

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: ANIMAL EVOLUTION AND DIVERSITY  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **5206NATSCI** (122066)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
Peter Falkingham	Y
Christopher Williams	
Craig Wilding	
Robbie Rae	
Carlo Meloro	

**Academic Level:** FHEQ5      **Credit Value:** 20      **Total Delivered Hours:** 55  
**Total Learning Hours:** 200      **Private Study:** 145

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	29
Practical	21
Workshop	3

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Exam	Exam	Exam essays	50	2
Report	Report	Practical report	50	

### Aims

*To provide an introduction to the evolution and diversity of the main invertebrate and vertebrate groups, their distribution and coevolution with plants and other animals.*

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Evaluate the main phylogenetic trends in the evolution of living animals.
- 2 Give an account of the main biological characteristics of the major animal taxonomic groupings.
- 3 Evaluate the techniques by which animals are identified and species relationships determined.
- 4 Discuss broader topics in evolution such as symbiosis, biogeography and camouflage.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Examination	4	3	2	1
Practical Report	4	3	2	

## Outline Syllabus

*Rules of zoological nomenclature. The phylogenetic relationship of the major animal groups. Principles of taxonomy and systematics. Identification and biology of the major living and fossil groups. Coevolution of animals with other organisms (e.g. symbiotic relationships). The evolution of structures and features. The distribution of animals, both modern and fossil.*

## Learning Activities

The module will be delivered through a combination of lectures and practicals.

## Notes

This module examines the diversity of animal life, explores the major trends in their evolution, and key features in their biology. It also illustrates how many of them have coevolved in partnership with other organisms.