

Module specification

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Module Code	ANM440
Module Title	Equine Behaviour and Welfare
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	SLS
HECoS Code	100519
Cost Code	GAAN

Programmes in which module to be offered

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

Pre-requisites

N/A

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	6 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	164 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	15/5/24
With effect from date	September 2024
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

This module aims to enable students to investigate the links between the environment that horses are living in and their behavioural patterns. Students will focus on natural and modern domestic environments; and will assess the likely effects of those environments on horse behaviour and welfare. Links will also be made between equine management and welfare.

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

1	Explain how different environments shape horses' behaviour.
2	Discuss how modern equine management impacts on horses' welfare.

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Coursework: The student will produce a report (2,000 words) that makes clear connections between environment and resulting horse behaviour. Both the natural and domestic environments will be covered and comparisons will be made between behaviours exhibited in both environments. Examples of natural species-specific behaviour and abnormal behaviours will be included in the report and use of a pre-prepared ethogram will enable behavioural data collection to take place. (Learning Outcome 1)

Presentation: One aspect of modern equine management will be selected for investigation, e.g. feeding, stable design or transportation. Findings will be summarised in a poster which provides an overview of how the management impacts on horse welfare. A discussion of the findings on the poster will also take place and will contribute to the grade given (10 minutes). (Learning Outcome 2)

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1	Coursework	50%
2	2	Presentation	50%



Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The module will include a range of learning and teaching techniques including lectures, practical work, seminar discussions, and independent study. Practical work will include behavioural observation for ethogram construction, and an educational visit will also be included where possible.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Evolution of the horse, equine ethology.
- Inherent and acquired behaviour.
- Maintenance behaviour: behavioural and sensory homeostasis, reactivity, ingestion, body care, movement and rest and sleep.
- Behaviour patterns: reproduction, development of social behaviour, abnormal behaviour and stereotypes.
- Domestication of the horse and the changing use of the horse.
- An insight into measuring behaviour: preliminary observations, describing behaviour, categorising behaviour and the compilation of ethograms.
- Modern equine management and possible effects on equine welfare e.g. coping, stress, distress.
- Equine welfare: definition of welfare, assessment of welfare, equine needs, provision of good welfare, recognition of poor welfare
- ISES First Horse Training 10 Principles, the 5 Domains Model, TELOS.

Indicative Bibliography:

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

Essential Reads

McGreevy, P. (2016), *Equine Behavior: A Guide for Veterinarians and Equine Scientists*. Second edition. Edinburgh: Saunders Elsevier.

Other indicative reading

Bateson, M. & Martin, P. R. (2021), *Measuring Behaviour : An Introductory Guide*. Fourth edition / Melissa Bateson, Paul Martin. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

McGreevy, P. et al. (2018), *Equitation Science*. Second edition. Chichester: Wiley Blackwell.

Employability – the University Skills Framework

Each module and degree programme are designed to support learners as they develop their graduate skills aligned to the University Skills Framework.

Using the philosophies of the Active Learning Framework (ALF) our 10 skills are embedded within programmes complementing core academic subject knowledge and understanding. Through continuous self-assessment students own their individual skills journey and enhance their employability and career prospects.



This Module forms part of a degree programme that has been mapped against the University Skills Framework.

The Wrexham University Skills Framework Level Descriptors: An incremental and progressive approach.

Learners can use this document to identify where and how they are building skills and how they can develop examples of their success.

