



Module Specification

Field Skills

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Field Skills

Module code: USSK5B-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2024-25

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

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: Field Skills is a skills module which will build upon key concepts that aspiring environmental scientists, ecologists, and conservation scientists need to have experience in for field work. It is important to know how to design and carry out field studies and to present, analyse and interpret data. There is also a strong focus on employability and the ability to recognise and evidence both the subject specific and transferable skills gained.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module aims to provide students with a grounding in environmental and ecological field techniques, along with an understanding of how data can be presented and analysed to answer relevant research questions. As a skills module, employability is embedded in order to better prepare students for a scientific career, whether that be work experience, post-graduate study/research or scientific employment.

Outline syllabus: The module will cover the following content areas

Study design: principles of study design and research methods.

Practical field skills: appropriate survey techniques for environmental and ecological monitoring.

Data presentation: how to present data effectively, figure legends, scientific writing.

Introduction to statistical analysis: why use statistical analysis, introduction to hypothesis testing, how to choose and apply appropriate statistical analysis.

Employability skills: how to evidence technical and transferable skills.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module is taught as a combination of lectures, computer workshops, field practicals, and a residential field course, where possible.

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

MO1 Undertake and understand the principles of a range of field survey techniques and record scientific data in the field.

MO2 Present, analyse and interpret field data using appropriate mathematical, statistical and communication skills.

MO3 Develop key graduate skills in addition to subject based proficiency.

MO4 Use appropriate software to display and analyse scientific information, draw graphs, use formulae, functions and appropriate formatting.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussk5b-30-1.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussk5b-30-1.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment 1: Report (maximum 1,000 words)

Assessment 1 is a Field Report, which is based on the residential field course. This pass/fail assessment will be based on the engagement of the student during the field course and the completion of the field trip handbook (including field observations, the recording, basic analysis and interpretation of data, a critical review of the methodology used and discussion of how the environment is affected by natural and anthropogenic factors).

Students that are unable to join the residential field course (e.g. for medical reasons) will be offered a local alternative practical.

Assessment 2: Portfolio (maximum 1,000 words)

Assessment 2 is a portfolio of both study and subject specific skills such as: study design, data presentation, statistical analysis of field data, interpretation and discussion of field data, critical evaluation of field methods, skills evaluation and evidencing.

Students will be guided through assessments with informal assessment support

sessions and feedback throughout the module. Feedback from this module will be useful for Level 5 assessments, including for Environmental and Field Techniques.

Assessment tasks:**Report (First Sit)**

Description: Field report (maximum 1000 words)

Weighting: 0 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio of study and subject specific skills.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Report (Resit)

Description: Field report (maximum 1000 words)

Weighting: 0 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio of study and subject specific skills.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

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

Environmental Science {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Environmental Science {Foundation} [Frenchay] MSci 2023-24

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

Environmental Science [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25

Environmental Science [Frenchay] - Withdrawn MSci 2024-25

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Frenchay] - Withdrawn MSci 2024-25

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2024-25