

Course Summary: May 29, 2024

Animal Science BSc Honours

- UCAS code: **C305**
- Full time
- 3 years

In this Animal Science BSc Honours degree you will focus on understanding animal behaviour, nutrition and physiology, while equipping you with the practical skills you need for a wide range of careers.

You are currently viewing course information for entry year: **2024-25**

Next start date:

- September 2024

Fees (per year)

- Home: **£9250**
- International: **£26400**

Entry requirements and offers

- A-Level: **ABB**

- IB: **32 points**

[View contextual offers](#)

UCAS Institution name and code:

- NEWC / N21

Course overview

We place a particular emphasis on the scientific study of livestock and companion animals (including horses). You'll study subjects that reflect the whole life of an animal:

- microbiology and biochemistry
- animal health and behaviour
- animal reproduction and nutrition

We bring your learning to life through extensive interaction with animals throughout your degree. You'll gain practical experience through regular visits to local animal centres and the University's two farms. You'll also enjoy input from professionals in the animal science industry.

Your third year group project to organise a conference on animal science equips you with marketable skills such as project management, organisation and teamworking.

You can boost your employability and professional skills with an optional placement year in industry, or a summer internship in the commercial sector.

An exciting part of your degree is your research project, where you undertake a piece of original research on a subject of your choice. This may be carried out in the lab, at one of the University's farms or at an animal centre. You also have the chance to study and learn alongside staff in the Animal Science research group, who are internationally recognised for their research.

Study at the cutting edge

Our curriculum is shaped by the discoveries of the University's specialist Animal Science research group. They have particular expertise in the assessment of animal welfare and development of sustainable systems of livestock production.

You will study modules designed around the latest research discoveries of our staff, meaning you will be learning at the cutting-edge of the discipline.

You'll also have the chance to conduct research of your own by undertaking a research project in Stage 3.

As the degree progresses, you can tailor it to your own animal interests, specialising in either companion animals (including cats, dogs, horses and other less common pet species) or farm animals (including cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry). However, you will also maintain some study of the other animal grouping.

Your course and study experience - disclaimers and terms and conditions

Please rest assured we make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the programmes, services and facilities described. However, it may be necessary to make changes due to significant disruption, for example in response to Covid-19.

View our [Academic experience page](#), which gives information about your Newcastle University study experience for the academic year 2023-24.

See our [terms and conditions and student complaints information](#), which gives details of circumstances that may lead to changes to programmes, modules or University services.

Quality and ranking

Professional accreditation and recognition

All professional accreditations are reviewed regularly by their professional body.

Modules and learning

Modules

The information below is intended to provide an example of what you will study.

Most degrees are divided into stages. Each stage lasts for one academic year, and you'll complete modules totalling 120 credits by the end of each stage.

Our teaching is informed by research. Course content may change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline, the requirements of external bodies and partners, and student feedback.

To find out more please [see our terms and conditions](#).

Optional module availability

Student demand for optional modules may affect availability.

Full details of the modules on offer will be published through the [Programme Regulations and Specifications](#) ahead of each academic year. This usually happens in May.

Stage 1 provides a solid base in the underlying science of domestic animals, covering genetics, microbiology, biochemistry and physiology. You undertake training to support and enhance your success in your degree and beyond.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Agri-Food Supply Chains	10
Animal Health	10
Introduction to Animal Physiology	10
Sustainability in Practice	20
Academic and Professional Skills	20
Introduction to Sustainability	20
Cells and Biomolecules	20
Optional Modules	Credits
Introduction to Business Management	10
Natural Science Research Impact	10

You continue to develop your knowledge of animal biology, applying scientific principles to areas such as nutrition, parasitology and immunology. We introduce you to more applied topics such as animal husbandry, breeding, behaviour and feed science.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Animal Feed Science and Technology	10
Domestic Animal Reproduction and Genetic Improvement	10
Sustainable animal production systems	20
Dissertation and Research Preparation	10
Sustainable Solutions	10
Macro- and Micronutrients	20
Optional Modules	Credits
Human Resource Management	20

Career Development for second year students	20
Current Trends in Agricultural Markets	10
Farm Business Management	10
Animal Parasitology	10
Marketing Strategy	20
Animal Behaviour	10
Animal Function (Physiology and Development)	20
Vertebrate Biology	20

Other optional modules may also be available.

Teaching in the final year draws on the latest scientific discoveries. You have a choice of modules that allows you to focus on the management of particular species, or a broader view.

A research project accounts for 25% of your marks, and can be laboratory based, carried out at a University farms, or at an animal centre. As well as knowledge and practical skills, our degree is designed to nurture and develop professional skills that employers covet.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Animal Science Conference - Current Issues and Debates	20
Reproduction in Farm and Companion Animals	10
Applied Animal Nutrition	10
Animal Welfare and Behaviour	20
Dissertation	30

Optional Modules	Credits
Career Development for final year students	20
Forage Utilization	10
Your Future - occupational awareness	10
Insight, Innovate, Impact	10
Physiological Zoology	20

Information about these graphs

We base these figures and graphs on the most up-to-date information available to us. They are based on the modules chosen by our students in 2022-23.

Teaching time is made up of:

- scheduled learning and teaching activities. These are timetabled activities with a member of staff present.
- structured guided learning. These are activities developed by staff to support engagement with module learning. Students or groups of students undertake these activities without direct staff participation or supervision

Teaching and assessment

Teaching methods

On average, you'll have around 25 contact hours a week through a combination of lectures, seminars, and group tutorials.

Theoretical teaching is reinforced through visits to animal centres, the University's farms and other farming businesses.

Throughout the course, you carry out project work and submit reports, both as individuals and in groups.

Assessment methods

You'll be assessed through a combination of:

- Assignments – written or fieldwork
- Case studies
- Coursework
- Dissertation or research project
- Examinations – practical or online
- Group work
- Practical sessions
- Presentations
- Projects

Skills and experience

Research skills

In the final year of your degree you'll complete your Animal Science Research Project in an area of interest to you, such as:

- animal health
- behaviour
- welfare
- reproduction
- nutrition

Your project is an opportunity to review literature, plan and implement a piece of research before discussing your findings.

Hands-on experience

We arrange frequent field trips to a range of animal centres – as well as our farms – to ensure you develop your hands-on practical skills and help form a close-knit bond between you and your peers.

Opportunities

Study abroad

Experience life in another country by choosing to study abroad as part of your degree. You'll be encouraged to embrace fun and challenging experiences, make connections with new communities and graduate as a globally aware professional, ready for your future.

You can choose to spend up to a year studying at a partner institution overseas.

If you choose to study abroad, it will extend your degree by a year.

[Find out more about study abroad](#)

Work placement

Get career ready with a work placement and leave as a confident professional in your field. You can apply to spend 9 to 12 months working in any organisation in the world, and receive University support from our dedicated team to secure your dream placement. Work placements take place between stages 2 and 3.

You'll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

If you choose to take a work placement, it will extend your degree by a year. Your degree title will show you have achieved the placement year. Placements are subject to availability.

[Find out more about work placements.](#)

Facilities and environment

Facilities

Agriculture is based in the [School of Natural and Environmental Sciences](#) at our city-centre campus. During your studies, you'll have access to two commercial farms near Newcastle.

Our University farms, Cockle Park Farm and Nafferton Farm, will give you an insight into how real-world farms operate, so you're prepared for your future. Our farms are used for research, teaching and demonstration.

You'll have the opportunity to access modern laboratories equipped with industry-standard equipment. You'll also use [NU-Food](#), our food and consumer research facility.

You'll be able to use our computing facilities, including computers running industry-standard software used in agriculture businesses, to help ensure you're career-ready.

Support

To support you in your studies, all new students entering year 1 or year 2 will receive a tablet. You can download the online learning resources you'll need for your course (helping us to make our campus more sustainable).

You'll have the support of an academic member of staff as a personal tutor throughout your degree to help with academic and personal issues.

Peer mentors will help you in your first year. They are fellow students who can help you settle in and answer any questions you have when starting university.

There's also a staff-student committee, to give you an opportunity to have a say in how your degree works.

Your future

A degree in animal science provides an excellent basis for employment in one of the many different areas of animal science and related agricultural and environmental sectors.

This degree would help you to pursue a career in:

- animal welfare
- animal nutrition

- animal breeding

You could also work in animal health, as a research scientist working in product development, or an account manager for an animal health company selling pharmaceutical products to veterinary practices and agricultural merchants.

Employability at Newcastle

96% of Newcastle University graduates progressed to employment or further study within six months of graduating, with 85.5% in graduate-level employment or further study.

Statistics are based on what graduates were doing on a specific date, approximately six months after graduation (Destinations of (undergraduate and postgraduate UK domiciled) Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2016/17).

Enterprising students

Careers support

Our Enterprise Challenge gives students the opportunity to work with industry on a project that tackles real-world issues. Watch the above video to find out more.

Our award-winning Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country, and we have strong links with employers. We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through our ncl+ initiative.

[Visit our Careers Service website](#)

Recognition of professional qualifications outside of the UK

From 1 January 2021 there is an update to the way professional qualifications are recognised by countries outside of the UK

[Check the government's website for more information.](#)

Find out more...

- Go online for information about our full range of degrees:
www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate
- To watch videos about student life in Newcastle, visit
www.ncl.ac.uk/lovenewcastle
- Visit **www.ncl.ac.uk/tour** to take virtual tours of the campus and city
- Book for an Open Day to come and see us in person
www.ncl.ac.uk/openday
- Contact us online at **www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries** or phone +44 (0)191 208 3333

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www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/regulations

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