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:**	Equine Science with Management
7	**UCAS Code:**	D4D6
8	**HECoS and CAH2 Group(s):**	**HECoS code:** 100519 – Equine Studies 80% 100078 Business and Management 20% **CAH:** CAH06, CAH17
9	**QAA Benchmark Statement(s):**	Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences Biosciences (2019) Earth sciences, environmental sciences and environmental studies (2022)
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 equine industry continues to develop and therefore the need for employees with appropriate technical knowledge and skills continues to evolve. On this programme there is an emphasis on science, business and marketing, taking into consideration the need to develop graduates who can fill these skills gaps. On this programme you will develop your understanding through review the most recent advances in the equine industry. The programme will provide you with the opportunity to develop the specific knowledge, practical and technical skills fundamental to securing work in the equine industry. This includes focusing on scientific and business management principles.

This one-year course will give you the opportunity to apply existing skills and newly acquired knowledge to a variety of industry relevant situations, thereby preparing for work and more advanced study. As part of the honours pathway students will be required to undertake a research project, giving them an opportunity to focus for a prolonged period of time on a subject of particular interest with possibilities of publication.

GENERIC AIMS

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

1. To develop in each student an understanding of and an ability to manage populations of horses in a variety of work-related situations.

2. To develop an understanding in students about equine husbandry, performance, health and nutrition for a range of equines.

3. To develop in students an appreciation of technological, veterinary and scientific developments within the field of equine management.

4. To develop an understanding of the principles of equine behaviour, management, performance and business.

5. To develop students' research skills to allow them to generate realistic and imaginative research projects related to their studies whilst applying methods to solve routine problems relevant to the course, with some awareness of appropriate controls, possible bias, ethics and sustainability.

6. To develop communication and management skills and the ability to apply them to problems associated with equine management, behaviour and performance.

7. To enable the students to explain and evaluate the contribution of equine management, behaviour and performance to solving interdisciplinary challenges and the role of interdisciplinary thinking in solving scientific problems.

GENERIC OUTCOMES

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

R. Demonstrate a detailed understanding of management concepts, knowledge and practical techniques which are required in a range of employment situations related to equine science and management.

S. Apply generic and subject specific knowledge and understanding to the study and application of equine scientific principles in a range of situations.

T. Appreciate and employ the main methods of enquiry relating to how technological, veterinary and scientific developments within the field of equine management influence past, present and future management techniques.

U. Identify, analyse and solve a range of problems relating to the management of equine establishments and enterprises.

V. Work within and be capable of adjusting to professional and disciplinary boundaries that exist within various positions of employment in the equine industry.

W. Apply skills and knowledge acquired from the programme to recommend improvements and developments in a range of equine management situations.

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 College holds a regular Technical Advisory Group and feedback from employers help to shape the curriculum from an industry perspective.

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, in addition to directed study weeks and examination periods.

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

Students who successfully complete the programme 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) Equine Science with Management (top-up) programme:

Part 1 modules: Research Project

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

None.

Transfer

For an Ordinary Degree BSc Equine Science with Management (top-up) 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.

Interim Awards

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

BSc Equine Science with Management (top-up)

The outcomes required for this award are: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, S, T, U, and V students will have obtained a minimum of 80 credits at level 6.

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) Equine Science with Management (top-up)

2024 Entry Cohort
UCAS Code: D4D6

Year 1 All at level 6 unless indicated			
CORE			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Research Project ABC6200			40
Sustainable Development in the Equine Industry ABA6236	20		
Recent Advances in Equine Veterinary Science ABE6202	20		
ELECTIVES Choose two modules			
		Advanced Equestrian Coaching ABE6200	20
		Advanced Equine Nutrition ABE6201	20
		Strategic Marketing for the Equine Industry ABE6203	20

Course Structure: BSc Equine Science with Management (top-up)

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Year 1 All at level 6 unless indicated			
CORE			
Semester 1		Semester 2	
Sustainable Development in the Equine Industry ABA6236	20		
Recent Advances in Equine Veterinary Science ABE6202	20		
ELECTIVES Choose two modules			
		Advanced Equestrian Coaching ABE6200	20
		Advanced Equine Nutrition ABE6201	20
		Strategic Marketing for the Equine Industry ABE6203	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

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) Equine Science with 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. 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. Assessment methods are diverse and include literature review-based essays, problem-based assignments, oral presentations, business written reports, practical tasks, individual and team scenario exercises, experimental work and placement assignments. Time constrained assessment (TCA) includes closed and open book assessment, with both seen and unseen questions and tasks set. Formative assessments are not graded.

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 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) Equine Science with Management (top-up) (Level 6)

Award Outcomes	Core or Elective	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
Research Project	Core			X			X					X	X			X		X					
Sustainable Development in the Equine Industry	Core	X	X			X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X
Recent Advances in Equine Veterinary Science	Core	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X		X	X		X		X			
Advance Equestrian Coaching	Elective	X	X					X			X										X	X	X
Strategic Marketing for the Equine Industry	Elective	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X				X	X				
Advanced Equine Nutrition	Elective	X			X					X		X						X		X			

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Additional costs

Students on the programme will have opportunity to take British Horse Society (BHS) exams. Training will take place within the programme and additional to the programme. There will be extra cost to student wishing to undertake these exams for additional training and the examination with the BHS. This link will take you to up to date fees for the examinations. https://www.bhs.org.uk/careers-recreational-awards/assessments-information/assessment-fees/