

# BL3323 Terrestrial Zoology

(BL3323 online module handbook version 84)

**Credits:** 20

**Semester:** 1

**Module Organiser**

Dr Michael Morrissey

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**Pre-requisite Modules:**

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**Anti-requisite Modules:**

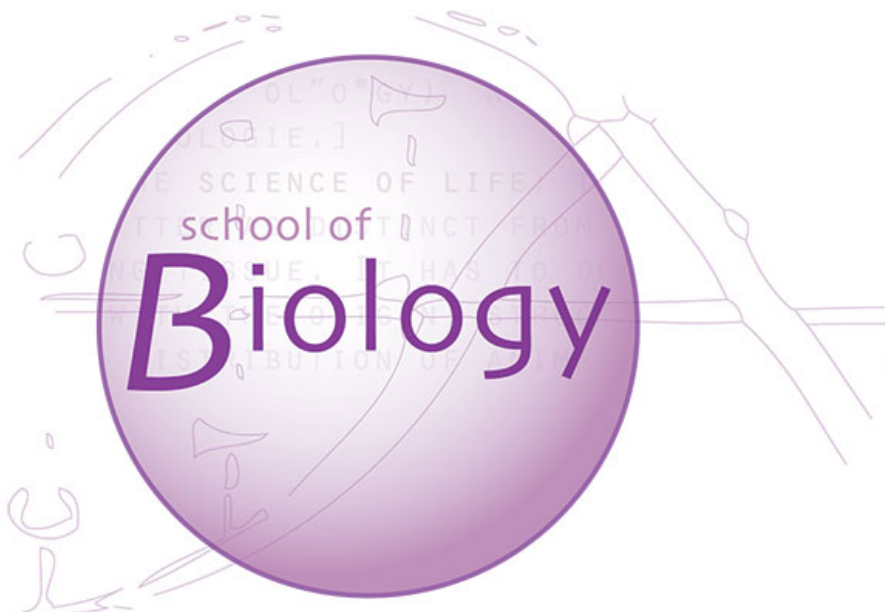
**Post-requisite Modules:**

**Additional Module**

**Information:**

[Please check MMS regularly for additional module information](#)

This module covers the biology of land animals, including their early evolution, their strategies to cope with unusual terrestrial habitats (extremes of hot, arid and cold, urban life, island life, etc, including climate change effects), and their special problems with reproduction and locomotion. It then looks at insights gained from modern techniques, including molecular, bioinformatics and bar-coding approaches, bio-logging and tracking, and developmental adaptations. It concludes with special topics on particular animals or groups that have improved our understanding of terrestrial peculiarities, whether behavioural, sensory, physiological, mechanical, metabolic or ecological; and of threats to terrestrial diversity for certain groups.



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[BL3323View content for BL3323 \(2022/3\) in the Module Management System \(MMS\)](#)

[View the current Biology Online Module Catalogue for BL3323](#)

[BL3323View BL3323 \(2022/3\) in the University of St Andrews Module Catalogue](#)

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# BL3323: Timetable

**Legend** (not all modules have every event type):

lecture	tutorial	workshop	practical	other
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## Semester 1: Week 1

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 12-09-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Lecture L1: <b>Introduction to the course, models of populations</b> 2022-3_BL3323_L1
Wednesday 14-09-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Biomolecular Sciences Building Biology New Hive	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Other O1: <b>Drop-in session to support self-study of practical materials</b> 2022-3_BL3323_O1
Thursday 15-09-2022 09:00 to 11:00	Biomolecular Sciences Building Biology NewHive	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Other O2: <b>Drop-in session to support self-study of practical materials</b> 2022-3_BL3323_O2

## Semester 1: Week 2

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 19-09-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Lecture L2: <b>Births and deaths</b> 2022-3_BL3323_L2
Tuesday 20-09-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Biomedical Sciences Building Biology New Hive	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Other O3: <b>Drop-in session to support self-study of practical materials</b> 2022-3_BL3323_O3
Wednesday 21-09-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Biomedical Sciences Building Biology NewHive	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Other O4: <b>Drop-in session to support self-study of practical materials</b> 2022-3_BL3323_O4

## Semester 1: Week 3

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 26-09-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Lecture L3: <b>Births and deaths and population growth/decline</b> 2022-3_BL3323_L3
Tuesday 27-09-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Biomedical Sciences Building Biology New Hive	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Other O5: <b>Drop-in session to support self-study of practical materials</b> 2022-3_BL3323_O5
Wednesday 28-09-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Biomedical Sciences Building Biology New Hive	<a href="#">Dr Michael Morrissey</a> -	Other O6: <b>Drop-in session to support self-study of practical materials</b> 2022-3_BL3323_O6

## Semester 1: Week 4

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 03-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L4: <b>Island ecosystems 1</b> 2022-3_BL3323_L4
Tuesday 04-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	St Mary's College T205	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L5: <b>Island ecosystems 2</b> 2022-3_BL3323_L5
Wednesday 05-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Workshop W1: <b>Conservation culturomics</b> 2022-3_BL3323_W1 Formulating a good research question

## Semester 1: Week 5

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 10-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L6: <b>Desert ecosystems 1</b> 2022-3_BL3323_L6
Tuesday 11-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	St Mary's College T205	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L7: <b>Desert ecosystems 2</b> 2022-3_BL3323_L7

Wednesday 12-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Workshop W2: <b>Conservation culturomics</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_W2</small> Design of a data-collection protocol
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## Semester 1: Week 7

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 24-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L8: <b>Polar ecosystems 1</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L8</small>
Tuesday 25-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	St Mary's College T205	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L9: <b>Polar ecosystems 2</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L9</small>
Wednesday 26-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Workshop W3: <b>Conservation culturomics</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_W3</small> Data Analysis

## Semester 1: Week 8

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 31-10-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L10: <b>Subterranean ecosystems</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L10</small>
Tuesday 01-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	St Mary's College T205	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L11: <b>Montane ecosystems</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L11</small>
Wednesday 02-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Workshop W4: <b>Conservation culturomics</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_W4</small> Critical evaluation of the strengths of limitations of your study

## Semester 1: Week 9

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 07-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Dr Marcus Bischoff</a> -	Lecture L12: <b>Developmental biology and genetics of adaptation</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L12</small>
Tuesday 08-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	St Mary's College T205	<a href="#">Dr Verena Dietrich-Bischoff</a> -	Lecture L13: <b>bees</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L13</small>
Wednesday 09-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Dr Verena Dietrich-Bischoff</a> -	Lecture L14: <b>Aspects of amphibians and their decline</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L14</small>

## Semester 1: Week 10

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 14-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Dr Verena Dietrich-Bischoff</a> -	Lecture L15: <b>The weird naked mole rats</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L15</small>
Tuesday 15-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	St Mary's College T205	-	Lecture L16: <b>TBD</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L16</small>

## Semester 1: Week 11

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 21-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Prof Graeme Ruxton</a> -	Lecture L17: <b>Zebra stripes: how modern research is conducted</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L17</small>
Tuesday 22-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	St Mary's College T205	<a href="#">Dr V Anne Smith</a> -	Lecture L18: <b>Avian reproduction 1</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L18</small>
Wednesday 23-11-2022 09:00 to 10:00	Psychology, St Mary's College Old Library	<a href="#">Dr V Anne Smith</a> -	Lecture L19: <b>Avian reproduction 2</b> <small>2022-3_BL3323_L19</small>

# BL3323: Reading List

[BL3323Click for BL3323 reading list](#)

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## BL3323: Assessment

3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

[BL3323View coursework assessment details for BL3323 \(2022/3\) in MMS](#)

The following related information applies to all Biology modules:

School of Biology Marking Criteria:	<a href="#">See School of Biology Undergraduate Handbook</a>
Late submission of continuous assessment work:	All late submissions of coursework that do not require electronic submission should be made via the Biology Teaching Office, Level 2, BMS Building, North Haugh.
Exam details:	<a href="#">See School of Biology Undergraduate Handbook</a> ;All Biology exams will be conducted online for 2022-23.
Exam timetable:	see <a href="http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/academic/examinations/examtimetables/current/">http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/academic/examinations/examtimetables/current/</a>
Expected attendance:	<a href="#">See School of Biology Undergraduate Handbook</a> for detailed attendance requirements.
Good Academic Practice & Avoiding Academic Misconduct:	<a href="#">See School of Biology Undergraduate Handbook</a>
University Student Handbook:	<a href="#">University Student Handbook</a>
School and University regulations in the School and University Undergraduate Handbook relating to absence reporting, penalties and rules for late submission of work, extensions for coursework, return of coursework, S-coding, good academic practice and Academic Alerts.:	<a href="#">School of Biology Undergraduate Handbook</a> <a href="#">University Student Handbook</a>

# Who to ask

(Information in this section applies to all Biology Modules)

**Before contacting staff**, students should check the content of the Biology Undergraduate Handbook, the module handbook and specific task instructions.

## Questions about

General teaching matters

Rescheduled or cancelled events

Lecture or practical content

Completing assessed practical assignments

Completing assessments

Marking on continuous assessment

Marking on exams

Rearranging practical days

Absence and/or extensions

Difficulties with academic progress which impact more than one module:

Overall performance, progress or future directions:

Disability:

For advice and support on any issue e.g. academic, financial, international, personal or health matters, or if you are unsure of who to go to for help:

**University assistance with urgent matters out of office hours:**

## Contact

Biology Teaching Office ( [bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk) )

Check your University email

The lecturer who presented the material

The lecturer who set the assignment

Module Organiser ([Dr.Michael.Morrissey@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr.Michael.Morrissey@st-andrews.ac.uk))

The Demonstrator or Module Organiser ([Dr.Michael.Morrissey@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr.Michael.Morrissey@st-andrews.ac.uk))

Module Organiser ([Dr.Michael.Morrissey@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr.Michael.Morrissey@st-andrews.ac.uk))

[Dr Susan Gurney](#)

Module Organiser ([Dr.Michael.Morrissey@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr.Michael.Morrissey@st-andrews.ac.uk))

and the Biology Teaching Office ( [bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk) )

Year Coordinator

See [School of Biology Undergraduate student handbook](#) for list:

<https://biology.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2022/08/Undergraduate-Handbook-2022-23-New-version.pdf>

Advisor of Studies

Disability Coordinator ([Dr.Jacqueline.Nairn@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:Dr.Jacqueline.Nairn@st-andrews.ac.uk))

Advice & Support Centre

Address: 79 North Street, St Andrews

Email: [theasc@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:theasc@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Web: <https://www.standrews.ac.uk/ask-a-question/>

Tel: 01334 462020

Tel: 01334 476161

Web: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/advice/counselling/incrisis/>

## Biology Teaching Office:

We are happy to hear from you about teaching matters. The School of Biology Teaching Office is open Monday to Friday 09.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 17.00. School of Biology staff will respond to your emails during these hours. Our team will provide a response to you within three working days.

Biology Teaching Office (Level 2), University of St Andrews, Biomolecular Sciences Building, North Haugh, St Andrews, Fife KY16 9ST

Email: [bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Tel: 01334 46 3602 or 3566

## BL3323: Contributing Staff



**[Dr Michael Morrissey](#)**  
**(Module Organiser)**

Research Fellow

[mbm5@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:mbm5@st-andrews.ac.uk)



[Dr Marcus Bischoff](#)

Lecturer

[mb273@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:mb273@st-andrews.ac.uk)



[Dr Verena Dietrich-Bischoff](#)

Lecturer (Education-Focused)

[vdb@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:vdb@st-andrews.ac.uk)



**[Dr Michael Morrissey](#)**  
**(Module Organiser)**

Research Fellow

[mbm5@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:mbm5@st-andrews.ac.uk)



[Prof Graeme Ruxton](#)

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[Dr V Anne Smith](#)

Senior Lecturer

[vas1@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:vas1@st-andrews.ac.uk)

## **BL3323: Learning Outcomes**

The module objectives are to develop knowledge and understanding of: + the timing and patterns of the evolution of animal life on land; + key adaptations of terrestrial animals, for (among other things) feeding, reproduction, and gathering sensory information; gathering; + animal specialisations in particularly challenging terrestrial habitats; + how cutting-edge methods -- such as molecular and genomic techniques, and animal tracking technologies -- are changing our understanding of terrestrial zoology; + key aspects of the importance of animals in terrestrial ecosystems; + how zoology matters in our approach to studying behaviour, ecology and evolution.

Students completing module BL3323 successfully should be able to:

- + an understanding of all of the above objectives;
- + improved ability to search for, understand, and precis evidence reported in the primary literature;
- + an appreciation of the importance of animal function and adaptation in terrestrial ecology and evolution.

# **BL3323: Acquired Skills**

## **Practical Skills**

- Species identification (Invertebrates)
- Using dichotomous keys

## **Transferable Skills**

- Long group presentation on given topic (>15 min)
- Critically evaluating sources/information
- Finding literature
- Data analysis (depending on project)
- Working in pairs/small groups

# Policies

(Information in this section applies to all Biology Modules)

- The procedures and regulations followed by the School of Biology are outlined in the [University Handbook](#) and in the [School of Biology Undergraduate Handbook](#) (<https://biology.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2022/08/Undergraduate-Handbook-2022-23-New-version.pdf>).
- All coursework associated with the module must be completed and submitted by its due date.
- Specific School regulations relating to absence reporting, penalties and rules for late submission of work, extensions for coursework, return of coursework, S-coding, Good Academic Practice and Academic Alert are stated in the [School of Biology Undergraduate Handbook](#) and students are required to carefully read these regulations.
- Students are also referred to the University Handbook, available at: <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studenthandbook/>