Plymouth University

Faculty of Science & Technology

School of Marine Science & Engineering

Programme Specification

BSc Marine Biology (0732)

September 2024

1.

There is a strong emphasis is on research-informed teaching throughout the degree.

7. Programme Aims

7. critical and analytical skills: a recognition that statements should be tested and that evidence is subject to assessment and critical evaluation;
8. the ability to employ a variety of methods of study in investigating, recording and analysing material;
9. the ability to think independently, set tasks and solve problems.

8.2. Cognitive and intellectual skills

On completion graduates should be able to:

1. recognise and apply subject-specific theories, paradigms, concepts or principles;
2. analyse, synthesise and summarise information critically, including published research or reports;
3. obtain and integrate several lines of subject-specific evidence to formulate and test hypotheses;
4. apply subject knowledge and understanding to address familiar and unfamiliar problems;
5. recognise the moral and ethical issues of investigations and appreciate the need for ethical standards and professional codes of conduct.

8.3. Practical skills

On completion graduates should be able to:

1. undertake sufficient practical work to ensure competence in the basic experimental skills appropriate to the discipline under study;
2. design, plan, conduct and report on investigations;
3. record, collate and analyse data using appropriate techniques in the field and/or laboratory, working individually or in a group;
4. undertake field and/or laboratory investigations of living systems in a responsible, safe and ethical manner.

8.4. Numeracy skills

On completion graduates should be able to:

1. receive and respond to a variety of sources of information: textual, numerical, verbal, graphical;

2. carry out sample selection; record and analyse data in the field and/or the laboratory; ensure validity, accuracy, calibration, precision, replicability and highlight uncertainty during collection;
3. prepare, process, interpret and present data, using appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques, statistical programmes, spreadsheets and programs for presenting data visually;
4. solve problems by a variety of methods, including the use of computers.

8.5. Communication, presentation and IT skills

On completion graduates should be able to:

1. communicate about their subject appropriately to a variety of audiences using a range of formats and approaches, using appropriate scientific language;
2. cite and reference work in an appropriate manner, including the avoidance of plagiarism;
3. use the internet and other electronic sources critically as a means of communication and a source of information;
4. undertake field and/or laboratory investigations of living systems in a responsible,

9. Admissions Criteria, including APCL, APEL and DAS arrangements

All applicants must have GCSE (or equivalent) Maths and English at Grade C or above.

Entry Requirements for BSc (Hons) Marine Biology
A-level/AS-level

Progression from year zero BSc Marine Biology with Foundation year at the University of Plymouth.	Students who pass the Year zero Foundation programme and meet the conditions specified can progress to one of our BSc (Hons) Marine Biology programmes. To progress to the next stage, a student would normally be expected to achieve and average mark >60% and pass all modules (120 credits). In certain circumstances we allow your overall performance to compensate (CP) for failure in a maximum of 20 credits per stage. There are a limited number of places available within each of the marine biology programmes [BSc (Hons) Marine Biology, Marine Biology and Coastal Ecology and Marine Biology and Oceanography]; the number of available places will be specified at the commencement of each academic year. In the event of over-subscription, progression to these programmes will be determined on the basis of academic performance in the Foundation Year, and suitability to each of the programmes, which will be determined at interview. Guidance on choice and detailed advice will be provided by the Admissions Tutor and Foundation year tutors.

10. Progression criteria for Final and Intermediate Awards

The University's standard regulations for progression apply. A copy of the regulations can be found at https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/your-studies/essential-information/regulations

After Level 4 students may decide to transfer to another marine biology BSc programme scheme at the beginning of Level 5. All transfers are subject to availability of places.

Progression onto Level 5 of Marine Biology will be considered for holders of an FdSc in an appropriate subject dependent on prior experience. Any FdSc that names this award as an agreed progression route will automatically be deemed suitable for Level 5. Progression from Plymouth University International College is subject to passing Stage 1 (Level 4) of the PUIC Equivalent Integrated Programme. This consists of the standard Stage 1 of the programme plus ILS1005: Interactive Learning Skills and Communications.

The School has developed exchange schemes with universities in other countries, including continental Europe. Students may spend all of Level 5 on such a scheme. Students on exchange must follow and pass an approved programme of study. The marks gained do not normally contribute numerically to the final degree; the final award will be based on Level 4 (10%) and Level 6 (90%) marks.

11. Exceptions to Regulations

None

A. Recognise and apply subject-specific theories, paradigms, concepts or principles	All modules, but particularly those at level 6
B. Analyse, synthesise and summarise information critically, including published research or reports	MBIO162, MBIO161 and all modules at level 5 & 6
C.	

L. Prepare, process, interpret and present

U. Develop the skills necessary for self-managed and lifelong learning (*e.g*. working independently, time management, organisational, enterprise and knowledge transfer skills)	All modules, but particularly PROJ302
V. Identify and work towards targets for personal, academic and career development	All modules, but particularly MBIO123, MBIO229, & PROJ302
W. Develop an adaptable, flexible and effective approach to study and work	All modules, but particularly MBIO162, MBIO229, & PROJ302

13.2 Assessment against Modules Mapping

	Assessment (Component) Type			
Module code	**Coursework**	**Exam**	**Test**	**Practical**
Stage 1/Level 4				
Core modules				
MBIO120	100			
BIOL131	50	50		
OS102	50	50		
MBIO123	75		25	
MBIO161		50	50	
MBIO162		50		

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