Introduction to Ecology (C001294)

Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Course Specifications

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Study time</th>
<th>Contact hrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>120 h</td>
<td>36.0 h</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (semester 2)

- Dutch
- excursion 10.0 h
- lecture 27.5 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020

Sabbe, Koen

WE11 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>crds</th>
<th>offering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Geography and Geomatics (main subject Geography)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Geography and Geomatics</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linking Course Master of Science in Urbanism and Spatial Planning</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparatory Course Master of Science in Urbanism and Spatial Planning</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

Teaching languages

- Dutch

Keywords

Ecology, evolution, biogeography, biodiversity, ecosystems, global change

Position of the course

The course aims at familiarizing the bachelor student in geography and geomatics and sociology with the basic ecological concepts.

Contents

Ecology (definition and relevance for geography), evolution, limiting conditions and resources, biogeography, life cycles and strategies, competition, population and community ecology, disturbance, succession, diversity, productivity, ecosystem ecology and biogeochemical cycles. These concepts will be illustrated using examples from both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and during excursions. The most important ecosystems and their geographical distributions will be discussed. Important applied ecological subjects such as global change, sustainability, pollution and conservation will be extensively dealt with.

Initial competences

Final objectives of secondary education, for Geography students Ba1 'Introduction Physical Geography' and Ba2 'the biosphere: plants'.

Final competences

1. The student knows and understands the above-mentioned ecological principles and processes that influence the distribution of plants and animals in space and time, and that determine the composition and physiognomy of ecosystems and landscapes, on various spatial scales.
2. The student is aware of the fact that biosphere and geosphere are intricately linked and knows how they mutually interact.
3. The student is capable of independently and critically framing geographic problems in an ecological context (where relevant).
4. The student is aware of the impact of anthropogenic activities on the ecosystems on Earth.

(Approved)
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
Students from the Sociology Bachelor have 20 contact hours lectures and the excursions. They do not need to study chapters 3, 4 and 10 from the syllabus.

Learning materials and price

References

Course content-related study coaching
Opportunity for questioning the lecturers during the lectures, through email, personal contact and in an e-learning environment (Ufora).

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Written examination with open questions, oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination with open questions, 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
Periodical evaluation: on theory and excursions: written exam with (non-obligatory) oral examination

Calculation of the examination mark
First examination chance: 100 % periodical evaluation. Second examination chance: 100 % periodical evaluation. In order to pass this course, the student has to participate in the excursion.