## KentVision Code and title of the module

SACO5800 Primate Behaviour and Ecology

## Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

HSS School of Anthropology and Conservation

## The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 6

## The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

## Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

Spring

## Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

None

## The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

***Optional to the following courses:***

* BSc Anthropology
* BSc Human Biology and Behaviour
* BSc Psychology
* BSc Wildlife Conservation

Also available as an elective module

## The intended subject specific learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

8.1 Demonstrate systematic knowledge of evolutionary theory as it applies to animal behaviour.

8.2 Identify and understand the ways animals (including primates) interact with one another and their environments.

8.3 Evidence a comprehensive understanding of the patterns and principles that account for the variation in ecology and behaviour of animals, especially the non-human primates.

8.4 Provide detailed examples from a wide range of species to illustrate these patterns.

## The intended generic learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

9.1 Demonstrate their ability to think critically, analytically and independently.

9.2 Employ research skills for collecting and analysing primary data.

9.3 Enhance and apply time management and preparation skills.

9.4 Apply their ability to organise information in a clear way.

## A synopsis of the curriculum

Why do animals do what they do? How do they balance the need to find food, or mates, with the risk of becoming food for something else? Why do animals cooperate, and how do they compete? This module introduces the disciplines of animal behaviour and behavioural ecology that address such questions. With particular reference to non-human primates, we look at the patterns and principles that can be generalised from the variation in behaviour and ecology across species, combining established findings with the latest research. The module emphasises the importance of direct observation of animal behaviour – introducing the necessary methods – and the use of theoretical models with which to make sense of these data. We use multi-media technology to view examples of animal behaviour in their natural habitats, while engaging practical exercises are employed to reinforce concepts. Topics covered include interactions between animals and their environments – as foragers, predators and prey – as well as the nature and evolution of primate societies, cognition and communication, and social and reproductive behaviour within groups. This module provides students with the knowledge and practical skills necessary for them to embark upon their own research projects tackling questions of animal – or indeed human – behaviour.

## Reading list

The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

The most up to date reading list can be found on the university's [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

## Contact Hours

Private Study: 129

Contact Hours: 21

Total: 150

## Assessment methods

* 1. Main assessment methods
* Essay (2500 words) (50%)
* Multiple Choice Questions via Moodle (30%)
* Practical Exercise (20%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

* Like-for-like

## Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods and methods of assessment (section 13)

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Private Study** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Lectures | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |
| Practical classes | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Essay | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |
| MCQ test | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Practical Exercise |  | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

## Inclusive module design

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

## Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

Canterbury

## Internationalisation

The behaviour of animals is not restricted to geographical entities, and the particular subjects of this module – the non-human primates – are distributed across three continents between the tropics. The module is by its nature international in perspective, although the concept of nation-states is rather irrelevant to the study of animal behaviour and its evolution.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Module record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

| Date approved | New/Major/Minor revision | Start date of delivery of (revised) version | Section revised (if applicable) | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 18/11/22 | Major | September 2023 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |