Module Specification

Wildlife Ecology

Version: 2024-25, v3.0, 31 May 2024

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Wildlife Ecology

Module code: USSJQC-15-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2024-25

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Applied Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Applied Sciences

Module type: Module

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

> **MO1** Articulate the metabolic, physiological and behavioural adaptations of animals to a range of ecological conditions, regulating distribution and dispersal, and enabling them to meet their energetic and nutritional requirements to survive and successfully reproduce.

MO2 Demonstrate competence in the collection, analysis and interpretation of behavioural data in the context of wildlife ecology.

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

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/ussjqc-15-2.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment: Report (1500 words)
The assessment task for this module 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.

Formative activities underpinning the assessment include group discussions in practical classes and in tutorials.

Assessment tasks:

Report (First Sit)
Description: Journal style report based on analysed data (1500 words).
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Report (Resit)

Description: Journal style report based on analysed data (1500 words).

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science {Foundation} [Zoo] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Biological Sciences [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Biological Sciences [Frenchay] MSci 2023-24

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Frenchay] MSci 2023-24

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Zoo] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Biological Sciences {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Biological Sciences {Foundation} [Frenchay] MSci 2022-23

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science {Foundation} [Frenchay] MSci 2022-23