



## **Module Specification**

### **Ecology**

Version: 2027-28, v1.0, Approved

#### **Contents**

<b>Module Specification .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Part 1: Information .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Part 2: Description .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Part 3: Teaching and learning methods .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Part 4: Assessment.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Part 5: Contributes towards .....</b>	<b>5</b>

## **Part 1: Information**

**Module title:** Ecology

**Module code:** USSKK5-15-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2027-28

**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:** Life on Earth 2027-28

**Excluded combinations:** None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Continuing professional development:** No

**Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements:** None

## **Part 2: Description**

**Overview:** This module introduces the basic principles and key concepts of ecology (the interrelationships between living organisms and their environment) and human impacts on key habitat types

Pre-requisite: students must have passed USSK5C-30-1 Life on Earth, before starting this module.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** This module aims to develop student knowledge and understanding of fundamental ecological principles

**Outline syllabus:** The indicative syllabus of this module is:

Principles of ecology:

Food chains and webs, energy flows and nutrient cycles; principles of population dynamics including population regulation; mutualism, competition, herbivory, predator-prey relationships; intra- and inter-specific competition and niche theory; community ecology and succession; global biodiversity and the factors affecting its distribution; major biomes. Concepts of naturalness in relation to ecosystems.

Key habitats:

The structure and function of a range of habitats in Britain including woodland, grassland, heathland, wetlands and coastal habitats.

Human impacts on ecosystems:

General causes of habitat destruction and habitat disturbance including pollution, climate change, introduced species and over-exploitation. Effects of habitat disturbance especially pollution. Climate Change – evidence for impacts on ecosystems including phenology and range changes; possible future impacts on global biomes. Restoration of degraded habitats and creation of new habitats including translocation. Ecological impacts of introduced species.

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** Interactive lectures will provide context and discussion opportunities with peers and staff and will help guide student-centred learning.

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

**MO1** Explain key ecological principles that have shaped the living world.

**MO2** Evaluate the evidence of human impacts on ecosystem function.

**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](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/usskk5-15-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/usskk5-15-2.html>

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Assessment: Presentation (15 minutes)

A 10 min presentation in the style of a mini-teach with 5 min of questions based on one of the key ecological theories from the module.

The assessment is designed to allow the student to research, in depth, a key area of ecological theory and need to communicate this clearly to others. The assessment is designed to support student learning by needing to fully understand something in order to effectively communicate it to others. The Q+A will allow students to demonstrate their wider understanding of ecology.

**Assessment tasks:**

**Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: 10 min presentation + 5 mins Q & A

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: 10 min presentation + 5 mins Q & A

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:

Environmental Science [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2026-27

Environmental Science {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2025-26