



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

FdSc Applied Zoo Science (University Centre Sparsholt) C0485FTC

**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	<i>FdSc Applied Zoo Science</i>
Final Award	<i>FdSc</i>
Exit Awards	<i>CertHE</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>C0485/CD34</i>
Mode of study	<i>full</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Campus</i>
Normal length of course	<i>2 years full time</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>from September 2021 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University Centre Sparsholt</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Science & Health</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Biological Sciences</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<i>https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/courses/fdsc-applied-zoo-science-full-time/</i>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<i>https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/courses/fdsc-applied-zoo-science-full-time/</i>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
	<i>Level 4 & 5</i>

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

The Mission Statement of the College is “To inspire learners to recognise and achieve their full potential.”

The aims of the FdSc in Applied Zoo Science are:

- *To provide education to foundation degree level for learners who wish to expand their knowledge of the history, role and function of zoological collections.*
- *To encourage students to develop their research techniques in aspects of zoo nutrition, husbandry and animal behaviour.*
- *The course is based on a firm science foundation including biological science, biochemistry and vertebrate anatomy and physiology. Business studies and communication skills are also included to prepare students for managerial positions in research, industry, or academia.*

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	<i>A broad understanding of the knowledge base and terminology of biological sciences and its application to the management of zoological collections.</i>	<i>Lectures, practicals, trips, lab work</i>	<i>Portfolios, essays, reports,</i>
A2	<i>Underlying principles of the physical, social, economic, cultural and ethical aspects of zoological collections.</i>	<i>Group work, debates, seminars</i>	<i>Presentations, reports</i>
A3	<i>Policy and legal framework applied to zoos and aquariums, and more generally animal collections in global, regional and local contexts.</i>	<i>Lectures, seminars</i>	<i>Reports, essays portfolios</i>

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	<i>Recognise and use appropriate theories, concepts and principles from disciplines associated biological science including anatomy, health and evolutionary theory.</i>	<i>Lectures, seminars, group work</i>	<i>Essays, reports, portfolio</i>
B2	<i>Analyse, summarise, and synthesise information from a variety of sources, considering issues from a number of perspectives to arrive at a considered judgement.</i>	<i>Group work, debates, seminars</i>	<i>Presentations, reports</i>
B3	<i>Demonstrate awareness of the provisional nature of the facts and principles associated with biological study, and develop the ability to judge the reliability of sources of information.</i>	<i>Lectures, seminars, group work</i>	<i>Essays, reports, portfolio</i>

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	<i>Plan, conduct and report on scientific investigations, including the use of secondary data.</i>	<i>Data analysis workshops, seminars, presentations, lectures</i>	<i>Seminars, presentations, reports</i>
C2	<i>Collect and record information or data in animal collections or libraries and summarise it using appropriate qualitative and/or quantitative techniques.</i>	<i>Lectures, seminars</i>	<i>presentations, seminars</i>
C3	<i>Devise, plan and undertake animal practicals and/or laboratory investigations in a responsible and safe manner, paying due attention to risk assessment, relevant health and safety regulations, and legal requirements.</i>	<i>Group work, Lectures, trips</i>	<i>presentations</i>

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	<i>Show awareness of own capabilities in key areas of academic study and engage in reflective activities through guided self-direction.</i>	<i>Data analysis workshops, seminars, presentations, lectures</i>	<i>Seminars, presentations, reports</i>
D2	<i>Prepare, process, interpret and present data and solve problems using appropriate qualitative and quantitative, computer based and non-computer based techniques and packages.</i>	<i>Data analysis workshops, seminars, presentations, lectures</i>	<i>Seminars, presentations, reports</i>
D3	<i>Receive, evaluate and respond to a variety of information sources; textual, numerical, verbal, and graphical in order to solve problems.</i>	<i>Lectures, presentations,</i>	<i>Reports, essays,</i>
D4	<i>Demonstrate competency when addressing novel challenges and tasks, and use problem solving abilities to develop suitable solutions.</i>	<i>Presentations, practicals</i>	<i>Presentations, Portfolio</i>

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations for Collaborative Partners](#) will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

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 Vision 2030 and Strategy 2025](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for The Subject Benchmark Statement for Bioscience (2015), The Subject Benchmark Statement for Agriculture, Forestry, Agricultural Sciences, Food Sciences and Consumer Sciences (2009)
- [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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