

Module specification

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Refer to the module guidance notes for completion of each section of the specification.

Module code	ANM413
Module title	Professional Practice
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	Social and Life Sciences
Module Leader	Denise Yorke
HECoS Code	100523
Cost Code	GAAN

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
FdSc Animal Studies	Core
BSc (Hons) Equine Science and Welfare	Core
BSc (Hons) Animal Science	Core

Pre-requisites

Guidance, please state here any pre-requisites required for this module

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	25 hrs
Placement tutor support	10 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	0 hrs
Placement / work based learning	100 hrs
Guided independent study	65 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

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Initial approval date	June 2017
With effect from date	September 2017
Date and details of revision	December 2020 – revised placement hours
Version number	2

Module aims

1. Investigate the range of career opportunities within the animal and equestrian industry.
2. Expose students to the challenges faced in gaining employment within the sector.
3. Give students the opportunity to develop their skills, knowledge and competencies within a workplace setting.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Demonstrate a sound knowledge of the employment opportunities in the animal sector and outline the challenges facing those who work in the industry
2	Demonstrate an understanding of their own personal attributes and be self-reflective about the skills and abilities that they possess, or need to acquire, for future employment.
3	Operate in the workplace confidently, professionally and with due regard to health and safety

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

Presentation:

Students will investigate the animal sector and look at the broad range of jobs available. They will choose three jobs that reflect this range and prepare a professional presentation that outlines the challenges facing those who wish to work in these jobs. (1200 words)

Reflective Practice:

In order to identify suitable work placements, students will describe their previous vocational experiences and skills and identify their current learning needs within the animal sector. (2000 words)

Negotiated Learning:

Students will negotiate their own work placements and submit a signed Learning Contract between themselves, their placement provider and the module leader. This will include relevant health and safety paperwork. A timesheet will be completed by the student and each placement provider as evidence of work experience. (800 words)

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1	Presentation	30
2	2	Written Assignment	50
3	3	Negotiated Learning	20

Derogations

N/A

Learning and Teaching Strategies

Marks for this module will be considered at the September Module Assessment Board.

The module aims to expose students to the diversity of employment opportunities within the animal and equestrian sector, with guest speakers, lectures and interactive seminars used to expose students to the range of careers available. Students will investigate different sectors of the animal or equestrian industry and will gain an appreciation of the diversity of job roles through engagement in peer-led seminars. Students will be seeking work in the animal sector.

Students will use a pre-placement skills workbook to self-assess their level of confidence and competence in a range of areas. This includes:

- animal handling
- general animal practical skills
- writing skills
- social skills
- information technology
- verbal skills
- numeracy skills
- analytical / problem solving skills

They will also highlight their perceived skill gaps. The aim of the placement is to provide the student with opportunities to fill these generic and animal skill gaps.

The location and nature of the placement will be shaped by the results of the self-assessment, the student's career aspirations and direction from their Module Leader. If students are already employed within the sector e.g working at a veterinary practice, they may either undertake the placement within their host organisation or within another setting. typical placement settings may include animal rescue centres, horse riding establishments, animal rehabilitation centres, shadowing animal physiotherapists or behaviourists.

All placements will be subject to a Health and Safety Audit and approval prior to student attendance. This will be carried out by University staff. If a student identifies a risk to themselves or an animal during placement, they will be removed from the placement whilst a health and safety investigation takes place.

Regular action planning, individual's tutorials and site visits will form the primary modes of delivery for this module which is centred on the student placement. This will allow students to learn from ongoing, meaningful and active involvement in a specific work environment. The work experience will enable students to develop personal and interpersonal skills and to explore work aptitude and opportunities. Witness statements will be completed by the host organisation to assist the module leader in assessing student progress on placement.

There will be opportunity for the student to complete their work placement around other commitments such as family or work. In addition to the weeks between the end of summer term and September Board work experience may be undertaken.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Students will normally complete 100 hours of experience which comprises of 30 hours of research and 70 hours of actual work experience. The 30 hours of research will include looking at the relevant industry, jobs available and securing placements. The 70 hours will include 'hands on experience' or 'desk based' work for the organisation.

- Self-assessment of animal, generic and transferable skills
- Skill gap identification
- The scale and scope of the animal sector - locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.
- Careers and qualifications in the animal sector.
- Qualifications.
- Career challenges.
- Sources of information for the job market.
- Creating a positive impression of yourself within a workplace setting.
- Working professionally, ethically and responsibly within a workplace setting.
- Risk assessment and health and safety issues in the work place.
- Career options.

Indicative Bibliography:

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads

Field, S. (2011). *Career Opportunities in Working with Animals*. New York: Checkmark Books.

Hogue-Davies, V. (2004). *Careers with horses: The comprehensive guide to finding your dream job*. Irvine: Bowtie Press.

Moon, J. (2004). *A Handbook of Reflective and Experiential Learning: Theory and Practice*. London: Routledge.

Other indicative reading

Landers, T. (2013). *The career guide to the horse industry*. Florence: Delmar Learning.

Lee, M., (2008). *Opportunities in Animal and Pet Care Careers*.

Shenk, E. (2005.) *Careers with animals. Exploring occupations involving dogs, horses, cats, birds, wildlife, and exotics*. Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA

Employability skills – the Glyndŵr Graduate

Each module and programme is designed to cover core Glyndŵr Graduate Attributes with the aim that each Graduate will leave Glyndŵr having achieved key employability skills as part of their study. The following attributes will be covered within this module either through the content or as part of the assessment. The programme is designed to cover all attributes and each module may cover different areas. [Click here to read more about the Glyndwr Graduate attributes](#)

Guidance, from the following list, delete the attributes that are not covered by this module

Core Attributes

Engaged
Enterprising
Ethical

Key Attitudes

Commitment
Curiosity
Resilience
Confidence
Adaptability

Practical Skillsets

Digital Fluency
Organisation
Leadership and Team working

