

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: Field Skills and Identification	Level: 4	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: LND412 (if known)	Cost Centre: GAHT	JACS2 code: C150
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered: 2	With effect from: September 2013
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Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: August 2013 Date revised: - Version no: 1
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Existing/New: new	Title of module being replaced (if any): N/A
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Originating Academic Department: Biology and Environment	Module Leader: Dr D.Skydmore
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Module duration (total hours): 200 Scheduled learning & teaching hours: 50 Independent study hours: 150	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate): Core
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Programme(s) in which to be offered: BSc Wildlife and Plant Biology	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): Nil
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Module Aims:

This module aims to:

- 1) introduce the student to the use of taxonomy and anatomy, of plants and animals, for the identification of species.
- 2) enable them to identify and locate plant and animal species in the field

Expected Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding:

1. Locate and name anatomical features used in identification
2. Understand binomial classification and the use of common names of plants and animals
3. Resource and utilise identification keys for a range of plants and animals
4. understand the use of mapping and mapping tools in the location of species

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:

Through the module the student will demonstrate:

- Oral, written and visual communication skills
- Information gathering , evaluation and application
- Health and safety within field activities

Assessment: please indicate the type(s) of assessment (eg examination, oral, coursework, project) and the weighting of each (%). ***Details of indicative assessment tasks must be included.***

A portfolio will be required that contains samples or photographs of specimens along with an identification, rationale for the identification, and information sources.

A presentation will be required on the classification on one of the items in the portfolio, showing knowledge of the use of keys and the importance of accurate classification and identification.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (eg, if exam or presentation)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1,2,3,4	Portfolio	75%		2500
2	3, 4	Presentation	25%	10minutes	

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

Lectures will form the delivery of theoretical elements of the module and key concepts in the course. Field visits and practical sessions in the laboratory and the field will be used to deliver the practical skills.

Formative support provided in tutorials provides guidance and feedback on assignment tasks and activities with particular regard to presentation skills.

Private directed study will consolidate learning and undertake research for assessments. The

focus of study is on wider reading to develop and reinforce knowledge and understanding of the topics and material covered in lectures and preparation for tutorials. This will also help students to develop time management skills, library skills and critical thinking.

Throughout the module delivery the tutor will draw to the student's attention various web sites from the industry and other information available via the VLE, as are a number of additional sources of support and information.

Students will be introduced to Geographical Information Systems through the demonstration and practical use of data in ArcGIS

Syllabus outline:

Principles of taxonomy

Insect anatomy

Use of identification keys

Familiarisation with identification in:

Flowering plants

Bryophytes

Pteridophytes

Arthropods

Molluscs

Annelids

Birds

Mammals

Amphibians

Reptiles

Introduction to GIS

Bibliography:

Indicative reading:

Chinery, M., (2005), *Collins Complete Guide to British Insects*. London: Harper Collins

Fish, J.D. and Fish, S., (2011). *A Student's guide to the seashore*. 3rd Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Rose, F., (2006). *The Wild Flower Key*. London: Penguin

Stace, C., (2010). *New flora of the British Isles*. 3rd Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Journals in the library

Evolutionary Applications

Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics

Systematic Biology

Systematic Entomology

Trends in Ecology and Evolution

Internet resources

Natural History Museum Biodiversity Portal

<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/british-natural-history/uk-biodiversity-portal/identification-information/index.html>