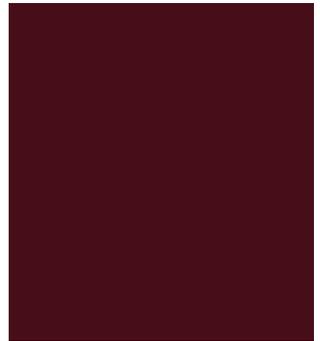




University of
BRISTOL

Undergraduate Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science



Faculty of Medical and
Veterinary Sciences



I chose to study Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science at Bristol because of the reputation of the course for providing quality teaching by world-class researchers in the field, and because of the wide range of interesting topics covered in the course schedule; I was not disappointed! One of the amazing things about the course is the number of disciplines it covers.

Lauren

BSc Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science 2011
PhD student, University of Bristol



Why study animal behaviour and welfare science at Bristol?

If you are interested in biology, and want to investigate what makes wild and domestic animals tick and how human activity affects them, then our degree in Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science may be just what you're looking for. This course will help you develop your knowledge and skills in the subject within a friendly, engaging environment.

You will study how animals function and interact with each other and with humans, and learn how to assess and discuss their welfare objectively. You will learn how to apply your scientific and theoretical knowledge to globally relevant, practical problems in agriculture, conservation and research, and developing skills that can improve human interaction with companion animals.

At Bristol, you'll be taught by some of the world's leading animal behaviour and welfare scientists. We are a large and active research group, and many of us work with industry, animal charities and other academics in the UK and abroad. Our fundamental and applied research informs our teaching, so you will always be studying current topics relevant to real life and at the cutting edge of behaviour and welfare science.

The degree is accredited by the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour, and satisfies the academic requirements for certification as a clinical animal behaviourist.

98%

of students are satisfied overall with the quality of the course (National Student Survey 2013)



What will I study?

Single Honours course

BSc Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science, three years

D390

In the first year, you will be based in the brand new Life Sciences building within the School of Biological Sciences, where you will be given a foundation in advanced biology. During the second and third years teaching takes place at the School of Veterinary Sciences, situated in the beautiful countryside around Langford. We aim to provide you with a scientific understanding of the biological principles underlying animal behaviour and welfare, and their application to current-day issues. Specialised teaching and clinical skills facilities are available, with opportunities for direct contact with a range of farm and companion animals.

In year one, you will take units in Life Processes, The Diversity of Life and Key Concepts for Biologists within the School of Biological Sciences. You will also have academic tutorials in small groups of six to eight students.

In each of years two and three you will study three units covering animal behaviour and methods of scientifically assessing animal welfare across many species. In year two you will complete a work placement, and an integral part of the final year

is an original research project undertaken with a member of research staff.

The year two Animal Behaviour unit covers motivation, learning, communication, behavioural ecology and physiological processes underlying behaviour. In year three, you will further your knowledge of animal behaviour, cognition and learning and its application in farming, conservation and the treatment of domestic animals. You will be given supervised access to clients attending small animal clinics at the School of Veterinary Science, developing your skills in the diagnosis and treatment of companion animal behavioural problems.

The Animal Welfare unit will teach methods of assessing welfare, and introduce issues relating to disease, fear, pain, and abnormal behaviour. An important part of year two is the programme of visits to see how animals are kept and treated, and why. You can expect to visit pigs, chickens, dogs, cats, horses, and animals kept at zoos and rescue centres. In year three, you will use the knowledge and skills you have acquired to devise valid methods of assessing the welfare of animals in farm, zoo or laboratory contexts, and suggest improvements to current housing, transport and slaughter processes.

These strands are complemented by a unit in each year on Scientific Method and Ethics. These will teach you about the philosophy of science and the origins of ethics, as well as cultural perspectives and ethical frameworks for making decisions related to animal use. The mechanics of conducting good science will be introduced, including experimental design and statistical analysis.

Throughout the course, we run a course-specific careers and employability programme in conjunction with the University's Careers Service. This provides you with the tools, experience and contacts you need for deciding what you want to do after graduating, and achieving it. You will receive help in choosing and making the most of your work placements, how to put together applications and present yourself effectively at interviews, and how to meet your full potential with subject-specific and transferable skills.

Teaching methods

Lectures and practicals form part of the teaching in each year of the course, with frequent seminars and tutorial sessions in small groups. You will receive lots of feedback, and

many assignments that will help you develop your skills in essay writing, preparing reports, and giving presentations.

Assessment

Assessment during all three years is based on coursework and end of year examinations. Exams involve computer-based tests, short-answer and some essay-type papers.

94%

of students agree staff are good at explaining things (National Student Survey 2013)



What are my career prospects?

The broad-based scientific and quantitative content of the BSc degree course gives you an excellent foundation from which to pursue a research career in a wide range of biological disciplines. Many of our graduates go on to take higher degrees in animal-related subjects (MSc, PhD).

Others have found work with EU and UK government bodies concerned with policy on animal use, in industry as farm assurance advisers, with animal welfare charities and wildlife parks. With additional supervised experience, you may choose to work as a clinical animal behaviourist dealing with behavioural problems in pets.

You will also be equipped to gain employment in a wide range of areas outside of the animal behaviour and welfare sector, such as management, teaching, finance and the media. Over 90 per cent of our graduates are at work or in further study after six months.

£26k

average salary six months after graduation*

*Destination of Leavers from Higher Education survey 2011/12



Making your application

Entrance requirements

Typical offer for BSc Animal Behaviour and Welfare Science

Please visit bristol.ac.uk/ug15-animalbehaviour for other qualifications

A-levels ABB (contextual offer BBB[†]) including Biology and at least one other science/mathematics subject*

IB Diploma 33 points overall (contextual offer 32[†]) with 6, 6, 5 at Higher level including Biology and at least one other science*

Access Pass Access to HE Diploma (Science) including two sciences at Level 3, with 30 credits at Distinction and 15 credits at Merit

English Language Profile E**

GCSEs Grade C in Mathematics, English and Science

Selection UCAS or Common Application

Part-time study Not available

Deferred entry Welcomed

Academic qualifications *Geography is accepted as a science subject for this course

**For details of English language profiles

please visit bristol.ac.uk/study/

[undergraduate/language-requirements](http://bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/language-requirements)

[†]For information on contextual offers please visit

bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/#typical-contextual-offers

When making your application, you might like to consider the following points:

- It would help you to have an interest in both theoretical and practical approaches to study, because fundamental science and theory underpins what we teach, and its practical applications.
- What previous experience have you had with animals, outside the usual interactions with your own pets?
- Are you interested in society and why people hold different ethical views about animals? Do you have an analytical mind? How have you used a logical or rational approach to solve a problem in school projects or extracurricular activities?
- The course will require independent work, and so your personal statement and reference should show that you are self-motivated and work hard. For example, do you participate in extracurricular activities which require you to organise your time effectively and without supervision?

Further information

Find out more about animal behaviour and welfare science at Bristol: bristol.ac.uk/vetscience/study/undergraduate/abw.



Contacts

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bristol.ac.uk/citybristol

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bristol.ac.uk/ug-study

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