

Access to Higher Education Diploma in Land-Based Studies - Agriculture



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Subject	Level	Study Mode	Duration	Start Date
Agriculture	Level 3	Full-Time	1 year	September 2026

Practical vs Theory



The Course

Access to Higher Education courses are designed to prepare students aged 19+ to study a degree. This pathway includes specialist Agriculture units, enabling you to fully tailor your study programme to suit your future progression or career aims. The programme makes full use of the college's facilities, including our mixed-use commercial farm.

What You Will Study

- > Introduction to business
- > Higher Education study skills
- > Organisations, people and products
- > Land-based skills
- > Introduction to science
- > Science of life
- > Bioscience
- > Chemistry
- > Research project
- > Specialist Agriculture modules covering crop production, livestock production and technology

Entry Requirements

You will need GCSEs in English, Maths and Science at grade 4 or above, or equivalent qualifications, as well as relevant industry experience. You can study English/Maths alongside your course if you don't have these grades.

Teaching and Learning Approach

You will undertake a range of theoretical and practical sessions.

Time Required on Campus

You will usually be on campus three days per week.

Work Experience

You will gain practical experience on our farm. We also encourage you to take part in external work experience to supplement your learning.

How You're Assessed

You will be assessed through a practical assessment, lab experiments and reports, assignments and presentations/professional discussion.

Clothing, Equipment and Additional Costs

- > Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) including high-visibility jacket/bib, overalls, steel toe capped boots, wellingtons, waterproof coat and trousers, and a lab coat.
- > Stationery including a lever arch file, dividers, hole punched lined paper, pencil case, pens and pencils.
- > A laptop is desirable but not essential.

Progression

On completion of this course students can progress onto a range of Foundation Degrees at the college, including in Agriculture.

Careers

Work in a wide range of exciting and diverse areas, including as an arable and livestock farm assistant or manager, agronomist, animal feed specialist and many more.