



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

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>UCAS code</b>        | BSc: D404<br>BSc (Hons): D403                  |
| <b>Institution code</b> | H12  |
| <b>Duration</b>         | 1 year (full-time)                             |
| <b>Start date</b>       | September 2020                                 |
| <b>Location</b>         | <a href="#">Harper Adams University campus</a> |

## 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 2020 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<br>(The percentage of time spent in different learning activities) |                             |                     | Assessment methods<br>(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 (HRPROJC17)             | 30 |
| Research Methods (C5005C17)                      | 15 |
| Sustainable Animal Production Systems (A6021C17) | 15 |
| Sustainable Crop Production Systems (C6014C17)   | 15 |
| Agricultural Business Development (R6003C17)     | 15 |
| Farm Animal Health (A5005C17)                    | 15 |
| Applied Crop Protection (C6004C17)               | 15 |

### Honours Research Project

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Year of study</b> | 1         |
| <b>Code</b>          | HRPROJC17 |
| <b>Credits</b>       | 30        |
| <b>Core/option</b>   | 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

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Year of study</b>  | 1                                |
| <b>Code</b>           | C5005C17                         |
| <b>Credits</b>        | 15                               |
| <b>Core/option</b>    | Core                             |
| <b>Module contact</b> | <a href="#">Dr Edward Dickin</a> |

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.

## **Sustainable Crop Production Systems**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6014C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Dr Martin Hare](#)

This module examines the factors affecting the sustainability of agriculture and takes a holistic view of how farming methods and systems can address these factors. The module deals primarily with cropping systems as it is designed to allow students with a crops focus to apply their technical knowledge of production practices within a sustainability context. The module therefore builds on, and brings together, elements and prior knowledge obtained from previous study and experience. The main theme within the module will be the concept of sustainable intensification and the integrated farm management production system. The role of agriculture in biofuel production will also be explored.

## **Agricultural Business Development**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** R6003C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Tony Asson](#)

This is an integrated farm business management module in which techniques and knowledge from earlier farm management and production modules are combined holistically. This module brings together learning from earlier farm business management modules together with the knowledge gained from technical subject areas to enable students to create appropriate solutions to farming scenarios within different farming supply chains. The students will be using these technical and business management skills in a simulated real life farming scenario.

Graduates studying this module may or may not be employed in farm management or farm consultancy positions, but the module will give them with the skills and competences to understand the consequence of decisions made elsewhere in the supply chain on the sustainability of the farm business.

## **Farm Animal Health**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** A5005C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core

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.

## **Applied Crop Protection**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6004C17  
**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 Northern European 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 and Crop Production Science 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.

## **BSc Top-up**

## Year 1

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Degree Review Project (DRPROJC17)                | 15 |
| Sustainable Animal Production Systems (A6021C17) | 15 |
| Sustainable Crop Production Systems (C6014C17)   | 15 |
| Agricultural Business Development (R6003C17)     | 15 |
| Farm Animal Health (A5005C17)                    | 15 |
| Applied Crop Protection (C6004C17)               | 15 |

### Degree Review Project

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Year of study</b> | 1         |
| <b>Code</b>          | DRPROJC17 |
| <b>Credits</b>       | 15        |
| <b>Core/option</b>   | 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

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Year of study</b>  | 1                                       |
| <b>Code</b>           | A6021C17                                |
| <b>Credits</b>        | 15                                      |
| <b>Core/option</b>    | Core                                    |
| <b>Module contact</b> | <a href="#">Professor Liam Sinclair</a> |

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.

### Sustainable Crop Production Systems

|                       |                                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Year of study</b>  | 1                              |
| <b>Code</b>           | C6014C17                       |
| <b>Credits</b>        | 15                             |
| <b>Core/option</b>    | Core                           |
| <b>Module contact</b> | <a href="#">Dr Martin Hare</a> |

This module examines the factors affecting the sustainability of agriculture and takes a holistic view of how farming methods and systems can address these factors. The module deals primarily with cropping systems as it is designed to allow students with a crops focus to apply their technical knowledge of production practices within a sustainability context. The module therefore builds on, and brings together, elements and prior knowledge obtained from previous study and experience. The main theme within the module will be the concept of sustainable intensification and the integrated farm management production system. The role of agriculture in biofuel production will also be explored.

## **Agricultural Business Development**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** R6003C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Tony Asson](#)

This is an integrated farm business management module in which techniques and knowledge from earlier farm management and production modules are combined holistically. This module brings together learning from earlier farm business management modules together with the knowledge gained from technical subject areas to enable students to create appropriate solutions to farming scenarios within different farming supply chains. The students will be using these technical and business management skills in a simulated real life farming scenario.

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## **Farm Animal Health**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** A5005C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core

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.

## **Applied Crop Protection**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6004C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Louisa Dines](#)

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