Module code	SB-4311		
Module Title	Animal Behaviour		
Degree/Diploma	Bachelor of Science (Biology)		
Type of Module	Major Option		
Modular Credits	4	**Total student Workload**	8 hours/week
		Contact hours	6 hours/week
Prerequisite	SB-2203 Animal Form and Function		
Anti-requisite	None		

Aims

This module is based on a modern review of behavioural ecology. Several examples will be reviewed, but the module focuses on theory and concepts. An advanced understanding of evolutionary biology, with specific reference to natural selection and evolutionary fitness are keys to the module.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, a student will be expected to be able to:

Lower order :	10%	- Explain the mechanisms and theoretical bases of natural selection and evolutionary fitness driving evolution of behaviours
Middle order :	10%	- Summarise verbally and on paper the main aspects of the evolution of animal behaviours and their proximate and ultimate causes
Higher order:	80%	- Conduct active discussions and analysis of animal behaviours during practicals - Critically read, revise, communicating, and discuss scientific publications in this field

Module Contents

-Introduction to behavioural ecology, the hypothetico-deductive method, and biological evolution as a fact, and as a theory
-The evolution and ecology of altruism
-The evolution of social behaviour
-The evolution of communication
-Foraging and anti-predatory tactics
-Habitat selection, territoriality and migration
-The evolution of reproductive behaviour
-The evolution of mating systems
-The evolution of parental care
-Proximate and ultimate causes of behaviour
-The development of behaviour
-Evolution of the nervous system and behaviour
-Neurones and hormones
-The evolution of human behaviour

Assessment	Formative assessment	Tutorial assignments and feedback
	Summative assessment	Examination: 0%
		Coursework: 100% - 2 practical reports (20%) - 3 written assignments (30%) - 5 literature-review assignments (30%) - 2 oral presentations (20%)