



SAC



Scottish Agricultural College

Agriculture



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





Agriculture Course Information

Why study Agriculture?



A qualification in Agriculture opens doors to exciting career opportunities in a dynamic and vital industry. The technology and business management of food production forms the central theme of the programmes, but related issues such as land management, wildlife enhancement, adding value to farm products, diversification into rural tourism or leisure, and improving animal welfare are well covered. Such breadth ensures that diplomates and graduates are equipped for a very wide range of careers. These topics are studied making use of visits to leading businesses to illustrate best practice and entrepreneurship.

SAC has been responsible for supporting and educating the agricultural industry for over 100 years. We offer a full suite of programmes in this field, whatever your qualifications, experience, or aspirations.

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.

SAC Learning

Scotland's land-based Higher Education Institution

SAC offers courses that relate to the existing and emerging land-based industries and pursuits as well as applied food, plant and animal sciences, and sustainable land-use.

Courses

SAC offers a range of undergraduate degree and HND courses as well as postgraduate opportunities. Follow the relevant links for more details.

The Training section gives details of the CPD and specialist courses we offer, while Open Days and Events tells you about opportunities to visit your local campus.

Popular Pages

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Postgraduate Taught Courses
Subject Areas
Training
Undergraduate Courses

Open Days & Events

Visit SAC on one of our Taster or Open Days and find out more about the programmes we deliver.

Download or request a copy of our undergraduate or postgraduate prospectus

Catch up on the latest news and take a look at upcoming events from Learning, Education and Training

Campuses

SAC has three campuses in Scotland, Aberdeen, Ayr and Edinburgh. See the latest on campus developments.

Education and training which is diverse, flexible and available at different times and places

Gain the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress in your role or to develop your business.

Explore SAC

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Popular Pages

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SAC Learning News

- Recently Moved to Riverside
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- CA Operation Pays off for SAC Students
- Year 10/11/12/13/14/15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100

Explore Training

- Flexible Courses
- Part-Time Learning
- Short Training Courses
- Skills Training
- Subject Areas
- Training Courses

Contact

Student Recruitment & Admissions
Office
SAC Ayr, Riverside Campus
Ayr
PA6 6BT
Tel +44 (0) 190 294411
Send Email
Send to Address Book

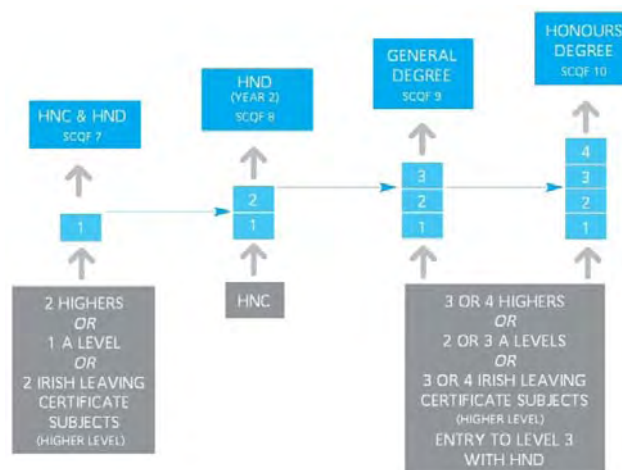
Agriculture: Which Courses Where?

Awards Available:	Campus		
	Aberdeen	Ayr	Edinburgh
BSc/BSc (Hons) Agriculture	✓	✓	✓
HND Agriculture	✓	✓	✓
HNC Agriculture	x	✓	x
SAC Certificate in Agriculture	✓	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.

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
- Diploma in Agriculture Apply Direct to SAC – do not apply through UCAS
- HNC Agriculture 104D HNC/Ag
- HND Agriculture 004D HND/Ag
- BSc\BSc (Hons) Agriculture DN42 BSc/Ag

The BSc\BSc (Hons) Agriculture degree is awarded by the University of Glasgow.

Those wishing to study part-time, by flexible learning, or who wish to study individual modules as short courses should contact SAC for more information.

Methods of delivery and assessment

Extensive use is made of local commercial farms, rural businesses and other organisations to illustrate all aspects of running a business, and real case studies may be based on these visits. Visiting speakers from industry are widely used to provide the latest insight into agri-business. Study tours are organised to broaden the learning experience. A wide range of assessment methods are used (projects, essays, presentations, case studies, examinations) with the majority of modules being assessed as 50% coursework and 50% end of module examination.



Entry Qualifications

- **Direct entry to Degree programmes:** Typically three Scottish Highers/ Irish Leaving Certificate subjects at Higher level (BCC) or two A-Levels (CC), to include a Science subject or Geography.
- **HND/HNC:** 2 Highers (CC) or 1 A-Level pass, to include a Science subject or Geography.
- **SAC Certificate:** 4 Standard Grade/GCSE passes including English and Mathematics and a Science subject (Chemistry, Biology, Physics or General Science).

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.

Contact Details:

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

In Aberdeen:	In Ayr:	In Edinburgh:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chris Stockwell• 01224 711065• chris.stockwell@sac.ac.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jan Connell• 01292 886168• jan.connell@sac.ac.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bill Dingwall• 0131 535 4161• bill.dingwall@sac.ac.uk

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 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 Email: edinburgh@sac.ac.uk

Career Prospects

On successful completion of the awards within the programme, students are likely to gain employment in positions such as:

- Farm management, enterprise management, rural business and land management
- Inspector (e.g. SEERAD, Animal Welfare, Environment, Quality Assurance)
- Advisory and Consultancy
- Education and Training in the land-based sector
- Research and Development in crops, livestock and the food industry
- Sales/technical support in equipment, feeds, seeds and other inputs
- Agricultural and rural policy formulation at local and national levels
- Self-employment in farming, contracting, agri-business, and the food business

SAC's graduate employment rate for those studying Agriculture is over 95%.

Student Profile

Louise Macdonald is a recent Honours graduate in Agriculture.

"I really enjoyed the blend of animal and crop technology, business management and economics, food processing and quality, and environmental management in the course. The Honours project was a challenge but I could do it on a topic of my own choice and I got a real sense of achievement when it was complete. We had lots of great visits to farms and businesses and the staff have close contacts with the agricultural industry and bring their own experience into the classroom".



Louise comes from a farming background but broadened her experience by working as an Agricultural Officer with SEERAD during two summer vacations, visiting many farms whilst inspecting livestock and environmental schemes. Three months of work experience in the factoring and management of a number of estates in Angus between Years 3 and 4 was also very valuable in illustrating many aspects of what she had learned at SAC. This led to Louise taking up the post of Farms Manager after graduation.

Being a student is not all about study, however. "The social life at College was great and I really enjoyed being involved in organising social events. Just chatting to the many friends I made about absolutely anything was great fun and I learned so much from them. Now that I have graduated, I feel that lots of doors are open to me in an industry with such a wide range of challenging careers".

Example Reading List



- Marketing of Agricultural Products *by R L Kohls and J N Uhl*
- Economics *by M Parkin, M Powel and K Matthews*
- Entrepreneurship and Small Firms *by D Deakins*
- Dictionary of Environmental Science and Technology *by A Porteous*
- Journal of the Institute of Agricultural Engineering
- Aspects of Applied Biology *Association of Applied Biologists*
- Farm Power and Machinery Management *by D Hunt*



SAC Certificate in Agriculture

Course Content:

- 1 year full-time
- The Certificate in Agriculture provides a route into the Agriculture programme at SAC for those who leave school with Standard Grades or equivalent.
- Livestock Health and Hygiene
- Beef Production
- Sheep Production
- Cereal Crop Production (0.5 module)
- Introduction to Pesticide Application
- Pesticide Application by Ground Crop Sprayer
- Fertilisers: Quantity and Application
- Grassland Production
- Soils - Formation and Cropping Potential
- Machinery Maintenance (0.5 module)
- Tractor Operations
- Introduction to Farm Buildings Maintenance (0.5 module)
- Accident and Emergency Procedures (0.5 module)
- Thermal Joining Skills
- Information Technology
- Calf Rearing to Twelve Weeks
- Milking (0.5 module)
- Livestock Handling and Marketing (0.5 module)

HNC Agriculture

Also: HND Agriculture Year 1
BSc/BSc (Hons) Agriculture Year 1

Course Content:

- 1 year full-time
- The HNC Agriculture also constitutes the 1st year of the HND and degree programmes.
- Livestock Production Systems
- Livestock Growth, Health & Welfare
- Livestock Breeding
- Livestock Husbandry & Recording
- Arable Crop Production
- Plant Protection
- Grass & Fodder Crop Production
- Farm Power
- Soils and Crop Establishment
- Crop Protection and Harvesting Mechanisation
- Environmental Awareness
- Land Use Systems
- Financial Records for Business
- Information Technology: Applications Software
- Graded Unit Agriculture: Project

HND Agriculture

Also: BSc/BSc (Hons) Agriculture Year 2

Course Content:

- 2 years full-time
- Year 1 of the HND is the HNC Agriculture.
- The HND Agriculture also constitutes Years 1 and 2 of the degree programmes.

Core Subjects:

- Livestock Management Systems
- Livestock Nutrition
- Pasture Management
- Agricultural Produce: Quality and Processing
- Plant Protection: Integrated Approaches
- Crop and Livestock Mechanisation
- Farm Buildings and Controlled Environments
- Farm Manures, Wastes and the Environment
- Planning, Budgeting & Control
- Using Financial Accounting Statements
- Graded Unit Agriculture: Business Case Study
- Graded Unit Agriculture: Exam

Elective Subjects:

- Specialised Field Crops
- Crop Physiology and Breeding
- Organic Farming Systems
- Farm Scale Renewable Energy
- Agricultural Economics & Marketing
- Managing Human Resources
- Rural Business Diversification
- Wildlife Management
- Developing Skills for Personal Effectiveness
- Work Experience

BSc Agriculture

Course Content:

- 3 years full-time
- Students may study 3 years to achieve the BSc, or 4 years for BSc (Hons).

Core Subjects:

- Livestock Production Technology
- Advanced Agronomy
- Resource Management
- Advanced Case Studies
- Economic Analysis for Business Decisions
- Management Skills and Entrepreneurship
- Research Skills and Data Analysis

Elective Subjects:

- Animal Welfare and Behaviour
- Crop Products and Potential
- Multi-purpose Woodland Management
- New Perspectives in Plant Protection
- The UK Agri-Food Industries

BSc (Honours) Agriculture

Course Content:

- 4 years full-time

Core Subjects:

- Honours Project (2)
- Land Based Environmental Issues

Elective Subjects:

- Advanced Financial Management & Planning
- Business Marketing
- Food & Agri-business Economic Policy
- Animal Breeding & Genetics
- Animal Feed Technology
- Animal Welfare & Behaviour

- Crop Products and Potential
- Plant Protection Technology
- Action for Biodiversity
- Integrated Catchment Management
- Rural Development
- Rural Planning & Environmental Impact Assessment
- Professional Practice