



SAC



Scottish Agricultural College

Horticulture with Plantsmanship



In partnership with the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Aberdeen • Ayr • Edinburgh
0800 269 453
www.sac.ac.uk/learning

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SAC



Horticulture with Plantsmanship

Course Information

Why study Horticulture with Plantsmanship?

If you are keen about botanic gardens horticulture, plant collections, conservation and botany, this is the programme for you. Horticulture with Plantsmanship courses develop specialist knowledge and skills in 'plantsmanship' – the study of the diversity of plants and their cultivation - along with practical skills in horticulture. They are well suited to those seeking to pursue a science-based qualification within a vocational context.

The Horticulture with Plantsmanship programme integrates the management of plant collections with knowledge of plant distribution, classification, diversity, structure, identification, recognition and cultivation. You will also gain a good understanding of other aspects of horticulture, plant science and technology.

The HND and BSc Horticulture with Plantsmanship are delivered in partnership with the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) with classes and practical work based at both RBGE and SAC's Edinburgh campus – as a student on this course you will benefit from the considerable resources and expertise of both organisations.

SAC... a unique institution

SAC – the Scottish Agricultural College – is Scotland's specialist higher education institution for courses that relate to the existing and emerging land-based industries and pursuits, applied food, plant and animal sciences and sustainable land-use.

SAC offers courses in a wide range of subject areas, all related to how we make use of the land and environment around us: Agriculture, Science, Green Technology, Horticulture, Environment, Conservation, Business, Sport and Tourism courses are on offer at our three campuses in Aberdeen, Ayr and Edinburgh.

SAC offers HNC, HND and degree courses, and our degrees are awarded by the prestigious universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh.

In addition to its role in education, SAC has an innovative and leading research and development programme and runs an international advisory and consultancy service. This all means that as a student at SAC you are taught by a team of staff including lecturers, researchers, advisers and consultants. They will provide up-to-the-minute information and insight into the commercial world beyond the College environment. We believe no other education institution can offer this combination of expertise and experience.

The screenshot shows the SAC Learning website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the 'SAC Learning' text and the SAC logo. Below the header, the main content area is divided into several sections:

- Home:** A list of navigation links including SAC Learning, About the College, Prospective Students, Courses, Lifelong Learning, Further Learning, Training, Parents & Teachers, News & Events, Course Finder, Settings For Schools, and Geography For Schools.
- Scotland's land-based Higher Education Institution:** A section describing SAC's focus on land-based industries and applied sciences, with a 'Read More' link.
- Courses:** A section listing various courses offered, with a 'Read More' link.
- Popular Pages:** A section highlighting key pages like A to Z, Open Days & Events, Postgraduate Research, Postgraduate Taught Courses, Subject Areas, and Training, with a 'Read More' link.
- Open Days & Events:** A section for prospective students to find out more about programmes, with a 'Read More' link.
- Research & Innovation:** A section for those interested in SAC's research, with a 'Read More' link.
- News & Events:** A section for the latest news and learning events, with a 'Read More' link.
- Education and Training:** A section for those looking to develop their business, with a 'Read More' link.

At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a dark blue navigation bar with the following sections:

- Explore SAC:** About SAC, Contact Us, Careers, Cross-Campus, Knowledge Exchange, News & Events, Publications, SAC Consulting, SAC Contact: A to Z, SAC Courses, SAC Council, SAC Learning, SAC Research, SAC Royal Policy Centre.
- Explore Courses:** Postgraduate Research, Postgraduate Taught Courses, Short Courses, Subject Areas, Undergraduate Courses.
- Current Students:** Alumni, Current Students, Library, Moodle, PadletPad, Student Services.
- Popular Pages:** Contacts & Request, How To Apply For A Course, International Students, Postgraduate Students, Progression Opportunities, Tuition Fees, Undergraduate Students, SAC Learning News, Branches Move to Riverside, SAC Learning Move to Riverside Campus, Co-Operation Plans off for SAC Students, 'Year History' 1921-1926 Students, Welcome to SAC.
- Explore Training:** Remote Courses, Paid Time Learning, Search Training Courses, Skills Training, Subject Areas, Training Courses, Contact, Student Recruitment & Admissions, SAC Air, Riverside Campus, SAC Ayr, SAC Aberdeen, SAC Dundee, SAC Glasgow, SAC Perth, SAC Stirling, SAC Strathclyde, SAC West of Scotland.

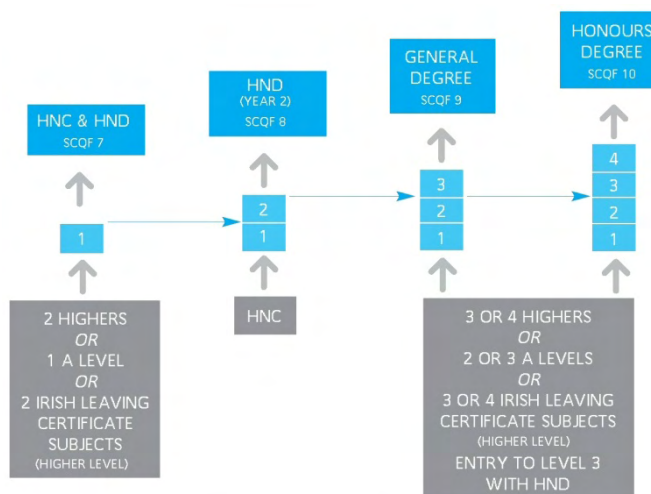
Horticulture with Plantsmanship at SAC: Which Courses Where?

Awards Available:	Campus		
	Aberdeen	Ayr	Edinburgh
BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Plantsmanship	x	x	✓
HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship	x	x	✓

Qualifications to suit your needs

Our role is to help you achieve your true potential. This is why we have designed many of our courses to allow progression from one academic level to the next, with the possibility of a qualification at the end of each academic year (HNC, HND, degree, or Honours degree).

If, for some reason, you do have to leave before achieving an Honours degree, you needn't leave empty handed. Similarly, you may enrol for the HNC or HND, and as long as your performance is good enough, you can transfer to the degree course without any loss of time or repeated years.



SAC also makes provision for holders of many HNCs or HNDs from elsewhere to transfer to the second or third years, as appropriate, of a suitable HND or degree.

It is also usually possible to transfer either way between the Horticulture course and the Horticulture with Plantsmanship course at the end of Years 1 or 2.

About the course

The Horticulture with Plantsmanship course ensures development of relevant practical skills with laboratory as well as plant propagation and plant culture classes making up a major component of the programme. Visits to leading commercial horticultural enterprises as well as significant plant collections throughout the UK are an integral part of the programme. The gardens of the Royal Botanic Garden are a major resource of which the fullest use is made.

Year one of the course follows the content of the HNC in Horticulture and provides foundation knowledge including horticultural practices, plant recognition, plant biology, and plant protection. In year two, you will study specialist topics such as plant and habitat conservation, plant classification, and the design and management of plant collections. The course ensures knowledge is gained in a practical way, and will be applicable to the workplace in the structuring, establishment, organisation, and management of plant collections.

As an individual, you will have your own plot in year 1 and undertake a specialist project in an area of particular interest to you in year 2. Work experience in a range of sections of the gardens at RBGE is undertaken in year 1.

Years three and four of the degree programme both broaden studies by taking a global and historical perspective of plant collections, whilst further developing the scientific understanding of taxonomy, biodiversity and physiology. Coursework involves group work and individual project work on a range of topics including experiments relating to physiology and taxonomy, production of a management plan for a historic garden, and business case studies. In Year 4, the Honours Project and Dissertation gives you an opportunity to carry out research in an area of special interest to you.

Throughout the course there are opportunities for additional work placements in the UK and abroad.

Contact Details:

Students wishing to study part-time or obtain specific programme advice should contact:

In Aberdeen:	In Ayr:	In Edinburgh:
N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Margaret Norton• 0131 535 4079• margaret.norton@sac.ac.uk

Entry Qualifications

- **Direct entry to Degree programmes:** Typically three Scottish Highers/ Irish Leaving Certificate subjects at Higher level (BCC) or two A-Levels (CC), normally to include a Science subject.
- **HND:** 2 Highers (CC) or 1 A-Level pass, normally to include a Science subject.

Relevant vocational qualifications are accepted, and advanced entry (for example into year 3 of the degree course) is available to those students with appropriate qualifications. Mature candidates with experience but no formal qualifications are encouraged to apply.

All students are strongly advised to gain practical horticultural experience in the landscape, amenity or gardening sectors before joining and during the course.

Application Details



Application for full-time study on HNC, HND and degree (BA/BSc) courses is through UCAS (www.ucas.ac.uk). Please consult the SAC web site or prospectus for further details.

Codes for UCAS application are as follows:

- Institution code name: SAC
 - Institution code: S01
 - HND Horticulture with Plantmanship 454D HND/PHort
 - BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Plantmanship D4D7 BSc/HWP
- The BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Plantmanship degree is awarded by the University of Glasgow.

Career Prospects

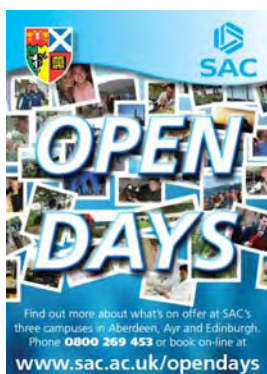
Recent reports identifying future skills gaps have noted that there will be a future shortage of people in the UK with botanical abilities in plant identification, and also with knowledge of restoration and historic garden techniques particularly at a high level.

Recent graduates have gone on to employment in botanic gardens, heritage gardens, journalism, nurseries, and education, and to Masters degrees and PhD research programmes.

You will find that throughout your course you will develop contacts with potential future employers through visits, trade shows, study tours, visiting speakers, work experience, summer placements, involvement in industry liaison meetings and participation as a student member in professional organisations.

Opportunities for employment are enhanced by SAC's strong links with the national and international horticulture and landscape industry and profession which means that many employers approach SAC directly when seeking to recruit new staff. SAC's graduate employment rate is 92%.

Open Days



2011 Open Days are as follows:

- Saturday 10th September - Open Morning (10.30am-1.30pm)
- Wednesday 12th October - Open Afternoon (1.30-4.30pm)
- Wednesday 23rd November - Open Afternoon (1.30-4.30pm)

Applicant days are held in early 2012 for those applicants holding offers.

Please book your place through our web site at www.sac.ac.uk/opendays

2012 Open Days are as follows:

- Saturday 8th September - Open Morning (10.30am-1.30pm)
 - Wednesday 10th October - Open Afternoon (1.30-4.30pm)
 - Wednesday 21st November - Open Afternoon (1.30-4.30pm)
-

Visit Us:

Open days and evenings are held regularly and we encourage those interested in this course to attend in order to speak to staff, meet students, and see the facilities. In addition, each campus hosts a taster day each year. This is your chance to be a SAC student for the day. Details are available on the web site.

For more information please contact one of the Student Recruitment Officers or book through the web site. If you are unable to attend one of the open days, please contact us so that we can make alternative arrangements for you to visit.

General information and details about open days and taster sessions are available from:

In Aberdeen:	In Ayr:	In Edinburgh:
Student Recruitment Officer SAC Aberdeen Craibstone Estate ABERDEEN AB21 9YA Tel: (01224) 711189 Email: aberdeen@sac.ac.uk	Student Recruitment Officer SAC Ayr, Riverside Campus University Avenue AYR KA8 0SX Tel: (01292) 886196 Email: ayr@sac.ac.uk	Student Recruitment Officer SAC Edinburgh West Mains Road EDINBURGH EH9 3JG Tel: (0131) 535 4391 Email: edinburgh@sac.ac.uk

Student Profile

Tom Christian has always had a passion for plants and gardens. Whilst at school he did general gardening work and then gained work experience in Cluny House Gardens, Perthshire.

“Coming straight from school, I initially chose the BSc Horticulture course because it was an obvious way to develop a career out of my strong interest in plants and horticulture. The course has hugely increased the scope of my interest in horticulture, and has opened my eyes to the huge diversity of career opportunities available in the horticulture industry.



“Because eventually I would like to work in a botanic garden, designing and maintaining plant collections, I transferred at the beginning of year 3 onto the Horticulture with Plantsmanship degree. The course is well structured and provides the opportunity to focus on my personal interests through projects. RBGE provides a perfect setting for this course, and the resources available to us there are amazing.”

HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship

- The HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship also constitutes Years 1 and 2 of the degree programmes.

Year 1:

- **Core Subjects:**
- Business Management: An Introduction
- Horticultural Mechanisation Principles
- Horticultural Practices (2 credits)
- Horticulture: Plant Recognition and Use
- Information Technology: Application Software 1
- Nursery Production
- Plant Trials: An Introduction
- Plant Growth and Development
- Plant Physiology
- Plant Protection
- Retailing of Plants
- Soil Management
- Work Experience
- Horticulture Graded Unit (exam)

Year 2:

- **Core Subjects:**
- Advanced Plant Propagation
- Designing Plant Collections
- Genetics for Plant Science
- Getting Started in Business
- Landscape Design History
- Managing Plant Collections (2 credits)
- Plant Classification and Systematics (2 credits)
- Plant Protection: Integrated Approaches
- Plants and Habitats: Ecology and Conservation (2 credits)
- Soils and Plant Nutrition
- Horticulture with Plantsmanship Graded Unit 2 (project)
- Horticulture with Plantsmanship Graded Unit 3 (exam)

BSc Horticulture with Plantsmanship

Course Content:

- 3 years full-time
- Students may study 3 years to achieve the BSc, or 4 years for BSc (Hons).
- **Core Subjects:**
- Advanced Case Studies
- Ethnobotany
- Horticultural Plant Physiology
- Horticultural Taxonomy
- Plant Geography
- Research Skills and Data Analysis
- Victorian Horticulture
- **Elective Subjects (choose one):**
- Advanced Communication
- Crop Products and Potential
- Ecology: Management and Impacts
- Management Skills and Entrepreneurship
- Plant Biotic Interactions
- Plant Growth and Metabolism
- Visitor Management

BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Plantsmanship

Course Content:

- **Core Subjects:**
- Honours Project and Dissertation (3 credits)
- Global Horticulture
- Heritage Garden Conservation
- Topical Issues
- **Elective Subjects (choose two):**
- Action for Biodiversity
- Business Marketing
- Crop Products and Potential
- Ecology: Issues and Investigations
- Interpretive Planning
- Plant Biotic Interactions
- Plant Responses to Stress