

Module code: MOD009896	Version: 2 Date Amended: 11/Apr/2025
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1. Module Title
Decolonising Conservation

2a. Module Leader
Null

2b. School
Writtle School of Agriculture, Animal and Environmental 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

Many approaches to land ownership, management and conservation have their roots in colonial ideologies. In this module, you'll examine the historical contexts and structures that have contributed to these outcomes and evaluate new approaches that are inclusive and collaborative with local communities. You'll use real-world case studies to explore the history of changing land use and ownership in countries with colonial pasts, the phenomenon of 'parachute conservation' and the value of local and indigenous knowledge to effective ecosystem conservation.

You'll have the opportunity to engage in discussion and debate around complex and sensitive issues in an open and supportive environment and apply research and critical thinking to address these challenges. By the end of this module, you'll produce a professional report suitable for industry use.

6b. Outline Content

Decolonisation has emerged as a significant theme in conservation over the last two decades. This module evaluates the effects of colonial practices on ecological practices around the world. Using an interdisciplinary approach, inclusive and collaborative approaches to conservation and both human and animal health are analysed. Case studies are discussed to show how decolonised practice can inform and improve the implementation of conservation projects worldwide. A range of external collaborators and provided media gives students exposure to a range of voices.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

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	Analyse the ways in which colonial approaches have affected the success of conservation projects
2	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically evaluate case studies of successful and unsuccessful conservation projects from a decolonisation perspective
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply decolonised approaches to current conservation issues

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	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	33	1-3	Lectures
Other teacher managed learning	6	1-3	Workshops
Student managed learning	111	1-3	Self-Directed Learning
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-3	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Interview (20 Minutes) - 20 minute interview with conservation stakeholder and 10 min recording of own reflections on the result					

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]
