COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Hons) Wildlife Ecology and Conservation (University Centre Sparsholt) C0417PYC and C0417PTC

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

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	***Wildlife Ecology and Conservation***
Final Award	*BSc (Hons)*
Exit Awards	*BSc, CertHE, Dip HE*
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	*C0417PYC & C0417PTC /C185*
Mode of study	*Full time or Part time*
Mode of delivery	*Campus*
Normal length of course	*3 or 5 years*
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	*from September 2021 intake onwards*
Awarding Body	*University of Portsmouth*
Teaching Institution	*University Centre Sparsholt, (Collaborative Partner of the University of Portsmouth)*
Faculty	*Faculty of Science & Health*
School/Department/Subject Group	*School of Biological Sciences*
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	*https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/university-centre/*
Course webpage including entry criteria	*https://www.sparsholt.ac.uk/courses/bsc-hons-ecology-and-conservation-management-degree-full-time/*
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	*None*
	Level 4, 5 & 6

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

- *To provide a challenging and stimulating study environment where employability, life-long learning, ecology and conservation skills and knowledge are developed to professional practitioner level;*
- *To provide training appropriate for a wide variety of current graduate employment opportunities in the conservation industry or progression to postgraduate study;*
- *To equip graduates with the scientific, technical and ecological understanding and knowledge underpinning wildlife and conservation management, and the ability to construct effective and novel solutions to practical ecological problems;*
- *To provide a framework where academic knowledge and understanding is integrated with professional practical skills and competencies.*

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	Underlying principles of the terminology, taxonomic, physical, chemical, biological, ecological, sociological, legal and economic principles for the sustainable management of habitat and species for the benefit of society and environment.	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
A2	Development of integrated and interdisciplinary approaches of wildlife and habitat management as a whole and specifically within wildlife ecology and conservation	Placement & professional development activities, lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, portfolio, dissertation.
A3	Global, regional, local and organisational context of environmental and habitat management and conservation	Placement & professional development activities, lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation.
A4	Issues concerning the availability and sustainability of technology and resources, current gaps and future development in respect to wildlife ecology and conservation	Placement & professional development activities, lectures, seminars, field visits and practical	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, portfolio.

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
		work, laboratory work, and group work	
A5	Ethical, scientific and professional surveying and measurement both in the field and laboratory, and using quantitative, instrumental and technological techniques for environmental and wildlife purposes.	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Report, written assignment including essay, set exercise, portfolio, dissertation.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Recognise and synthesise appropriate theories, concepts, principles and evidence from disciplines associated with wildlife conservation, management and ecology, including application to unfamiliar contexts	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
B2	An ability to synthesise, evaluate and critically analyse a range of appropriate information	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
B3	Design and undertake experiments, investigations, surveys or other means to critically test a hypothesis or proposition, able to make judgements regarding reliability, validity and significance of data	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Report, set exercise, portfolio, dissertation.
B4	Demonstrate confidence, creativity and innovation in thinking and problem solving, including in unfamiliar and complex situations	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
B5	Evaluate different aspects of problems and suggest new solutions	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, portfolio, dissertation.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Plan, conduct and report on a range of investigations, including the use of a range of primary and secondary evidence and consideration of legal, ethical and environmental obligations	Lectures, professional development activities, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Report, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
C2	Collect and record information or data from academic resources, laboratory or field and evaluate it using appropriate qualitative and/or quantitative techniques	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
C3	Develop professional practical management skills relevant to the environment and conservation industries, including proactive resource and team management skills	Placement & professional development activities, lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
C4	Demonstrate environmental, social, cultural, legal, ethical and economic awareness and responsibility within wildlife ecology and conservation	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.

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

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Communicate accurately, clearly, concisely, confidently and appropriately with a variety of audiences, in academic, professional and public-facing contexts in a variety of ways and wide range of situations	Placement & professional development activities, lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, online formative activities, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, set exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
D2	Demonstrate the capacity for considered and independent action through planning and completion of a range of assessments, including independent research, utilising	Lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, online formative activities, laboratory work, and group work	Written exam, report, written assignment including essay, oral assessment & presentation, set

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
	feedback to develop skills and knowledge		exercise, portfolio, project output, dissertation.
D3	Identify, work towards and reflect on targets for personal, career and academic development, demonstrating responsibility and initiative in the planning, appraisal and development of own learning	Placement & professional development activities, lectures, seminars, field visits and practical work, online formative activities, laboratory work, and group work	Report, oral assessment & presentation, portfolio, project output.

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
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement: Agriculture, forestry, agricultural science, food sciences and consumer sciences (2009). Earth Sciences, environmental sciences and environmental studies (2014).
- 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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