

CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Contemporary Issues in Animal Welfare Science				
Module Code	UINXKM-15-M	Level	M	Version	1
Owning Faculty	Hartpury	Field	Animal and Land Science		
Contributes towards	MRes Animal Behaviour And Welfare				
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5	Module Type	Standard
Pre-requisites	None		Co-requisites	None	
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements	Second Class Honours Degree in relevant topic	
Valid From	01 September 2013		Valid to	01 September 2019	

CAP Approval Date	12 March 2013
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Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Critically analyse and evaluate complex issues in animal welfare science and lead reasoned argument around topics of debate or controversy drawing on knowledge from the forefront of the field (A, B). 2 Select and explain current issues relating to the functional, physiological and behavioural benchmarks for assessing animal welfare which are complex, conceptually challenging, and are at, or informed by, the forefront of the academic discipline (A). 3 Independently identify opportunities to take action for animal welfare improvement at an organisational level and systematically implement innovative solutions for animal welfare issues that are based on theoretical principles and research findings and critically evaluate the outcomes (A, B). 4 Devise and sustain an argument, supported by valid, evaluated evidence, for the efficacy of current animal welfare legislation (B). 5 Synthesize sources and communicate orally, in writing, and in appropriate media, in academic and professional contexts making well informed, coherent and persuasive arguments (A, B).
Syllabus Outline	<p>This module will examine recent advances in the following areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Behavioural measures in animal welfare assessment to include changes in behaviour, development of abnormal behaviours, behaviours indicative of pain, fear and distress; and preference, motivation and aversion testing. 2 Physiological measures in animal welfare assessment to include autonomic nervous system and hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis measures. 3 Functional measures in animal welfare to include health and disease, injury, productivity and mortality.

	<p>4 Physical factors that impact on animal welfare including nutrition, environments, social environment.</p> <p>5 Current animal welfare legislation.</p> <p>6 Welfare implications of keeping animals in captivity.</p> <p>7 Welfare assessment of animals in a range of different captive environments.</p> <p>8 Contemporary issues related to improving and assessing animal welfare</p>												
Contact Hours	<p>Indicative delivery modes:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Lectures</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seminars/Practicals</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guided and independent study</td> <td>114</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>150</td> </tr> </table>	Lectures	18	Seminars/Practicals	18	Guided and independent study	114	TOTAL	150				
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Teaching and Learning Methods	<p>A variety of learning strategies will be used including scheduled learning, where students will receive theoretical underpinning knowledge and also learn how to apply animal welfare assessment techniques in a real environment including farms, animal collections and stables (36 hours). It is expected that students will spend a minimum of 114 hours on independent learning as this is an essential component of modules at postgraduate level. Students will not be able to complete the module successfully without undertaking the required amount of independent learning. This independent learning will include a combination of lone study and individual, pair and group work. Conferencing technologies (including videoconferencing, Skype) will be used in conjunction with the virtual learning environment (VLE), email and phone calls to keep in touch with students between teaching blocks.</p> <p>Scheduled Learning Includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, demonstrations, practical classes</p> <p>Independent Learning Includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.</p> <p>Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) (or equivalent) This module is supported by a VLE where students will be able to find all necessary module information. Direct links to information sources will also be provided from within the VLE.</p>												
Key Information Sets Information	<p>Key Information Sets (KIS) are produced at programme level for all programmes that this module contributes to, which is a requirement set by HESA/HEFCE.</p> <p><u>Key Information Set - Module data</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Number of credits for this module</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">15</td> </tr> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Hours to be allocated</th> <th>Scheduled learning and teaching study hours</th> <th>Independent study hours</th> <th>Placement study hours</th> <th>Allocated Hours</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">150</td> <td style="text-align: center;">36</td> <td style="text-align: center;">114</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">150</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Written Exam:</i> Unseen written exam, open book written exam, In-class test. <i>Coursework:</i> Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project. <i>Practical Exam:</i> Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam. <p>Please note that this is the total of various types of assessment and will not necessarily reflect the component and module weightings in the Assessment section of this module description:</p>	Number of credits for this module	15	Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours	150	36	114	0	150
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	<p>Total assessment of the module:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="938 215 1066 353"> <tr> <td>Written exam assessment percentage</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coursework assessment percentage</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Practical exam assessment percentage</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </table>	Written exam assessment percentage	0%	Coursework assessment percentage	50%	Practical exam assessment percentage	50%		100%
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Coursework assessment percentage	50%								
Practical exam assessment percentage	50%								
	100%								
Reading Strategy	<p>Essential Reading Core material will be indicated to the student via pre-course material, module guides and through their accessing a dedicated VLE programme presence. No requirement for the purchase of set text(s) will be made and students will have full access to library services, online applications, and inter-library loans.</p> <p>Further Reading Students are expected to identify all other reading relevant to their chosen topic for themselves. They will be required to read widely using the library catalogue, a variety of bibliographic and full text databases, and Internet resources. Many resources can be accessed remotely. The purpose of this further reading is to ensure students are familiar with current research, classic works and material specific to their interests from the academic literature and wider professional sources.</p> <p>Access and Skills The development of literature searching skills is supported by a library seminar held during induction. Students will be presented with further opportunities within the curriculum to develop their information retrieval and evaluation skills in order to ensure they are sourcing high quality references so that can maintain academic integrity and avoid plagiarism. Additional support is available through the library services web pages, including interactive tutorials on finding books and journals, evaluating information and referencing.</p>								
Indicative Reading List	<p>The following list is offered to provide validation panels/accrediting bodies with an indication of the type and level of information students may be expected to consult. As such, its currency may wane during the life span of the module specification. However, as indicated above, CURRENT advice on readings will be available via other more frequently updated mechanisms, including the module guide.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broom, D.M. and Fraser, A.F. eds. (Current Edition) <i>Domestic Animal Behaviour and Welfare</i>. Wallingford, UK: CAB International. • Fraser, D. (Current Edition) <i>Understanding Animal Welfare: The Science in its Cultural Context</i>. Oxford, UK: Wiley-Blackwell. • Grandin, T. (Current Edition) <i>Improving Animal Welfare: A Practical Approach</i>. Wallingford, UK: CAB International. • Gregory N G, (Current Edition) <i>Physiology and Behaviour of Animal Suffering</i>. Oxford, UK: Wiley-Blackwell. • Mason, G. and Rushen, J. eds. (Current Edition) <i>Stereotypies in Captive Animals: Fundamentals and Implications for Welfare</i>. Wallingford, UK: CAB International. • Moberg, G. and Mench, J.A. eds. (Current Edition) <i>The Biology Of Animal Stress: Basic Principles And Implications For Animal Welfare</i>. Oxon, UK: CAB International. • Stamp Dawkins, M.S. (Current Edition) <i>Animal Suffering: The Science of Animal Welfare</i>. London, UK: Kluwer Academic Publishers. <p>Recommended Journals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Welfare. • Journal of Applied Animal Behaviour Science. • Physiology and Behaviour. <p>Websites and databases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.defra.gov.uk • www.fawc.org.uk • www.ufaw.ac.uk 								

Part 3: Assessment		
Assessment Strategy	<p>The assessment strategy of a practical welfare assessment examination and a welfare report has been chosen so as to facilitate utilisation of the information and experience gained in the welfare assessment practical visits in association with the knowledge and intellectual skills gained throughout the module in a controlled examination setting. Based on their findings from the assessment the students will produce a detailed, comprehensive report that highlights areas of concern and makes recommendations for improvements based on theoretical principals and research findings. They will also be required to assess and reflect on their practical assessment as the ability to critically review one's work facilitates professional and interpersonal growth via the identification of strengths and aspects that require improvement. The weightings between the components reflect the fact that the ability to accurately assess welfare and write a professional report are both essential skills for an animal welfare scientist and that an equal number of learning outcomes are assessed via each component.</p> <p>Feedback can be gained from this module in the module delivery, on the VLE, in tutorials, in revision sessions and on scripts.</p> <p>In line with the College's commitment to facilitating equal opportunities, a student may apply for alternative means of assessment if appropriate. Each application will be considered on an individual basis taking into account learning and assessment needs. For further information regarding this please refer to the VLE.</p>	
Identify final assessment component and element	Welfare report.	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	A:	B:
	50%	50%
First Sit		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting	
1 Practical Welfare Assessment Exam (25 minutes)	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting	
1 Welfare Report (1500 words)	100%	
Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting	
1 Practical Welfare Assessment Exam (25 minutes)	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting	
1 Welfare Report (1500 words)	100%	
If a student is permitted an EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.		