

Subject card

Subject name and code	Ecology of animals, PG_00198101						
Field of study	Natural Resources Conservation						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject			2027/2028		
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group			Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery			at the university		
Year of study	2	Language of instruction			Polish		
Semester of study	3	ECTS credits			2.0		
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form			exam		
Conducting unit	Laboratory of Vertebrate Ecology and Ethology -> Department of Vertebrate Ecology and Zoology -> Faculty of Biology -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Adrian Zwolicki				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		4.0		16.0	50
Subject objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of the scope of interests within animal ecology 2. Identification of the distinguishing features of animal ecology 3. Presentation of animal responses (physiological, behavioral, population-level) to environmental factors 4. Discussion of the factors and mechanisms regulating the abundance and distribution of animals within populations 5. Presentation of the relationships between animal ecology and wildlife resource management (wildlife conservation, exploitation of animal populations, control of undesirable species' numbers) 						
Learning outcomes	Course outcome		Subject outcome			Method of verification	
	[OZPL3_W05] The graduate understands the principles and mechanisms of life at the population, biocenosis, and ecosystem levels, as well as the temporal and spatial factors that influence biodiversity.		Describes ecological relationships and animal responses to physical environmental factors, as well as interactions between animals and their environment, between individuals within a population, and between populations and species			[SW4] test/exam - oral or written	
	[OZPL3_W14] The graduate understands the relationship between the achievements of natural sciences and their potential applications in socio-economic contexts, while considering the sustainable use of biodiversity		Explains the impact of anthropogenic pressure on animals at the levels of the organism, population, and biocenosis			[SW4] test/exam - oral or written	
	[OZPL3_W14] The graduate understands the relationship between the achievements of natural sciences and their potential applications in socio-economic contexts, while considering the sustainable use of biodiversity		Explains the importance of ecological relationships in the practical conservation of animals			[SW4] test/exam - oral or written	

Subject contents	Scope of Animal Ecology. Identification of features distinguishing this field within general ecology. Animal responses (physiological, behavioral, population-level, and evolutionary) to environmental factors. Environmental resources and their utilization by animals. Habitat and dietary preferences, and methods of their analysis. Foraging methods and strategies. Animal population ecology: demography and natural regulation of animal abundance and distribution. Relationships between populations of different species. Applied ecology: conservation, exploitation, and population control.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	not relevant	51.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	<p>Begon M., Townsend CR., Harper JL. 2006. Ecology: from individuals to Ecosystems. 4. Ed. Blackwell.</p> <p>Cain ML., Bowman WD., Hacker SD. 2008. Ecology. Sinauer. Sunderland.</p> <p>Krebs CJ. 2011. Ekologia. Eksperymentalna analiza rozmieszczenia i liczebności. PWN, Warszawa.</p>	
	Supplementary literature	<p>Krebs J.R., Davies N.B. 2001. Wprowadzenie do ekologii behawioralnej. PWN, Warszawa.</p> <p>Singer F. D. 2016. Ecology in Action. Cambridge Univ. Press. Cambridge.</p>	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	<p>1) The Shelford's Law of Tolerance states that:</p> <p>a) The occurrence of organisms depends on a set of factors, whose values must fall within the range of their tolerance.</p> <p>b) An environmental factor is limiting when the range of tolerance is the widest.</p> <p>c) At the optimum value of an environmental factor, the number of individuals is the lowest, and as the value of the factor moves away from the optimum, the number of individuals successively increases.</p> <p>d) Individual organisms within the same population show variation in their requirements and preferences regarding environmental factors.</p>		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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