



UNIVERSITY OF
PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Hons) Zoo Biology (University Centre Sparsholt) C0395FTC and C0401PTD

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

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the [Course Specification Guidance Notes](#) for guidance on completing this document.

Course Title	<i>BSc (Hons) Zoo Biology (top up)</i>
Final Award	<i>BSc (Hons)</i>
Exit Awards	<i>BSc (Hons) only.</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>C0395FTC and C0401PTD, UCAS code C300</i>
Mode of study	<i>Full time and part time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Campus</i>
Normal length of course	<i>1 year, 2 years</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>from September 2021 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University Centre Sparsholt</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Science & Health</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Biological Sciences</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<i>https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/university-centre/</i>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<i>https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/subject/animal-management-zoo-biology/</i>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	<i>6</i>

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 BSc (Hons) in Zoo Biology is a FHEQ level 6 qualification for students who wish to pursue a career within the zoo industry. The course aims to provide students with key skills that are applicable to a range of roles within the industry, including keeping, presenting, and as roles in education, conservation and research. Students will develop their ability to critically evaluate and appraise resources, and will advance their independent research skills through their research project. The course will provide a challenging and stimulating study environment, allowing students to explore future career avenues.

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	<i>The relationship between the environment and human cultures and values</i>	Lectures, trips.	Essays, reports
A2	<i>Scientific principles of sustainable ecosystems and environmental conservation.</i>	(e.g. lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, simulations etc.)	Reports, online exam, presentation
A3	<i>A range of practical and presentational techniques and methodologies</i>	Lectures, group work, practical's	Presentations, seminars, viva
A4	<i>Bio- and environmental sciences, including data analysis</i>	Workshops, lectures	Reports, Essays, Portfolios
A5	<i>The principles of disciplined research and scientific method.</i>	Lectures, groups work and seminars	Dissertation, Essays, Reports

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	<i>Demonstrate awareness of the provisional nature of the facts and principles associated with a field of study.</i>	Lectures, seminars, group work	Essays, reports, dissertation, portfolio
B2	<i>Recognise the moral and ethical issues of investigation and appreciate the need for ethical standards and professional codes of conduct.</i>	Lectures, seminars	Report, portfolio, exam
B3	<i>Collect and integrate different lines of argument and apply them in a balanced way in an argument.</i>	Group work, lectures	Dissertation, reports, essays, exams
B4	<i>Design and conduct an experiment, investigation, survey or other means to test a hypothesis or proposition.</i>	Workshops, lectures, group work	Reports, dissertation
B5	<i>Critically analyse information, synthesising and summarising outcomes, including published research.</i>	Group work, lectures, trips	Presentations, essays, reports, dissertation, exam

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	<i>Devise, plan and undertake field and/or laboratory investigations in a responsible and safe manner, paying due attention to risk assessment, relevant health and safety regulations, and legal requirements.</i>	Trips, practical labwork	Reports, portfolios
C2	<i>Appreciate and analyse financial and other management information and use it in decision making.</i>	Lectures	Presentations
C3	<i>Develop practical management skills relevant to the zoo and aquaria industries.</i>	Trips, lectures	Presentation, reports and essays
C4	<i>Demonstrate environmental, social, cultural and economic awareness and responsibility for sustainable development.</i>	Lectures, group work	Report

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	<i>Prepare, process, interpret and present data and solve problems using appropriate qualitative and quantitative, computer based and non-computer-based techniques and packages.</i>	Data analysis workshops, seminars, presentations, lectures	Seminars, presentations, reports
D2	<i>Communicate accurately, clearly, concisely, confidently and appropriately to a variety of audiences in written, verbal, computer-based and graphical forms, employing appropriate scientific language</i>	Lectures, seminars	Viva, presentations, seminars
D3	<i>Contribute constructively to group discussions and listen to, appreciate and evaluate the views of others.</i>	Group work, Lectures, trips	Group lab portfolio, presentations
D4	<i>Demonstrate competence in the use of computer-based information handling and data processing tools.</i>	Data analysis workshops, lectures	Reports, dissertation
D5	<i>Organise and participate in teamwork and identify realistic targets, goals and responsibilities.</i>	Group work, lectures, group projects	Group lab portfolio, presentations

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.

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