

**WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY (19)**

**FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES**

**Bachelor of Science Honours in Zoology (BBZ)**

**Question 1**

Most of the modules offered are in Ecology. The institution should clarify why this is a programme in Zoology.

**Response:**

In order to qualify the BSc Honours in Zoology, the following changes have been made:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Programme Details : Bachelor of Science Honours in Zoology** | | | | | | |
| Title of all modules | Compulsory (C)/Elective (E) | NQF level | Credits | No. of contact hours | Mode of delivery | Module status: Removed/Added/Modified/ Unchanged |
| Scientific Methodology  ZOO4101 | C | 8 | 8 | 42 (7hrs x 6 wks) | Contact | Modified |
| Ecophysiology  ZOO4102 | C | 8 | 16 | 84 (7hrs X 12 wks) | Contact | Unchanged |
| Biostatistics  ZOO4103 | C | 8 | 8 | 42 (7hrs x 6 wks) notional hours | Contact | Added |
| Animal Physiology  ZOO4104 | C | 8 | 16 | 84 (7hrs x 12 wks) | Contact | Added |
| Terrestrial Ecology  ZOO4201 | E | 8 | 16 | 84 (7hrs x 12 wks) | Contact | Unchanged |
| Aquatic Ecology ZOO4202 | E | 8 | 16 | 84 (7hrs x 12 wks) | Contact | Modified |
| Conservation Ecology  ZOO4204 | C | 8 | 16 | 84 (7hrs x 12 wks) | Contact | Unchanged |
| Research Project  ZOO4205 | C | 8 | 40 | 112 (8hrs x 14 wks) | Contact | Unchanged |
| Total |  |  | 120 | 532 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Question 2:**

The institution should explain how the assessment approach is aligned with the teaching and learning strategy.

**Response**:

**Laboratory practicals**: to demonstrate various aspects of the course. Practical reports are used to assess integration of the practical work with the theoretical concepts.

**Assignments:** to assess writing and referencing skills.

**Tests/Examinations:** a minimum of three tests that culminate to a final examination are given to test recollection and understanding of the subject matter; mastery of key concepts and principles; students’ objectivity and ability to critique information from various sources as well as application of knowledge in solving societal problems.

**Mini-projects:** Students are assigned relevant research topics to create inquisitive minds involving benchtop research. This helps students to develop collaborative skills, writing and referencing skills.

**Oral/Poster Presentations:** enable students to get a better understanding of the theory, provide a platform for developing communication skills and promotes literature review.

**Computer based practicals** for modelling techniques; computer skills.

**Field practicals:** expose students to various ecosystems, nature reserves, landfills; to assess use of taxonomic keys and various species concepts to identify species; to assess competency in biotic sampling techniques and use of scientific equipment, preservation techniques of collected samples; submission of written practical reports.

**Videos:** expose students to major biomes that occur in southern Africa.

**Research projects:** assess proposal writing and presentation skills; project excecution; presentation of findings; writing up and final submission of the mini-project.

**Question** 3:

The time allocated for direct contact should be reduced in favour of time for independent self-study.

**Response**:

The time allocated for direct contact has been revised as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Types of learning activities** | | **Hours** | **% Learning time** |
| Direct contact time (Lectures, face to face, limited interaction or technology-assisted, tutorials, Syndicate groups) | | 532 | 44.3 |
| WIL (Practical experiential learning, **simulated learning, laboratory work** , practicals etc. excluding workplace-based learning) | | 200 | 16.7% |
| WIL (Workplace-based learning only) **\* N/A** | | N/A | N/A |
| Independent self-study of standard texts and references and specially prepared materials (study guides, books, journal articles, case studies, multi-media) | | 200 | 16.7% |
| Assessment ( Examinations, tests, assignments , **presentations, Field work reports**, Practical tests ) | | 100 | 8.3% |
| Other (specify) Consultation | | 268 | 22.3% |
| **Total** | | 1200 | 100% |
|  | **If you selected "Other" as a type of learning activity please give a detailed explanation below: Consultation between supervisor and student regarding relevant literature, methods of data collection, analysis and presentation of results.** | | |

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