

Animal Science - Undergraduate - 2021/22

Award level: BSc

UCAS Code: C300

Start Date: September 2021

Duration: 3 years

Location: Canterbury

Main quote

Choosing to do an animal science honours has allowed me to study deeper into animal anatomy and behaviour which will be beneficial for my future plans in becoming a veterinary nurse.

Main quote source

Maddie, Animal Science student

Course overview

If you are passionate about animal welfare, health and behaviour, this will provide you with a gateway to life-long learning about issues that will really matter to our shared future.

You will have the opportunity to take advantage of industrial collaborations with specialist research-based companies, including animal breeding and research companies, through the Industry Liaison Lab at Discovery Park, Sandwich.

Why study (course name)

Why study Animal Science?

Animal-based enterprises operate in a tightly regulated environment and require well trained, knowledgeable professionals with knowledge of animal welfare, health, and behaviour. On the course you will develop a detailed knowledge of animal husbandry, genetics, molecular biology, and biochemical and physiological processes, and have the opportunity to interact and work with a range of employers in the field.

Changes in animal welfare laws in Britain have meant that there is now more control and regulation of all animal-based enterprises. This has resulted in a greater need for a scientific approach to animal management and welfare across all businesses that work with animals. These sectors require well-prepared animal scientists who can apply their knowledge to emerging management issues.

Text after read more tag

[No Content]

Entry requirements

A typical offer would require between 88-112 UCAS tariff points. Of which 32 UCAS tariff points or equivalent (e.g. A level grade C or BTEC Subsidiary Diploma grade Merit) are in science subject, for example, biology, chemistry.

For more information on the IELTS (International English language Testing System) requirements for this course, [\[please click here to visit our dedicated web page.\]\(https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/study-here/international/english-language-requirements\)](https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/study-here/international/english-language-requirements)

[\[More information about entry requirements.\]\(/study-here/applying/entry-requirements\)](/study-here/applying/entry-requirements)

All about the course Year 1 text

You will learn about animal genetics, breeding, diseases, behaviour and more, and will have the opportunity to work with a range of employers in the field by taking advantage of the University's Life Sciences Industry Liaison Lab at Discovery Park.

Throughout the course, you'll be challenged to apply your thinking to different scientific issues and undertake field studies (including a residential field trip) to study animals in captivity and in their natural environment. There is a strong emphasis on practical work in our newly opened, state-of-the-art laboratories. Over three years you will develop the skills to collect and analyse scientific data independently as you research topics of your own choice, often with specific employment goals in mind.

As well as developing essential scientific knowledge and skills, you'll explore animal biochemistry, physiology, genetics and welfare in depth, investigate the diversity of life, animal pests and diseases, such as cancer, and study animal reproduction and development in detail.

Year 1 modules

Biochemistry 1
Statistics and
Introduction to 'R'
Software
Cell Biology
and Genetics
Microbiology
Chemistry for Life and
Environmental Science
Diversity, Evolution and
Ecology

Year 2 modules

Molecular Biology and
Biotechnology
Animal
Anatomy and
Physiology

Animal Genetics
Bioinformatics
and Data
Handling Animal
Pests and
Diseases

Optional modules at Level 5:
Animal
Behavioural
Ecology Work
Placement

Year 3 modules

Honours Project in Animal
Science (40 credits) Animal
Conservation and
Husbandry Immunology
and Cancer Biology
Animal Reproduction
and Development
Advanced
Bioinformatics

Learning and teaching quote

Animal industries need talented, enthusiastic graduates that understand the working of animals from the biochemistry, physiology, anatomy, genetics, behaviour, health, disease and husbandry which can lead to a whole range of exciting careers.

Learning and teaching quote source

Dr Carol Trim

Learning and teaching quote job title

Senior Lecturer in Biology - Course advocate for animal science

Learning and Teaching tab 1 label

Modules

Learning and teaching tab 1 text

You'll study the modules listed below. Module descriptors will follow in due course.

Level 4:

Biochemistry 1
Statistics and
Introduction to 'R'
Software Cell Biology
and Genetics

Microbiology
Chemistry for Life and
Environmental Science
Diversity, Evolution and
Ecology

Level 5:

Molecular Biology
and Biotechnology
Animal Anatomy
and Physiology
Animal Genetics
Bioinformatics
and Data
Handling Animal
Pests and
Diseases

Optional modules at Level 5:

Animal
Behavioural
Ecology Work
Placement

Level 6:

Honours Project in Animal
Science (40 credits) Animal
Conservation and
Husbandry Immunology
and Cancer Biology
Animal Reproduction
and Development
Advanced
Bioinformatics

Learning and teaching tab 2 label

Teaching

Learning and teaching tab 2 text

You will be taught through a combination of blended learning with workshops, laboratory practicals and seminars.

Workshops will enable you to discuss and develop your understanding of topics covered in lectures. In addition, you will meet with your academic personal tutor at least once each semester, but you are encouraged to arrange additional meetings as required.

You will use industry-standard software as well as have access to

specialist facilities and equipment throughout your course. In year 3, you will conduct an independent research project that can cater to your particular interests and skills development. You will be supervised by a member of our academic team and guided in undertaking independent research, data analysis and presentation of your results. Depending on the topic of your project, you may also have the opportunity to collaborate with an industry partner on an industry-relevant research project.

Your actual contact hours depend on the option modules you select.

Learning and teaching tab 3 label

Independent study

Learning and teaching tab 3 text

When not attending workshops, practical sessions or other timetabled activities you will continue learning through self-study that will be structured for you by the module leader for each module. Typically, this involves reading journal articles and books, engaging with online learning materials (videos, quizzes etc.), undertaking research in the library, working on projects, and preparing for coursework assignments/examinations, workshops and seminars.

Your module tutor will direct you towards specific readings and/or activities to complete before class.

For the Honours Project module in year three, you will undertake independent research. You will work under the supervision of a member of our academic team, with support of other members of the teaching team where necessary. You will also meet with your supervisor regularly.

Learning and teaching tab 4 label

Academic input

Learning and teaching tab 4 text

The team consists of highly qualified academics. They have a range of expertise and experience.

All our team members hold doctoral and teaching qualifications. They are research-active and they have experience in delivering research-informed teaching. You should note members of the teaching team might change.

Postgraduate students sometimes assist in teaching and assessing some modules. However, experienced academics teach the vast majority of lectures and seminars.

Assessment text

The course provides you with opportunities to test your understanding of the subject informally before you complete the formal assessments that count towards your final mark. Practice assessments are developmental

and any grades you receive for them do not count towards your module mark.

There is also a formal or 'summative' assessment element for each of the modules. Assessment methods include a range of coursework assessments, such as laboratory reports, literature reviews, skills assessments, presentations and your final year major project. Some modules also have a formally assessed exam. The grades from formal assessments count towards your module mark.

Percentage of the course assessed by coursework

The balance of assessment by examination and assessment by coursework depends to some extent on the optional modules you choose.

Typically, there will be two coursework assessments weighted at 50% and 40% and a practical skills portfolio weighted at 10%. Some modules will have an exam that replaces the 50% piece of coursework.

Feedback

You will receive feedback on all practice assessments and on formal assessments undertaken by coursework. Feedback on examination performance is available upon request from the module leader. Feedback is intended to help you learn and you are encouraged to discuss it with your module leader or personal academic tutor.

We aim to provide you with feedback within 15 working days of hand-in (formal coursework assessment).

Careers text

Engaging with this course will make you a skilled animal scientist who is ideally prepared for work in areas such as zoos and wildlife parks, veterinary situations, farms, research laboratories and wildlife conservation. To help prepare you for employment, you'll also develop broad transferable skills so that you become a work-ready graduate, set for a career in a wide range of animal care, welfare and management settings, and for further advanced study at MSc or PhD level.

Careers quote

The welcoming atmosphere made me settle in straight away, with supportive supervisors guiding me to succeed in my studies. There are also many opportunities to work and gain experience alongside your studies which help you gain the valuable skills employers are looking for.

Careers quote source

Luke

Careers quote job title

Now studying for a Masters degree