

Zoology

BSc

College of Science,
Engineering and Food
Science



University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Introduction

Zoology is a core discipline for the biological sciences and environmental and earth-system sciences, and plays an important role in modern developments in biotechnology, genetics, animal behaviour and physiology, parasitology, and ecology. It is also fundamental in applied fields such as environmental biology, pest and disease management, aquaculture and fisheries.

Why Study

The breadth of knowledge in animal biology is reflected in the range of courses taught in the Zoology degree. These include form and function of all major animal groups, biodiversity, comparative physiology, cell biology, diseases and pathology, aquatic biology, behaviour, genetics, ecology, conservation, ornithology and evolution. Research and field courses form an important part of the degree. Courses are research-led and taught through several different media, including lectures, practical laboratory classes, tutorials, seminars, and field visits. In addition, practical zoological and ecological studies are supported by field courses run at residential field centres outside UCC in Ireland and abroad (Portugal).

Work Placement

A Work Placement module is offered as an optional part of the fourth year curriculum. Students can carry out this work placement during the summer prior to the final year.

Study Abroad

Practical studies are emphasised by field courses run at residential field centres outside UCC and abroad (Portugal). Students undertaking the Zoology degree can avail of an exchange with other EU countries, which allows students to study at specified EU universities. Exchange opportunities also exist with the University of Singapore and a number of universities in the USA where students have an opportunity to spend some or all of the third year of their degree.

Careers

A Zoology degree provides a sound scientific knowledge of animal biology and the necessary skills and qualifications for a career in a wide range of disciplines. Zoology graduates are well-equipped for careers ranging from field based environmental research, conservation and management, agriculture and pest control, and aquaculture and fisheries to more laboratory based disciplines such as genetics, biochemistry, pathology and toxicology. Job opportunities in these fields exist in education, research, management, or consultancy posts at universities, government agencies or private companies. A zoological training is relevant for other biological disciplines, in industry and teaching.

CK404

DEGREE OUTLET

COURSE PAGE ONLINE

www.ucc.ie/en/ck404/zoology

CONTACT INFORMATION

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LOUISE ARCHER

BSC ZOOLOGY 2014

“For my final year research project, I developed a methodology for an ecosystem assessment of an operational fishery, which gave great insight into the real world applications of my degree.”

#uccmakeyourmark



Further Study

Students with a second-class honours degree can study for an MSc (Master of Science). Students with either a first-class honours or a second-class honours, Grade I degree, may pursue a PhD degree.

There are also professional diplomas on offer, as well as research programmes such as MSc and PhD degrees.

Year 1 Modules

BL1002 Cells, Biomolecules, Genetics & Evolution (5 credits); **BL1004** Physiology and Structure of Plants and Animals (5 credits); **BL1005** Habitats and Ecosystems (5 credits); **CM1003** Introductory Chemistry for Environmental Scientists (10 credits); **ER1006** Applied Earth Systems (5 credits); **EV1002** The Environment (5 credits); **GL1001** Introduction to Geology (5 credits); **GL1004** Geological Evolution of Ireland (5 credits); **GG1010** Introduction to Physical Geography (5 credits); **MA1001** Calculus for Science Part 1 (5 credits); **PY1009** Physics for the Environmental Sciences I (5 credits)

Year 2 Modules

CORE: Plant and Animal Genetics; Practical Ecological Skills; Vertebrate Diversity; Invertebrate Diversity; Ecological Plant Physiology; Introduction to Biostatistics; Fundamentals of Ecology; Fossils as Living Organisms; Plant Biotechnology

ELECTIVES: Plant Identification; Environmental and Public Health; Calculus for Science

Year 3 Modules

CORE: Practical Field Ecology (residential field course); Literature Review; Evolution & Diversity; Biostatistics; Advanced Vertebrate Biology; Conservation Biology; Adaptations to Extreme Environments; Animal Behaviour

ELECTIVES: Ecotoxicology; Micropalaeontology & Palynology; Plants & Hostile Environments; Ecology and Hydrology of Wetland Systems

KEY FACTS

- A breadth of knowledge of scientific areas covering all aspects of animal life
- There is a high component of fieldwork, with a residential fieldtrip in Years 3 and 4
- A large element of practical work reinforces teaching and reading
- High success rate for employment after graduation.
- Opportunities for studying abroad or carrying out work placement

Year 4 Modules

CORE: Research Project; Frontiers in Biology; Research Skills in Biology; Biostatistics; Biology of Marine Mammals; Food Production; Evolutionary Ecology; Landscape Conservation and Management or Temperate Marine Biology (residential field courses)

ELECTIVES: Advanced Ecotoxicology; Biology & Management of Alien Species; Biological Work Placement; Crop Physiology and Climate Change; Environmentally Protective Management of Plant Pests & Pathogens