

# Programme Specification

**BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business  
&  
BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business with  
Placement Year**

**For Students Starting Year One in Academic Year 2021-22**

**NB**

*The information contained in this document is intended only as a guide to the programme. It does not constitute a legally binding document or contract between the individual and the Royal Agricultural University.*

*The information contained herein is correct at the time of going to print, but the University reserves the right to make changes to the structure of the programme, assessment methods, etc. at any time without prior notification. Any changes made however will be made known as soon as possible.*

**Dr Simon Daniels- Programme Manager**

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**  
**BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business**

<b>1. Awarding institution</b>	Royal Agricultural University
<b>2. Teaching institution</b>	Royal Agricultural University
<b>3. Centre responsible for the programme</b>	Equine Management & Science
<b>4. Programme Manager</b>	Dr Simon Daniels
<b>5. Final award title(s)</b>	BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business with Placement Year Applied Equine Science and Business with Foundation Year
<b>6. Interim Award Titles</b>	CertHE, DipHE, BSc Applied Equine Science and Business.
<b>7. Academic level on Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)</b>	Level 6
<b>8. UCAS code(s)</b>	L5BB
<b>9. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and other reference points, e.g. FD qualification benchmark</b>	QAA Honours Degree Subject Benchmark Statement for Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food and Consumer Sciences (2009) QAA Honours Degree Subject Benchmark Statement for Biosciences (2015)
<b>10. Details of accreditation by a professional/statutory body</b>	N/A
<b>11. Mode of delivery</b>	Full-time and part-time
<b>12. Language of study</b>	English
<b>13. AQSC approval date</b>	April 2016
<b>14. Valid from</b>	Date of validation: 2016 Date current document revised: February 2020
<i>For office use only</i>	
<b>15. Valid to</b>	2021
<b>16. Version</b>	V5, 2021/22 – Update to assessment for module 1248 and 1249

	V6, 2021/22 – removal of elective modules 3011, 3038 and 3091. Addition for module 3325, Rural Entrepreneurship. 04Mar2022
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## 17. Educational aims of the programme

The Programme Management Group (PMG) intends that the following capability statements will provide an overarching framework for all its graduates, and inform specific course aims and outcomes. Thus the PMG expects that all graduates will:

- (i) apply creative, critical and compassionate thinking processes to social and organisational issues.
- (ii) develop communication abilities using people, ideas, texts, media and technology.
- (iii) work with, manage and lead others in ways which value their diversity and equality and which facilitates their contribution to the organisation and the wider community.
- (iv) acquire and apply appropriate management, technical and practical skills and knowledge.
- (v) display an ability to reflect on and learn from one's own experiences.
- (vi) recognise and accept continuing learning as being central to one's capacity to realise potential.
- (vii) develop, express and be able to defend personal values, beliefs and ethics.
- (viii) hold a perspective which acknowledges local, national and international issues.
- (ix) value a citizenship role which is connected to and responsible for the social, environmental, political and economic systems in which we live.

In relation to the above general capability statements, this programme aims to:

- i. Provide a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental principles of scientific investigation to underpin equine management practice
- ii. Enable students to develop intellectual, professional and transferable skills to be able apply equine science and business studies to management practice.
- iii. Provide students with opportunities to develop their individual interests through choice of work placement, three final-year electives and Honours Project (dissertation) topic.
- iv. Prepare students for careers in the equine industry through the integration of University teaching and sandwich employment experience.

18. Learning Outcomes of the Programme	
Learning Outcomes	Teaching, learning and assessment strategies
<b>A. Knowledge and understanding</b>	
<p><u>A knowledge and understanding of:</u></p> <p><b>A1.</b> The structure of the equine industry and the inter-relationships between its key components.</p> <p><b>A2.</b> Equine production within relevant regulations and ethical guidelines.</p> <p><b>A3.</b> The equine genetic resource and its tailoring to market demand.</p> <p><b>A4.</b> The business environment as applied to the equine industry.</p> <p><b>A5.</b> Managing the human and physical resources associated with an equine enterprise.</p> <p><b>A6.</b> Understand equine physiology relating to function</p>	<p><u>Teaching Learning methods and assessment strategies:</u></p> <p>Lectures, workshops, study visits, visiting speakers. Examinations, group projects, written reports.</p> <p>Lectures, workshops and study visits. Examinations and written reports.</p> <p>Lectures, workshops and study visits. Examinations and written reports.</p> <p>Lectures, workshops and study visits. Examinations, project work and written reports.</p> <p>Lectures, workshops and study visits. Examinations and written reports.</p> <p>Lectures, workshops, practical sessions and study visits. Examinations and written reports.</p>

## B. Intellectual skills

### A knowledge and understanding of:

- B1.** Understand subject-specific theories, concepts and principles.
- B2.** Reference appropriate sources.
- B3.** Develop strategies for the appropriate selection of relevant information from wide sources and a large body of knowledge.
- B4.** Synthesise information from a number of sources in order to obtain a coherent understanding.
- B5.** Develop and utilise problem-solving skills.
- B6.** Develop skills for data handling and analysis.
- B7.** Critically appraise and articulate arguments.

### Teaching Learning methods and assessment strategies

Lectures, workshops, practicals.  
Examinations, reports and practicals.

Lectures, workshops, tutoring.  
Written reports.

Lectures, workshops, tutoring.  
Written reports.

Imbedded study skills and tutoring.

Lectures, workshops, tutoring.  
Written reports, practical and written examinations.

Lectures, workshops, tutoring.  
Written reports, practical and written examinations.

Lectures, workshops, tutoring.  
Written reports, practical and written examinations.

### C. Practical / professional skills

#### A knowledge and understanding of:

- C1.** The safe use of laboratory analytical techniques and practices.
- C2.** Take on responsibility in a practical working situation.
- C3.** Assess and respond appropriately to the CPD needs of staff in an equine business.
- C4.** Draw up financial management plans.
- C5.** Have an awareness of legal and ethical obligations pertaining to personnel and animals within the equine industry.

#### Teaching Learning methods and assessment strategies

Practical sessions and workshops.

Work placement

Lectures, workshops and work placement.  
Coursework, examinations and personal development planning.

Lectures, workshops and seminars.  
Coursework and examinations.

Lectures, workshops and seminars.  
Coursework and examinations.

## D. Transferable skills

<u>A knowledge and understanding of:</u>	<u>Teaching Learning methods and strategies</u>
<b>D1.</b> Communicate clearly and effectively in English.	Embedded into lectures, workshops, written and oral assessments.
<b>D2.</b> Develop team working skills.	Embedded into lectures, workshops, written, practical and oral group assessments.
<b>D3.</b> Source information and apply knowledge, systematically and appropriately.	Embedded into lectures, workshops and tutoring. Written and oral assessments.
<b>D4.</b> Develop reflective skills to examine personal practice.	Embedded into lectures, workshops, work placement and personal development planning. Coursework and oral presentation.
<b>D5.</b> Manage time and tasks, seek advice when appropriate, prioritise work.	Embedded into lectures, workshops, work placement and personal development planning. Written and oral/practical assessments.
<b>D6.</b> Business skills and numeracy.	Lectures and workshops. Coursework and examinations.



## 19. Assessment Map

Level	Core Module	Coursework %	Written exam %	Practical assessment %
4	1415	100		
4	1010		100	
4	1033	100		
4	1400	100		
4	1314	40	60	
4	1247		100	
4	1248	100		50
4	1249	100		
5	2317	100		
5	2319	60		40
5	2316	100		
5	2069	40	60	
5	2074	50	50	
5	2318		100	
5	2166	60	40	
5	2253	100		
6	3300	90		10
6	3036	100		
6	3241			
6	3200		100	

## 20. Programme structure

The BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business comprises 3 years of full-time study. Year 2 includes a compulsory industrial placement period of 15 weeks. The programme consists of a specific group of core modules with the opportunity for students to choose electives in their final year. The programme can also be studied part-time over six years.

Students registered on the BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business with Placement Year will take their placement year at the end of the second year of study.

The option with Foundation Year is normally four years of duration of full-time study and the option with Placement Year is normally three years of taught full-time study with the other year spent on placement. The accumulation of 360 credits (or more) must include a minimum of 120 at level 6 and a maximum of 120 at level 4, through the assessment of taught modules.

<b>BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business</b>	<b>BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business with Foundation Year</b>	<b>BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business with Placement Year</b>
Year 1 – Level 4 modules	Year 1 – Foundation year	Year 1 – Level 4 modules
Year 2 – Level 5 Modules	Year 2 – Level 4 modules	Year 2 – Level 5 modules
Year 3 – Level 6 modules	Year 3 – Level 5 modules	Year 3 – Placement year
	Year 4 – Level 6 modules	Year 4 – Level 6 modules

**Year 1 of the Applied Equine Science and Business degree consists solely of core (compulsory) modules (all worth 15 credits):**

- 1314 Equine Anatomy & Physiology (15 credits)
- 1400 Developing Academic Skills (15 credits)
- 1247 Equine Breeding and Genetics 1 (15 credits)
- 1415 Global Business Environment (15 credits)
- 1248 Equine Bioveterinary Science 1 (15 credits)
- 1249 Nutritional Biochemistry and Feeding (15 credits)
- 1010 Equine Industry (15 credits)
- 1033 Business Finance (15 credits)

**Year 2 all modules are core**

- 2074 Equine Grassland Management (15 credits)
- 2253 Equine Bioveterinary Science 2 (15 credits)
- 2319 Equine Law, Research and Ethics (15 credits)
- 2069 Rural Business Enterprise (15 credit)
- 2317 Industry Placement (15 credits)
- 2316 Personal and Professional Development Skills (15 credits)
- 2166 Equine Business Finance & Taxation (15 credits)
- 2318 Equine Para-veterinary Sciences (15 credits)

If you are enrolled on the BSc (Hons) Applied Equine Science and Business with Professional Placement Year then you will undertake your placement year between years 2 and 4 of your programme. You will complete Years 1 and 2, complete the placement year and then return for your final year of the programme. For further details about the Placement Year please see module PPY.

### **Year 3**

In year 3, the element of choice is broadened with only 4 compulsory core modules and an extensive choice of electives from which you must select 3. The choice of honours project title is also yours to decide.

#### **Core:**

- 3300 Research Project/Dissertation (30 credits)
- 3036 Advanced Equine Business Management (15 credits)
- 3241 Advances in Equine Science and Industry Developments (15 credits)
- 3200 Equine Health (15 credits)

#### **Electives:**

- 3034 Marketing Communication
- 3040 Management Accounting
- 3041 Corporate Finance
- 3058 Equine Behaviour and Welfare
- 3059E Equine Genetics
- 3078 Equine Performance Nutrition
- 3081 Consumer Behaviour
- 3206 Equine Breeding Management
- 3217 Advances in Training the Equine Athlete
- 3226 Irish Bloodstock Industry (Study tour with additional fee)
- 3240 Contemporary Media Studies
- 3242 Negotiation in Business
- 3325 Rural Entrepreneurship

The Irish Bloodstock Industry elective 3226 comes with an additional cost of £600 towards the cost of the trip.

#### **Student workload**

All full-time academic programmes at the RAU are constructed using a selection of modules, each of which requires engagement with a variety of learning activities. Successful completion of module assessments will result in the award of credits, and students are required to achieve a total of 120 credits for each year of a full-time programme.

The credit system is used to ensure a balanced workload across each programme, with each credit point representing a notional learning time of 10 hours of student work. Thus a 15-credit module will require a notional input of 150 hours of work, and a complete academic year of 120 credits will require 1200 hours of work, or approximately 40 hours per week.

The academic year is divided into two semesters, credits are delivered over the year to distribute the workload. The dissertation module is delivered over semester 1 and 2 in the final year as this is worth 30 credits. The 15 credit work placement module is distributed over 525 hours between the second and

third year. There is an option to select a Professional Placement Year instead of the industry placement between the second and third year. The Professional Placement Year accounts for 120 credits and should be 1200 hours spread over 35 weeks.

Within this total time, students can expect to participate in formal timetabled activities; such as lectures, seminars, tutorials, practicals and visits; for approximately one third of the total time – usually around 2 hours per week for a 15-credit module studied over 30 weeks of the year. Thus the majority of module activities; such as reading around the subject, preparing for tutorials and seminars, preparing for, and completing, module assessments and revision for, and sitting, examinations; will take place outside of these scheduled activities, but are an essential part of a student's learning journey.

Students attempting to short-cut their learning activities may find themselves experiencing difficulties as each module progresses, and as the level of assumed understanding increases. Thus it is vitally important that new students establish an effective routine for their studies as soon as possible. Maintaining a balanced workload from the start of the programme will help to avoid intense periods of activity, and ensure knowledge and understanding gradually develop throughout the year in readiness for any end-of-module examinations.

For students enrolled on the BSc (Hons) with Placement Year students are also required to undertake a 1200 hours, ie 35 weeks @ minimum 35 hrs per week, professional placement year. The Professional Placement Year is taken between Levels 5 and 6 of the academic programme.

## **21. Work-based learning**

In the second year, all students must undertake a 15 week (minimum) industrial placement between the start of the Easter break and the end of the summer break

Students who have chosen to take a year placement in a relevant business will do so at the end of their second year of study.

## **22. Reference Points and benchmarks**

QAA Honours Degree Subject Benchmark Statement for Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food and Consumer Sciences (2009) [Link](#)

QAA Honours Degree Subject Benchmark Statement for Biosciences (2015) [Link](#)

## **23. Entry Criteria where these differ from the RAU standard**

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admissions requirements of the Royal Agricultural University in one of the following ways:

### **School or College Leavers**

GCSE or Equivalent

Maths, English and three other subjects at grade C or higher. There should ideally be passes in Biology and/or Chemistry, or a Combined Science programme. Grade D is not accepted as a pass.

A/S and A2 Levels

The course requires 96 points or more from a minimum of 2 A levels. Subjects can only count ONCE towards the score either at A/S or A2 level and points cannot be achieved by A/S levels alone. A science subject is preferred (biology chemistry, psychology, physical education).

Scottish Highers/Leaving Certificate

Six subjects to be passed, at grade C or higher, 4 of which must be at Higher Level.

Irish Highers/Leaving Certificates

Five Highers at Grade C or higher.

BTEC ND/NC

Overall Merit pass in relevant subject.

HND

Pass qualifies for entry if in relevant discipline. A Merit or above may allow second year entry.

International Baccalaureate 26 points. The European Baccalaureate is accepted on the same basis.

GNVQ

Overall Merit or above at advanced (Level III) level in a relevant subject.

AVCE Double Award CC

Access to HE: 45 credits at level 3, of which 15 must be awarded at Distinction. (Pass at Literacy & Numeracy skills at level 2 are accepted in lieu of GCSE English & Mathematics)

A period of practical experience is also highly recommended.

### **Other**

Candidates with an equivalent standard of education approved by the Royal Agricultural University

Consideration will be given on an individual basis to mature applicants with experience of equine or its related industries who may lack formal qualifications.

## **24. Module reference sheets**

For module sheets for this programme please follow this link:

[Module references sheets for Applied Equine Science and Business](#)

## 25. Curriculum map

	Global Business Environment 1415	Equine Industry 1010	Business Finance 1033	Developing Academic Skills 1400	Equine Anatomy & Physiology 1314	Breeding & Genetics 1247	Equine Bioveterinary Science 1 1248	Nutritional Biochemistry & Feeding 1249	Professional Placement Year	Industry Placement 2317	Rural Business Enterprise 2069	Equine Grassland Management 2074	Equine Para-Veterinary Sciences 2318	Equine Business Finance & Taxation 2466	Equine law, Research and Ethics 2319	Equine Bioveterinary Science 2 2253	Personal & Professional Development Skills 2316	Research Project/Dissertation 3300	Advanced Equine Business Management 3036	Advanced Equine Science & industry Developments 3241	Equine Health 3200
<b>A) Knowledge and understanding of:</b>																					
A1	✓	✓												✓					✓	✓	
A2		✓				✓													✓		
A3						✓															
A4	✓	✓							✓								✓		✓		
A5												✓									
A6					✓		✓	✓					✓			✓				✓	✓
<b>B) Intellectual Skills:</b>																					
B1		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓
B2				✓	✓		✓	✓				✓				✓		✓		✓	✓
B3									✓									✓		✓	✓
B4							✓		✓				✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
B5				✓	✓		✓											✓			
B6	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			✓			
B7							✓						✓					✓		✓	✓
<b>C) Subject/Professional/Practical Skills:</b>																					
C1					✓		✓														
C2					✓		✓		✓	✓											✓
C3			✓								✓		✓								
C4									✓										✓		

C5									✓	✓					✓						
<b>D) Transferable Skills and Other Attributes:</b>																					
D1				✓				✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	✓		✓	
D2				✓					✓									✓			
D3				✓	✓			✓	✓									✓	✓	✓	✓
D4				✓					✓								✓	✓	✓		
D5				✓					✓								✓	✓		✓	
D6				✓					✓	✓								✓			