



Myerscough  
College  
INSPIRING EXCELLENCE



# Land-based Further Education courses in Penrith, Cumbria

Full time school leaver courses in Agriculture and Animal Studies

Agriculture and Arboriculture apprenticeships across Cumbria





# MyWelcome

*Myerscough College in partnership with  
Ullswater Community College (UCC)*

In partnership with Ullswater Community College, we offer a choice of study programmes in Agriculture and Animal Studies. Further information about these courses is detailed in this booklet.

Students studying Agriculture and Animal Studies will be based at the UCC campus in Penrith, two days each week, making use of their excellent teaching facilities. Additional work experience will be completed at local employers within the Penrith, Eden and wider Cumbrian region.

Transport will then be provided for further practical lessons at Myerscough College's Preston Centre and Thrimby Hall Farm, in Penrith. Here students will have access to a range of practical resources.

We also deliver Agriculture apprenticeships from several Auction Marts across Cumbria as well as Arboriculture apprenticeships.



**Wes Johnson**, Chief Executive & Principal of Myerscough College, said: *"Myerscough College wants to see land-based education flourish in Cumbria and we have made great strides over the last few years to increase our offer in the area."*

*"We are delighted to be working with Ullswater Community College and we believe that this provision will provide a platform for the continuation of land-based education within Penrith, which is so critical for both young people and employers in the Cumbrian community."*

Wes



**Stephen Gilby**, Headteacher of Ullswater Community College, said: *"A significant number of our pupils look to enter land-based education after leaving school and we are very happy to be working with Myerscough on this innovative solution."*

*"Ullswater Community College is at the heart of the community in Penrith and we firmly believe that this partnership can be built upon to sustain land-based education in Penrith, Eden and Cumbria long into the future."*

Stephen

## Find out more

[www.myerscough.ac.uk](http://www.myerscough.ac.uk)

Your comprehensive online information source

We hold regular **Course Advice Events** throughout the year – please check page 11 of this brochure or the **'What's on'** section of our website for more details.

## Our Offer, based in Penrith

### Resources for Agriculture

- A purpose built Agriculture and Countryside 'Rural Skills' teaching centre with state-of-the-art facilities
- Myerscough Farms (two farms totalling more than 300 hectares of farm and woodland)
- Livestock and cereal enterprises (including 220 commercial Holstein dairy cows, 150 dairy heifers, 1000 ewes, 1800 fattening lambs, a beef enterprise and 40 hectares of cereals)
- A new £5m Food, Farming, Innovation and Technology Centre – incorporating robotic milking facilities
- Off-road driving course for developing skills with tractors, trailers, 4WD vehicles and quadbikes



*Agriculture Students have access to the fantastic Thrimby Hall Farm, in Penrith, for practical activities.*

### Resources for Animal Studies

Myerscough is home to a purpose built Animal Studies Centre which houses the following facilities:

- An aquarium of tropical and cold water amphibians and crustaceans
- A specialised herpetology room housing species from all continents, covering a range of habitats
- Cattery – working in partnership with Blue Cross
- New lemur enclosure
- A block of nine day-kennels
- A purpose built Sulcata Tortoise enclosure
- Farmyard animals, including goats, sheep, geese, ducks, alpacas and emus
- A fully equipped grooming parlour and canine hydrotherapy unit
- Specialist aviaries housing birds from around the world
- A range of commonly kept and exotic species of rodents (including Gambian pouched rats and sugar gliders)
- Free range poultry paddocks housing a large variety of species
- Specialist area dedicated to rabbits and guinea pigs containing spacious enriched pens with a variety of breeds including British and continental giant rabbits and Peruvian Guinea Pigs
- Ferrets housed in purpose built enclosure with indoor and outdoor runs
- Scottish Wildcat enclosure (part of national conservation programme)





#### Apprenticeships

We also deliver Level 2 General Farm worker and Level 3 Livestock Unit Technician Apprenticeships from several Auction Marts across Cumbria.

# Staying ahead of the herd

**There is currently a significant demand for highly trained and well-educated professionals to enter the agriculture industry. In recent years fewer people have been attracted to careers in agriculture and a skills shortage has developed.**

There has been a significant increase in the demand for skilled staff which has been fuelled by the increasing awareness that food production, farming, tourism, the environment and rural affairs are all interconnected.

This has created a need for motivated and technically competent people who understand the requirements of agriculture and its related industries.

Our courses in agriculture will help prepare you for a career in the industry, by combining relevant background skills with knowledge of livestock technology and business enterprise.

The expertise of the agriculture team at Myerscough College reflects this. The team consists of agriculturalists with a range of specialisms, including dairy, beef, sheep and crops.

## Career Opportunities

*Past students have gone on to employment as general farm workers or assistant farm managers, enterprise managers, shepherds and tractor drivers/contractors, agricultural advisers and herd managers. Many job opportunities also exist within the allied industries and students have progressed to work with feed companies, breeding companies, animal health specialists, finance specialists and machinery dealerships.*



## Agriculture

### City and Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate

The Level 2 Technical Certificate is an excellent introductory programme for students wishing to further their knowledge of agriculture.

It is extremely popular with school leavers and provides practical knowledge and experience, combining this with an academic study of the principles of agriculture.

It gives students a broad understanding of agriculture, with a view to progressing to one of our Level 3 programmes or to start work in the industry

Students undertake units which cover health and safety for land-based industries, agricultural power units and machinery operations and a work experience module within the agriculture industry.

Additional units provide an overview of the agriculture sector, focusing on animal and plant physiology, farm animal husbandry and production, crop husbandry and practical farm estate skills (fencing, hedgelaying, walling and grounds maintenance).

Work experience is a mandatory module that takes place one day per week within the local area to Ullswater Community College. It supplements the skills learned at College and is key to gaining employment in the industry.

It is important that students find a suitable work placement before they start the programme. Further information about placements will be provided following your application.

### Course Details

#### Location

Ullswater Community College, Thrimby Hall Farm and Myerscough College Preston.

#### Duration

1 year full-time.

#### Level

Intermediate.

#### Academic Entry Requirements

Students are normally aged 16 or over and have some level of achievement in GCSE or relevant Further Education qualifications and have gained a minimum of grade 3 (D) in two or more subjects, including English.

#### Additional Course Requirements

A strong interest and commitment to agriculture must be demonstrated.

#### Assessment

Practical assessment, assignments, coursework and exams.

#### Progression

Level 3 programmes in Agriculture.

## Agriculture

### City and Guilds Level 3 Suite

The Level 3 Advanced Technical qualifications are popular options for school leavers and young adults. They combine practical-based skills with academic theory, classroom study and external visits.

Students will initially enrol on the City and Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Diploma in Agriculture (540) before progressing on to the second year Level 3 Advanced Extended Technical Diploma in Agriculture (1080). This qualification is equivalent to three A Levels and will provide the entry requirements for progression to Higher Education University Degrees.

Students will learn about topics such as the land-based machinery operations, livestock husbandry, crop production, principles of plant and soil science, health and safety, land-based power units, business management, beef production and estate skills.

In the second year, further topics will be covered such as dairy production, sheep production, farm animal health and nutrition, grassland management, telescopic forklift operations, farm animal science, pollution and waste control and diversification and new business initiatives within the sector.

Work experience is a mandatory module that takes place one day each week in Cumbria. It supplements the skills learned at College and is key to gaining employment in the industry. It is important that students find a suitable work placement before they start the programme. Further information about placements will be provided following your application.

### Course Details

#### Location

Ullswater Community College, Thrimby Hall Farm and Myerscough College Preston.

#### Duration

1 year full-time

Level 3 Advanced Technical Diploma in Agriculture (540).

2 years full-time

Level 3 Advanced Extended Technical Diploma in Agriculture (1080).

#### Level

Advanced.

#### Academic Entry Requirements

Students are normally aged 16 or over and hold an English GCSE at 4/C plus a

minimum of four others at 4/C (depending on units studied), including Maths and Science. Equivalent Level 2 qualifications will be considered.

#### Additional Course Requirements

A strong interest and commitment to agriculture must be demonstrated.

#### Assessment

Practical assessment, assignments, coursework and exams.

#### Progression

Higher Education Degree courses.





# Exploring the animal kingdom

**Britain is well regarded as a nation of animal lovers, from companion pets to large animal collections.**

This has resulted in the development of a multi-million pound industry, ranging from well-known national pet feed companies to pet stores, catteries, kennels and numerous other businesses which provide for the needs of animals.

If you care about animals and have a deep interest in their health and wellbeing, Myerscough provides an excellent opportunity for you to further your studies.

Working with animals is highly rewarding. It does however require long hours, alongside a genuine passion and dedication.

Our courses cover a wide range of skills, and provide the opportunity to care for companion animals such as dogs, cats, rabbits and ferrets, farm animals and ponies and more exotic species, such as geckos, uromastyx, lemurs, chameleons and a wide range of invertebrates.



## Career Opportunities

*There are many diverse businesses and opportunities within the sector. These include pet shops, animal boarding establishments, animal sanctuaries, animal training (entertainment, education, working animals such as uniformed/security dogs), pet animal grooming, animal welfare charities, animal care services (such as animal hydrotherapy and dog walkers/sitters), zoos and wildlife parks (including wildlife rehabilitation), animal visitor attractions and animal related public services (such as dog/animal wardens).*

## Animal Studies

### City and Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate

The Level 2 Technical Certificate is an excellent introductory programme for students wishing to further their knowledge of animal studies.

It is extremely popular with school leavers and provides practical knowledge and experience, combining this with an academic study of the principles of animal care.

It gives students a broad understanding of animal care, with a view to progressing to one of our Level 3 programmes or to start work in the industry

Students learn about a wide range of popular species and gain an overview of the animal care industry.

Subjects include animal health and welfare, animal feeding and accommodation, animal biology, caring for farm livestock, British wildlife species and habitats, health and safety in the animal industry.

Work experience is a mandatory module that takes place one day per week within the local area to Ullswater Community College. It supplements the skills learned at College and is key to gaining employment in the industry.

It is important that students find a suitable work placement before they start the programme. Further information about placements will be provided following your application.

### Course Details

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Location</b><br>Ullswater Community College and Myerscough College Preston.   | <b>Additional Course Requirements</b><br>A strong interest and commitment to animal care and welfare must be demonstrated. Students are expected to have completed a minimum of one-week work experience in the animal care industry. |
| <b>Duration</b><br>1 year full-time.   |   |
| <b>Level</b><br>Intermediate.  |   |
| <b>Academic Entry Requirements</b><br>Students are normally aged 16 or over and have some level of achievement in GCSE or relevant Further Education qualifications and have gained a minimum of grade 3 (D) in three or more subjects, including English. | <b>Assessment</b><br>Practical assessment, assignments, coursework and exams.   |
|  | <b>Progression</b><br>Level 3 programmes in Animal Management.  |

## Animal Studies

### City and Guilds Level 3 Suite

The Level 3 Advanced Technical qualifications are popular options for school leavers and young adults. They combine practical-based skills with academic theory, classroom study and external visits.

Students will initially enrol on either a one-year 6 unit (360) Advanced Technical Certificate or 9 unit (540) Advanced Technical Diploma before progressing on to a second year with either an additional 6 or 9 units. The complete 720 Diploma is broadly equivalent to two A Levels while the complete 1080 Diploma is broadly equivalent to three A Levels, both idea for progression to Higher Education University degrees.

Students will learn about topics such as animal feeding and nutrition, animal health and husbandry, animal accommodation, breed development and welfare, animal handling techniques, animal biology and animal behaviour and communication. Optional modules include small animal rehabilitation, animal training, exotic animal health and husbandry.

In the second year, further topics will be covered such as business management, kennel and cattery management, pet store design, wildlife and ecology conservation, animal nursing, pet allied services and estate skills. Optional module choices include zoological collections, wildlife rehabilitation and farm livestock management.

Work experience is a mandatory module that takes place one day each week in Cumbria. It supplements the skills learned at College and is key to gaining employment in the industry. It is important that students find a suitable work placement before they start the programme. Further information about placements will be provided following your application.

### Course Details

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Location</b><br>Ullswater Community College and Myerscough College Preston.   | <b>Equivalent Level 2 qualifications will be considered.</b>   |
| <b>Duration</b><br>2 years full-time (540 and 1080 options).   | <b>Additional Course Requirements</b><br>A strong interest and commitment to animal care and welfare must be demonstrated. Students are expected to have completed a minimum of two-weeks work experience in the animal care industry. |
| <b>Level</b><br>Advanced.  |  |
| <b>Academic Entry Requirements</b><br>Students are normally aged 16 or over and hold an English GCSE at 4/C plus a minimum of three or four others at 4/C (depending on units studied), including Maths and Science. | <b>Assessment</b><br>Practical assessment, assignments, coursework and exams.  |
|  | <b>Progression</b><br>Higher Education Degree courses.   |



# Transport options to Penrith

Travel  
Bursaries  
available

Ullswater Community College will be your base for most the week. It is located in the centre of Penrith, just off Junction 40 of the M6 motorway and the main A66 route, running West to East across the county. There are various routes to Penrith from across Cumbria. These include routes from Carlisle, Workington, Whitehaven, Keswick and Kendal.

On courses where a day's practical experience is timetabled at our Bilsborrow (Preston) campus, we will provide a free bus service from Ullswater Community College to Preston and back again at the end of the day.

To help with travel costs, learners are able to apply for funding up to £1,000 per academic year, in a scheme generously supported by Westmorland and Furness Council.

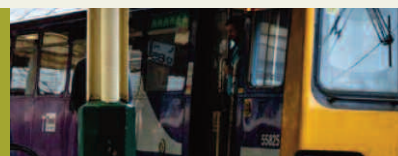
The bursary works on a sliding scale dependant on how far a student is located to the Penrith Centre and is available for both public transport costs and fuel costs. For more information contact [studentfinance@myerscough.ac.uk](mailto:studentfinance@myerscough.ac.uk).

## By Bus\*



| Route from  | To      | Bus departs | Arrives into Penrith | Route |
|-------------|---------|-------------|----------------------|-------|
| Carlisle    | Penrith | 07:45       | 08:26                | 104   |
| Cockermouth | Penrith | 07:29       | 08:54                | X5    |
| Keswick     | Penrith | 08:04       | 08:54                | X5    |
| Workington  | Penrith | 07:08       | 08:54                | X5    |

## By Train\*



| Route from         | To      | Train departs | Arrives into Penrith |
|--------------------|---------|---------------|----------------------|
| Aspatria           | Penrith | 07:06         | 08:00                |
| Carlisle           | Penrith | 08:07         | 08:21                |
| Kendal             | Penrith | 08:10         | 08:55                |
| Maryport           | Penrith | 06:56         | 08:00                |
| Oxenholme (Kendal) | Penrith | 07:34         | 07:58                |
| Whitehaven         | Penrith | 06:30         | 08:00                |
| Wigton             | Penrith | 07:18         | 08:00                |
| Workington         | Penrith | 06:48         | 08:00                |

*\* Bus and Train Times are given as a guide and are not exhaustive of all options. We recommend checking with providers for the most up to date routes and times.*

# Course Advice Events

Myerscough College hosts a regular series of Advice Events throughout the year.

College staff and tutors will be present to chat about the courses on offer, future career opportunities and the facilities and resources available to students. They'll also be able to advise about daily transport and financial support.

## Ullswater Community College • Course Advice Events

Saturday 10th February 2024 Course Advice Morning 10am till 12 noon

Saturday 23rd March 2024 Course Advice Morning 10am till 12 noon

You can also see us at a number of Agricultural Shows across Cumbria throughout the summer. Please check the website for more information.

## Course Advice Events at our Preston Centre

Saturday 3rd February 2024 Course Advice Morning and Applicant Showcase - 10am till 1pm

Saturday 16th March 2024 Course Advice Morning and Applicant Showcase - 10am till 1pm

Please check the 'What's on' section of the College website for more details about each of these events and to book your place.





## Additional full-time subjects at Myerscough College's Preston Campus

As well as Agriculture, Animal Studies and Arboriculture, Myerscough also offers a wide range of further land-based subjects, for which residential options are available to Cumbrian applicants.

These include Agricultural Engineering, Land and Wildlife, Veterinary Nursing, Equine Studies, Farriery, Floristry, Horticulture, Landscape, Motorsports, Photography and Sportsturf.

If you decide that you don't want to attend College full-time but would prefer to get a job, earn a decent wage and gain qualifications whilst at work, then we also offer a wide range of apprenticeship options.

# Choose Myerscough

## Make us your number one choice!

- STEM Assured Status
- A superb range of full-time and part-time courses across more than 20 different specialist land-based and sports subjects
- Multi-million pound centres for Agriculture and Animal Studies
- Awarded prestigious 'Leaders in Diversity' accreditation by the National Centre for Diversity
- Red Rose Awards winners in category 'Skills Provider of the Year'
- 97% of learners in employment or study within six months of graduation
- FE College of the Year at the 2022 Educate Awards



# Myerscough College

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