



University of
Reading

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE, POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

AGRICULTURE

A scientific approach to feeding the
world for a sustainable future



AGRICULTURE AT READING

By studying Agriculture at Reading you will join the highest ranked UK university for Agriculture and Forestry according to QS World Rankings*, that has been educating the world's agriculturalists for more than 125 years.

Agriculture at Reading combines the study of agricultural science with exploration of the many contemporary challenges facing the agri-food industry including sustainability, climate change and food security. You will gain a comprehensive grounding in crop science and livestock production, with a global context integrated throughout the course. Your research skills will be developed, working with our experienced research scientists; designing and conducting a research project from the autumn term of your first year. Your final year independent research project allows you to apply your accumulated research skills, focusing on a range of relevant topics. You will also develop valuable professional experience through a core mini placement module and an optional placement year.

**In the top 20 in the world, Agriculture and Forestry, QS World Rankings 2023*



WHY READING?

At Reading, you will be part of a School that is internationally recognised for its research expertise (Research Excellence Framework 2021). The University owns 800 ha mixed farms, including 'CEDAR', home to our 550+ cow commercial dairy herd and large animal research facilities for multiple species. We also have extensive crop research facilities, including polytunnels and field plots situated within easy reach of the campus at our Sonning Farm, plus laboratories and glasshouses located on our 130 ha award-winning parkland campus.

Our programme is supported by regional field visits and a short residential course, enabling you to experience a variety of different farms and organisations and to network with a wide range of employers. We pride ourselves on our reputation with employers, and give our students an excellent starting point for the development of many different careers in agricultural and land-based industries in the UK and overseas. Employers contribute to our programme through guest lectures, giving an overview of the importance of science and research within the agriculture industry. Students will gain relevant work experience as part of the core curriculum, but also have the opportunity to undertake an optional placement year working to gain valuable practical experience and research skills demanded by employers. Previous students have undertaken placements with Haygrove, Frontier, McDonald's, Waitrose and Eurofins.

BREADTH AND DEPTH

Our degree is built on a number of core modules covering topics such as:

- Crop biology, production and agronomy
- Livestock biology, production and welfare
- Farm business management
- Global sustainability
- Agri-technology
- Professional and research skills

We also offer a variety of optional modules that enable you to develop deeper knowledge in areas that interest you, such as:

- Horticultural crop technology
- Veterinary health and disease
- Advanced dairy and meat production
- Climate smart agriculture.

If you choose a mixture of optional modules you will graduate with our broad-based BSc Agriculture degree. If you choose to follow one of our pathways you will be eligible to graduate with a specialist degree: BSc Agriculture and Crop Science, BSc Agriculture and Horticultural Science or BSc Agriculture and Livestock Production. You do not need to decide about following a pathway until the end of your first year, giving you the ultimate flexibility and time to explore your interests.

'I chose to study at Reading because of the amazing campus, and the variety of module options within the course. The teaching staff were excellent, and were always willing to help. The first-class facilities, including the University farms were a great way to put what we learnt in class, into practice'

Natalie Plummer
BSc Agriculture graduate



BSc Agriculture Core Modules

+

One of the following pathways:

A mixture of optional modules and choice of final year independent research project topic.	A minimum of 20 credits 'Crop science pathway' modules in years 2 and 3, plus a crop-based independent project	A minimum of 20 credits 'Horticultural science pathway' modules in years 2 and 3, plus a horticulture-based independent project	A minimum of 20 credits 'Livestock pathway' modules in years 2 and 3, plus a livestock-based independent project
↓↓	↓↓	↓↓	↓↓
BSc Agriculture	BSc Agriculture and Crop Science	BSc Agriculture and Horticultural Science	BSc Agriculture and Livestock Production

YOUR CAREER ASPIRATIONS

Our graduates typically go on to work in a range of agricultural science and technology related careers including agronomy, horticulture and animal advisory services. Other students will continue to pursue their career via further study at MSc and PhD level, building on the foundation of BSc Agriculture.



OUR COURSES

BSc Agriculture (D400)

3 years full-time

BSc Agriculture with Placement Year (D401)

4 years full-time

TYPICAL OFFER

UCAS tariff BBB, including one science subject (See our website for list of acceptable science subjects)

International Baccalaureate 30 points overall.

BTEC Extended Diploma DDM

Other qualifications are considered and we welcome applications from mature students with relevant practical experience.

HOW TO APPLY

For full details on subject and grade requirements and how to apply, visit: reading.ac.uk/bsc-agriculture

With
**Foundation
year**

Did you know we also offer **BSc Agriculture with Foundation** and **BSc Agriculture with International Foundation Year**?

To find out more about the foundation year options, browse our website: reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/study/subject-area/agriculture-ug.aspx





The School of Agriculture, Policy and Development is committed to empowering change through our teaching and research, with our academics working to tackle some of the world's most pressing issues.

Our mission is to make a difference in the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, so we offer a diverse range of modules giving you knowledge and skills that will enable you as an individual to have an impact and be part of global change, whatever your chosen pathway.



AGRICULTURE AT READING

i For more information, please contact:

Programme Director

Dr Gillian Rose

School of Agriculture, Policy and Development
University of Reading
Whiteknights
PO Box 237
Reading, RG6 6EU

g.rose@reading.ac.uk

Tel (0118) 378 8490

[f](https://www.facebook.com/UniRdgAPD) /UniRdgAPD

[@UniRdg_SAPD](https://www.instagram.com/UniRdg_SAPD)



Important Information

This brochure was issued in 2023 and is aimed at prospective undergraduate students wishing to apply for a place at the University of Reading (the University) and start a course in autumn 2024. The University makes every effort to ensure that the information provided in the brochure is accurate and up-to-date at the time of going to press (May 2023). However, it may be necessary for the University to make some changes to the information presented in the brochure following publication – for example, where it is necessary to reflect changes in practice or theory in an academic subject as a result of emerging research; or if an accrediting body requires certain course content to be added or removed. To make an informed and up-to-date decision, we recommend that you check reading.ac.uk/study

The University undertakes to take all reasonable steps to provide the services (including the courses) described in this brochure. It does not, however, guarantee the provision of such services. Should industrial action or circumstances beyond the control of the University interfere with its ability to provide the services, the University undertakes to use all reasonable steps to minimise any disruption to the services.

Copyright and trademarks

© University of Reading, 2023.

The University of Reading name and logo are registered trademarks. All rights reserved.

Topics

Topics are provided as a taster of the areas of study that may be available on each course. Information is correct at the time of going to press (May 2023), for a list of compulsory (core) modules please check reading.ac.uk for the most up to date information.

Year abroad and placement fees

Some courses include an optional or compulsory year abroad or placement year. During this year you will only pay a partial fee which is currently set at 15% of the normal tuition fee. Check the website for the latest information: reading.ac.uk/fees-and-funding

Placements

Programmes with a Professional Placement Year (also known as 'Year in Industry' or 'Placement Year') are fully dependent on students securing their own placement opportunity, normally through a competitive recruitment process. The University provides dedicated career and application support for placement year students. Students who do not secure a placement or who are unable to complete the placement year due to extenuating circumstances, have the option to transfer to a three year variant of their programme with agreement from their School/Department.

Study abroad

The partnerships listed are correct at the time of publication (May 2023). For up to date information on the University's partnerships contact studyabroad@reading.ac.uk

Where Study Abroad is not a compulsory part of the degree programme, the University of Reading cannot guarantee that every applicant who applies for the scheme will be successful. Whilst efforts are made to secure sufficient places at partner institutions, the number of places available and the University's partners can vary year-on-year. In all cases, the University cannot guarantee that it will be possible for applicants to choose to study abroad at a particular institution.

Further, certain courses and/or institutions may require you to satisfy specific eligibility criteria. It can be a competitive process. For further information on the University's Study Abroad Scheme please contact studyabroad@reading.ac.uk