FdSc Applied Equine Management (Therapy)

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Subject	Level	Study Mode	Duration	Start Date
Equine	Foundation Degree (Level 5)	Full-Time	2 years full-time/3 years part-time	September 2026

The Course

This programme is designed to develop excellent equine practical management skills underpinned with sound academic knowledge to promote the health and well-being of horses whilst enhancing welfare and performance. You will study a breadth of modules surrounding equine management and undertake a vast amount of practical experience on our busy commercial equine centre to be well prepared to enter a variety of applied roles in the industry. The therapy pathway provides you with valuable skills in the assessment of the horse and ability to implement, monitor and assess the role of specialist equipment.

Course Aims

- Develop you into a critically informed, reflective and adaptable graduate prepared to enter a wide variety of scientific roles. Give you the key theoretical underpinning of scientific principles surrounding application of equine management practices. Equip you with practical skills and vocational experience in preparation for entering a diverse range of employment opportunities within the equine management, training and reproduction roles. Enable you to become an independent student with a reflective approach to enhancing your own career prospects and continued professional development. Equip you with the skills, knowledge and understanding to work effectively in the equine industry, with specialisms developing towards therapy and rehabilitation. Ensure that you have the ability to assess and explore alternative solutions to promote health and performance.

What You Will Study

Year 1

- Equine Anatomy and Physiology
- Academic, Employment and Professional Skills
- Applied Vocational Equine Management
- Introduction to Equine Therapy
- Introduction to Research Skills
- Equine Industry and Event Management
- OPTION MODULE - You will select from one of the following two modules. (Option modules will run where there are sufficient student numbers, otherwise an alternative option module may be offered.)
- Equine Multi-disciplinary Team
- Equitation (A ridden assessment will be required to select this option. For the welfare of both students and horses, a rider weight limit of 13 stone (83 kg) applies when riding college horses. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact admissions@bishopburton.ac.uk.)

Year 2

- Exercise Physiology
- Equine Facility Management
- Equine Therapeutic Modalities and Ground Schooling
- Introductory Research Analysis
- Equine Reproductive Physiology
- OPTION MODULE - You will select from one of the following two modules. (Option modules will run where there are sufficient student numbers, otherwise an alternative option module may be offered.)
- Equine Behaviour and Welfare
- Advanced Equitation (A ridden assessment will be required to select this option. For the welfare of both students and horses, a rider weight limit of 13 stone (83 kg) applies when riding college horses. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact admissions@bishopburton.ac.uk.)

Entry Requirements

You will be required to have:

- A minimum of 72 UCAS points

AND

- GCSE English at grade 4 or above, or an equivalent qualification

- A suitable reference

- Equitation modules require riding to be at the level of working towards BHS Stage 2

UCAS points may be from qualifications such as A Levels, T Levels, BTEC Level 3 Extended Diplomas, Access to Higher Education Diplomas, and City and Guilds Advanced Technical Diplomas amongst others. Please use the UCAS Tariff points calculator to determine the UCAS points value of your qualifications.

Life and/or experience of non-traditional students will be taken into account when considering applications. The successful completion of an entry task may be required when considering applications without the required formal entry qualifications.

If your first language is not English, or a Tier 4 student visa to study is required and GCSE grade C/4 English or equivalent is not held, English language proficiency level such as International English

Language Testing System (IELTS) 6.0 overall (with a minimum 5.5 in each skill) will need evidencing.

Advanced entry may be possible due to prior experience or certificated learning; applicants will need to complete the accreditation of prior learning approval process. If you have an appropriate HNC, you can apply for direct entry to Year 2.

Teaching and Learning Approach

This programme is delivered with a variety of learning and teaching approaches to include all students' learning styles and preferences. For all modules, theory lectures are delivered that aim to deliver the core content and provide the underpinning knowledge. To complement the theory lectures, you will have group seminars/practical sessions that are used to reinforce concepts delivered theoretically, utilising excellent laboratory facilities and equine centre. The teaching methods focus on facilitating a student-centred approach to enhance your independent learning outside of the classroom. Within work based learning modules you will undertake weekly yard experience with both academic and commercial instructors, developing both industry and transferable skills.

Time Required on Campus

FULL TIME: You will have approximately 12-16 hours of contact time each week, including lectures, seminars, practicals and tutorials. This is inclusive of four hours experience per week at our commercial Equine Centre at level 4 and two hours per week at level 5. You are also expected to carry out a significant amount of private study in addition to contact time (25-30 hours a week).
PART TIME: You will have approximately 6-11 hours of contact time each week, including lectures, seminars, practicals and tutorials. This is inclusive of four hours experience per week at our commercial Equine Centre. You are also expected to carry out a significant amount of private study in addition to contact time (18-20 hours a week). You can expect to receive your timetable during induction week.

Work Experience

You will undertake 80 hours of external work placements within an appropriate establishment during level 4 of the programme. You will participate in work experience in the Bishop Burton Equine Therapy Centre within your second year of study.

How You’re Assessed

The programme will incorporate a variety of assessment methods across each academic year. The mix of assessments will seek to challenge and evaluate your knowledge, understanding and skills. Assessments for this programme may include written assignments, time constrained assessments, logbooks/portfolios, practical assessments, seminars and presentations, project-based assessments and examinations. Tutors provide support for assessments in class. There will also be opportunity for formative assessment and feedback during the delivery of each module to monitor learning, and to support and prepare you for the summative assessments which make up the module. Feedback on your summative assessments will be given which will allow you to guide efforts and activities in subsequent modules. Staff aim to return assessed work within a 20 working day timeframe (not including holidays) so that you can most benefit from the feedback.

Clothing, Equipment and Additional Costs

- A tablet, smartphone, laptop or stationery to take notes in lectures and seminars.
- White laboratory coat.
- Riding hat to current (PAS015 (2011) with BSI kitemark) standard in a dark plain colour or silk.
- Plain, dark coloured trousers or breeches or jodhpurs, not jeans.
- Gloves for horse handling.
- Suitable yard boots or wellington boots (NB: Boots are not permitted within the classroom, so a change of footwear will be required).
- If you are undertaking any riding at Bishop Burton, you will also need: A body protector (BETA Level Three 2018. We do not permit air jackets in any day to day sessions), long riding boots or short boots with gaiters, schooling/jumping whip, long sleeved base layer or thin top, soft peaked hat or preferably jockey skull hat and silk to the standards listed above.
- You may require an enhanced DBS Disclosure, which would be at your own expense. You can check the current cost on the www.gov.uk website.
- Any educational visits/trips and enrichment activities will be additional to the course fees, students will be made aware of these optional visits and associated costs as required.
- Students can access free British Horse Society exam training onsite during their studies, the examination cost and BHS membership is an additional cost (exams can be undertaken onsite).
- On successful completion of the programme, you will have the opportunity to graduate at a ceremony wearing formal dress. The hire of the formal dress is an additional cost.

Progression

This programme prepares you to go on to undertake practitioner level qualifications, such as in Equine Sports Massage. It is also designed to enable you to progress on to level 6 study, and allows progression onto the Level 6 of the BSc (Hons) Equine Therapy and Rehabilitation at University Centre Bishop Burton. Attainment of the top-up programme then enables you to progress to postgraduate study, including MSc Veterinary Physiotherapy and MSc Animal Manipulation (Chiropractic), in addition to broader Equine Performance and Science related Masters level programmes, enabling further progression onto Doctoral level.

Careers

Upon graduating from this programme you could follow a career in the wide and diverse equine industry as a self-employed equine musculoskeletal therapist (NB: an additional practitioner level qualification must be attained to achieve practitioner status); assistant/operative within equine rehabilitation or welfare centres; equine facility supervisor and manager; racehorse rehabilitation centre manager; events manager.

Financial Information

Find the full details of the fees associated with this programme and the financial support available on our https://www.bishopburton.ac.uk/degree-level-courses/information/fees-and-finance.

How to Apply

To apply, scan the QR code at the top of this page!

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