

Programme Regulations: 2026/27

Programme Titles:

Degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours in Zoology - UCAS Code: C300

Degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours in Zoology with Placement Year - Code: 1146U

Degree of Bachelor of Science with Honours in Zoology with International Study Year – Code: 1805U

Degree of Master of Biology with Honours in Zoology - UCAS Code: C301

Degree of Master of Biology with Honours in Zoology with Placement Year (Year 4) - Code: 1142U

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.*
- (v) *Full-time students must select modules having a total credit value of not less than 50 and not more than 70 in any one semester. Exceptional variations to this standard may only be approved by the Degree Programme Director.*

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 | |
| NES1302 | Ecology and Conservation | 20 | | 20 | 4 | |
| NES1502 | Animal Life | 20 | 20 | | 4 | |
| NES1504 | Skills for the Biosciences | 20 | 20 | | 4 | |

- b. All candidates shall take one of the following optional modules:

| Code | Descriptive title | Total Credits | Credits Sem 1 | Credits Sem 2 | Level | Mode |
|---------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|------|
| NES1301 | Molecular Biology of the Cell | 20 | 20 | | 4 | |
| NES1303 | Biomolecules – the Biochemical Basis of Life | 20 | 20 | | 4 | |

- (c) All candidates shall select optional modules to the value of 20 credits from the following list:

| Code | Descriptive title | Total Credits | Credits Sem 1 | Credits Sem 2 | Level | Mode |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|------|
| NES1000 | Crop Health | 10 | | 10 | 4 | |
| NES1004 | Introduction to Animal Physiology | 10 | | 10 | 4 | |
| NES1003 | Animal Health | 10 | | 10 | 4 | |

2. Stage 2

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

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES2310* | Insect Biology and Ecology | 20 | 20 | | 5 | |
| NES2504 | Professional Skills for Bioscientists | 20 | 20 | | 5 | |
| NES2307 | Animal Function (Physiology and Development) | 20 | 20 | | 5 | |
| NES2309 | Evolution and Behaviour | 20 | | 20 | 5 | |
| NES2314* | Vertebrate Biology and Ecology | 20 | | 20 | 5 | |

*NES2310/NES2314 field courses take place prior to Stage 2

(b) All candidates shall select optional modules to the value of 20 credits from the following list (total credit weighting must be 120):

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES2305 | Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation | 20 | | 20 | 5 | |
| NES2312 | Field-based Ecology: designing experiments, and residential field course | 20 | | 20 | 5 | |

With the approval of the Degree Programme Director, alternative optional modules to those listed above may be selected with a total value of not more than 20 credits.

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 50 at the first attempt.

3. Year 3 (Placement Year) – Programme Code 1146U only

On completion of Stage 2 and before entering Stage 3, BSc 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 2 assessment must delay the start of their placement until they have done so. Students who fail Stage 2 may not complete a placement year.

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NCL3000 | Career Service Placement Year Module | 120 | 60 | 60 | 6 | |

4. Year 3 - International Study Year – Programme Code 1805U Only

On completion of Stage 2 and before entering Stage 3, BSc candidates may as part of their studies for the degree spend the equivalent of an 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.

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| ISY3000 | International Study Year Module | 120 | 60 | 60 | 6 | |

5. Stage 3

(i) Candidates who commenced their studies prior to September 2025

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

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES3505 | Research Project | 40 | 20 | 20 | 6 | |
| NES3306 | Physiological Zoology | 20 | | 20 | 6 | |
| NES3314 | Current Zoology | 20 | 20 | | 6 | |

b. All candidates shall take at least one of the following modules:

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES3012 | Animal Welfare & Behaviour | 20 | 10 | 10 | 6 | |
| NES3301 | Biodiversity Science and Management | 20 | | 20 | 6 | |

(b) Candidates shall select optional modules to the value of 20 credits from the following list (to total 120 credits):

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES3305 | Biological Modelling | 20 | 20 | | 6 | |
| NES3313* | Africa Field Course: Conservation and Ecology | 20 | 20 | | 6 | |

*NES3313 takes place prior to Stage 3

With the approval of the 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:

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> |
|-------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| NCL3007 | Career Development for third year students | 20 | 10 | 10 | 6 |

*If NCL2007 Career Development was taken at Stage 2, students will not be able to take NCL3007.

(ii) Candidates commencing their studies from September 2025

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

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES3505 | Research Project | 40 | 20 | 20 | 6 | |
| NES3306 | Physiological Zoology | 20 | | 20 | 6 | |
| NES3314 | Current Zoology | 20 | 20 | | 6 | |

c. All candidates shall take at least one of the following modules:

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES3012 | Animal Welfare & Behaviour | 20 | 10 | 10 | 6 | |
| NES3301 | Biodiversity Science and Management | 20 | | 20 | 6 | |

(d) Candidates shall select optional modules to the value of 20 credits from the following list (to total 120 credits):

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES3305 | Biological Modelling | 20 | 20 | | 6 | |
| NES3313* | Africa Field Course: Conservation and Ecology | 20 | 20 | | 6 | |

*NES3313 takes place prior to Stage 3

With the approval of the 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:

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> |
|-------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| NCL3007 | Career Development for third year students | 20 | 10 | 10 | 6 |

*If NCL2007 Career Development was taken at Stage 2, students will not be able to take NCL3007.

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 50 at the first attempt.

6. Stage 4 (MBiol Candidates Only)

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

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| NES8300 | Research Project | 60 | 30 | 30 | 7 | |
| NES8301 | Research Project | 60 | | 60 | 7 | |

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

| <i>Code</i> | <i>Descriptive title</i> | <i>Total Credits</i> | <i>Credits Sem 1</i> | <i>Credits Sem 2</i> | <i>Level</i> | <i>Mode</i> |
|-------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 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 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------|---|----|----|----|---|-------|
| NES8011 | Problem Solving through Innovation PG | 10 | | 10 | 7 | Block |
| NES8312* | Geographical Information systems and Remote Sensing | 20 | | 20 | 7 | Block |
| NES8314 | Critical Thinking and Analysis for Evidence-Based Environmental Science | 20 | 20 | | 7 | Block |
| SPG8013 | Environmental Impact Assessment | 10 | | 10 | 7 | Block |
| NES8317* | Biodiversity Policy: Global and National Processes | 20 | | 20 | 7 | Block |
| NES8318 | Assessing the Status of Biodiversity | 20 | | 20 | 7 | Block |
| NES8319 | Drivers of Biodiversity Loss | 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.

6. Assessment methods

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

7. Degree classification

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.