Date: 07-11-2026

# BSc (Hons) + Foundation Year Rural Enterprise and Land Management

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| **UCAS code** | XD13 |
| **Institution code** | H12 |
| **Duration** | 5 years (full-time, sandwich) |
| **Start date** | September 2027 |
| **Location** | Harper Adams University campus (and location of work placement) |

**The Foundation Year Programme offers a route to undergraduate study: giving you the skills, confidence and resilience required to succeed in Higher Education.**

After successful completion of this year, you will be eligible to progress onto the first year of BSc (Hons) Rural Enterprise and Land Management or transfer to BSc (Hons) Rural Property and Real Estate (RPRE).* You will learn key skills and knowledge, both core and subject-specific, and how your chosen area of study fits into the challenges and opportunities of the modern global landscape. Through reflective approaches, you will develop and monitor your own personal learning journey.

This programme will help you build on a foundation of skills and knowledge developed in the classroom and practical/vocational environment. This will enable you to undertake independent and collaborative tasks, supported by workshops, masterclasses (in person and online – delivered by internal and external experts) and targeted individual mentoring.

In the foundation year, you will receive an education in the principles and underpinning concepts related to land and property management, surveying practice and the legal framework which governs the different types of property a Chartered Surveyor will be involved with. You will also develop a comprehensive understanding of the roles, responsibilities, expectations and routes to qualifying as a Chartered Surveyor

Your Foundation Year involves varied assessments that develop your personal skillset and also that relate to the programme which you will progress onto. You will be able to demonstrate your knowledge and skills through verbal, written, practical and collaborative tasks that will provide a broad underpinning for your ongoing academic journey.

**If you wish to transfer to another degree course offered by Harper Adams University, you will need to achieve an average of 60% across the Foundation Year Programme.*

Teams of university employees have worked with past and present students, employees, industry organisations and more to build these programmes, ensuring every route is able to shape the types of graduate each sector needs, is aligned to relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals and is built to ensure every student leaves the university embodying a specific set of Harper Graduate Attributes, namely that they **Care** for people and planet, have a **Global** mindest, have vital **Digital** skills, seek continued personal **Growth**, can apply **Practical** skills as well as knowledge and are both **Inspired** and Inspirational.

# What will I study?

| Year 1 | |
|---|---|
| Key Academic Skills (R3001HF) | 20 |
| Vocational Skills Portfolio (A3001HF) | 20 |
| Principles of Land Use and Management | 20 |
| Global Challenges - Local Impact (R3002HF) | 20 |
| Team Challenge (R3003HF) | 10 |
| Individual Project (A3002HF) | 10 |
| Rural Enterprise and Land Economics | 20 |

## Key Academic Skills

**Year of study** 1
**Code** R3001HF
**Credits** 20
**Core/option** Core
**Module contact** Emma Tappin

In this module, you will develop a grounding in the Key Academic Skills vital in Higher Education and future employment, both in literacy and numeracy. These skills involve the ability to communicate in written form as prescribed by Harper Adams University using the appropriate referencing format, based on the ability to search for and evaluate appropriate sources to support your work. In addition, this module aims to consolidate and improve your ability to process and interpret data and present results effectively, thereby improving your confidence in the use of mathematics, statistics and associated software. This module is designed to enable you to develop your skills to feel more confident and competent as you progress through the Foundation Year Programme and advance to the first year of your university degree.

## Vocational Skills Portfolio

**Year of study** 1
**Code** A3001HF
**Credits** 20
**Core/option** Core
**Module contact** Stephen Giles

Your academic and professional careers will be underpinned by a set of core skills. This module will equip you with a portfolio of vocational, practical and technical skills which will serve you through your academic, social and professional development – including ICT, core subject-related skills and wider personal/professional/interpersonal skills development. Through a blend of mandated workshops and self-selected/self-directed learning experiences, it will provide you with opportunities to reflect on your own skills gaps, strengths and weaknesses.

## Principles of Land Use and Management

**Year of study** 1
**Credits** 20
**Core/option** Core
**Module contact** Dr Mark Simcock

This module introduces students to the core principles, processes, and challenges involved in the management of rural land. It explores how rural land is used, valued, and governed within economic, environmental, social, and policy contexts. Students will develop an understanding of the relationships between land-use decisions, sustainability objectives, and rural community well-being, and the critical role of the rural practice Chartered Surveyor.

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

1. Explain the key principles underlying rural land use and management in the UK and internationally.
2. Describe the main types of rural land uses (agricultural, forestry, conservation, recreation, residential, and mixed uses) and their interrelationships.
3. Evaluate the influence of policy, planning, and governance frameworks on rural land management decisions.
4. Discuss the environmental and socio-economic factors shaping contemporary rural land use, including sustainability and climate change.

## Global Challenges - Local Impact

**Year of study** 1
**Code** R3002HF
**Credits** 20
**Core/option** Core
**Module contact** Zoe Harrison

This module is intended to support the early development of critical thinking and synthesis by signposting you toward global challenges that will have a real and current impact on local businesses/organisations and their stakeholders.

You will explore regional and global problems and their impact on global resources, the environment, and human societies. You will identify and explore challenges that may shape organisational Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) strategies, underpinned by sustainable development goals, that will be further studied later in your degree programme.

## Team Challenge

**Year of study** 1
**Code** R3003HF
**Credits** 10
**Core/option** Core
**Module contact** Emma Tappin

This module aims to support the development of group working skills and capabilities. You will gain an insight into your team working skills through undertaking group activities and tasks. This learning will benefit you both when undertaking group assignments for your degree but also whilst on placement with employers. You will undertake a group challenge which allows you to test your skills in a supportive environment. You will reflect on these experiences in order to develop stronger self-awareness and improve skills for use in your future academic career.

## Individual Project

**Year of study** 1
**Code** A3002HF
**Credits** 10
**Core/option** Core
**Module contact** Stephen Giles

This module brings together the academic, vocational and research skills you will have gained across the foundation year, providing an opportunity for students across the programme to apply these skills by researching, creating and presenting an academic poster on a topic related to your intended destination course.

## Rural Enterprise and Land Economics

**Year of study** 1
**Credits** 20
**Core/option** Core
**Module contact** Dr Mark Simcock

This module provides students with an understanding of the economic principles that underpin rural enterprise, land use, and resource management. It explores how land-based businesses operate, how markets and policy frameworks influence them, and how economic tools can be used to assess the performance, value, and sustainability of rural enterprises.

Students will develop the analytical and practical skills needed to evaluate rural businesses and make economically sound land management decisions.

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

- Explain the fundamental principles of land and resource economics as they relate to rural and agricultural contexts.
- Describe the structure and characteristics of rural economies and the role of land-based enterprises within them.
- Understand how market forces, policy interventions, and environmental considerations influence land use and rural enterprise performance.
- Identify the main forms of rural enterprise and diversification and their contribution to local and regional economies.