

Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data			
Primary Programme Title	BSc (Hons) Zoology (Level 6 entry)		
Target Award Titles	Mode and Typical Duration of Study	Professional Accrediting Body Links	Study Abroad / Exchange / Credit Recognition
BSc (Hons) Zoology	Full time, 1 year, Part time 2 years	None	None
Interim Award Titles	BSc Zoology BSc Animal Studies Undergraduate Level 6 Award in Animal Studies		
Teaching Delivery Method	On-site		
Awarding Institution	Hartpury University		
Teaching Institution	Hartpury University		
Delivery Location	Hartpury		
Department Responsible for Programme	Animal and Agriculture		
Unit-E Code	BSHAZ006		
Entry Criteria Information	Applicants will have achieved entry criteria appropriate for the stage of entry, which can be found through the Hartpury website (www.hartpury.ac.uk)		
Most Recent Validation Date	08 December 2023	Due for Re-validation By	01 September 2030
Amendment Approval Date	V2.1 – 28 June 2024 V3.0 – 10 December 2025 V3.1 – 05 Feb 2026	Approved With Effect From	V2.1– 01 September 2025 V3.1– 01 September 2026
Professional Accrediting Body Approval Date	N/A	Date for Re-accreditation	N/A
Version	3.1		

Part 2: Programme Overview

BSc (Hons) Zoology (Level 6 entry) graduates understand the global complexity of the changing natural world and can work across the wildlife conservation, zoo and animal industries. They have confidence in working with animals, and in their abilities to collect and analyse samples in the field and laboratory, including mapping the resulting data. Graduates have comprehensive knowledge of zoology and wildlife conservation (both in captivity and in the wild), including animal nutrition, welfare, and ecological and genetic principles. They can apply their knowledge of the scientific study of animals to assist with the practical application of theory to inform decision-making and problem-solving around the management of wild animals. Graduates have a keen understanding of sustainability, allowing them to engage in debate and problem-solving to address current societal issues. They will have engaged with guest speakers, study trips and practical opportunities to support a well-rounded understanding of zoology.

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

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

^{AV} 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 3	HANVKS-45-6 + Animal and Agriculture Dissertation HANV39-15-6 Biodiversity and Conservation HANV9F-30-6 + Wildlife Conservation in Captivity HANVNY-15-6 Professional Skills in Zoology	HANV38-15-6 Anthrozoology OR HANV3H-15-6 Epidemiology	<u>Undergraduate Level 6 Award in Animal Studies</u> <u>BSc Animal Studies</u> <u>BSc Zoology</u> This must include HANV39-15-6 Biodiversity and Conservation, HANV9F-30-6 Wildlife Conservation in Captivity, and HANVNY-15-6 Professional Skills in Zoology. <u>BSc (Hons) Zoology</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.

	Animal and Agriculture Dissertation	Wildlife Conservation in Captivity	Biodiversity and Conservation	Professional Skills in Zoology	Anthrozoology	Epidemiology
Learning Outcomes:						
A) Knowledge and Understanding of:						
1. the scientific basis of the study of living systems from the molecular level to global ecosystem level.		A	A	A		A
2. how the diversity of the animal kingdom is defined, measured and conserved.			A			
3. anatomical, physiological, evolutionary and behavioural principles.		B	B			
4. the global impact of the key drivers of biodiversity loss on ecosystem functioning.		A	A			
5. the principles of genetics as applied to the conservation of species.		A	B			
6. the process for robust scientific interrogation including appropriate techniques for data collection and analysis.	A			A	B	
8. the developing nature of science, and an awareness of the student's contribution to the development of knowledge.	A	A	A	A		
9. the importance of sustainable development in all aspects of human existence and the value of a One Health approach to protect the fragility of the natural world.		A	A		B	

B) Intellectual Skills						
1. Use problem solving skills to explore the challenges and develop new insights in zoology.	A	A	A	A		
2. Critically analyse and evaluate current developments across the field of zoology.	A			A		
3. Critically evaluate an aspect of zoology based on systematic rigorous research processes, which highlights implications and recommendations for developing current and future practice.	A					
4. Use intellectual skills to support an effective understanding of current legislation relevant to zoology-related policies in the United Kingdom and Europe.		A	A			
5. Recognise and apply subject-specific theories, paradigms, concepts or principles to real-world case studies and practical scenarios.		A	B	B		
6. Recognise moral and ethical issues of investigations and appreciate the need for ethical standards and professional codes of conduct.				B		
7. Challenge knowledge and practice through critical analysis, evaluation and application.	B		B	A		
C) Performance and Practice						
1. Effectively communicate scientific concepts to a wide range of audiences using a variety of means.	A	A	A	A		
2. Design, plan, conduct and report on investigations, including: robust collection and analysis of data; hypothesis testing and appropriate sample selection.	A					
3. Undertake a variety of field investigations of living systems in a safe and ethical manner.	A					
4. Design, implement and report on field surveys, including appropriate handling of relevant animals.				A		
5. Use the appropriate equipment to measure environmental factors including weather and local habitat characteristics, all while demonstrating a safe working practice.				A		
6. Undertake laboratory investigations of biotic (particularly DNA) and abiotic samples in a safe and ethical manner.				A		
7. Interpret the results of field and lab investigations to provide applied solutions in conservation contexts.	A	A	B	A		
8. Use Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools to conduct spatial analyses.				A		
D) Setting, Personal and Enabling Skills						
1. Reflect on academic, vocational and professional performance in response to feedback.	B		B	A		
2. Utilise problem solving skills in a variety of situations.	A		B			
3. Manage change effectively to respond to the evolving demands of the sector.		A				
4. Effectively manage time and prioritise workloads to manage wellbeing.	B		B	A		
5. Demonstrate information management skills, including: information technology for study and employment; library resources; avoiding plagiarism; data management software.	A	A	B	A		

6. Appreciate the perspectives of others, with a view to how this affects their interaction with wildlife and how we can enact positive changes for nature through people.			A			
7. Evaluate their own ability to work individually and as part of a team in a range of situations.		A	B			
8. Demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning through the development of academic skills.				A		

Part 5: Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Journey:

Contact time encompasses a range of face-to-face activities. 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 programme will have the following distinct features:

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 stage concentrates on the individual development of the student and the expansion of their specialist career path. Taught content will focus on evaluation of emerging issues across the zoology industry and students will be encouraged to engage in critical review and evidence-based learning, with opportunities to put this into practice during industry or research focused projects. Students will enhance skills of reflection and application through engagement with industry and live case studies, including a trip to a UK zoo and a series of guest lectures. Assessment will focus on intellectual skills, challenging students to demonstrate their ability to critically evaluate and analyse, synthesise knowledge from a wide range of robust sources and contribute to knowledge through their research project. The Professional Skills in Zoology module will draw such skills together from across the programme and focus the student's mind towards their next step into further study or industry.

There will be a number of formative assessment opportunities throughout the programme to support students towards their summative assessment. These will be through academic and practical skills workshops through the Achievement and Success Centre at Hartpury, in animal-based facilities, in individual and group tutorials with tutors, and in lectures. There will also be further support services available to those students with additional learning needs.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) (or equivalent)

This specification is supported by a VLE where students will be able to find module information. Direct links to information sources will also be provided from within the VLE.

Careers

To support learner's career preparations, careers personnel visit the students on a regular basis and students can use all the online resources. Tutors will also offer subject specific careers advice through module sessions or individual tutorials. A dedicated Animal Careers Insight day is arranged periodically to allow students to engage directly with employers from the industry sector. Students will engage with a range of internal and external guest speakers who can provide insight into a range of roles in the sector.

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:


Animal and Agriculture Dissertation

Assessment Map									
		Type of Assessment*							
		Coursework	Report	Portfolio	Written Examination	Written Test	Practical Skills Examination	Practical Skills Assessment	Oral Assessment
Core Modules Stage 3	Animal and Agriculture Dissertation		A1 (90) Project Report					A2 (10) Practical Skills Assessment	
	Wildlife Conservation in Captivity	B (40) Coursework			A1 (48) Seen Written Examination				A2 (12) Group Oral Presentation with Questions, with a group mark
	Biodiversity and Conservation	A (100) Coursework							
	Professional Skills in Zoology							A (100) Graduate Skills Logbook	
Optional Modules Stage 3	Anthrozoology	A (100) Coursework							
	Epidemiology		A (100) Case Study 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).									



Approved Programme Amendment Log

Primary Programme Title:	BSc (Hons) Zoology (Level 6 entry)
Programme Code:	BSHAZOO6
Initial Approval Date:	08 December 2023



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

Current version number: 3.0	
Outline Change Details: Part 5: Assessment Map – assessment for optional module Anthrozoology changed from Seen Open-Material Case Study(s) Written Examination to Coursework, in line with module amendment.	
Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? No If yes, please provide the details of the changes:	
Material Alteration: No	
Rationale: Module assessment has been changed in response to student feedback that they would prefer a more creative opportunity to showcase the criticality, knowledge and skills they have acquired through the module, and having an applied assessment would provide a more appropriate graduate skill, rather than the completion of an examination.	
Change requested by: Clare Thomas-Pino 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: <i>Clare Thomas-Pino</i>	Date: 28/1/26
Name of Head of Department: Wanda McCormick I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	
Signature:	Date: 05/02/2026
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC Action 2026 02 05 (from CVC 2026 01 27)
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2026
Resulting new version number:	3.1

Current version number: 2.1	
Outline Change Details: Part 3: Programme Structure – Removal of HANV4Y-15-6 Investigative Skills for the Successful Undergraduate and HANV3S-30-6 Applied Research Project modules, and addition of Animal and Agriculture Dissertation. Removal of legacy 'transition' module references. Part 4: Removal of Investigative Skills and Applied Research Project modules from mapping. Addition of Animal and Agriculture Dissertation to mapping. Mapping for Learning Outcome B4 amended to more suitable modules. Part 5: Assessment Map - Removal of Investigative Skills and Applied Research Project modules, and addition of Animal and Agriculture Dissertation Part 5: Removal of Applied Research Project from definitive module and replacement with Animal and Agriculture Dissertation.	

<p>Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? No</p> <p>If yes, please provide the details of the changes:</p>	
<p>Material Alteration: Yes and is accompanied by the relevant course information document.</p>	
<p>Rationale: As the main dissertation module contains more content delivery around research methods, it is now felt that any students entering at Level 6 would still have an appropriate foundation for the project regardless of how this had been covered in previous entry qualifications. The alternative modules (Investigative Skills and Applied Research Project) are therefore no longer needed and removing them as options will allow for a cleaner timetabling process to support a better student experience.</p>	
<p>Change requested by: Lucy Bearman-Brown 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</p>	
<p>Signature:  Date: 9/10/25</p>	
<p>Name of Head of Department: Wanda McCormick I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department</p>	
<p>Signature:  Date: 09/10/2025</p>	
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2025 12 10
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2026
Resulting new version number:	3.0

<p>Current version number: 2.0</p>
<p>Outline Change Details: Part 5: Assessment Map – element A1 for Stage 3 / Level 6 core module Wildlife Conservation in Captivity changed from Written Examination to Seen Written Examination, in line with module amendment. Parts 1 and 3: interim awards – Diploma of Higher Education removed, as previously included in error, and Undergraduate Level 6 Award in Animal Studies added.</p>
<p>Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? No</p> <p>If yes, please provide the details of the changes:</p>
<p>Material Alteration: No.</p>
<p>Rationale: The assessment change has been made in response to student feedback. The exam change has been proposed to allow for greater understanding of the content of the exam to facilitate better preparation and confidence. Interim award added following changes to Academic Regulations.</p>
<p>Change requested by: Lucy Bearman-Brown 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</p>

	
Signature:	Date: 9/5/2024
Name of Head of Department: Wanda McCormick I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department	
	
Signature:	Date: 09/05/2024
Approval Committee and Date:	CSP Chair's Action 2024 06 28
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2025
Resulting new version number:	2.1 (2025 entry onwards)

Outline Change Details: New programme: for administrative purposes, it has been decided to create separate programme specifications for the Level 6 entry course route, to ensure clarity. This document has been created from version 12.0 of the primary programme.	
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2023 12 08
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2025
Resulting new version number:	2.0 (2025 entry onwards)