HARPER ADAMS UNIVERSITY
Programme Specification

1	**Awarding Institution:**	Harper Adams University
2	**Teaching Institution:**	Askham Bryan College
3	**Course Accredited by:**	Not applicable
4	**Final Award and Level:**	BSc / BSc (Hons) (top-up) (Level 6)
5	**Interim Award(s) and Level(s):**	BSc (Level 6)
6	**Award Title:**	Agricultural Management
7	**UCAS Code:**	D4U9
8	**HECoS and CAH2 Group(s):**	**HECOS** 100517 Agriculture 60% 100998 Sustainable Agriculture and Landscape Development 20% 100978 Farm Management 20% **CAH** CAH06 CAH06-01-03
9	**QAA Benchmark Statement(s):**	Accounting (2019) Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food and Consumer Sciences (2019)
10	**Language of Study:**	English
11	**Mode of Study:**	Full-Time/Part-Time
12	**Course Duration:**	See section below
13	**Date Approved or Revised:**	Validation Event held on 4th May 2023 Revised Programme Approvals Committee – 16th July 2024 and 24th September 2024 **(Applicable to 2024-25 and 2025-26 Entry Cohorts)** (September 2023 – August 2029

CONTEXT AND RATIONALE

The BSc/BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up) provides students with the requisite academic grounding, together with the broader technical and management skills that are required to develop and build a career in the increasingly technical and continually changing global agricultural sector.

The programme, using underpinning technical and management theory, will develop the students technical and managerial skills, in livestock or crop production, the integration of agricultural production systems, environmental sustainability, building an understanding of the supply chain and influences that impact on the commercial industry.

The modular programme makes studying while you work accessible, it provides a more flexible approach to learning with delivery focused to fit in with demands of those wanting to be actively involved in the industry or earn an income.

The flexibility of the hybrid approach to studying provides time to work while studying as lectures are focused on specific days of the week, with content and support being available outside of this to fit into busy 24/7 lifestyles or busy times within the agricultural year.

The uniqueness of the BSc/BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up) lies in its flexibility which allows students to work within the agricultural industry to develop and apply their technical and managerial skills as they study.

The online, in-industry and onsite approach to delivery adds to the flexibility allowing access from any location with content and support being available outside of this to fit into busy 24/7 lifestyles or busy times within the agricultural year.

Unique Selling Points:

- Study while working to develop the skills and knowledge that are in demand in this dynamic, exciting and opportunity driven Sector.
- In-class, Online and In-industry learning to provide the flexibility to fit into the demands of a 24/7 lifestyle, location, travel and demands of work.
- Use the experience of visits and discussion with leading businesses to understand how the latest techniques and approaches are applied.
- Build an understanding of how to use, science, technology, the management of people, and resources, as you work, to develop your career.
- Learn how to identify opportunities, set targets, plan, and work towards meeting your personal, career and business objectives.

GENERIC AIMS

All BSc/BSc (Hons) awards aim to provide the following:

1) To develop in each student subject knowledge and understanding appropriate to individual interests and developing vocational needs.

2) To develop each student's intellectual powers, their understanding and judgement, their ability to see relationships within what they have learned and to examine the field of study in a broader perspective.

3) To develop the personal effectiveness and employability of students, in particular their ability to learn, to communicate, to work with others and to solve problems.

4) To develop those skills of professional scholarship required for career management, lifelong learning and innovation.

5) To inculcate an awareness of the wider consequences of economic activity and a determination to minimise harmful effects on the environment and on people.

6) To provide a lively, stimulating and challenging educational experience.

AWARD-SPECIFIC AIMS

The BSc/BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up) award aims to provide the following:

1. To develop the scientific, technical and business-related knowledge to undertake a variety of roles specific to the agricultural sector.

2. To develop an appreciation of the resources, finance, marketing, legal and stakeholder requirements necessary in managing an agriculture or agricultural related business.

3. To develop an awareness of the technological developments and the trajectory of technological and scientific innovation in the field of agriculture and the wider sector

4. To develop an awareness of the social, ethical, and environmental issues concerned with agriculture and the wider sector.

5. To develop a knowledge of experimental, statistical' and computing techniques relevant to generate a dissertation or research project that uses a range of agriculturally relevant information.

GENERIC OUTCOMES

On successful completion of BSc/BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up) awards, students will be able to:

A	Knowledge	Demonstrate a detailed and specialised knowledge of a range of theories, ideas, terminology and contexts associated with the discipline, with a clear appreciation of the ways in which knowledge is developed and the provisional nature of knowledge.
B	Problem Solve	Select, devise and evaluate the use of appropriate strategies to solve complex, unpredictable, ambiguous and real-world problems.
C	Analysis	Analyse complex data using appropriately selected techniques; draw out robust findings in this process; and, thoroughly evaluate the effectiveness of the analytical strategy.
D	Synthesis	Select and combine ideas and/or data to generate meaningful and convincing composite evidence or arguments with a clear purpose.
E	Evaluation	Review complex and unpredictable information to address unpredictable, ambiguous or real-world problems, with a good awareness of the limitations of both the material under review and the analytical approach.
F	Digital Competence	Select, use and evaluate technologies to enable or enhance the performance of specific tasks, and appreciate the evolution of technology in their discipline.
G	Team Work	Work effectively with others, with minimal or no supervision, to achieve positive outcomes; demonstrate leadership and management capabilities within a team situation; and, critically assess their personal contribution to the team.
H	Career Dev	Recognise, pursue, record and reflect on personal development to pursue personal career goals and appreciate the changing nature of the workplace and the need for personal resilience and **lifelong learning.**
I	Communications	Communicate effectively and professionally for a range of different purposes and through different modes, with consideration of audience needs as well as other contextual factors such as commercial sensitivity, impact maximisation and accessibility requirements.
J	Practical Comp	Perform practical operations in complex, unpredictable, real-world situations that require the selection of combined or novel practical skills and critically review personal effectiveness in practical tasks with reference to relevant professional standards.
K	Autonomy	Act independently and autonomously with minimum supervision in academic and practical tasks.
L	Research	Select and use research to inform the development of knowledge and understanding, and to inform decision-making.
M	Sustain Practice	Evaluate the sustainability of practices, processes or developments, with attention to different stakeholder perspectives, unintended consequences, economic and social dimensions, or environmental considerations.
N	Global	Compare and contrast international examples or case studies that are associated with the discipline and work with an active awareness of global factors or trends that have an impact on specific areas of study.
O	Ethics	Locate a range of ethical issues associated with their own research or professional behaviours, and demonstrate personal responsibility for ethical choices, including adherence to professional codes in complex ethical dilemmas.
P	Placement	Not applicable
Q	Honours	Effectively plan and undertake research.

AWARD-SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the BSc/BSc (Hons)Agricultural Management (top-up) award, students will be able to:

R. Develop and apply key scientific knowledge to situations relating to the agriculture sector.

S. Interact with stakeholders, critically evaluate their needs and communicate using a variety of methods and technologies.

T. Critically evaluate external factors and their potential influence on agriculture and the wider related sector.

RELATIONSHIP WITH EXTERNAL REFERENCE POINT(S)

The aims and outcomes of this Honours Degree programme reflect the level descriptors for higher education qualifications, part of the QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2014).

The award is reflected in the benchmark statements for Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences (2019) and Biosciences (2023) as well as Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Environmental Studies (2022). In addition, the themes of sustainability and globalisation are embedded.

The proposed BSc/BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up) will provide students with the requisite academic grounding, together with the broader science, technical and management skills that are required to develop and build a career in the increasingly technical and continually changing global agricultural rural sector, addressing the above issues and those highlighted in the Harper Adams University Strategic Aims meeting the requirements of current sector influence and employer requirements highlighted below:

Sector Influence/Employers:

- Driven by Yorkshire Regional Economic Strategy: Science, conservation, and sustainable food production.
- Requirement for highly skilled, technical proficient individuals with potential
- Identified skills gap Agri-Food Industry Workforce Skills and Development Strategy 2018 – Requirement: Entrepreneurial people with management and leadership, business, marketing, and all agri-food, skills.
- Added pressure removal of Basic Farm Payments and introduction of the Environmental Land Management Scheme
- Polarised Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) approach: Delivery of Public Good and Improvement in Productivity within the Sector.
- Need to reverse the increasing age of the workforce by developing adaptable, technical proficient and motivational leaders.

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION ARRANGEMENTS

None.

COURSE PROGRESSION, MODULE COMPENSATION, TRANSFER, ADVANCED STANDING, AND INTERIM AWARDS

Course Duration

The full-time programme will be completed in one year, with the academic year consisting of two semesters, each typically of 12 weeks duration, including directed study or experience weeks and periods for time constrained assignments. There will be one-week induction to enable students to orientate themselves to the college and the study programme.
The part-time programme will be completed in two years and typically be no less than 50% of the standard module diet of the full-time version of the award.

The maximum period of registration is two years beyond the expected course duration, to allow for periods of approved postponement or repeat study.

Progression

On successful completion of the programme students may be eligible to study the MSc Applied Animal Behaviour and Welfare.

Module Compensation Exclusions

The following modules are not eligible for compensation within the BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up) programme:

Part 1 module: Research Project

The following modules are not eligible for compensation within the BSc Agricultural Management (top-up) programme:

Part 1 module: Strategic Business Management

Transfer

BSc (Hons)
For transfer between courses, students may transfer all credits and marks from the cross-college core modules into the destination award. Only in the case of pre-requisites have not been met will students be required to study credit in addition to the normal study load during years two and three (Level 4 and Level 5).

For an Ordinary Degree BSc Agriculture candidate to progress to Honours Degree they must have completed a minimum of 80 credits after re-assessment at Level 6 and achieved a mean grade of >55%.

Entry with Advanced Standing

Table 4.1 in Section 4 of the Academic Quality Assurance Manual identifies the maximum credit that can normally be advanced for students wishing to enter with advanced standing from a Harper Adams' award, or an award from another institution. The course structure diagram(s) identify the specific study programme(s) for candidates entering with advanced standing. Section 4.5.12 of the Academic Quality Assurance Manual specifies the arrangements for transfer and advanced entry and these will apply unless an alternative arrangement has been approved.

Entry with Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)/ Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) will be accepted in accordance with the Askham Bryan College procedure and Harper Adams University regulations. No more than ⅔ credit for the award may be derived from APL. Within this limit, no more than half of the total credit value of the award may be derived from APEL.

Interim Awards

The requirements for interim awards associated with final awards are as follows:

BSc Agricultural Management (top-up)

The outcomes required for the ordinary award are:

A	Knowledge	Demonstrate a detailed and specialised knowledge of a range of theories, ideas, terminology and contexts associated with the discipline, with a clear appreciation of the ways in which knowledge is developed and the provisional nature of knowledge.
B	Problem Solve	Select, devise and evaluate the use of appropriate strategies to solve complex, unpredictable, ambiguous and real-world problems.
C	Analysis	Analyse complex data using appropriately selected techniques; draw out robust findings in this process; and, thoroughly evaluate the effectiveness of the analytical strategy.
D	Synthesis	Select and combine ideas and/or data to generate meaningful and convincing composite evidence or arguments with a clear purpose.
E	Evaluation	Review complex and unpredictable information to address unpredictable, ambiguous or real-world problems, with a good awareness of the limitations of both the material under review and the analytical approach.
F	Digital Competence	Select, use and evaluate technologies to enable or enhance the performance of specific tasks, and appreciate the evolution of technology in their discipline.
G	Team Work	Work effectively with others, with minimal or no supervision, to achieve positive outcomes; demonstrate leadership and management capabilities within a team situation; and, critically assess their personal contribution to the team.
H	Career Dev	Recognise, pursue, record and reflect on personal development to pursue personal career goals and appreciate the changing nature of the workplace and the need for personal resilience and **lifelong learning.**
I	Communications	Communicate effectively and professionally for a range of different purposes and through different modes, with consideration of audience needs as well as other contextual factors such as commercial sensitivity, impact maximisation and accessibility requirements.
J	Practical Comp	Perform practical operations in complex, unpredictable, real-world situations that require the selection of combined or novel practical skills and critically review personal effectiveness in practical tasks with reference to relevant professional standards.
K	Autonomy	Act independently and autonomously with minimum supervision in academic and practical tasks.
L	Research	Select and use research to inform the development of knowledge and understanding, and to inform decision-making.
M	Sustain Practice	Evaluate the sustainability of practices, processes or developments, with attention to different stakeholder perspectives, unintended consequences, economic and social dimensions, or environmental considerations.
N	Global	Compare and contrast international examples or case studies that are associated with the discipline and work with an active awareness of global factors or trends that have an impact on specific areas of study.
O	Ethics	Locate a range of ethical issues associated with their own research or professional behaviours, and demonstrate personal responsibility for ethical choices, including adherence to professional codes in complex ethical dilemmas.

R. Develop and apply key scientific knowledge to situations relating to the agriculture sector.

S. Interact with stakeholders, critically evaluate their needs and communicate using a variety of methods and technologies.

T. Critically evaluate external factors and their potential influence on agriculture and the wider related sector.

Students will have obtained a minimum of 80 credits at level 6. This will normally include a pass in the following module(s):

Strategic Business Management
Global Food Production and Supply Chain Efficiency
Rural Innovation, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
Recent Advances in Crop Production (elective)
Recent Advances in Livestock Production (elective)

Entry with Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)/ Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) will be accepted in accordance with the Askham Bryan College procedure and Harper Adams University regulations. No more than ⅔ credit for the award may be derived from APL. Within this limit, no more than half of the total credit value of the award may be derived from APEL.

Holders of Foundation Degree awards will typically already have 120 credits at level 4 plus 120 credits at level 5.

COURSE STRUCTURE, LEVELS AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERIM AND FINAL AWARDS

Harper Adams' programmes are based on a credit-accumulation system where 1 credit represents 10 notional hours of student study time. Modules are normally 20 credits or multiples thereof. Modules are also at different levels from Levels 3 – 7, according to their intellectual challenge. Courses leading to specific awards include **core modules, optional modules** from which students must select choices up to the number of credits required.

The minimum credit requirements needed to progress to interim and final awards are listed in **Section 4.4.5** of the *Academic Quality Assurance Manual*. These are reflected in the corresponding course structure study programmes, which follow.

Course Structure: BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up)

2024 Entry Cohort
UCAS Code: D4U9

Year 1 **All at level 6 unless indicated**			
CORE			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Research Project ABC6200			40
Global Food Production and Supply Chain Efficiency ABG6200	20	Rural Innovation, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship ABG6203	20
		Strategic Business Management ABG6204	20
ELECTIVES Choose one module			
Recent Advances in Crop Production ABG6201	20		
Recent Advances in Livestock Production ABG6202	20		

Course Structure: BSc Agricultural Management (top-up)

2024 Entry Cohort
UCAS Code: D4U9

Year 1 **All at level 6 unless indicated**			
CORE			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Global Food Production and Supply Chain Efficiency ABG6200	20	Rural Innovation, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship ABG6203	20
		Strategic Business Management ABG6204	20
ELECTIVES Choose one module			
Recent Advances in Crop Production ABG6201	20		
Recent Advances in Livestock Production ABG6202	20		

Full-time honours students will normally study at least 120 credits (equivalent to 1200 study hours) per year from a combination of core (compulsory) and elective modules.

Validation Date: 4th May 2023
Date of Approval following Response to Validation Report: July 2023
Period of Approval: September 2023 – August 2029

BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up) part time route

Part 1	
Year 1 **All at Level 6 unless indicated**	
CORE Semester 1	**CORE** Semester 2
Global Food Production and Supply Chain Efficiency ABG6200 (20 credits)	Rural Innovation, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship ABG6203 (20 credits)
Research Project ABC6200 (20 credits)	
Year 2 **All at Level 6 unless indicated**	
CORE Semester 1	CORE Semester 2
Research Project (continued) ABC6200 (20 credits)	
	Strategic Business Management ABG6204 (20 credits)
Electives Choose One Module	
Recent Advances in Crop Production ABG6201 (20 credits)	
Recent Advances in Livestock Production ABG6202 (20 credits)	

Part time students will normally study 120 credits over 2 years from a combination or core (compulsory) and elective modules.

Validation Date: 4th May 2023
Date of Approval following Response to Validation Report: July 2023
Period of Approval: September 2023 – August 2029

COURSE DESIGN, LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment philosophy
Assessments will vary to reflect the academic, practical and professional skills development of students on the BSc/BSc (Hons) Agriculture Management (top-up).

Learning and teaching methods
Teaching and learning methods used to deliver this curriculum are designed to provide experience, and, through reflection upon it, develop concepts which can then be explored through testing and experimentation. Methods vary according to the nature of each modules subject matter but include a wide diversity from more formal lectures to student centred activities including assignments, seminars, field trips, guest lectures and case studies. Students will be supported with their study via the college's virtual learning environment (VLE), which will prepare them for the autonomy expected of HE students.

Transferable skills
The programme has been developed to enable students to plan and execute research and development work. It encourages independent learning, professional and personal development, and the ability to present skills, exams and behaviour appropriate to a management career. The programme includes activities to develop core skills of communication, numeracy, IT and personal development planning as well as modules designed to develop teamwork and independent learning, problem solving and research (Research Project). Practical work experience during directed study time is also recommended so that students can apply information and skills to real life situations.

Typical assessment
Assessment is considered an important part of the learning process. Modules are assessed in one, two or three pieces of assessment. Each assessment will provide summative feedback for the learning outcomes in the module. The contribution of each assessment to the end overall mark is indicated in the module descriptors. There is no threshold requirement in any assessment component. Formative assessments methods are diverse and will not be graded.

Unless otherwise specified in module descriptors the overall mark is derived from a weighted mean, with no threshold requirement in any assessment component.

A range of subject specific assessment methodologies will be included to develop practical and technical skills. These will include professional discussion, peer observation, case studies and practical assessments.

Group assessment includes group collection of both quantitative and qualitative data and information to facilitate decision-making. Practical assessment will include the design and setup of laboratory or field experiments, with analysis and presentation of collected data. Further assessment is facilitated by case studies and links with industry, including product evaluation.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

For admission onto the Honours Top Up Degree programme, students must have achieved an overall pass in their Foundation Degree or Higher National Diploma award.

In addition, places are dependent on a reference from the student's Foundation Degree/ HND Course Manager reflecting their suitability for Level 6 study. Some applicants may be interviewed. Equivalent qualifications may be considered. Applications will be welcomed via one of the formalised pathways outlined in signed progression accords with other institutions.

Curriculum Map for BSc/BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management (top-up) (Level 6)

Award Outcomes	Core/Elective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
Research Project	Core			X								X	X			X		X			
Rural Innovation, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship	Core	X	X					X	X	X				X	X	X					X
Strategic Business Management	Core	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	
Global Food Production and Supply Chain Efficiency	Core	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X
Recent Advances in Crop Production	Elective		X	X			X	X			X	X	X	X	X				X		
Recent Advances in Livestock Production	Elective	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X				X		

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N	Global	Compare and contrast international examples or case studies that are associated with the discipline and work with an active awareness of global factors or trends that have an impact on specific areas of study.
O	Ethics	Locate a range of ethical issues associated with their own research or professional behaviours, and demonstrate personal responsibility for ethical choices, including adherence to professional codes in complex ethical dilemmas.
P	Placement	Not applicable
Q	Honours	Effectively plan and undertake research and produce a dissertation (honours route only).
R	Science	Develop and apply key scientific knowledge to situations relating to the agriculture sector
S	Engagement	Interact with stakeholders, critically evaluate their needs and communicate using a variety of methods and technologies.
T	Sector Awareness	Critically evaluate external factors and their potential influence on agriculture and the wider related sector.