



Programme Specification

Part 1: Basic Data			
Primary Programme Title	MSc Sports Coaching		
Target Award Titles	Mode and Typical Duration of Study	Professional Accrediting Body Links	Study Abroad / Exchange / Credit Recognition
Master of Science in Sports Coaching	Full time, 1 year Part time, 2 years	None	None
Interim Award Titles	Postgraduate Diploma in Sports Coaching Postgraduate Diploma in Sport Studies Postgraduate Certificate in Sports Coaching Postgraduate Certificate in Sport Studies Postgraduate Award in Sport Studies		
Teaching Delivery Method	On-site		
Awarding Institution	Hartpury University		
Teaching Institution	Hartpury University		
Delivery Location	Hartpury		
Department Responsible for Programme	Sport		
Unit-E Code	MSTSCSXX		
Entry Criteria Information	Applicants will have achieved entry criteria appropriate for the stage of entry, which can be found through the Hartpury website (www.hartpury.ac.uk).		
Most Recent Validation Date	17 February 2025	Due for Re-validation By	01 September 2030
Amendment Approval Date	V3.1 - 11 June 2025	Approved With Effect From	V3.1 - 01 September 2025
Professional Accrediting Body Approval Date	None	Date for Re-accreditation	None
Version	3.1		

Part 2: Programme Overview

Graduates will demonstrate a broad understanding of new government agendas and the ability to respond to, and in some cases anticipate, the evolving demands on sports coaches, particularly regarding the increasing professionalisation of the coaching industry. In meeting this demand, graduates will develop an ability to critically analyse existing coaching theories and extrapolate from this existing research and scholarship to identify new or revised approaches to practice and their consequence on the role of the sports coach.

Graduates will develop an in-depth awareness and understanding of sports coaching through a stimulating, supportive and comprehensive framework of learning built through innovative and industry-relevant assessment, teaching and learning opportunities. In doing so we aim to foster graduates as theoretically-informed and reflexive practitioners who question existing practice, inform future applications, and enhance their personal development and wellbeing.

Graduates will conclude their postgraduate award with the completion of an applied sports coaching project, which will challenge them to design appropriate methods, collect and analyse data, appropriately present the results, and provide a critical evaluation of the key findings.

Part 3: Programme Structure

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from enrolment through to graduation for a typical **full-time student on the primary programme**, including:

- level and credit requirements
- award requirements that are in addition to those described in the Hartpury University Academic Regulations
- module diet, including core and optional modules.

Please note:

*PAB these modules are subject to additional and variant regulations as part of an accreditation by a professional accrediting body

+ core modules marked + are not eligible for compensation

¹ these modules are accredited by a professional awarding body, but are not subject to variant regulations

^{AV} these modules are subject to additional and variant regulations but are not accredited by a professional awarding body

	Core Modules	Optional Modules	Target and Interim Awards
Stage 1	HSPVXA-30-7 Deconstructing Coaching Practice HSPXN3-15-7 High Performing Environments HSPVD9-30-7 Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience HSPVVQ-30-7 Reconstructing Coaching Practice HSPXMX-15-7 Reflective Practice HSPVM7-45-7 + Sports Coaching Extended Project HSPVC7-15-7 The Scientific Coach	None	<u>Postgraduate Award in Sport Studies</u> <u>PG Cert Sport Studies</u> <u>PG Cert Sports Coaching</u> This must include the modules: Deconstructing Coaching Practice and Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience. <u>PG Dip Sport Studies</u> <u>PG Dip Sports Coaching</u> This must include the modules: Reflective Practice, The Scientific Coach, Deconstructing Coaching Practice, Reconstructing Coaching Practice, and Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience. <u>MSc Sports Coaching</u>

Part time:

The part time student journey from entry through to graduation is individually negotiated with the student.

Part 4: Programme Learning Outcomes

Modules in bold are core modules and modules not emboldened are optional modules.
 A denotes a module that assesses a learning outcome and B denotes a module aligned with a learning outcome.

Learning Outcomes:	Reflective Practice	The Scientific Coach	Deconstructing Coaching Practice	High Performing Environments	Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience	Reconstructing Coaching Practice	Sports Coaching Extended Project
A) Knowledge and Understanding of:							
1. Methods for current sports coaching processes and their relationship with sports coaching practice.	B		A			A	
2. Social theory within sports coaching practice and sustainable development of the sports coaching industry.			A	B		A	B
3. The roles, scope and range of competencies required by coaches to demonstrate effective and informed practice.	B	B	B	A	B	B	
4. The methods, scope, development and planning of ongoing personal development as a reflexive and theoretically-informed practitioner.	A		B		A	B	
B) Intellectual Skills							
1. Demonstrate self-direction and originality in identifying and analysing needs, formulating solutions, and evaluating strategies of complex issues within the context of sports coaching.			A	A		A	

2. Critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in the areas of sports coaching, practice and sustainability in coaching.	B	A	A	B	A	A	A
3. Design, conduct, analyse the findings, draw conclusions, and undertake a systematic critical reflection on a programme of original research in order to formulate appropriate recommendations.		B	B				A
4. Demonstrate the capacity to engage in critical reflection, identify areas for personal and professional development and contribute insights into the field of sports coaching through evidence-based inquiry.	A		B		B	B	B
C) Performance and Practice							
1. Evaluate how intra-personal, inter-personal and professional knowledge and skills aid in the development and performance of athletes and teams	B	A	A	B		A	
2. Apply sports coaching research protocols to complex industry-based problems.		A		A			A
3. Implement effective reflection on personal and learner experiences to promote informed coaching practice and coach wellbeing.	A		B		A	B	
4. Enhance pedagogical understanding and skills through application, analysis and reflection of social theory, with awareness of the ambiguous nature of coaching practice.	B	B	A			A	
D) Setting, Personal and Enabling Skills							
1. Communicate effectively with a wide range of individuals using appropriate means, showing self-awareness and sensitivity to diversity in people and different situations.	B	B	A		B	A	
2. Evaluate own academic, vocational and professional performance through the structured use of reflection.	A		A		A	A	
3. Take responsibility for personal and professional learning, wellbeing, and development, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks.	A	A		A	B		A
4. Apply advanced digital tools and platforms to enhance sports coaching practices, including video capture and video analysis.			A		A	A	

Part 5: Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Journey:

The MSc Sports Coaching programme aims to develop theoretically-informed and evidence-based reflexive coaching practitioners. Students benefit from a range of academically stimulating and industry-relevant modules, with contextual learning at the heart. These contextualised modules provide students with two pillars of foci: 'self-awareness' (semester one) and 'self-development' (semester two). Throughout semester one, 'self-awareness' is explored through a variety of modules which are underpinned by the deconstruction of the coaches' practice using social theory, with a key focus on reflection and appreciation of the complexity of coaching environments. Throughout semester two, 'self-development' is explored through a variety of modules which are underpinned by the reconstruction of the coaches' practice using social theory, with a key focus on the core skills and strategies they can use to develop themselves as theoretically-informed and evidence-based reflexive coaching practitioners.

Students complete their programme with a sports coaching project module which affords students the opportunity to engage in postgraduate research in an area of personal interest and / or a 'live brief' created by a partner organisation for exploration. Throughout this process, the programme team provides support in a supervisory capacity and students are expected to draw on their experiences during their studies on the programme to formulate and carry out an original piece of applied research with the aim of either gaining a publication in an international peer-reviewed periodical or disseminating their work to an appropriate audience.

The learning and teaching strategy of the programme provides the opportunity for students to engage in a number of different learning environments. It is understood that people learn through different means, as well as the coaching industry requiring different methods of dissemination, so a range of methods are used, including but not limited to, lectures, workshops and practical sessions, working within the local community to support ongoing sports coaching initiatives, and, most commonly, seminar / discussion sessions centred around exploring the coaches' everyday practice.

Assessments also come in many guises to expose students to a range of opportunities, whilst preparing them for the reality of the sports coaching industry, therefore, our variety of assessments includes but is not limited to, written assignments and oral presentations through to evidence-based reports and independent research projects.

This programme will be assessed according to the approved Academic Regulations.

Students registered on this programme will have access to the Hartpury University support services.

The distinctive module used by the Programme Examination Board to inform recommending differential awards for students when considering borderline performance profiles will be:

Reconstructing Coaching Practice

Professional Accrediting Body documents to which this programme is mapped and or aligned:

None

Assessment Map

		Type of Assessment*							
		Coursework	Report	Portfolio	Written Examination	Written Test	Practical Skills Examination	Practical Skills Assessment	Oral Assessment
Core Modules Stage 1	Deconstructing Coaching Practice		B (50) Case Study Report						A (50) Oral Presentation with Questions
	Reconstructing Coaching Practice		B (50) Report						A (50) Oral Presentation with Questions
	Sports Coaching Extended Project			A (100) Coursework Portfolio					
	Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience			A (100) Coursework Portfolio					
	Reflective Practice	B (50) Essay							A (50) Oral Presentation with Questions
	The Scientific Coach	A (100) Coursework							
	High Performing Environments								A (100) Oral Presentation with Questions

*Indicative assessment types for new students enrolling on this programme after the date this specification takes effect (Part 1) are shown in terms of either **Coursework**, **Written Examination**, or **Practical Examination** as indicated by the colour coding above.

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of individual modules can be found through Hartpury's website (www.hartpury.ac.uk).

Approved Programme Amendment Log

Primary Programme Title:	MSc Sports Coaching
Programme Code:	MSTSCSXX
Initial Approval Date:	12 March 2019

Changes: *Most recent at the top of the page*

Current version number: 3.0	
Outline Change Details: Part 3: Programme Structure - HSPVM9-15-7 Coaching Work Based Learning Portfolio removed as 'by exception' module.	
Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? No	
If yes, please provide the details of the changes:	
Material Alteration: No	
Rationale: Following a review of the approach, it has been decided that the 'by exception' category of module will not be used.	
Change requested by: Thomas Legge I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change N/A I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted N/A I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report N/A	
Signature: TJLEGG	Date: 4/6/25
Name of Head of Department: Sarah Lee I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department	
Signature: Sarah Lee	Date: 11.06.25
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC Chair's action 2025 06 11
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2025
Resulting new version number:	3.1

Current version number: 2.2	
Outline Change Details: Part 2: Programme Overview updated. Parts 3, 4 and 5 revised and updated to reflect new structure and module amendments. HSPVM7-45-7 Sports Coaching Extended Project replaces HANVL5-60-7 Postgraduate Dissertation; new modules HSPVXA-30-7 Deconstructing Coaching Practice and HSPVVQ-30-7 Reconstructing Coaching Practice added; HSPVD9-30-7 Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience and HSPXN3-15-7 High Performing Environments changed from optional to core; core modules HSPVM3-30-7 Coaching Craft and HSPXMV-15-7 Professional Development Portfolio removed; optional modules HSPVM3-30-7 HSPXMW-15-7 Coach Education in Context, HSPXMY-15-7 Pedagogy in Practice, and HEQVSN-15-7 Postgraduate Independent Study removed; optional module HSPVM9-15-7 Coaching Work Based Learning Portfolio - name change (was 3) and to be offered by exception only. Part 5: Programme Learning Outcomes revised, and mapping updated. Part 5: Learning, Teaching and Assessment updated. Distinctive module changed from Coaching Craft to Deconstructing Coaching Practice Part 5: Assessment Map – updated to reflect module amendments. Reflective Practice - weighting changed from 25:75 to 50:50; The Scientific Coach - changed from Coursework Portfolio to Coursework; High Performing Environments - Report removed.	
Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? Yes	

If yes, please provide the details of the changes: Yes

The HAF mapping has been updated to reflect change of modules and amended to include an awareness of Research (qualitative and quantitative).

Material Alteration: Yes and is accompanied by the relevant course information document.

Rationale:

To improve the architecture of the degree programme, providing the ability to complete the Cert by Christmas, Diploma by Easter and MSc in one year. The change of core modules to create two new core 30-credit modules creates fewer assessments, more distinct 'pathway', and less optionality, leading to specificity.

Change requested by: Martin Longworth

I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change

I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted

I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report

Signature: M.Longworth

Date: 10/12/2024

Name of Head of Department: Sarah Lee

I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department

Signature: Sarah Lee

Date: 11.12.24

Approval Committee and Date:	CVC Chair's action (SD) 2025 02 17 (from CVC 2025 01 22)
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2025
Resulting new version number:	3.0

Current version number: 2.1

Outline Change Details:

Part 3: Programme Structure - optional module Postgraduate Independent Study updated from HANVL4-15-7 to HEQVSN-15-7, in line with module amendment.

Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? No

Material Alteration: No

Rationale:

As programmes taking this module have altered the department responsible has moved to ensure they have actual insight into the module and can effectively manage it.

Change requested by: Ben Brilot

I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change

I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted

I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report

Signature: B Brilot

Date: 05/03/24

Name of Head of Department: Sarah Lee

I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department; OR;

Signature: Sarah Lee

Date: 06.03.24

Approval Committee and Date:	CSP Chair's Action 2024 03 21
-------------------------------------	-------------------------------

Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2024
Resulting new version number:	2.2

Current version number: 2.0

Outline Change Details:
Part 5: Assessment Map updated to reflect change of assessment for optional module Pedagogy in Practice (Component B – Report – removed).

Do the changes presented alter the mapping against the Hartpury University Curriculum Framework (delete as appropriate)? No

If yes, please provide the details of the changes:

Material Alteration: Yes and is accompanied by the relevant course information document.

Rationale:

Assessment strategy changed to reflect institutional sustainability framework –moving down to one-point of assessment will enable a more appropriate workload for the students to enable them to achieve their best work across multiple modules. This change was also based on student and programme manager feedback and request.

Change requested by: Luciana De Martin Silva

I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change

I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted

I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report



Signature:

Date:04/07/2023

Name of Head of Department: Thomas Legge (pp Sarah Lee)

I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department

Signature: TJLEGGE

Date:04/07/2023

Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2023 07 19
-------------------------------------	----------------

Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2023
--	-------------------

Resulting new version number:	2.1
--------------------------------------	-----

Current version number: 1.2

Outline Change Details:

Document amended to meet requirements of new 2022 template.

Amended assessment terms to meet the new definitions

One learning outcome was altered – A3 to include sustainable development

Parts 1 and 3: interim awards updated, including addition of new 30 credit Postgraduate Award in Sport Studies

Material Alteration: No

Rationale: to align the programme with the Hartpury 2022 Academic Framework

Change requested by: Martin Longworth

I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change

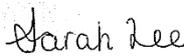
I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted

I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report

Signature: Martin Longworth

Date: 20-1-2022

Name of Head of Department: Sarah Lee	
<input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department	
Signature: S Lee	Date: 20/01/2022
Approval Committee and Date:	Refresh Approval Panel action 2022 03 21
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2022
Resulting new version number:	2.0

Current version number: 1.1	
Outline Change Details:	
Part 1 - Page 3: Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience (HSPVD9-30-7) Change 1: Module has become optional on the programme structure on the MSc Sports Coaching programme	
Part 2 - Page 4: Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience (HSPVD9-30-7) Change 1: Module added along with respective learning outcomes to the section.	
Part 3 - Page 9: Postgraduate Industry Placement Experience (HSPVD9-30-7) Change 1: Module added on assessment map.	
Part 6 – page 9: Postgraduate Dissertation (HANVL5-60-7) Weighting changed for Oral Assessment/Presentation from A20 to A25, Dissertation from A80 to A75.	
Material Alteration: No	
Rationale: The addition of the placement module provides students with a further avenue to develop their applied experiences during their programme. Due to the diversity of theoretical knowledge of the students on the programme the addition of the module will provide those students who are either currently working in industry or have limited experience in industry to gain course credit whilst also furthering their career prospects.	
Change requested by: Dr Martin Longworth I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report	
Signature: 	Date: 19/01/2021
Name of Head of Department: Sarah Lee I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department	
Signature: 	Date: 21/01/21
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2021 02 22
Change approved with effect from:	01 September 2021
Resulting new version number:	1.2

Current version number: 1.0	
Outline Change Details: Assessment components weighting for optional module 'Pedagogy in Practice' changed from 25:75 to 50:50.	
Material Alteration: Yes (no amendment to Course Information Sheet)	
Rationale: To reflect change made to module.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change requested by: Luciana De Martin Silva	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I can confirm that all programme managers have been consulted and support this change	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change	
I have retained evidence of this consultation which has been placed in the Module File	

	
Signature:	Date: 17.07.19
Name of Head of Department: Sarah Lee	
<input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department	
	
Signature:	Date: 03.07.19
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2019 08 06
Change approved with effect from:	1 September 2019
Resulting new version number:	1.1

Current version number: 0	
Outline Change Details: New programme	
Material Alteration: n/a	
Rationale: This programme was suspended for intake during the validation of Hartpury University degrees for 2018. The programme will be offered for 2019 intake and as such is being validated for the first time.	
Change requested by: Sarah Lee	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I can confirm that student representatives have been consulted about this change	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I can confirm that colleagues impacted by this change have been consulted	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I have retained evidence of these consultations, which will be summarized within the Programme Enhancement Report	
	
Signature:	Date: 29.01.19
Name of Head of Department:	
I confirm that this change does not require additional resources beyond the scope of those already present or planned for by the department;	
	
Signature:	Date: 29.01.19
Approval Committee and Date:	CVC 2019 03 12
Change approved with effect from:	1 September 2019
Resulting new version number:	1.0