

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: PRACTICAL SKILLS FOR ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR
Status: Definitive
Code: **4205NATSCI** (122040)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Biological and Environmental Sciences
Teaching School/Faculty: Biological and Environmental Sciences

Team	Leader
Brian Preston	Y
Jon Bielby	
Ross Macleod	
Adam Reddon	
Christopher Williams	
Antje Engelhardt	
Claudia Mettke-Hofmann	
Jennifer Sneddon	

Academic Level: FHEQ4 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 62
Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 138

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	12
Off Site	43
Seminar	2
Workshop	5

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	Report	Written report on a practical carried out during the course of the module	50	
Presentation	Seminar	Seminar in which small student groups will present student	50	

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
		research carried out in class		

Aims

To develop theoretical, practical, and analytical skills to conduct animal behaviour research, with particular emphasis on how to sample behaviour and assess habitat characteristics.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Recognize features important for characterizing habitats and potential influences on animal behaviour.
- 2 Identify and apply sampling methods (e.g. focal, scan, al lib, etc.)
- 3 Apply appropriate field sampling methods to different taxonomic groups and environments.
- 4 Present, interpret and discuss data from field sampling with reference to factors that influence animal behaviour, such as human disturbance, resource distribution, and hetero-specific competition
- 5 Develop group working skills

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Practical report	1	2	3	4
Group presentation	2	3	4	5

Outline Syllabus

- *Measuring behavior and ecology; Designing ethograms; Applying sampling techniques (focal, scan, ad lib)*
- *Collecting biological samples; Assessing habitat characteristics*
- *Design and analysis of animal behaviour studies; Animal research ethics; Scientific communication*

Learning Activities

This module is delivered through a combination of lectures, field trips and a seminar for student presentations.

Notes

This module aims to introduce students to the skills required to apply the scientific method to the study of animal behaviour in the field and in the laboratory.