

# COURSE MODULE INFORMATION

## ZO320: Concepts in Population & Community Ecology

**Semester 2 | Credits: 5**

This module will cover the basics of animal population ecology and community ecology. It will focus on population level characteristics in animals (including density, dispersal and how populations grow or decline) and interactions between organisms of the same or different species populations.  
(Language of instruction: English)

### Learning Outcomes

1. Explain population structure including spatial structure, density and dispersal, genetic and age structure
2. Describe population growth in a variety of circumstances; also regulation of population growth & its applications in sustainable harvesting
3. Discuss life history strategies and provide case studies for all of the above
4. Describe interactions between different species including competition, predation, mutualisms, facilitation
5. Describe communities which are in equilibrium or disturbed; and recovery from disturbance through the process of succession
6. Carry out practical techniques in ecological zoology including calculations of population and community metrics, plotting results, making labelled drawings etc.

### Assessments

- Written Assessment (70%)
- Continuous Assessment (30%)

### Module Director

- ANNE MARIE POWER: [Research Profile](#) | [Email](#)

### Lecturers / Tutors

- LOUISE ALLCOCK: [Research Profile](#)
- COLIN LAWTON: [Research Profile](#)

- GRACE PATRICIA MCCORMACK: [Research Profile](#)
- ANNE MARIE POWER: [Research Profile](#)
- ANNE CRYAN: [Research Profile](#)
- MICHEL DUGON: [Research Profile](#)
- Kevin Healy: [Research Profile](#)

## Reading List

1. "ECOLOGY - The experimental analysis of distribution and abundance" by Charles J. Krebs
2. "Campbell Biology" by JE Reece et al

The above information outlines module ZO320: "Concepts in Population & Community Ecology" and is valid from 2015 onwards.

Note: Module offerings and details may be subject to change.