Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data			
Primary Programme Title	BSc (Hons) Animal Behaviour and Welfare (Level 6 entry)		
Target Award Titles	**Mode and Typical Duration of Study**	**Professional Accrediting Body Links**	**Study Abroad / Exchange / Credit Recognition**
BSc (Hons) Animal Behaviour and Welfare	Full time, 1 year, Part time 2 years	**None**	**None**
Interim Award Titles	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	**BSHAABW6**		
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	02 November 2023	**Due for Re-validation By**	01 September 2029
Amendment Approval Date	V1.1 – 03 October 2025 V2.0 – 10 December 2025	**Approved With Effect From**	V1.0 – 01 September 2024 V1.1 - 01 September 2025 V2.0– 01 September 2026
Professional Accrediting Body Approval Date	N/A	**Date for Re-accreditation**	N/A
Version	2.0		

Part 2: Programme Overview
BSc (Hons) Animal Behaviour and Welfare (Level 6 Entry) graduates can confidently translate theoretical knowledge of animal welfare, cognition, and research philosophies into practice to sustainably support good animal welfare in a range of environments, including zoological collections and trade animals. They possess knowledge of the relationship between animal cognition and welfare. They can apply understanding of welfare legislation and different moral perspectives to sensitively support positive change and decision-making regarding animal wellbeing. Graduates possess skills in critical enquiry alongside current subject knowledge that can be applied to solve broader challenges. They have the fundamental vocational skills to enable them to function as an effective team member within the animal management industry, including an ability to communicate and work successfully with others under time constraints. They can handle scientific data, write reports, and evaluate the management of animals in contemporary environments. Graduates have the skills to succeed in animal management careers, including welfare inspection and husbandry provision.

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

Stage 3	HANVKS-45-6 + Animal and Agriculture Dissertation HANV4X-15-6 + Cognitive Ethology HANVQ6-30-6 + Welfare of Trade Animals HANV3N-15-6 + Wildlife and Zoo Management	HANV38-15-6 Anthrozoology OR HANV39-15-6 Biodiversity and Conservation OR HANVP6-15-6 Professional Experience in the Animal Sector 2	<u>Undergraduate Level 6 Award in Animal Studies</u> <u>BSc Animal Studies</u> <u>BSc (Hons) Animal Behaviour and Welfare</u> 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.

Learning Outcomes:	Animal and Agriculture Dissertation	Welfare of Trade Animals	Wildlife and Zoo Management	Cognitive Ethology	Anthrozoology	Biodiversity and Conservation	Professional Experience in the Animal Sector 2
A) Knowledge and Understanding of:							
1.The key principles, problems and new insights associated with animal behaviour and welfare sciences.	A	A	A	A	A	A	
2.The skills required to collect and manage biological data, including behavioural data and parameters of animal welfare assessment.	B		B				
3.The ethical issues in relation to sustainable captive animal management and welfare.	B	A		B	A		
4.Government policy and legislation relating to animal welfare.		A	A		B	A	
5.How established techniques of enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in applied science.	A		B	A		B	
6. Learning processes in animals and their influence on welfare in the context of resolving behaviour problems.				A	B		
7. Animal cognition and how it relates to animal welfare, including the development of abnormal behaviour.		B	B	A	B		
B) Intellectual Skills							
1.Use problem-solving skills and decision-making strategies to explore the challenges and develop new insights in animal welfare science.	A	B	A	A			
2. Analyse and critically evaluate current developments across the field of animal welfare science.	A	A	A	B	B		

3.Analyse data using statistical analysis, interpret the statistical analysis obtained and use statistics effectively in the presentation of an argument.	A		B				
4.Use skills of critical thinking to support effective methods of animal behaviour and welfare measurement.	A	B	B	B			
5.Demonstrate the ability to apply and justify informed decision-making in the management of captive animals.	B	A	A				
6. Critically evaluate national and international animal welfare legislation.		A	A			A	
7.Demonstrate the ability to undertake sustained study applying deeper cognitive learning to an aspect of animal behaviour and/or animal welfare.	A		A	A	A	A	
8.Critically evaluate an aspect of animal behaviour or animal welfare science based on systematic rigorous research processes which highlights both implications and recommendations for developing current and future animal management practices.	A	A	A	A	A		
9. Critically evaluate the impact of the marketplace, governing bodies, and welfare organisations on the welfare of trade animals, and make recommendations to help tackle a complex problem.		A	B		B		
C) Performance and Practice							
1. Demonstrate application of competent animal behaviour measurement and animal welfare assessment skills.	B		A				
2. Organise, analyse and interpret numerical or qualitative data and conceptual written information towards a given purpose within the field of animal welfare science.	A		A	A	B		
3. Communicate effectively with others, recognising multiple perspectives and the relationships between personal views and professional practice.	A	B	A				B
4. Perform husbandry checks such as welfare assessments, within the time constraints and standards required of the UK Animal industry.	B		A			B	B
5. Apply suitable data collection techniques when recording behavioural data, such as the use of appropriate ethograms and recording and sampling techniques.	A		A	B			
6. Recognise moral and ethical dilemmas, differences in perspectives between personal views and professional practice, and show an awareness of sustainable developments in the field of animal welfare science.	A	A	A		A	A	
7. Demonstrate a commitment to continuing professional development and lifelong learning through the development of skills in relation to self-directed and independent study.	A	B	B	B	B		A
8. Work professionally with others as an effective team member.		B	A				A
D) Setting, Personal and Enabling Skills							
1. Effectively communicate scientific concepts to diverse audiences using a variety of means.	A		A			A	B
2. Evaluate their own academic, vocational and professional performance supported by feedback and personal reflection.	A					B	A
3. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical situations.	A	B	A			A	
4. Make recommendations for improvement in animal welfare practices, and communicate how change can be managed effectively in response to the evolving demands of the industry.	A	A					
5. Effectively manage time, and prioritise workloads to manage wellbeing.	A						B
6. Take responsibility for personal and professional learning, wellbeing and career development.	A						
7. Demonstrate information management skills including avoidance of plagarism and use of a range of computer packages (eg Word, Excel, Outlook,MS Teams, SPSS) to engage in independent or collaborative work.	A						

Part 5: Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Journey:

The programme utilises a mixture of teaching and assessment approaches which aim to support the student to develop comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the principles of animal behaviour, welfare and ethics. Learning opportunities are varied and typically include lectures, seminars, tutorials, project supervision, demonstrations, practicals, workshops, fieldwork, and external visits. Contact time encompasses a range of face to face scheduled activities as described below. 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.

Teaching involves a mix of scheduled and independent learning. Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices made. Independent learning includes the hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assessment preparation and completion etc. Throughout their studies, students are encouraged to engage with volunteering opportunities to develop their practice and subject knowledge. Students will develop an ethos for ethical practice within their learning and assessment, with a strong focus on the amelioration of captive animal welfare and study of animal behaviour. Students will experience a variety of assessments in relation to these key themes, including coursework, written examinations, oral presentations, and practical skills logbooks. There will be a range of assessments to support students to build confidence in applying their written, oral, and practical skills as they progress through the course to enable them to achieve and prepare for further study or employment in their chosen industry.

Teaching will typically incorporate access to various resources on-site at the institution, including the animal collection and the wider estate. During their studies, students will typically be supported by academic staff, laboratory staff, and industry-based guest speakers. A range of equipment is available for students to develop their vocational skills in a safe teaching environment. This equipment is updated on a regular basis to reflect current practice in industry, and the needs of research activities. Classrooms are situated throughout the University campus, which allows for a seamless transfer between theory and practical activities. The teaching team have industry-relevant experience that covers all aspects of the programme, and are actively engaged in research and knowledge exchange activities. The teaching and learning strategies employed within modules aim to develop graduates who can recognise trends and patterns, and propose justified solutions to problems related to animal welfare assessment, ethics, and ethology. The programme will have the following distinct features for each stage of delivery:

Stage 3: 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 within the context of animal behaviour and welfare. Taught content will focus on evaluation of emerging issues across national and international animal welfare and trade industries. 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. Assessments will be designed to measure how students can apply evidence from reliable academic sources to real-world issues within the context of animal behaviour and welfare. Specifically, students will apply their knowledge by appraising the management of animals housed in contemporary captive environments, including a zoological collection, and will identify resolutions to a current industry problem through completion of a live brief. Optional

modules will provide students with additional opportunities to critically evaluate the impact of relationships held between animals and human keepers on animal welfare or the management of animals in wild environments. An optional professional experience module offers further opportunities for students to evidence their vocational skills, including reflective practice, in relation to animal behaviour and welfare. During the dissertation, students will be supported by academic staff who are leading experts in their fields and have industry relevant experience or are actively engaged in research and knowledge exchange activities. Students will also be able to use the facilities and equipment available on campus to support data collection. The dissertation assessment will mark a culmination of students' ability to conduct a professional project, collating information, handling data, and combining all sources to address an issue at the forefront of animal behaviour and welfare research.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE): 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 a VLE.

Careers: To support students' career preparations, personnel from the careers department will provide students with opportunities to map progress towards chosen career paths and develop effective CVs or interview techniques. Industry professionals will also visit the institution on an annual basis, as part of an Animal Careers Insight day, to support students to develop their employability prospects and engage directly with employers. A range of online resources linked to enhancing employability will also be signposted to students via the programme's VLE page, Employability, Skills and Careers, and academic tutors. Tutors will typically offer subject specific careers advice through module sessions or within individual tutorials.

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

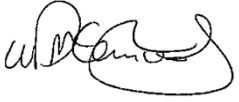Professional Accrediting Body documents to which this programme is mapped and or aligned:
None.

Assessment Map

		Type of Assessment*							
		Coursework	Report	Portfolio	Written Examination	Written Test	Practical Skills Examination	Practical Skills Assessment	Oral Assessment
Core Modules Stage 3	Animal and Agriculture Dissertation		A1 (90) Project Report					A2 (10) Practical Skills Assessment	
	Welfare of Trade Animals							A (100) Practical Skills Assessment	
	Cognitive Ethology		A (100) Report						
	Wildlife and Zoo Management	B (75) Coursework							A (25) Group Oral Presentation with Questions with a group mark
Optional Modules Stage 3	Anthrozoology				A (100) Seen Open-Material Case Study(s) Written Examination				
	Biodiversity and Conservation	A (100) Coursework							
	Professional Experience in the Animal Sector 2			A (100) Industry Experience Portfolio					

*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) Animal Behaviour and Welfare (Level 6 entry)
Programme Code:	BSHAABW6
Initial Approval Date:	02 November 2023

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

Current version number: 1.1
Outline Change Details: Parts 3: Programme Structure – Removal of Investigative Skills and Applied Research Project modules to leave only the main Dissertation module option. Removal of legacy 'transition' module references. Part 4: Removal of Investigative Skills and Applied Research Project modules from mapping. Part 4: Removal of Investigative Skills and Applied Research Project modules from Assessment Map. Part 5: Removal of Applied Research Project from definitive module.
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: Yes and is accompanied by the relevant course information document.
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.

Change requested by: John Binks
     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: *J. Binks*   **Date**: 09.10.2025

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**: 09/10/2025

Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2025 12 10
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2026
Resulting new version number:	2.0

Current version number: 1.0
Outline Change Details: Parts 1 and 3: interims awards updated in line with current Academic Regulations - Undergraduate Level 6 Award in Animal Studies added.
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: to ensure accuracy.

Change requested by: John Binks
  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
 	
Signature: J. Binks   **Date**: 26.09.2025

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**: 29/09/2025

Approval Committee and Date:	CSP 2025 10 03
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2025
Resulting new version number:	1.1

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.

Approval Committee and Date:	CVC Chair's action 2023 11 02
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2024
Resulting new version number:	1.0