

Module code: MOD003077	Version: 7 Date Amended: 22/Apr/2022
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1. Module Title
Zoos and Zoo Animal Management

2a. Module Leader
Thomas lngs

2b. School
School of Life Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Science and Engineering

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	None		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

Zoos and Zoo Animal Management addresses the question "What are zoos for?" You will discuss the current and historical role of zoos including their purpose as recreation, education, conservation and research centres. The module has at its core a field course to major European zoos, designed to introduce you to zoos, the animals they keep, how they are exhibited, and the reasons for keeping them.

On your return to the UK, the module is taught through a series of team-based learning sessions. Through these sessions and your experience of the zoos on the field course, you will consider the history and philosophy of wild animal collections and the various roles played by zoos in modern society. Zoos today face both biological (e.g. captive breeding) and non-biological (e.g. finance and public relations) problems relating to the management of collections of wild animals in captivity. You will explore these problems from several perspectives, ranging from the animals' welfare to the perceptions of the general public when visiting zoos.

From this module you will understand the complexity of the political, ethical and legal aspects of keeping wild animals in captivity. Taking Zoo and Zoo Animal Management will provide you with the opportunity to interact with zoo professionals, work in teams, and present ideas to a specialist audience. Such opportunities and skills strengthen the employability skills of graduates who might want to work in a zoo or other conservation-based environment.

The field course, which is compulsory for the module, normally takes place in the summer vacation period between level 5 and level 6 and is self-funded.

6b. Outline Content

- The history of animal collections and the role of modern zoos - Biological aspects of the management of wild animals in captivity including environmental enrichment, captive breeding and veterinary care - Non-biological aspects of the management of wild animals in captivity including financial viability, public relations and marketing - The typical management structure of a modern zoo - Research in zoos for pure and applied purposes - National and international legislation and guidelines regulating the acquisition and maintenance of collections of wild animals in captivity - Ethical aspects of keeping wild animals in captivity

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Team-Based Learning suite

Zoo field trip (e.g. to European zoos)

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the history of wild animal collections and of the role of zoos in modern society in a national and an international context.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically evaluate approaches used by zoos to address a range of biological and non-biological problems created by keeping wild animals in captivity, and associated with their evolving role in modern society.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically evaluate the design of zoo exhibits in the evolving context of the modern zoo, including advances in animal welfare, conservation and public education goals.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Prepare a video presentation, integrating knowledge review and organisational skills with independent critical engagement with primary literature and personal experience.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	57	1-4	11 x 3 hrs active learning + 3 hrs assessment literacy + 21 hrs field trip
Student managed learning	93	1-4	Background reading, online activities, preparation for lectures and practicals, and completion of assessments
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	3-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Coursework: 1500 words					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Examination Cambridge	1-2	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Examination: 1.5 hours					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]