

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE – ZOOLOGY & ECOLOGY

Overview

Zoology and Ecology students tend to pursue careers in the [Environment and Agriculture](#) sectors, the animal and plant related aspects of the [Science and Pharmaceuticals](#) sector, and areas such as [Teaching and Education](#). However, the skills and knowledge you'll develop in your degree will be valuable in a wide range of roles and sectors and over 85% of graduate recruiters will recruit students from any degree discipline.

Roles

Here are some examples of some popular jobs pursued by those studying Zoology and Ecology degrees:

- [Animal Technologist](#)
- [Corporate Social Responsibility Manager](#)
- [Environmental Consultant](#)
- [Environmental Education Officer](#)
- [Environmental Manager](#)
- [Ecologist](#)
- [Nature Conservation Officer](#)
- [Primary School Teacher](#)
- [RSPCA Inspector](#)
- [Secondary School Teacher](#)
- [Waste Management Officer](#)
- [Zoo Keeper](#)
- [Zoologist](#)

You can view additional job roles by using the prospects.ac.uk and [All About Careers](#) websites.

Building Experience

For many roles in this area, work experience and/or volunteering will be essential to build skills and demonstrate your commitment:

- Build work experience for example [Campus Jobs](#) or [securing an internship](#)
- Find volunteering opportunities: [Reading Voluntary Action \(rva.org.uk\)](http://Reading Voluntary Action (rva.org.uk)) | [The Conservation Volunteers \(tcv.org.uk\)](http://The Conservation Volunteers (tcv.org.uk)) | wildlifetrusts.org | charitychoice.co.uk | [Citizen Scientist on London's rivers](#) (these ideas are the tip of the iceberg, there are lots of ways to find volunteering opportunities in the areas you are interested in)
- Gain some experience by volunteering on campus: [Cole Museum of Zoology](#) | [Herbarium](#) | [Museum of English Rural Life](#) or [Harris Gardens](#) (depending on your timetable)
- Apply for a paid research internship [UROP](#) (penultimate year students only)
- Apply for the [Reading Internship Scheme](#) – these are paid summer opportunities with local employers which are exclusive to UoR students. These opportunities, and many others, are advertised on [My Jobs Online](#)
- Get a [Thrive mentor](#) and build a relationship with a professional (penultimate year students only)
- Get involved in a society: look at the full list of [societies](#) for one aligned to your interests

- If you are thinking about teaching as a possible career, you could consider volunteering for the University's [Students in Schools](#) scheme.

Finding Opportunities

Education

getintoteaching.education.gov.uk | TEFL.org/en | teachfirst.org.uk

Environment/Conservation

environmentJob.co.uk | greenjobs.co.uk | Nature.com/naturejobs/science | nationaltrustjobs.org.uk

Further Study/Research

University of Reading | FindaMasters.com | FindaPhD.com | [Veterinary Medicine \(vetschoolscouncil.ac.uk\)](http://Veterinary Medicine (vetschoolscouncil.ac.uk)) | Natural Environment Research Council - NERC

Graduate Schemes

prospects.ac.uk | targetjobs.co.uk | milkround.com | ratemyplacement.co.uk | gradcracker.com

Public Sector/Policy

For roles with Natural England; Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Animal and Plant Health Agency visit civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk or Environment Agency

For graduate schemes visit Faststream (Civil Service) or National Government Development Programme (Local government)

Zoos

Go directly to the organisation's website, for example: [Zoological Society of London \(zsl.org\)](http://Zoological Society of London (zsl.org)) | bealepark.org.uk | livingrainforest.org | cotswoldwildlifepark.co.uk | crocodilesoftheworld.co.uk | chesterzoo.org | jobs.longleat.co.uk or visit [British & Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums \(biaza.org.uk\)](http://British & Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (biaza.org.uk)) for a list of zoos and aquariums.

Exploring Further

There are a number of professional bodies associated with these areas which can provide useful information for example the [Royal Society of Biology \(rsb.org.uk\)](http://Royal Society of Biology (rsb.org.uk)), [Marine Biological Association \(mba.ac.uk\)](http://Marine Biological Association (mba.ac.uk)) and the Society for the Environment has a useful [list](#) of the licensed professional bodies relating to a range of disciplines.

If you have questions or you aren't sure where to start, why not [book an appointment](#) with one of our Careers Consultants? You can also visit our website and attend our careers events and workshops.

