

We're proud to be Modern University of the Year



Harper Adams
University

The University

Background

Harper Adams University is the leading UK Higher Education (HE) institution focused on the land-based and food supply-chain sectors with an important national role in these subject areas.

Situated on a single campus in rural and scenic Shropshire, the University, and its surrounding area, provide an excellent working and living environment for staff and students alike, yet the University campus is only one hour from the UK's second city of Birmingham. Around 3,000 HE students attend the University, primarily on sandwich courses which include a year-long industrial placement. Undergraduate and postgraduate degrees are offered.

The University was founded by Thomas Harper Adams in 1901 on the original farmland of the Harper Adams Estate. The University estate includes amenity areas, woodland, and a commercial farm of 205 hectares; with rented land the total area farmed is approximately 640 hectares, spread over several locations with cereals, potatoes, forage maize and grassland carrying a dairy herd, sheep, beef, pig and poultry units.

The Privy Council awarded taught degree awarding powers to Harper Adams in 1996 and research degree awarding powers in 2006. Full University Title was granted by Her Majesty's Privy Council in December 2012. The University changed its legal status to that of a Company Limited by Guarantee in July 2012 and remains one of a small number of Universities which are Registered Charities. Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal became the University's first Chancellor in 2013.

Academic Provision

The University offers a wide range of courses including Foundation and Honours degrees, in addition to shorter awards designed to meet the continuing professional development needs of those already in the workplace. The subjects are wide ranging and cover Agriculture, Animal Studies, Business, Countryside, Engineering, Food and Land & Property Management. The University has also focused on developing its postgraduate education and research and there are a growing number of postgraduate students at both diploma, masters and PhD level.

Harper Adams has built up an international reputation for the quality of its courses and has achieved the highest possible ratings in recent Quality Assurance Agency reviews. There is active encouragement of research and the University took part in the last Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise. 56% of our submitted research was rated either internationally excellent or world leading and 100% was rated of international quality. Our extensive programme of research and education for professionals in the land-based and food chain sectors supports a high profile of business and community reach-out work, short course delivery for businesses and technology transfer activities

supported by strong industry links and partnerships with companies such as JCB and Marks & Spencer amongst many others.

Recognition

Harper Adams is consistently positioned highly in a range of national ratings, performance measures and league tables.

In 2014 the Times Higher Education Awards shortlisted the university for the prestigious title of University of the Year, putting Harper Adams in the top six universities in the country. In the 2015 Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards Harper Adams won the category for Outstanding International Strategy. In the 2016 Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards we won the award for Outstanding Marketing & Communications Team.

In the 2016 Whatuni? Student Choice Awards, based on student reviews, Harper Adams took the title of University of the Year and won the Student Support and Job Prospects gold awards, plus silver and bronze in a further five categories.

Harper Adams ranked second in the 2016 Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey. In the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2017, the University was ranked 36th, the highest position yet achieved by a post-1992 university, and was awarded the title of Modern University of the Year.

Facilities

Harper Adams has extensive, well-equipped facilities and is constantly investing in its campus. Facilities include a range of modern teaching facilities and an extensive library, a variety of IT suites including an engineering design centre, newly extended laboratory facilities, a field laboratory and a livestock project centre, a glasshouse complex, an agricultural engineering unit with a large covered soil working area and a number of sustainable technology installations. In 2013 a new teaching building and a new agricultural engineering innovation centre opened. In 2015 these were followed by two further buildings, one for veterinary services and one for entomology. Developments opening in 2016/17 include an Agri-Tech Innovation Hub and Precision Dairy Unit.

The University provides a range of training and professional development opportunities via its staff development programme.

Catering and Sports Facilities

The University's Students' Union operates a small gym and squash courts that staff may use on the payment of a nominal fee. The University has an open-air swimming pool and bowling green that are available for staff use during the summer period and new tennis courts have recently been developed.

A variety of University catering outlets provide access to lunch facilities on campus.

For further details about the University, please visit our website:

<http://www.harper-adams.ac.uk>

To view additional information about the University go to our publication - 'Our world' at <http://www.harper-adams.ac.uk/publications/our-world/2015/>