

University of Plymouth
Academic Partnerships
CORNWALL COLLEGE
Programme Specification
BSc (Hons) Agriculture
Academic Year 2022-2023



**UNIVERSITY OF
PLYMOUTH**

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Programme Title: BSc (Hons) Agriculture

Internal Programme Code: FT 6339 & PT 6340

Partner Faculty: Academic Partnerships, University of Plymouth

Partner Delivering Institution: The Cornwall College Group (Duchy Stoke Climsland)

Start Date: September 2022

First Award Date: July 2025 (FT) July 2026(PT)

Date of Approval: 17th April 2018 (updated 23 March 2021)/ 6 May 2021/21 Oct 2021/17 March 2022

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2. Programme Details

Awarding Institution:	University of Plymouth
Partner/Teaching Institution:	The Cornwall College Group (Duchy, Stoke)
Accrediting Body:	N/A
Language of Study:	English
Mode of Study:	Full Time and Part Time
Final Award:	BSc (Hons) Agriculture
Intermediate Award:	N/A
Programme Title:	BSc (Hons) Agriculture
UCAS Code:	BAGR
HECOS Code:	100947, 100517, 100449, 101221, 100079, 100974, 100978, 100088, 101276, 100962, 100516, 200962, 100998, 101006, 100522, 100468
Relevant QAA Benchmark Groups:	QAA Subject Benchmarks for Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food and Consumer Sciences (Jul 2016); Bioscience (Nov 2015); SEEC Level Descriptors (2016)
Date of Programme Approval:	17 April 2018

3. Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience

- Underlying economic principles and the effects of agricultural policy on agricultural systems.
- Underlying science and relevant innovative technology underpinning sustainable animal and crop production systems.
- Innovative and entrepreneurial approaches to business to improve the future-proofing of agricultural production systems.
- Critical thinking analysis and original research into the complex issues that face the agricultural and food industries.
- Communication of novel ideas and technical management solutions to different audiences.

The special features of the programme are:

- **Future Farm Dairy Facility** at Duchy will be a transformational investment, a dairy farm for the future. It will consist of a 300-cow unit whose purpose is knowledge exchange delivering improved competitiveness, through sustainable farm profit in the southwest and UK dairy industry. Its mission is to answer industry led questions of production efficiency, its interaction with animal health and welfare and its effects on farm business economic and environmental performance. It will do this through the unique innovation of being able to run the herd in up to four parallel 'mini herds and systems', each with the infrastructure to be managed discretely. All inputs (feed, technologies, veterinary intervention, management objectives) and outputs (milk, progeny, manures and gaseous losses) will be measurable, recordable and reportable for each mini herd. The development of the Future Farm is a much-needed Knowledge Exchange resource that will

help the sector invest and achieve profitability by improving the understanding of product quality, market differentiation, efficiency and delivering excellent animal welfare and turning these perceived threats into opportunities.

- **Centre for Innovation Excellence in Livestock (CIEL):** the benefit of Duchy College's membership CIEL is that it is a unique cooperative venture bringing together:
 - 1) Multinational and small companies in the animal breeding, animal health, feed and nutrition and technology sectors.
 - 2) Major UK companies involved in the production, processing and marketing of livestock-derived products.
 - 3) Twelve leading research providers from across the UK, including all the devolved administrations, in the animal sciences, veterinary medicine, animal health, consumer safety and product quality sectors (including Duchy College and RRNW).
 - 4) UK levy boards and umbrella organisations working on behalf of livestock producers and some processors.
 - 5) UK-leading veterinary service companies, veterinary schools and a network of research and development (R&D) focussed commercial farms for research trials and demonstration of techniques.

- **Duchy College's Rural Business School (RBS)** Furthermore, the programme would exploit the knowledge networks developed by the RBS in connection with its successful Rural Development Programme for England SW regional projects. In recognition of the success of its approach to technology transfer and business innovation, Duchy College's RBS was presented with a Queen's Anniversary Prize in 2014. As the first ever land-based college in England to receive such a prize, the award recognises the work carried out by the RBS to enhance the technical capabilities and growth of southwest rural businesses.

- **Rothamsted Research North Wyke (RRNW)** Through the Rural Business School's joint research projects on sustainable grassland systems, students will gain an insight into the work being carried out at nearby Rothamsted Research's North Wyke site. The site is home to the Farm Platform National Capability, a unique highly instrumented farm that can monitor, at a whole farm scale, the environmental and economic sustainability of alternative ruminant grassland systems.

4. Details of Accreditation by a Professional/Statutory Body (If Appropriate)

N/A

5. Programme Structure

College:	Cornwall College, Stoke Climsland	Programme Title:	BSc (Hons) Agriculture
Academic Year:	2022-2023	Mode of Attendance Course Duration:	Full Time Over 3 Years
Plymouth Programme Code:	6339	Total Credits:	120 Credits At Level 4 120 Credits At Level 5 120 Credits At Level 6

FHEQ level: 4 (120 credits) For: BSc (Hons) Agriculture (Full Time 6339)				
F/T Route Year	When in Year? (i.e., Autumn, Spring or All Year (AY))	Core or Option Module	Credits	Module
FT1	AY	Core	20	CORC1013 Personal and Employability Skills Development
FT1	AY	Core	20	CORD1039 Crop Production and Soil Science
FT1	AY	Core	20	CORD1053 Livestock Production
FT1	AY	Core	20	CORD1054 Bioscience for Agriculture
FT1	AY	Core	20	CORD1042 Agri-Food Economics and Policy
FT1	AY	Core	20	CORD1043 Innovation and Entrepreneurship
FHEQ level: 5 (120 credits) For: Full Time BSc (Hons) Agriculture				
FT2	AY	Core	20	CORD2092 Analysis and Development of Livestock Enterprise
FT2	AY	Core	20	CORD2105 Plant Legislation, Technology and Marketing
FT2	AY	Core	20	ABMR209 Effective Leadership
FT2	AY	Core	20	CORD2094 Agri-tech in Practice
FT2	AY	Core	20	CORD2095 Research Methods for Agriculture
FT2	AY	Core	20	CORD2096 Applied Agricultural Science
FHEQ level: 6 (120 credits) For: Full Time BSc (Hons) Agriculture				
FT3	AY	Core	40	CORD340 Honours Project for Agriculture
FT3	AY	Core	20	CORD338 Sustainable Grassland and Forage Production Systems
FT3	AY	Core	20	RBM304 Agriculture Technology
FT3	AY	Core	20	RBM311 Managing Animal Performance
FT3	AY	Core	20	CORD339 Contemporary Issues in Food and Farming

College:	Cornwall College, Stoke Climsland	Programme Title:	BSc (Hons) Agriculture
Academic Year:	2022-2023	Mode of Attendance	Part Time Over 4 Years
Plymouth Programme Code:	6340	Total Credits:	120 Credits At Level 4 120 Credits At Level 5 120 Credits At Level 6

FHEQ level: 4, 5 & 6 For: Part Time BSc (Hons) Agriculture (Indicative)				
P/T Route Year	When in Year? (i.e. Autumn, Spring or All Year (AY))	Core or Option Module	Credits	Module
PT Year 1	AY	Core	20	CORC1013 Personal and Employability Skills Development
PT Year 1	AY	Core	20	CORD1039 Crop Production and Soil Science
PT Year 1	AY	Core	20	CORD1053 Livestock Production
PT Year 1	AY	Core	20	CORD1054 Bioscience for Agriculture
PT Year 1	AY	Core	20	CORD1042 Agri-Food Economics and Policy
PT Year 2	AY	Core	20	CORD1043 Innovation and Entrepreneurship
PT Year 2	AY	Core	20	CORD2092 Analysis and Development of Livestock Enterprises
PT Year 2	AY	Core	20	CORD2095 Research Methods for Agriculture
PT Year 2	AY	Core	20	CORD2096 Applied Agricultural Science
PT Year 3	AY	Core	20	CORD2105 Plant Legislation, Technology and Marketing
PT Year 3	AY	Core	20	ABMR209 Effective Leadership
PT Year 3	AY	Core	20	CORD2094 Agri-tech in Practice
PT Year 3	AY	Core	40	CORD340 Honours Project for Agriculture
PT Year 4	AY	Core	20	CORD338 Sustainable Grassland and Forage Production Systems
PT Year 4	AY	Core	20	RBM304 Agriculture Technology
PT Year 4	AY	Core	20	RBM311 Managing Animal Performance
PT Year 4	AY	Core	20	CORD339 Contemporary Issues in Food and Farming

6. Programme Aims

This programme will ensure students will:

- a. Develop their understanding of underlying economic principles and the effects of agricultural policy on agricultural systems.
- b. Demonstrate their appreciation and ability to apply detailed scientific knowledge and relevant innovative technology to livestock and crop production.
- c. Be equipped with the ability to evaluate innovative techniques and apply them to practice, where appropriate.
- d. Utilise the ability to identify technological, economic and ethical problems encountered in current agricultural production systems.
- e. Identify, evaluate and alleviate public concerns over food production and land use practices and the wider consequences of agricultural activities including environmental and climatic impact.
- f. Analyse and summarise information from a variety of sources and arrive at a considered critical judgement, stating assumptions and limitations.
- g. Construct grammatically correct documents in an appropriate style and format, utilising and referencing relevant evidence.

7. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

7.1 Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion, graduates will have developed the ability to:

- a. Understand and apply the underlying scientific concepts and an awareness of potential technologies applicable to agriculture.
- b. Understand the underlying policy, business, economic and environmental principles influencing production systems.
- c. Apply research and development methodologies applicable to agricultural systems.

7.2 Cognitive and intellectual skills

On successful completion, graduates should have developed the ability to:

- a. Analyse and summarise information from a variety of sources and arrive at a considered critical judgement, stating assumptions and limitations.
- b. Critically evaluate data and evidence to enable the construction of grammatically correct documents in an appropriate style and format, utilising and referencing relevant evidence.

- c. Apply subject knowledge and understanding to address familiar and unfamiliar problems.

7.3 Key and transferable skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

- a. Implement issues of sample selection, accuracy, precision, and uncertainty during collection, recording and analysis of data, both from the field and secondary sources.
- b. Account for and overcome the difficulties of having incomplete information on which to base decisions.
- c. Take account of the nature of risk, in employing new and entrepreneurial approaches to business for improving the resilience of businesses.

7.4 Employment related skills

On successful completion graduates should have developed the ability to:

- a. Develop the skills necessary for self-managed and lifelong learning including time management, working independently, organisational, entrepreneurial and knowledge transfer skills.
- b. Communicate accurately, clearly, and concisely to a variety of audiences using a range of formats and employing appropriate scientific and technical language.
- c. Understand the need for appropriate professional codes of conducts.

7.5 Practical Skills

On successful completion, graduates should have developed the ability to:

- a. Design, plan conduct and report on investigations which may involve primary or secondary data.
- b. Obtain, record, collate and analyse data using relevant techniques in the field.
- c. Prepare, process, interpret and present data, using appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques, statistical programmes, spreadsheets, and presentation programmes.
- d. Understand and analyse financial and management information and use it in decision – making.
- e. Use a range of IT platforms and social media to communicate to a range of audiences effectively.

8. Progression Route(s) and Criteria for Final and Intermediate Awards

There is no formal progression route available on completion of this qualification, although there are CPD options available, pending successful application and interview.

9. Non-Standard Regulations

N/A

10. Transitional Arrangement

N/A

11. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and Disability Services arrangements

All applicants must have GCSE (or equivalent) Maths and English at Grade C (4) or above.

Qualification(s) Required for Entry to this Programme:	Details:
A-Level/AS Level	80 UCAS points from at least two full A-levels (AA or CCC) or equivalent, including a mathematical and science subject.
BTEC National Diploma/QCF Extended Diploma	80 UCAS points from a full Level 3 diploma (DD) or extended diploma (MMM) ideally in a relevant subject (e.g., Horticulture, Arboriculture, Agriculture, Countryside Management).
Access to Higher Education at Level 3	80 UCAS points or 45 Credits from an Access to HE (Science preferred).
Welsh Baccalaureate	80 UCAS points. Qualification in a relevant subject area.
Scottish Qualifications Authority	80 Tariff points.
Irish Leaving Certificate	80 Tariff points (A minimum of A in at least two science subjects).
International Baccalaureate Diploma	80 UCAS points in appropriate subject (to exceed 25 points).
Interview / Portfolio requirements:	All applicants will be required to demonstrate the necessary motivation, potential, experience and/or knowledge at interview.

	The course welcomes applications from students with disabilities and is committed to its inclusive policy. To be more learner-centred, the college requests that all applications be considered individually and in consultation with the programme manager.
APEL/APL possibilities:	APL will be considered as per University of Plymouth Academic Regulations.
Progression from Extended Science:	Other HE qualifications such as HNC and nonstandard awards or experiences will be considered on individual merit.
Independent Safeguarding Agency (ISA) / Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance required:	Students who will be carrying out their placement where they will be in contact with young people under 18 or vulnerable adults must be in receipt of an enhanced DBS. There will be a charge that will be paid by the student and application needs to be completed prior to the placement.
Capability Statement:	The College is very supportive of students with disabilities, and year-on-year we are making adjustments to assist these students throughout their studies. On notification of any registered disability or need for learning support, the Admissions Officer will notify the Programme Manager and Student Services to ensure that applicants are aware of the support available. Student Services will contact students about how to apply for support and guide them through the process to ensure that support is in place at the start of the academic year. The Programme Manager should check prior to commencement of the programme and ensure that appropriate adjustments are undertaken.

12. Appendix 1 – Programme Specification Mapping (UG)

Core Modules		Programme Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 7)																		Competence Y/N	Assessment Element(s) and weightings [use UNISTATs definition] E1- exam
		Knowledge & understanding			Cognitive & intellectual skills			Key & transferable skills			Employment related skills			Practical skills							
		a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	a	b	c	d	e			
Level 4	CORC1013	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	N	C1 100%
	CORD1039	✓	✓		✓				✓			✓			✓					Y	E1 30% C1 70%
	CORD1053	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Y	E1 40% C1 60%
	CORD1054	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓		✓		✓			Y	E1 50% C1 50%
	CORD1042		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓					✓	✓	Y	E1 40 % C1 60%
	CORD1043		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	Y	C1 50% P1 50%
Level 4 LOs		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Level 5	CORD2092	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	Y	C1 100%	
	CORD2105	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	Y	E1 30% C1 70%	
	AMBR209		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	Y	C1 100%
	CORD2094	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	Y	C1 50% P1 50%	
	CORD2095	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		Y	C1 60% T1 40%	
	CORD2096	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	Y	E1 50% C1 50%	
Level 5 LOs		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Level 6	CORD340	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	N	C1 80% P1 20%	
	CORD338	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		Y	E1 40% C1 40% P1 20%	
	RBM304	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Y	E1 50% C1 50%	
	RBM311	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Y	E1 50% C1 50%	
	CORD339	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	Y	C1 60% P1 40%
Level 6 LOs		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Confirmed Award LOs		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			

13. Appendix 2 – Module Details

Module Code	Module Title	Assessment Mode	Short Module Descriptor
CORC1013	Personal and Employability Skills Development	100% (CW)	This module is designed to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to develop themselves in terms of their personal and employability skills.
CORD1039	Crop Production and Soil Science	70% (CW) 30% (Exam)	This module will develop a basic understanding and working knowledge of the scientific principles involved in plant and soil science, which are essential for the successful production of agricultural plants.
CORD1053	Livestock Production	60% (CW) 40% (Exam)	This module will deliver the basic knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of the biology of farm animals, livestock production systems, scientific principles of health, breeding and behaviour and the application of these to the successful production of farm livestock with reference to relevant welfare and financial considerations.
CORD1054	Bioscience for Agriculture	50% (CW) 50% (Exam)	A basic understanding and working knowledge of the scientific principles underpinning land-based science is essential for students to develop and progress higher level understanding. This module establishes base line knowledge of underpinning science related to agriculture and food.
CORD1042	Agri-Food Economics and Policy	60% (CW) 40% (Exam)	The module is designed to explore the relationship between agriculture, food processing and the consumer. Students will gain an understanding of economics and policy with regard to the Agri-food sector, the creation and ownership of value across the Agri-food chain and supply chain management issues.
CORD1043	Innovation and Entrepreneurship	50% (CW) 50% (Practical)	The module will introduce the concept of entrepreneurship and discuss the role that entrepreneurs play in the business world, together with concepts and practices of business management, starting businesses and identifying opportunities within the sector.
CORD2092	Analysis and Development of Livestock Enterprises	100% (CW)	Production of any livestock should reflect all influences, both internal and external, on the business, including; market, animal and legislative requirements and environmental considerations. This module will bring these together in a cohesive manner for selected production systems.
CORD2105	Plant Legislation, Technology and Marketing	70% (CW) 30% (Exam)	Production of any crop should be as efficient and environmentally friendly as possible. This module explores ways in which management decisions

			can optimise production in a way that has minimal impact on the environment.
ABMR209	Effective Leadership	100% (CW)	The module allows the student to explore the role of leadership within organisations including both the practical and theoretical aspects of leadership and how the concept is changing over time.
CORD2094	Agri-tech in Practice	50% (CW) 50% (Practical)	The module allows the student to gain valuable experience within the workplace. Students will undertake a period of work not less than 80 hours, with an 'Agri-tech' business. Prior to commencing work students will undertake a reflective portfolio regarding their own skills and employability status. After completing, the students will conduct a critical analysis of the skills and abilities that they have gained.
CORD2095	Research Methods for Agriculture	60% (CW) 40% (Test)	The module will develop the student's research ability. Knowledge and understanding related to; the research process, formulation of research questions, developing a research proposal, experimental design, appropriate and correct statistical analysis, presentation of data and results, constructing effective discussions and conclusions.
CORD2096	Applied Agricultural Science	50% (CW) 50% (Exam)	This module develops the underpinning knowledge achieved at level four, applying it to a range of agricultural contexts.
CORD340	Honours Project for Agriculture	80% (CW) 20% (Practical)	The student integrates subject specific knowledge and skills in Agriculture to develop a specialist area of in-depth knowledge and with supervision from a subject specialist, conducts their own research investigation and reports their findings.
CORD338	Sustainable Grassland and Forage Production System	40% (CW) 40% (Exam) 20% (Practical)	This module enables students to investigate the role of grasslands in addressing environmental and food security challenges, through understanding the scientific principles and practical implementation behind grass and forage breeding, grazing management, nutrient planning, and strategies for forage preservation.
RBM304	Agriculture Technology	50% (CW) 50% (Exam)	This module enables students to investigate recent advances in agricultural technology through understanding the scientific principles underlying them and appraisal of their existing and potential roles. The effects of their use on production, the market, public perceptions and the environment will be investigated.
RBM311	Managing Animal Performance	50% (CW) 50% (Exam)	The underlying principles of animal performance will be explored and assessed in terms of intrinsic and extrinsic factors. The manipulation of typical

			management regimes to optimise performance will be examined.
CORD339	Contemporary Issues in Food and Farming	60% (CW) 40% (Practical)	This module is designed to introduce current and emerging attitudes, ideas, and approaches to the relationships between agriculture, environment, and society, and will thus enable students to understand and contribute to the debate as to how this influences the food and farming industries.