School of Biological Sciences

BIOL300: Focus on Conservation

Subject Outline
Autumn, 2016
On-Campus
Wollongong

Subject Information
Credit Points: 8
Pre-requisite(s): 12 credit points of 200-level BIOL subjects
Co-requisite(s): Nil
Restrictions: Restricted to Bachelor of Conservation Biology and Bachelor of Conservation Biology Advanced students
Contact Hours: requirements as necessary for each module

Subject Contacts
Subject Coordinator/Lecturer
Name: Prof Kristine French
Location: Building 35, Room G15
Telephone: 61 2 4221 3655
Email: kris_french@uow.edu.au
Consultation mode and times: Wednesday 1.30-3.30, Friday 10.30-12.30

Professional Officer
Name: Julie-Ann Green
Location: Building 35, Room G04
Telephone: 61 2 4221 3100
Email: jagreen@uow.edu.au
Consultation mode and times: Email for appointment

Student Support and Advice
For general enquiries please contact the StudentHub 41:
Location: 41.138B
Telephone: 61 2 4221 3492
Email: smah-students@uow.edu.au
Student Consultation and Communication

University staff receive many emails each day. In order to enable them to respond to your emails appropriately and in a timely fashion, students are asked to observe basic requirements of professional communication.

Please ensure that you include your full name and student number and identify your practical class or tutorial group in your email so that staff know who they are communicating with and can follow-up personally where appropriate.

Consider what the communication is about

- Is your question addressed elsewhere (e.g. in the subject outline or, on the eLearning site)?
- Is it something that is better discussed in person or by telephone? This may be the case if your query requires a lengthy response or a dialogue in order to address. If so, see consultation times above and/or schedule an appointment.
- Are you addressing your request to the most appropriate person?

Specific email subject title to enable easy identification of issue

- Identify the subject code of the subject you are enquiring about (as staff may be involved in more than one subject) put this in the email subject heading. Add a brief, specific query reference after the subject code where appropriate.

Professional courtesy

- Address the staff member appropriately by name (and formal title if you do not yet know them).
- Use full words (avoid ‘text-speak’ abbreviations), correct grammar and correct spelling.
- Be respectful and courteous.
- Allow 3 – 4 working days for a response before following up. If the matter is legitimately urgent, you may wish to try telephoning the staff member (and leaving a voicemail message if necessary) or inquiring at the School Office.
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Section A: General Information

Subject Learning Outcomes

On completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Be proficient in 4 topics and associated techniques related to conservation biology;
2. Develop a capacity to synthesise and evaluate literature;
3. Choose among a range of sampling methods and appropriate analytical techniques;
4. Relate the results of their analyses to contemporary government policy, and reflect/discuss the scientific merit of that policy.

Subject Description

Students will choose 4 modules relating to conservation biology each of which will be undertaken over an equivalent of 3 weeks of teaching. Each module will be a focus study that will teach students a technique and/or a topic in depth, or undertaken as fieldwork. Topics will vary from year to year, with different conservation biologists offering modules each year.

eLearning Space

This subject has materials and activities available via eLearning. To access eLearning you must have a UOW user account name and password, and be enrolled in the subject. eLearning is accessed via SOLS (student online services). Log on to SOLS and then click on the eLearning link in the menu column. For information regarding the eLearning spaces please use the following link:
http://uowblogs.com/moodlelab/files/2013/05/Moodle_StudentGuide-1petpo7.pdf

Lecture, Tutorial, Laboratory Times

All timetable information is subject to variation. Check latest timetabling information on the 'Current Student' webpage on UOW website or log into SOLS to view your personal timetable prior to attending classes.

Timetable information can be accessed from

Key University Dates can be accessed from

Readings, References and Materials

Textbooks:
The following text(s) will need to be purchased by students enrolled in this class.

Nil

Prescribed Readings (includes eReadings):
The following texts are prescribed for this subject, but students are not expected to purchase these. They are available to students through the library on the subjects eLearning site.

Nil

Materials:
Nil
Recommended Readings:
The following references complement the prescribed readings and textbooks:

Nil

Recommended readings are not intended as an exhaustive list, students should use the Library catalogue and databases to locate additional resources.

Recent Changes to this Subject
Nil

Laboratory Safety Guidelines
The rules below are general rules that are required in laboratories.
- Before commencing your project you are to ensure that you understand specific procedures for the laboratory in which you work.
- You will need to fill out a risk assessment form before commencing any experiments (confer with your supervisor).
- Never use any equipment or attempt any experiment without checking the safety implications with your supervisor or experienced delegated laboratory worker.
- Undergraduate students are not permitted to work after hours unless there is appropriate approval and supervision.

Timetable of topics/List of Topics Covered
As this is a research based subject the timetable of topics/list of topics covered will be negotiated between the student and their supervisor.
### Details of Assessment Tasks
Assessment tasks will be marked using explicit criteria that will be provided to students prior to submission. Students are regularly sent available options from midway through their degree. Students must choose 4 modules over the course of their undergraduate degree. Options will vary constantly. The coordinator must be contacted to talk about options available to students to ensure they meet the requirements of the subject before their final session is finished.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Form of Assessment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 1</td>
<td>Module 1 - TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 2</td>
<td>Module 2 - TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 3</td>
<td>Module 3 - TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 4</td>
<td>Module 4 - TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Marks 100%

Assessment tasks will be marked using explicit criteria that will be provided to students prior to submission. Students are regularly sent available options from midway through their degree. Students must choose 4 modules over the course of their undergraduate degree. Options will vary constantly. The coordinator must be contacted to talk about options available to students to ensure they meet the requirements of the subject before their final session is finished.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment 1</th>
<th>Module 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date</td>
<td>TBA – Assessment due dates will be negotiated between each student and the subject coordinator or their research supervisor. Students should have submission dates confirmed in writing by the end of Week 2 of the relevant session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>Submit a hardcopy of your assignment to your module coordinator by the due date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
<td>Individual Assessment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Assessment 2</th>
<th>Module 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date</td>
<td>TBA – Assessment due dates will be negotiated between each student and the subject coordinator or their research supervisor. Students should have submission dates confirmed in writing by the end of Week 2 of the relevant session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Individual Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment 3</th>
<th>Module 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date</td>
<td>TBA – Assessment due dates will be negotiated between each student and the subject coordinator or their research supervisor. Students should have submission dates confirmed in writing by the end of Week 2 of the relevant session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>Submit a hardcopy of your assignment to your module coordinator by the due date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
<td>Individual Assessment</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
<td>Individual Assessment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Minimum Requirements for a Pass in this Subject
To receive a clear pass in this subject a total mark of 50% or more must be achieved. In addition, failure to meet any of the minimum performance requirements is grounds for awarding a Technical Fail (TF) in the subject, even where total marks accumulated are greater than 50%.

Minimum Student Attendance and Participation:
It is expected that students will allocate 16 hours per week to this subject, including any required class attendance, completion of prescribed readings and assessment tasks.

Students are not required to attend set classes. It is the responsibility of the student to coordinate appropriate meetings with their project supervisor.

Scaling:
Scaling will not occur in this subject.

Late Submission:
Late submission of an assessment task without an approved extension of the deadline is not acceptable. If you are unable to submit an assessment due to extenuating circumstances (e.g. medical grounds or compassionate grounds), you can make an application of academic consideration. Not all circumstances qualify for academic consideration. For further details about applying for academic consideration visit the Student Central webpage: http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html

Late Submission Penalty
Late submission of an assessment task without an approved extension of the deadline is not acceptable. Marks will be deducted for late submission at the rate of 10% of the total possible marks for that particular assessment task per day. This means that if a piece of work is marked out of 100, then the late penalty will be 10 marks per day (10% of 100 possible marks per day). The formula for calculating the late penalty is the total possible marks x 0.10 x number of days late. For the purposes of this policy a weekend (Saturday and Sunday) will be regarded as two days.

No marks will be awarded for work submitted after the assessment has been returned to the students

Supplementary Assessments
This subject has been identified as unsuitable for supplementary assessment, and no supplementary assessment will be offered.

System of Referencing Used for Written Work
The Author-Date (Harvard) referencing system should, unless otherwise specified for a particular assignment (check Details of Assessment Tasks), be utilised. A summary of the Harvard system can be accessed on the Library website at: http://public01.library.uow.edu.au/refcite/style-guides/html/

Use of Internet Sources
Students are able to use the Internet to access the most current information on relevant topics and information. Internet sources should only be used after careful critical analysis of the currency of the information, the role and standing of the sponsoring institution, reputation and credentials of the author, the clarity of the information and the extent to which the information can be supported or ratified by other authoritative sources.
Plagiarism
The full policy on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism is found in the Policy Directory on the UOW website.

“The University’s Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy, Faculty Handbooks and subject guides clearly set out the University’s expectation that students submit only their own original work for assessment and avoid plagiarising the work of others or cheating. Re-using any of your own work (either in part or in full) which you have submitted previously for assessment is not permitted without appropriate acknowledgement. Plagiarism can be detected and has led to students being expelled from the University.

The use by students of any website that provides access to essays or other assessment items (sometimes marketed as ‘resources’), is extremely unwise. Students who provide an assessment item (or provide access to an assessment item) to others, either directly or indirectly (for example by uploading an assessment item to a website) are considered by the university to be intentionally or recklessly helping other students to cheat. This is considered academic misconduct and students place themselves at risk of being expelled from the University.”

Submission of Assignments
Refer to the submission requirements under the details of the individual assessments. Students should ensure that they receive a receipt/evidence acknowledging assessment submission. Students will be required to produce this in the event that an assessment task is considered to be lost. Students are also expected to keep a copy of all their submitted assignments in the event that re-submission is required.

Assessment Return
Students will be notified when they are able to view their marked assessment. In accordance with University Policy marked assignments will usually only be held for 21 days after the declaration of marks for that assignment.
Section C: General Advice

Students should refer to the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health website for information on policies, learning and support services and other general advice.

University Policies

Students should be familiar with the following University policies:

a. Code of Practice – Teaching and Assessment

b. Code of Practice – Research, where relevant

c. Code of Practice – Honours, where relevant

d. Student Charter

e. Code of Practice – Student Professional Experience, where relevant

f. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy

g. Student Academic Consideration Policy

h. Course Progress Policy

i. Graduate Qualities Policy

j. Academic Complaints Policy (Coursework and Honours Students)

k. Policy and Guidelines on Non-Discriminatory Language Practice and Presentation

l. Workplace Health and Safety, where relevant

m. Intellectual Property Policy

n. IP Student Assessment of Intellectual Property Policy, where relevant

o. Policy on Ethical Objection by Students to the Use of Animal and Animal Products in Coursework Subjects, where relevant

p. Human Research Ethics Guidelines, where relevant

q. Animal Research Guidelines, where relevant
Student Support Services and Facilities
Students can access information on student support services and facilities at the following link. This includes information on “Academic Support”, “Starting at University”, “Help at University” as well as information and support on “Career’s and Jobs”. http://www.uow.edu.au/student/services/index.html

Student Etiquette
Guidelines on the use of email to contact teaching staff, mobile phone use in class and information on the university guide to eLearning ‘Netiquette’ can be found at http://www.uow.edu.au/student/elearning/netiquette/index.html

Version Control Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Release Date</th>
<th>Author/Reviewer</th>
<th>Approved By</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start from 1</td>
<td>YYYYMMDD</td>
<td>Contact person – full name &amp; title</td>
<td>Contact person – full name &amp; title</td>
<td>Include what the amendment is to the document.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This section will be completed by the SMAH Education Unit once approval is received from the Subject Coordinator. Upon receiving this approval the document will be labelled as version 1 and uploaded to the website. Any further changes will be considered a new version. If the change is significant it will need to be approved by the Executive Dean.