

Module code	SB-4324		
Module Title	Herpetology		
Degree/Diploma	Bachelor of Science (Biology)		
Type of Module	Major Option		
Modular Credits	4	Total student Workload	8 hours/week
		Contact hours	6 hours/week
Prerequisite	None		
Anti-requisite	None		
Aims			
<p>This module is designed to give students a basic understanding of the biology of amphibians and reptiles. The philosophy behind a taxon-oriented module is to encourage students to acquire a multidisciplinary, concept-oriented perspective. Such an approach encourages integration of ideas rather than a focus on details. The module will emphasize ecology, behaviour, biogeography and systematics of the extremely diverse Southeast Asian herpetofauna.</p>			
Learning Outcomes			
<i>On successful completion of this module, a student will be expected to be able to:</i>			
Lower order :	10%	- Describe the basic ecology and physiology of amphibians and reptiles. Understand their conservation needs.	
Middle order :	10%	- Analyse and understand how herpetofauna interact with their environment how they communicate, reproduce, forage, evade parasites as well as how populations and communities assemble, are structured, and maintained.	
Higher order:	80%	- Connect the concepts and approaches in herpetology to predict patterns of species extinction and extirpation to allow a deep understanding of the evolution of life-histories and phylogeographic patterns of assembly in amphibians and reptiles and learn the tools of predictive modelling.	
Module Contents			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Amphibian and reptile evolution, diversification, and global biogeography -Physiological adaptations of amphibians and reptiles -Biomechanics -Temperature and water relations -Energetics -Endocrinology and neurobiology -Reproduction and life-history -Predator-prey interactions -Biomedical aspects of poisons and venoms. -Role of conservation management -Monitoring of amphibian and reptile populations 			
Assessment	Formative assessment	Tutorial assignments and feedback	
	Summative assessment	Examination: 0% Coursework: 100% - 2 class tests (40%) - 1 mini-project (20%) - 2 written assignments (20%) - 3 practical reports (20%)	