

Course Title	Wildlife and Conservation, FdSc
Awarding Body	University of East Anglia
Level of Award	Undergraduate
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	
Credit Structure	240 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits Level 5: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time Part-time
Standard Length of Course	Full-time: 2 Years Part-time: 4 Years
Intended Award	Foundation Degree
Fall-back Awards	Certificate of Higher Education (Cert HE) – 120 credits
Entry Requirements	64 UCAS Tariff Points A minimum of GCSE Maths, English and Science (preferred) grade 4/c or above, or National Literacy and Numeracy tests at Level 2 or 3 Open University credits in lieu of A Levels Access to HE Diploma at Pass level with suitable science or land-based credits Mature candidates with life experience in professional or semi-professional work will be considered. English as a second language students must demonstrate attainment of IELTS at level 6.0
Delivering Institution(s)	Easton College
Easton Course Code	F0056
UCAS Code	CD14

Course Structure

Level 4	Module Credit Value															
<p>Professional and Academic Skills</p> <p>Professional and Academic Skills is a core module to all Higher Education programmes at Easton and Otley College. This is a key module to aid your success in programme of study.</p> <p>This module aims -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to provide a framework of academic skills at undergraduate level • to promote your recognition of the value of research, design of research, analysis (including statistics) and reporting in the context of your programme specialism • to aid in the identification and development of a developmental approach to learning and to the professional skills required for employment <p>Having completed this module, you should be able -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to use a range of academic approached and techniques • to reflect on your personal performance and development of scholarly activity • to apply appropriate judgement in selecting and analysing academic sources and data • to communicate effectively with peers, assessors and wider audiences in a variety of media • to apply the Harvard Referencing System correctly and consistently in work products • to understand the professional standards for graduate employment your industry/career path <p>Whilst delivery and the learning outcomes are generic the content and output of your work will reflect to programme specialism you are studying towards.</p> <p><u>Assessment Details:</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="193 1346 1316 2031"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type</th> <th>% Weighting</th> <th>Word Count/ Exam Length</th> <th>Learning Outcomes Coverage</th> <th>Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>E – Portfolio section 1</td> <td>35</td> <td>No limit</td> <td>1 & 2</td> <td>Section 1 Academic Techniques Styles of academic work – to include a range of methods (depending on relevance to programme of study) such as – Plans, Literature Review, Essay, Case Study, Presentation, Poster (academic), Poster (informational), Articles, Diagrams, Reports, Experimental Reports, Use of Harvard Referencing, Reflective Writing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E- Portfolio section 2</td> <td>35</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>Section 2 Research and Analysis</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments	E – Portfolio section 1	35	No limit	1 & 2	Section 1 Academic Techniques Styles of academic work – to include a range of methods (depending on relevance to programme of study) such as – Plans, Literature Review, Essay, Case Study, Presentation, Poster (academic), Poster (informational), Articles, Diagrams, Reports, Experimental Reports, Use of Harvard Referencing, Reflective Writing	E- Portfolio section 2	35		1	Section 2 Research and Analysis	20
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E – Portfolio section 1	35	No limit	1 & 2	Section 1 Academic Techniques Styles of academic work – to include a range of methods (depending on relevance to programme of study) such as – Plans, Literature Review, Essay, Case Study, Presentation, Poster (academic), Poster (informational), Articles, Diagrams, Reports, Experimental Reports, Use of Harvard Referencing, Reflective Writing												
E- Portfolio section 2	35		1	Section 2 Research and Analysis												

				Types of research and analysis – to include (depending on relevance to programme of study) such as –Samples of relevant subject specific information, Validity and Reliability of sources, Primary and Secondary data examples, Data description and interpretation exercises, Action research outline, Questionnaire – developed using a range of question types/styles	
E- Portfolio section 3	30		2	Section 3 – Professional Development Swot analysis, Emotional intelligence, Belbin’s team roles, Industry skills, Soft skills development, Personal development reflection, CV, ICT development	
<p>Workplace Dynamics and Performance</p> <p>Effective management of an organisational workforce and performance is essential for the survival of all industries. This module provides an overview of business principles, operations and functions that are found in all businesses. It considers key roles and activities within each functional area of the business whilst also examining the crucial interrelationships between functional areas.</p> <p>No organisation operates effectively without a sound and productive workforce. A clear understanding of employment requirements, skills and team dynamics is essential to effective employees. Students are able to develop an understanding of the value and nature of clear the workforce in an operational situation.</p> <p>The placement element of this module requires that students complete 100hours of work experience (this must be evidenced for successful completion of the module). Experience may be via daily/weekly activities or block placements to suit the student and employer. This should be linked to the sector or industry of the course subject giving students the opportunity to see how the operational, financial and human resources side of businesses operates and its importance.</p>					20

Assessment Details:

Assessment Type	% Wt	Comments	LO
Business Case Studies (Formative) Investigative Project (Summative)	50%	Case Studies forum via VLE peer discussion (Formative) Project 1750 words (S1)	1 and 2
Student Forum (Formative) Reflective Report (Summative)	50%	VLE Forum Report 1750 Words (S2)	3 and 4

Principles of Biology and Genetics

This module provides you with the essential background knowledge in cellular and molecular biology with an emphasis on genetics and evolution. You will become familiar with cellular structures and functions and the classification of living organisms.

The module aims to develop your knowledge and understanding of plant and animal physiology alongside with the homeostatic processes that are essential in ensuring the survival of the organism in constantly changing environments.

The module introduces you to the mechanisms of heredity including cell division, sex determination and the laws of inheritance.

You will also examine the processes which drive evolution, the concepts of natural selection and events which upset the population genetics including genetic drifts and founder effect.

This module aims to introduce you to, and develop, your observational and practical skills using light microscopy, breeding *Drosophila melanogaster* and using molecular techniques such as electrophoresis. These practical activities will improve your understanding and practical skills in biological science, the fundamental processes in living organisms and of contemporary scientific technologies.

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Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Essay	50	2000 words	1 and 2	
Examination	50	90 mins	3 and 4	A range of short and long answer questions

Principles of Environmental Science and Genetics

Environmental systems underpin the ecology of life on Earth, providing the physical resources to maintain the flora and fauna that a growing human population relies on.

Each natural system is intrinsically linked and balanced, but the exploitation of these systems and their resources has led to increasing concerns for the future well-being of a growing global population and the Earth's ecosystems.

Ecology is essential to our understanding of how to manage the land, its' resources and biodiversity. Land use, policy and practice has often proved disastrous where there has been a lack of understanding of the way populations and ecosystems function at both large and small scales. This has resulted in declines in biodiversity and soil productivity.

This module aims to provide you with a broad understanding of the Earth's natural system and an underpinning understanding of soil and water resources is essential to the sustainable management of the local, national and global environment.

You will explore and examine geographical climate patterns and the impact that climate change is having on global populations, ecosystem services, and the policy decisions used in mitigation.

The module allows you to learn fundamental ecological theories in terms of the way that individuals, populations and species grow, interact and are distributed. The way in which energy is transferred through ecosystems and impacts on the length of food chains and numbers of individuals at varying trophic levels will be considered and it will further review the manner in which ecosystems alter with time and the influence of living organisms on successional processes.

You will also have the opportunity to build practical skills in assessing environmental systems and the analytical skills to discuss the complex issues that influence resource use. Furthermore, an understanding of these principles will be key to help graduates towards following a more sustainable path in the development of policies, management plans and personal choice.

Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Report	50	1500	3 and 4	
Examination	50	90 mins	1 and 2	Range of short and long answers questions

Practical Habitat Creation and Management

In order to plan and project manage practical work in the land-based sector it is vital that the site manager understands the technical aspects of the proposed task(s). Site managers cannot ignore the importance of timescales, budgets and the management of materials, tools and labour. This module aims to equip the student with a range of practical skills appropriate to working in countryside management that will enable them to undertake specified construction, maintenance and habitat management tasks. These tasks will be focussed upon the creation and management of semi-natural habitats. The module aims to develop the student's practical confidence which will allow them to instruct and, where necessary, supervise staff and volunteers in undertaking practical tasks, as well as providing students with the opportunity to develop specifications and design briefs as required when engaging with outside contractors. The health and safety requirements of practical tasks are key components of the module. Students must consider the implications of tool and livestock use and the need for risk assessment in project planning and implementation. Students will undertake practical sessions on the College Estate and potentially other sites in the region.

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Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Practical Portfolio	50		1-2	Reflective journal/evidence diary
Report	50		3-4	Project Plans and specifications
Formative	0		1-4	Practical Assessments

British Wildlife, Surveys and Identification

Habitat management is an essential part of maintaining global biodiversity. British habitats have been shaped by hundreds of years of human intervention leading to a diversity of habitat types unusual for such a small land area. Practical site management requires a good knowledge of the range of appropriate management techniques available for each habitat as well as a sound base in ecological principles. If the multifunctional nature of land in the British countryside is to be conserved, then a balance must be found between conflicting land users.

This module aims provides you with the skills and knowledge to identify a range of British wildlife and habitat types. This will include the recognition of dominant and characteristic vegetation as well as knowledge of significant plant and animal species found within each habitat. You will develop an understanding of the abiotic and biotic relationships that determine the nature and diversity of each habitat. Adaptation of species to their given habitat will also be explored.

The module develops your understanding about the principles of the management of each habitat and its inhabitants. This includes a range of available practices for each habitat, and an exploration of assumptions and approaches that may determine the choice of technique for individual sites. You will develop the ability to plan and carry out a range of biological survey techniques, evaluate and interpret survey results, and to integrate survey products into the plans and policies that required them.

On completion of this module, you should have a broad understanding of multifunctional habitat management in Britain, the principles of which may be applied in other regions, and other countries.

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Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Seminar presentation	50	20 mins	3 and 4	With additional time for questions
Portfolio	50	unlimited	1 and 2	Practical portfolio of surveys, plant and animal identification

Level 5

Work-based Research Project

The aim of the module is for learners to carry out a data analysis project in an industry setting for the benefit of an employer.

The analysis of data and scientific information is an essential requirement for effective and efficient research and management in many types of industry. Many commercial decisions require an understanding of the information presented and how that information has been gathered and analysed. This module follows and complements the year 1 HE Academic skills module and will develop the learner’s knowledge of the range of information sources available and should equip them with practical skills in planning a piece of research. The learners will explore the methodologies employed when carrying out research and will improve their ability to collect, analyse and interpret data in order to draw meaningful conclusions. This module provides a unique opportunity for learners to plan and perform a scientific research project in their field of interest and expertise.

The project will be used to encourage and test initiative and independent thought. The learner must take responsibility for the formulation of a project plan after an initial survey of relevant information and possible methods of approach. The module can be seen as developing the learner’s knowledge of career opportunities in their chosen industrial sector. It gives the opportunity to develop planning and analytical skills, report writing, presentational and communication skills.

Agreement with a work provider, as to the topic being investigated is essential. A core component of this module is the minimum of 100 hours of evidenced student work experience/work/project work with suitable employers or organisations.

Assessment Details:

Assessment Type: Summative	% Wt	Comments	LO
Project Proposal (Formative)	0	Formative – to include a title, aims, objectives, proposed schedule, justification and employer agreement Gantt planning document Must include ethics form for Ethics Board (500 words) (S1)	1
Scientific Report	70	To include an abstract, introduction, literature review methodology, results and conclusion (3000 words) (S2)	1-3
Academic Poster	30	A1 size, to be exhibited to an audience of programme peers and industry representatives (500 words) (S2)	

Behavioural Ecology

This module will explore the inter-relationships between behaviour, ecology and evolution of animals and plants. Students will learn why organisms behave the way they do under particular ecological conditions and how they respond and adapt to changes in their environment. The principle models and theories in relation to behaviour and behavioural ecology will be examined, using case studies and examples to illustrate.

Students will seek to explain the evolution of specific behavioural patterns and have the opportunity to undertake some original research in behavioural ecology in a selected species. This will involve experimental design, research, interpretation, analysis, and presentation of results.

Through understanding key concepts of behavioural ecology students will be able to make more informed choices with regards to conservation within other subject areas such as habitat management and countryside recreation.

Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Examination	50	90 mins	1 and 2	A range of short and essay style questions
Project Report	50	2000 words	3 and 4	

Global Biodiversity

As a result of the Rio Conference, 1992, the concept of biodiversity, and its importance in maintaining a sustainable global environment, gained prominence. Since that time there has been a significant decline in global biodiversity and serious concerns that we may be facing another mass extinction. It is now of fundamental importance that humans understand the mechanisms that drive areas of high biodiversity, where these hotspots are found, what are the threats and what can be done to negate the impacts.

This module builds on earlier study (Level 4) providing you with a further and deeper understanding of the phenomenon of biodiversity and investigates the factors that promote it and those that threaten it.

You will explore the mechanisms by which biotic diversity is generated and explores the benefits that are associated with biodiversity. You will have the chance to discuss the threats facing biodiversity on a local and global scale and will be encouraged to explore and evaluate practical conservation measures to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity for future generations.

The module aims to allow you to develop an appreciation of the value of biodiversity as a resource in economic and aesthetic terms from the value of an individual organism to large scale ecosystem services. It will provide you with a sound theoretical framework from which to assess the significance of local, national and international developments on the world's biodiversity.

Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Case Study	50	2000 words	3 and 4	Utilising a biodiversity hotspot
Examination	50	90 mins	1 and 2	Including essay style questions

Countryside Recreation and Outdoor Learning

The UK population is becoming increasingly urbanised and, as such, is largely disconnected from the rural environment. There is a subsequent increase in demand for recreation and environmental learning in the countryside. Outdoor experiences are a great opportunity for people to reconnect with nature and to raise environmental awareness. This module provides the learner with a coherent understanding of the methods for providing environmental education for all sectors of society. Environmental activities suitable for implementation in nature reserves, schools, colleges and the wider community will be linked to interpretation methods and techniques to provide a wide range of strategies for use in countryside management. The historical aspects of environmental education and countryside recreation will be explored within the context of local and wider global awareness and be related to environmental good practice and sustainability. The module will develop the learner's ability to evaluate opportunities for, and conflicts associated with, recreation in the rural environment, in particular, wildlife disturbance conflicts. Effective development and management of sites will be reviewed. Management of the visitor experience will be emphasised through investigations of selected sites. Learners will be encouraged to communicate environmental information using a range of practical and theoretical approaches. Organisational skills, teaching methods and the implementation of safe working strategies will develop leadership and teamwork skills for successfully organising programmes of educational activities.

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Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Report	50		1-2	Based on site visits S2
Seminar Presentation	50		3-4	Delivery of education activity S2
Formative	0		1-2	Site Visit Reports – post visit S1/2

Management Planning for Habitats

Without management planning many important habitats and their species may be lost and the diversity of the British landscape eroded. This module aims to allow learners the opportunity to focus on the conservation management of one selected site of conservation interest that is relevant to the local area or of particular interest to the individual. The conservation of habitats, and the species that they contain, is the central pillar of the management of biodiversity. This module examines the approaches to achieving the sustainable management of a site with specific habitats and associated species. Its aim is to equip learners with the ability to apply conservation approaches to the site's management.

Where appropriate, strategies for the reintroduction of key species will also be discussed. The module enables students to discuss the factors that affect the conservation value of habitats and to evaluate their impact. In order to equip learners with management planning skills, practical survey and monitoring techniques will be employed in this module. These are the key tools that facilitate scientific and evidence-based planning to ensure that conservation objectives are met in the long term of management of sites. This module assists students to assess the strategic mechanisms available to influence these factors, and to propose appropriate mitigation and remedial activity. By the completion of this module, students will be able to formulate appropriate plans to conduct management activity on selected habitats.

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Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Survey Report	40		1-2	Repeat visits over time
Management Plan	60		3-4	

Marine Biology and Coastal Ecology (Optional Module)

This module offers the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge of marine phyla and habitats. The campus is ideally located for marine and coastal studies, due to the close proximity to the East Anglian coast and North Sea. In this area there are a variety of exceptional coastal and marine ecosystems including estuaries, intertidal mud flats, rocky shores, sand dunes, and salt marshes as well as Europe's longest Chalk Reef just off the North Norfolk coast.

In addition, the East Anglia inshore and coastal regions support a wide range of industries, including power generation, and commercial and recreational fisheries. Ecology graduates require understanding of a range of habitats and species including the marine and coastal environment.

The module aims to provide you with a sound understanding of coastal and marine ecology through studying the organisms that inhabit coastal and marine systems, with an emphasis on UK species for identification purposes. This will be achieved through examining the principle phyla both in theory and through practical classes (e.g. the classification of marine species).

You will gain knowledge of coastal habitat and the effect of different environmental and biological conditions during the module via a range of both theory sessions and fieldwork. The module additionally aims to appraise you of the human impact on these systems which will also be reviewed and embedded into these sessions.

Assessment Details:

Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
Examination	40	90 minutes	1	A range of questions styles
Report	60	2500 words	2 and 3	

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Zoo Animal Management and Welfare (Optional Module)

This specialist module will appeal to students who work, or have an interest in, the animal collections or zoological and conservation societies. Students may be working in zoos, safari parks, aquaria, bird sanctuaries and other exotic animal collections and wish to enhance their knowledge and skill set.

In this module emphasis is placed on your study of current zoo husbandry techniques, modern enclosure design, good management to promote high welfare standards, and co-ordination of breeding programmes for endangered species.

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In undertaking the module you will examine the management of health and welfare, nutrition and breeding programmes for a range of zoo species. The scope of your study will also encompass key topics such as handling, welfare, behaviour, training, record keeping, enclosure design, legislation and the global community in a zoo context.

The module aims to provide you with the knowledge and skills you would require for work in the zoo industry, specifically managing captive species. The contents and assessment enables you to evaluate current husbandry and management techniques within a zoo setting and to design and evaluate exhibits for a variety of zoo kept species.

Summary of Assessment Plan					
	Type	% Weighting	Word Count/ Exam Length	Learning Outcomes Coverage	Comments
1.	Zoo Brochure	40	unlimited	1	Promotional material to highlight the evolution of zoos or a chosen collection and their history, development and conservation efforts (in and ex situ)
2.	Group Seminar	60	30 mins	2 and 3	Appraisal of selected zoological collection - may select 2 contrasting exhibits and examine the care and management, exhibit/enclosure design, training, enrichment, nutrition and health care in conjunction with welfare standards are legislation
Formative Assessments					
Range of short individual and group presentations building on themes/elements within summative assessment Blue Sky thinking – seminar/ideas workshop- improving the management and welfare of captive animals, enclosure design, innovation, use of technology, enrichment					

