MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Living Earth		
Module Code	UBGMQ8-15-1	Level	Level 4
For implementation from	2018-19		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Faculty of Environment & Technology	Field	Geography and Environmental Management
Department	FET Dept of Geography & Envrnmental Mgmt		
Contributes towards	Geology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19 Geology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description

Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes

Outline Syllabus: Origin and evolution of life: Proterozoic, cyanobacteria, oxygenisation of atmosphere.

Oldest fossils, Cambrian explosion, cladograms.

Phylogeny of animals, body plans, evolution theories.

Predators, food webs, substrates, niche diversity, radiations.

Mass extinctions.

Palaeozoic diversification, vertebrates, fish.

Invasion of land, terrestrial ecosystems, rise of vertebrates on land.

Permo-Triassic rise of reptiles, amphibians, dinosaurs, flight.

Rise of mammals, K-T extinction.

Evolution of vegetation, impact on sedimentary systems.

Humans.

Trace fossils, evolution of animal behaviour.

Teaching and Learning Methods: Students will receive, on average, 3 hours' contact time per week during one semester. This will be predominantly in the form of keynote lectures, followed by related practical laboratory sessions. The practical sessions will be introduced by a demonstration. There will be short local field excursions to examine fossils in the field. One-to-one support will be provided during field and practical sessions and via email.

Scheduled learning on this module includes lectures, demonstrations field and practical classes. Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, completion of practical work, assignment preparation and completion. These sessions constitute an average time.

Contact time (lectures and laboratory sessions): 36 hours
Assimilation, development of knowledge and independent reading: 74 hours
Exam preparation: 20 hours
Coursework preparation: 20 hours
Total study time: 150 hours

Part 3: Assessment

Summative assessment:

Component A – Examination (2 hours). Learning outcomes 1-4, 6.
This will be a practical examination which will have a similar format to practical exercises the students have carried out during the module.
Students will be assessed on their ability to identify fossils and explain their occurrence in the geological record of life on Earth.
Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of evolution theories and the relationship between animals and plants and their environment.

Component B – Essay (2000 words). Learning outcomes 1, 2, 4-6.
The essay will give the students an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of evolution theories in relation to particular groups of animals or plants.
Students will be able to show that they can articulate how distributions of animals and plants might be affected by environmental changes.
The essay will give students an opportunity to develop writing and literacy skills and demonstrate engagement with academic literature.

Formative work:
Formative work will be set weekly during practical sessions for students' self assessment. Students will receive preparation exercises for the summative assessment that may include a mock exam.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B		50 %	Essay (2000 words)
Practical Skills Assessment - Component A	✓	50 %	Practical examination (2 hours)
Resit Components	**Final Assessment**	**Element weighting**	**Description**
Written Assignment - Component B		50 %	Essay (2000 words)
Practical Skills Assessment - Component A	✓	50 %	Practical examination (2 hours)

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

	Module Learning Outcomes
MO1	Understand the processes that led to the habitable planet Earth
MO2	Explain theories of evolution and give examples from the record of life on Earth
MO3	Recognise examples of the main groups of fossils
MO4	Demonstrate links between physical features of animals and plants (functional morphology) and their environment
MO5	Interpret impacts of environmental change on life on Earth
MO6	Demonstrate independent engagement with academic literature

Contact Hours

Contact Hours	
Independent Study Hours:	
Independent study/self-guided study	114
Total Independent Study Hours:	114
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
Face-to-face learning	36
Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	36
Hours to be allocated	150
Allocated Hours	150

Reading List

The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:

https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmq8-15-1.html