COURSE SPECIFICATION

FdSc Marine Ecology and Conservation (University Centre Sparsholt) C0343FTC and C0343PTC

Quality Assurance, Academic Standards and Quality and Partnerships
Department of Student and Academic Administration

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the Course Specification Guidance Notes for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	***FdSc Marine Ecology & Conservation***
Final Award	*FdSc*
Exit Awards	*Cert HE*
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	*C0343, UCAS code CF17*
Mode of study	*Full time and part time*
Mode of delivery	*Campus*
Normal length of course	*2 years or 3 years*
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	*From September 2021 intake onwards*
Awarding Body	*University of Portsmouth*
Teaching Institution	*University Centre Sparsholt*
Faculty	*Faculty of Science & Health*
School/Department/Subject Group	*School of Biological Sciences*
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	*https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/subject/fishery-aquaculture-marine-studies/*
Course webpage including entry criteria	*https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/courses/fdsc-marine-ecology-and-conservation-degree-full-time/*
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	*None*
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	*Level 4 & 5*

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Course and Module Catalogue for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

The overall aim of this course is to provide education to Foundation Degree level for students who wish to pursue a career connected with Marine Ecology and Conservation, underpinned by a firm science foundation.

In pursuit of this aim the curriculum will encompass biological sciences, biochemistry, nutrition and anatomy and physiology as well as a full range of marine and environmental management techniques which will allow students to progress either into the world of work in marine ecology, conservation or science related field or onto the final year of a BSc (Hons) programme at a marine related science (e.g. University of Portsmouth).

To equip each student with the necessary transferable skills and applied knowledge to enable them to make an immediate contribution in employment or to progress to further study.

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Terminology, nomenclature and classification systems used in Marine Ecology and Conservation, and the scientific principles of habitat conservation, sustainable production systems and environmental conservation, including changes and developments	Lectures, laboratory work, case studies, site visits, guided independent study	Essays, reports, portfolios, presentations, examinations
A2	Biological factors limiting production of marine systems and the processes which shape the marine environment at different temporal and spatial scales, and their influence on and by human activities	Lectures, laboratory work, case studies, site visits, guided independent study	Essays, reports, portfolios, presentations, examinations
A3	Methods of acquiring, interpreting and analysing information, and practice of presentational methods relevant to the marine environment including data analysis and use of statistics	Lectures, laboratory work, case studies, field work, guided independent study	Reports, portfolios, examinations
A4	Economic theory and techniques	Lectures, case studies, guided independent study	Portfolios, examinations, industry experience and feedback

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A5	The need for ethical standards and professional codes of conduct in experimental design, and regulatory and advisory bodies and their roles related to the marine environment	Lectures, case studies, site visits, guided independent study	Essays, reports, portfolios, examinations

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Recognise and apply subject specific theories, paradigms, concepts or principles	Lectures, laboratory work, case studies, site visits, data analysis, guided independent study, tutorials	Essays, reports, portfolios, examinations
B2	Analyse, summarise and synthesize information from a variety of sources, considering issues from a number of perspectives to arrive at a considered judgement	Lectures, case studies, data analysis, guided independent study, tutorials	Essays, reports, portfolios
B3	Investigation or survey or other means to test a hypothesis or proposition and decision making in complex and unpredictable contexts	Field work, laboratory work, site visits	Reports, portfolios, practical classes
B4	Critically analysing information, synthesising and summarising the outcomes	Lectures, case studies, field work, laboratory work, site visits	Essays, reports, portfolios, case studies
B5	Demonstrating awareness of the provisional nature of the facts and principles associated with a field of study	Lectures, case studies, guided independent study	Essays, reports, portfolios, examinations

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Plan, conduct and report on an investigation which may involve primary and secondary data	Laboratory work, field work, site visits, study tours	Portfolios, reports, practical classes, industry experience and feedback
C2	Collect, record, collate and analyse information or data in the library, laboratory or field, using appropriate techniques	Laboratory work, field work, site visits, group work, study tours	Portfolios, reports, practical classes, industry

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
			experience and feedback
C3	Devise, plan and undertake field and laboratory investigations in a responsible and safe manner, paying due attention to risk assessment, rights of access, relevant health and safety regulations and legal requirements	Lectures, laboratory work, field work, site visits	Portfolios, reports, case studies
C4	Appreciate financial and other management information and use it in decision making	Lectures, case studies, site visits, study tours	Essays, portfolios, reports, case studies
C5	Collect and record diverse types of information generated by a wide range of methodologies and summarising it using appropriate qualitative and/or quantitative techniques	Laboratory work, field work, site visits, data analysis	Portfolios, reports, practical classes

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Appreciate issues of sample selection, accuracy, precision and uncertainty during collection, recording and analysis of data in the field and laboratory and the difficulties of incomplete information	Case studies, field work, laboratory work, guided independent study	Reports, portfolios
D2	Receive and respond to a variety of sources of information: textual, numerical, verbal and graphical, and develop an appreciation of the interdisciplinary nature of science and the validity of different points of view	Case studies, field work, laboratory work, group work, guided independent study	Reports, portfolios, presentations
D3	Prepare, process, interpret and present data and solve problems using appropriate qualitative and quantitative, computer based and non-computer based techniques and packages	Case studies, field work, laboratory work, data analysis, group work, guided independent study	Reports, portfolios
D4	Use the internet and other electronic sources critically as a means of communication and a source of information, and cite and reference work in an appropriate manner	Lectures, case studies, guided independent study	Essays, reports, portfolios, case studies, presentations
D5	Identify, work towards and take responsibility for targets for personal, academic, professional and career development, and evaluate performance as an individual and a team member	Tutorials, study tour, work experience	Portfolios, industry experience and feedback

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations for Collaborative Partners will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

University Centre Sparsholt provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/university-centre/support-resources-higher-education/

In addition to these support services this course also provides access to on-line learning resources at Programme and Module level on *L-Edge.*

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

University Centre Sparsholt undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our **HE Student Engagement Policy** found at https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/policies-reports/ where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification
- University of Portsmouth Vision 2030 and Strategy 2025
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for The Subject Benchmark Statement for Bioscience (2015), The Subject Benchmark Statement for Agriculture, Forestry, Agricultural Sciences, Food Sciences and Consumer Sciences (2009)
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

Copyright

Document details

Template Date	*March 2018*
Author	*Kate Johnson*
Date of production and version number	*[01/02/2019] [1]*
Date of update and version number	*24/06/2023*
Minimum student registration numbers	*5*