Module Specification

Conservation Impact

Version: 2023-24, v1.0, 19 Dec 2022

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Conservation Impact

Module code: USSYHE-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Applied Sciences

Partner institutions: Bristol Zoological Society

Delivery locations: Frenchay Campus

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: Being able to design evidence-based, feasible projects that will deliver positive conservation impacts is crucial in conservation leadership. Yet often projects fail to deliver, making conservation interventions either ineffective or at times even counterproductive. This module will cover the theoretical and practical elements necessary to avoid these issues, including scoping knowledge gaps and determining

appropriate methodology to assess impact depending on both internal and external factors, such as organization's budget and capacity, or logistics.

Features: The module will include teaching from conservation practitioners. Content will also be supported by case studies, emphasizing the need to use evidence-based approaches to achieve success in conservation projects.

Educational aims: This module aims to provide students with the tools and skills necessary to design, lead and evaluate effective and feasible conservation projects, that will have a positive conservation impact, locally and/or globally and to be able to adapt to dynamic internal and external factors.

Outline syllabus: Indicative content of the module is as follows:

History of conservation, lessons learned from past projects (failures and successes)

Project design, Strategic planning, vision & mission
Conservation project design
Project plan
Key Performance Indicators (KPI)
Logframe design
Budget
Capacity
Project constraints and opportunities
Method selection (complexity vs. pragmatism in achieving goals in a challenging environment)

Working with local communities
Ethics (including indigenous people)
Integrating local communities in conservation project
First prior and informed consent

Situation Analysis & Theory of change
Threats
Contributing factors

Drivers of change

Defining the impact
Processes
Threats, contributing factors and behaviour results

Measuring conservation impact
Objectives, tolerance, indicators
Methods (e.g. population estimate, density, presence/absence, occupancy modelling)

Adaptations of project to risks
Identifying and evaluating risks to project success
Priority setting and re-evaluations

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Teaching will be delivered through a mixture of in person lectures, class discussion and activities, case studies and scenario-based teaching. Teaching will be practice-led, using case studies and UWE Bristol and/or Bristol Zoological Society projects as examples.

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

MO1 Ability to lead the design of evidence-driven projects that will deliver timely, effective and impactful conservation outputs

MO2 Analyse and apply appropriate methods to measure and monitor conservation project impact

MO3 Critically evaluate the success of a conservation project and recommend changes to increase its conservation impact.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/9E8ED0F5-E927-A7BE-CAB1-C6BD53123526.html?lang=en&login=1

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Conservation project design and impact assessment (100% mark).

This assignment has been chosen to mimic standard practice in the project management sector but traditionally ignored in conservation projects. The design of a project, and particularly identifying ways to effectively measure the impact of conservation actions, are key elements to ensure positive environmental change.

For this assessment students will choose from a series of scenarios to design an evidence-driven project and a strategy to measure its impact. Both elements must be supported with relevant scientific literature. Additionally, students are required to provide all deliverables linked to the design of a project plan (e.g. a logframe for the project, KPIs, situation analysis and theory of change). The maximum word limit for this assessment, excluding deliverables, is 1500 words.

There will be a formative assessment in the form of peer critical analysis of elements of the draft submission.

Assessment components:

Written Assignment (First Sit)
Description: Conservation project design and impact assessment (1500 words)
Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Conservation project design and impact assessment (1500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Conservation Leadership [Zoo] MSc 2023-24

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