

Programme Specification

BSc Animal Science

For students entering Part 1 in September 2023

UCAS Code: D320

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This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BSc Animal Science with Placement Year - 4 years (UCAS Code: D300)
Accreditation	N/A

Programme information and content

Animal Scientists have vital roles to play in tackling a range of societal problems, from ensuring future food security to the optimal health and welfare of domestic and captive animals. This Programme aims to provide you with a thorough degree-level education in Animal Science, leading to a sound knowledge base in biology as a whole, underpinning knowledge of more specialised areas of applied biology relating to human use of animals for food production, companionship and leisure.

At Reading you will benefit from access to laboratories and our large animal research facility for project work, alongside more traditional teaching methods, such as lectures and seminars. Additionally, where possible, we utilise links with external animal facilities including zoos and colleges for field work. We also work closely with the University's School of Biological Sciences who provide expertise in core subjects such as biochemistry, cell biology and microbiology as well as in optional areas of interest such as ecology and conservation.

We facilitate professional development and enhance employability of our students through, for example, opportunities to work in teams as well as developing independence, and building communication skills using a range of media and for a range of audiences. Professional attributes are further enriched if a placement year is undertaken.

Our courses equip you with knowledge and numerical, laboratory and research skills useful for a wide range of animal based careers.

Part 1:	Introduces the key biological sciences underpinning animal science, including cell biology, biochemistry, physiology, microbiology and the principles of nutrition. In addition, some key skills in scientific research are developed and the diversity of the field of animal science is introduced.
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Part 2:	Provides you with the opportunity to apply and expand on knowledge gained in Part 1 through study of a range of specialised animal science disciplines applied primarily to productive and companion animals. These will usually include animal nutrition, health, welfare, growth, reproduction, lactation and management. Key skills in scientific research, experimentation and data analysis are further developed.
Part 3:	Gives you the opportunity to undertake an individual research project and enables further specialised knowledge to be developed via optional module selection.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AP1A18	Digestion and Nutrition	10	4
AP1A26	Animal Science In Practice 1	20	4
AP1A27	Introductory Physiology	20	4
BI1BEC1	Building Blocks of Life	20	4
BI1MB2	Metabolic Biochemistry	10	4
BI1S1	Introductory Microbiology	10	4

You must take CH1FC1 Fundamental Concepts in Chemistry 1 (10 credits) if you have not achieved a minimum grade C in A level Chemistry or suitable equivalent. Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from selected modules from the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development and the School of Biological Sciences, subject to Programme Director approval and timetabling constraints. Students also have the option to select a language module.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AD2ANG	Animal Nutrition, Growth and Reproduction	20	5
AD2ASP	Animal Science in Practice 2	20	5
AD2BWE	Animal Behaviour, Welfare and Ethics	20	5
AD2DAS	Data Skills	20	5
AD2VHN	Veterinary Health and Disease	20	5

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from selected modules from the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development and the School of Biological Sciences, subject to Programme Director approval and timetabling constraints. Students also have the option to select a language module.

Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):

If you are undertaking a year-long placement or a year-long study abroad, students will take one 120 credit module as follows:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AD2PPY	Professional Placement	120	5
Or			
AD2PSA*	Professional Placement with Study Abroad Experience	120	5
Or			
AD2SAY*	Study Abroad Year	120	5

As part of the Placement Year, students have the option to take either a full year (minimum of 40 weeks) in full time employment or, with approval from the module convenor and programme director, a shorter work placement (minimum of 20 weeks) combined with a study abroad semester. Students can also select a full year of study abroad. *Students will only be eligible for AD2PSA and AD2SAY if they meet the criteria and if places are available in overseas institutions – places are not guaranteed.

Students may be permitted to undertake a placement year or a study abroad year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 4-year programme. The placement or study abroad year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AD3RES	Independent Research Project	40	6

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from selected modules mainly from the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development and the School of Biological Sciences, subject to Programme Director approval and timetabling constraints.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as

completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Additional costs of the programme

You should ensure that you bring with you to University a pair of wellington boots (£15) and/or sturdy footwear e.g. walking boots (£50 – 100) and a warm waterproof coat (£50) for field work (should you need to purchase these, approximate costs are in brackets). You will also require a laboratory coat which you can bring with you or purchase from the University when you arrive (£15).

If you undertake a Placement Year, associated costs will vary according to the nature and location of the placement and/or the study abroad host institution, and individual travel and subsistence arrangements.

Costs are indicative, but will vary according to module choice and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. The estimates were calculated in 2023.

Placement opportunities

If you take the 4 year degree with Industrial Training, you are required to undertake a compulsory placement as part of your Programme (see section above on Placement). You will be supported in finding this placement.

You may also be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

Study Abroad:

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a Study Abroad placement during your Programme. This is subject to you meeting academic conditions detailed in the Programme Handbook, including obtaining the relevant permissions from your School, and the availability of a suitable Study Abroad placement. If you undertake a Study Abroad placement, further arrangements will be discussed and agreed with you.

Teaching and learning delivery:

You will be taught through lectures, seminars/tutorials, laboratory and field practicals and supervised project work.

The contact hours for your Programme are dependent on module choice but will normally be approximately 300-330 hours in Part 1, 250-280 hours in Part 2 and 200 - 230 hours in Part 3. Information about module contact hours can be located in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations and coursework, assessed via a range of methods.

Progression

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

Part 1

To gain a threshold performance at Part 1 a student shall normally be required to

- (i) obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1; and

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2 of this programme, a student shall normally be required to achieve a threshold performance at Part 1 and

(iii) achieve a credit weighted average mark of not less than 40% over the compulsory modules (AP1A18, AP1A26, AP1A27, BI1BEC1, BI1MB2, BI1S1); and

(iv) a mark of not less than 30% in each compulsory module.

If you gain a threshold performance at Part 1 and do not proceed to achieve a higher award, you are eligible to receive the award of Certificate of Higher Education. The Part 1 Examination does not contribute to the classification of your degree.

Part 2

The Part 2 examination is used to assess a student's suitability to proceed to Part 3 of their programme. It also determines eligibility for the Diploma of Higher Education.

In addition, the marks achieved in the Part 2 Examination contribute to the classification of your degree.

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to achieve:

- (i) a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and
- (iii) marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, student must achieve a threshold performance at Part 2. If you gain a threshold performance at Part 2 and do not proceed to achieve a higher award, you are eligible to receive the award of Diploma of Higher Education.

Placement Year/Year Abroad (or combination thereof)

Students are required to pass their year out in order to progress on the programme which incorporates the placement year, study abroad year or combination thereof.

Students who fail the placement year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

Classification

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Three-year programmes

Part 2 one-third

Part 3 two-thirds

Four-year programmes, including placement year or study abroad:

Normally:

Part 2 one-third

Placement Year not included in classification

Part 3 two-thirds

(Where a student fails a placement year or study abroad year, which does not contribute to classification they transfer to the three-year version of the programme)

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

BSc Animal Science for students entering Part 1 in session 2023/24

16 January 2024

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