

Module code: MOD011192	Version: 1 Date Amended: 07/Mar/2025
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1. Module Title
Biological Processes

2a. Module Leader
Roy Browne

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

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Science and Engineering

3a. Level
4

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:	BSc (Hons) Agriculture and BSc (Hons) Horticulture		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

In this module, you will be introduced to key biological concepts and principles that form the foundation of your future studies. You will explore how living organisms' function, and how it links biological structure and function. This module is designed to help you transition smoothly into university-level study, encouraging you to build your independence and take ownership of your study. Through practical sessions, you will develop teamwork and time management skills, while getting used to the pace of learning expected at level 4. You will also be encouraged to make objective judgments about your work and monitor your own progress through the semester, as this will help you grow both academically and personally.

6b. Outline Content

Characteristics of living organisms: the basis of classification; differences between plants, animals and micro-organisms. Anatomy: basic cell structure and ultrastructure; modifications to specialised cells; tissues and organs in selected organisms and their relationship to function. Life processes: generation of energy: synthesis, storage and utilisation of food materials. Reproduction: introduction to the genetic basis of life.

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	Recognise the characteristics of plants, animals and micro-organisms.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Relate structure to function in living organisms.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Use laboratory methods and reference sources to identify plant pests and diseases

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	36	1-3	Lectures and practicals - Flexible 3 hour lecture/practical each week.
Other teacher managed learning	4	1-3	Additional tutor support and managed learning.
Student managed learning	110	1-3	Self-directed learning and research in preparation for lectures /practicals and academic writing skills towards the assessment
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	1-3	75 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Individual 1500-word lab report based on practical work completed in groups					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-3	25 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
6 in class multiple choice tests via canvas on application of theory					

Assessment components for Element 011			
Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
011/1	Multiple choice test		Best 5 out of 6. All components used in calculation are equally weighted
011/2	Multiple choice test		
011/3	Multiple choice test		
011/4	Multiple choice test		
011/5	Multiple choice test		
011/6	Multiple choice test		

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]