

Animal Science **C305**



Supplement to
Undergraduate
Handbook

**Degree information
and *alternative*
Module Catalogue**

Best read on a PC

(you can't study for your degree
from your phone)



This is a pilot format for degree information including an

****Alternative Module Catalogue****

It has been designed with input from students.

We hope it is useful in flagging opportunities to you, giving you key information as you start your degree and top tips as you progress.

It gives an overview of all stages of your degree and will assist with module selection.

Please do make suggestions of things that we could include/improve to help you or if you spot errors (email your degree programme director).

Please also remember that some of this information is available in full on various webpages, and via Canvas and other support services which you will be signposted to during induction and the usual official university communications.

You MUST ***read your emails daily***, your university newsletters, your SNES student bulletin at the start of every month, and **set your announcements (NOT all notifications)** from all your modules to send the updates immediately to your email. This is SO important for keeping on track and ensuring that you **don't miss opportunities**.

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17. NES1001 Introduction to Business Management
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Contents continued

20. Stage 3 Modules

To follow

Acronyms

You will be bombarded with acronyms, initially confusing, these become second nature.

NU Newcastle University

SNES School of Natural and Environmental Sciences
– one of several 'schools' which are groupings of degrees and research groups. It is the home of Agriculture degrees and much research.

SAgE The Faculty of Science, Agriculture and Engineering. A grouping of schools. There are 3 Faculties at Newcastle University. HASS is Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, FMS is the Faculty of Medical Sciences.

DPD Your degree programme director (they deliver excellent degrees, not packages).

NESS a tool for recording your marks, used in exam boards and to calculate your final degree classification.

Welcome

Welcome from your
Degree Programme
Directors!
DPDs



Congratulations! You did it!

You achieved the qualifications to get here, therefore you have the ability to succeed! Now it is up to you to do yourself proud. Take advantage of all the opportunities and support available to you to get an excellent degree, learn about research and innovations and position yourself for an interesting and fulfilling career, making a positive contribution to your university experience and the world beyond.

This *alternative* degree handbook supplement/module catalogue provides information about your degree content whilst showcasing additional opportunities available to you and top tips from fellow students and staff members. This booklet complements the main SNES undergraduate student handbook. Make sure you read this too!

When the time comes to choose modules, full details can be found in the searchable university module catalogue.

As the Degree Programme Director (DPD) I am part of a team, committed to supporting you and making your time at Newcastle engaging and challenging (in a good way). We will collectively take you out of your comfort zone, we will query your assumptions and expect you to adopt an open mind and apply your learning in different contexts. Flick through this booklet to meet the team and find out 'Who helps with what?'

We wish you the very best in your studies and urge you to get involved more widely with opportunities available to you, for example, become a student representative, a peer mentor, a key member of a club or society. If there are guest lectures, optional field visits, conferences... jump at the chance and do consider the amazing experience of studying abroad for a year or securing a professional placement for a year.

We look forward to getting to know you over the next 3 or 4 years.

Dr Catherine Douglas and Dr Ankush Prashar
(Degree Programme Director and Deputy)

What to Expect

Your degree has three stages (you may also take an additional professional placement or study abroad year)

Students must achieve 40% in each module to pass. Stage 2 marks contribute 25%, and Stage 3 75%, of your final grade.

Degree classifications: 70%+ first class 'a 1st'; 60-69% upper second class '2:1'; 50-59% lower second class '2:2'; 40-49% third class 3rd

120 credits per stage in 10/20 credit modules

10 credits = 100 hours of study, including lectures **and independent study** (note taking, preparation for lectures, follow up, additional reading, assessment preparation and revision, you have to do more than sit in a lecture)

Learning Methods:

Your degree includes a variety of types of learning, see below. You will be required to do **a significant amount of independent study**.

Guest speakers



Field trip



Reflective learning



Small group teaching



Workshops/tutorials



Group discussion



Lab work/practicals



Placement



Independent study



Lectures



Assessment preparation



Skills practise



Independent reading



Group work



You may be assessed to learn e.g. researching for an assignment or have your learning assessed e.g. an exam, throughout the year.

Your Animal Science Degree covers:

BSc Animal Science (AS C305) is often delivered with students in the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, particularly Agriculture for the more applied modules and Biology and Zoology for the fundamental science

- Introduction to Sustainability
- Sustainability in Practice
- Cells and Biomolecules
- Introduction to Physiology
- Animal Health
- Agri-Food Supply Chains
- Academic and Professional Skills

Plus, either: Introduction to Business Management
Or Natural Science Research Impact



Stage 1

- Sustainable Animal Production Systems
- Domestic Animal Reproduction and Genetic Improvement
- Macro- and Micronutrients
- Animal Feed Science and Technology
- Sustainable Solutions
- Dissertation and Research Preparation

Plus, a choice from:

- **Animal Parasitology, Animal Behaviour**, Human Resource Management, Career Development, Marketing Strategy, Animal Function (Physiology and Development), Insect Biology and Origins, **Vertebrate Biology**
- Those in bold are recommended but follow your interests.



Stage 2

- Animal Science Conference - Current Issues and Debates
- Dissertation
- Animal Welfare and Behaviour
- Applied Animal Nutrition
- Reproduction in Farm and Companion Animals

And a choice of the following:

- Forage Utilization
- Your Future – Occupational Awareness
- Career Development for Final Year Students
- Insight, Innovate, Impact
- Physiological Zoology

You may be able to choose a module from Stage 2 that you didn't take or take a module of interest from the Agriculture degree. See pages on choosing your modules.



Stage 3

Detailed regulations including credits are within the booklet

Degree Regulations, Degree Specifications, Module Catalogue and Behaviour Contract

Read the full degree **regulations** [here](#).

The **specifications** [here](#) show you the degree programme **aims (knowledge and skills)** and the modules in which you are gaining these.

At the end of this booklet you will find an **alternative module catalogue** - a detailed summary of **ALL your compulsory and optional modules**.



You said, we listened! Students have asked for an easy-to-use overview and here it is. Use now out of interest and ahead of module selection - first week of Stage 1 and 'pre-registration' in March each year.

There are also **videos on choosing modules** that you will refer to nearer the time.

The **behaviour contract** is an agreement that both staff and students have signed up to being a part of NU. It's particularly around **respect**, behaving as **ambassadors** for the university (**even when off campus**) also how to behave respectfully to staff and other students in lectures.



Student Top Tips:

Don't chat to each other during lectures it is distracting for everyone. Do ask questions and join in with discussions while respecting others' viewpoints

Key Dates

Semester dates:

One: Monday 16th September 2024 to Friday 24th January 2025

Two: Monday 27th January 2025 to Friday 6th June 2025

Term dates:

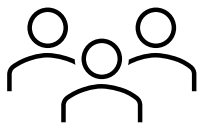
Autumn: Monday 16th September 2024 to Friday 13th December 2024

Spring: Monday 6th January 2025 to Friday 28th March 2025

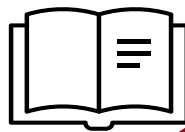
Summer: Monday 28th April 2025 to Friday 6th June 2025

For more information visit: www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/term-dates/

Induction week
commences 16th
September 2024



Enrichment
week 4th
November 2024



Lectures between
9am-6:30pm Mon to
Thurs and 9-5,30 on Fri



Exam dates:

Semester One: Monday 6th January 2025 to Friday 17th January 2025
(including Saturday 11th January)

Semester Two: Monday 12th May 2025 to Friday 30th May 2025
(including Saturday 17th May and Saturday 24th May)

Resits/Deferrals: Monday 4th August 2025 to Friday 15th August 2025
(including Saturday 9th August)

For more information visit: www.ncl.ac.uk/exams/exam-dates/

Graduation dates:

Summer 2025 Ceremonies: Monday 7th September 2025 to Friday
18th July 2025 (provisional dates only, to be confirmed early 2025)

For more information visit: www.ncl.ac.uk/congregations/

Read the Student Bulletin for up-to-date key dates at:
ncl.instructure.com/courses/33032/pages/snes-student-bulletin



Student Top Tips:

"Make sure you have a good weekly/monthly planner/calendar to keep track of lectures, assessment deadlines, exams, degree events and other important tasks. It really helps you keep on top of your degree studies."

Meet the Team

SNES Support

Topic	Example	Who to Contact
Specific degree enquiries about assessments, PECS, modules, canvas, access problems with submission, induction, marks	When will my timetable be updated with my new module choices? Why can't I see my timetable on the student portal? They support this cluster of degrees AESSC@: Agriculture and Animal, Environment, Social Sciences Please be aware loads of the questions you have will have all the info that you need in the student bulletin direct to your inbox, also on the SNES Canvas community	snes.AESSC.support@ncl.ac.uk (Jane, Dana) 
General face to face enquiries incl. advice on PECS, Student Travel Fund bookings	During induction: I arrived late due to visa issues and wasn't able to collect my lab coat	snes.ops@ncl.ac.uk or visit The Hub in Agriculture Building (Alison and team)
Wellbeing support	I could do with a confidential listening ear and advice on a personal difficulty, especially if there's a delay in getting referred to Student Health and Wellbeing	SNESwellbeing@ncl.ac.uk (Ruth Woods) 
Disability or long-term health condition	How do I apply for extra time during my exams?	disabilityadvisor@ncl.ac.uk Disability Service
About your degree	Can I change to a different module?	catherine.douglas@ncl.ac.uk DPD
General academic or information or personal issues	How do I apply for a PEC? Which modules should I take?	Personal Tutor They can signpost you to the best support
About a module	I have read canvas but still have a question about the assignment. I was in the lecture and have done the recommended reading but am still a little confused How much of the reading list do I read?!!	Module Leader
About life as a university student	How do I book a study room in the library? Where's best to get pizza after 11pm? How do you manage your Canvas notifications?	Peer Mentor
Represent the academic interests of the students on the course	I have a suggestion of how to improve my course.	Course Representative
Study Abroad (SA)/ Placement year	How do I make a start researching my options to study Abroad / find a placement	Dr Albert Boaithey (SA) Albert.Boaithey@newcastle.ac.uk Careers Service for placement but also chat to your personal tutor/DPD
My personal tutor is away, or I do not feel that I can discuss this with them	You have an urgent personal tutor related matter, and your tutor is away. You may occasionally feel uncomfortable talking about a personal circumstance with your tutor, you will usually find that they are very approachable and supportive when you do, but there is also the Senior tutor.	Dr Jon Telling Jon.Telling@newcastle.ac.uk 

Meet the Team

Teaching Staff



Dr Catherine Douglas
DPD and Reader
(Animal Welfare and
Behaviour)



Dr Ankush Prashar
Deputy DPD and
Reader
(Digital Agriculture)



Mr Simon Parker
Senior Lecturer
(Farm Business
Management)



Dr Paul Bilsborrow
Senior Lecturer
(Crops)



Dr Jeremy Franks
Senior Lecturer
(Farm Business
Management)



Dr Abdul Chaudhry
Senior Lecturer
(Nutrition)



Professor Yit Arn Teh
(Soil Science)



Dr Amy Proctor
Senior Lecturer
(Social Sciences,
rural economy and
sustainability)



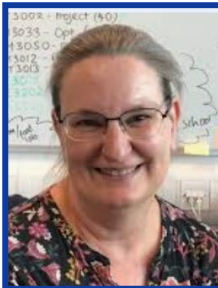
**Dr Miguel
Velazquez**
Lecturer
(Reproductive
Physiology)



**Dr Tom
Reershemius**
Lecturer
(Soil Science)



Dr Helen Adamson
Senior Lecturer
(Agri-ecosystems)



Dr Helen Mason
Lecturer
(Human and Animal
Nutrition)



Dr Carmen Hubbard
Reader (Agricultural
Economics and
Policy)



**Professor Lucy
Asher**
(Behaviour
Informatics)

Meet the Team

Teaching Staff



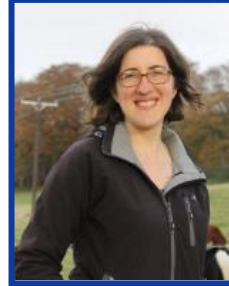
Dr Dave George
Reader
(Precision
Agronomy)



Dr Andrew Beard
Senior Lecturer
(Animal Science)



Dr Helen Gray
Lecturer
(Pig and Poultry
Welfare)



Dr Fritha Langford
Senior Lecturer
(Farm Animal
Welfare)



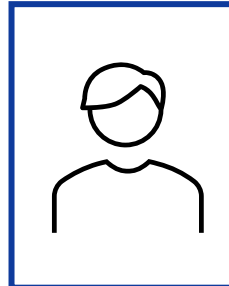
Dr Elisa Lopez-Capel
Senior Lecturer
(Soil Science)



Dr Mark Booth
Senior Lecturer
(Parasites and
Tropical diseases)



Dr Albert Boaitey
Lecturer
(Global Agrifood
Supply Chains)



**Dr Vasilios
Andriotis**
Lecturer
(Metabolic
Biochemistry)



Dr Fiona Cuskin
Lecturer
(Metabolic
Biochemistry)



**Dr Menelaos
Gkartzios**
Reader
(Planning & Rural
Development)



**Professor Neil
Boonham**
(Applied Crop
Science)



Dr Jessica Martin
Reader
(Animal Welfare
and Innovation)



Dr Hannah Davis
Lecturer
(Ruminant Nutrition
& Pasture
Management)



Dr Beth Clarke
Lecturer
(Food Marketing)

Contacting staff

How to contact staff

The **contact details** for module leaders and contributing lecturers will be available in each module's **Canvas** course. Some staff operate '**office hours**' i.e. good times to pop into **their office** with a question; some prefer a quick call via **Teams** to save you tramping across campus. Or many questions can be answered **via email**. Or via **discussion boards**, we are delighted when students help each other on the discussion boards in Canvas. For meetings, it is preferable to **arrange in advance** as you do not know if the lecturer will be on campus, lecturing, in a meeting, or dashing to the next lecture, unless they have advertised office hours or an **open-door** policy.

We aim to **reply within 2 working days**, but this can be a stretch at busy times when staff have long hours of lectures and meetings and emails are coming thick and fast, so a polite reminder can be helpful (and ensure you have looked on Canvas and other areas for the information first).

You can find email addresses and our office location on our **staff profiles** on the NU website (along with some of the interesting research projects that we are involved with). A google search will find us. Many of us are based on the **3rd, 4th and 5th Floor of the Agriculture Building**.

Emails are included in the module pages of the alternative module catalogue at the end of this document. Some key staff associated with our degrees are on the following page.

How should I address staff?

When contacting any member of staff via email, it is courteous and helpful to address them via their preferred title/name (usually their family name/surname), e.g. Dr Douglas or Professor Asher. If they prefer to be called by their first name, they will let you know.

Please also include a signature with your full name, course and stage, along with your student number.

Be sure to include an appropriate subject in the email subject field.

This is a professional correspondence and will be a) appreciated by staff who teach on multiple courses and modules b) a good habit for working life.

Also ensure you mention the module name if relevant including code.

If you have emailed previously on a matter, please use that email thread (so staff have the full contact and aren't searching for random details)

Staff indicate their preferred pronoun in their email signature (they/she/he).

Teams and Canvas

Sometimes a less formal quick Teams chat message will be appropriate. Indeed, Canvas has an inbox function for modules, but academics will let you know how best to contact them when you meet them in your modules / personal tutor meetings.

Locating staff

Here are some of the offices of key staff associated with your Agricultural Degree

Please be aware that lecturers have many commitments on campus, at our out stations (e.g. the farms), lecturing, meetings, personal tutor meetings, away at conferences or field trips (they are even allowed holiday ☺) so will not always be in their offices. It is a good idea to contact them first if you wanted to see them.

Dr Helen **Adamson** helen.adamson@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 5.15 (she/her)

Professor Lucy **Asher** Lucy.asher@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 6.08 (she/her)

Dr Andrew **Beard** Andrew.beard@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 4.06 (he/him)

Dr Paul **Bilsborrow** paul.bilsborrow@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 4.06 (he/him)

Professor Neil **Boonham** neil.boonham@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 6.05 (he/him)

Dr Abdul **Chaudhry** abdul.chaudhry@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 7.16 (he/him)

Dr Hannah **Davies** Hannah.davies@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 4.05 (they/them)

Dr Catherine **Douglas** catherine.douglas@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 4.04 (she/her)

Dr Jeremy **Franks** j.r.franks@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 4.09 (he/him)

Dr Dave **George** Dave.george1@ncl.ac.uk Cockle Park/AGRB 4.08 (he/him)

Dr Helen **Gray** helen.gray@newcastle.ac.uk AGRB 5.15 (she/her)

Dr Fritha **Langford** fritha.langford@newcastle.ac.uk AGRB 5.05 (she/her)

Dr Jess **Martin** jessica.martin@newcastle.ac.uk AGRB 5.11 (she/her)

Mr Simon **Parker** simon.parker@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 4.03 (he/him)

Dr Ankush **Prashar** ankush.prashar@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 4.02a (he/him)

Dr Tom **Reershemius** Tom.Reershemius@newcastle.ac.uk AGRB 4.07 (he/him)

Dr Miguel **Velazquez** Miguel.velazquez@ncl.ac.uk AGRB 7.15 (he/him)

Study Skills

Studying at University:

Stepping up to university studies can be challenging, but the Academic Skills Team has you covered. From one-to-one appointments to the 'Your Skills' resources, there is something to **support everyone**.

Get Ready to Study

Study skills support for your first year at university.

Get Ready to Study

Strengthen your study skills with resources that have been **created with students, for students**.

Ranging from quizzes and interactives to videos and animations, they provide you with the core skills you'll need during Stage 1. With blog posts by students sharing their experiences and what they learned in their first year.

For more information visit: www.ncl.ac.uk/academic-skills-kit/collections/get-ready-to-study/

Your Skills

A programme of events designed to give you the skills you need to develop your academic practice.

Your Skills

The Your Skills programme brings together wide-ranging workshops and resources, created and taught by teams from the Library and beyond. Sessions cover a range of academic skills, from planning to feedback; finding information to referencing, including events tailored to the specific skills needed to 'step up' from one stage of study to the next.

For more information visit: www.ncl.ac.uk/academic-skills-kit/collections/get-ready-to-study/

Academic Skills Kit

Advice on developing your academic skills and information about where you can go for support.

Academic Skills Kit

For even more resources and information visit: www.ncl.ac.uk/academic-skills-kit/



Student Top Tips:

"Make sure you take advantage of all the support available to you- it really helps you excel and can reduce stress."

Top Study Tips

It may seem obvious, but here goes:

- ✓ Go to all your lectures, practicals, tutorials, seminars (in person or online), do all the preparation and follow up (listen to a recording, do the reading, attend an extra lecture)
- ✓ If you don't understand something from a lecture or practical, ask questions. Lecturers and demonstrators are happy to help; [check resources on Canvas, including re-cap and the Reading List) discuss with your other students, you are a great support to each other]
- ✓ What you hear about in lectures and practicals isn't everything you need to know; you will have to read around. Journal papers are often the best source of up-to date information (but you will get guidance from your Reading Lists for each module);
- ✓ Respect deadlines, start early and don't lose marks for no reason by handing in work late;
- ✓ Read your practical schedules before you arrive at the session - you'll get a lot more out of it; Experiments don't always work, that's the nature of science - don't get disheartened by it;
- ✓ Work experience is a good thing, not only for your CV and bank account, but also to get you thinking about what you want to do next;
- ✓ Use the library (virtually and in person), not only could it save you money, by borrowing rather than buying textbooks (loads are ebooks), but it can be a great place to work;
- ✓ Take time out to relax, especially when you're revising for exams; and
- ✓ It isn't just about work! Enjoy the opportunities to do new things and meet new people.

- ✓ I would add to this, make the most of formative assessment, use all feedback and utilise other support - just 'ASK' (Academic Skills Kit) – a department based in the library helping you write, think critically and use feedback to improve.
- ✓ And did you know that you can often get past exam papers to assist with revision – but not all modules

Reference

Higher Education Academy, UK Centre for Bioscience, 2015, *Student Short Guide: Advice for Students Starting Their Bioscience Course*, available at <https://www.advance-he.ac.uk/knowledge-hub/student-short-guide-advice-students-starting-their-bioscience-course> accessed: 11.9.24)



Student Top Tips:

“Read the above” 😊

Facilities - NUFarms

Facilities

Our suite of programmes are supported by a range of facilities including our University Farms. At NUFarms we drive innovation in farming and agriculture through collaboration. Our research covers farming, animal welfare, soil sciences, agri-food systems and more. NUFarms cover 800ha across 3 sites in Northumberland. We are also a LEAF farm (Linking Education And Farming). The Institute for Agri-Food Research and Innovation operates out of NU farms, as do the Agritech Centres for Digital Innovation Applied to Livestock and for Crop Health and Protection. Newcastle University is also home to the Centre for Rural Economy, and National Innovation Centre for Rural Enterprise. We have over 50 commercially and publicly funded research and development projects. For full details look at NUFarms website, but better still, keep up to date with all the commercial and research activities by signing up to the NUFarms bulletin <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/farms/>

Cockle Park Farm

(north of Newcastle near Morpeth)

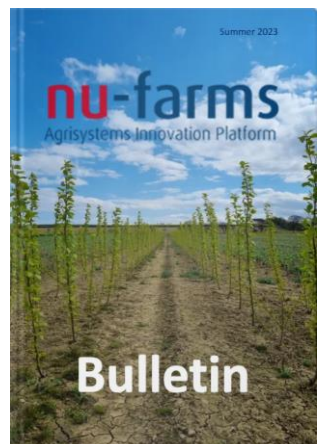
- Beef and Youngstock
- Calves
- Beef
- Pig Unit (under re development)
- Poultry Unit (temporary research)
- Currently for research only
- Arable Enterprises
 - Cereal Crops
 - Oilseed Crops
- Palace Leas
- Forage Crops and Stores
- Anaerobic Digestion Unit
- Agroforestry platform
- Bioenergy
- Regen Chickens (for 2025)
- Computer cluster(s)
- Laboratories
- Online access to some farm data

Nafferton Farm

(west of Newcastle near Hexham)

- Low input, conventional Dairy
- Calves
- Dairy Cows
- Arable Enterprises
- Cereals
- Root crops
- Grassland and varied grazing trials
- Forage stores

- Seminar room
- Soil assessment facilities
- Online access to some farm data



Research

Your lecturers are involved in research. **Ask them about it!** The Agriculture and Animal Science research group at Newcastle University is dedicated to advancing sustainability, productivity, and welfare in farming systems and other contexts.


Their research spans precision agriculture, health and welfare, genetics, integrated pest management, agroforestry, bioenergy, agronomy, agro-ecology, and animal behaviour. Adopting a comprehensive production systems approach, the group utilises cutting-edge technologies such as smart farming tools, remote sensing, phenomics, and genomic analysis to enhance crop resilience and farm animal management.

Their collaborative projects, with colleagues from across the university and in industry and charities (sometimes across the world) tackle global challenges like food security and climate change, exploring innovative methods to minimise agriculture's environmental impact while improving animal welfare. This holistic approach fosters efficient, sustainable, and ethical agricultural practices, with students benefiting from research-led teaching that bridges fundamental science with practical applications.


We usually host a summer intern to assist with research at the farms, look out for the advert, usually via the SNES Employability Site.

Facilities are mostly based at the farm. These include C-DIAL The Centre for Digital Innovation Applied to Livestock and Dog Box, the first of its kind in the UK, a mobile Lab (no pun intended) allowing Animal Science researchers to observe interactions between dogs and owners, dog behaviour, their movements and even their facial expressions.

There is a new 'lab' in development, a dog 'house', a space mocked up as a home to observe dogs. We rely on owners involving their dogs in research. Below is one study investigating whether dogs like to be stroked by strangers or prefer their usual kibble. This could help reduce stress in the general dog population if research could inform guidance on how to greet dogs. People do it, owners allow it, but how do dogs feel about it? Professor Asher and her team have now asked them. She is also on the verge of discovering if dogs laugh, and some important project exploring arthritis in dogs using C-DIAL. We are getting regen chickens in 2025! To hear updates of other studies and commercial activities, read the NUFarms bulletin, there is a great article on how the texture of eggs can inform on the welfare issues of laying hens, and methane breathalysers for our dairy herd.



Newcastle University
C-DIAL
Centre for Digital Innovation Applied to Livestock



Part of CIEL
Centre for Innovation Excellence in Livestock
- a Government Agritech Innovation Centre



DogBox
Newcastle University's DogBox is a unique research lab created especially for dogs.



The mobile lab is kitted out with specialised technology including thermal and high-speed cameras and activity sensors to better understand dog behaviour and welfare.

The first of its kind in the UK, DogBox allows Animal Science researchers to observe interactions between dogs and owners, dog behaviour, their movements and even their facial expressions.



Professional Placement Year

What does a Work Placement entail?

Get career ready with a work placement and leave as a confident professional in your field.

You spend 9 to 12 months between Stage 2 and 3 working in any organisation in the world. The onus is on you to find and secure a placement **but** there is a dedicated Careers Service team to support you, and your lecturers are a great source of contacts and ideas. **Start looking and planning early!!! i.e. Stage 1**

You'll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

A work placement extends your degree by a year. Your degree title will show you have achieved the placement year.

You complete the 'Careers Service Placement Module' whilst on placement.

Where have Animal Science/Agriculture students been?



What to do next?

Visit the Careers Service website for details www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/skills-and-experience/internships-placements-shadowing/placements/

Log onto MyCareer to book a 1:1 careers guidance appointment mycareer.ncl.ac.uk/



Miss Laura Messenger
SNES Careers Consultant



Student Top Tips: "Just do it!"

"Use LinkedIn to see where past students have been and to connect with Newcastle University Alumni (graduates of NU). Ask your lecturers e.g. Simon Parker for top-tips, contacts and recommendations. Found a company you would love to work for? Send a speculative letter/email along with your CV (make it professional, get input from the Careers Service). Make use of Career Fairs. Get your CV checked, practise interviews and more through the Careers Service." "Keep an eye on Canvas employability emails"

"Research super early & don't sign a house contract too soon!"

Life on Placement

Degree: Animal Science

Placement: Oaklands Farm Eggs Ltd



I came to university wanting to study companion animals but then enjoyed the livestock aspect more, I felt I needed more industry experience having not come from a farming background. I applied to several different places; I wasn't really sure what I wanted but I knew if I could work for a well-known company in any related sector that would be a good stepping stone.

My placement was with the biggest independent egg producer in Europe. My responsibilities included day to day management of a poultry unit. During my time

I was in charge of a 300,000-bird rearing unit and following that a 160,000-laying unit. Alongside this I was doing some behaviour trials and data analysis for the farm, **My placement exposed me to all the different unseen roles within the industry. I would never have been as interested in poultry as I am now without having done my placement.**

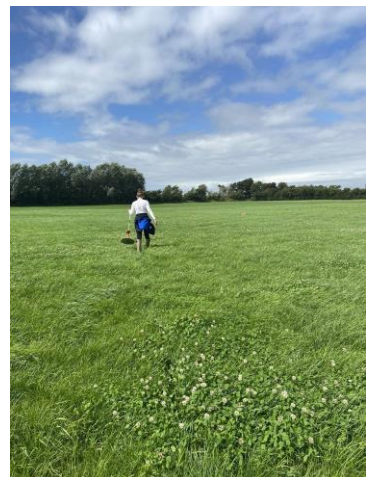
Degree: Agriculture with Animal Production Science

Placement: Ruminant Technical Advisor



"Carrs Billington are a large agricultural merchants, supplying feed, fuel, machinery and farming items nationwide. As a Ruminant Technical Assistant, I had a very rounded experience as I got to spend some time in every department, even experience as I got to spend some time in every department, even going out on a wagon for the day! I spent roughly

6 months in the formulations department and six months as part of the Cumbria sales team. I absolutely loved the sociable aspect of being on farm but didn't enjoy the pressure of having to meet sales targets or working indoors for too long. **I would strongly encourage anyone to do a placement year. The experience I gained has been such an advantage for all my recent job applications standing out over just having my degree.**



Life on Placement

Degree: Animal Science
Placement: Micron Bio-Systems



For my year out I was working for Micron Bio-Systems, a biotechnology company based in Somerset, that specialise in making products to help address productive, nutritional and health challenges faced in the livestock industry. For example, silage inoculants or mycotoxin binders.

My specific role was in the research and development department where I was given a project to devise in-house methods for testing the activity of the enzymes that were used in the products. Alongside that I helped with the quality control procedures and preparing feed samples for mycotoxin analysis.

It was very different to anything I was used to as involved a lot of lab work; however, I had a great supervisor and work colleagues that helped me develop my skills. Whilst I was there, I also got the chance to help in another department, gathering data for a calf trial that was testing one of the products, as well as writing an article for the company's scientific publication.

Overall, it was a great experience and, even though it might not be the career I end up going on to pursue, I am so glad I did a placement year as I learned a lot about the 'real world' and working for a company in industry.

Year Out Study Abroad

What does a year's Study Abroad entail?

Newcastle University's exchange agreements across the world mean you can study at our partner universities chosen because they **teach modules in English.**

Some of our student exchange agreements are subject-specific, therefore you compete for places with students studying the same subject as you. Others are university or faculty-wide: you compete with those students.

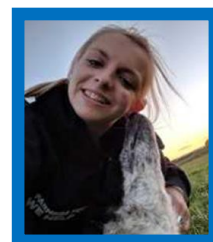
You rank your preference, and your application is ranked against others. The better the application, the better your chances, so get some extra responsibilities / experiences on your CV.

Students who take this opportunity tend to love it!!



Where have our students been?

Beth studied at the University of Vermont, USA.



"I would be lying if I said it was as easy as choosing a country and getting on a plane! After hours of internet research, I came across the animal science program at UVM. It was exactly what I was looking for! I began the application process with Careers Service, which looked long and complicated, but I assure you it is worth the time and effort!

The module options were a mile long because this is additional to the essential content of your degree. I enjoyed the opportunity to do courses such as a dairy management, which involved visits to a variety of different farms and processors. I also enjoyed the opportunity to take subjects which we don't get the chance to study in Newcastle.

For anybody who is interested in doing a study abroad I highly recommend taking the time to learn about the culture and explore the country. Sometimes it can appear daunting and challenging to integrate with American students, so I recommend you get involved in clubs and societies.

My year was unusual as I managed to do a semester in a university and then 6-month internship with an animal feed company, in America.

What to do next?

Look out for Study Abroad information sessions and deadlines.

Contact the SNES Study Abroad co-ordinator Albert Boaitey

albert.Boaitey@newcastle.ac.uk

Visit the Global Opportunities website for more details:

www.ncl.ac.uk/mobility/experience-world/exchanges_outgoing/

Log onto MyCareer to book a 1:1 careers guidance appointment

mycareer.ncl.ac.uk/

Life after your undergraduate degree...

What is a Masters?

Want to continue studying after your degree but specialise before embarking on a career?
Or are you potentially considering a PhD?

What is the difference between MSc and MRes?

What about MA or MBA? For answers to this and more visit the Post Graduate Open Day, on campus, in term 1. Newcastle University offers a range of Masters programmes (with discounted fees for alumni of Newcastle University – that is **you when you graduate**). A few are listed below. But widen your search to find something that will truly help you progress into a career of interest. You can use the opportunity on campus to hear about post-graduate study generally as well as our offering.

And to satisfy your curiosity now ... MSc 'Master of Science' tends to contain more taught content, whereas MRes 'Master of Research' has some structured content but the emphasis will be a very large research project.

Funding for a Masters

It is likely that you will be paying tuition fees, and you will need funds to cover living expenses, such as a postgraduate loan.

Fees vary depending whether you are a UK student (approximately £14,500) or international. You may also be entitled to a discount if you completed your undergraduate degree at that university.

When in employment, your employer may pay your fees to do a masters, but this is the exception, not the norm.

Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security MSc

Tackle the most important agricultural challenges with this Masters

Animal Welfare MRes

Our MRes explores the welfare of laboratory, farm, companion and wild animals.

Animal Behaviour MRes

Explore this exciting and theoretically rigorous area of biological sciences 'applied ethology' i.e. animal behaviour.

Agricultural and Environmental Science MRes

This Masters can help you develop a career in sustainable farming systems, environmental management, and rural development.

Find out more at:

www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/explore-your-options/further-study/phd/



Student Top Tips:

"Don't do a 'panic masters' - make it part of the plan, Choose something that you are really interested in in your degree to delve deeper or choose something completely different to take you down another path or maybe you want a better chance of getting that ideal PhD when it is advertised.

Life After Newcastle

What is a PhD?

Want to continue studying after your degree? Why not consider a fully funded PhD...? Enter the world of scientific research.

What does a PHD entail?

'PhD' (Doctor of Philosophy) is a postgraduate research degree, awarded in recognition of advanced knowledge in a particular subject. PhDs take three (sometimes four years) of full-time study (longer part-time). During a PhD student will conduct original research. This is under the guidance of an academic supervisor / team. PhD students usually write a thesis or dissertation based on their research findings. They must 'defend' their research in a 'viva' an oral assessment (like an interview/academic discussion) with expert scientists in the field. **When awarded, you are called Dr XXX**

Funding for a PhD

There are three main types of funding arrangements:

Fully-funded students have a full studentship. This usually covers their PhD fees and other expenses, such as attending conferences to enhance their knowledge or present their research. They get a stipend (in essence a salary) to cover living costs.

Partially-funded students receive a partial scholarship or studentship towards the above.. They usually need to top-up their funding with other grants or rely on their own savings or earnings.

Self-funded students don't receive any funding. They pay for a PhD themselves using a combination of student loans, savings, or earnings. It's possible to begin as a self-funded student and win funding later. PhD fees in the UK range from **£4,500 to £35,000 per year** depending on your nationality. UK students pay an average of **£4,500 per year** in PhD fees.

Find out more at:

www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/explore-your-options/further-study/phd/



Student Top Tips:

"I would never have known about research roles and PhDs until I went to university and carried out my own research project. Unlike your BSc degree, PhDs are usually funded (like getting a salary).

You gain many skills during a PhD, having a PhD doesn't restrict you to research".

"You don't always need a Masters degree (MSc/MRes) to apply, but it can help"

Life After Newcastle

PhD case study

How do you find a PhD?

- You can speak to the Careers Service to help you search.
- You can search sites such as www.findaphd.com/
- Set up alerts to hear about new ones in a field of interest.
- Unlike undergraduate degrees which are broad subjects allowing many students to study the same degree, PhDs are usually unique – very specific areas of research.
- If you are considering a PhD, ask your lecturers in that discipline for advice.
- Academics are often contacted to advertise PhDs from colleagues nationally and internationally, so keep an eye on emails and the SNES Canvas Employability site.

PhDs are niche

e.g. Developing strategies to replace anthelmintics using different forages

"never a path I thought of until I looked at the advert due to the appeal of the topic..... I would advise students to follow any interests no matter how specific (collecting worms from poo!!) and to not rule out further study as this PhD will steer me into a career that I love!"



Find out more at:

www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/explore-your-options/further-study/phd/



Student Top Tips:

"It is worth contacting researchers at institutions where you are interested in their research as they may have something in the pipeline. It can sometimes help them get funding if they have a named person lined up able to do the research."

"The supervisor is as important as the topic."

Get a summer internship at NUFarms to get involved

Life After Newcastle

What do graduates do?

In brief, all sorts! Graduates of Agriculture should be equipped to take up careers in a wide variety of fields. These include scientific research, teaching, farm management, technical journalism, conservation and environmental organisations, commerce, advisory work, further study and industry in general. Skills in numeracy, computing and communications equip a graduate with an excellent basis for further training in a variety of professional fields including accountancy and banking. However, the skills you develop are transferable to many roles require 'a graduate'.

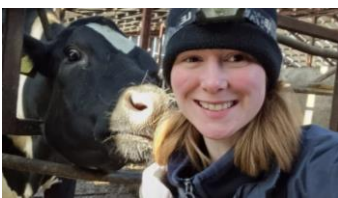
Here are a few examples:



Graduate Role: AB Agri (Graduate Scheme), Technical Manager then PhD

During the scheme Kayley spent 6 months with ABN (monogastric compound feeds company), AB Vista (Feed additive and technology company) and Premier Nutrition (Vitamin and mineral premix company) allowing her to gain a range of experience across the animal feeds sector. She carried out roles in customer support, marketing and communications, technical support whilst also being involved in AB Agri project teams focusing on sustainable agriculture and business development. On completion she secured a position with AB Vista as 'Ruminant and Equine Technical Manager GB&Ireland supporting the customer base and commercial team. This involved product presentations, running commercial trials, developing technical communications, and having the sole responsibility for the GB&I equine accounts. Whilst also keeping up to date with competitor product ranges and new research.

This role provided Kayley with the key foundations to return to academia to carry out a PhD at Queens University Belfast exploring whether seaweed as a cattle feed supplement can reduce enteric methane production



Graduate Role: Genus ABS (Graduate Scheme)

Heather's role is a Reproduction Management Specialist. She works with dairy cows every day across several farms, detecting heat and artificially inseminating them. "The degree helped a lot especially the physiology, reproduction and genetics modules. The company offered training where we spent several hours covering the oestrus cycle of cattle, whereas at university we studied it in more detail, which helped to fully understand the process. At university we also learnt about the factors affecting fertility. The lab session where we dissected ovaries in various stages and the reproductive system was particularly useful"

When asked what other roles she envisages progressing her career to she replied "There are many internal roles within the company such as supervisor and manager roles. As well as the sales teams, lab assistants and genetic departments. The company is also Global"

Get your CV ready

Internal Opportunities

Enhance your CV by taking part in internal opportunities.
From getting paid to helping others.

Make your CV shine through extra-curricular activities!



The ncl+ Award

Being at university is so much more than your course. It's also about making friends, playing sports, volunteering and learning from new experiences. Through the ncl+ Award you can gain recognition for the extra-curricular activities that you are taking part whilst helping with future employment. Your 40 hours of activity can include part-time work, volunteering, student rep work and so much more. www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/skills-and-experience/awards-competitions-funding/ncl-plus-award/



Peer Mentoring

Peer Mentors enhance the University experience of their fellow students. You support a small group of Stage 1 students by sharing relevant information about University services and your experiences with the aim to help them settle into their course and life at Newcastle University. You will get recognition on your HEAR record (Higher Education Achievement Record – a formal document that you can show employers). www.ncl.ac.uk/library/resources-and-study-support/peer-mentoring/mentors/



Open Day Student Ambassador

Get well paid to chat to prospective students about your experience at Newcastle University. Alongside a free lunch and t-shirt, chat alongside Simon Parker and Catherine Douglas about your modules, student life and share top tips. A great opportunity to add another extra-curricular activity to your CV highlighting a position of responsibility. Contact catherine.douglas@ncl.ac.uk to register your interest.

Jobs on Campus

JobsOC

We offer students the opportunity to work on campus for the University.

Newcastle University offers students work on campus in a variety of roles. Some is managed by the JobsOC team in the Careers Service. The team advertise available work assignments to a pool of student workers via a Teams site, with information about the role, working hours and skills needed. Benefits include good rate of pay, flexibility, develop graduate skills and use your work towards the ncl+ award.

It's like a temping agency but better and more convenient.

www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/find-jobs/part-time-jobs/jobs-on-campus/

Get your CV ready

Internal Opportunities

Enhance your CV by taking part in internal opportunities. From getting paid to helping others. **Make your CV shine through extra-curricular activities!**



NUFarms Experience

NUFarms Director promotes students access to practical experience (e.g. milking) and shadowing opportunities. Many consultants/industry professionals visit the farms e.g. the vet, nutritionist. We host many open events on innovative commercial practice and research. There are frequent opportunities for paid internships on research projects, for example during the summer, so keep an eye on the student bulletin.

Fill out the form below to express your interest. [Student Visit Opportunity Form](#) and they will keep you posted

BECOME A COURSE REP

Course Rep

Course reps are elected by fellow students to represent the academic interests of their course mates. It is a voluntary role that makes a difference to your University experience. Course Reps attend Student-Staff Committee (SSC) meetings 4 times per year where they pass on student views and provide feedback. You feel like a colleague, it is interesting to see behind the scenes of your degree working with lecturers and students in other Stages or on other degrees, and you are much appreciated. Email snes.aessc.support@ncl.ac.uk to apply.



Newcastle University

Short-term Global Opportunities

Short-term global opportunities allow you to gain international experience as part of your degree without committing to a full year or semester abroad. These experiences are often over the summer, outside term time. From summer schools to volunteering to online experiential learning there is something for everyone. From data boot camps to visiting Fiji. Check if you are eligible for the 'Go Global Scholarship' to fund your opportunity. www.ncl.ac.uk/mobility/experience-world/short-term-opportunities/

Internships

Internships

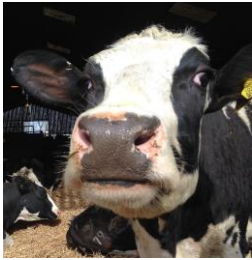
Internships provide a paid opportunity to gain graduate-level work experience. They usually take place during summer vacation or term-time on a flexible or full-time basis. Benefits include gaining hands-on experience and develop industry knowledge. Having evidence of skills and motivation is useful when you apply for graduate jobs. They can also help you decide where your future career interests lie.

www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/skills-and-experience/internships-placements-shadowing/internships/

Progressing to Veterinary

Some students study BSc Animal Science while deciding if they would like to continue to do a Veterinary Degree. It is worth seizing additional opportunities whilst at University to enhance your application.

Did you know: Dr Velazquez is a trained vet, but chose research?



NUFarms Experience

As on the previous page, our NUFarms Director promotes students access to practical experience (e.g. milking, calf husbandry tasks, helping with the regen chickens) and shadowing opportunities e.g. the vet, the nutritionist.



Help at puppy classes

Several students have volunteered at Dogs Trust Dog School. Look on their website. They have classes in Jesmond, Gosforth and Gateshead, all easily accessible by public transport. Who wouldn't give up their time to spend some time each week in a room with owners and their puppies?



Animal Experience

The University has [facilities](#) where you could shadow the animal technicians. Ask your DPD.



Veterinary Conferences

The Vet sector has many specialist areas (small animal, farm, equine) who run conferences / 'congress' and CPD. Some is limited to vet members, but some are open to you. The London Vet Show is in November, why not get a group going? Apply to the travel fund?



There are many other forms of experience which could help: working with people, taking up positions of responsibility, volunteering, keeping up with developments in sectors so signing up to newsletters or magazines



BLYTHMAN & PARTNERS LTD
VETERINARY PRACTICE



There are many local animal-based centres/activities who you could approach, most accessible by public transport. E.g. Jesmond Dene, Byker Farm, Brysons Animal Shelter (socialising kittens/walking dogs), Kirkley Zoo (you need a car/taxi), Blythman and Partners Veterinary Practice allow students to see practice, contact the Gosforth Branch, Blue Reef Aquarium. Look out for lambing opportunities or helping with our animal-based research – ask you lecturers, Hen rehoming charities, an extra pair of hands is often welcome. Hexham mart (farm animal sales) may be of interest. Students have visited the local abattoir. Many important sides of animal care often with vet roles,

Get your CV ready Linkedin Learning

SNES students have access to LinkedIn Learning. **Use it!**

Why not explore the range of continued personal development courses that LinkedIn offer you as a student of SNES?

Use the ones which will help you with your studies, e.g. time management and set some personal goals to do some others that may help future career prospects, perhaps learn to code in Python, or get tips to use Teams. The courses range from minutes to hours. Why not do one a week? You then gain the digital badges which you can put on your profile to enhance your LinkedIn profile (essentially your online CV).



Master Microsoft
Excel



Python for students
(there are more advanced
courses with certificates)



Protect Your Well-
being Through
Change and
Uncertainty

Time management and using apps to your advantage



Course
Outlook Essential Training (Microsoft 365)

LinkedIn • By: Jess Stratton • Nov 2023

4.7 ★★★★★ (1,123) • 33,538 learners • Beginner + Intermediate

Summarize key learnings

Is this course a good fit for me?



Course
Outlook Quick Tips

LinkedIn • By: Garrick Chow • Jun 2022

4.7 ★★★★★ (4,599) • 118,173 learners

Summarize key learnings

Is this course a good fit for me?



Student Top Tips:

“Visit Careers Service to find out if they are running how to set up a professional LinkedIn profile, and if they aren't, see if you can arrange a 1:1” Get the foundations right and build on it throughout your time at Newcastle University”

Get your CV ready

Professional Bodies

Enhance your learning by getting a free (or reduced price) student memberships. The sooner you join, the more you benefit, newsletters, examples of roles within the sector.. Whatever your interest ask your lecturers in that topic if there is a society/industry mailing list that they recommend you join



British Society of Animal Science

Whether you are an established researcher in a university, a student on an animal science degree programme, or a user of animal science in industry or on farms, a BSAS membership provides you with a wealth of opportunities to progress and enhance your career.. With student membership only £25 per year Animal Science students say that it is worth it for the access to the seminars alone. It's great for networking and discounted rates at their conference

Explore the website and join today! <https://www.bsas.org.uk/>



THE INSTITUTE FOR
AGRICULTURE AND
HORTICULTURE

The Institute for Agriculture and Horticulture

As a student, become a member of TIAH for free! Get access to all TIAH learning resources, tools and the innovative Learning Hub for the duration of your course! TIAH can help you fulfil your potential as you take your first steps into a career in agriculture. They are your professional home, supporting you from day one. Increasingly the Agricultural sector will be recognising the skills and knowledge development for all and recording this. Get ahead of the game by joining now! tiah.org/create-student-account



Universities Federation for Animal Welfare

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) is an international charity that works with the animal welfare science community worldwide to develop and promote improvements in the welfare of animals through scientific and educational activity. UFAW activities are find ways to gain insight into what matters to animals, assessing their welfare and improving the quality of their lives through practical developments in all aspects of their care. [//www.ufaw.org.uk/](http://www.ufaw.org.uk/)



Institute of
Animal Technology

The Institute of Animal Technology

The IAT's Purpose is to **advance knowledge** and **promote excellence** in the care and welfare of animals in science and to enhance the standards and status of those professionally engaged in the care, welfare and use of animals in science. They actively support the three R's – **Refinement, Reduction & Replacement.**

Get your CV ready

Conferences + SNES Travel Fund

Why not use the SNES Student Travel Bursary to attend a conference? Apply for funds up to **£600** per student (over their course) for conference fees, travel and accommodation, including optional field trips. Attending a conference can enhance your CV, is an opportunity for networking and a chance to learn!

[Applications can be made here. Further info in a few pages...](#)

Top tip: don't miss the NFC* – its on our doorstep!



**SOCIETY OF FEED
TECHNOLOGISTS**

SFT conferences

Pigs - November

Poultry – January

Ruminant – April

Nextgen – aimed at you! February
sft.uk.com/events-conferences/



UFAW – June/July
ISAE (Animal Behaviour and Welfare, sometimes in the UK – July, sometimes a regional one is linked to BSAS)



**International
Society for
Applied
Ethology**



Crufts – March
NorthEast Dog Festival
- September



Dairy Tech - February
BSAS – April



Northern Farming Conference -
November

Groundswell – July (it has been described as Glastonbury for Farmers n.b. there are only about 3 bands!)



Groundswell

The Regenerative Agriculture Festival

Nothing above of interest? Ask your lecturers for their recommendations. Many have discounted rates for students. **Get a group of you to go** 😊. They are also **good opportunities to network for jobs, placements**, as well as interesting knowledge and industry info for your degree

Get your CV ready Awards

What better way to enhance your CV than winning a prestigious award. The more you do the more chance you have of getting acknowledgement for your hard work. Why not nominated yourself for an award or keep working hard to get the recognition you deserve.

From R.A.S.E, Carrs Billington, YAS, BSAS to internal awards for best dissertation, there are many up for grabs (usually Stage 3, but not always).



'Best Student in
Agriculture' by the
Yorkshire Agricultural
Society in 2024.

"In addition to excellent performance on his degree, he has also balanced his time altruistically being a course rep and a student ambassador. He was fortunate in securing a professional placement year Sir Richard Sutton Ltd, where he was involved in farm business decisions for their farming estates. He was also shortlisted for The Farmers Club Pinnacle Awards this year. He really deserves the recognition by getting YAS best student award as he is an outstanding student, he is talented, well trained and enthusiastic and an excellent ambassador not only for our degree and University but for the sector, he is always pragmatic and cheerful, he is also a great team player, be it with his peers and Faculty alike.



'Best Student in
Agriculture' by the
Yorkshire Agricultural
Society in 2023.

Azlan studied BSc Agriculture here at Newcastle and used every opportunity to gain extra experience. From hands-on helping at the farm, to assisting with paid research, to going down to London to the Institute for Agricultural Management to hear from all the national policy makers and key spokespersons for the sector. He was an excellent student and Newcastle University was delighted to nominate him for this award. After receiving his award, him and his brother got to have afternoon tea with the president of this prestigious show. Azlan has returned to Brunei to lecture in Agriculture.

Grab the Cash!

Scholarships

What is a bursary/scholarship/grant?

These are monetary awards to assist individuals during their studies. This is **free money** that you are **not required to pay back!**

The scholarships are based on a range of criteria such as student's academic abilities, household income, attitude to learning and other factors. It can help towards tuition fees, books, equipment and travel (essentially anything). Some can be used for research projects.

Read the advert carefully to find out the eligibility criteria and what the funds can be used for. Scholarship recipients are often required to provide an introductory profile when they first receive the award and an annual update report to inform their donor of their progress. **New scholarships are often advertised at the bottom of the SNES Monthly Student Bulletin.** Some general SNES ones are on the [webpages](#), some regular Agriculture ones are featured below, so look out for them, **some allow degrees allied to Agriculture such as Animal Science, so check**

John Innes Foundation Undergraduate Bursary

If you are starting an undergraduate degree in Agriculture or related, why not apply for this bursary to **cover your tuition fees in full?** Applications on behalf of The John Innes Foundation (JIF) are administered by the Royal Agricultural Association, **for students who are not from a farming background** and have need for financial assistance to complete a degree course. **Applications normally open in May and must be received by the end of August.** Check! www.rnaa.org.uk/jif-undergraduate-bursary/

The Clyde Higgs Undergraduate Scholarship

The Elizabeth Creak Charitable Trust aims to help the advancement of Agriculture and often offers scholarships of **£5,500** spread over the duration of the course study. It is for Stage 1 undergraduate home students, ordinarily resident in the UK and enrolled onto Agriculture or Agriculture with Farm Business Management or a selected few alternative courses. **Applications usually close at the end of October.** www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees-funding/scholarships-bursaries/subject-scholarships/agriculture/

John Pain's Scholarship

Provided by John Pain (BSc Agricultural Economics, 1978), the scholarship offers one scholarship of **£3,000 to a Stage 1** student and 1 scholarship of **£2,000 to a Stage 3** student. Students must be a UK based student and enrolled onto Agriculture or Agriculture with Farm Business Management or a selected few alternative courses. Students from a widening participation background are encouraged. **Applications usually close at the end of October.** www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees-funding/scholarships-bursaries/subject-scholarships/agriculture/

Grab the Cash!

Agricultural Scholarships cont.

Edgar Pye Research Scholarship

Ideal for assisting with **dissertation research**, the Edgar Pye Research Scholarship Trust was founded in July 1989 to offer research scholarships **relating to the animal feed industry**. The Trust welcomes applications from anyone who is studying agriculture and is a resident in the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland. For full details and information on how to apply, please view the [leaflet](#)

JobsOC, Internships, Student Ambassador

Don't forget taking up opportunities such as Internships, becoming a Student Open Day Ambassador and other jobs on campus through [JobsOC](#) can offer **opportunities for easy money** whilst enhancing your CV. These jobs are often flexible around your studies and offer high rates of pay (some around £13.76 per hour).



Student Top Tips:

"Scholarships are a great way of reducing the financial pressure of university! There is stacks of funding out there and often students don't apply for them. Use this to your advantage and just apply for everything. Once you have completed one application, just adapt it for the next application. Simple!"

Grab the Cash!

SNES Travel Fund / Win a prize

A philanthropist has left money to enable students to seize even more opportunities when they are study within the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences.

You can apply for funds of **up to £600** over your time as a student to support **travel, accommodation and conference fees**. Complete the application form. The application has to be considered and approved, so do not spend money and expect to be reimbursed before you have received confirmation.

See details and complete the application [SNES TRAVEL FUND](#)

Our Operations 'Ops' team in the Hub (Agriculture Building) help to administer this so may be able to assist with travel and accommodation bookings and payments or be able to advise about how to reclaim these expenses if you are booking yourself.



RABDF Dairy Student Award
Sponsored by ForFarmers

Farm Health Management Awards *sponsored by Volac*

Each university may select students (ask your lecturers to nominate you). You are given a pack e.g. data for a farm / guidance for a health-related essay and must produce an essay on how you would improve the dairy farm's business/health. The entrant will be shortlisted to be interviewed, with the winner announced at Dairy tech where they get a large cash prize and trophy. [Link](#).

Usually promoted in the Autumn term, set yourself a reminder to look it up, and keep an eye for emails.

BSAS dissertation prize

BSAS ask Universities to nominate good dissertations for their annual prize, if you would like to be considered, discuss this with your supervisor.

Search CIEL Studentship

A recent student won £1500 towards her project.

If you hear of any of interest, please email your DPD so that they can include it.

Agricultural Societies

Join the following societies to meet new people and learn about additional aspects of animal science outside your modules.



Ag-a-demics

"The Ag-a-demic society aims to create an inclusive community for people studying agricultural and allied subjects, such as **Animal Science** agri-environmental topics, or food production (or have an interest in agriculture generally) with an academic focus. From Visits, Guest speakers, Conferences, free coffee on campus and a place to chat – you suggest it and they make it happen. These activities really enhance your degree, opening more opportunities and doors to those from non-agricultural backgrounds and providing networking, hands-on events and linking up with industry."

I am encouraging them to arrange a trip to Crufts... (the Dog Show), They went to Dairy tech last year and APHA laboratories (the UK Government's Animal and Plant Health Agency)

Find out more at: nusu.co.uk/activities/societies

Agricultural Society

"The Agricultural Society is a fun way to interact across the university. The society is open to anyone and has two rugby teams, a netball team, a football team and a mixed hockey team. We have a social every second Monday and then every Wednesday there is a sports night for the various teams. Events through the year include Christmas and Spring balls, the ploughing match and the summer BBQ. We have a themed social most Mondays and a rugby social on Wednesdays after a game. There is also a women's social on a Wednesday. On top of which we have other social events throughout the year. We also have sports teams representing the society including two Rugby teams, Mixed Hockey, Football and Netball."

Find out more at: nusu.co.uk/activities/view-society/7

There was an **Animal Science Society** ASS, who went to dog and cat cafés, did pet first aid with the PDSA, built hedgehog hibernaculums, hosted tea and coffee socials on campus and had pub quizzes and meals out, they even got invited to the 20minute Soc Ball, but it folded due to Covid.... Perhaps you could kick ASS to start again? But better still join the Agademics and widen the interests that they cater for...

Other Societies

Find out about the other societies at Newcastle University at: nusu.co.uk/activities/societies

More opportunities

We are often sent other opportunities, here are a couple of examples



**GRADUATES
INTO TEACHING**

Are you interested in teacher training but want to try working in a school first to be sure?

Graduates into Teaching gives you several months of paid experience as a Teaching Assistant in schools.

- At least 3 months and up to one year of paid experience in schools as a Teaching Assistant
- Ongoing free training and support from our team including an accredited level 2 qualification
- No joining fees or training fees
- Have an instant impact on children's lives
- We work with you to produce an education CV and video profile to present to schools
- Gain a valuable employer and school reference
- Free advice and mentoring should you wish to apply for teacher training



If you are a graduate interested in our Graduates into Teaching Programme and wish to start your education journey, send your cv to office@graduatesintoteaching.co.uk or call 0191 556 1033

www.graduatesintoteaching.co.uk

The FERA Science Conference usually happens every year – it is a great event to attend. It will be in the student bulletin / emailed to you with how to sign up

Fera Science Conference

Save the date for the Fera Science Conference on the 8-9th November 2023!

This is the annual opportunity to present your work (talks and posters) and network with Fera staff. Newcastle University runs a joint institute with Fera Science Ltd, called the Institute for Agrifood Research and Innovation (IAFRI). The call for the IAFRI Doctoral Training Partnership (6x fully funded studentships) will be launched 2 weeks before the conference, hence the event provides an ideal opportunity to hear more about Fera's current science challenges, find collaborators, and begin to build projects. As in previous years, we will organise a coach and accommodation in York for those who wish to attend.

The event is free to attend, and is open to all staff and students; [please register and submit poster/talk proposals here!](#)

Yet more opportunities

We are often sent other opportunities, here are a couple of examples



75+ years of Student Expeditions: where could next year take you?



Are you interested in the world around you? Keen to take on a challenge? Have good organisational skills? Interested in carrying out your own research overseas? Ever thought about organising your own expedition? Don't know where to start?

Newcastle University Expeditions Committee can help by offering advice, support, and financial assistance for student led expeditions focused on independent research.

Find out more and how to apply at:

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/student-financial-support/research-funding/expeditions/>

Listen to students talk about their own expeditions:

"Celebrating Research Scholarships and Expeditions" Insights Public Lecture Series archive: <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/events/public-lectures/archive/>

And hear this year's students present at the Insights Public Lecture on 29th November: <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/events/public-lectures/upcoming/>

Next funding deadline: **Friday 26th January 2024**

Expeditions Committee: Chair: Dr Emma Pearson (emma.pearson@ncl.ac.uk)
HASS Faculty: Prof Rachel Carr (rachel.carr@ncl.ac.uk) FMS: Emma Robinson (emma.robinson@ncl.ac.uk) SAgE Faculty: TBC (contact Chair as above)

Top Tips and Important Links

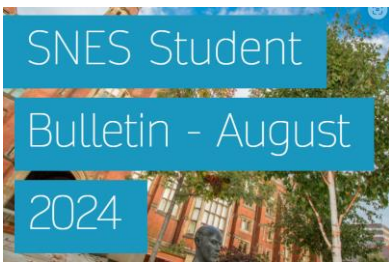
Read the following to thrive at university life!



Read Your Emails:

"Don't drive your DPD mad. READ YOUR EMAILS!"

Reading emails has many benefits, receive key updates, find out when your exams are, find out about extra opportunities and you may even find out how to get free money."



Read the SNES Student Bulletin

"Emailed directly to you monthly to find out about key dates, assessment period, opportunities, events and loads more."

ncl.instructure.com/courses/33032/pages/sne-s-student-bulletin



CANVAS

Managing Canvas Announcements:

"Make sure you are not bombarded with emails. Go into 'Settings' on Canvas and selecting 'Email Notifications'. Make sure to turn all the 'Notification' options to 'Never' to reduce your daily emails." BUT ensure you get 'announcements' immediately to your email inbox!

"Did you know staff can see the activity of each student on canvas? They can see how often each individual has viewed a module, number of pages viewed and how long has been spent on the page."



Linking Your Timetable to Your Calendar:

"Use the following link to learn how to link your personal student timetable to your personal calendar on your phone."

services.ncl.ac.uk/itservice/teaching-services/mobile/personaltimetables/



Induction:

"Attend ALL timetabled sessions, join in with the socials, be friendly, but also allow time to read ALL the information that you have been given."



SNES Undergraduate Handbook:

"Find the documents under 'Important Information and Contacts in the SNES Canvas Community'.

ncl.instructure.com/courses/33032/pages/your-guide-to-dot-dot-dot

Health and Safety and Equipment

Personal protective equipment

All students are required to have appropriate footwear and weather protection for farm visits and practical activities e.g. clean, steel toe boots or wellingtons, that can be foot dipped where biosecurity measures require. Laboratory practical sessions require that candidates have access to an approved lab coat.

Health and Safety

You will have completed the H&S course online as part of your induction.

We expect students to conduct themselves with due regard for their own and others' safety.

You will be briefed on laboratory safety.

When visiting the farms follow the H&S information given.

Some headlines:

Remember it is a working farm with large moving farm machinery that may not be able to see you.

Remember biosecurity measures: from preventing disease coming in, e.g. clean boots, having not been on a pig farm for 72hrs, to ensuring you wash your hands and only eat in designated areas,

Do not stray from the group, do not go into animal pens or touch animals unless invited to do so AND under staff supervision.

Do not take photos unless express permission is gained, and the subsequent images are approved for use.

Further details

- The following pages present further information such as the overall aims of the degree, the more detailed regulations with the credits of each modules and which semester they are delivered (which you will need for module selection) and links to full documents.
- There is some information on selecting modules culminating in the full alternative module catalogue.

BSc Animal Science graduates should:

- a) have gained a detailed knowledge and understanding of the subject of Animal Science;
- b) have gained a thorough knowledge of the application of animal science to different contexts, from the use of animals in food production and global food security to their roles in sport, companionship and conservation;
- c) be able to think analytically, critically and synthetically;
- d) be able to gather relevant data from the literature, analyse and interpret it;
- e) be able to understand, appreciate and criticise primary research literature;
- f) be able to conduct an independent scientific investigation, and report, analyse and interpret the results in relation to relevant literature;
- g) be competent in communicating facts, results and ideas, both in written essays and reports, and in verbal presentations to large and small groups;
- h) be proficient in teamwork, and capable of building effective relationships in both large and small groups to achieve the common goal of the team;
- i) be creative, adaptable and able to use your initiative
- j) have developed your personal qualities including the ability to work independently, manage time effectively, be creative, adaptable and able to use your initiative.

Your degree adheres to the **QAA benchmarks** which cover all UK Animal Science Degrees.

The quality of your degree is overseen by Newcastle University Quality Assurance processes, and our **external examiner**: Professor Henry Greathead, Leeds University



Transferable Skills and Important links

Your University programme is to educate you in a particular discipline, but equally important are the transferable skills gained. These are developed both within the curriculum and through other activities. The University maps these skills according to the Graduate Skills Framework (<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/careers/graduateframework/>).

Each of your modules are linked to graduate skills, some of which will be assessed. For example, you may be presenting information verbally, concisely in a poster, working as a team, thoroughly exploring a topic in a laboratory report, or preparing more industry-focused consultancy recommendations. You may be communicating complex science simply for public consumption, capturing reflections on personal development or project managing a large undertaking for example, your research dissertation or running an entire conference e.g. the Animal Science Conference).

You will see the main skills being developed in each module by looking at the module catalogue (<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/module-catalogue/modules.php>). Keep a note of these as it will help you to remember these key skills that you can refer to in interviews and on your CV.

Your final degree mark is weighted according to your Stage 2 and 3 assessments. Stage 1 is designed to help everyone adapt to HE study so the marks do not count towards your final degree classification (but it is still important to try your best). Stage 2 marks count for 25% and Stage 3, 75% of your final mark. This weighing is because students tend to improve knowledge and skills as they progress, so Stage 3 has greater weighting, thus reflecting your ability.

Stage 1 and 2 Regulations

Stage One Compulsory Modules:

Code	Descriptive title	Total Credits	Credits Sem 1	Credits Sem 2
NES1002	Agri-Food Supply Chains	10	10	
NES1003	Animal Health	10		10
NES1004	Introduction to Animal Physiology	10		10
NES1100	Sustainability in Practice	20	10	10
NES1200	Academic and Professional Skills	20	10	10
NES1201	Introduction to Sustainability	20	10	10
NES1303	Cells and Biomolecules	20	20	

Additional optional modules – choose 1:

NES1001	Introduction to Business Management	10		10
NES1005	Natural Science Research Impact	10		10

Stage Two Compulsory Modules:

Code	Descriptive title	Total Credits	Credits Sem 1	Credits Sem 2
NES2004	Animal Feed Science and Technology	10	10	
NES2007	Domestic Animal Reproduction and Genetic Improvement	10	10	
NES2008	Sustainable Animal Production Systems	20		20
NES2200	Dissertation and Research Preparation	10		10
NES2202	Sustainable Solutions	10	10	
NUT2001	Macro- and Micronutrients	20	20	

Additional optional modules – choose 40 credits:

Code	Descriptive title	Total Credits	Credits Sem 1	Credits Sem 2
BUS2000	Human Resource Management	20	10	10
NCL2007	Career Development for Second Year Students	20	10	10
NES2000	Current Trends in Agricultural Markets	10		10
NES2002	Farm Business Management	10		10
NES2005	Animal Parasitology	10		10
NES2100	Marketing Strategy	20	10	10
NES2301	Animal Behaviour	10	10	
NES2307	Animal Function (Physiology and Development)	20	20	
NES2314	Vertebrate Biology	20		20
BUS2000	Human Resource Management	20	10	10



Student Top Tips:

"The modules in Stage 1 provide initial knowledge and broad, underpinning concepts for your degree. The degree is based around the concept of a T-shaped scientist. Starting with covering introductions to essential topics and skills in Stage 1 and then developing, contextualising and specialising in these in Stage 2 and Stage 3."

Stage Three Regulations

C305 Compulsory Modules:

Code	Descriptive title	Total Credits	Credits Sem 1	Credits Sem 2
NES3008	Animal Science Conference - Current Issues and Debates	20	20	
NES3009	Reproduction in Farm and Companion Animals	10		10
NES3010	Applied Animal Nutrition	10	10	
NES3012	Animal Welfare and Behaviour	20	10	10
NES3013	Dissertation	30	15	15

Additional optional modules (choose 30 credits):

NCL3007	Career Development for Final Year Students	20	10	10
NES3007	Forage Utilization	10		10
NES3011	Your Future – Occupational Awareness	10		10
NES3205	Insight, Innovate, Impact	10	10	
NES3306	Physiological Zoology	20		20



Student Top Tips:

"Don't choose modules based on the assessment, choose them on what interests you"

Keep an eye on the student bulletin which will tell you where to find a module amendment form if you need to change your modules

You get lots of choice within a module to focus on your area of interest e.g. farm animals or companion animals especially your dissertation which is a quarter of your final year!

Choosing your Modules

n.b. Stage 3 and costs

Your degrees are designed to ensure that you have an excellent grounding in all necessary subjects of a discipline, but then you have flexibility to **choose modules that reflect your interests and career aspirations.**

You can create a specialism in your degree following a pathway **e.g. Agronomy or Farm Animal Production.** See next page for further guidance.

Occasionally you might wish to consider **modules not on your regulations** (perhaps one you couldn't choose at Stage 2, or one that another student from an allied degree is doing e.g., Agriculture, Zoology, Biology, Marine). We refer to these as 'off-regs' modules, you will have to enquire whether in principle you are able to take these modules. This involves consulting your DPD with your rationale, you will also need to check with the module leader that a) you have any pre-requisites, b) they are willing to let you on the module – some modules have capped numbers. You can find details on the official [module catalogue](#). There is then the issue of timetabling which was not designed around a random choice on the degree.

So, while you will not be able to choose off-regs choices during the module selection 'pre-registration' process in Semester 2, you **may** be able to amend your module selection at the start of the Stage / Semester **in consultation with your DPD.** You will have to choose module that you would like to study as a back-up and hope to swap in due course.

When the timetables are confirmed towards the end of August, you will have to [check for clashes](#) and if there are any, it will be your decision whether you can manage your studying to allow for this e.g. using re-cap and prioritising practical sessions / visits / group work which aren't re-capped. You would not be able to submit a PEC relating to clashes.

You must also ensure that the weighting of the credits in semester 1 and 2 are ideally 60:60 (40:80 or 80:40 **is never permitted**)

See the next page for useful short video resources to help you choose.

Some FAQs below, please read before sending an email asking the question.

Q: I have completed the module amendment form, but it is still not appearing on my timetable?

A: This is a manual task and can take several days during busy periods, the timetable also has a 24 hour update delay, so use the general timetable search until the request is processed and your timetable has updated (sometimes you have to log out and log back in again)

Q: Where can I find a module amendment form?

A: These are in the SNES Canvas Community under important forms. If the change is unusual and not on the regs (degree regulations) you will have to get the approval of your DPD.

Advice for Stage 3 module selection

All students have a choice of modules. See the previous regulations page for credits and the semester these take place. Also note the icon for credits and semester in the alternative module catalogue. This will assist when making your selection.

Credit weighting

Remember you cannot do 40:80 or 80:40 credit split. Most of you will do 60:60. The dissertation is 30 credits, and it is down to you and your project how you manage your time. Maybe more in semester 1 or 2 either dictated by seasons and data collection, or the time you can dedicate based on other module selections.

These resources may assist with module selection (please note, one camera was not working hence the entire recording focuses on my ear)

- [DPD guidance](#)
- [Wise words](#) from Dr George

The following pages are summaries for each module, for full details See [module catalogue link](#).

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/module-catalogue/>

First a few frequently asked questions, and their answers...

FAQs

Why can't I see my timetable?

You must register on the Student Portal for the upcoming academic year to be able to see your timetable. If you can't see your personal timetable (e.g. when you have been assigned seminar groups), you may need to log out and log back in again to reactivate the timetable.

When do we choose our optional modules?

You will choose your optional modules for Stage 2 and 3 (where applicable) in Semester 2, you will have notifications about this, a timetabled session and you have this booklet and the official module catalogue to browse through before you enter your choice during 'pre-registration' in March each year. This then feeds the University timetable for the next 5 months ready for the academic year ahead.

Can I change my optional modules once I have chosen?

You will need your DPD's permission, but providing you are choosing from the degree regulations and your Stage credits add up to 120, and the credit weighting over semester 1 and 2 is 60:60 / 50:70 / 70:50 it is likely that you can change providing:

You have any pre-requisites (something that you need to have studied first to have the underpinning knowledge to progress onto the module). These are in the full online module catalogue. <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/module-catalogue/index.php>
And there is space on the module (in our modules there usually is, some modules across the university have a cap)

When do I change modules?

Occasionally you can change in pre-reg, ask our support team. More likely you have to wait until the start of the academic year. You also have 1-2 weeks at the start of the semester when you could change. Our advice is find the timetable for the one you are considering and attend both to help you decide. You are given this short window so that you do not fall behind.

What if I change my mind, can I change degree?

Occasionally students feel that they have made the wrong choice. You may feel this way fleetingly and then find yourself 3 years later at graduation ready to start your new ideal role in Agriculture having loved your degree, or you may be better acting sooner rather than later to explore your options. Speak to your personal tutor as soon as possible if you are feeling unsure. There are financial implications for when you leave – the earlier you sort things out the better it is for you. You will want to speak to Student Finance for advice about tuition fees and Student Loans. *Sometimes* you may be able to transfer to a similar degree within the university if there is capacity and if you have all the pre-requisites.

Why do I get so many emails?

How many is so many? We are training you for the world of work – you will get emails you should get into good habits of reading them (at least daily), acting and managing them. It is a professional way to receive important information. You should read them daily. However, if you are genuinely getting lots of announcements from Canvas of tiny updates, you need to change your settings. Get on top of email organisation (filing, flagging to action) early to help you manage important information and filter out the dross, otherwise you will get annoyed and miss or lose important information.

The Full Alternative Module Catalogue

The Full **Alternative** Module Catalogue is in the final stages of editing and proofing will be added to this booklet shortly.

You will be notified, **by email!**

In the meantime, here are your 2 module choices for stage 1, and you will be relieved to know that while you are asked to submit them at the start of stage 1, you can potentially change them up until end of first week back in Semester 2 😊

Choose whichever one interests you, if you can't decide, flip a coin or speak to someone in the Stage above. And if you really can't decide you could always ask the module leader if you can pop into the main lectures to learn more if there is space in the lecture theatre, take one officially and pop into the other.

CREDITS: 10**COMPULSORY**

NES1001 Summary:

An introduction to a range of commercial agribusiness and rural business systems. The theory and the practice, Covering financial management, business strategy, human resource management, the commercial marketing environment, public sector/not-for-profit sector management.



Explore agribusiness and rural management concepts.



Apply these to specific production areas (e.g. food production, farming, rural enterprise, estate management) and analyse business performance.



Consider all of this in a national and global context.



Skills: Develop analytical skills, improve communication skills (written and oral), enhance your teamworking, excel in managing information

Module Lead: **Mr Simon Parker** simon.parker@ncl.ac.uk

Other lecturers: Dr Jeremy Franks

Taught with: Agriculture, Animal Science, Agri-Business Management, Food Business Management and Marketing, Sustainable Land and Business Management

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Assessment:



Group presentation



Multiple choice questions exam

Group presentation (7 mins, groups of 5) on an allocated topic either based SWOT analysis of a business model or technical innovation.



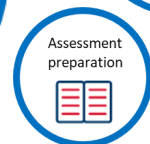
Teaching Methods:



Lectures



Independent study



Assessment preparation




The lectures alternate between Mr Simon Parker and Dr Jeremy Franks.



Student Top Tips:

"Expand your learning! Join the Institute of Agricultural Management (IAgrM) for free. Joining a professional bodies creates an opportunity to network and attend conferences and training events as you study and progress into your career." Their conference is in November each year in London, lots of students go in Stage 3, why not go sooner?

 **Links to:** Agri-Food Supply Chains (Stage 1), Farm Business Management in Stage 2 and 3, Farm Business Consultancy (Stage 3), Current trends in agricultural markets (Stage 2), Introductory economics (Stage 1). **And life! It is useful to understand business – after all you are all likely to work in one 😊**

CREDITS: 10

NES1005 Summary:

COMPULSORY

Research is interesting, it extends knowledge, but it must have **impact**. That is an effect on / benefit to: the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia'. Hear about research from across the SNES disciplines that does just that. Hear how your University contributes positively to wider society and the world.



Understand REF the Research Excellence Framework – it's like Ofsted for Research



Evaluate the ways of assessing impact



Critically assess claims about the value of scientific studies



Skills: Develop analytical skills, improve communication skills, build confidence in discussions in small groups, improve time management.

Module Lead: **Dr Jess Martin** jessica.martin@ncl.ac.uk

Other lecturers: lots

Taught with: students from across SNES so lots of different degrees

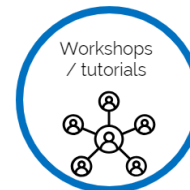
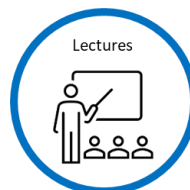


Assessment:



90min Multiple Choice Question exam (+ practice quizzes 'formative assessment')

Teaching Methods:



Lots of different lecturers



Student Top Tips:

"this is about all sorts of research, not just Animal Science (some years there may not be an animal science cases study) but it is really interesting to learn about how research works and about the groundbreaking research by some of your lectures'

"useful if you want a career in science or are considering a PhD – not that you will necessarily know this at Stage 1 😊"



Links to: lots of insight for your research project 'dissertation' at Stage 3, and will help with your impact poster assessment in the Animal Science Conference