

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	School of Liberal Arts
Programme:	Various
FHEQ Level:	4
Course Title:	Endangered Species, Ecology and Conservation
Course Code:	ENV4100
Total Hours:	120
Timetabled Hours:	45
Guided Learning Hours:	0
Independent Learning Hours:	75
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course will give students knowledge and understanding of the underlying concepts and principles of the science of ecology through a study of ecosystems, conservation, biodiversity, and selected endangered or threatened species. The course will address natural and anthropogenic causes of species' decline and extinction and possible conservation techniques that could have been, are, or could be, used to reverse the extinction or decline. As well as some typical 'poster species', other less well known but equally important species will be discussed.

Prerequisites: None

Aims and Objectives:

This course aims to expose students to an understanding of the natural and physical world around us through the principles of ecology and the properties of ecosystems, including the evaluation and interpretation of data. In addition, the course aims to introduce students to the history and science of conservation and the importance of biodiversity, and then apply these, along with a knowledge of ecology and ecosystems, to a study of selected endangered or threatened species. A key theme is the environmental concept of 'interrelatedness'.

Programme Outcomes:

A3, B2, B4, C3

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by the Registry and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the concepts and principles of ecology and biodiversity within an environmental and ecosystem context.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the history of conservation and the scientific principles that underpin conservation efforts.
3. Apply the underlying concepts and principles of ecology, ecosystems, conservation, and biodiversity to a selection of endangered or threatened species.
4. Evaluate and interpret data related to ecological principles and/or conservation.

Indicative Content:

- Ecology from an ecosystem and environmental perspective, and associated natural and physical science concepts
- History of conservation
- Conservation science
- Principles of biodiversity
- A selection of endangered or threatened species
- The anthropogenic and natural causes of species' decline and extinction
- The application of ecology, ecosystems, conservation and biodiversity to each endangered or threatened species
- The environmental concept of 'interrelatedness'
- Quantitative and qualitative analysis of ecological and/or conservation data

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:

- a) Formal lectures.
- b) Multi Media analysis.
- c) Class discussion.
- d) Student-centred activity.
- e) Data analysis using appropriate software.

Indicative Text(s):

- 'Ecology: From Individuals to Ecosystems' Michael Begon, Wiley-Blackwell; 2020
- 'Hope for Animals and Their World', Jane Goodall, Icon books, 2010
- 'Ecosystems', Gordon Dickinson and Kevin Murphy, 2nd Edition, Routledge, 2007

Journals

Journal of Wildlife Management
Science of the Total Environment

Web Sites

<https://www.iucnredlist.org/>
<https://www.cites.org/>

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
Removal of pre/co-requisite: MTH 3000 or Mathematics Assessment exemption	13-11-15 (School)	Y
Course moved from 3000 level (ENV 3135) to 4000 level (ENV 4XXX)	March 2020	
Program Outcomes changed in accordance with new School of Liberal Arts KPOs (April 2020)	April 2020	
Revision – annual update	May 2023	
Total Hours Updated	April 2024	