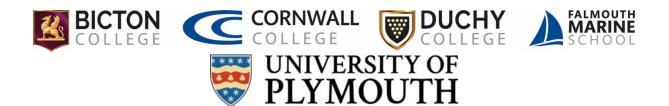# University of Plymouth

Academic Partnerships

CORNWALL COLLEGE

Programme Specification

BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health (Top Up)

Academic Year 2022-2023

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Programme Title: BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health (Top-Up)

University of Plymouth Programme Code: FT 6594, PT 6495

Partner Faculty: Academic Partnerships, University of Plymouth

Partner Delivering Institution: Cornwall College, Duchy Stoke Climsland & Bicton

Start Date: September 2022

First Award Date: Full Time (July 2023) Part Time (July 2024)

Date of Approval: 4 April 2019

Date(s) of Revision(s) to this Document: 6 Dec 18/Feb 2019/4 August 2021/18 March 2022

1. Contents

2. Programme Details

Awarding Institution:	University of Plymouth
Partner/Teaching Institution:	Duchy College; Stoke Climsland, Bicton College
Accrediting Body:	N/A
Language of Study:	English
Mode of Study:	Full and Part Time
Final Award Title:	BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health (Top-Up)
Intermediate Award Title:	N/A
UCAS Code:	To be confirmed
HECoS Code:	100936
Relevant QAA Benchmark Groups:	QAA Subject Benchmark in Veterinary Nursing 2015 (2019) FHEQ (Framework for Higher Education Qualifications)
Date of Programme Approval:	4 April 2019

3. Distinctive Features of the programme and the Student Experience

Animal Science is an area of strong recruitment, with a growing pet industry - Britain's pet population has now hit 58.4m – nearly as large as its human population. According to the Pet Food Manufacturers' Association, 46% of households in the UK have a pet and the industry is worth around £1.5 billion to the UK economy (https://www.pfma.org.uk/pet-population-2018). The industry creates a diverse range of jobs, from pet nutrition, pet care products, developing and sales of medicines, pet insurance, pet sitting, dog walking, kennels, catteries (the list is huge!). With this is aligned a growing Veterinary Industry, with practices increasingly being owned by large corporate organisations (around 50% in 2017), with clear career structures and opportunities for promotion and progression. 100% of Veterinary Nursing students (FE and HE) progress into employment and there continues to be a shortage of qualified Veterinary Nurses. The full potential of highly skilled Veterinary Nurses and paraprofessionals is really beginning to emerge, undertaking much of the work that traditionally a Veterinary Surgeon might have done- monitoring of long-term conditions, non-surgical procedures, post-operative care and dietary care.

This level 6 programme provides progression for graduates of the FdSc in Veterinary Nursing or Animal Health and Management at Duchy College and Bicton or equivalent programmes such as the FdSc Animal Health and Husbandry at Cornwall College Newquay. It is a contemporary and relevant qualification, run over one year for full time students (two days a week), or two years for part time students (one day a week)., based mainly at our Stoke Climsland campus although the specialist facilities at both Duchy College Rosewarne in Cornwall and Bicton College in Devon are available to students to enhance the programme.

The programme incorporates a range of core and option modules which ensure relevance for students who intend to work in any part of the animal health or veterinary industry. In

addition, some option strands will be primarily aimed at Veterinary Nursing graduates, enabling them to develop specialist areas of interest and facilitate progression within practice. We have seen a change in the structure of the Veterinary Industry in recent years with the increasing dominance of large corporate groups, which is resulting in increased chances for veterinary nurses with appropriate qualifications to progress in areas away from the traditional nursing role.

Students explore current issues in the industry and are encouraged to investigate particular areas of interest. All modules are closely linked to industry and students are encouraged to support their learning with appropriate work experience, indeed it is envisaged that a high proportion of students will already be employed in relevant areas. There are approximately 100 veterinary practices linked to our RCVS approved Veterinary Nursing Centre, providing opportunities for students to explore different aspects of the role of veterinary nursing. The college also has close links with zoological collections, rescue centres, aquariums, avian collections and other associated animal-based employers. The Rare Breeds Survival Trust status at Bicton is of interest to those concerned with the breeding and conservation of farm animals, while the work of the Rural Business School is integral to forward thinking in the animal health industry.

The three campuses all have extensive animal collections and facilities, with a wide range of species across the sites, and students are encouraged to become involved in the health care and management of the animals alongside our dedicated and experienced staff. Stoke Climsland has a working farm and renowned equine enterprise as well as small animals, exotics and aquatics, while both Rosewarne and Bicton have dedicated veterinary nursing facilities and large collections of small and exotic species.

There is limited HE provision in the UK focussing primarily on animal health, outside dedicated veterinary courses, with most other programmes having management or conservation as the primary aim. This course is therefore of particular interest to those concerned with the promotion of animal health and welfare and is very much focussed on sustainable and environmentally friendly practice. Modules such as Applied Animal Health and Clinical Behaviour are very relevant to the current industry focus on high standards of animal welfare in the community, while the Emergency and Critical care module is of great relevance to veterinary nurses wishing to expand their role. Graduates of this programme will be at the forefront of an ever-changing world, where animal welfare is increasingly seen as paramount, and will be able to make a real and meaningful impact in this area.

4. Programme Structure

College:		Duchy Stoke Climsland & Bicton College
Academic Year:		2022-2023
Plymouth Programme Code:		6594
Programme Title:		BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health (Top-Up)
Mode of Attendance:		Full Time
Course Duration		1 Year
Total Credits:		120

FHEQ level: BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health Level 6 For: Full Time				
F/T Route Year	When in Year? (I.e. Autumn, Spring etc.)	Core or Option Module	Credits	Module
1	All Year	Core	20	Applied Animal Health and Welfare (CORD3000)
1	All Year	Core	20	Resource Management and Leadership (CORD3003)
1	All year	Core	40	Honours Project (CORD321)
Students will also choose two of the following Modules				
1	All Year	Option	20	Clinical Animal Behaviour (CORD3002)
1	All Year	Option	20	Applied Veterinary Pharmacology (CORD3001)
1	All Year	Option	20	Animal Therapy (CORD3004)
1	All Year	Option	20	Emergency and Critical Care Veterinary Nursing (CORD3006)

NB: No optional module will run with less than 6 students. Any exception to this will need to be agreed with the relevant Cluster Director.

Option pathways –There are 4 option modules a) CORD3002 and CORD3004, b) CORD 3001 and CORD3006

N.B: Option module CORD3006 is only available to veterinary nurses working in practice

College:	Duchy Stoke Climsland & Bicton College
Academic Year:	2022-2023
Plymouth Programme Code:	6595
Programme Title:	BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health (Top-Up)
Mode of Attendance:	Part Time
Course Duration	2 Year

FHEQ level: BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health Level 6 For: Part Time				
P/T Route Year	When in Year? (I.e. Autumn, Spring etc.)	Core or Option Module	Credits	Module
BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health Level 6; Year 1 (60 credits)				
1	All Year	Core	20	Applied Animal Health and Welfare (CORD3000)
1	All Year	Core	20	Resource Management and Leadership (CORD3003)
Students will also choose one of the following Modules				
1	All Year	Option	20	Clinical Animal Behaviour (CORD3002)
1	All Year	Option	20	Applied Veterinary Pharmacology (CORD3001)
1	All Year	Option	20	Emergency and Critical Care Veterinary Nursing (CORD3006)
1	All Year	Option	20	Animal Therapy (CORD3004)
BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Health Level 6; Year 2 (60 credits)				
2	All Year	Core	40	Honours Project (CORD321)
Students will also choose one of the following Modules				
2	All Year	Option	20	Animal Therapy (CORD3004)
2	All Year	Option	20	Applied Veterinary Pharmacology (CORD3001)
2	All Year	Option	20	Clinical Animal Behaviour (CORC3002)
2	All Year	Option	20	Emergency and Critical Care Veterinary Nursing (CORD3006)

There are 4 option modules a) CORD3002 and CORD3004, b) CORD 3001 and CORD3006

N.B: Option module CORD3006 is only available to veterinary nurses working in practice.

5. Programme Aims

a) To provide an innovative, broad-based and work-related programme, relevant to the needs of the animal health industry.

b) To deepen the students' critical knowledge and understanding, and practical, vocational and transferable skills in preparation for employment and progression in the industry.

c) To enhance the students' communication skills in order for them to present innovative solutions to complex problems effectively, and to a variety of audiences.

d) To develop the capacity for independent learning and evaluative thinking through applied research across a range of disciplines.

6. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

6.1 - Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion graduates will have developed critical knowledge and understanding of:

a) Principles and practices associated with animal health and welfare.

b) Approaches to managing animal facilities, resources and staffing using a diverse range of techniques, theories and information management strategies.

c) Industry practice and the importance and application of research and reflection as a development mechanism.

6.2 - Cognitive and intellectual skills

On successful completion graduates will have developed critical cognitive and intellectual skills to:

a) Apply subject knowledge and research skills in appraisal of both academic and animal industry contexts.

b) Evaluate complex problems associated with managing animal health and welfare through autonomous critical analysis of practice.

c) Create informed solutions in response to evaluation of real-world animal health problems.

6.3 - Key and transferrable skills

On successful completion graduates will have developed the ability to:

a) Communicate effectively within an academic and industry context, across the breadth of public, employees, employers and other stakeholders.

b) Understand and apply the concept of evidence-based practice in the clinical environment to improve standards of animal health and welfare.

c) Use information technology to enhance verbal and written presentations and to facilitate data analysis.

d) Organise and prioritise tasks appropriately for the effective management of self and others.

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6.4 - Employment related skills

On successful completion graduates will have developed:

a) The ability to proactively support maintenance of animal health and welfare in an industry context.
b) The ability to critically challenge the animal healthcare delivered, considering dynamic social, cultural, spiritual, legal, political, ethical and economic factors.
c) A professional and informed approach to work to include record keeping, evaluating health care plans and understanding the cost implications of this to support businesses

6.5 - Practical Skills

On successful completion graduates will have developed:

a) The skill to implement research findings and use these to inform changes to planned health care in practice.
b) The ability to use practical skills and knowledge with confidence and creativity to enhance the quality of care of animals and manage disease outbreaks. Skills would include handling techniques, biosecurity measures, and such vaccination protocols and other measures as appropriate under relevant legislation.
c) The skill to adopt a sustainable approach to all aspects of animal health care, evaluating environmental impacts and promoting the concept of One Health.

7. Progression criteria for final and intermediate awards

Approved "progression route(s)" are those where successful achievement in this programme enables direct alignment to join a stage of another programme. This is an approach employed primarily for Foundation Degree students to "top-up" to complete a Bachelor degree, but may be employed for other award types.

This is in part an automated admissions criterion and therefore progression may be impacted on by availability of a position on the progression award; however, progression opportunity, if not available in the first year of application, is guaranteed within 3 years.

Progression arrangements with institutions other than University of Plymouth carry an increased element of risk. It is necessary for the delivering partner institution to obtain formal agreement from that institution to guarantee progression for existing students on the programme. For progression to the University of Plymouth should there be the need to withdraw the progression route programme(s) then either this will be delayed to provide progression or appropriate solutions will be found. This arrangement is guaranteed for existing students that complete their programme of study with no suspensions or repeat years and who wish to progress immediately to the University.

The contribution of marks from prior levels of study to the progression award is governed by University Academic regulations.

There are no approved progression routes for this programme as it is a final year BSc, but students would be able to further their studies at level 7 in an appropriate discipline.

8. Non-Standard Regulations

N/A

9. Transitional Arrangement

N/A

10. Admissions Criteria

All applicants will be interviewed.

Entry Criteria (Qualifications)	Details
Functional Skills	L2 Literacy and L2 Numeracy
GCSE (or equivalent)	Minimum of Grade C/grade 4 in Maths, English Language and Science (if science based programme)
A/AS Levels	BSc (science based) - 80 UCAS tariff points to include at least 56 points from A2 level in relevant subjects
BTEC National Diploma/Extended Diploma/L3 Diploma	BSc (science based) – 80 UCAS tariff points – in a relevant subject
BTEC 90 Credit Diploma/Subsidiary Diploma*	As above in a relevant subject and considered only with combination of other relevant level 3 qualifications
City & Guilds (land based) Extended Diploma/ Advanced Technical Extended Diploma	BSc (science based) – 80 UCAS tariff points – in a relevant subject
City & Guilds (land based) L3 Diploma/ Subsidiary Diploma/90 Credit Diploma*	*Usually accepted only in combination with other relevant L3 qualifications
Access to HE Diploma	Successful completion of Access to HE Diploma with at least 45 credits at level 3 in a relevant subject
International Baccalaureate	24 points
Scottish/Irish	BSc (science based) - 80 UCAS tariff points to include at least 56 points from Scottish Advanced Highers/Irish Highers
Other Level 3 qualifications	Will be taken into consideration and dependent upon subject area and number of units studied
Mature Applicants (over 21)	Mature applicants with relevant experience but without the stated entry qualifications will be considered individually at interview
Accreditation of Prior Learning	University of Plymouth Regulations will be applied. www.plymouth.ac.uk
Independent Safeguarding Agency (ISA)/Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance required	No

Entry Criteria (Qualifications)	Details
Capability statement	Disabilities – the course welcomes applications from students with disabilities and is committed to its inclusive policy. In order to be student-centred, the college requests that all applications be considered individually and in consultation with the programme manager. The programme may require some physical activities (e.g. handling animals and/or equipment) to be carried out as part of the curriculum and training. Candidates with any concerns about this should discuss these issues at interview and enquire about college support systems. The college will undertake to make all reasonable adjustments to facilitate students with disabilities.

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11. Appendix 1 – Programme Specification Mapping (UG)

Core Modules		Programme Intended Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 6)																		Compensation Y/N	Assessment Element(s) and weightings [use UNISTATs definition] E1 - exam E2 - clinical exam T1 - test C1 - coursework A1 - generic assessment P1 - practical
		Knowledge & understanding 6.1				Cognitive & intellectual skills 6.2			Key & transferable skills 6.3				Employment related skills 6.4			Practical skills 6.5					
		a	b	c		a	b	c	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	a	b	c			
Level 6	CORD3000	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓		N	P1 50%; C1 50%
	CORD321			✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			✓				N	C1 90% P1 10%
	CORD3003	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				N	C1 50%; P1 50%
Level 6 LOs		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Elective Modules																					
Level 6	CORD3002	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓		Y	C1 40 P1 60%
	CORD3001					✓	✓	✓		✓			✓			✓	✓			Y	E1 50%, P1 50%
	CORD3004	✓		✓			✓		✓		✓		✓	✓		✓				Y	C1 50% P1 50%
	CORD3006	✓					✓		✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		Y	C1 50% P1 50%
Level 6 LOs		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Confirmed Award LOs		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			

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12.   Appendix 2 –Work Related Learning

The qualification in Applied Animal Health is intended to fit students for the modern workplace in animal, veterinary, and related industries. As such, the programme has integrated opportunities for work-related learning in both core and optional modules. However, with multiple intake streams with a range of backgrounds, professions, and intended destinations, this cannot be prescriptive in all modules.

The core module CORD 3003 incorporates mandatory placements in the workplace, focussing on resource management, enabling students to see theory put in to practice and how demands on a business effect method used and outcomes. Modules CORD 3000 and CORD 3001 are also structured to maximise the value of optional work placements, which would also benefit students undertaking modules CORD 3002 and 3004. The veterinary-nurse specific module CORD 3006 can only be undertaken by students working in clinical practice and while there are no dedicated contact hours for WBL, experience and practice from the workplace; it will form an integral component of the modules teaching, learning and assessment modes. With seminars and workshops planned in to the timetable it is envisaged that students will benefit from sharing experiences within the cohort.

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13. Appendix 3 – Module Details

Module Code	Module Title	Assessment Mode	Short Module Descriptor
CORD3000	**Applied Animal Health and Welfare**	50% (CW) 50% (Practical)	This module will explore the principles of general pathology and systemic pathophysiology using a range of clinical examples. The welfare of affected, in contact and descended animals will be evaluated using common ethical frameworks. The application of these principles to infectious and genetic disease and their control will be examined in more detail, with a focus on creating and evaluating disease control plans.
CORD3001	**Applied Veterinary Pharmacology**	50% (Practical) 50% (Exam)	This module aims to equip students with the skills and knowledge to safely, confidently and legally work with veterinary pharmaceuticals in the treatment, prevention and management of disease of companion, equine and farm animals. Relevant to any student working in the animal health or animal management industry, it is particularly aimed at preparing them to operate as an Animal Medicines Training and Regulatory Authority Suitably Qualified Person (AMTRA SQP), and for work in the veterinary, shelter, farm or pet industry.
CORD3002	**Clinical Animal Behaviour**	40% (CW) 60% (Practical)	The underlying principles of animal behaviour will be explored using psychological theories. The application of learning theory and other psychological concepts to the understanding and solving of animal behavioural problems will be examined. The application of behavioural principles will be also be evaluated in a wide range of training contexts.
CORD3003	**Resource Management and Leadership**	50% (CW) 50% (Practical)	This module will provide the student with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate appropriate evaluative skills and the ability to synthesize existing and emerging management and leadership practices in order to ensure animal-based resources are managed as effectively as possible. This module will contain a work-related office-based animal practice expectation.
CORD3004	**Animal Therapy**	50% (CW) 50% (Practical)	Complementary therapies are experiencing attention in both veterinary and lay circles worldwide and this module is designed to give the student a detailed knowledge and understanding of alternative therapies. The Module includes an evaluation of the effectiveness of alternative therapy. It explores valid research carried out in other species and humans. It also evaluates the legislation relating to treatment of animals by complementary medicine. The application of these principles to common disorders/ diseases and their control will be examined, with a particular focus on creating treatment plans and evaluating their likely efficacy.
CORD3006	**Emergency and Critical Care Veterinary Nursing**	50% (CW) 50% (Practical)	This module will cover the implementation and evaluation of the advanced nursing care of emergency surgical and critically ill medical animal patients, critical care procedures, patient monitoring and the legal and ethical considerations of nursing such patients. It will also cover advanced nursing procedures encountered in veterinary practice.

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| CORD321 | Honours Project | 90% (CW) 10% (Practical) | This module allows students to explore in detail an academic subject of their choice. The module comprises a substantial autonomous research study/investigation. The students' ability to conduct a literature review, design a valid investigation and collect, collate, analyse and interpretation data and to effectively communicate the outcome/s is assessed. |