Programme Regulations: 2024/25

Programme Titles:
Degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours in Biology - UCAS Code: C100
Degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours in Biology with Placement Year - Code: 1143U
Degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours in Biology with International Study Year – Code 1573U
Degree of Master of Biology with Honours in Biology – UCAS Code: C103
Degree of Master of Biology with Honours in Biology with Placement Year – Code: 1140U
Degree of Master of Biology with Honours in Biology with International Study Year – Code 1842U

Notes
(i) These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's Taught Programme Regulations.
(ii) All optional modules are offered subject to the constraints of the timetable and to any restrictions on the number of students who may be taught on a particular module. Not all modules may be offered in all years and they are listed subject to availability.
(iii) A compulsory module is a module which a student is required to study.
(iv) All modules are delivered in Linear mode unless stated otherwise as Block, eLearning or distance learning.

1. Stage 1

(a) All candidates shall take the following compulsory modules:

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
NES1300	Genetics and Evolution	20		20	4	
NES1301	Diversity of Life: Form and Function	20	10	10	4	
NES1302	Ecology and Conservation	20	20		4	
NES1303	Cells and Biomolecules	20	20		4	
NES1504	Academic and Professional Skills for the Biosciences	20	10	10	4	

(b) All candidates shall take 20 credits of optional module from the following list:

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
NES1000	Crop Pests	10		10	4	
NES1003	Animal Health	10		10	4	
NES1004	Introduction to Animal Physiology	10		10	4	
NES1005	Natural Science Research Impact	10		10	4	
NES1503	The Marine Environment	20		20	4	
NES1506	Marine Microbiology and Primary Producers	20		20	4	

With the approval of the Stage Co-ordinator or Degree Programme Director, alternative optional modules to those listed above may be selected.

2. Stage 2

(a) All candidates shall take the following compulsory module:

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
NES2303	Experimental Design and Statistics	10	10		5	

(b) All candidates shall take <u>one</u> of the following optional modules

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
NES2308	Plant Biology	20	20		5	
NES2310	Insect Biology and Origins	20	20		5	

(c) In consultation with the Stage Co-ordinator or Degree Programme Director, candidates will take optional modules to the value of 90 from the following list. Students may opt to select modules from a specific recommended route and modules for the three routes are indicated:

(i) Recommended optional modules for students wishing to base their stage 2 on Ecology are denoted with E in the subject column

(ii) Recommended optional modules for students wishing to base their stage 2 on General Biology are denoted with G in the subject column

(iii) Recommended optional modules for student wishing to base their stage 2 on Molecular Biology are denoted with M in the subject column

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*	*Subject*
NES2005	Animal Parasitology	10		10	5		
NES2300*	Field Identification Skills	10	10		5		E, M
NES2301	Animal Behaviour	10	10		5		
NES2302	Pollution of Air, Water and Soil	10	10		5		
NES2304	Microbial Biochemistry	20	20		5		
NES2305	Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation	20		20	5		
NES2306	Biotechnology: Principles and Practice	20		20	5		**M**
NES2307	Animal Function (Physiology and Development)	20	20		5		
NES2309	Evolutionary Biology	20		20	5		
NES2312	Field-based Ecology: designing experiments, and residential field course	20		20	5	Block	
NES2314	Vertebrate Biology	20		20	5		
NES2501	Tropical Marine Ecology	20	20		5		E
NES2502	Applied Marine Biology	20		20	5		
PSY2007	Biological Psychology: Sex, Drugs, Rhythms and Blues	10		10	6		

*NES2300 takes place prior to Stage 2.

(d) With the approval of the Stage Co-ordinator or Degree Programme Director, an alternative optional module to those listed above may be selected with a total value of not more than 20 credits. In particular, the following module may be selected without the need for DPD approval:

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*
NCL2007	Career Development for second year students	20	10	10	5

For Master of Biology candidates: To progress to Stage 3 candidates are required to obtain an average over all modules taken at Stage 2 of at least 60 at the first attempt.

3. Intercalating Year – BSc Candidates Only

(a) Careers Placement (1143U)

On completion of Stage 2 and before entering Stage 3, BSc candidates may as part of their studies for the degree spend a year at an approved institution. Permission to undertake the intercalating year is subject to the approval of the Degree Programme Director. Students who are required to re-sit their Stage 2 assessment must delay the start of their intercalating year until they have done so. Students who fail Stage 2 may not complete an intercalating year.

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
NCL3000	Career Service Placement Year Module	120	60	60	6	

(b) International Study Year (1573U)

On completion of Stage 2 and before entering Stage 3, candidates may spend the equivalent of one academic year abroad at an appropriate exchange partner institution. Permission to undertake a year abroad is subject to the approval of the Degree Programme Director. Students who are required to re-sit their Stage 2 assessment must delay the start of their year abroad until they have done so. Students who fail Stage 2 may not complete a year abroad.

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
ISY3000	International Study Year Module	120	60	60	6	

If a pass mark is obtained, in addition to a student meeting the criteria for the BSc in Biology, then the degree of BSc Biology with Study Abroad will be awarded. Failure to pass the Study Abroad year will result in the candidate being transferred to the BSc (Hons) Biology award.

4. Stage 3

(a) All candidates shall take the following compulsory module:

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
NES3505	Research Project	40	20	20	6	

(b) All candidates shall take one of the following modules:

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*	*Subject*
NES3302	Current Research in Ecology	20	20		6		*E*
NES3309	Current Research in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology	20	20		6		*M*

(c) Candidates shall take 60 credits of optional modules from the following list.
Students may opt to select modules from a specific recommended route and modules for the three routes are indicated:

(i) Recommended optional modules for students wishing to base their stage 3 on Ecology are denoted with E in the subject column

(ii) Recommended optional modules for students wishing to base their stage 3 on General Biology are denoted with G in the subject column

(iii) Recommended optional modules for student wishing to base their stage 3 on Molecular Biology are denoted with M in the subject column

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*	*Subject*
NES3301	Biodiversity Science and Management	20		20	6		*G, E*
NES3303	Biotechnology: Applications	20		20	6		*G,* ***M***
NES3305	Biological Modelling	20	20		6		
NES3306	Physiological Zoology	20		20	6		
NES3307	Microbial Genomics	20		20	6		***M***
NES3308	Advances in Plant Science Research	20		20	6		***G, M***
NES3313	Africa Field Course: Conservation and Ecology*	20	20		6		
NES3501	Advanced Marine Research Topics I	20	20		6		

*NES3313 takes place prior to Stage 3.

(c) With the approval of the Stage Co-ordinator or Degree Programme Director, an alternative optional module to those listed above may be selected with a total value of not more than 20 credits.

For Master of Biology candidates only: To progress to Stage 4 candidates are required to obtain an average over all modules taken at Stage 3 of at least 60 at the first attempt.

5. Intercalating Year - MBiol Candidates Only

(a) Career Placement Year (1140U)
On completion of Stage 3 and before entering Stage 4, MBiol candidates may as part of their studies for the degree spend a year in a placement with an approved organisation. Permission to undertake a placement is subject to the approval of the Degree Programme Director. Students who are required to re-sit their Stage 3 assessment must delay the start of their placement until they have done so. Students who fail Stage 3 may not complete a placement year.

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
NCL3000	Career Service Placement Year Module	120	60	60	6	

(b) International Study Year (1842U)

On completion of Stage 3 and before entering Stage 4, candidates may spend the equivalent of one academic year abroad at an appropriate exchange partner institution. Permission to undertake a year abroad is subject to the approval of the Degree Programme Director. Students who are required to re-sit their Stage 3 assessment must delay the start of their year abroad until they have done so. Students who fail Stage 3 may not complete a year abroad.

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
ISY3000	International Study Year Module	120	60	60	6	

6. Stage 4

(a) All candidates shall take one of the following compulsory modules:

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
NES8300	Research Project	60	30	30	7	
NES8301	Research Project	60		60	7	

(b) All candidates shall take 60 credits of optional modules normally selected from the following list:

Code	*Descriptive title*	*Total Credits*	*Credits Sem 1*	*Credits Sem 2*	*Level*	*Mode*
MMB8003	The Biological Study of Behaviour	20	20		7	Linear
MMB8054	Theoretical Aspects of Animal Welfare	20	20		7	Linear
MMB8055	Practical Aspects of Animal Welfare	20	20		7	Linear
NES8010	Quantitative Ecological Research Methods	20	20		7	Block
NES8302	Global challenges: biotech solutions	20		20	7	Block
NES8304	Practical Techniques in Molecular Biology	20	20		7	Block
NES8305	Biotechnology: Advanced Topics	20	20		7	Block
NES8308	Invasive Species	10		10	7	Block
NES8310	Policy and Licensing	10		10	7	Block
NES8312	Geographical Information systems and Remote Sensing	20		20	7	Block
NES8500	Understanding Marine Ecosystems	20	20		7	Block

Module selection at stage 4 is subject to timetabling. Similarly, alternative optional modules to those listed above may be selected but only with the approval of the Degree Programme Director.

7. Assessment methods

Details of the assessment pattern for each module are explained in the module outline.

8. Degree classification

BSc candidates will be assessed for degree classification on the basis of all the modules taken at Stages 2 and 3 with the weighting of the stages being 1:3 for Stage 2 and Stage 3 respectively.

MBiol candidates will be assessed for degree classification on the basis of all the modules taken at Stages 2, 3 and 4 with the weighting of the stages being 1:2:3 for Stages 2, 3 and 4 respectively.