

## Seabird and Marine Mammal Population Assessment Techniques (C004313)

Due to Covid 19, the education and assessment methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits** 3.0

**Study time** 75 h

**Contact hrs**

24.0h

**Course offerings in academic year 2021-2022**

A (semester 1)

English

Gent

**Lecturers in academic year 2021-2022**

Berrow, Simon

O'Connor, Ian

GALWAY02 lecturer-in-charge

GALWAY02 co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2021-2022**

[International Master of Science in Marine Biological Resources](#)

**crdts**

3

**offering**

A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

Seabirds, marine mammals, mark recapture, distance, survey techniques

**Position of the course**

**Contents**

Knowledge of population size is essential for the management of animal populations. Significant biological, ecological and legislative imperatives exist requiring research into long term trends and current abundance and distribution of marine mammal and seabird populations. This module will introduce learners to the practical and theoretical aspects of visual survey techniques utilised to inform conservation policies and action plans and to support reporting and other legislative requirements

Distance sampling for marine mammal survey

Techniques for surveying seabirds at sea

Mark recapture techniques for population assessment

Species Identification

Survey design, analysis and reporting

Emergent technologies for population assessment

**Initial competences**

**Final competences**

- 1 Describe the theoretical basis for visual survey techniques.
- 2 Demonstrate an ability to design, critique and refine survey designs for seabirds and marine mammals.
- 3 Conduct sample visual surveys and utilise appropriate techniques for survey, data storage, analysis and reporting.
- 4 Review the use of emergent technologies such as UAVs in population assessment.

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

**Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

**Teaching methods**

Seminar, Lecture, Fieldwork, Seminar: practical pc room classes

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

The above concepts will be covered in the theoretical component of the course by means of lectures and interactive classes. The practical part of this course will include a series of in-class practical and computer work, fieldwork and interactions with researchers from the Marine and Freshwater Research Centre

**Learning materials and price**

none

**References**

**Course content-related study coaching**

**Assessment moments**

continuous assessment

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Assignment

**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible

**Calculation of the examination mark**