

1. Programme Title(s) and Code(s):

<i>Programme Title</i>	<i>UCAS Code</i>	<i>GU Code</i>
BSc Honours in Marine & Freshwater Biology	C164	C164-2105

2. Academic Session:

2018-19

3. SCQF Level (see [Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Levels](#)):

10

4. Credits:

480

5. Entrance Requirements:

Please refer to the current undergraduate prospectus at: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/undergraduate/>

6. ATAS Certificate Requirement (see [Academic Technology Approval Scheme](#)):

ATAS Certificate not required

7. Attendance Type:

Full Time

8. Programme Aims:

Marine & Freshwater Biology is the scientific study of all aspects of aquatic life, i.e. life in freshwater, estuaries and the seas. Marine & Freshwater Biology is a rapidly-advancing subject with considerable relevance to the way we manage the environment. The Honours Programme provides a broadly-based treatment of the principles and problems of Marine & Freshwater Biology and an advanced treatment of particular aspects from the molecular and cellular to the ecosystems level of investigation.

¹ This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if full advantage is taken of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each course can be found in course handbooks and other programme documentation and online at www.gla.ac.uk/

The accuracy of the information in this document is reviewed periodically by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Particular strengths of the Programme are: a) wide experience of fieldwork; b) detailed treatments prepared by active scholars and researchers in Marine & Freshwater Biology of 1) animal diversity and its classification 2) experimental design, quantitative analysis and ethical aspects of scientific work 3) evolution and ecology, including practical issues of wildlife conservation and environmental management such as dealing with aquatic pollution 4) the mechanisms and evolutionary origins of animal behaviour including consideration of animal welfare issues 5) the range of aquatic environments.

The Principal Aims are:

- To equip students with a fundamental understanding of Marine & Freshwater Biology, and a competence in relevant scientific methods
- To stimulate and foster a sense of excitement in Marine & Freshwater Biology as an approach to understanding living organisms
- To provide advanced knowledge, understanding, scholarship and critical judgement appropriate for professional employment or further study in Marine & Freshwater Biology or a related discipline
- To develop those advanced transferable, intellectual, interpersonal and practical skills which may be of advantage in a wide range of employment and further study
- To develop in students the flexibility to adapt to change throughout their working lives

9. Intended Learning Outcomes of Programme:

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of this programme students will be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the central facts and concepts of Marine & Freshwater Biology
- demonstrate an understanding of professional ethics in science and of the principles that can guide ethical decision-making in biological controversies
- demonstrate an advanced understanding of the relevance of knowledge of Marine & Freshwater Biology to problems in areas such as environmental management and animal welfare
- demonstrate knowledge of the diversity of life and the methods by which living organisms can be classified
- demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the main investigative methods used in Marine & Freshwater Biology, both in the laboratory and in the field

Skills and Other Attributes

By the end of this programme students will be able to:

Subject-specific/practical skills

- demonstrate their ability to learn advanced topics in Marine & Freshwater Biology independently
- carry out, under supervision, a significant research project and report its findings

Intellectual skills

- solve advanced problems of a numerical or logical nature in Marine & Freshwater Biology
- selectively extract information from published sources and use this to present critical reviews of the current state of knowledge in topics relevant to Marine & Freshwater Biology

Transferable/key skills

- use computers to search databases, compose reports for written and oral presentation and analyse data
- work co-operatively in a team to carry out and present the results of research in Marine & Freshwater Biology
- demonstrate their ability to manage their time appropriately in order to prioritise tasks and meet deadlines

10. Typical Learning and Teaching Approaches:

A range of teaching methods are used during the programme, including:

- Lectures
- Laboratories
- Workshops
- Group projects
- Poster presentations
- Field trips
- Tutorials
- Seminars
- Honours research project

11. Typical Assessment Methods:

A number of different methods are used to assess the courses which make up the programme, including:

Written degree examinations (essays, objective testing, short answers and problem-solving)
 Class examinations
 Laboratory reports
 Field course reports
 Essays
 Honours project report
 Poster presentations
 Oral presentations
 Peer review of group work

12. Programme Structure and Features:

The BSc Honours programme normally lasts 4 years, comprises both compulsory and optional courses, and comprises 480 credits (120 credits each year).

Structure

Course Title	Course Code	Credits	Core	Optional	Semester(s) taught
Year 1:					
Biology-1A	BIOL1001	20	✓		Sem 1
Biology-1B	BIOL1002	20	✓		Sem 2
EITHER Chemistry-1	CHEM1001	40	✓		Sem 1–2
OR Science Fundamentals-1X & -1Y	CHEM1002 CHEM1003	2 x 20			Sem 1–2
<i>other Level-1 course(s)</i>		40		✓	
Year 2:					
Fundamental Topics in Biology 2	BIOL2039	30	✓		Sem 1
Animal Biology, Evolution and Ecology 2	BIOL2041	30	✓		Sem 2
Key Skills in Biology 2	BIOL2040	30		✓	Sem 1
<i>other Level-1 or -2 course(s)</i>		30		✓	
Year 3 (Honours):					
Marine & Freshwater Biology 3A	BIOL4065	60	✓		Sem 1
Marine & Freshwater Biology 3B	BIOL4066	60	✓		Sem 2
Year 4 (Honours final year):					
Marine & Freshwater Biology Advanced Studies	BIOL4068	20	✓		Sem 1–2
<i>One of these project courses:</i>		20	✓		Sem 1–2

Life Sciences Investigative Honours Project	BIOL4246P				
Life Sciences Dissertation Honours Project	BIOL4247P				
Life Sciences Outreach Honours Project	BIOL4248P				
Life Sciences Internship Honours Project	BIOL4249P				
4 x Life Sciences Honours options		4 x 20		✓	

Life Sciences Honours Options:

The programme will prescribe a mixture of compulsory, recommended and/or suitable Honours options courses. In addition, the list of available Honours option courses is liable to change each session. The options available in the current session can be found via the University's Course Catalogue (www.gla.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/).

Features:

Students may apply to study abroad during either Year 2 or Year 3; this is subject to approval by the School of Life Sciences.

Years 1 and 2 may be available for part-time study. Years 3 and 4 are normally only available on a full-time basis.

Regulations:

This programme will be governed by the relevant regulations published in the University Calendar. These regulations include the requirements in relation to:

- (a) Award of the degree
- (b) Progress
- (c) Early exit awards
- (d) (For undergraduate programmes, where appropriate) Entry to Honours

www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/policies/calendar/

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13. Programme Accredited By:

Not applicable

14. Location(s):

Glasgow

15. College:

College of Medical Veterinary and Life Sciences

16. Lead School/Institute:

Life Sciences [REG20100000]

17. Is this programme collaborative with another institution:

No

18. Awarding Institution(s):

University of Glasgow

19. Teaching Institution(s):

University of Glasgow

20. Language of Instruction:

English

21. Language of Assessment:

English

22. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (see [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education](#)) and Other External or Internal Reference Points:

See QAA Benchmark Statement for Biosciences:
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/honours/biosciences.asp>

23. Additional Relevant Information (if applicable):

Support for students is provided by the Postgraduate/Undergraduate Adviser(s) of Studies supported by University resources such LEADS (www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/leads/), Counselling & Psychological Services (www.gla.ac.uk/services/counselling/), the Disability Service (www.gla.ac.uk/services/studentdisability/) and the Careers Service (www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/).

24. Online Learning:

No

25. Date of approval:

24/11/2017