

Course Specification

Published Date:	14-Sep-2020
Produced By:	Laura Clode
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Wolverhampton School of Sciences		
Course Code(s):	EA029P01UV EA029P31UV	Full-time Part-time	12 Months 2 Years
Course Title:	MSc Wildlife Conservation		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Science Wildlife Conservation Postgraduate Diploma Wildlife Conservation Postgraduate Certificate Wildlife Conservation Postgraduate Certificate Wildlife Conservation University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	03/May/2017		
Last Review:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid from:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid to:	2021/2		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Catherine Tobin
Head of Department:	Georgina Manning

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

A minimum of a 2:2 honours degree in a relevant subject area. Normally this should have a wildlife biology, animal behaviour or wildlife conservation focus, however other cognate areas will be considered.

Consideration will be given to those who are already experienced practitioners in a field of wildlife conservation and behaviour, but who lack formal qualifications that would be the normal entry requirement.

You should also have a good standard of written and spoken English (IELTS 6.0 or equivalent). If you are currently employed, we request a statement of support from your employer.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

This comprehensive course provides an in-depth view of the contemporary issues and techniques required of professional wildlife conservationists working both in the UK and overseas. The course is taught not only by our experienced academic staff but with the assistance of world-leading experts and conservation practitioners both in class and also in the field.

Importantly throughout the course we stress a holistic appreciation of the link between field and laboratory-based work and the necessity of professional level communication with a range of audiences. Where possible teaching will be undertaken through workshops and seminars so providing a more immersive environment to help develop an understanding of the operation of professional-level applied conservation skills in communication and problem solving.

Educational Aims of the Course:

This comprehensive course provides an in-depth view of the contemporary issues and techniques required of professional wildlife conservationists working both in the UK and overseas. The course is taught not only by our experienced academic staff but with the assistance of world-leading experts and conservation practitioners both in class and also in the field. The focus throughout is on animals in their wild settings with general modules such as Advanced Survey and Monitoring Techniques and Conservation of UK Protected Species alongside more specialised modules such as Conservation Genetics. The link between ex-situ and in-situ conservation is also explored through modules such as Primate Conservation and Behaviour.

The course also contains a compulsory field course (UK or overseas) and a detailed independent research project on a topic of your choice. Importantly throughout the course we stress a holistic appreciation of the link between field and laboratory-based work and the necessity of professional level communication with a range of audiences. These skills are developed not only in the formal Research Methods and Project modules but across the full range of modules and topics studied.

Where possible teaching will be undertaken through workshops and seminars so providing a more immersive environment to help develop an understanding of the operation of professional-level applied conservation skills in communication and problems solving.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time	£13350.00
2020/1	H	Full Time	£10650.00
2020/1	H	Part Time	£5325.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AB015	Research Project (Wildlife Conservation)	60	CRYRA	Core
7AB011	Primate Conservation and Behaviour	20	IN YR	Core
7AB010	Field Course	20	IN YR	Core
7AB014	Conservation of UK Protected Species	20	IN YR	Core
7AB012	Conservation Genetics	20	IN YR	Core
7AB009	Advanced Survey and Monitoring Techniques	20	IN YR	Core
7AB013	Research Methods	20	IN YR	Core

September (Full-time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
7AB012	Conservation Genetics	20	IN YR	Core
7AB009	Advanced Survey and Monitoring Techniques	20	IN YR	Core
7AB013	Research Methods	20	IN YR	Core
7AB015	Research Project (Wildlife Conservation)	60	CRYRA	Core
7AB011	Primate Conservation and Behaviour	20	IN YR	Core
7AB010	Field Course	20	IN YR	Core
7AB014	Conservation of UK Protected Species	20	IN YR	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

None

Reference Points:

Quality Code - [Part A: Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards](#). Including;

- Qualifications Frameworks
- Characteristics Statements
- Credit Frameworks.

Subject Benchmark Statements – informed by BioSciences (undergraduate)

Quality Code - [Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality](#)

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

Equality Act (2010).

Learning Outcomes:

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGCCL01)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of wildlife conservation. This will draw on the experiences and challenges faced by both the UK and the wider international wildlife conservation sector.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGCCL02)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship. Specifically developing the higher-level field and laboratory skills that are widely applied in the wildlife conservation sector.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGCCL03)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGCCL04)

Demonstrate a strong conceptual understanding that enables the student: (a) to critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. (b) to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses. (c) As such the student will develop the applied skills and theoretical understanding linking policy and practice that allow the student to fully engage with the advancement of knowledge in wildlife conservation.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGCCL05)

Deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGCCL06)

Gain the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: (a) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility (b) decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations (c) the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGDCL01)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of wildlife conservation. This will draw on the experiences and challenges faced by both the UK and the wider international wildlife conservation sector.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGDCL02)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship. Specifically developing the higher-level field and laboratory skills that are widely applied in the wildlife conservation sector.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGDCL03)

Show originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGDCL04)

Demonstrate a strong conceptual understanding that enables the student: (a) to critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. (b) to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses. As such the student will develop the applied skills and theoretical understanding linking policy and practice that allow the student to fully engage with the advancement of knowledge in wildlife conservation.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 5 (PGDCL05)

Deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 6 (PGDCL06)

Gain the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: (a) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility (b) decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations (c) the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACLO1)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of wildlife conservation . This will draw on the experiences and challenges faced by both the UK and the wider international wildlife conservation sector.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACLO2)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship. Specifically developing the higher-level field and laboratory skills that are widely applied in the wildlife conservation sector.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3)

Show originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline. Specifically understanding the process of enquiry within wildlife conservation from first principles and strategic/logistical planning through field and laboratory work to professional output (report, research paper, oral presentation, etc.).

Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4)

Demonstrate a strong conceptual understanding that enables the student: (a) to critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline. (b) to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses. As such the student will develop the applied skills and theoretical understanding linking policy and practice that allow the student to fully engage with the advancement of knowledge in wildlife conservation.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 5 (MACLO5)

Deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences. This will be demonstrated through self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, acting autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 6 (MACLO6)

Gain the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: (a) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility (b) decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations (c) the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
7AB009	Advanced Survey and Monitoring Techniques	MACLO2, PGCCLO2, PGDCLO2
7AB010	Field Course	MACLO2, MACLO6, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO6, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO6
7AB011	Primate Conservation and Behaviour	MACLO4, PGCCLO4, PGDCLO4
7AB012	Conservation Genetics	MACLO1, MACLO4, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO4, PGCCLO5, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO4, PGDCLO5
7AB013	Research Methods	MACLO2, MACLO4, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO4, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO4
7AB014	Conservation of UK Protected Species	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO5, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO3, PGCCLO5, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO5
7AB015	Research Project (Wildlife Conservation)	MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

The learning activities will be flexible depending on the opportunities available to different sized cohorts. It is however anticipated that the course will use the following key activities to deliver different aspects:

- Fieldwork
- Laboratory work
- Seminars
- Standard lectures/practicals
- Workshops

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
 Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
 Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

Students will be supported throughout their learning by face-to-face work with academics and technical staff in class and in the field and the use of e-platforms including both institutional mechanisms and social media where appropriate. The facilities for learning are excellent with state of the art laboratory facilities and a large IT facility in addition to a varied set of teaching rooms and other learning spaces.

Employability in the Curriculum:

The course prepares you for a role as a conservation professional working with strong applied and field-based components. In particular it gives you key opportunities for employment in conservation-type roles in the UK and overseas where higher-level qualifications are essential for demonstrating subject knowledge and technical competency. Such roles are found in a host of statutory and non-governmental organisations across

the wildlife and conservation sector.



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