

Addendum to the Programme Specification

5867 MSci Biology & Marine Biology (FT)

This Addendum has been produced to highlight the key changes made to the existing Programme Specification as a result of the University's response to the Covid-19 Pandemic. You should read it in conjunction with the relevant Programme Specification from the year you started your programme.

[Programme Specification for entry in 2020-21](#)

[Programme Specification for entry in 2019-20](#)

[Programme Specification for entry in 2018-19](#)

[Programme Specification for entry in 2017-18](#)

University level information

In view of COVID-19, the University has had to make changes to some elements of programme delivery for 2020-21. These changes have included the method of delivery, such as face-to-face and online, and the number of modules available.

The University aims to provide as much of a face-to-face component to your education as prevailing conditions at the time allow, combined with its new blended approach that will develop active independent and group online learning.

As the COVID-19 pandemic develops, the University's response to this and other issues may likewise need to evolve. The University will consult with student representatives as necessary and appropriate and will communicate changes to you as soon as practicable so that you have the information you need to understand how a change may impact you and what steps you need to take next. The University remains committed to supporting you as you learn.

Programme Information

In light of Covid-19, there will be a change to how some modules will be organised. Field and lab work remain a mandatory part of the programme, but will be offered in line with current social distancing and local and international guidelines.

Programme Structure

Where optional modules have been specified, the following is an indicative list of available optional modules, which are subject to change each academic year. Please note that, in some instances, modules have limited spaces available.

5867 MSci Biology & Marine Biology programme structure

Part 1

You must complete all Compulsory modules.

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module type	Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module Type
BIOL1024 Fundamentals of Biochemistry (Full Year Module)					15	30	Comp
BIOL1029 Origins of Biodiversity (Full Year Module)					15	30	Comp
SOES1013 Key Skills for Marine Scientists (Full Year Module)					7.5	15	Comp
SOES1007 Marine Invertebrates	7.5	15	Comp	SOES1015 Statistical Computing for Marine Sciences	7.5	15	Comp
SOES1008 Earth and Ocean System	7.5	15	Comp				

Part 2

You must complete all Compulsory modules.

You must choose 37.5 ECTS/75 CATS of optional modules.

Your choice must include at least two BIOL modules and at least two SOES modules.

If you did not take SOES 1015 in Y1, you must choose BIOL 2008 in Y2

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module type	Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module Type
BIOL2001 Evolution	7.5	15	Comp	SOES2006 Phytoplankton and Primary Production	7.5	15	Comp
SOES2030 Coastal Ecology Field Course	7.5	15	Comp	BIOL2007 Plant Development and Function	7.5	15	Option
BIOL2004 Pure and Applied Population Ecology	7.5	15	Option	BIOL2038 Environmental Microbiology	7.5	15	Option
BIOL2010 Flow of Genetic Information	7.5	15	Option	BIOL2039 Animal Behaviour	7.5	15	Option
BIOL2013 Bioinformatics	7.5	15	Option	SOES2032 Palaeobiology	7.5	15	Option
SOES2011 Marine Vertebrates	7.5	15	Option	SOES2017 Marine Benthic Ecology	7.5	15	Option
SOES2040 Zooplankton Ecology and Processes (L5)	7.5	15	Option				
BIOL2008 Quantitative Methods in Biological and Environmental Science	7.5	15	Option				

Part 3

You must complete all Compulsory modules.

You must choose 52.5 ECTS/105 CATS of optional modules.

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module type	Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module Type
SOES3051 Shallow Water Survey Techniques					7.5	15	Comp

Part 3 Group 1

You must choose 37.5 ECTS/75 CATS of optional modules from Group 1.

Your choice must include at least two BIOL modules and at least two SOES modules.

Students who have previously taken BIOL2010 and/or BIOL2013 are not eligible to take SOES3031 in year 3.

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module type	Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module Type
BIOL3001 Current Topics in Cell and Developmental Biology	7.5	15	Option	BIOL3010 Evolution and Genetics	7.5	15	Option
BIOL3003 Plant Cell Biology	7.5	15	Option	BIOL3051 Applied Plant Biology	7.5	15	Option
BIOL3013 Molecular Recognition	7.5	15	Option	BIOL3057 Biofilms and Microbial Communities	7.5	15	Option

BIOL3053 Biodiversity and Conservation	7.5	15	Option	BIOL3074 Global Challenges in Biology	7.5	15	Option
BIOL3063 Bioinformatics and Systems Biology	7.5	15	Option	SOES3005 Sediments: Modern and Ancient	7.5	15	Option
BIOL3067 Evolution and Development	7.5	15	Option	SOES3031 Marine Microbial Ecology and Biotechnology	7.5	15	Option
BIOL3072 Behavioural Ecology	7.5	15	Option	SOES3053 Understanding Coral Reefs	7.5	15	Option
SOES3054 Marine Conservation and Policy	7.5	15	Option				
SOES3017 Marine Fisheries Ecology	7.5	15	Option				

Part 3 Group 2

You must choose 15 ECTS/30 CATS of optional modules from Group 2.

A compulsory module of independent study is required. If you choose a BIOL project in year 3 you must select a SOES project in year 4. Alternatively, if you choose the SOES3035 project in year 3 you must select a BIOL project in year 4.

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module type	Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module Type
BIOL3034 Laboratory Research Project (Full Year Module)					15	30	Option
BIOL3061 Field Research Project (Full Year Module)					15	30	Option
BIOL3069 In-Silico Research Project (Full Year Module)					15	30	Option
SOES3035 Oceanography and Marine Biology Research Training (Full Year Module)					15	30	Option

Part 4

You must complete all Compulsory modules.

You must choose 52.5 ECTS/105 CATS of optional modules in total.

You must choose one (30 ECTS/60 CATS) compulsory module of advanced independent study.

BIOL6013 or BIOL6069 must be taken if SOES3035 or SOES3052 were taken in year 3.

SOES6071 must be taken if BIOL3034, BIOL3061 or BIOL3069 was taken in year 3.

In addition, you must choose a total of 22.5 ECTS/45 CATS of optional modules across Group 1 and Group 2. When choosing these optional modules please note that they cannot be the 60XX equivalent of a 30XX module already taken in Part 3.

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module type	Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module Type
BIOL6053 Current Research (Full Year Module)					7.5	15	Comp
BIOL6013 Advanced Research Project (Full Year Module)					30	60	Option
BIOL6069 Advanced Field Research Project (Full Year Module)					30	60	Option
SOES6071 MSci Advanced Independent Research Project (Full Year Module)					30	60	Option

Part 4 Group 1

You must choose 7.5 ECTS/15 CATS up to a maximum 15 ECTS/30 CATS of optional modules from Group 1.

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module type	Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module Type
BIOL6021 Current Topics in Cell and Developmental Biology	7.5	15	Option	BIOL6029 Evolution and Genetics	7.5	15	Option
BIOL6052 Data Management and Generalised Linear Modelling for Biologists	7.5	15	Option				
BIOL6066 Biodiversity and Conservation	7.5	15	Option				

Part 4 Group 2

You must choose 7.5 ECTS/15 CATS up to a maximum 15 ECTS/30 CATS of optional modules from Group 2.

Semester 1				Semester 2			
Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module type	Modules	ECTS	CATS	Module Type
SOES6007 Biogeochemical Cycles in the Earth System	7.5	15	Option	SOES6017 Introductory Remote Sensing of the Ocean	7.5	15	Option
SOES6008 Deep Sea Ecology	7.5	15	Option	SOES6021 Ecological Modelling	7.5	15	Option
SOES6062 Pathogens and Disease in Marine Systems	7.5	15	Option	SOES6051 Reproduction in Marine Invertebrates	7.5	15	Option