



Programme Specification

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science [Frenchay]

Highest award: BSc (Hons) Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science

Interim award: BSc Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science

Interim award: DipHE Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science

Interim award: CertHE Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Affiliated institutions: Bristol Zoological Society

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: Yes

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: Yes

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CHSS School of Applied Sciences,
College of Health, Science & Society

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:

Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES)

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Sandwich

Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

For implementation from: 01 September 2024

Programme code: C15B00

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: BSc (Hons) Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science gives you the opportunity to study a multi-disciplinary science that responds to the globally important issues of biodiversity loss and human-wildlife conflict. This programme has been designed to provide you with an in-depth understanding of the scientific study of wildlife, the diversity of living organisms and their habitats, and the practical steps that can be taken for effective conservation.

It provides an opportunity for you to explore the theory and practice related to wildlife conservation, to undertake work experience and to develop both subject-specific and important generic graduate skills, such as practical and analytical skills, project management and the use of technology and communication media.

The programme takes a multi-disciplinary approach, considering not only the science underpinning the diversity and ecology of wildlife, their habitats and contemporary scientific approaches to conservation, but also legislative, socio-economic factors and the role of communication. This approach allows you to make an informed evaluation of possible solutions to biodiversity loss and propose conservation action plans.

The programme has been designed to underpin professional graduate level employment, including in the fields of ecological and environmental consultancy, media and film and national and international wildlife conservation.

Features of the programme: The Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science programme has the following key features:

- Work experience relevant to conservation.
- Extensive field work, including the opportunity to undertake a tropical expedition at level 6.

- Attractive bespoke modules to underpin a range of career aspirations e.g. Wildlife, Film and Media; Primate Ecology and Conservation and Ecological and Environmental Consultancy
- Study and use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and other remote sensing techniques at levels 5 and 6 (e.g. in Conservation in practice, Remote Sensing and GIS) allows students to become proficient at GIS, a highly valued graduate skill.

Educational Aims: The programme aims to enable you to develop:

an in-depth understanding the relationship between wildlife and society, the impacts of human activities on the living world, and an appreciation of the practical steps that can be taken to ameliorate biodiversity decline;

an understanding of the living world from a multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective;

the field, laboratory, investigative, problem-solving, technical and communication skills necessary to undertake independent investigations and analyses of wildlife conservation problems, and the presentational skills necessary to communicate your findings to audiences with a variety of backgrounds;

critical and analytical skills including a recognition that statements should be tested and that evidence is subject to assessment and critical evaluation;

the ability to think independently, set tasks and solve problems.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

- PO1. Understand the essential facts, concepts, principles, theories, anthropological influences and current developments pertaining to wildlife conservation and ecology. Gain practical insights into conservation organisations' operations, project management, and community conservation. Apply this knowledge through hands-on experience with the ability to translate conservation and ecological theory to practical outcomes.
- PO2. Competently use a range of field and experimental skills appropriate to wildlife conservation and ecological science in order to obtain, record, manipulate and statistically analyse data sets.
- PO3. Use a range of communication approaches to contextually disseminate information obtained within the theoretical framework of wildlife conservation and ecological science.
- PO4. Apply evidence-based knowledge of subject-specific theories, paradigms, concepts and principles in the formulation of testable, hypothesis-driven arguments that enable understanding of both familiar and novel problems in wildlife conservation and ecological science.
- PO5. The ability to undertake approaches in researching, acquiring, interpreting and critically analysing published information relevant to the subject and to suggest future directions for investigation.
- PO6. Recognise the moral, philosophical and ethical considerations inherent to investigations in wildlife conservation and the need for ethical standards and a professional code of conduct.
- PO7. Independently identify problems in wildlife conservation and ecological science and plan, manage and execute appropriate tasks using relevant technologies in order to solve them, both individually and within a team setting.
- PO8. Demonstrate the transferrable skills required for lifelong learning, personal development and a career in conservation.

Assessment strategy: Effective learning is achieved by employing a range of assessment approaches, embedded within the compulsory modules and reinforced within the optional modules that recognise differential approaches to learning. These include opportunities for work-based learning, placements and field work. The development of a flexible, inclusive and accessible curriculum ensures a high quality learning experience for all students. The programme incorporates a range of assessments from continuous assessment, appropriate for the study of Environmental and Field Techniques during Level 5 through to log-books written in

the field as part of the Tropical Expedition.

Practical portfolios and write-ups are used to address PO1 and PO2; the collection of data, recording of findings and completion of laboratory work and associated reports are fundamental scientific skills, and safe-practice and good conduct a fundamental part of developing an understanding of professional integrity and research ethics (PO6). The compulsory modules provide a structured approach to developing you as an independent scientist capable of planning, organizing and executing independent research and interpreting and communicating the findings (PO3). You will be encouraged to communicate science, through a variety of media including written work, visual communication through poster design and oral communication through presentation and defence. This is scaffolded at the programme level within the compulsory modules and supported by the optional choices. Where written examinations are used, the emphasis is placed on you updating your knowledge (PO1) and accessing, reviewing and interpreting information (PO5) rather than recall and to demonstrate your ability to evaluate information and communicate this in writing in an organized way (PO4). The capstone experience to Level 6 is the independent research project. Whether experimental or dissertation based, the assessments have been designed to allow you to demonstrate your developing ability to plan and undertake work as an independent scientist (PO7), to use your skills to produce data (PO2; whether primary or metadata) and to analyse, interpret and communicate this using media (research paper and poster communication), which are authentic and relevant to a practicing scientist.

Student support: Students are supported through their programme by their personal tutor; the tutor supports scaffolded assessment in Level 4 and graduate attributes during Level 5. This is reinforced by the addition of a project supervisor during Level 6.

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1

Full time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full time and Sandwich)

Full time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSK5B-30-1	Field Skills 2024-25	30
USSK5C-30-1	Life on Earth 2024-25	30
USSJFB-30-1	The Earth 2024-25	30
USSK5D-30-1	Wildlife and Society 2024-25	30

Year 2

Full time and Sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full time and Sandwich)

Full time and Sandwich students must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSK5E-30-2	Conservation in Practice 2025-26	30
USSK5F-30-2	Ecology and Ecosystem Protection 2025-26	30
USSK5G-30-2	Environmental and Field Techniques 2025-26	30

Year 2 Optional Modules (Full time and Sandwich)

Full time and Sandwich students must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Full time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
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USSJQD-15-2	Plant Growth and Survival 2025-26	15
USSKN7-15-2	The Microbial World 2025-26	15
USSJQC-15-2	Wildlife Ecology 2025-26	15

Year 3

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Sandwich students spend a year out working for an organisation, in an appropriate placement to gain relevant work experience and must take 15 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Full time)

Full time students must select 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSK5J-30-3	Contemporary Conservation Science 2026-27	30
USSKBC-30-3	Research Dissertation Project 2026-27	30

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 15 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSK57-15-3	Professional Practice in Applied Sciences 2026-27	15

Year 3 Optional Modules (Full time)

Full time students must select 60 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Full time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJKU-15-3	Environmental and Ecological Consultancy 2026-27	15
USSKN9-15-3	Environmental Microbiology 2026-27	15

USSKN6-15-3	Global Forest Systems 2026-27	15
USSK55-15-3	Marine Ecosystems 2026-27	15
USSK56-15-3	Primate Ecology and Conservation 2026-27	15
USSK58-15-3	Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) 2026-27	15
USSKCE-15-3	Science Communication 2026-27	15
USSKNB-15-3	Sustainable Food Production 2026-27	15
USSK59-15-3	Expedition to a Biodiversity Hotspot 2026-27	15
USSK5A-15-3	Wildlife, Film and Media 2026-27	15

Year 4

Sandwich students must take 105 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSK5J-30-3	Contemporary Conservation Science 2027-28	30
USSKBC-30-3	Research Dissertation Project 2027-28	30

Year 4 Optional Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must select 45 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
USSJKU-15-3	Environmental and Ecological Consultancy 2027-28	15
USSKN9-15-3	Environmental Microbiology 2027-28	15

USSKN6-15-3	Global Forest Systems 2027-28	15
USSK55-15-3	Marine Ecosystems 2027-28	15
USSK56-15-3	Primate Ecology and Conservation 2027-28	15
USSK58-15-3	Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) 2027-28	15
USSKCE-15-3	Science Communication 2027-28	15
USSKNB-15-3	Sustainable Food Production 2027-28	15
USSK59-15-3	Expedition to a Biodiversity Hotspot 2027-28	15
USSK5A-15-3	Wildlife, Film and Media 2027-28	15

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

This programme has been developed in consultation with employers so provides graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to work effectively in the field of national and international wildlife conservation. The programme aims to develop in students an in-depth understanding of the scientific study of wildlife, the diversity of living organisms and their habitats, and the practical steps that can be taken for effective conservation. The programme includes work experience, offers a placement year, and provides opportunities for students to develop generic skills necessary for employment, such as practical and analytical skills, project management, use of technology and communication media.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The programme has been designed within the framework of the QAA Subject Benchmark Statements: Biosciences (2023). This has not constrained the development of the programme, but has provided relevant context to review the programme offer. Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science BSc is accredited by the Institute of Environmental Sciences.

Part E: Regulations

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures.