Module Descriptor

Title	Animal Nutrition and Care		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Published
Code	BIOL08032	**SCQF Level**	8
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Health and Life Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	Beric Gilbert		

Summary of Module

The Animal Nutrition and Care module provides essential knowledge on the dietary needs and overall well-being of animals focussing on the '5 freedoms' guidelines related to animal welfare.

Effective feeding strategies and management are essential for maintaining animal health. The module discusses diet formulation, feeding schedules, and common nutritional disorders like deficiencies and obesity. Additionally, it emphasizes the importance of disease prevention through proper nutrition and care.

Beyond nutrition, the module focuses on animal welfare, including proper housing, hygiene, exercise, and mental well-being. Sustainable feeding practices and ethical considerations, are also explored. By combining theoretical knowledge with practical applications, this module equips learners with the skills to ensure optimal health and care for animals.

Overall, the module provides a comprehensive understanding of the science behind animal nutrition and care, helping students to ensure future optimal health and productivity, for various species, in relation to their chosen career paths.

This is a core module for the B.Sc. (Hons) Animal Care and Zoology programme. Several graduate attributes are developed during this module including: critical thinking, being research and ethically minded, developing a knowledge base and effectively working both within a group and independently. The module relates to UN sustainable development goals 3, 4, 8, 11 and 12 related to good health and well-being, sustainable development and sustainable resource uses.

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus[1] ☒	Hybrid[2] ☐	Online[3] ☐	Work -Based Learning[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☒ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☐ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☐	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Be able to explain the key principles of animal health, welfare, and behavior in a variety of species - the five freedoms approach.
L2	Understand the best practices for housing, enrichment, and environmental management in animal care settings.
L3	Explain the principles of animal nutrition, including macronutrients, micronutrients, and water balance.
L4	Describe the impact of nutrition on animal health, reproduction, and performance.
L5	Apply ethical considerations in relation to animal nutrition and care.

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 8** Display a significant level of knowledge in relation to animal nutrition and general animal care principles.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 8** Develop practical skills in relation to the laboratory analysis of animal foods/components and the ethical handling of living organisms.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 8** Critically evaluate data/information in relation to animal feeding regimes and growth-rates.

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 8** Be able to use and evaluate numerical and graphical data in relation to animal nutrition and care.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 8** Appreciate and be able to discuss professionaly in groups, the ethical and professional issues associated with domestic and commercial animal care.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours. On-campus learning events focus on providing active and interactive learning, supported by readings, resources and other activities for students to prepare (pre-learning event) and consolidate learning (post-learning event).	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	24
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	6
Laboratory / Practical Demonstration / Workshop	6
Independent Study	164
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Journal articles and other relevant articles and resources will be made available on the VLE site for the module.
(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements

In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are attending and participating in all timetabled programme activities including on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, placement, work-based elements, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. **For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:** Regular engagement with timetabled teaching sessions, course-related learning resources including those in the VLE and completing assessments and submitting these on time.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. Where modules require practical and/or laboratory based learning or assessment required to meet accrediting body requirements the University will make reasonable adjustment such as adjustable height benches or assistance of a 'buddy' or helper.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Biological Sciences Health**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Biology
Moderator	Phillip Cowie
External Examiner	J Spicer
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	2

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Report of practical/ field/ clinical work (60%)
Assessment 2
Case Study (40%)

Assessment 3
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Report of practical/ field/ clinical work	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	60	0

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Case study	☐	☐	☒	☒	☒	40	0

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	0 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**