## Programme Specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme award and title:</th>
<th>MSc/ PG Diploma / in Marine Biotechnology</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCQF Level:</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCQF Credit Value:</td>
<td>180</td>
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### Educational aims of the programme:
Concise (e.g. a few sentences), general statement of aims and broad purposes of the programme

- The objective of the MSc Marine Biotechnology degree outcome is to provide appropriate and flexible learning opportunities through which students can acquire and further develop the knowledge and skills necessary to investigate biomolecular and biotechnological systems within the field of marine biotechnology. Thus preparing the student for a career in this field within the modern biotechnology industries or research sector. The Programme is a natural career progression for most candidates and an introductory course for others wishing to enter the field. It also provides training for students who wish to pursue a PhD, especially in a biotechnological field.
- Students complete foundation modules before specialising into subjects related to their chosen degree pathway in Marine Biotechnology. Compulsory advanced course modules form the basis of the degree. These include advanced modules in marine biotechnology and aquaculture biotechnology.
- Upon completion of compulsory modules students choose additional advanced course modules to complete the PG Diploma. For the award of MSc, a research project related to the chosen degree outcome is also undertaken.

### Intended programme learning outcomes:
Outline (e.g. one or two paragraphs) of what the student will know, understand and be able to do as a result of their learning, expressed in the categories below. Please consider the contribution made to the student's personal development planning (PDP) and future employability.

**Knowledge and understanding**
- Students will gain an overall understanding the principles of biotechnology, including aspects of marine biodiversity, biology, and genetics of aquatic animals as applicable to marine biotechnology. Specialist knowledge is gained in biotechnological methods and practices directly relevant to marine organisms and their particular use in commerce.

**Subject-specific skills and other attributes**
- Students will be capable of using biotechnological techniques and practices within the modern biotechnology industry and the research sector. Thus preparing the student for a career in this expanding and increasingly important field.
- Students will be able to develop specific biotechnological skills and develop their own research projects which will be of direct relevance to industry, thus acquiring valuable experience during the programme.

**Generic skills (e.g. information skills, communication skills, critical, analytical and problem solving abilities) and other attributes**
- The programme offers students numerous opportunities to develop transferable skills. These include academic skills such as researching information, problem solving, library skills, information retrieval, analytical, presentational and evaluative skills. Communication and project management skills are also an essential component of students' personal and academic development on the programme. These skills include oral presentation skills, reporting, critical thinking, writing for wider audiences, group working and leadership, working to deadlines, organisation, planning and prioritisation.
### Learning, teaching and assessment strategies:
Outline (e.g. one or two paragraphs) on overall approach taken to develop and assess learning outcomes, including any distinctive features

- Each module is continuously assessed using coursework (100%). Coursework assessments may include individual and group work such as written assignments, group presentations, case studies, critical reviews or practical laboratory work. These assessments aim to develop and assess transferable skills in addition to subject specific knowledge.
- For the degree of MSc, assessment is based on a research dissertation (75%), a corresponding seminar (15%) and a press release (10%).

### Professional/statutory body accreditation or recognition:

### Further details:

Entry requirements: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/postgraduate/how-to-apply](http://www.stir.ac.uk/postgraduate/how-to-apply)

Programme structure: [http://www.calendar.stir.ac.uk/](http://www.calendar.stir.ac.uk/)

Relevant Subject Benchmark statement (if applicable): [http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/subject-guidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statements.aspx](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/subject-guidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statements.aspx)


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