1872 PRIFYSGOL ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY

IBERS
Athrofa y Gwyddorau Biolegol, Amgylcheddol a Gwledig
Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences

| Alternative Assessment Brief | |
|---|---|
| **Module Code** | BR33420 |
| **Module Title** | Global Biodiversity Conservation |
| **Module Coordinator/Marker** | Jim Provan |
| **Weighting in module (%)** | 60% |
| **Submission Deadline** | 12:00 pm (midday) on the date indicated on the Alternative Assessment schedule. |
| **Submission information** | Via TurnItIn. |
| **Word/length limit** | *Word limit of 1500 words per essay.* |

**Learning Outcomes to be addressed by the coursework:**

On successful completion of this module students should be able to:

1. Identify patterns and use of biodiversity.

2. Explain the causes of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, and evaluate their implications.

3 Critically discuss the approaches to valuing biodiversity and ecosystem services.

4. Identify and critically evaluate conservation policies at the local, national and global level.

Written assignments MUST be in your own words. Do NOT take short cuts by copying even the smallest amount of material from anywhere (including the internet, books or another student's text). This is plagiarism and will be detected. AU procedures and penalties for 'Unacceptable Academic Practice' are strict, see: http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/academic-quality-records-office/unacceptable-academic-practice/

## How to submit electronically

- (1) Save your work in Microsoft Office or PDF format. (2) Upload the file to TurnItIn by selecting 'Upload'. (3) Check the file submitted is the correct one and the formatting on the preview page is correct. (4) Complete your submission by selecting 'Submit' and await an email 'Confirmation receipt'. Keep this as proof of your submission.
- TurnItIn will be set to allow multiple copies/drafts to be uploaded before the deadline. You are advised to submit your work at least once as a draft well before the deadline in case of last minute problems.
- Failure to follow this advice may result in a mark of **zero** if your submission is not uploaded or is in an unreadable format.

## Clarification of Assessment brief

It is your responsibility to ensure that you understand the requirements of the assessment that has been set. IBERS staff policy is to reply to emails within three working days so you should not expect a response in time to help if you ask for guidance less than three days before the deadline.

## Extensions and Special Circumstances

Due to the narrow timeframe staff have for marking exam scripts before they are released to students, extensions to Alternative Assessments are not possible. However if there are circumstances that have affected your ability to perform to your normal standard, please follow the Special Circumstances procedure outlined in your Student Handbook and here
https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/agro/handbook/taught-schemes/
Please note that AU will require 3rd party verifiable documentation in support of any Special Circumstances applications.

## University policy on late/non-submission

Work submitted after the deadline without an authorised extension will have the mark reduced to **zero**.

## Marks and Feedback return

Marks and feedback on your Alternative Assessments will be available on the date your Module marks are released on your Student Record.

**ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT, 2021**

**INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND RURAL SCIENCES**

**BR33420 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**

Answer **BOTH** questions.

Each answer should be an essay of approximately 1500 words (excluding any figures or tables, and bibliography).

You are expected to use knowledge from your lectures and outside reading to inform your answers, and you should provide citations to your sources and a full bibliography.

1. Discuss, using examples, the ways in which various forms of pollution can negatively impact biodiversity.

2. Compare and contrast the various approaches to restoration and offsetting in conservation programmes.

**END OF ASSESSMENT**

Generic marking criteria are given below. It is likely that your work will contain elements which match the criteria for more than one degree class. This will be reflected in the feedback you receive and in your final mark.

'Further Reading' beyond course material is expected and will vary according to the topic, the level of the work (sub-degree to masters) and the length of the work submitted. The great majority of such reading should ordinarily be peer reviewed primary research for Masters work, while text books and other tertiary sources will ordinarily not be acceptable. Definitions of primary, secondary and tertiary sources can be found here: http://www.lib.umd.edu/tl/guides/primary-sources. Students should note that web pages by individuals, blogs, pressure groups and companies are very unlikely to be deemed an appropriate source.

| Mark % | Class | Marking criteria for Alternative Assessments |
|---|---|---|
| 90-100 | 1 | The essay will show excellent insight into the subject and its significance. The work will be based on extensive research and be highly original. It will be exemplary in its coherence and focus on the question. A logical argument will be supported by appropriate sources that are accurately referenced and, where appropriate, will include original illustrations or tables. |
| 80-89 | 1 | The essay will be well-researched and show excellent knowledge and understanding of the subject. Salient points will be considered in accurate detail and the argument will show originality. Organisation of material will be excellent and the presentation style will enhance communication. Referencing will be accurate and illustrations or tables will be included where appropriate. |
| 70-79 | 1 | A thorough piece of work that is excellent in most respects. The essay will show evidence of research and understanding of the topic. Almost all of the salient points will be considered and will be organised effectively. Referencing will be accurate and the essay will show some originality in the text and/or illustrations or tables. |
| 60-69 | 2.1 | This will be a substantial answer that addresses the topic. It will give an objective assessment and critical evaluation of the subject and will cover many of the salient points in satisfactory depth.<br>Cited sources should be mostly accurate and appropriate. Should demonstrate clear understanding of the material but may lack insight or originality. |
| 50-59 | 2.2 | The essay will address the topic and there will be evidence of basic knowledge and understanding of the subject area, but it may contain some omissions or errors. The material may not be presented in the most logical way and this may detract from the structured argument. An appropriate range of sources should be cited but there may be some errors in the bibliographic details. |
| 40-49 | 3 | Some core material related to the topic will be included but many of the salient points will be missing or misunderstood. The organisation will be poor with little logical development of the topic or critical evaluation of the arguments involved. Use of published sources may be limited or inappropriate to the task. |
| 30-39 | Fail | The essay will be limited in length and/or inaccurate. It will demonstrate only limited knowledge of the topic and lack logical development. The structure of the work and/or errors will detract from the communication of its message. There will be few appropriate sources cited. |
| 20-29 | Fail | The essay will be limited due to serious omissions, errors or misinterpretation of the topic. Poor organisation or presentation of material may hinder understanding of the material presented. There will be little evidence of effort to source material. |
| 10-19 | Fail | The essay will be very limited in length and/or will contain predominately irrelevant material due to misinterpretation of the topic. There will be errors in what is presented. |
| 0-9 | Fail | There will be almost no relevant / correct material included. |