

Introduction to Marine and Lacustrine Biology (C002485)

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 3.0 **Study time** 90 h **Contact hrs** 30.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2021-2022

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

Lecturers in academic year 2021-2022

De Troch, Marleen	WE11	lecturer-in-charge
N., N.		co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2021-2022

Master of Science in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management	crdts	offering
	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.

remark: due to COVID19 on campus lectures can be replaced by online alternatives

Learning materials and price

all slides are online available on Ufora. handbooks (not compulsory): 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 Ufora.

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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