Module Specification

Wildlife Ecology

Version: 2021-22, v1.0, 21 Jun 2021

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Wildlife Ecology

Module code: USSJQC-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2021-22

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Applied Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus

Field: Applied Sciences

Module type: Standard

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module will introduce you to adaptations that allow animals to exist, interact and behave within their environments and niche habitats. You will examine metabolic and physiological adaptations allowing animals to survive in different habitats. You will also study the principles of animal locomotion, habitat dispersal and distribution, life history theory and the main factors regulating population growth. The module will also introduce you to the concepts of animal behaviour including,

communication and signalling, optimal foraging theory, social behaviour and reproductive strategies

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module develops a number of key graduate skills. Written communication and the ability to collect, analyse, present and critically discussed data, both develops and evidences professional communication skills and the use of computer-based technology. Understanding and critically analysing core concepts underpinning animal behaviour and ecological theory in a contemporary context, including examining current and emerging anthropogenic threats, allow students to gain a global perspective of the subject matter. Successful participation in the components of the module promotes their emotional intelligence.

Outline syllabus:

Food, energy and nutrition
Marine Ecosystems
Temperature regulation and animal locomotion
Habitat use, dispersal, dispersion and distribution
Population growth and regulation
Foraging theory
Social behaviour and reproductive strategies
Animal Communication
Life History Theory

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Module content will be delivered through a mixture of lectures, class discussion and activities and practical classes.

Module Learning outcomes:

MO1 Understand and articulate the metabolic, physiological and behavioural adaptations of animals to a range of environmental factors to enable them to

meet their energetic and nutritional requirement to survive and successful reproduce under different ecological conditions.

MO2 Discuss the physiological, ecological, biological and behavioural factors regulating animal distribution and dispersal, animal communication and population growth

MO3 Discuss the common underlining principles that determine animal behaviour and describe the importance of principles of behavioural ecology to survival

MO4 Demonstrate competence in the collection, analysis and interpretation of behavioural data

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 via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussk5h-30-2.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment strategy has been designed to support and enhance the development of both subject-based and employability skills, whilst ensuring that the modules learning outcomes are attained, as described below.

Component B

Component B is a scientific report based on content covered during the module's practical classes and lectures. The report requires data recording of wildlife during self-guided study hours, followed by analysis, interpretation and discussion; as well as a literature review to answer a specific set of questions related to the species

being observed. This is an assessment for learning, which enhances employability in ecology, conservation and the broader applied sciences. The recording and analysis of data and the identification, evaluation and interpretation of scientific publications being important graduate skills in these fields.

Component A
Component A is an online exam, with a 24 hour window for completion. This assessment will test a range of the learning outcomes and will provide a valuable learning experience through the synthesis and application of knowledge, which will be of benefit when progressing to final year modules.

Formative activities underpinning the assessment include group discussions in practical classes and in tutorials. Students are provided with formative feed-forward for their exam through a revision and exam preparation session prior to the exam and through the support materials supplied online.

Assessment components:

Examination (Online) - Component A (First Sit)
Description: Online examination (24 hrs)
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Report - Component B (First Sit)
Description: Journal style report based on analysed data
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

Examination (Online) - Component A (Resit)
Description: Online examination (24 hrs)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Report - Component B (Resit)

Description: Journal style report based on analysed data

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: