

Programme Specification

MSc in Wildlife Management and Conservation (full-time)

PFTWLDMANCM

For students entering in September 2018

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	12 months (full time)
Accreditation	Not applicable
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

The purpose of the course is to prepare graduates from appropriate disciplines (e.g. biological, agricultural, geographical or environmental sciences) for employment in a variety of conservation or wildlife management related careers or to continue to a PhD. The course provides both the theoretical and the practical experience required for the students to realise their potential and to discover where their talent lies in the multidisciplinary fields of conservation biology and wildlife management. The expected outcomes are that students should acquire and demonstrate in the context of wildlife management and conservation:

- Appreciation of the philosophical context in which wildlife conservation is carried out both in the UK and overseas;
- Understanding of the essential principles of research design in conservation biology and wildlife management;
- Appreciation of a range of wildlife issues both in the UK and overseas;
- Competence in a range of research methods for data collection and detailed expertise in a subset relevant to the student's own research interests;
- Expertise in data management and analysis, and awareness of issues affecting data interpretation;
- Understanding of the legal and ethical issues in the conduct and dissemination of a research programme;
- Competence in research management and in written and oral skills for communicating research output wildlife conservation issues;
- Awareness of issues relevant to the pursuit of a career in wildlife conservation or management;
- Acquisition of a broad range of transferable employment-related skills.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
BIMWA12	Quantitative Methods	20	7
BIMPROJ	Research Project	70	7
BIMEC2	Vertebrate Conservation	20	7
BIMED2	Vertebrate Survey and Management	20	7
BIMWL1	Field Trips	10	7
BIMWM2	Current Issues in Conservation	10	7
BIMWG2	GIS for Wildlife Managers	10	7
BIMCR1	Landscape Conservation and Rewilding	10	7

The remaining credits will be taken from a list of optional modules from the School of Biological Sciences, or from an approved list of modules from across the University.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The course can only be taken on a full-time basis.

Additional costs of the programme

There are no essential additional costs although students might wish to purchase a good pair of binoculars

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

Not applicable

Teaching and learning delivery:

Teaching is by a variety of methods, including lectures, small group seminars, discussion sessions, practicals, individual feedback on written work and one-to-one advice.

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is 450 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

n/a

Assessment

Assessment procedures mirror the diversity of teaching methods and include scientific essays, oral and poster presentations, , computer based assignments , spots tests, production of a wildlife diary and submission of project dissertation.

Progression

Part-time and modular progression requirements

none

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and

- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iv) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.