

Pearson HNC in Animal Management for courses starting in Academic Year 2021/22

Course Leader:	Anna Jones
Teaching Institution:	Herefordshire, Ludlow and North Shropshire College
Campus:	Walford
Awarding Body:	Pearson
Final Award:	HNC Animal Management
Intermediate Award(s):	N/A
Mode of Study:	Full-time
Programme number:	DCSW4
Date of programme specification preparation/revision: June 2021	

Educational aims of the programme

The aim of the level 4 HNC Animal Management is to offer students a broad introduction to the subject area via mandatory core learning, while allowing for the acquisition of skills and experience through the selection of specialist and optional units across a range of occupational sectors at level 4. This effectively builds underpinning core skills while preparing the student for progression to level 5. Students will gain a wide range of sector knowledge tied to practical skills gained in research, self-study, directed study and workplace scenarios.

QAA and professional academic standards and quality

Pearson BTEC Higher National Qualifications are designated higher education qualifications in the UK. They are aligned to the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Benchmark Statements. These qualifications are part of the UK Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). The HNC Animal Management is located at level 4 of the Framework for Higher Qualifications (2014).

The following university and further education tutors, employers, Professional Body representatives and other individuals who have generously shared their time and expertise have helped to develop these new qualifications:

- Belfast Metropolitan College
- Chichester College
- Dudley College
- Hartpury College (Associate Faculty of the University of the West of England)
- Kirkless College
- National Farmers Union (NFU)
- National Land-based College
- North Shropshire College
- Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)
- Veterinary Practice Management Association (VPMA).

National Occupational Standards

Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Animal Management have been developed with career progression and recognition by professional bodies in mind. The qualification provides underpinning knowledge as well as developing practical skills in preparation for work and possible study and achievement of [Level 5](#) and Level 6 in due course.

Higher-level Skills

Students need both relevant qualifications and employability skills to enhance their career prospects and contribute to their personal development. Pearson BTEC Higher National in Animal Management qualifications embed throughout the programme the development of key skills, attributes and strengths required by 21st century employers.

Where employability skills are referred to in this specification, this generally refers to skills in five main categories:

- Cognitive and problem-solving skills: critical thinking, approaching non-routine problems by applying expert and creative solutions, use of systems and digital technology, generating and communicating ideas creatively.
- Intra-personal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and self-development, self-analysis and reflection, planning and prioritising.
- Interpersonal skills: effective communication and articulation of information, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation.
- Commercial skills: sector awareness; sales; marketing/promotion; budget management/monitoring;
- Business skills: awareness of types of companies, company formation, invoicing, calculating fees, business management.

Course Structure

The is a qualification with a minimum of 105 credits, providing that 120 credits have been attempted, of which 45 credits are mandatory.

Unit Number		Unit Level	Unit Credit
Mandatory units			
1	Animal Health and Welfare	4	15
2	Business and the Business Environment	4	15
3	Managing a Successful Project (Pearson-set unit)	4	15
Other units			
4	Animal Behaviour in Society	4	15
5	Animal Husbandry	4	15
7	Animal Nutrition	4	15
8	Ecological Principles	4	15
10	Animal Nursing	4	15

Learning and Teaching Methods

Students will learn through a series of lectures, practical sessions, workshops, seminars and tutorials. They will also be required to undertake substantial independent study. Typically, this will involve completing online activities, reading journal articles and books, watching selected videos, working through example problems, working on individual and group projects, undertaking research in the library and online, preparing assignments and presentations.

Students will be taught by a teaching team whose expertise and knowledge are closely matched to the content of the modules on the course.

In a typical week, students will normally have 12 hours of teaching. [The programme normally runs for 30 weeks.](#)

Means of Assessment

Students working at higher levels should be capable of undertaking independent study and research, developing strategies to improve their own performance, supported by teaching staff.

Students will be required to complete coursework as they progress through the programme and undertake assessments at the end of each semester. The assessment of Pearson Higher National qualifications is criterion-referenced and we are required to assess learners' evidence against published learning outcomes and assessment criteria. All units will be individually graded as 'pass', 'merit' or 'distinction'. To achieve a pass grade for the unit learners must meet the assessment criteria set out in the specifications. Merit and distinction grades are awarded for higher-level achievement.

All grades awarded are provisional until they are confirmed at the assessment board. This usually takes place at the end of an academic year.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is 'a method of assessment that considers whether an individual can demonstrate that they can meet the assessment requirements for a unit through knowledge, understanding or skills that they already possess and do not need to develop through a course of learning'. If individuals can produce relevant evidence that fully meets learning outcome requirements then RPL can be given for their existing knowledge, understanding or skills

External Examiner

The External Examiner (EE) is a subject assessment specialist appointed by Pearson to conduct external examination. They verify that the management of programmes and assessment decisions meet national standards. External examination is usually conducted by an annual visit, usually in the summer term.

Additional Support

Developing effective study skills is an essential element in achieving academic success. All module leaders provide individual academic support. This is in addition to Personal Academic Tutor support.

All students are provided with a Course Handbook that comprehensively outlines the programme and provides advice and guidance. Module outlines and assessment details are provided for all modules. During your studies you will have access to fully equipped classrooms, practical workshops, Library with text and electronic resources and Student Services.

The College is committed to ensuring that disabled people, including those with specific learning difficulties and/or mental health difficulties are treated fairly. Reasonable adjustments to provision will be made to ensure that disabled students are not disadvantaged. The Learning Support Service is your initial point of contact.

Entry Requirements

Entry criteria detail a typical offer but the College considers all applications on an individual basis which means that we could make offers based on qualifications, personal profile and experience. If you have any queries regarding your offer, please contact our Admissions Team.

Typical offer: **a minimum of 96 UCAS points.**

The College welcomes applications from motivated applicants from all backgrounds. We recognise that student potential is not always demonstrated within formal academic qualifications and welcome applications from individuals from backgrounds that are under-represented within higher education.

Course Exit Points

To achieve the qualification a student must complete 120 credits and pass at least 105 credits at or above the level of the qualification.

Progression Route

The Level 4 Higher National Certificate provides a solid grounding in Animal Management, which students can build on should they decide to continue their studies beyond the Certificate stage. Successful completion of the Higher National Certificate allows progression to a level 5 qualification.

The Level 5 Higher National Diploma allows students to specialise by committing to specific career paths and progression routes to degree-level study. On successful completion of the Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma, students can develop their careers in the Animal Management sector through:

- Entering employment
- Continuing existing employment
- Linking with the appropriate Professional Body
- Linking with the appropriate certificates
- Committing to Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Progressing to university.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in associated course documentation e.g. course handbooks and module specifications.