



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD011330	Version: 1 Date Amended: 11/Apr/2025
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1. Module Title
Human Animal Interactions

2a. Module Leader
Terri Amory

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:	Animal Science Animal Management (Pet Behaviour and Welfare) Animal Management (Zoo and Wildlife Conservation) Conservation and Community Engagement		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description
Why do humans form such strong bonds with some animals, and use others for work, food or entertainment? In this module, you'll explore the complex interactions between humans and animals, examining both the positive and negative impacts these interactions may have on their lives. Through the lens of anthro-zoology (also referred to as human-animal studies), you'll examine the evolving roles of animals in both ancient and modern societies and cultures and the conflicts that have emerged over time. You'll have the opportunity to discuss and debate this subject area within your lectures to build confidence in communication and the exchange of opinions in a safe environment. You'll develop your knowledge and understanding of the way that animals are used by different societies and the impacts of differing cultural beliefs and values on a variety of situations. You'll critically analyse sources of information including stakeholder organisations and the media, to investigate how and why public perceptions can be manipulated, including the influence of anthropomorphism. You'll develop an understanding of key principles of anthro-zoological research methods and practice developing questionnaires and processing data generated.
6b. Outline Content
• The course covers a broad range of topics related to human-animal interactions, relationships, bonds and conflict, which may include: • Domestication and animals with religious or cultural significance • Animals used to produce food, fibre and other materials • Animals as companions and used for support and therapy • Working animals (e.g. guarding, herding, detection, cultivation, travel and transport) • Scientific procedures and animal experimentation • Animals used in sport and entertainment including tourist attractions and illegal activities • Wildlife conservation and control including human-animal conflict • Wildlife trade and trafficking • Anthropomorphic attitudes and perceptions • Anthrozoological research methods
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	Investigate the nature and importance of roles played by animals in society.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Consider the complex nature of issues which bring different beliefs and values into conflict.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Develop familiarity with anthro-zoological research methods.

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	24	1-3	Lectures
Other teacher managed learning	0	None	None
Student managed learning	126	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	Coursework	1-3	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

2000 word research study plan with questionnaire

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]