



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Living Earth		
Module Code	UBGMQ8-15-1	Level	Level 4
For implementation from	2019-20		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Faculty of Environment & Technology	Field	Geography and Environmental Management
Department	FET Dept of Geography & Environmental Mgmt		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p>Educational Aims: See Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Outline Syllabus: Origin and evolution of life: Proterozoic, cyanobacteria, oxygenisation of atmosphere.</p> <p>Oldest fossils, Cambrian explosion, cladograms.</p> <p>Phylogeny of animals, body plans, evolution theories.</p> <p>Predators, food webs, substrates, niche diversity, radiations.</p> <p>Mass extinctions.</p> <p>Palaeozoic diversification, vertebrates, fish.</p> <p>Invasion of land, terrestrial ecosystems, rise of vertebrates on land.</p> <p>Permo-Triassic rise of reptiles, amphibians, dinosaurs, flight.</p>

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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)

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Practical Skills Assessment - Component A	✓	50 %	Practical examination (2 hours)

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods																	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Learning Outcomes</th> <th>Reference</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Understand the processes that led to the habitable planet Earth</td> <td>MO1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Explain theories of evolution and give examples from the record of life on Earth</td> <td>MO2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Recognise examples of the main groups of fossils</td> <td>MO3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Demonstrate links between physical features of animals and plants (functional morphology) and their environment</td> <td>MO4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interpret impacts of environmental change on life on Earth</td> <td>MO5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Demonstrate independent engagement with academic literature</td> <td>MO6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Learning Outcomes	Reference	Understand the processes that led to the habitable planet Earth	MO1	Explain theories of evolution and give examples from the record of life on Earth	MO2	Recognise examples of the main groups of fossils	MO3	Demonstrate links between physical features of animals and plants (functional morphology) and their environment	MO4	Interpret impacts of environmental change on life on Earth	MO5	Demonstrate independent engagement with academic literature	MO6		
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Reading List	<p>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</p> <p>https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmq8-15-1.html</p>																

Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Geology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Geology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20