Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2020-2021

Paleobiology of Micro-organisms (C001584)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation 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 5.0
Study time 140 h
Contact hrs 50.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021
A (semester 1) English Gent practicum 30.0 h
lecture 20.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021
Louwye, Stephen WE13 lecturer-in-charge
Wong Hearing, Thomas WE13 co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021
Master of Science in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management 6 A

teaching languages
English

Keywords
Palaeobiology, fossil micro-organisms, morphology, evolution, palaeoenvironment, palaeogeography, dating

Position of the course
Knowledge and insight of the most important groups of fossil micro-organisms and their evolution over Earth's history. Their use as proxies for the reconstruction of the palaeoenvironment, palaeogeography and palaeoclimate.

Contents
The palaeobiology of fossil microorganisms over Earth's history: morphology and general characteristics, life strategies, palaeoproductivity, fossilisation and taphonomy, diversity and palaeogeography, evolution, radiation, and extinctions. Fossil micro-organisms as proxies for the palaeo-environment: principles and case studies.

Initial competences
Knowledge of phycology and protistology.

Final competences
1 Advanced knowledge of the discussed fossil microorganisms and their identification criteria.
2 To possess a fundamental insight in their evolution during the Phanerozoic.
3 Apply this knowledge to determine palaeoenvironmental parameters and to reconstruct the palaeogeography and palaeoclimatology.

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
Lecture, practicum

(Approved)
Learning materials and price

References

Course content-related study coaching
  Possibility to ask questions about the oral teaching classes by email, via personal contact and during the practical exercises. Guidance during practical exercises by teachers and assistants.

Evaluation methods
  end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
  Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
  Examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods
  Written (theory) and report (practical exercises)

  Form and contents of the examination are explained at the end of the course. A test evaluates whether students have internalized the final objectives.

Calculation of the examination mark
  Work piece 25%, written exam 75%