

Introduction to Marine and Lacustrine Biology (C002485)

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

Credits	3.0	Study time	90 h	Contact hrs	30.0 h
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Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

A (semester 1)	English	lecture	25.0 h
		excursion	5.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

De Troch, Marleen	WE11	lecturer-in-charge
De Clerck, Olivier	WE11	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management	3	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Algae, seagrasses, mangroves, invertebrates, vertebrates, phyto- and zooplankton, phyto- and zoobenthos

Position of the course

To convey to non-biology students an insight in all marine organisms (systematics, morphology and ecology) living in marine and lacustrine biotopes

Contents

This course will give an overview of the organisms present in marine and lacustrine biotopes with emphasis on the typical adaptations related to the environment. The following topics will be introduced and discussed:

- Diversity of photosynthetic organisms (Cyanobacteria, photosynthetic protists, macroalgae, mangroves and seagrasses)
- Organisms of the sea: plankton versus nekton
- Processes in the open sea
- Organisms of the sea bed
- The diversity of benthic marine invertebrates
- Seaweeds, seagrasses, and benthic organisms
- Benthic life habits

Initial competences

Basic knowledge in biology

Final competences

- 1 To get knowledge on the biology of marine and lacustrine organisms.
- 2 To understand ecological processes in these environments.

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

Excursion, lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Classroom lectures are followed by brief interactive discussions. The practical part of the course consists of a guided excursion to a diverse coastal system (e.g. the North coast of France, Westerscheldt estuary) and/or a visit to the algae collection.

Learning materials and price

Cost: 20.0 EUR for syllabus, copies of research papers (not compulsory) handbooks: Graham Linda & Wilcox Lee (Algae) and Dawson Yale (Marine Botany); Levinton J.S. (Marine Biology, Function, Biodiversity, Ecology)

References

Graham Linda & Wilcox Lee (Algae) and Dawson Yale (Marine Botany); Levinton J.S. (Marine Biology, Function, Biodiversity, Ecology)

Course content-related study coaching

Opportunity for questioning the lecturers during and after the classes, and outside these via email, personal contact and via Minerva.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Oral examination with written preparation. There are typically 2-4 questions for each part (botany, zoology). The questions seek an equilibrium between knowledge and understanding.

Calculation of the examination mark

The final score is calculated on a 50/50 basis for both parts (Botany, Zoology). Students who eschew period aligned and/or non-period aligned evaluations for this course unit may be failed by the examiner.
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