BSc (Hons) Canine Behaviour Management [Top Up]

Subject	Level	Study Mode	Duration	Start Date
Animal Sciences	Bachelors Degree (Level 6)	Part-Time	2 years	September 2026

The Course

Are you excited to learn about the science behind canine behaviour management and apply it to improving the lives of dogs and their owners? This BSc (Hons) Canine Behaviour Management (Top Up) degree programme is aimed at students who have already completed an FdSc Level 5 programme or equivalent, offering a blend of academic theory and practical consulting and counselling knowledge relating to canine behaviour management. This will give the next generation of canine consultants and counsellors the opportunity to acquire additional expertise in advanced canine behaviour management. On this programme, you will have opportunities to assess canine behaviour and apply advanced consulting and counselling techniques to real-world situations. You will have the chance to conduct research projects with the option of using our on-site commercial boarding kennels and laboratory facilities, contributing to the advancement of canine behaviour studies. Key features of the programme include: - Industry knowledge, providing a deep understanding of advanced canine behaviour analysis and evidence-based training methods applying theoretical knowledge to real-world professional situations. - Practical skill development, planning and executing effective training sessions tailored to individual dogs needs, through experience with real-world cases refining behaviour assessment and modification skills. - Enhancing professionalism, equipping you with the tools to succeed in the industry through effective client consultation, behaviour counselling and high-quality service delivery. - Engaging in research opportunities, exploring behaviour theories fostering academic growth and contributing to the fields development connecting with professionals building valuable relationships enhancing career prospects and opportunities for mentorship and collaboration.

Course Aims

> Develop your academic understanding of canine behaviour theories.
> Provide you with the theoretical knowledge and understanding of canine learning and humane training techniques.
> Give you a greater understanding of the disciplines and factors that relate to canine behaviour and training.

What You Will Study

Year 1

> Human Factors of Canine Behaviour Consulting
> Animal Cognition
> Final Project

Year 2

> Advanced Learning Theory
> Holistic Behavioural Modification
> Final Project (continued from Year 1)

Entry Requirements

You should have a relevant Level 5 qualification and an appropriate academic reference.

Relevant 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.

Teaching and Learning Approach

This programme is delivered with a variety of learning and teaching approaches designed to include all students' learning styles and preferences. For all modules, webinar theory lectures are delivered that aim to provide the core content in an interactive manner, providing underpinning knowledge. To compliment webinar theory lectures, students have asynchronous seminars that are used to reinforce concepts delivered theoretically. Online webinars emphasise a student-centred approach to enhance independent learning taking place outside of the webinar lecture sessions. Using the webinar software, staff are able to monitor engagement to ensure participation.

Time Required on Campus

As a blended learning course, the majority of your lectures will be done remotely via online webinars. Lectures are delivered via online learning in three-hour sessions per week in the evenings, 6-9pm GMT. On occasions, this may be split over two evenings. In addition to the three hours in class, you will have additional tasks/activities set each week that need to be completed at a time to suit you during that week. In total, contact time will be approximately four hours a week to include lectures, seminars, asynchronous sessions, support sessions. Additional to this time will be final project support sessions that you can book with your supervisor and individual tutorials with your Programme Leader. You will have four individual tutorials in an academic year. You are also expected to carry out private study in addition to contact time (as a guide, each 20 credit module requires 200 hours of study time inclusive of lecture time) which equates to approximately 10 hours of study per week over the duration of the module, of which you will be taught one module per semester whilst working on your Final Project. This programme is delivered online. You can expect to receive your timetable during induction week.

Work Experience

There is no formal work experience required as part of this programme, however relevant extra-curricular activity and/or work experience is encouraged to enhance your learning.

How You're Assessed

Assessment includes written assignments, presentations and project work. There are no formal examinations. Opportunities for feedback on assessments are available prior to the final submission to support your development and achievement. 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

> Students will require regular access to a computer with a reliable broadband internet connection in order to participate in webinars, download learning materials, watch recorded webinars and submit assignments.
> A headset with microphone will be required for participation in webinars and on-line tutorials. Appropriate software is required: Microsoft Office and OpenOffice (freeware) are the only office suites supported.
> A wide range of resources are available for use both on and offsite for final projects but it may not be possible to purchase/service all requests therefore students need to be aware that they may need to self-fund some elements.
> Dogs are not required to attend the College for this programme and therefore are not permitted on the college campus.
> For any student that requires the use of an assistance dog, prior arrangements must be made with the programme leader to ensure suitable facilities and provision is provided on site if visiting the facilities. Appropriate insurance must be held and evidenced before your dog is permitted on site.
> 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

Upon successful completion of this programme, graduates may choose to progress to the MSc Applied Animal Behaviour and Training or MSc Animal Behaviour and Welfare, which are available through blended learning at University Centre Bishop Burton.

Careers

Graduates can pursue careers such as dog training instructor, running training classes or private sessions, and canine behaviour consultant working with dog owners, vets or shelters to assess and modify problematic behaviours.