

Module code: MOD005755	Version: 10 Date Amended: 10/Jul/2024
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1. Module Title
Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare

2a. Module Leader
Marian Bond

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

From pest control to captive breeding and the management of wild populations, you will apply your theoretical knowledge regarding the science of animal behaviour and show how behavioural theory and research can be applied to a wide range of practical problems. You will apply your learning of behavioural research to both vertebrate and invertebrate husbandry.

You will discuss the historical, philosophical and development of the science of animal welfare, including the variety of ethical approaches to the use of animals by humans for varying purposes. There are a number of methods on how to assess animal welfare through behavioural and physiological indicators, and we will address these controversies and review specialist techniques.

You will be taught by lectures and active learning sessions, with guest lectures from industry-relevant professionals (e.g. RSPCA, laboratory animal welfare organisations, companion animal specialists).

The knowledge gained here will help to prepare you for careers in both animal -focussed industries, and postgraduate scientific research. You will build your understanding of the application of the scientific study of animal behaviour and its relationship with other measures, particularly with respect to the evaluation of welfare, in a range of animal management scenarios. In addition, you will learn many relevant transferable skills such as critical thinking, IT, word processing, self-management and organisation skills.

6b. Outline Content

- Captive management of animals and effect on their welfare, including farm, companion, laboratory, sport and zoo animals.
- Review of current legislation and regulations governing captive breeding and animal welfare.
- The use of behavioural biology in applied contexts (e.g. crop protection, improved production, conservation, improving animal welfare).
- Ethical philosophies underpinning animal welfare judgements
- Definitions of animal welfare and the difficulties of assessing welfare in practice.
- Exploration of current welfare issues in farm, pet, zoo, laboratory and sport contexts.
- Stereotypes and abnormal behaviour.
- Environmental enrichment.
- UK and worldwide animal welfare legislation.
- Formative Team Based Learning (TBL) activities will be undertaken within the class delivery sessions to encourage group discussions related to the important aspects listed in the outline content given above.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Visiting professionals from industry giving guest lectures

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	Critique the application of the scientific study of animal behaviour to practical problems associated with animal welfare concerns.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically evaluate the assessment of animal welfare in practice through behavioural and physiological means.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Appraise the historical, cultural, ethical and legal factors contributing to public attitudes towards animal welfare.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically evaluate current methods used to improve animal welfare (including environmental enrichment).

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	1-4	11 x 2 hrs lectures/active learning
Other teacher managed learning	14	1-4	11 x 1 hr seminars + 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	60 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Patchwork text (1500 words)					

Assessment components for Element 010				
Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Weighting (%)	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
010/1	Informative table	Canvas	50 (%)	All
010/2	Infographic with narration	Canvas	50 (%)	

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Examination Cambridge	2 3	40 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Examination 1 hour					

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]