

Course Summary: October 9, 2023

## Zoology MBIol Honours

- UCAS code: **C301**
- Full time
- 4 years

Our newly developed, flexible, four-year Zoology MBIol Honours degree will provide you with in-depth training and a thorough understanding of all aspects of animal life along with comprehensive research experience.

You are currently viewing course information for entry year:

Next start date:

- September 2023

### Fees (per year)

- Home: **£9250**
- International: **£26400**

### Entry requirements and offers

- A-Level: **ABB**
- IB: **32 points**

[View contextual offers](#)

**UCAS Institution name and code:**

- NEWC / N21

[Clearing - How to apply](#)

[Clearing - How to contact us](#)

[Clearing - live chat](#)

## Course overview

This Zoology MBiol Honours degree focuses on developing your scientific knowledge and provides a thorough understanding of the fundamentals of zoology. This ensures you graduate prepared for a role in this varied field.

Through laboratory and field-based teaching, you'll learn and perfect the skills required to succeed in zoology. In your fourth year you'll work alongside our active research staff to delve deeper into more advanced topics.

Our zoology degree shares its first-year programme with other biology degrees in the School and ensures you gain a thorough understanding across a range of topics. You'll select from modules such as: ecology and conservation, genetics and evolution, diversity of life: form and function.

### BSc or MBiol?

Some of our degrees are offered at two levels:

- three-year Bachelor of Science (BSc)
- four-year Master of Biology (MBiol)

Our MBiol degrees involve an additional year of advanced study at master's level, during which you will gain significant research experience to increase your employability.

## **Your course and study experience - disclaimers and terms and conditions**

Please rest assured we make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the programmes, services and facilities described. However, it may be necessary to make changes due to significant disruption, for example in response to Covid-19.

View our [Academic experience page](#), which gives information about your Newcastle University study experience for the academic year 2022-23.

See our [terms and conditions and student complaints information](#), which gives details of circumstances that may lead to changes to programmes, modules or University services.

## Quality and ranking

### Professional accreditation and recognition

All professional accreditations are reviewed regularly by their professional body.

## Modules and learning

### Modules

The information below is intended to provide an example of what you will study.

Most degrees are divided into stages. Each stage lasts for one academic year, and you'll complete modules totalling 120 credits by the end of each stage.

Our teaching is informed by research. Course content may change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline, the requirements of external bodies and partners, and student feedback.

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### **Optional module availability**

Student demand for optional modules may affect availability.

Full details of the modules on offer will be published through the [Programme Regulations and Specifications](#) ahead of each academic year.

This usually happens in May.

To find out more please [see our terms and conditions](#).

The first year of this degree is shared with other biology degrees in the School. You can transfer to one of our other Biology degrees before the second year should your interests change (subject to achieving the appropriate grades).

### Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Genetics and Evolution</a>	20
<a href="#">Diversity of Life: Form and Function</a>	20
<a href="#">Ecology and Conservation</a>	20
<a href="#">Cells and Biomolecules</a>	20
<a href="#">Academic and Professional Skills for the Biosciences</a>	20
Optional Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Crop Pests</a>	10
<a href="#">Animal Health</a>	10
<a href="#">Introduction to Animal Physiology</a>	10
<a href="#">Natural Science Research Impact</a>	10
<a href="#">UK Wildlife</a>	10

Introduction to Scientific Computing for Chemists	10
The Marine Environment	20
Marine Microbiology and Primary Producers	20

With approval from the Degree Programme Director, an alternative optional module to those listed above may be selected.

Your study of animals becomes specialised, with topics such as: animal function (physiology and development); animal behaviour and vertebrate biology. Optional modules are also available in more specialised topics

You'll also take a field course on the identification of insects and birds.

### Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Field Identification Skills	10
Experimental Design and Statistics	10
Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation	20
Animal Function (Physiology and Development)	20

You must also take **one or both** of the following modules (shown in the optional list below):

- [NES2310 Insect Biology and Origins](#) (20 credits)

### **AND/OR**

- [NES2314 Vertebrate Biology](#) (20 credits)

Optional Modules	Credits
Career Development for second year students	20
Animal Parasitology	10
Qualitative Research Methods	10
Sustainable Solutions	10
Animal Behaviour	10
Pollution of Air, Water & Soil	10
Evolutionary Biology	20
Insect Biology and Origins	20
Marine Vertebrate Biology and Ecology	20
Field-based Ecology: designing experiments, and residential field course	20
Vertebrate Biology	20
Biological Psychology: Sex, Drugs, Rhythms and Blues	10

With approval from the Degree Programme Director, an alternative optional module to those listed above may be selected.

You study advanced specialist topics, many of which are linked to our research expertise. To enhance your skills you will have the opportunity to select a module that focuses on the development of ideas for business.

You will further develop your fieldwork skills through field courses.

## Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Physiological Zoology	20

Current Zoology	20
Research Project	40

You must also take **one or both** of the following compulsory modules (shown in the optional list below):

- [NES3301 Biodiversity Science and Management](#) (20 credits)

**AND/OR**

- [NES3302 Current Research in Ecology](#) (20 credits)

Optional Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Advanced Career Development module</a>	20
<a href="#">Animal Welfare and Behaviour</a>	20
<a href="#">Biodiversity Science and Management</a>	20
<a href="#">Current Research in Ecology</a>	20
<a href="#">Biological Modelling</a>	20
<a href="#">Africa Field Course: Conservation and Ecology</a>	20
<a href="#">Advanced Marine Research Topics 2</a>	20

You build on the knowledge and skills you developed in the first three years, working alongside our research-active staff to explore advanced topics in zoology. You will undertake a research project working with an active research group.

**Modules**

Compulsory modules

You must take **one** of the following compulsory modules (shown in the optional list below):

- [NES8300 Research Project](#) (60 credits)

**OR**

- [NES8301 Research Project](#) (60 credits)

## Modules

Optional Modules	Credits
<a href="#">Archaeology of Animal Bones</a>	20
<a href="#">The Biological Study of Behaviour</a>	20
<a href="#">Animal Welfare and Applied Animal Behaviour</a>	20
<a href="#">Quantitative Ecological Research Methods</a>	20
<a href="#">Problem Solving through Innovation PG</a>	10
<a href="#">Research Project</a>	60
<a href="#">Research Project</a>	60
<a href="#">Invasive Species</a>	10
<a href="#">Policy and Licensing</a>	10
<a href="#">Geographical Information systems and Remote Sensing</a>	20
<a href="#">Critical Thinking and Analysis for Evidence-Based Environmental Science</a>	20
<a href="#">Environmental Impact Assessment</a>	10

## Information about these graphs

We base these figures and graphs on the most up-to-date information available to us. They are based on the modules chosen by our students in 2022-23.



Teaching time is made up of:

- scheduled learning and teaching activities. These are timetabled activities with a member of staff present.
- structured guided learning. These are activities developed by staff to support engagement with module learning. Students or groups of students undertake these activities without direct staff participation or supervision

## Teaching and assessment

### Teaching methods

You'll be taught via a combination of methods, including:

- lectures
- lab work
- field work
- seminars
- tutor group sessions

Our field and lab based modules provide you with a firm basis to build practical experiences that enhance the scientific skills expected of a biology graduate.

### Assessment methods

You'll be assessed through a combination of:

- Assessments
- Assignments – written or fieldwork
- Case studies
- Coursework
- Dissertation or research project
- Essays
- Examinations – practical or online
- Group work

- Interviews
- Portfolio submission
- Practical sessions
- Presentations
- Projects
- Reports
- Seminar tasks/exercises

## Skills and experience

### Research skills

In your third and fourth year, you will undertake a research project, which will help you develop your specialist research skills. You'll be confident in completing an individual investigation and reporting your findings and interpretations to other.

### Practical skills

Our Zoology MBIol Honours degree is designed to ensure you gain lots of practical experience, through lab-based classes and the opportunity to take part in a variety of field courses.

You'll have the chance to undertake a mammal surveying skills field course in the UK or Africa. There will also be the opportunity for numerous day excursions.

## Opportunities

### Study abroad

Experience life in another country by choosing to study abroad as part of your degree. You'll be encouraged to embrace fun and challenging experiences, make connections with new communities and graduate as a globally aware professional, ready for your future.

You can choose to spend up to a year studying at a partner institution overseas.

If you choose to study abroad, it will extend your degree by a year.

[Find out more about study abroad](#)

## Work placement

Get career ready with a work placement and leave as a confident professional in your field. You can apply to spend 9 to 12 months working in any organisation in the world, and receive University support from our dedicated team to secure your dream placement. Work placements take place between stages 3 and 4.

You'll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

If you choose to take a work placement, it will extend your degree by a year. Placements are subject to availability.

[Find out more about work placements](#)

## Facilities and environment

### Facilities

As a Biology and Zoology student, you'll be based in [the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences](#) at our city-centre campus.

During your studies, you'll have access to two commercial farms near Newcastle. These are used as demonstration facilities as well as a field station with glasshouse and dedicated teaching facilities.

You'll have the opportunity to access purpose-built laboratories. You can also visit the Great North Museum, where there's a range of important biological collections. We also have our controlled-environment aquaria situated in the Ridley 2 Building.

## Support

To support you in your studies, all new students entering year 1 or year 2 will receive a tablet. You can download the online learning resources you'll need for your course (helping us to make our campus more sustainable).

You'll have the support of an academic member of staff as a personal tutor throughout your degree to help with academic and personal issues.

## Your future

Our zoology degree equips you with a wide range of skills to ensure you have many career opportunities available to you.

92% of zoology graduates were in work or further study within six months of completing this degree\*, and many have found work in commercial or medical laboratory positions, conservation work, animal care as well as choosing to study in more specialist areas such as:

- biomedical science
- conservation
- animal behaviour
- environmental consultancy

\*Destinations of (undergraduate, UK and EU) Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2016/17

## Make a difference

### Careers support

Our award-winning Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country,

and we have strong links with employers. We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through our ncl+ initiative.

[Visit our Careers Service website](#)

## Recognition of professional qualifications outside of the UK

From 1 January 2021 there is an update to the way professional qualifications are recognised by countries outside of the UK

[Check the government's website for more information.](#)

## Find out more...

- Go online for information about our full range of degrees:  
**[www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate)**
- To watch videos about student life in Newcastle, visit  
**[www.ncl.ac.uk/lovenewcastle](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/lovenewcastle)**
- Visit **[www.ncl.ac.uk/tour](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/tour)** to take virtual tours of the campus and city
- Book for an Open Day to come and see us in person  
**[www.ncl.ac.uk/openday](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/openday)**
- Contact us online at **[www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries)** or phone +44 (0)191 208 3333

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**[www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/regulations](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/regulations)**

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