COURSE SPECIFICATION

MSc Equine Behaviour, Performance and Training (University Centre Sparsholt) C0363FTC and C0363PTC

Quality Assurance, Academic Standards and Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the Course Specification Guidance Notes for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	*MSc Equine Behaviour, Performance and Training*
Final Award	*MSc*
Exit Awards	*PGDip Equine, PG Cert Equine*
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	*C0363FTC, C0363PTC*
Mode of study	*full time or part time*
Mode of delivery	*Campus*
Normal length of course	*One-year full time, two years part time*
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	*From September 2021 intake onwards*
Awarding Body	*University of Portsmouth*
Teaching Institution	*University Centre Sparsholt*
Faculty	*Faculty of Science*
School/Department/Subject Group	*School of Biological Sciences*
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	*https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/*
Course webpage including entry criteria	*https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/courses/msc-equine-behaviour-performance-and-training-degree-full-time/*
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	*None*
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	*Level 7*

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Course and Module Catalogue for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

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Educational Aims
- *To provide students with an interesting and challenging environment based on current research within equestrian performance and training focussing upon the principles of Equitation Science*
- *To further develop a full and in-depth understanding of equestrian behaviour, performance and training*
- *To develop the students' skills in independent scientific study*
- *To enhance employability through research training and application*
- *To provide a logical, systematic and structured education to Masters Degree level within the curriculum of equine behaviour, performance and training*
- *To develop the intellectual abilities, critical faculties, transferable skills and knowledge of postgraduate students and to contribute to their personal development and career enhancement*
- *To provide a learning environment and a foundation within which students can extend their intellectual and practical skills and move progressively towards wholly independent study and research in applied Equitation Science*

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	*Equine ethology, behaviour and equitation science as defined by the International Society of Equitation Science (ISES), the British Horse Society (BHS), the International Society of Applied Ethology (ISAE)*	lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, simulations, research projects, guest lectures	essays, presentations, reports, seminars, examinations
A2	*The horse-rider-coach triad (ISES, BHS)*	lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, simulations, research projects, guest lectures	essays, presentations, reports, seminars, examinations
A3	*Equestrian learning theory (ISES, BHS) and associated experimental ethics and design (ISAE)*	lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, simulations, research projects, guest lectures	essays, presentations, reports, seminars, examinations
A4	*Horse, rider and coach psychology (ISES) utilising current and emerging equestrian training techniques (BHS, ISES)*	lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, simulations, research projects, guest lectures	essays, presentations, reports, seminars, examinations

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A5	*Advanced equine and rider physiology (ISES) and performance monitoring of horse and rider (ISES)*	lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, simulations, research projects, guest lectures	essays, presentations, reports, seminars, examinations

B. Cognitive skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	*Critically evaluate literature, experimental methods and data to prepare written reports on research programmes (ISES)*	lectures, seminars, group work, simulations, practical sessions, group discussions	essays, literature reviews presentations, seminars, oral examinations, written examinations
B2	*Design, plan, execute and report upon a novel piece of research*		
B3	*Design and implement independent analysis, critical evaluation, reasoning and creative responses*		
B4	*Utilise information and argument effectively in a self-reflective manner, and critically evaluate alternative theories from the literature*		
B5	*Critically evaluate peer-reviewed research, identify research needs and design suitable research methods to pursue them (ISES)*		

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	*Critically evaluate and implement a level 7 research proposal*	lectures, seminars, group work, discussions	Research proposal
C2	*Perform a variety of research methods and synthesize these to answer a research question*		Research project
C3	*Carry out a literature review*		Literature review and research project
C4	*Carry out detailed equine behavioural studies (ISES)*		AABS research assignment
C5	*Critically analyse a range of equestrian training methods (BHS, ISES) and utilise performance analysis techniques (ISES, BHS)*		Essays, reports, examinations

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	*Deploy effective time management and independently manage own learning*	lectures, seminars, group work	Independent research project
D2	*Critically reflect on academic and practical skills through self-reflection and formative feedback, making improvements where required*		Research proposal and ethical review
D3	*Solve complex academic, practical and research problems with minimum supervision*		Research project
D4	*Effectively communicate complex scientific knowledge in both written and oral forms*		Research project, Viva Voce, poster
D5	*Work effectively as a team member when required, yet be distinctively individual and self-motivated*		Research project and AABS project

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations for Collaborative Partners will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

University Centre Sparsholt provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/university-centre/support-resources-higher-education/

In addition to these support services this course also provides access to on-line learning resources at Programme and Module level on *L-Edge.*

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

University Centre Sparsholt undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our **HE Student Engagement Policy** found at https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/policies-reports/ where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification
- University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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Document details

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