



MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Biogeography and Conservation		
Module Code	UBGMJT-30-3	Level	Level 6
For implementation from	2018-19		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Environment & Technology	Field	Geography and Environmental Management
Department	FET Dept of Geography & Environmental Mgmt		
Contributes towards			
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	Ecology 2018-19		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p>Features: Module Entry Requirements: 60 credits at level 2</p> <p>Educational Aims: This module aims to develop students' understanding of the geographic distributions of organisms and the ecological and evolutionary forces that dictate where organisms live. It examines the theoretical application of biogeographical principles to conservation planning and management, and develops a working knowledge of techniques and skills used in producing a conservation management plan. The module allows students to apply their biogeographical knowledge and understanding to conservation practice.</p> <p>In addition the educational experience may explore, develop, and practise but not formally assess the following:</p> <p>Small group negotiation and problem-solving</p>

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

Outline Syllabus: Themes include:

Examination of two global ecosystems: tropical rainforest and hot desert – distribution, animal and plant adaptations, community organisation, environmental and species diversity, threats and management.

Historical biogeography: processes producing species distribution patterns

Approaches to nature conservation in the UK and abroad: theories and practice

Management options for key UK habitats

Site management planning for conservation

Quantitative methods of site investigation: techniques for sampling, surveying, monitoring and analysing vegetation

Teaching and Learning Methods: Scheduled learning on this module includes lectures (supported by the module web-site), which are used to establish the discipline context and key definitions/concepts. Practical workshops and field work sessions aid skills development. Through the tasks and activities provided, learners will build upon the fundamental concepts covered in the lectures and start applying new understanding.

Independent learning includes time engaged with essential reading, undertaking tutor-guided formative exercises that are integral to the course programme, and assessment preparation and completion.

Contact Hours:

Students will receive on average 3 hours contact time per week. This will be in a range of formats, including lectures, workshop or seminar sessions, fieldwork and support via electronic means (email and Blackboard communication).

The amount of time spent on activities in this module is shown below:

Activity:

Contact time: 72 hours

Assimilation and development of knowledge: 150 hours

Exam preparation: 34 hours

Coursework preparation: 44 hours

Total study time: 300 hours

Part 3: Assessment

The assessment strategy is built on the premise of assessment for learning. Formative exercises including i) practical exercises in seminars developing the application of lecture material in the context of wider ecological debate and ii) a revision session enabling students to understand what is required of them in the exam, build up to the semester 1 examination. The knowledge and understanding gained in the exam is then applied, supported by scheduled tutorials, to the development of a conservation management plan. Such a progressive assessment strategy allows self-pacing according to a number of learner styles and is accessible to a diversity of learners.

Summative Assessment:

Component A - Two hour examination:

Component A will be assessed via a 2 hour unseen written examination. The emphasis of the exam will be on testing an understanding of theory, concepts and processes.

Component B - 3000 word equivalent management plan for a local site of nature conservation interest:

Component B will require the utilisation of field survey data and knowledge of nature conservation theory and

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

practice in order to produce an individual site management plan.

Formative work:

Formative feedback will be provided to students via established formative exercises with tutor feedback and through scheduled management plan tutorials built into the lecture/practical programme.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B	✓	50 %	Management plan (3000 words)
Examination - Component A		50 %	Examination (2 hours)
Resit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Written Assignment - Component B	✓	50 %	Management plan (3000 words)
Examination - Component A		50 %	Examination (2 hours)

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to:	
		Module Learning Outcomes
	MO1	Summarise the characteristic plant and animal communities of specified ecosystems
	MO2	Identify and evaluate the main factors that shape communities in these ecosystems
	MO3	Demonstrate a working knowledge of research design and on-site investigation into community structure and dynamics
	MO4	Critically evaluate nature conservation practice in the UK and abroad
	MO5	Identify appropriate conservation management options for a variety of habitats
	MO6	Produce a site management plan for a site of nature conservation value based on standard methodologies
	MO7	Construct reasoned arguments, supported by academic literature, in order to answer specific biogeographical questions
Contact Hours	Contact Hours	
	Independent Study Hours:	
	Independent study/self-guided study	228

STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

	Total Independent Study Hours:	228
	Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
	Face-to-face learning	72
	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	72
	Hours to be allocated	300
	Allocated Hours	300
Reading List	<p><i>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</i></p> <p>https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ubgmjt-30-3.html</p>	