MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

Module Title:	Exploring Nature: An educator's guide to OPAL surveys, and data collection and pupil engagement	**Level**:	4	**Credit Value**:	20

Module code:	LND418	**Is this a new module?**	Yes	**Code of module being replaced**:	N/A

Cost Centre:	GAAN	**JACS3 code**:	C110

Trimester(s) in which to be offered:	1 or 2 or 3	**With effect from:**	May 16

School:	Social & Life Sciences	**Module Leader:**	David Skydmore

Scheduled learning and teaching hours	50 hrs
Guided independent study	150 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered	Core	Option
Standalone module (aligned with UG Wildlife and Biology for QAA purposes)	☐	☐

Pre-requisites
None

Office use only
Initial approval April 16
APSC approval of modification *Enter date of approval* Version 1
Have any derogations received SQC approval? Yes ☐ No ✓

Module Aims
1. To understand methods and theory for the engagement of young people with whole organism biological science and data collection 2. To develop teaching skills in survey design, data collection and analysis 3. To use OPAL surveys to identify, analyse and solve environmental questions in the field 4. To understand the requirements, and how to apply them, for supervising outdoor activities

Intended Learning Outcomes

Key skills for employability

KS1	Written, oral and media communication skills
KS2	Leadership, team working and networking skills
KS3	Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
KS4	Information technology skills and digital literacy
KS5	Information management skills
KS6	Research skills
KS7	Intercultural and sustainability skills
KS8	Career management skills
KS9	Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
KS10	Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to		Key Skills	
1	Demonstrate scientific knowledge underpinning OPAL surveys and their competent use.	KS6	KS9
		KS10	
2	Demonstrate knowledge of the use of species identification keys and associated fieldwork equipment	KS4	KS6
		KS10	
3	Design and evaluate field experiments, linked to OPAL surveys, and conduct these experiments through recording and analysing data	KS1	KS5
		KS3	KS6
		KS4	
4	Identify, evaluate and communicate techniques to manage outdoor activities with large groups and identify risk, control measures and field safety requirements.	KS1	KS2
		KS8	
5	Identify and evaluate innovative teaching methods and techniques for science in schools.	KS1	KS3
		KS2	KS4

Transferable/key skills and other attributes

1. Team working
2. Ethical awareness
3. Health and Safety and Risk Assessment skills
4. ICT skills to record scientific information

Assessment:

A report on the use of an OPAL survey with a school, comprising the methods and delivery with a reflection on the success of the delivery on increasing environmental awareness.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1-5	Report	100		2000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The module will consist of intensive practical workshops, one-to-one/small group tutorials, online resources and a practical event plan. Students will be expected to make full use of the University's library and VLE to enhance their study. As professionals working in a community, school or educational setting, the learning and teaching strategy is designed to fit alongside a busy working life hence the lower amount of face-to-face teaching time and the higher amount of practical and research hours.

Syllabus outline:

- Role of research when working with the environment, science and children
- An Introduction to Community Science and its principles
- Design, Use and Evaluation of OPAL surveys and survey methodology
- Ethical considerations
- Event planning
- Pupil Engagement Theories
- Utilising online resources and submission tools
- Getting the most for your pupils

Bibliography:

Essential reading

Mukherji, P. and Albon, D. (2015), Research Methods in Early Childhood. Second Edition. London: Sage.

Other indicative reading

Bell, J. (2010), Doing Your Research Project: A Guide for First-time Researchers in Education, Health and Social Science. Fifth Edition. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Punch, K.F. and Oancea, A. (2014), Introduction to Research Methods. Second Edition. London: Sage.

Thomas, G. (2013), How to do your Research Proposal. Second Edition. London: Sage.

Journal of Biological Education
Journal of Environmental Education and Communication
Journal of Environmental Psychology