

Animal Behaviour: Recording and Analysis (C004314)

Due to Covid 19, the education and assessment 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 125 h** **Contact hrs** 39.0h

Course offerings in academic year 2021-2022

A (semester 1) English Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2021-2022

Gammell, Martin GALWAY02 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2021-2022

	crdts	offering
International Master of Science in Marine Biological Resources	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Ethology, conservation

Position of the course

Contents

An understanding of animal behaviour is important for the management and conservation of a wide variety of animals. Students on this course will learn to: (i) address questions in biodiversity and conservation within a behavioural framework; (ii) record the behaviour of animals in the field and laboratory using appropriate techniques; (iii) analyse behavioural data using dedicated software and appropriate statistical methods; (iv) interpret and present the results of behavioural analyses Syllabus to include:

Case studies: applications of animal behaviour in biodiversity and conservation; Describing behaviour; Behaviour sampling and recording rules; Recording equipment; Behavioural software; Observing and recording animal behaviour in the field; Designing and conducting behavioural experiments; Reliability of behavioural data; Analysing observational and experimental data; Analysing social behaviour; Interpreting behavioural data and presenting results; Ethics of behavioural studies.

Initial competences

Final competences

- 1 Describe the application of animal behaviour in conservation.
- 2 Design and carry out a robust behavioural study under field or laboratory conditions, having regard to sampling design and ethical considerations.
- 3 Analyse behavioural data using appropriate software and statistical techniques.
- 4 Interpret and clearly present the results of behavioural studies.

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

Practicum, Guided self-study, Lecture, Fieldwork

Extra information on the teaching methods

The module begins with a short introduction to the application of animal behaviour in conservation. This is followed by a variety of practical learning sessions in the laboratory and

the field

Learning materials and price

none

References

- Martin P & Bateson P (2007). *Measuring Behaviour: An Introductory Guide*. 3rd Edition. Cambridge University Press.
- Ploger BJ & Yasukawa K (2003). *Exploring Animal Behavior in Laboratory and Field: An Hypothesis-Testing Approach to the Development, Causation, Function, and Evolution of Animal Behavior*. Academic Press.
- Stamp Dawkins M (2010). *Observing Animal Behaviour: Design and Analysis of Quantitative Data*. Oxford University Press.
- Whitehead H (2008). *Analyzing Animal Societies: Quantitative Methods for Vertebrate Social Analysis*. The University of Chicago Press.

Course content-related study coaching

Students experiencing difficulties should engage with course staff, or academic support units within GMIT

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark

100 % continuous assessment by way of assignments