

Module Descriptor Form

1	Awarding Body	Askham Bryan College
2	Lead Subject Area	Cross College
3	Module title	Introduction to Research
4	Module Code	XC0103
5	Module level	Y0
6	Module credits	20
7	Date Module to Commence	September 2022
8	Programmes on which module is available	Extended FdSc Animal Science and Management (core) Extended FdSc Management of Animal Collections with Conservation (core) Extended FdSc Management of Aquatics and Conservation of Oceans (core) Extended FdSc Wildlife and Environmental Conservation (core) Extended FdSc Applied Sustainable Land Management (core) Extended FdSc Canine and Feline Behaviour and Training (core) Extended FdSc Precision Livestock Farming (core) Extended FdSc Agriculture (core) Extended FdSc Equine Science and Management (core)
9	Aims of the Module	This module aims to help students consider how knowledge is gained through the collection of data. It will provide students with the skills to plan a project, consider different methods of data collection, carry out basic synthesis and presentation of data and encourage students to think about their findings
10	Rationale for Module	Students at HE level need to have an awareness of the research process involved in the collection and analysis of data. An awareness of the methodologies of collecting data involved with research.
11	Module description	This module enables students to develop their skills as scientists prior to starting their HE course. The student will undertake a project, in which they will collect data independently. Supervision will be provided from the module tutors in the form of seminars, lectures and supervisory sessions to aid the students in the project write up and development.
12	Semester	1 and 2

13	Learning Outcomes	LO1 Consider ethical, practical and methodological issues when proposing research.
		LO2 Collect data and present in an appropriate format.
		LO3 Discuss findings of research project in an appropriate format
		LO4 Analyse and reflect on the research process
14	Pre-requisite Modules	None
15	Co-requisite Modules	None
16	Banned Combinations	None
17	Is Module Compensatable	Yes
18	Indicative Content	LO1: Why collecting data following scientific methods and performing experiments helps science to move forward. Organising and planning a project to successfully collect data. What needs to be considered including ethics, practicalities, validity and methodologies. Common methods of data collection covering methods that could be employed in the projects; writing project plan. LO2: Synthesising data – Spreadsheets; formulae for and examples of calculating totals, averages, percentages. Ways data can be displayed in graphs. What should be included in a graph. LO3: Interpreting results; comparing results; relating results back to the original research question. LO4: Reflect on the research process, how could this be improved in future. Within the module links are made to the Education for Sustainable Development goals

		https://www.gaa.ac.uk/docs/gaa/guidance/education-for-sustainable-development-guidance-executive-summary.pdf?sfvrsn=b121d281_8
19	Inclusivity, access and student support	We are committed to ensuring that our programmes and modules are inclusive of all students including: international, part-time, mature, those from different socio-economic backgrounds (class) and those with protected characteristics according to the Equality Act 2010 (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation). Powerpoint presentations will be provided online prior to the lectures and all will follow accessibility regulations. Students requiring assistance in practical sessions will be risk assessed and allowances such as a 'buddy system' considered where appropriate. Allergies and phobias will be considered in practical sessions and students allowed to complete worksheets using digital resources where appropriate. An alternative assessment will be available for all students with a DSA, in line with recommendations in their individual needs assessment.
20	Link to the Digital Vision	The VLE and Teams platforms will be utilised for dissemination of lecture resources. Where possible, planet e-stream and VAR suite will be utilised.
21	Total Contact Hours	60
	Lecture	12
	Seminar	12
	Tutorial	0
	Project Supervision	36
	Demonstration	0
	Practical classes/workshops	0
	Fieldwork	0
	External visits	0
	Work based learning / Placements	0
	Guided independent study	140 hours
22	Learning and Teaching Strategy	Students will receive lectures to outline key themes, which will be backed up by regular 1:1 tutorials, particularly for support with developing their practical assessments. The module will be spread across 2 semesters to allow students ample time to collect data and mitigate any limiting

		factors such as seasonal behaviour and weather interference with data collection. Students will have regular 1:1 session during data collection period to support and advise.				
23	Virtual Learning Strategy	All module resources will be available on the VLE, as will links to further reading, videos etc. Students will be encouraged to actively participate in online discussion forums. Formative assessment will take place regularly using online tasks on the VLE. Worksheets, relevant literature, powerpoints and other media will be made available on the VLE page for students to access outside of lectures.				
24	Opportunities for Formative Assessment	Consistent question and answer sessions will take place in every session for the students to practice and further knowledge				
25	Method of Summative Assessment	Ass No.	Method	Weighting	LOs	Prog LOs
		1	Proposal	30%	1	CIT2, CIT3, CIT4, CIT5, CIT6, E1
		2	Academic interview	70%	2,3 and 4	PP1, E3, E4, E5, E7
26	Examination Period	No exam				
27	Method/s of reassessment	Written report during the reassessment window				
28	Maximum Class Size	24				
29.1	Essential Reading (Books)	Bell, J. with Waters, S. 2014. <i>Doing your Research Project: A Guide for First-time Researchers</i> 6th ed. England: Open University Press Jones, A., Reed, R. and Weyers, J. 2016. <i>Practical Skills in Biology</i> 6th ed. Harlow, Pearson Ruxton, G.D. and Colegrave, N. 2011. <i>Experimental Design for the Life Sciences</i> 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press				
29.2	Recommended Reading (Books)	Martin, P. and Bateson, P. 2007. <i>Measuring Behaviour</i> 3 rd ed. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press				
29.3	Essential Reading (Journals)	Specific to students research area Journal of Further and Higher Education				
29.4	Recommended Reading (Journals)	Learning and Instruction Times Higher Education				
29.5	Websites/ Online/ Government Resources etc	Learnhigher.2019. Teaching and Learning Resources http://www.learnhigher.ac.uk/				
30	Date Written/ Revised	30/01/2022				

31	Module Leader Name	Laura Overton
32	Writing Team Names	Isobel Bannister