

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: WILDLIFE FORENSICS
Status: Definitive
Code: **5210NATSCI** (122070)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
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Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 57
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 143

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	28
Practical	24
Workshop	3

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

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

Aims

To introduce forensic methodologies in biological and environmental sciences applicable to the study of wildlife crime.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Discuss the reasons why wild animals are illegally traded and killed and what can be done to control them.
- 2 Evaluate the means by which animals and animal body parts can be identified in a forensic context.
- 3 Explain how the provenance of animals and animal products can be established.
- 4 Discuss the collection of evidence from living and dead animals and the importance of documentation and chain of custody.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Examination	1	2	3	4
Practical Report	2			

Outline Syllabus

The animal as evidence, determining non-accidental injury, behavioural considerations of animals, evidence collection and storage, chain of custody. Blood, tissues and animal parts as forensic evidence. Determining the provenance of animals and animal body parts.

Poaching, illegal collection, poisoning, and killing of wild animals. The illegal trade in animals, bushmeat, animal parts, and products and how they can be controlled. The importance of legislation and conservation bodies: CITES, UK and EU Law. Case studies - applications to forensic science, data interpretation, the role of the forensic scientist.

Learning Activities

Module delivered using lectures, practicals and workshops. A range of practical techniques are introduced.

Notes

This module is designed to make students aware of the applications of forensic techniques to the identification and combating of wildlife crime. By the end of the module students should be able to use data obtained by these techniques in forensic interpretation.