UNDER THE SKIN OF LIFE
Biology is the subject of the 21st century. At Reading we are at the forefront of this flourishing subject; our overall objective is to further understand life and to communicate this biological knowledge so as to inspire and inform successive generations of graduates.

Our 60 full-time academic staff are experts in a wide range of biological science subjects: biomedical science and biomedical engineering researchers advance knowledge which underpins health and welfare development; evolutionary biologists and ecologists enable better understanding of the natural world and how it can be conserved; researchers in applied biology develop new technologies that provide impactful benefits to the wider society.

Our work is carried out on the beautiful Whiteknights campus set in 130 hectares including the Harris Garden, a mature botanical garden. The University of Reading is a leading institution for the Biological Sciences, providing excellent degree programmes and facilities, and it’s an exciting, friendly place to study.

What can be more important than the science of life to any intelligent being who has the good fortune to be alive?

Isaac Asimov
Biochemist & Author
EngiNeering
Nature

Biomedical engineering applies engineering methods and designs to some of the greatest challenges we face as a society in terms of our health and well-being. The University of Reading is training future biomedical engineers who will develop the next generation of technologies to diagnose diseases earlier, restore lost body functions and improve quality of life for patients and older adults.

Dr Faustina Hwang, Associate Professor of Digital Health, is one of the people working in this exciting nexus between biology and engineering. Faustina uses her knowledge and skills as an engineer to design innovative technologies that support health and well-being. This includes ensuring that technology is usable by everyone, of any age or ability – people’s needs are at the heart of her research.

“I knew when I entered engineering as an undergraduate student that I wanted to pursue a career in a medically-related field. As I continued, my appreciation grew for the breadth of opportunities that an engineering degree offers for helping to address biomedical challenges.”

Faustina finds it exciting to work creatively and collaboratively on projects where there is clear potential for real-world impact. She passes this enthusiasm on to our undergraduates when she teaches – imparting passion as well as knowledge. Faustina is one of many full time expert academics bringing specialist knowledge to the cutting-edge content of the Biomedical Engineering programme. As a Reading Biomedical Engineering undergraduate, you will have access to this specialised expertise from day one. Throughout the degree, you have the option to choose specialised modules, so that you can focus on your particular area of interest.

When you study with us, you also get hands-on experience. You have the option of immersing yourself in the biomedical engineering sector by doing a one year placement with one of our industrial partners, and you can get directly involved in our research through summer placements and your final year research project.

“As you can have the Royal Berkshire Hospital close-by. The links we have been forging with them will provide opportunities for students to gain first-hand experience in communicating with clinicians and to develop insight into working in a clinical environment. I hope these opportunities will inspire students to learn more about important biomedical challenges and to see how they can apply their skills and knowledge gained from our degree to develop cutting-edge biomedical engineering solutions.”

Dr Faustina Hwang
AFTER DARWIN
TO THE GALAPAGOS AND BEYOND

Following in the footsteps of Darwin, swimming with sea lions and seeing some of the world’s rarest species is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Memories of the Tropical Biology Field Course, led by Professor of Ecology Mark Fellowes, have stayed with students long after they have graduated.

In previous years, the trips have taken place in Madagascar and Borneo but for the first time last year, the group journeyed to the Ecuadorian Amazon and Galapagos Islands. Described by UNESCO as a unique ‘living museum and showcase of evolution’, the Galapagos Islands are brimming with marine, animal and bird species. The Tropical Biology Field Course allows students to appreciate how people are completely transforming the planet.

“It’s difficult to explain just how lucky we are to be able to see species as iconic as anacondas, sloths, river dolphins, marine iguanas, giant tortoises and Darwin’s finches in the space of a couple of weeks,” says Mark. “The Amazon is a lush tropical rainforest, for me it’s about the birds, but most people love seeing different primates, like spider monkeys, howler monkeys and pygmy marmoset, the smallest true monkey.”

Field work isn’t restricted to the tropics – other field courses visit sites in the UK, Spain and Sweden and students have worked in places such as Malaysia, South Africa and the Caribbean for their final year projects.

For the first part of the trip, the group stays in the Amazon spending time with the local community to see how they interact with the wildlife and biodiversity around them.

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Back in Reading, teaching involves using the biodiverse campus as a field site and outdoor laboratory, with students learning to identify and survey birds, mammals and invertebrates. The campus has prestigious Green Flag status and is home to a large lake, woodlands, meadows and the Harris Garden with foxes, deer, hedgehogs and owls among its inhabitants.

“‘We don’t just use indoor laboratories for teaching, we believe passionately in getting people outside to see things for themselves,’ says Mark.

“If we want to make a difference, to protect what remains of our biodiversity, the first step is to get hands-on and look at things. The lessons learned at Reading set the stage for understanding how to help protect what’s left; it’s that important.”
In their final year, undergraduate students are offered research projects across the breadth of the biological sciences, from Biochemistry to Zoology.

Recent whole organism projects have involved working abroad, for example investigating declining leopard numbers in a small reserve in South Africa and the effects of oil palm plantations on frog diversity in south-east Asia, but most take place in and around Reading.

Highly successful recent projects include mapping the populations of urban hedgehogs, trying to explain the success of the red kite reintroduction programme and the effect of climate change on butterfly abundance.

In molecular biology, students study the range of diseases that are a major cause of human mortality and morbidity, ranging from cardiovascular disease and breast cancer to muscular dystrophy and bacterial pathogenesis.

More recently projects have been offered in neurophysiology, particularly focusing on brain-computer interfaces and developing replacement limbs.

While these projects are tightly linked to degree programmes, there are also opportunities for students who are interested in developing experience of educational work or in gaining experience of curation, using the unique opportunities provided by the Cole collection, and in areas linking the arts and sciences.

Every year the projects change, as projects are linked to research activities within the School. For most students the final year project is a real highlight of their time at Reading, and some even become authors on scientific papers based on their work.
Strolling through campus it could be easy to walk past a much-loved museum, unaware of the treasures which lie behind its doors. For students of the School of Biological Sciences, however, the Cole Museum of Zoology is the jewel in the crown, with many volunteering to care for its precious collections and using it as the focus of their final year projects.

The museum was established in the early 20th century by Francis J. Cole who was Professor of Zoology at the University from 1907 to 1939. It contains 3,500 specimens including complete skeletons of a male Indian Elephant, a False Killer Whale, a 5m Reticulated Python and a pair of Giant Spider Crabs.

Associate Professor of Zoology, Dr Amanda Callaghan, has been curator of the museum for 11 years and is passionate about its preservation. “Since I’ve taken over, it’s been my mission to integrate the museum far more in teaching and offer students access to the museum,” she says. “A lot of students get excited about the idea of coming here and using the specimens. In most museums they are behind glass and you can’t access them, so they really do benefit from it.”

Students are encouraged to sign up for volunteer sessions to help run the museum, spending time cataloguing, cleaning bones, researching specimens and taking photographs. They can also train to be tour guides, entertaining visitors from far and wide as well as school groups. Several students have successfully gone on to work for other museums because of the knowledge and experience they have gained.

The Cole Museum runs side-by-side with certain subjects, especially zoology, and hosts a number of classes including Paleozoology, Birds: Diversity/Conservation and Animal Diversity. A new module is being introduced this year in Natural History Collection Management and Care.

“It will offer some science behind aspects of the work the volunteers are already doing at the moment, but they don’t know the background, so training in things like ethics and conservation methods. It will be a lot of fun,” says Dr Callaghan.

The museum has strong links with the Horniman Museum in London, the Oxford University Museum of Natural History and The Hunterian in Glasgow. In two years’ time, it will be moved to a new state-of-the-art Health & Life Sciences building when students will be able to help transfer this fascinating historical collection. More than a hundred years since it was founded, it remains a tremendous source of inspiration to both students and academics.

Zoology graduate Rashmi Mistry undertook her final year research project studying Ichthyosaurus in the collection with her work presented at the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology in Utah in 2016. Rashmi says: “Working in The Cole Museum has been an amazing experience, I have learnt so much and gained a new interest and appreciation for fossils. To have access to such a vast collection has been a unique and wonderful opportunity. I have acquired many new skills from the experience, which I will be able to apply in other workplaces and opportunities in the future.”
I can't remember when I first decided I wanted to be a scientist. My parents aren't scientists, but once I got my first microscope as a child, I knew it’s what I wanted to do. As I got older I only grew more interested in science. I could see it all around me, through nature, the human body and evolution, so pursuing a degree in Biological Sciences was a natural choice for me.

I wanted to learn the most up-to-date science from the people who knew the most about it. I chose to study Biological Sciences at the University of Reading. My lecturers at Reading were also world-class researchers, which meant they were passionate about what they were teaching, and knew how to feed my childhood passion.

There was a light bulb moment in my first year that really drove home that I'd made the right decision. I was sitting in a genetics lecture and I saw how such small things could determine an entire life. What I was studying was complex, fast moving, but vitally important.

In my third year, I conducted my research project alongside my lecturers in state-of-the-art labs. Working alongside them transformed how I saw the Department. I went from being a student to a scientist. I really got to put this into practice during a field trip. I spent two weeks in Colombia finding and studying new species of bacteria that live in extreme environments. The first week was spent in the field, with the second week spent collaborating with the local university in its labs. I’m still in touch with the people I met there. This sort of project isn’t available at any other university but it was the highlight of my degree. I was happy that the University of Reading gave me control over the modules I studied, and the experiences I had. My options were broad, from immunology to medical genetics to virology.

I lived my time at the University, and part of that is the people I’ve met here. The Department is diverse. It’s made up of students studying courses as diverse as Microbiology, Zoology and Biomedical Engineering. We aren’t taught together, even in the first year, but you could guarantee everyone you met was passionate about what they were doing. They knew what they wanted to study and pursued it from the start of their degree. It also meant I didn’t need to study modules I had no interest in.

I loved my time at Reading so much, I stayed on for a master’s degree as well. I wanted to study the evolution of cancer, a brand new field that tied in well to my interest of evolution. I’m currently investigating the genetic and physical changes cancer cells need to undergo to spread around the human body which could give us so much insight into the pathology of cancer, leading to new drugs and treatments. There is a culture of research here that I wouldn’t be able to find anywhere else. If you come here, you’ll get to do exciting things, not just get a degree.
When Luke Forrest attended the University of Reading’s Open Days, he was awakened to the many areas of study in the Biological Sciences. It was Zoology in particular that captured his attention as he could see how it could lead to jobs in conservation, research, pharmaceuticals, veterinary sciences and even consultancy and corporate roles.

Luke chose to study at Reading for a number of reasons. He was aware of the University’s international reputation for research in the natural sciences and he knew that all of the modules were taught by leading researchers in their fields. He was also excited by the prospect of getting involved in the research during his dissertation. But there were non-academic reasons too – proximity to his family and friends in London, as well as opportunities to get involved in sport.

In September 2015, Luke started his one-year placement with the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl), a government organisation that delivers specialist services in science and technology to the Ministry of Defence and wider government.

“Originally, I hadn’t planned on doing a placement year as I didn’t understand how it would benefit me. However, by my second year, it was evident that the market outside university was very competitive and I could see how a year in industry would give me an advantage over other graduates applying for jobs.”

Luke’s interest in working for Dstl was sparked by the communications sent out by the University’s Placement and Development Team – it was a job advertisement that he could see would not only provide an opportunity to develop and grow, but also apply science to real-world situations.

“I was working with operational search dogs, looking at how you can enhance their behaviour and develop new training techniques. It was really exciting to be involved in a project that was helping to progress our national security, particularly when it is in a state of heightened threat.”

During his placement, Luke was visited twice by a member of the Placement and Development Team to make sure he was settled in and to give him the opportunity to demonstrate some of the skills he was learning on the job. Despite not being on campus, Luke felt a constant connection with the University and access to support should he need it.

An industry placement is a chance for students to transition from university life into a career and this couldn’t be more true in Luke’s case as he has been offered a permanent position with Dstl after he graduates.

“It’s a real acknowledgement that the contributions I made to this area of science during my placement have been valued.”
Biochemistry focuses on the molecular basis of life. This degree course teaches you how inanimate, lifeless chemicals combine to produce living organisms. It provides the most detailed account of how we, and all other life forms, function.

In this highly-practical course we will teach you how diseases are caused and how disease can be countered. We specialise in the biochemistry of diseases such as cancer and coronary heart disease, with the aim of understanding what goes wrong at that cell and molecular level and how drugs and other treatments work.

Emphasis is placed on you being able to choose, as the course proceeds, the aspects of biochemistry that you find most rewarding. We are a research-intensive University, which offers you an extensive final year research project in one of our active research laboratories using cutting-edge ideas and equipment.

YEAR ONE
- Metabolic and practical biochemistry
- Building blocks of life
- Laboratory and study skills for biomedicine
- Key skills in biomedicine
- Introductory microbiology
- Fundamentals of organic chemistry

YEAR TWO
- Pharmacology and toxicology
- Key skills in biomedicine 2
- Cells and immunity
- Molecular genetics
- Protein structure and function
- Physiological biochemistry
- Introduction to bioinformatics and computational biology

YEAR THREE/FOUR
- Research project

Visit www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences for more information. Ask us your questions at www.reading.ac.uk/question
BSc Biological Sciences covers all aspects of the study of living organisms from micro-organisms, such as viruses and bacteria, to multicellular organisms, such as plants and animals, and their interactions. You can learn about human physiology and diseases, or about whole ecological communities and their conservation, as well as topics such as genetics, infectious diseases, immunology or neurobiology. It is our broadest and most flexible degree course.

This programme offers an exceptional variety of optional modules, allowing you to personalise your degree – you can experience the whole breadth of biology if you wish or specialise in a particular area such as human biology or ecology and wildlife. We will foster and widen your biological interests and give you a thorough scientific training, enabling you to investigate and understand biology more fully. Our diverse group of academics are internationally recognised for their research, with expertise ranging from biochemistry to zoology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR ONE</th>
<th>YEAR TWO</th>
<th>YEAR THREE/FOUR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Building blocks of life</td>
<td>• Venoms and poisons</td>
<td>• Research project – Ecology and evolution</td>
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<td>• Introduction to evolutionary processes</td>
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These are compulsory modules - see the website for example optional modules. Please note that all modules are subject to change.

* See separate Science Foundation Year flyer for the details of this programme.

Visit www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences for more information.
Ask us your questions at www.reading.ac.uk/question
Biomedical Engineering is the application of engineering methods and designs in healthcare and biology. You will learn how the brain works, what techniques exist to monitor different tissues in the human body and the science behind them, and how to design devices to rehabilitate injured patients and help the elderly.

You should possess a keen understanding of mathematics and an innate curiosity for human physiology.

This highly-practical course gives you experience in techniques such as DNA and protein analysis, EEG recordings and analytical methods. You will have the opportunity to develop transferable skills that are in high demand in the biomedical sector, such as how to design and execute experiments, work in teams, use statistics and computing to interpret data, and write essays and reports. Alongside our academics, you can undertake original research in the fields of neural engineering, rehabilitation and medical technology. Our expert academics specialise in subjects such as electronics, physiology, robotics, genetics and more. You can choose from a wide range of optional modules from across the School of Biological Sciences.

**YEAR ONE**
- Programming
- Mathematics
- Electronics
- Building blocks of life
- Human physiology
- Physics for biomedical engineering
- Key skills in biomedical engineering

**YEAR TWO**
- Signal processing
- Biomedical systems design and project management
- Biocybernetics
- Sensors and transducers for biomedical engineering
- Introduction to bioinformatics and computational biology
- Fundamentals of neuroscience
- Digital and embedded technologies

**YEAR THREE**
- Individual project (BEng)
- OR
- Group or individual project (MEng)

**YEAR FOUR**
- Research project
- Research management and ethics

Visit [www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences](http://www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences) for more information.

Ask us your questions at [www.reading.ac.uk/question](http://www.reading.ac.uk/question)
Biomedical Sciences is the application of biology-based science to medical use, be it research, health monitoring or treatment. You will learn the basic biological systems that underpin all life from a cellular, tissue, organ and whole body perspective. From this fundamental knowledge, we will teach you about the diseases that result when these systems go wrong, as well as the diseases caused by the vast array of infectious organisms that we are exposed to every day.

In this highly-practical course, you will gain experience in a wide range of cellular, molecular and biochemical techniques including DNA and protein technology, microscopy and analytical methods. Academics in our Department are internationally recognised for their research in fields including cardiovascular disease, cancer, cell signalling, endocrinology, virology and bacteriology. You will benefit from our long-standing links with the Royal Berkshire Hospital – some teaching is delivered by practicing NHS laboratory scientists who helped develop this course. In your final year, you have the opportunity to undertake an 11-week practical research project on topics as diverse as SARS, HIV, influenza, heart disease, breast cancer and obesity.

**YEAR ONE**
- Building blocks of life
- Key skills in biomedicine
- Pathology and histology
- Laboratory and study skills for biomedicine
- Human physiology
- Introductory microbiology
- Bacteriology and virology

**YEAR TWO**
- Clinical biomedicine
- Molecular genetics
- Pharmacology and toxicology
- Cells and immunity
- Infectious diseases
- Key skills in biomedicine 2

**YEAR THREE/FOUR**
- Research project
- Medical genetics
- Cardiovascular disease
- Cancer and cell communication

Please note that all modules are subject to change.

* See separate Science Foundation Year flyer for the details of this programme.

Visit [www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences](http://www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences) for more information.
Ask us your questions at [www.reading.ac.uk/question](http://www.reading.ac.uk/question)
Our new BSc Medical Science degree course provides a solid grounding in the cellular and molecular biology underpinning disease whilst also exploring how such diseases are diagnosed, prevented and treated.

Optional tailored pathways allow you to specialise in a cutting edge and topical area of medical science:

- **Diseases pathway:** Learn about the genetic and physiological basis of major diseases and disorders and study how gene-environment interaction underpins disease. Example modules: Clinical Psychology, Bacteriology & Virology, infectious diseases.
- **Medical Devices pathway:** Learn about how modern technology is being used to address previously insurmountable medical challenges. Example modules: Introduction to programming, Sensors & Transducers for Biomedical Engineering.
- **Clinical and Medical Sciences pathway:** Learn about the complex causes of major diseases and global epidemics and study the multidisciplinary approach to their containment, treatment and prevention. Example modules: Public Health & Nutrition, Medicines in Healthcare, Drug Targets.

This highly practical course is designed to align with corresponding stages of UK medical schools’ MBChB/MBBS programmes, and with clinical placements built into the timetable, is an excellent grounding for graduate entry medicine.

**Length of programmes**

BSc Medical Science: 3 years full-time

**Typical A-level entry requirements**

BBB with minimum grade B in both Biology and Chemistry.

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<tr>
<th>YEAR ONE</th>
<th>YEAR TWO</th>
<th>YEAR THREE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology 2</td>
<td>Clinically-focused Research Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathology</td>
<td>Clinical Biomedicine</td>
<td>Assistive Technology and Rehabilitation Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Blocks of Life</td>
<td>Molecular Drug Targets 1</td>
<td>Diagnostics and Nuclear Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Microbiology</td>
<td>Key Skills in Biomedicine</td>
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<td>Principles of Drug Action</td>
<td>Key Skills in Biomedicine 2</td>
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Visit [reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences](http://reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences) for more information.

Ask us your questions at [www.reading.ac.uk/question](http://www.reading.ac.uk/question)
BSc ECOLOGY AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CD94
BSc ECOLOGY AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CD95*
WITH FOUNDATION
BSc ECOLOGY AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CD96
WITH PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Length of programmes
BSc Ecology and Wildlife Conservation: 3 years full-time
BSc Ecology and Wildlife Conservation with Professional Experience: 4 years full-time

Typical A-level entry requirements
AAB–ABB including B in either Biology, Geography, Environmental Science or Maths, and one other science.

Ecology and wildlife conservation are hugely relevant subjects in today’s world, where resources are becoming scarce, the climate is changing, and extinction rates and habitat loss are occurring at unsustainable rates. As an undergraduate at Reading, you will gain fundamental insights into the natural world around us and understand how we can apply these perspectives to some of our most pressing problems.

Our teaching is strongly research led—we carry out a large amount of research into wildlife, its ecology and conservation. You will gain considerable field experience both on campus and on field courses in Spain or the tropics, enhancing your basic skills in species identification and the design of ecological experiments in a range of fascinating habitats. You can take part in genuinely novel research that could lead to publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

We are very experienced in training students for employment as ecologists and conservationists and focus on enhancing your vocational skills and employability. As an Ecology and Wildlife Conservation graduate, you will be eligible for membership of the Royal Society of Biology and Chartered Biologist status.

YEAR ONE
• Key skills in ecology and zoology
• Ecology
• Animal behaviour
• Introduction to evolutionary processes
• Ecology and environmental management

YEAR TWO
• Key skills in ecology and zoology 2
• Invertebrate zoology
• Methods in ecology and environmental management
• Introduction to entomology

YEAR THREE/FOUR
• Research project
• Conservation biology
• Wildlife and farming

Visit www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences for more information.
Ask us your questions at www.reading.ac.uk/question

Please note that all modules are subject to change.

* See separate Science Foundation Year flyer for the details of this programme.
Microbes are the most dominant life forms on the planet. Some cause disease, while others are crucial for life. We have also learned to exploit microbes for our own benefit. You will learn about the diverse world of microbes and their fundamental properties, genetics and physiology.

In this highly-practical course, you will gain experience in a wide range of techniques such as microbial genetics, DNA technology, aseptic technique, microbial isolation, propagation and identification and biochemistry. Academics in our Department are internationally recognised for their research, with particular strengths in virology and bacteriology.

This course is designed to maximise choice so that you can focus on the aspects of the subject that most interest you, such as Medical Microbiology, Environmental Microbiology or Food Microbiology.

In your final year, you will have the opportunity to work in a research lab on a project of your choice and take part in an optional Microbiology Field Course to Iceland to examine Arctic microbiology.

There are opportunities for funded summer studentships within the School.

### YEAR ONE
- Introductory microbiology
- Bacteriology and virology
- Building blocks of life
- Key skills in biomedicine

### YEAR TWO
- Key skills in biomedicine 2
- Cells and immunity
- Infectious diseases
- The bacterial cell
- Molecular genetics

### YEAR THREE/FOUR
- Research project
- Mechanisms for microbial function
- Bacterial pathogens and experimental approaches

These are compulsory modules. See the website for example optional modules. Please note that all modules are subject to change.

* See separate Science Foundation Year flyer for the details of this programme.

Visit [www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences](http://www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences) for more information. Ask us your questions at [www.reading.ac.uk/question](http://www.reading.ac.uk/question)
BSc ZOOLOGY C300
BSc ZOOLOGY C301*
WITH FOUNDATION
BSc ZOOLOGY C302
WITH PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Length of programmes
BSc Zoology: 3 years full-time
BSc Zoology with Professional Experience: 4 years full-time

Typical A-level entry requirements
ABB–BBB with minimum B in Biology and in a second science subject.

Zoology is the science of animals at all levels, from the subcellular through to the ecology of the animal world. It is a fascinating, challenging and diverse subject that includes taxonomy, physiology, genetics, behaviour, evolution, biodiversity and conservation.

There’s no shared first year with other subjects, so you will study Zoology from day one. You will gain expertise in molecular genetics, ecology, animal behaviour, animal identification, surveying and methods of trapping. Field work is an integral component of our modules, thanks to our beautiful, award-winning Whiteknights campus. We are also home to the Cole Museum of Zoology, which has thousands of specimens from the animal kingdom and a new collection of animal fossils, and is run with the help of student volunteers.

You will undertake a final year research project, enabling you to focus on a topic that fascinates you and make a genuine contribution to zoology research. For many students this is the highlight of their degree, as they are able to focus on a topic that fascinates them and make a genuine contribution to zoology research.

YEAR ONE
• Building blocks of life
• Introduction to evolutionary processes
• Key skills in ecology and zoology
• Ecology
• Animal behaviour
• Animal diversity
• Current topics in zoology and ecology

YEAR TWO
• Key skills in ecology and zoology 2
• Vertebrate zoology
• Invertebrate zoology
• Birds: diversity, behaviour and conservation
• Biodiversity: exploiters and exploited
• Introduction to entomology

YEAR THREE/FOUR
• Research project

These are compulsory modules - see the website for example optional modules.
Please note that all modules are subject to change.
* See separate Science Foundation Year flyer for the details of this programme.

Visit www.reading.ac.uk/biologicalsciences for more information.
Ask us your questions at www.reading.ac.uk/question
Disclaimer
This brochure was issued in 2017 and is aimed at prospective undergraduate students wishing to apply for a place at the University of Reading (the University) and start a course in autumn 2018. The brochure describes in outline the courses and services offered by the School of Biological Sciences at the University. The University makes every effort to ensure that the information provided in the brochure is accurate and up-to-date at the time of going to press (June 2017). However, it may be necessary for the University to make some changes to the information presented in the brochure following publication—for example, where it is necessary to reflect changes in practice or theory in an academic subject as a result of emerging research; or if an accrediting body requires certain course content to be added or removed. To make an informed and up-to-date decision, we recommend that you check [www.reading.ac.uk/ Ready-to-Study.aspx](http://www.reading.ac.uk/Ready-to-Study.aspx) for up-to-date information.

The University undertakes to take all reasonable steps to provide the services (including the courses) described in this brochure. It does not, however, guarantee the provision of such services. Should industrial action or circumstances beyond the control of the University interfere with its ability to provide the services, the University undertakes to use all reasonable steps to minimise any disruption to the services.

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Modules disclaimer
Sample modules are provided as a taster of some of the modules that may be available on this course. The sample modules listed may be compulsory (core) or optional modules. Information is correct at the time of going to press (June 2017) but the University cannot guarantee that a module appearing in this list will definitely run.

For optional modules, the University cannot guarantee that all optional modules will be available to all students who may wish to take them, although the University will try to ensure that students are able to take optional modules in which they have expressed interest at the appropriate time during their course. Optional modules vary from year to year and entry to them will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

Some modules are available on more than one course; if you see a sample module under one course and want to know if it is available on another course, contact the relevant department.

Year abroad and placement fees
Some courses include an optional or compulsory year abroad or placement year. During this year you will only pay a partial fee which is currently set at 15% of the normal tuition fee. Check the website for the latest information: [www.reading.ac.uk/fee-discount-18](http://www.reading.ac.uk/fee-discount-18)