

This document provides detailed information on the module named below. It will be updated as necessary when modifications to the module are approved. Modules are allocated to a Subject Network not a programme, and may be accessed by students studying on different programmes.

1 SUMMARY MODULE INFORMATION

a Module title

Biodiversity Management.

b SITS module code

UC111904

c UHI Subject Network

Science, Heritage and Sustainable Development.

d Exam board

MSc Managing Sustainable Rural/Mountain Development Course Committee.

e SCQF level

11

f SCOTCAT credit points

15

g Module leader and contact details (email, phone)

Melanie Smith

melanie.smith@inverness.uhi.ac.uk

Tel: 01463 273613

h Brief description of module

Rural and mountain areas, both within and outside protected areas, have significant biodiversity values which need to be considered by land managers. This module will explore the methods by which biodiversity management can be achieved and examine the theories and scientific principles which underpin these methods. The module will also critically consider the importance and effectiveness of links between biodiversity management and sustainable development.

i Pre-requisites or co-requisites

None.

j Primary mode(s) of delivery and support

(e.g. Face-to-face teaching, blended, block teaching, wholly online, etc).

Tutorials will be supported by web-based learning resources and guided study provided by on-line contact (individual e-mail and computer conferencing).

k Assessment

Essay, critical report, and online discussion.

l Suitable for access via Learning Centres?

Yes.

2 MODULE DESCRIPTOR

a Aims

To enable students to understand the principles and practice of biodiversity management.
To critically assess the importance of biodiversity management for sustainable development, particularly in rural and mountain areas.

b Intended learning outcomes

On completion of the module the student should be able to:

1. understand the scientific principles underpinning biodiversity management;
2. evaluate the methods employed for biodiversity conservation as management tools contributing to sustainable development;
3. critically analyse the implications of developments in biodiversity management for sustainable development, particularly in rural and mountain areas

c Indicative content

- levels of biodiversity: genetic, species, ecosystem, landscape;
- the intrinsic and economic values of biodiversity conservation;
- threats to biodiversity;
- the development of the principles and practice of biodiversity conservation as a management tool;
- frameworks for biodiversity management: hotspots, protected areas, networks;
- conservation and rural development: the social and economic implications of biodiversity management;
- integrating biodiversity management with other land management objectives: participatory approaches;
- the implications of climate change for biodiversity management;
- the Convention on Biological Diversity; regional and national responses, particularly in relation to rural and mountain areas;
- investigate recent developments in biodiversity management and critically assess the implications for sustainable development focusing on rural and mountain areas

d Mode(s) of delivery and support for teaching and learning

Face-to-face	0 hours or	... %
Video-conference	0 hours or	... %
Supported online learning	40 hours or	... %
Self-directed learning	110 hours	... %
Total activity	150	100%

e Assessment

Essay due week 6	2000 words	Weighting 40%
Report due week 14	3000 words	50%
Discussion board exercises & discussion participation		10%

f Key learning resources

Reading List:

Essential:

Primack, R.B. (2006) *Essentials of Conservation Biology*. Sinauer Associates Inc., Sunderland, MA, USA. 4th Ed.

Recommended:

Caughley, G and Gunn, A. (1995) *Conservation Biology in Theory and Practice*, Blackwell Science Inc.

O'Riordan, T and Stoll-Kleemann, S. (eds.) (2002) *Biodiversity, Sustainability and Human Communities: Protecting Beyond the Protected*. Cambridge University Press.

Spellerberg, S and Sawyer, W.D. (1999) *An Introduction to Applied Biogeography (Studies in Biology)*. Cambridge University Press.

Stolton, S. and Dudley, N. (eds.) (1999) *Partnerships for Protection: New Strategies for Planning and Management for Protected Areas*. Earthscan, London.

Wilson, E.O. (1992) *The Diversity of Life*. Penguin, London.

Background:

Bennett, A.F. (1999) *Linkages in the Landscape: The Role of Corridors and Connectivity in Wildlife Conservation*. IUCN, Gland and Cambridge.

Ingegnoli, V. (2002) *Landscape Ecology: A Widening Foundation*. Springer-Verlag Berlin and Heidelberg.

Koerner, C. and E. Spehn (eds.) (2002) *Mountain Biodiversity: A Global Assessment*. Parthenon, London.

Kunich, J. (2003) *Ark of the Broken Covenant: Protecting the World's Biodiversity Hotspots*. Greenwood Publications Group.

McNeely, J.A. (ed.) (1995) *Expanding Partnerships in Conservation*. Island Press, Washington DC.

Digitised items of reading materials will be supplied to students during the module, and students will be referred to on-line journals, accessible through UHI membership of EBSCO and Infotrac.

g Additional background information

Tutorials will be supported by web-based learning resources and guided study provided by on-line contact (individual e-mail and computer conferencing).

h Specialist resource requirements

- internet access to web and e-mail facilities;
- access to a PC and printer;
- access to on-line library resources.