

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Current Topics in Zoology
Status: Definitive
Code: **6501YAUZOO** (127879)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
Sally Williamson	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 20
Total Delivered Hours: 70
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 130

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	26
Practical	18
Workshop	24

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Exam	Exam	2 hour written exam covering all parasitology lecture content	34	2
Presentation	Poster	Poster presentation on an aspect of Wildlife Conservation	32	
Report	Report	Practical Scientific report based on pharmacology and experimental design	34	

Aims

This module comprises of three areas of current exciting research focus in Zoology. It aims to educate students about parasites of veterinary and medical relevance.

Examples covered will include protozoan parasites, helminth parasites, and ectoparasites, infecting farm animals, companion animals, and humans. This module will also cover the basic principles of neuropharmacology, and how drugs interact with the nervous system in animal systems. The students work in small groups to engage in designing, optimizing and performing their own pharmacology experiments, using planarian flatworms as a model organism. An awareness of the global wildlife crisis will also be taught, covering a range of anthropogenic threats to endangered species, and also what conservation measures may be effective in preventing extinction.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Describe parasite lifecycles.
- 2 Discuss the pathology of parasitic infections and propose appropriate diagnosis and treatment.
- 3 Discuss how drugs interact with the nervous system
- 4 Design and optimise experiments and demonstrate teamwork skills
- 5 Demonstrate awareness of anthropogenic threats to animals and propose effective conservation measures
- 6 Communicate effectively

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Exam	1	2	6	4
Poster presentation	3	6	4	
Scientific report	6	5	4	

Outline Syllabus

Protozoa, nematodes, trematodes, cestodes, veterinary parasites, medical parasites, antiparasitic drugs, the nervous system, drugs and toxins, invertebrate models, experimental design. Wildlife crisis, anthropogenic threats, endangered species and conservation measures.

Learning Activities

This module will be delivered as a combination of lectures, discussion workshops and laboratory practical activities focused on designing and performing an experiment.

Notes

This module will equip students with the skills to diagnose and propose treatment for many common parasitic infections of animals and humans. It will also equip students with pharmacological knowledge and skills in experimental design and teamwork. Students will also gain an awareness of global and local wildlife conservation issues.