



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
<b>Module Title</b>	Tropical Expedition		
<b>Module Code</b>	USSK59-15-3	<b>Level</b>	3
<b>For implementation from</b>	September 2020		
<b>UWE Credit Rating</b>	15	<b>ECTS Credit Rating</b>	7.5
<b>Faculty</b>	Health and Applied Sciences	<b>Field</b>	Applied Sciences
<b>Department</b>	Applied Sciences		
<b>Contributes towards</b>	BSc(Hons)/MSci Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Sciences (with/without Foundation year) (optional) BSc(Hons)/MSci Environmental Science (with/without Foundation year) (optional) BSc(Hons)/MSci Biological Sciences (with/without Foundation year) (optional) BSc (Hons) Integrated Wildlife Conservation (optional)		
<b>Module type:</b>	Professional Practice		
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	USSK5C-30-1 Life on Earth		
<b>Excluded Combinations</b>	None		
<b>Co- requisites</b>	None		
<b>Module Entry requirements</b>	None		

Part 2: Description	
<p>This module examines the ecology of tropical ecosystems and the field and analytical methods used to survey and assess these ecosystems. When possible, students will have the choice of going either on an expedition to Cuba or to Madagascar. Students will attend workshops and tutorials relevant to their particular expedition and will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecology and environments of tropical ecosystems. Including ecology of tropical populations of reptiles, birds, fish and mammals and the methods and techniques used to study them.</li> <li>• Techniques in floristic identification, diversity and collection. Assessment of plant species distribution and abundance in the tropics. Introduction to forest gap dynamics.</li> <li>• Techniques in faunistic identification, diversity and collection. Assessment of animal species distribution and abundance in the tropics. Factors affecting the diversity and distribution of tropical animals. Biological interactions and community structure. Symbiotic relationships.</li> </ul>	

- Threats to tropical ecosystems and conservation measures. Examples may include coral reef conservation and reef health or conserving threatened primates or reptiles through tropical forest restoration.

Generic Graduate Skill	Specific strand	Introduced	Developed	Evidenced
<b>1. Communication</b>	Team working on expedition and through group data collection (component B).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>2. Professionalism</b>	This is developed and evidenced in the field through component B.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>3. Critical Thinking</b>	Analysis and synthesis of contemporary literature (component B).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>4. Digital Fluency</b>	Data analysis in the field.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>5. Innovative and Enterprising</b>	The expedition offers the opportunity to innovate around field techniques based on local environmental conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>6. Forward Looking</b>	Understanding of conservation within the context of environmental change (component B).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>7. Emotional Intelligence</b>	Team working on expedition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>8. Globally Engaged</b>	Global experience of working within an international field site location, directly liaising with scientists from around the world.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Part 3: Assessment

The assessment strategy has been designed to support and enhance the development of practical skills, whilst ensuring that the modules learning outcomes are attained. The focus is on assessments that link directly to employability skills as described below. The aims of this module are to develop practical skills and knowledge of the techniques used to study tropical ecosystems.

**Component A** is based on achieving a satisfactory level of skill in field tests. Both elements must be passed.

**Component B:** The ability to record notes and collect accurate data in the field is assessed through two field logs that will be completed by hand in the field. Due to the nature of the information collected in the logbooks a word count is not appropriate. Taking part in a scientific expedition to the tropics provides students with a unique opportunity to work in a difficult environment with local experts. In these challenging conditions, students develop essential skills in endurance, tolerance, team working, organisation and time management. These are all key graduate skills. These skills are developed and demonstrated through the production of these comprehensive field logbooks.


Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element)

Component A1

**A:**

**B:**

% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)			
<b>First Sit</b>			
<b>Component A (controlled conditions)</b> <b>Description of each element</b>		<b>Element weighting</b> <b>(as % of component)</b>	
Field Tests		Pass/Fail	
<b>Component B</b> <b>Description of each element</b>		<b>Element weighting</b> <b>(as % of component)</b>	
1. Field log book (1)		50%	
2. Field log book (2)		50%	
<b>Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)</b>			
<b>Component A (controlled conditions)</b> <b>Description of each element</b>		<b>Element weighting</b> <b>(as % of component)</b>	
Examination on field techniques in the tropics (1 hour)		Pass/Fail	
<b>Component B</b> <b>Description of each element</b>		<b>Element weighting</b> <b>(as % of component)</b>	
Extended essay (3000 words)		100%	
<b>Part 4: Learning Outcomes &amp; KIS Data</b>			
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake ecological field work in tropical ecosystems and describe the problems and limitations of working in tropical environments (assessed on Component A, B1, B2).</li> <li>• Undertake and describe in detail, field surveys to assess the populations of tropical fauna and flora (assessed in Component A, B1, B2).</li> <li>• Critically evaluate field survey techniques used in tropical environments (assessed in Component B1, B2).</li> <li>• Discuss current theories of tropical ecosystem ecology (assessed in Component B1, B2).</li> <li>• Demonstrate core transferable skills through team work, project management, time management, independent research and communication (assessed in Component B1, B2).</li> </ul>		
<b>Key Information Sets Information (KIS)</b>	<p><i>Further detail on Key Information Sets and how the University is implementing its requirements can be found <a href="#">here</a>. This also contains further guidance on how to complete the information requested below.</i></p> <p><i>A KIS is required for every undergraduate programme (including integrated Masters and foundation degrees) so please fill this section if this module will contribute to an undergraduate programme.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Double click in the table and type over the number of hours – the table will total automatically. Please ensure that it totals correctly.</i></p>		

<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Key Information Set - Module data</b>																
	<i>Number of credits for this module</i>				15												
<b>Total Assessment</b>	Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours												
	150	104	46	0	150												
																	
	<p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a;</p> <p><b>Practical Exam:</b> Identification exam.  <b>Coursework:</b> Written assignment.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total assessment of the module:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Practical exam assessment percentage</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">P/F</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coursework assessment percentage</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">100%</td> </tr> </table>					Total assessment of the module:			Practical exam assessment percentage		P/F	Coursework assessment percentage		100%			100%
Total assessment of the module:																	
Practical exam assessment percentage		P/F															
Coursework assessment percentage		100%															
		100%															
<b>Reading List</b>	<a href="#">Tropical Expedition</a>																

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<b>First Approval Date (and panel type)</b>	May 2016			
<b>Revision ASQC Approval Date</b> Update this row each time a change goes to ASQC	6 November 2019	<b>Version</b>	2	