



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

## COURSE SPECIFICATION

### *BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Behaviour (University Centre Sparsholt) C0316PTC*

**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.

<b>Course Title</b>	<b><i>BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Behaviour</i></b>
Final Award	<i>BSc (Hons) 360 credits</i>
Exit Awards	<i>BSc (300 credits)</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>C0316PTC</i>
Mode of study	<i>part time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Campus based Block weeks</i>
Normal length of course	<i>2 years</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>September 2022 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University Centre Sparsholt</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Science &amp; Health</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Biological Sciences</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<a href="http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk">www.sparsholt.ac.uk</a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/courses/bsc-hons-applied-animal-behaviour-degree-top-up-part-time/">https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/courses/bsc-hons-applied-animal-behaviour-degree-top-up-part-time/</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>None</i>
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	<i>Level 6</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 modules Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

## Educational aims of the course

The Applied Animal Behaviour programme aims to provide students with the opportunity to develop appropriate skills and knowledge to enable them to:

- Apply knowledge of animal behaviour theory and methodologies to identify and recommend solutions to animal behaviour problems.
- Examine the role of animal management and training, as well as human psychology in animal behaviour problems.
- Communicate effectively with prospective clients to apply knowledge and understanding of animal behaviour.
- Promote a culture of knowledge and skills transfer and innovation in animal behaviour.
- Discuss the key aspects of the discipline area of animal behaviour.
- Apply techniques of research and analysis appropriate to animal behaviour.
- Devise and sustain arguments related to animal behaviour.
- Discuss current research and scholarship related to animal behaviour.

The Mission Statement of the College is "*to inspire learners to recognise and achieve their full potential*".

## 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	The principles and theory of animal behaviour and welfare and its practical application.	practical's, guided independent study, seminars, online tasks	Reports, essays, online tasks.
A2	The methods used for applied animal behaviour research and analysis, considering the ethics of these.	practical's, guided independent study, seminars, online tasks, dissertation tutorials	Flying start assessment, dissertation, written assessments
A3	The interdisciplinary application of anthrozoology, human and animal psychology to animal behaviour.	lectures, online tasks, discussion forums and posts, seminars, case studies, investigations and guided	Blogs, reports and set exercises

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		independent study	
A4	The theory of how animals learn and its application in animal training.	Lectures, seminars, online tasks, practical's and case studies	Set exercises, written assignments and portfolios
A5	The legal and ethical considerations and concepts of animal behaviour counselling.	Group exercises, practical's, lectures, seminars, case studies.	Report, case studies and online tasks

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
B1	Use a variety of information sources to develop animal training schemes.	Lectures, guided online tasks, practical exercises, case studies	Written assessment guided online tasks.
B2	Critically analyse information, synthesising and summarising outcomes to produce balance arguments	Seminars, online posts and discussions, lectures,	Participation in online tasks, written assessments, audio slides, in class discussion
B3	Design an experiment, investigation, survey or other means to test a hypothesis or proposition	Seminars, presentations, lectures, guided online tasks.	Post submission discussion, poster day, practical's, written assessment
B4	Demonstrate awareness of the provisional nature of the facts and principles associated with animal behaviour.	Seminars, presentations, lectures, guided online tasks including forums and discussions.	Poster day, practical's, written assessment, dissertation
B5	Recognise the moral and ethical issues of investigation and appreciate the need for ethical standards and professional codes of conduct.	Seminars, presentations, lectures, guided online tasks including forums and discussions.	Post submission discussion, poster day, practical's, written assessment, dissertation

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment Methods
C1	Utilise a range of practical and presentational techniques relevant to particular discipline.	Practical exercises, online tasks, case studies, lectures	Dissertation, audio slides, written assessments, online tasks
C2	Plan, conduct and report on investigations, including the use of secondary data.	Lectures, seminars, practical's, dissertation tutorials. Online tasks.	Dissertation, audio slides, written assessments, online tasks
C3	Collect and record information or data and summarise it using appropriate qualitative and/or quantitative techniques.	Dissertation tutorials, lectures, online tasks	Set exercise, dissertation
C4	Devise, plan and undertake animal behaviour investigations in a responsible and safe manner, paying due attention to risk assessment, rights of access, relevant health and safety regulations, legal requirements and sensitivity to the impact of investigations on the environment and stakeholders.	Lectures, seminars, trips, practical's, case studies	Dissertation proposal, practical's, online tasks, case studies, written assessments
C5	Demonstrate environmental, social, cultural and economic awareness and responsibility.	Lectures, seminars, practical's, dissertation tutorials. Online tasks.	seminars, written assessments, online tasks

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Collect and interpret numerical data using appropriate techniques to produce relevant information and identify and use a range of appropriate information sources	(e.g. lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, simulations etc.)	Dissertation, set exercises, written assessments
D2	Communicate information using a variety of verbal and non-verbal formats	Lectures, seminars, online tasks. Dissertation tutorials	Dissertation, set exercises, written assessments, audio slides, poster day

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D3	Participate, contribute and evaluate group discussions, employing appropriate presentational techniques to communicate information.	Lectures, online tasks, seminars, dissertation tutorials	Online posts, forums and discussions, audio slides
D4	Develop and manage a flexible and adaptable approach to study and work showing self-motivation and developing skills for lifelong learning	Lectures, practical exercises and case studies (some of which will be evidenced by participation in online tasks).	Dissertation, set exercises, written assessments
D5	Reflect and evaluate own performance as an individual and team member.	Lectures, guest speakers, seminars, tutorials	Online tasks. One to one tutorials

## 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](#)
- [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), The Subject Benchmark Statement for Psychology

- [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
- [The Association for the study of Animal Behaviour](#)

## 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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