Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD003237	**Version:** 8 **Date Amended:** 14/Jul/2024

1. Module Title
Wildlife Conservation

2a. Module Leader
Jacob Dunn

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:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

Conservation science applies scientific methods to the challenges of maintaining and restoring global biodiversity and ecosystem services.

We shall critically evaluate current research underlying conservation biology and explore the multi-dimensional issues faced by professional wildlife biologists. You will examine real-life conservation problems, including their important socio-political dimensions and the ways in which conservationists set out to find solutions to these issues.

You will evaluate the principle that protecting biodiversity is not only about protecting species, but also about protecting functioning ecosystems, habitats, evolutionary and ecological processes, and genetic diversity. Conservation genetics is an increasingly important area within this discipline – and you will discuss the application of new genetic technologies in conservation, including the management of captive breeding of endangered species.

Identifying priorities for the conservation of global biodiversity and assessing the successes and failures of conservation initiatives are key areas that you will critically examine. You will also explore how to make conservation initiatives more effective by discussing the principle that human interests must be included during conservation planning.

The complexity and multi-faceted nature of wildlife conservation will be explored using a range of examples. A substantial part of the scheduled teaching will include group discussion and active learning sessions.

You will learn, through a combination of lectures and practical exercises, how to plan conservation projects and apply for funding. This approach will help you develop key skills in grant writing, team-work, communication, and critical analysis, which are applicable to a range of careers in conservation and wildlife management.

6b. Outline Content

- Biodiversity (concepts, application and measurement)

- Threats to biodiversity

- Agriculture

- Ecosystem loss and fragmentation

- Protected areas, biodiversity conservation, and socio-political conflicts

- Captive breeding and reintroduction

- Biodiversity conservation and human health

- Endangered species management

- Ecological consequences of extinction

- Rewilding and de-extinction

- Conservation genetics, genetic management of captive populations

- Primate conservation

- IUCN red lists and setting priorities for conservation action

- International conservation legislation

- Alien species introductions, consequences and conservation approaches

- Establishing priorities and achieving goals in conservation

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Module benefits from Anglia Ruskin affiliation with Cambridge-based conservation bodies (associated visiting speakers) and notably from the CCF which is a forum/discussion group involving all locally based NGOs. Cambridge Conservation Forum http://www.cambridgeconservationforum.org/

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	Critically assess conservation problems and evaluate the likely success of alternative courses of action.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Develop an awareness of the multi-disciplinary nature of conservation, and the socio-political dimensions of conservation problems and solutions.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Prepare a detailed project proposal for wildlife conservation.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically debate and argue conservation issues using a range of methods, including oral and written approaches.

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	22	1-3	11 x 2 hrs lectures/active learning
Other teacher managed learning	14	1-4	11 x 1 hr seminar + 3 hrs revision
Student managed learning	114	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	Coursework	1-4	25 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Weekly quizzes (600 words equivalent)					

Assessment components for Element 010			
Component No.	**Assessment Title**	**Submission Method**	**Components needed for Mark Calculation?**
010/1	Weekly Quiz	Scheduled Activity: Timetabled assessment task	Best 5 out of 6. All components used in calculation are equally weighted
010/2	Weekly Quiz	Scheduled Activity: Timetabled assessment task	
010/3	Weekly Quiz	Scheduled Activity: Timetabled assessment task	
010/4	Weekly Quiz	Scheduled Activity: Timetabled assessment task	
010/5	Weekly Quiz	Scheduled Activity: Timetabled assessment task	
010/6	Weekly Quiz	Scheduled Activity: Timetabled assessment task	

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-4	75 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Grant proposal (1500 words)					

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]