Programme Specification Document

Approved, 2022.03

Overview

Programme Code	40970
Programme Title	Wildlife Conservation
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Degree with Foundation
Programme Leader	Sarah Dalrymple
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Alternative Exit	Bachelor of Science (Fnd) - BSF	Demonstrate a broad and comparative knowledge of the general scope of the subject, its different areas and applications, and its interactions with related subjects. A detailed knowledge of a defined subject or a more limited coverage of a specialist area balanced by a wider range of study. In each case, specialised study will be informed by current developments in the subject. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the essential theories, principles and concepts of the subject(s) and of the ways in which these are developed through the main methods of enquiry in the subject.
Alternative Exit	Diploma in Higher Education (SW) (Fnd) - SDHEF	Possess a detailed knowledge and understanding of a wide-range of field and laboratory techniques Analyse and evaluate information relating to a range of conservation related areas Take responsibility for their own personal and professional learning and development A student who successfully completes a placement year will be eligible for the Sandwich award and will, in addition to the above, be able to demonstrate the professional and personal skills necessary for effective employment within a professional environment.
Alternative Exit	Certificate of Higher Education (Fnd) - CHEF	Reflect on the scientific skills required for the course and their future careers Develop a basic, practical and relevant mathematical and scientific foundation for the quantitative aspects of all Level 4 modules Apply the skills needed for academic study and enquiry Evaluate their own academic and professional performance
Alternative Exit	Bachelor of Science (SW) (Fnd) - SBSF	Demonstrate a broad and comparative knowledge of the general scope of the subject, its different areas and applications, and its interactions with related subjects. A detailed knowledge of a defined subject or a more limited coverage of a specialist area balanced by a wider range of study. In each case, specialised study will be informed by current developments in the subject. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the essential theories, principles and concepts of the subject(s) and of the ways in which these are developed through the main methods of enquiry in the subject.
Recruitable Target	Bachelor of Science with Honours (SW) (Fnd) - SBSHF	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Diploma of Higher Education (Fnd) - DHEF	Possess a detailed knowledge and understanding of a wide-range of field and laboratory techniques Analyse and evaluate information relating to a range of conservation related areas Take responsibility for their own personal and professional learning and development
Target Award	Bachelor of Science with Honours (Fnd) - BSHF	See Learning Outcomes Below

Alternate Award Names	

External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Earth sciences, environmental sciences and environmental studies (2022)

Accreditation

Programme Accredited by

PSRB Name	Type of Accreditation	Valid From Date	Valid To Date	Additional Notes
Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES)	Accredited by the Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES) for the purpose of eligibility to apply for associate membership.			

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Sandwich Year Out, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	5 Years
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	4 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

Develop an understanding of the variety and importance of biological diversity, its complexity and its interactions with the physical and anthropological environment, the pressures it faces from human activities and the steps that need to be taken to ensure its long-term conservation. Develop a common core of knowledge, understanding and skills in terms of the scientific, socio-economic and interdisciplinary aspects of wildlife conservation in order to produce graduates who are trained for work with professional conservation organisations. Demonstrably link fieldwork and experiential learning to the wider development of both subject specific and vocational practical skills and to apply such skills to conservation practice, management and research. Develop powers of critical and analytical thinking, problem solving and logical argument though the progressive development of understanding, critical awareness and research skills over the course of the degree programme. Enhance employment prospects by developing graduates with a wide range of transferable technical, analytical and critical skills. Promote the concept of continuous improvement, lifelong learning, and contribution to the wider community through personal development and scholarly activity whilst developing awareness of the social context of Wildlife Conservation. To ensure that students engage with the development of employability skills (e.g. information and communication technology, team working, written and oral communication, time management, planning, data collection and presentation) and develop a career plan. In addition to the aims for the main target award, the sandwich programme aims to provide students with an extended period of work experience at an approved partner that will complement their programme of study at LJMU. This will give the students the opportunity to develop professional skills relevant to their programme of study, as well as attitude and behaviours necessary for employment in a diverse and changing environment.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the essential facts, concepts, principles and theory of the scientific underpinning of wildlife conservation and how this can be applied to conservation practice.
PLO2	Analyse, synthesise and summarise information critically, including published research or reports.
PLO3	Obtain and integrate several lines of subject-specific/interdisciplinary evidence to formulate and test hypotheses.
PLO4	Apply subject knowledge and understanding to address familiar and unfamiliar problems.
PLO5	Recognise the moral and ethical issues of investigations and appreciate the need for ethical standards and professional codes of conduct.
PLO6	Demonstrate competence and progressive development in the basic and core experimental and/or survey skills appropriate to the study of Wildlife Conservation.
PLO7	Design, plan, conduct and report on investigations, which may involve primary or secondary data.
PLO8	Obtain, record, collate and analyse data using appropriate techniques in the field and laboratory, working individually or in a group.
PLO9	Undertake field, laboratory investigations in a responsible, safe and ethical manner.
PLO10	Communicate scientific information effectively in written, verbal, and visual forms and in formats appropriate to the audience.
PLO11	Cite and reference work in an appropriate manner, ensuring academic integrity and the avoidance of plagiarism.

Code	Description
PLO12	Demonstrate an understanding of the structure, biogeography and diversity of ecosystems in relation to biological, chemical, anthropogenic and physical factors.
PLO13	Use the internet and other electronic sources critically as a means of communication and a source of information.
PLO14	Demonstrate problem solving via a variety of methods.
PLO15	Develop skills necessary for independent lifelong learning (for example working independently, work as part of a team, time management, organisational skills).
PLO16	Identify and work towards targets for personal, academic, professional and career development.
PLO17	Use and interpret a variety of sources of information: textual, numerical, verbal, and graphical.
PLO18	Understand and manipulate numerical data.
PLO19	Demonstrate an understanding of and apply, a decolonial perspective to biological knowledge and research.
PLO20	Demonstrate awareness and ability to critically analyse and evaluate human interactions with natural populations and ecosystems, such as habitat modification, pollution, exploitation and conservation.
PLO21	Demonstrate an understanding that environments are a result of both natural process and human activity acting at various spatial and temporal scales and the complexity of this relationship
PLO22	Demonstrate critical awareness of the methodologies used in acquiring, analysis and interpretation of conservation related data at different spatial and temporal scales.
PLO23	Critically evaluate the process for the design, implementation and monitoring of conservation management practice.
PLO24	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the political and socioeconomic factors that influence decisions around conservation and sustainability.
PLO25	Analyse, critically appraise, understand and interpret current research in wildlife conservation through literature, information and data.
PLO26	Recognise and apply Wildlife Conservation subject specific theories, paradigms, concepts or principles.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

Study Abroad Students will be offered the opportunity of study abroad at Level 5. Students can choose either Option A or Option B unless they undertake the Sandwich Year, in which case Option B is not available: Option A: replacement of 60 credits of Level 5 with appropriate study abroad. The programme will offer the opportunity of 60 credits of study at Level 5. Students will be enrolled on a 480 credit honours with study abroad programme. A 60 credit Level 5 study abroad module (5256NATSCI) will normally replace the semester 2 modules on the standard programme. This study abroad should cover the same learning outcomes as the modules being replaced. The modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 120 credits at Level 5. Option B: additional study year abroad following Level 5 The programme will offer the opportunity of an additional study year abroad following Level 5. Students will be enrolled on a 600 credit honours with study abroad programme. Of those 600 credits, 120 will be taken via a Level 5 study abroad module (5252NATSCI) the modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 240 credits at Level 5. Sandwich Year The aim is to provide students with an extended period of work experience at an approved partner that will complement their programme of study at LJMU. This will give the students the opportunity to develop professional skills relevant to their programme of study, as well as attitude and behaviours necessary for employment in a diverse and changing environment. The placement year will follow Level 5 and students will be enrolled on a 600 credit honours sandwich programme and take the module 5222NATSCI (Sandwich Year-Wildlife Conservation). The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 240 credits at Level 5. At level 5 to demonstrate balance of credits across the semesters, students must take 1 of 3 options from S1 and 1 of 2 options from S2.

Programme Structure - 480 credit points	
Level 3 - 120 credit points	
Level 3 Core - 120 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 3401FNDSCI Skills and Perspectives in Science 1 Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 3403FNDSCI Wildlife Studies Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 3405FNDSCI Skills and Perspectives in Science 2 Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 3406FNDSCI Anatomy and Physiology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 3407FNDSCI Understanding the Environment Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 3409FNDSCI Building Blocks of Life Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
Level 4 - 120 credit points	
Level 4 Core - 120 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 4201NATSCI Fundamentals of Scientific Research Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4203NATSCI Skills for Wildlife Conservation Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4207NATSCI Evolution and Inheritance Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4208NATSCI Animal Behaviour Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4209NATSCI Ecology Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4305NATSCI Environment Society and Sustainability Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 - 120 credit points	
Level 5 Core - 80 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 5201NATSCI Research Skills and Employability Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5202NATSCI Ecology Field Skills Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5207NATSCI Wildlife and Ecosystem Management Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	

[MODULE] 5208NATSCI Conservation Practice and Management Skills Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 Optional - 40 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5203NATSCI Behavioural Ecology Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5209NATSCI Marine and Freshwater Biology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5211NATSCI Conservation Technology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5225NATSCI Animal Health and Disease Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5304NATSCI Environmental Pollution Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Optional placement - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
Placement Year - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5222NATSCI Sandwich Year - Wildlife Conservation Approved 2022.01 - 120 credit points	
OR Study Abroad - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5252NATSCI Study Year Abroad - Wildlife Conservation Approved 2022.01 - 120 credit points	
OR Optional Study Semester - 60 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5256NATSCI Study Semester Abroad - Wildlife Conservation Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	
Level 6 - 120 credit points	
Level 6 Core - 60 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 6201NATSCI Research Project Approved 2022.01 - 40 credit points	
[MODULE] 6218NATSCI Contemporary Issues in Conservation Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 6 Optional - 60 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 6204NATSCI Frontiers of Ecology Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6206NATSCI Advanced Field Skills Expedition Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6210NATSCI Zoo Conservation and Genebanks Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6213NATSCI Applied Marine Biology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6219NATSCI Current Topics in Primatology Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6300NATSCI Work-Based Learning Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6303NATSCI Sustainable Natural Heritage Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6308NATSCI River Monitoring and Management Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6315NATSCI Cold Environments: Processes and Change Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	

Module specifications may be accessed at https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The acquisition of knowledge is promoted via a variety of formal taught sessions including lectures, practical sessions (laboratory and PC based) and fieldwork sessions. Understanding is facilitated through seminars, workshops, tutorials, field projects, interactive classroom activities, group work and independent study. Knowledge is assessed via tests, examination and coursework including report writing, presentation in multiple formats (poster, verbal written) and scientific communication reports. Higher levels of understanding are assessed by examination (multiple format including seen questions) and coursework elements such as field reports, laboratory reports, seminar presentations with question & answer sessions and the application of relevant ICT (GIS) to deliver practical solutions to problems. Cognitive skills are developed in many environments, with an increasing emphasis as students progress from level 4 to level 6. Such skills are especially developed on residential fieldwork modules, applied modules and during the Research Project module. The application of thinking skills in a work environment can be developed in the Work Based Learning (WBL) module. Essays and exam questions (including seen exam questions) are used to assess students' ability for critical thinking. Coursework elements such as reflective practice, field/laboratory reports, scientific communication and in particular the research project/WBL module allows students to demonstrate the full range of their cognitive skills. Practical skills are taught during practical classes and fieldwork. Core principles required for field and laboratory work are introduced at level 4, and further developed at level 5 where more technical methods of data analysis are introduced. Students apply these skills independently at level 6 when completing the Research Project. If the WBL module is chosen these skills will be developed in an applied work place setting. Practical and professional skills are assessed by submission of field based presentations and field/laboratory reports. The research project/WBL portfolio and other level 6 reports allow students to demonstrate the full range of skills they have acquired. As well as having the opportunity to develop transferable skills in all academic modules, key skills are specifically taught in two specially designed modules at level 4 (Fundamentals of Scientific Research),level 5 (Research Skills and Employment) and level 6 (Research Project). Teaching in these modules is in small tutorial groups and via seminars, computer sessions and workshops. Key skills are assessed through coursework at all levels in all modules and specifically in the modules mentioned above.

Opportunities for work related learning

Graduate Skills are taught and practised within a wide range of modules and assessed within the core modules at Level 4 Fundamental in Scientific Research, Level 5 Research Skills and Employability, and Conservation Practice, and level 6 Research Project. There are several options for residential field work at level 5 and 6 which foster a range of graduate skills. At level 4 Students will complete a Self Awareness Statement as part of the module assessment and at Level 5 an employment portfolio in Research Skills and Employability, which will include career planning and CV writing. This is designed to foster student awareness and engagement with their personal and professional development. Student develop technical work related skills across a range of modules, however a number of modules are focused towards students developing applied skills at level 4 (Skills in Wildlife Conservation, Fundamentals of Scientific Research), level 5 (Ecology Field Skills, Conservation Practice, Research skills and Employability) and level 6 (Research project). Work-related learning opportunities are available through the routes of employer seminars, alumni networking events, employer led lectures/workshops and field trips, employer-driven assignments and modules. Work-based Learning placement (135 hrs) and the Sandwich placement (12 months) offer the opportunity for students to gain work experience with a relevant professional organisation. Students are supported by the Professional Training Tutor who is responsible for advertising placements and promoting vocational training to students. Appropriate Work-based Learning or Sandwich placements (home or abroad) include working with for e.g. Conservation charities and NGOs i.e. Wildlife Trust, Zoos and Sanctuaries, Environmental Consultancies, conservation-related government bodies e.g. Environment Agency/Natural England.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
NVQ	Second year entry can potentially be arranged for candidates who have an HND or HNC with merits in the key relevant units or those who have passed the first year of a degree programme in a closely related subject elsewhere.

A levels	Applicants should have (or expect to obtain) at least one A Level preferably in Biology, Geography, Environmental Science or other related science. General Studies is not acceptable. Our minimum points tariff is 88. AS Level awards are acceptable but only when combined with other qualifications and up to a maximum of 20 points.
BTECs	National Diploma (RQF) and National Extended Diploma (RQF) are acceptable on their own and combined with other qualifications. Grades required for National Diploma are DD in a related area if studied on its own or to the total of 88 UCAS points if combined with other qualifications. Grades required for National Extended Diploma are MMM in a related area if no other Level 3 qualification taken. National Certificates (RQF) and National Extended Certificates are acceptable only when combined with other qualifications.
Alternative qualifications considered	All applicants must have GCSE Maths and English with minimum grade C, or equivalent. School/ College leavers should be at least 17.5 years on admission.
International Baccalaureate	Applicants should have (or expect to obtain) 24 IB Diploma Points with specific grades required in science subjects. International Baccalaureate is acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications.
Other international requirements	Applicants should have acquired passes in appropriate examinations in their country of origin and provide evidence of English language ability equivalent to 6.0 IELTS (with a minimum of 5.5 in each component) or equivalent English language proficiency test.