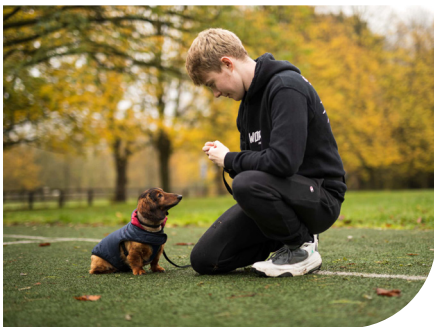


FdSc in Canine Behaviour and Training

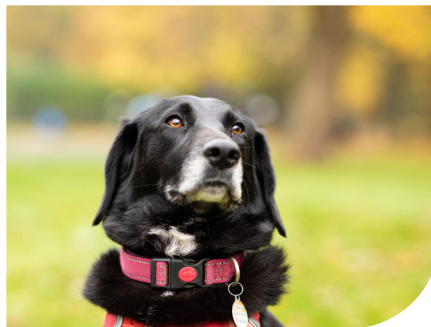
With over 13 million dogs in the UK and 34% of households now owning a dog (World Animal Foundation, 2023) there is an ever-growing demand for a range of canine related services including professional dog trainers, behaviourists, groomers, dog walkers, sitters and kennel managers as well as the rehabilitation of rescue dogs, and specialised training for assistance dogs.



Course Overview

This course is aimed at students who wish to develop a career within the canine industry, but specifically those involving aspects of canine behaviour and training.

As a student studying canine behaviour and training, you will have regular access to the animal-centre facilities at University Centre Reaseheath, which boasts a kennel block, and both indoor and outdoor training arenas. Additionally, students can expect an interactive and personable learning experience that draws upon the expertise of our team of dedicated staff, with whom students can engage in study using our first-class facilities on campus.



Course Features

- The FdSc Canine Behaviour and Training degree 'Training pathway' is now recognised by the Animal Behaviour and Training Council (ABTC) for the roles of Animal Trainer (AT) and Animal Training Instructor (ATI)
- Exciting guest lecturers (with their dogs!)
- Experience with different breeds
- Partnerships with industry
- All weather training facilities
- Canine behaviour modifications



Career Options

- Canine rehabilitation
- Welfare officer
- Kennel manager
- Dog trainer
- Canine behaviourist
- Working in charity and rescue centres
- Working with service dogs
- Training Instructor

This course can be followed by the one year **BSc Canine Clinical Behaviour (Top-up)** to gain a full honours degree.

Course Information

Students are provided with a combination of academic study with practical learning opportunities to develop a range of academic and professional skills, knowledge and practical competencies associated with working in the canine industry.

Students are expected to study and complete 120 credits per year, which comprises six modules of study per academic level/year. All modules are mandatory study, which reflects the essential underpinning skills and knowledge required to apply across a variety of contexts within the canine industry.

In Year 1 (Level 4), you will develop essential knowledge and skills in canine health, husbandry & welfare, canine anatomy & physiology, canine training & behaviour, and canine legislation in society. A heavy emphasis at Level 4 study will also be placed on the development of academic skills via regular tutoring with an assigned course manager.

Year 2 (Level 5) sees a shift in emphasis towards more industry-specific skills and research-informed knowledge, including canine sensory perception, canine behavioural issues, and canine athlete in industry. A 100 hour work placement is also completed either full or part time. Modules from this programme have been formally recognised by the ABTC Programme Recognition Committee as delivering the academic elements necessary for an individual to achieve the Knowledge and Understanding for the roles of an ABTC Animal Trainer (AT) and Animal Training Instructor (ATI). See below for further information.

Entry Requirements

- A minimum of 64 tariff points from A and AS levels. A Science subject is preferred
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma (first teaching from September 2016) – a minimum of grade MPP in an Animal or Science related subject
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma (first teaching from September 2016) – a minimum of grade MM in and Animal or Science related subject
- Scottish Higher - CCC to include a Science
- T Level - Pass (D or E) in Animal Care and Management or Science
- **Access to Higher Education** – a minimum of 64 tariff points
- Mature students (aged 21+) will be considered on an individual basis on their prior knowledge and experience. This may be assessed by interview, completion of coursework/essay or other methods. There may be a requirement for a formal qualification to be completed first e.g. **Access to Higher Education course**

Additional entry requirements

- Practical experience working with dogs is preferential
- Interviews will be used to help make decisions on borderline applications and those where the Programme Leader needs to gain further information

Year 1

- Scientific Data Collection & Analysis
- Introduction to Scientific Communication
- Canine Health, Husbandry & Welfare*
- Introduction to Canine Anatomy & Physiology
- Canines in Society*
- Introduction to Canine Training*
- Introduction to Canine Behaviour*

*Denotes modules as recognised as meeting the Knowledge and Understanding requirements for the Animal Behaviour and Training Council (ABTC) role of Animal Trainer (AT).

Year 2

- Canine Athlete in Industry
- Canine Sensory Perception & Behaviour
- Further Dog Training & Instructing Skills*
- Experiential Learning
- Research Methods

*Denotes module(s) that meets the Knowledge and Understanding requirements for the ABTC role of Animal Trainer Instructor (ATI) when combined with those * modules in year 1

Teaching & Learning

Overall workload

Your overall workload consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, plus field trips.

Year 1: 30% of your time is spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Teaching, learning & assessment	360 hours
Independent study	840 hours

Year 2: 23% of your time is spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Teaching, learning & assessment	270 hours
Placement	100 hours
Independent study	830 hours

Class sizes average between 8-40 for modules exclusively delivered on the programme. For those modules offered across several programmes, class size could be as high as 90 individual learners.

Assessment & Feedback

Assessment

Assessments are designed to encourage both academic skills and skills valued in the workplace. They include a combination of coursework and examinations. Coursework may take many forms including: essays, reports, data processing, case studies, presentations, academic posters, seminar discussions, interviews, critical reviews, portfolios of evidence and practical competency assessments. The timed online assessments vary, depending on the nature of the module, but may take the form of multiple-choice papers, essays, practical assessments, data handling questions, short answer quizzes, and in-class examinations.

The balance of assessment by timed online assessment and assessment by coursework depends to some extent on the optional modules you choose. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework is as follows:

Year 1

75% coursework
25% written exams

Year 2

79% coursework
21% written exams

Feedback

Opportunities for feedback on your progress will be available throughout your course. This will be provided in many formats, including written and verbal. Feedback on graded work is supplied via Turnitin or directly from the module tutor. The majority of assessment submissions are made via Turnitin and feedback for coursework is provided within 20 working days after the submission date. If for unforeseen reasons this is not possible, the reasons will be communicated to the students within 2 weeks and the feedback prioritised within the department.

Written feedback will be supported verbally should the student require clarification. Formative assessment feedback will be provided at the time of completion where possible, with more detailed summative feedback for reports.

Information

Timetable

Students will be able to access course timetables for the academic year in September.

Timetables are subject to change, but most students can expect to spend 3-4 days per week on campus.

Additional

Students are given the opportunity to study a module at level 5 (year 2) entitled Experiential Learning. Students are expected to source their own placement, and complete a minimum of 100 hours of work, which can be accrued either in a block or cumulatively over weekends and holiday periods. When selecting a placement, students should consider the financial implications associated with accommodation, travel/commuting and the possible need for a Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) check, as UCR is unable to subsidise such costs.



How to Apply

Apply directly through UCAS



UCAS Code

C06B



Entry Requirements

A minimum of 64 UCAS points



Start Date

September 2024 | September 2025



Course Length

Full-time: 2 year

How much will this course cost?

Tuition Fees

As a student at UCR, you will have two main costs to meet; your tuition fees and living costs.

Our full-time tuition fees for UK and EU students, entering University, can be found on our [student finance page](#). These fees are charged for each academic year of a course and are set by the college annually.

Tuition fees for international students can also be found on our [student finance page](#).

Additional Costs

Students have the opportunity to engage in both domestic and overseas learning opportunities with which to enhance their classroom-based learning experience. These may include opportunities to join field courses within locations such as South Africa, Central America and the UK.

The main emphasis placed on these field courses is the development of professional skills and the application of students' knowledge in a novel, stimulating, yet challenging environment. Costs associated with the field courses range from £500 – £1,000 (UK), and between £2,200 – £2,800 (Central America & South Africa). Please note that precise pricing of all field courses is subject to change, pending availability and recruitment.

Students may also wish to purchase their own personal copies of recommended set-texts to assist them with their studies. A full list of recommended texts is made available prior to enrolment, however, our campus library has sufficient stocks of all major texts to support student learning, and the purchasing of texts is therefore advised, but not compulsory.

Equipment Costs

Students may wish to purchase other suitable outdoor wear in preparation for bad weather (i.e. waterproof/windproof coat). The above items can be purchased either independently or through the [online shop](#).

Students may also wish to purchase the following training equipment ie waterproof/windproof coat and trousers:

- [Halti training leads \(large\)](#)
- [Clicker](#)
- Treat training pouch – whichever type you prefer (costs vary).

Approximately £20 for all training equipment (prices of training equipment are subject to change dependent on retailer.)