### BL1101 Biology 1

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<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
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<td>Academic year:</td>
<td>2017/8 &amp; 2018/9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned timetable:</td>
<td>10.00 am; Practical classes one per week 2.00 - 5.00 pm Mon, Tue, or Wed</td>
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This module is an introduction to molecular and cellular biology. It covers cell diversity and the origins of life, cellular structures and fundamental processes. The central dogma of molecular biology is investigated through the examination of the structure and function of DNA, RNA and proteins, and how this knowledge led to modern developments in biotechnology. The final section of the module gives an introduction into molecular and population genetics with an emphasis on the process of evolution. Throughout the module the lecture material is complemented by extensive practical classes where biological laboratory techniques are taught and practiced through, for example, microscopy, DNA isolation, dissection and thin layer chromatography.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme module type:</th>
<th>Compulsory for all Biology Degree Programmes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Required for:</td>
<td>BL2300 - BL2310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</td>
<td>Weekly contact: 5 x 1-hour lectures and 1 x 3-hour practical (x 10 weeks).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment pattern:</td>
<td>As defined by QAA:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>As used by St Andrews:</td>
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<td>Re-assessment pattern:</td>
<td>2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module coordinator:</td>
<td>Dr P Coote</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module teaching staff:</td>
<td>Team taught</td>
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This module provides an introduction to the diversity of life on Earth and will address key elements of organismal and ecological aspects of life. The module is divided into several sections beginning with the classification of life and an introduction to the kingdoms Monera, Fungi and Protista. Photosynthesis, respiration and the evolution and diversity of plants will be studied. Students will then look at the diversity of animals in the sea and the movement of some groups onto land. The module will also provide an introduction to animal behaviour and developmental biology, before finishing off by introducing ecology and the various factors promoting and threatening biodiversity. Throughout the module the lecture material is complemented by extensive practical classes introducing a variety of fieldwork and laboratory techniques.

<table>
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<th>Programme module type:</th>
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<tr>
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<td>BL2300 - BL2310</td>
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<td>Weekly contact: 5 x 1-hour lectures (x 11 weeks) and 1 x 3-hour practical (x 8 weeks)</td>
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<td>As used by St Andrews: 2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%</td>
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<td>Re-assessment pattern:</td>
<td>2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50%</td>
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<td>Module coordinator:</td>
<td>Dr D Shuker</td>
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<td>Module teaching staff:</td>
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BL2300 Research Methods in Biology

SCOTCAT Credits: 15  SCQF Level 8  Semester: 1

Academic year: 2017/8 & 2018/9

Planned timetable:
- Lectures: 12.00 noon Tue, Thu (odd weeks) 12.00 noon Wed, Fri (even weeks)
- Practical classes: 2.00 - 5.00 pm Wed, Thu or Fri (weeks 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10)

This module will help students develop essential academic and transferable skills, with major emphasis on problem solving. This will be achieved through a combination of interactive lectures, independent data-handling workshops and group work on a mini research project. The module will start with an introduction to the scientific method, experimental design, understanding and presenting data. Students will then learn various statistical tests using a code-based statistical software and build their confidence in independent data-handling workshops. Regular mathematics for biologists classes will allow students to practise manipulating equations, performing laboratory calculations etc. A mini project on which the students work in small groups will help them apply the principles learned. The module will also cover scientific essay writing, record keeping and good laboratory practice.

Programme module type:
- Compulsory for all single honours Biology degrees
- Compulsory for Biology and Geology Joint Honours degree
- Optional for joint honours Biology degrees.

Pre-requisite(s):
BL1101 and BL1102  Required for: BL3000, BL3320

Learning and teaching methods and delivery:
- Weekly contact: 2 x 1-hour lecture (x 10 weeks), 1 x 3-hour practical (x 6 weeks)
- Scheduled learning: 38 hours  Guided independent study: 112 hours

Assessment pattern:
- As defined by QAA:
  - Written Examinations = 0%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 100%
- As used by St Andrews:
  - Coursework = 100%

Re-assessment pattern:
- Alternative assessment to the same weighting as the failed item of assessment

Module coordinator:
Dr V Dietrich-Bischoff

Module teaching staff:
Team taught
### BL2301 Cell Biology

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<tr>
<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
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<th>SCQF Level 8</th>
<th>Semester:</th>
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**Academic year:** 2017/8 & 2018/9

**Planned timetable:**
- Lectures: 9.00 am Mon, Tue, Wed (odd weeks) 9.00 am Mon, Tue (even weeks)
- Practicals: 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Mon or Tue (weeks 1, 3, 5, 8 & 10)

The module will introduce the concept of 'a cell', moving on to discuss different types of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell. The structure and function of a variety of sub-cellular compartments will be examined. The diversity of different cell types within multicellular organisms will be highlighted, together with an overview of how this diversity is achieved.

**Programme module type:** Compulsory for Cell Biology, Biomolecular Sciences and Neuroscience
Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows.

**Pre-requisite(s):** BL1101 and BL1102

**Anti-requisite(s):** BL2101

**Required for:** BL3303, BL3311, BL3315, BL3322

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:**
- **Weekly contact:** 2 x 1-hour lecture (even weeks) 3 x 1-hour lecture (odd weeks), 3-hour practical classes (x 5 weeks)
- **Scheduled learning:** 39 hours
- **Guided independent study:** 111 hours

**Assessment pattern:**
- As defined by QAA:
  - Written Examinations = 50%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 50%

- As used by St Andrews:
  - 2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

**Re-assessment pattern:**
- 2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)
- Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)
- 2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)
- 2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry)

**Module coordinator:** Dr J Sleeman

**Module teaching staff:** Team taught
**BL2302 Molecular Biology**

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<td>Planned timetable:</td>
<td>Lectures: 9.00 am Thu, Fri (odd weeks) 9.00 am Wed, Thu, Fri (even weeks)</td>
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<td>Practicals: 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Mon or Tue (weeks 2, 4, 7, 9 &amp; 11)</td>
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Molecular biology is an essential tool within modern biology, widely used in biochemistry, cell biology and ecology. This module will provide an introduction to modern molecular biology. Lectures will cover fundamental biological processes such as transcription, translation, DNA replication and repair - as well as touch on the genomics revolution and how this has influenced the field. These concepts will be reinforced through laboratory practical classes where students will develop their practical skills and be exposed to the use of basic bioinformatics resources to analyse and interpret data.

Programme module type: Compulsory for Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Cell Biology and Biomolecular Sciences single honours degrees and MBiochem integrated masters degree. Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows.

Pre-requisite(s): BL1101 and BL1102

Anti-requisite(s): BL2104

Required for: BL3301, BL3302, BL3310, BL3315, BL3322

Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: 3 x 1-hour in even weeks and 2 x 1-hour in odd weeks, 3-hour practical (x 5 weeks)

Scheduled learning: 39 hours Guided independent study: 111 hours

Assessment pattern: As defined by QAA:
Written Examinations = 70%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 30%

As used by St Andrews:
2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

Re-assessment pattern: 2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)  
Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)  
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)  
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry)

Module coordinator: Dr H Ferreira

Module teaching staff: Team taught
BL2303 Evolutionary Biology

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</table>
| Planned timetable: | Lectures: 11.00 am Thu, Fri (odd weeks) 11.00 am Wed, Thu, Fri (even weeks)  
Practicals: 2.00 - 5.00 pm Thu or Fri (weeks 1, 3, 5, 8 & 10) |

Evolution is a fundamentally important component of our understanding of all biological phenomena, from molecular to ecosystem scales. This module will give an overview of the history and major principles of modern evolutionary biology, aimed at contemporary biologists of all backgrounds.

Programme module type: Compulsory for Behavioural Biology, Ecology & Conservation, Evolutionary Biology, Zoology single honours degrees, Biology and Geology joint degree and M Biol integrated masters degree. Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows.

Pre-requisite(s): BL1101 and BL1102  
Anti-requisite(s): BL2105

Required for: BL3307, BL3309, BL3319

Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: 3 x 1-hour in even weeks and 2 x 1-hour in odd weeks, 3-hour practical (x 5 weeks)  
Scheduled learning: 39 hours  
Guided independent study: 111 hours

Assessment pattern: As defined by QAA:  
Written Examinations = 50%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 50%

As used by St Andrews:  
2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

Re-assessment pattern:  
2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)  
Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)  
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)  
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry)

Module coordinator: Prof M G Ritchie

Module teaching staff: Team taught
The vast majority of animals are invertebrates - they do not have backbones. This module surveys the major invertebrate groups, emphasizing the diversity of body plans while demonstrating how the common functional requirements such as feeding, reproduction, respiration and excretion are achieved. The module starts with the simplest animals such as sponges and jellyfish, and considers how these primitive animals may have arisen from non-animal ancestors. It continues with a description of the several groups of worms, and the molluscs and arthropods. The last major group discussed are the echinoderms, which are close invertebrate relatives to vertebrate animals such as ourselves. The economic, social, and scientific impact that invertebrates have on human society is identified. The evolutionary relations between the various groups is the common thread that binds this diversity into a coherent story. A series of practical exercises reinforces and complements the lecture component of this module.

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Cells are often considered to be the fundamental unit of life. This module will discuss how cells interact with one another to form complex tissues and organisms. You will consider, the structure-function relationship of a variety of cell types, including those involved in forming muscles, neuronal networks, blood and immunity and infectious diseases. The mechanisms by which cells communicate in order to mediate the complex physiology of an organism will be discussed and you will consider how disruption of these cell systems can lead to disease states.

**Programme module type:**
Compulsory for Cell Biology and Neuroscience single honours degrees. Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows.

**Pre-requisite(s):**
BL1101 and BL1102

**Anti-requisite(s):**
BL2101

**Required for:**
BL3303

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:**
Weekly contact: 2 x 1-hour in even weeks and 3 x 1-hour in odd weeks, 3-hour practical (x 5 weeks)

Scheduled learning: 39 hours
Guided independent study: 111 hours

**Assessment pattern:**
As defined by QAA:
Written Examinations = 50%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 50%

As used by St Andrews:
2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

**Re-assessment pattern:**
2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)
Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry)

**Module coordinator:**
Dr G Prescott

**Module teaching staff:**
Team taught
**BL2306 Biochemistry**

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<td>2017/8 &amp; 2018/9</td>
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| Planned timetable: | Lectures: 9.00 am Thu, Fri (odd weeks), 9.00 am Wed, Thu, Fri (even weeks)  
Practicals: 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Mon or Tue (weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11) |

Due to recent technological developments, metabolism and its regulation has re-emerged as an important area of Biology. This module will examine major biological macromolecules, the common motifs which occur in metabolic reactions, explore the properties of enzymes catalysing these reactions and consider the approaches to characterise the small molecule complement (metabolites) of biological systems. A number of central metabolic pathways and their control will be studied in detail, alongside examples of their importance in disease and recent metabolomic studies.

| Programme module type: | Compulsory for Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Biomolecular Sciences single honours degrees and MBiochem integrated Master’s degree  
Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows. |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pre-requisite(s):      | BL1101 and BL1102  
Anti-requisite(s): BL2104 |
| Required for:          | BL3301, BL3302, BL3303, BL3310, BL3322 |
| Learning and teaching methods and delivery: | **Weekly contact:** 3 x 1-hour in even weeks and 2 x 1-hour in odd weeks, 3-hour practical (x 6 weeks)  
**Scheduled learning:** 42 hours  
**Guided independent study:** 108 hours |
| Assessment pattern:    | As defined by QAA:  
Written Examinations = 50%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 50%  
As used by St Andrews:  
2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50% |
| Re-assessment pattern: | 2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)  
Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)  
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)  
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry) |
| Module coordinator:    | Dr J Nairn |
| Module teaching staff: | Team taught |
BL2307 Ecology

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**Academic year:** 2017/8 & 2018/9

**Planned timetable:**
- Lectures: 11.00 am Thu, Fri (odd weeks) 11.00 am Wed, Thu, Fri (even weeks)
- Practicals: 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Thu or Fri (weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 & 10)

This module introduces basic concepts in population and community ecology and how they relate to biodiversity. It provides an understanding of fundamental ecological concepts including population regulation, intra- and inter-specific competition, species niche as well as taxonomic and functional diversity. This module is suitable for all Biologists and environmental scientists. Although it is an introductory module, it will cover the latest developments in the field of ecology.

**Programme module type:** Compulsory for Behavioural Biology, Ecology & Conservation, Evolutionary Biology and Marine Biology single honours degrees and MBiol and MMarBiol integrated Masters degrees and Biology and Geology Joint Honours
Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows.

**Pre-requisite(s):** BL1101 and BL1102

**Anti-requisite(s):** BL2105

**Required for:** BL3000, BL3308, BL3309, BL3316, BL3318, BL3319

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:**
- **Weekly contact:** 3 x 1-hour in even weeks and 2 x 1-hour in odd weeks, 3-hour practical (x 5 weeks)
- **Scheduled learning:** 39 hours
- **Guided independent study:** 111 hours

**Assessment pattern:**

As defined by QAA:
- Written Examinations = 50%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 50%

As used by St Andrews:
- 2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

**Re-assessment pattern:**
- 2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)
- Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)
- 2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)
- 2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry)

**Module coordinator:** Prof O Gaggiotti

**Module teaching staff:** Team taught
BL2308 Vertebrate Zoology

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<td>Academic year:</td>
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**Planned timetable:**
- Lectures: 11.00 am Mon, Tue, Wed (odd weeks) 11.00 am Mon, Tue (even weeks)
- Practicals: 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Thu or Fri (weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11)

This module will explore the diversity of vertebrate animals, beginning with the closest relatives of vertebrates and the evolutionary origins of the group. A detailed look at the defining characteristics of the body plans and lifestyles of the key vertebrate groups will illustrate how they carry out basic animal functions in similar or different ways. This will be put in an evolutionary context to reveal the patterns and trends in the vertebrates as a whole, while also highlighting current phylogenetic controversies. The module will then explore some common themes across the key groups, starting with the developmental biology of some vertebrate model systems and the lessons we can learn from these. We will also see how the highly developed brains of vertebrates have allowed the evolution of astonishing sensory capacities and of complex behaviours, and how these are different (or not) from invertebrates.

**Programme module type:**
- Compulsory for Behavioral Biology, Ecology & Conservation, Evolutionary Biology and Zoology single honours degrees and MBiol integrated master’s degree
- Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows.

**Pre-requisite(s):**
- BL1101 and BL1102

**Anti-requisite(s):**
- BL2102

**Required for:**
- BL3309, BL3315, BL3318, BL3323

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:**
- **Weekly contact:** 3 x 1-hour in even weeks and 2 x 1-hour in odd weeks, 3-hour practical (x 6 weeks)
- **Scheduled learning:** 42 hours
- **Guided independent study:** 108 hours

**Assessment pattern:**
- As defined by QAA:
  - Written Examinations = 50%, Practical Examinations = 0%, Coursework = 50%
- As used by St Andrews:
  - 2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

**Re-assessment pattern:**
- 2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)
- Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)
- 2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)
- 2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry)

**Module coordinator:**
- Dr V Dietrich-Bischoff

**Module teaching staff:**
- Team taught
Techniques in molecular biology represent a powerful box of tools that are used to address a wide variety of modern research questions across a broad range of biological disciplines including: ecology, biotechnology, cell biology, medicine, conservation biology, infectious disease, evolution, genetics and synthetic biology. Key molecular biology techniques will be introduced in the context of case studies that will provide examples of how molecular biology techniques are being used in cutting edge research to address real-life questions and problems that impact health, food security, the environment and the economy.

Programme module type: Compulsory for Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Biomolecular Science single honours degrees and MBiochem integrated master’s degree
Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows.

Pre-requisite(s): BL1101 and BL1102

Required for: BL3301, BL3302, BL3303, BL3311

Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: 3 x 1-hour in even weeks and 2 x 1-hour in odd weeks, 3-hour practical (x 5 weeks)

Assessment pattern: As defined by QAA:
Written Examinations = 50%, Practical Examinations = 50%, Coursework = 0%

As used by St Andrews:
2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

Re-assessment pattern: 2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)
Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)
2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry)

Module coordinator: Dr C Adamson

Module teaching staff: Team taught
**A comparative physiologist studies organisms to explore the origins and nature of physiological diversity. This module covers the principles of physiological adaptation in a range of animals, including examples from all major taxa and from all habitats. The specific topics and components include:**

1. The physiological consequences of body size and scaling effects;
2. Respiratory and circulatory systems in vertebrates and invertebrates;
3. Thermal physiology;
4. Water balance in aquatic and land animals;
5. The mammalian kidney and its functioning;
6. Sensory systems in different environments;
7. Neural signaling and vertebrate senses;
8. Control systems - hormones and pheromones; and
9. Immunity and the maintenance of physiological integrity.

### Programme module type:
- Compulsory for Zoology single honours degree
- Optional for all other Biology degrees where timetabling allows.

### Pre-requisite(s): BL1101 and BL1102

### Anti-requisite(s): BL2106

### Required for:
- BL3000, BL3316, BL3318

### Learning and teaching methods and delivery:
- **Weekly contact:** 3 x 1-hour in even weeks and 2 x 1-hour in odd weeks, 3-hour practical (x 5 weeks)
- **Scheduled learning:** 39 hours
- **Guided independent study:** 111 hours

### Assessment pattern:
- **As defined by QAA:**
  - Written Examinations = 50%, Practical Examinations = 50%, Coursework = 0%
- **As used by St Andrews:**
  - 2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

### Re-assessment pattern:
- 2-Hour Written Examination = 50%, Existing Coursework = 50% (if Exam failed)
- Existing Examination = 50%, New Coursework = 50% (if Coursework failed)
- 2-hour Written Examination = 100% (if coursework and exam failed)
- 2-hour Written Examination = 100% (for Qualified Honours Entry)

### Module coordinator:
- Prof S Healy

### Module teaching staff:
- Team taught