



## **Module Specification**

### **Primate Ecology and Conservation**

Version: 2023-24, v3.0, 30 May 2023

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Primate Ecology and Conservation

**Module code:** USSK56-15-3

**Level:** Level 6

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**Faculty:** Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

**Department:** HAS Dept of Applied Sciences

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Applied Sciences

**Module type:** Module

**Pre-requisites:** Animal Behaviour for Wildlife Conservation 2023-24, Wildlife Ecology 2023-24

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## Part 2: Description

**Overview:** Pre-requisites: Students must have taken one out of USSK5H-30-2 Wildlife Ecology or USSKAJ-15-2 Animal Behaviour for Wildlife Conservation.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** This module is designed to introduce students to the discipline of Primatology. The Primate order is a diverse group of mammals which includes

lemurs, lorises, galagos, tarsiers, monkeys, apes and humans. The non-human primates are our closest living relatives and the study of these animals offers us a unique glimpse into our own evolution. Additionally, many primate species are important seed dispersers and have a key role in the regeneration of tropical forests. Their close genetic relationship to us and general appeal means many primates are also important flagship species and are used to gain attention and funding for broader conservation initiatives. Despite all of this, numerous populations are under threat and a significant number of primate species are at risk of extinction. Consequently, primatology is an interdisciplinary subject with specialists from areas as diverse as Anthropology, Zoology, Psychology, Conservation Biology and Ecology.

**Outline syllabus:** On this module, you will learn about the diversity and evolution of primates, their adaptations to different habitats and ecological niches and their socioecology and conservation needs. You will also be introduced to a variety of methods used to collect and analyse data in primate studies.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module is delivered entirely at Bristol Zoo by active field primatologists of the Bristol Zoological Society (BZS). As such, students will be able to make extensive use of Bristol Zoo's expertise in field and captive primate behaviour, ecology and conservation, and learn by observing the zoo's collection of captive primates. They will also learn about the current primate conservation work of the zoo in field projects in Madagascar, Cameroon and Tanzania, which will be used as real-world case-studies to support learning. Consequently, interactive lecture sessions will be used for delivery and interacting with the students. These interactive sessions will include debates, discussion on case studies and problem based learning activities.

**Module Learning outcomes:** On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**MO1** Demonstrate an advanced understanding of primate taxonomic diversity and primate evolution and be able to relate primate adaptations to the evolution

and ecology of the four major primate habitat regions (Africa, Madagascar, Asia, Neotropics)

**MO2** Critically discuss the role of primate nutritional ecology and predation on primates as the main selection pressures influencing primate behaviour

**MO3** Review primate social behaviour, primate social systems and their ecological basis

**MO4** Evaluate the state of the environment in the major primate habitat regions in relation to species requirements and habitat conservation

**MO5** Use a wide range of resources that support primate research methods and problem solving

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 150

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussk56-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussk56-15-3.html>

## Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment strategy has been designed to take full advantage of the facilities offered by Bristol Zoo for studying primate ecology, whilst ensuring that the module learning outcomes are attained and are designed to compliment other assessments on the programme.

The coursework assessment consists of an extended piece of literature review and research designed to test the knowledge gained in the understanding of the link between diet, ecology, behaviour and conservation, which requires the use of critical appraisal skills expected of students in the final year of their undergraduate degrees.

Word limit 2,500 words. This assessment has been designed as appropriate for skills development by Bristol Zoological Society, an employer in this field.

The controlled component is a viva voce which will be completed at the end of the term. The viva will be related to the learning outcome that asks students to evaluate the state of the environment in the major primate habitat regions in relation to species requirements and habitat conservation. It will be based on current conservation threats facing primates at the time of the course in order to be relevant to the issues facing the primate conservation industry/community. The viva will be 15 minutes in length.

This assessment has been designed as appropriate for skills development by Bristol Zoo Gardens, an employer in this field. Formative feedback is available to students throughout the module through group discussions, skills evaluations, etc. built into the lecture and practical programme. Students are provided with formative feedback for their viva through in-class working groups and through support materials through Blackboard.

**Assessment tasks:****Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: Written assignment (2500 words)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO5

**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Viva (15 minutes)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4

**Written Assignment (Resit)**

Description: Written assignment (2500 words)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO5

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Viva (15 minutes)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Integrated Wildlife Conservation {Top-Up} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Biological Sciences [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MSci 2021-22

Biological Sciences [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MSci 2021-22

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Sep][FT][Zoo][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Biological Sciences [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Biological Sciences [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2020-21

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2020-21

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Zoo][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2020-21

Biological Sciences {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2020-21

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Sep][SW][Zoo][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Biological Sciences {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] MSci 2019-20

Biological Sciences {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Biological Sciences {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] MSci 2019-20

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Zoo][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20