



BSc (Hons) / BSc Agriculture (Top-up)

UCAS code	BSc: D404 BSc (Hons): D403
Institution code	H12
Duration	1 year (full-time)
Start date	September 2019
Location	Harper Adams University campus

The course

Having completed a Foundation Degree or HND programme in Agriculture or Agriculture with Mechanisation you may wish to top-up to either a BSc or BSc (Hons) degree by studying full-time for a further academic year.

You may choose to top-up to a general agricultural degree, or specialise in an area such as animal science, crop management, farm business management or mechanisation.

Entry requirements

- Top-up applicants must have achieved an average of 55% in their Foundation degree to apply for BSc non-honours and 60% to apply for BSc Honours.
- Applicants must have completed a full year's placement as part of their course of study or two years of full-time relevant employment out with the family business after their course.

A-level entry requirements

- **Entry requirements for 2019 entry are not currently available. Please contact Admissions for advice**

Teaching and learning

What you study

Top-up programmes are structured around lectures, tutorials and practical classes designed to augment material covered in previous studies and allow students to develop the subject expertise and depth of knowledge required at BSc and BSc (Hons) degree level.

Teaching and learning

Top up courses at Harper Adams involve a combination of lectures, tutorials and laboratory sessions as appropriate for the subject area, together with use of the [University farm](#) to demonstrate principles in practice and the application of scientific, technological and business principles to commercial agricultural

and food production. In addition, the university has extensive links with other agricultural and food related businesses, and external visits and outside speakers are integrated into the programme. Students are expected to apply the skills acquired to solve real-life problems, such that on completion they are able to demonstrate both academic ability and commercial application, which is a combination highly valued by employers. As part of the programme students undertake a dissertation in a subject area of their choice.

Assessment methods

Assessment is via a balance of course work and examination; this allows individuals to play to their strengths if they are better at course work than examinations or vice versa. Types of assignment include appraising production systems on the [University farm](#), whole farm case studies, laboratory based analyses and literature based reviews. Format of assignments varies and includes written reports, essays, technical notes, presentations and oral examinations. Students receive written feedback on all course work to help them improve.

What will I study?

Year	Study time (The percentage of time spent in different learning activities)			Assessment methods (This is the breakdown of assessment methods)		
	% time in lectures, seminars and similar	% time in independent study	% time on placement	Written exams	Practical exams	Coursework
1	19%	81%	0%	25%	6%	69%

BSc (Hons) Top-up

Year 1	
Honours Research Project (HRPROJ)	30
Research Methods (C5005C17)	15
Sustainable Animal Production Systems (A6021C17)	15
Farm Animal Health (A5005C17)	15
Advanced Agronomy (C6009)	15
Applied Crop Protection (C6021)	15
Agricultural Business Development (R6007)	15

Honours Research Project

Year of study	1
Code	HRPROJ
Credits	30
Core/option	Core

To qualify for an honours degree a student must demonstrate the capacity for sustained, independent and high quality work. One of the most important vehicles for the demonstration of this capacity, and for developing the necessary skills, is the individual Honours Research Project. Each student will therefore be required to complete such a project under the general supervision of a member of staff and present the results in a project report and in a viva voce exam, with two tutors, which will also test to a high level, skills of communication and rational argument. This major exercise represents one-quarter of the final year studies and will therefore have an important influence on the classification of award.

Research Methods

Year of study	1
Code	C5005C17
Credits	15
Core/option	Core
Module contact	Dr Edward Dickin

This module is the fourth in the Professional Scholarship Programme (PSP). The module particularly develops the skills and knowledge necessary to successfully complete the Honours Research Project, which will also enhance employability skill for the Placement Period and careers on graduation.

The module will cover the key elements of the research process, set in the context of the student's own course discipline. Students will examine the academic and industrial role of research and how it informs professional and managerial practice. They will enhance their ability to locate, select and critically evaluate information associated with a particular problem, using a range of sources and particularly peer reviewed empirical studies. In addition the students will plan, and justify the need, and investment for research in an effort to develop their insight into the management of practical research. By carrying out statistical analysis using appropriately accessible software, the students will develop their ICT skills and further their understanding of the role of statistics in the research process.

While the intended learning outcomes are common to all students across the University, this module provides discipline specific focus with content, learning and assessments that are tailored for subject/course needs, which will then lead to value interpretation and communication of research outcomes.

Sustainable Animal Production Systems

Year of study 1
Code A6021C17
Credits 15
Core/option Core
Module contact [Professor Liam Sinclair](#)

This module is designed to develop the ability of students to analyse UK and world animal systems, resolve associated problems and to ensure a sustainable, environmentally and animal welfare conscious production system. This will require the application of knowledge and intellectual skills gained throughout the course, and from experience gained within the animal industry.

The learning associated with the module will be achieved primarily through assignments which will be underpinned by keynote lectures, visits, tutorials and laboratory analyses. Each student will undertake an appraisal of components of 4 distinct production enterprises with a free choice between enterprises. Additionally there will be 2 examination papers.

Farm Animal Health

Year of study 1
Code A5005C17
Credits 15
Core/option Core
Module contact [Dr Leander McLennan](#)

The public are now more aware of farming practices and animal welfare issues and with growing concerns about antimicrobial resistance it is paramount that those involved with farmed livestock have a very good knowledge of both the maintenance of good health, through disease management, and of high standards of welfare which are fundamental to the success of efficient and acceptable animal production practices. This module will aim to provide students with an understanding of the importance of disease prevention, rather than treatment, and the ability to develop integrated disease control programmes to maximise livestock health and welfare.

Advanced Agronomy

Year of study 1
Code C6009
Credits 15
Core/option Core
Module contact [Dr Ivan Grove](#)

This module is specifically designed to build on the principles taught in the modules Crop Production Systems, Soil and Plant Nutrition, Crop Protection and Technology/Crop Growth and Management. The module will demonstrate how an in-depth understanding of agronomy, precision farming, pest, disease and weeds can assist with the formulation of integrated crop protection plans which utilise the cultural, chemical and biological control methods required in current crop assurance strategies. Similarly, the module will endeavour to develop a greater understanding of crop and soil nutrition in order for students to formulate environmentally sound crop nutrition plans.

Students studying this module should develop agronomy knowledge in line with the pre-requisites required for access to training for professional accreditation, e.g. BASIS and FACTS.

- Evaluate the major agronomic, nutrient, pest, disease and weed problems found in mainstay UK crops.
- Synthesise crop protection, nutrition and agronomic strategies relative to site, crop, target organism, farming system and the environmental impact of those strategies.
- Demonstrate awareness of the regulatory legislative constraints which may contribute to the agronomic decision making process.

Applied Crop Protection

Year of study 1

Code C6021

Credits 15

Core/option Core

Module contact [Louisa Dines](#)

This module is concerned with enabling students to make informed decisions on appropriate crop protection measures for the major arable crops through critical evaluation of relevant research and knowledge of legislative requirements and commercial constraints.

It will build upon the principles of basic crop agronomy taught in the module Crop Production Systems and the principles behind the use of plant protection products taught in the modules Crop Protection and Technology/Crop Science and Sustainable systems to synthesise comprehensive crop protection programmes. It will be complementary to the Advanced Agronomy module which focuses on specific areas of research which will be critically evaluated to inform the crop protection programmes synthesised in this module.

Upon completion of this module students will have achieved competencies in line with the pre-requisites required for access to the BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection which is a statutory requirement for those giving advice on plant protection products.

Agricultural Business Development

Year of study 1

Code R6007

Credits 15

Core/option Core

Module contact [Tony Asson](#)

The ability to take an overview and plan whole farm systems which integrate technical business and managerial aspects is a key managerial skill. This is a project based module which aims to bring together earlier farm business management modules together with the knowledge gained from technical subject areas to enable students to create business plans for larger scale integrated and more complex agri businesses. It uses live farm business situations to help develop innovative, sustainable and profitable solutions in consultation with the host agri business management team. These skills are developed within an understanding of the global economic environment, the specific market demands and requirements of the supply chain and using a strategic approach. The planning exercise also requires students to understand and examine the core business, to plan within the appropriate current planning and environmental constraints and to produce plans within a dynamic context.

- Critically analyse agricultural production and marketing systems.
- Identify and offer solutions to problems associated with production, finance, staffing, business

strategy and marketing.

- Formulate appropriate objectives for farm business management situations.
- Create plans for future business development, which synthesise internal, external and intrinsic factors specific to the study and which are sound in terms of sustainability and environmental management.
- Evaluate situations in relation to the needs of the industry and its personnel, the owner, the consumer and the environment.
- Understand the wider economic and political situation and their effects on developing the farm business.

BSc Top-up

Year 1	
Degree Review Project (DRPROJ)	15
Sustainable Animal Production Systems (A6021C17)	15
Farm Animal Health (A5005C17)	15
Advanced Agronomy (C6009)	15
Applied Crop Protection (C6021)	15
Agricultural Business Development (R6007)	15

Degree Review Project

Year of study	1
Code	DRPROJ
Credits	15
Core/option	Core

Although Ordinary Degree students are not required to engage in the research based major projects completed by honours degree candidates, it is necessary that they display the ability, at Honours level, to: learn independently and display the skills required for lifelong learning; to demonstrate awareness of the provisional nature of facts and principles and to marshal evidence and apply it in a balanced way in an argument and to draw soundly based conclusions. The development of these skills is the purpose of this module.

Sustainable Animal Production Systems

Year of study	1
Code	A6021C17
Credits	15
Core/option	Core
Module contact	Professor Liam Sinclair

This module is designed to develop the ability of students to analyse UK and world animal systems, resolve associated problems and to ensure a sustainable, environmentally and animal welfare conscious production system. This will require the application of knowledge and intellectual skills gained throughout the course, and from experience gained within the animal industry.

The learning associated with the module will be achieved primarily through assignments which will be

underpinned by keynote lectures, visits, tutorials and laboratory analyses. Each student will undertake an appraisal of components of 4 distinct production enterprises with a free choice between enterprises. Additionally there will be 2 examination papers.

Farm Animal Health

Year of study 1
Code A5005C17
Credits 15
Core/option Core
Module contact [Dr Leander McLennan](#)

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Year of study 1
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Credits 15
Core/option Core
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Applied Crop Protection

Year of study 1
Code C6021
Credits 15
Core/option Core
Module contact [Louisa Dines](#)

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Technology/Crop Science and Sustainable systems to synthesise comprehensive crop protection programmes. It will be complementary to the Advanced Agronomy module which focuses on specific areas of research which will be critically evaluated to inform the crop protection programmes synthesised in this module.

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Agricultural Business Development

Year of study 1
Code R6007
Credits 15
Core/option Core
Module contact [Tony Asson](#)

The ability to take an overview and plan whole farm systems which integrate technical business and managerial aspects is a key managerial skill. This is a project based module which aims to bring together earlier farm business management modules together with the knowledge gained from technical subject areas to enable students to create business plans for larger scale integrated and more complex agri businesses. It uses live farm business situations to help develop innovative, sustainable and profitable solutions in consultation with the host agri business management team. These skills are developed within an understanding of the global economic environment, the specific market demands and requirements of the supply chain and using a strategic approach. The planning exercise also requires students to understand and examine the core business, to plan within the appropriate current planning and environmental constraints and to produce plans within a dynamic context.

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- Formulate appropriate objectives for farm business management situations.
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