

BL4258 Foraging in Marine Mammals

(BL4258 online module handbook version 52)

Credits: 15

Semester: 1

Module Organiser

Prof Patrick Miller

pm29@st-andrews.ac.uk

01334 463554

Pre-requisite Modules:

Before taking this module
you must pass BL3319

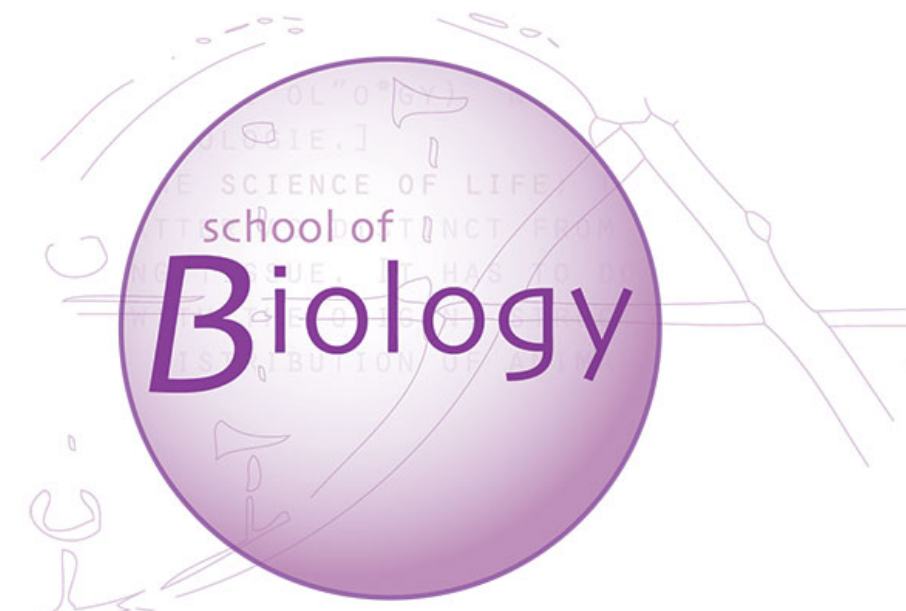
Anti-requisite Modules:

Post-requisite Modules:

Additional Module

Information:

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



This module will provide primarily seminar and practical-based analysis of the life-history requirements of foraging in marine mammals, geographical and physiological constraints on finding food, food and feeding with a focus on types of prey and adaptations by the prey, adaptations for marine mammals feeding in the marine environment, optimal foraging theory, and optimal diving theory. Initial lectures will focus on theoretical issues and description of methods to study foraging. Students will then conduct case-studies of marine-mammal foraging, which will be presented in a seminar format as a group.

[BL4258View content for BL4258 \(2023/4\) in the Module Management System \(MMS\)](#)

[View the current Biology Online Module Catalogue for BL4258](#)

[BL4258View BL4258 \(2023/4\) in the University of St Andrews Module Catalogue](#)

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BL4258: Timetable

For additional details please see the course handbook document on MOODLE

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 11-09-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture theatre	Miller -	Lecture L1: Introduction to Marine Mammal Foraging 2023-4_BL4258_L1 Short talk with Q&A
Thursday 14-09-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture Theatre	Miller -	Lecture L2: Oceanography and Foraging 2023-4_BL4258_L2
Friday 15-09-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture theatre	Miller -	Lecture L3: Sensory modalities in the sea 2023-4_BL4258_L3

Semester 1: Week 2

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 18-09-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture theatre	Miller -	Lecture L4: Diving physiology, management of O2 stores, behavioural requirements 2023-4_BL4258_L4
Thursday 21-09-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture theatre	Miller -	Lecture L5: Studyting foraging behaviour in the wild 2023-4_BL4258_L5
Friday 22-09-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture Theatre	Miller -	Lecture L6: How toothed whale use sound to forage 2023-4_BL4258_L6

Semester 1: Week 3

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 25-09-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Online TEAMS	Miller -	Tutorial T1: QA session #1 2023-4_BL4258_T1 submit question by 13:00 on 25 Sept
Thursday 28-09-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture theatre	Miller -	Other O1: In-class test 2023-4_BL4258_O1 open book
Friday 29-09-2023 16:10 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture theatre	Thompson -	Lecture L7: Life-history of marine mammals and foraging 2023-4_BL4258_L7

Semester 1: Week 4

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Thursday 05-10-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Online SOI Lecture theatre	Ransijn -	Lecture L8: Marine Mammal Diets 2023-4_BL4258_L8
Friday 06-10-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture theatre	Smout -	Lecture L9: Functional Response 2023-4_BL4258_L9

Semester 1: Week 5

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Thursday 12-10-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture Theatre	Thompson -	Lecture L10: Models of diving behaviour 2023-4_BL4258_L10

Friday 13-10-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Online TEAMS	Ransijn Smout Thompson	Other O2: Q/A session 2023-4_BL4258_O2 Student questions submitted on MMS by 11 am on Fri 13 Oct
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Semester 1: Week 7

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 23-10-2023 16:05 to 16:50	Scottish Oceans Institute SOI Lecture theatre	-	Other O3: In class test 2023-4_BL4258_O3 open-book test

Semester 1: Week 9

DATE & TIME	VENUE	STAFF	EVENT
Monday 06-11-2023 14:05 to 15:55	Bute Building Lecture theatre A	Miller Heinrich	Workshop W1: student presentations of essay material 2023-4_BL4258_W1 student presentations 1-5
Tuesday 07-11-2023 14:05 to 15:55	Scottish Oceans Institute Lecture theatre A	Miller Heinrich	Workshop W2: student presentations of essay material 2023-4_BL4258_W2 student presentations 6-10
Wednesday 08-11-2023 14:05 to 15:55	Bute Building Lecture theatre A	Miller Heinrich	Workshop W3: student presentations of essay material 2023-4_BL4258_W3 student presentations 11-15
Thursday 09-11-2023 14:05 to 15:55	Bute Building Lecture theatre A	Miller Heinrich	Workshop W4: student presentations of essay material 2023-4_BL4258_W4 student presentations 16-20

BL4258: Reading List

[BL4258Click for BL4258 reading list](#)

BL4258: Assessment

Coursework = 100%

[BL4258View coursework assessment details for BL4258 \(2023/4\) in MMS](#)

The following related information applies to all Biology modules:

School of Biology Marking Criteria:	See JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk)
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:	See School of Biology UG Handbook JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk) : All Biology exams will be conducted online for 2022-23.
Exam timetable:	See Timetables - Exams - University of St Andrews (st-andrews.ac.uk)
Expected attendance:	See JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk) for detailed attendance requirements.
Good Academic Practice & Avoiding Academic Misconduct:	See JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk)
University Student Handbook:	University Student Handbook
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.:	JH booklet info (st-andrews.ac.uk) University Student Handbook

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)
Check your University email
The lecturer who presented the material
The lecturer who set the assignment
Module Organiser (Prof Patrick Miller pm29@st-andrews.ac.uk)
The Demonstrator or Module Organiser (Prof Patrick Miller pm29@st-andrews.ac.uk)
Module Organiser (Prof Patrick Miller pm29@st-andrews.ac.uk)
Module Organiser (Prof Patrick Miller pm29@st-andrews.ac.uk)
Module Organiser (Prof Patrick Miller pm29@st-andrews.ac.uk) **and** the Biology Teaching Office (bioteach@st-andrews.ac.uk)
Year Coordinator
See School of Biology UG Handbook for list: [JH booklet info \(st-andrews.ac.uk\)](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/jh-booklet-info)
Advisor of Studies
Disability Coordinator (biodisabilities@st-andrews.ac.uk)
Advice & Support Centre
Address: 79 North Street, St Andrews
Email: 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

Tel: 01334 46 3602 or 3566

BL4258: Contributing Staff

BL4258: Learning Outcomes

Students completing module BL4258 successfully should be able to:

- We hope to provide a "perspective" from which you can appreciate what is known (and indeed, gaps in this knowledge) about foraging behaviour in this diverse group of animals and help you to structure this information in a meaningful way.
- The idea of the module is not to present a series of lectures but rather engage you in an exploration of what is known about how marine mammals find and capture their prey, how their physiology facilitates this and how their success or failure impacts the
- We will also emphasize the approaches and techniques used in marine mammal foraging studies.
- While there will be some lecture material, we will expect you to actively take part in an exploration of the literature and present what you find to the class.
- We cannot cover all areas of interest but we hope that by the end of the course you will be in a good position to follow your own interests in the popular or primary literature and to critically evaluate current conservation and management issues.
- Most importantly, we hope to foster an enthusiastic interest in marine mammals, their conservation and the protection of the marine environment.

BL4258: Acquired Skills

Practical Skills

Transferable Skills

- Group discussion - participating
- Long individual presentation on given topic (>15 min)
- Long essay (>2000 words)
- Review article on given topic
- Critically evaluating sources/information
- Finding literature
- Searching databases
- Sourcing figures/tables

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 UG handbook [JH booklet info \(st-andrews.ac.uk\)](#)
- 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 UG handbook [JH booklet info \(st-andrews.ac.uk\)](#) 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/>