

Fish Welfare and Health (I002858)

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

Credits 7.5	Study time 200 h	Contact hrs	60.0h
--------------------	-------------------------	--------------------	-------

Course offerings in academic year 2022-2023

A (semester 2)	English	Gent
----------------	---------	------

Lecturers in academic year 2022-2023

Olsen, Rolf Erik	TRONDH01	lecturer-in-charge
Stene, Anne	TRONDH01	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2022-2023

International Master of Science in Health Management in Aquaculture	crdts	offering
	7.5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Salmon farming, welfare, diseases, disease spreading, stress management, health management, infectious agents and mechanisms for spread, biosecurity, aquaculture

Position of the course

Products from fish farming and other aquaculture constitute an increasing proportion of the production of food for human consumption globally. Fish farming has developed to be one of the most important export industries in Norway, and it is clearly stated from the authorities that it is a main goal to increase this production significantly. However, it is a prerequisite that the production is sustainable. This implies that the production shall not affect the marine environment, including wild fish populations, to a degree that makes significant changes to fish stocks, and farming should also be sustainable in terms of welfare, disease, mortality and losses of farmed fish.

Contents

- Sustainability in terms of welfare, disease, mortality and losses of farmed fish
- Specific infectious diseases of high importance
- Infectious agents and mechanisms for spread of infection
- Health and marine environment
- Methods of disease control
- Principles for biosecurity in farmed fish.
- Manipulation and stressors of handling experienced in aquaculture
- Methods for measuring or evaluating cultured fish stress and welfare
- Water quality aspects.

Initial competences

Competence for admission to EM AquaH study program and first semester courses at UGent. Bachelor of marine science and aquaculture for national program MSOCEAN

Final competences

- 1 The candidate shall obtain an overview of different categories of causes of disease in farmed fish.
- 2 He/she should especially be able to understand how infectious diseases develop and spread in populations, as well as general principles and measures to prevent the introduction and further spread of infectious agents.

- 3 The candidate should also have knowledge of important, specific infectious diseases.
- 4 Furthermore, the candidate should have knowledge of the importance of good welfare and methods for measuring/documenting welfare.
- 5 The candidate should be able to describe general principles for spread of infection and disease control of infectious diseases in farmed fish, as well as the importance of specific infectious diseases with emphasis on conditions important for preventing introduction of infectious agents.
- 6 The candidate should also be able to explain different methods for documenting fish welfare.
- 7 The candidate shall have general knowledge and understanding of fish health and fish welfare as important elements in sustainable fish farming, as well as the importance of disease control and monitoring of welfare.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Practicum, Demonstration, Group work, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

The course involves 24 lectures, with a high number of teachers involved, and a mandatory 30h laboratory course. The course has been intensively taught in January to March. 20 students have so far been admitted

Learning materials and price

The course has a mandatory 30h laboratory course with some costs related to chemicals and maintenance

References

Course content-related study coaching

Teaching support by PhD students in the laboratory. Guiding upon request, student advice on agreement

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

Portfolio, Oral examination, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

The exam is oral, counting 75/100 while the assigned laboratory course counts 25/100

Calculation of the examination mark

The normal grades are A-F and 7.5 ECTS achieved if passed (E and better, 40%)
Students who eschew period aligned and/or non-period aligned evaluations for this course unit may be failed by the examiner.