7 to HEQVSN-15-7, in line with module amendment.
<b>Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? No</b>
<b>Material Alteration: No</b>
<b>Rationale:</b>

As programmes taking this module have altered the department responsible has moved to ensure they have actual insight into the module and can effectively manage it.

**Change requested by: Ben Brilot**  
 I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change  
 I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted  
 I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report

**Signature:** B Brilot **Date:** 05/03/24

**Name of Head of Department: Catherine Porter**  
 I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department; OR;

**Signature:**  **Date:** 20/03/24

<b>Approval Committee and Date:</b>	CSP Chair's Action 2024 03 21
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	01 September 2024
<b>Resulting new version number:</b>	3.2

19.08.2022 - Part 1: Unit-E code changed from PGDEESXX to PGDEAESX for administrative purposes.

**Current version number: 3.0**


**Outline Change Details:** Parts 1 and 3 – interim awards updated to include new 30 credit Postgraduate Award in Equine Studies, as previously omitted in error.

Part 5: Therapy & Rehabilitation of the Equine Athlete (HEQXKS-15-7) changed from Case Study Written Examination to Test


**Material Alteration: No .**

**Rationale:** In line with the recent assessment type review, the description of this assessment being used within this module is best described as Test. This enables it to remain in the online format that it has run successfully as for the last three years and which is a far more inclusive format for postgraduate learners. Furthermore, whilst 'test' does not preclude it from having case study scenarios embedded within the assessment, it does not tie it in to this, should cases studies not be appropriate for the question being asked / topic being assessed; therefore, permitting the ML far more flexibility in the questions that can be asked.



☐ **Change requested by: Kirsty Lesniak**  
 I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change  
 / I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted  
 / I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report

**Signature:**  **Date:** 01/07/2022

**Name of Head of Department: Catherine Porter**  
 • I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department, and have not included a completed Resource Impact and Authorisation Form

**Signature:**  **Date:** 11/07/2022

<b>Approval Committee and Date:</b>	CSP Chair's action 2022 08 02
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	01 September 2022
<b>Resulting new version number:</b>	3.1


<b>Current version number: 2.2</b>	
<b>Outline Change Details:</b>	
Part 1:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name change from 'Equine Science' to 'Applied Equine Science' to better reflect the content and scope of the programme and to reflect the changes for the MSc of the same name. Interim awards also updated</li> </ul>	
Part 2	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programme overview updated</li> </ul>	
Part 3	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optional modules updated in line with the new PG equine module offering</li> <li>Non-condonable module updated</li> </ul>	
Part 4	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programme learning outcomes updated and assessment links indicated.</li> </ul>	
Part 5	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learning, Teaching and Assessment strategy updated</li> <li>Assessment map updated</li> </ul>	
<b>Material Alteration: Yes</b>	
<b>Rationale:</b> To enable the content of the programme to better reflect the title of equine science and to provide a wider offering of modules in support of this. In addition, the changes update the programme in line with the institutional Refresh initiative	
<b>Change requested by:</b> Kirsty Lesniak	
<p>I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change</p> <p>I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted</p> <p>I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report</p>	
<b>Signed:</b> 	<b>Date:</b> 15/11/2021
<b>Name of Head of Department:</b> Catherine Porter	
<p>I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department</p>	
<b>Signature:</b> 	<b>Date:</b> 03/12/2021
<b>Approval Committee and Date:</b>	Curriculum Validation Committee action 2022 03 21
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	01 September 2022
<b>Resulting new version number:</b>	3.0

23.2.2021 Code for The Research Process corrected from HEQXKT15-7 to HANXKT-15-7.

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

08/06/2020- In part 3 the module code for The Research Process was corrected from HEQXKT15-7 to HANXKT-15-7.

<b>Current version number: 2.0</b>	
<b>Outline Change Details:</b> Part 3 – amended to refer clearly to each award. Remove Breeding for Performance and replace with Investigating Equestrian Research and making Rider Performance an optional module. Part 5 – remove reference to ‘at least two study weekends’ as this is overly specific and is information covered in the Course Information Sheet Part 6 – change to Rider Performance assessment strategy to one point of assessment, now reflecting 100% oral exam. Part 8 – removed in line with current template	
<b>Material Alteration: Yes and Course Information Sheet attached</b>	
<b>Rationale:</b> Rider Performance module assessment strategy has been changed and as such amendments were required to the assessment map.	
<b>Change requested by:</b> Victoria Lewis √ I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change √ I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted √ I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report	
<b>Signature:</b> V.Lewis	<b>Date:</b> 15/5/19
<b>Name of Head of Department:</b> Catherine Phillips I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department	
<b>Signature:</b> 	<b>Date:</b> 13/02/2019
<b>Approval Committee and Date:</b>	CVC 2019 02 13
<b>Change approved with effect from:</b>	01 September 2019
<b>Resulting new version number:</b>	<b>V2.1</b>

<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. Subject Benchmark Statements updated where required.	
<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>	<b>V2.0</b>

