Module Descriptor

Title	Animal Husbandry and Welfare		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Published
Code	BIOL09043	**SCQF Level**	9
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Health and Life Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	Phillip Cowie		

Summary of Module

The Animal Husbandry and Welfare module provides an in-depth study of the principles, practices, and ethical considerations involved in managing domesticated and captive animals. Students will explore how husbandry practices influence animal health, welfare, productivity, and behavior across a range of species, including livestock, companion animals, and wildlife in managed care settings.

This module takes an evidence-based approach to animal welfare science, incorporating physiological, behavioral, and environmental indicators to assess well-being. Additionally, students will examine the legal and ethical frameworks governing animal management at national and international levels, as well as emerging challenges such as sustainability, climate change, and technological advancements in animal care.

The module is designed to prepare students for careers in animal science, veterinary medicine, welfare assessment, conservation, and policy-making by equipping them with the necessary theoretical knowledge and practical skills to improve animal welfare in various settings.

This is a core module for the BSc (Hons) Animal Care and Zoology programme. Several graduate attributes are developed during this module including: being analytical, ethically minded, enterprising, inquiring and being a problem-solver.

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus[1]**	**Hybrid[2]**	**Online[3]**	**Work -Based Learning[4]**
	☒	☐	☐	☐

[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

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	Appraise key principles of animal husbandry, including nutrition, reproduction, housing, and disease management.
L2	Critically evaluate the impact of husbandry practices on animal health and welfare.
L3	Investigate emerging challenges and innovations in animal husbandry, including sustainable practices and technological advancements.
L4	Develop an understanding of legal and ethical frameworks which govern management of animals and evaluate challenges associated with these aspects.
L5	

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 9** Understand and evaluate complex welfare issues and develop evidence-based approach to enhancing and recommending meausres which can enhance and support animal husbandry and animal welfare practices.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 9** Develop practical skills related to animal husbandry which can be applied to the assessment of animal welfare.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 9** Critically evlaute current animal husbandry practices in relation to supporting and improving animal welfare.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 9** Be able to critically analyse and interpret numerical and graphical data related to the evaluation of the effectiveness of animalhusbandry practices in supporting high levels of animal welfare.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 9** Understand the ethical issues associated with current animal care and welfare practices.

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. This module focusses on the welfare and management of animals in captivity. This on-campus module is delivered by face-to-face activities, online elements and student self-directed learning, supported by readings, resources and other activities for students to prepare (pre-learning event) and consolidate learning (post-learning event). Lectures are interactive with an emphasis on student engagement and development of critical analysis skills. Experiential components of the module are centred around workshop sessions.

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
Laboratory / Practical Demonstration / Workshop	12
Independent Study	164
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Research articles and other pieces of relevant literature will be made available through the module VLE to support delivery of the content presented in this 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	TBC
External Examiner	TBC
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	2

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Review/ Article/ Critique/ Paper (25%)
Assessment 2
Report of practical/ field/ clinical work (25%)
Assessment 3
Class test (written) (50%)
(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
Review/ Article/ Critique/ Paper	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	25	0

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Report of practical/ field/ clinical work	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	25	0

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Class test (written)	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	50	3
Combined total for all components						100%	3 hours

Change Control

What	When	Who