

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: CURRENT TOPICS IN ZOOLOGY
Status: Definitive
Code: **6024NATSCI** (120891)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2019

Owning School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology
Teaching School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology

Team	Leader
Sally Williamson	Y
Andrias O'Reilly	
Will Swaney	
Robbie Rae	

Academic Level: FHEQ6 **Credit Value:** 24 **Total Delivered Hours:** 48
Total Learning Hours: 240 **Private Study:** 192

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	20
Practical	12
Workshop	16

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	report	wiki style report, including details of experimental design workshops as well as the practical report	50	
Essay	essay	essay on a topic chosen from the taught components not assessed by the wiki report	50	

Aims

This course aims to build on the physiological concepts taught in the level 5 module Comparative Animal Physiology, and to introduce new concepts and skills appropriate to level 6. The module is designed to be research-led, and will focus on topics closely linked to the research interests and expertise of the teaching team.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Independently design experimental protocols, and critically evaluate and appreciate the limitations of scientific methods from the literature.
- 2 Demonstrate competent practical and communication skills in zoology
- 3 Critically evaluate recently published scientific literature, and integrate and evaluate information from different sources.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

wiki style report	1	2	3
essay	1	2	3

Outline Syllabus

The module will focus on developing graduate skills in areas of zoology research closely linked to the research interests of the teaching team. Lecture will be delivered mainly in the format of research seminars; workshops will be used to deliver problem-based learning and training in experimental design and practical laboratory techniques. Science communication skills will be developed, using media such as websites, posters and activities. Topics to be covered may include animal behaviour, pharmacology, physiology, and genetics, though topics may be updated to reflect current trends in zoology research within NSP and within the wider academic community.

Learning Activities

The course will have 20 hours of lectures, delivered mainly in a research-seminar format, focusing on current areas of zoology research. The 12 hours of workshops will include practical laboratory activities, computer activities, and experimental design activities, and will usually be preparatory exercises for the 12 hours of practical work.

Notes

The course will teach various key graduate skills, including practical skills,

communication skills, problem-solving skills, and critical evaluation. The taught content will include aspects of zoology relevant to the research expertise of the teaching team, which may include pharmacology/neurobiology, animal behaviour, and utilising model organisms.