





The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

4.00 credits	30.0 h + 15.0 h	Q2
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Teacher(s)	Van Dyck Hans ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. History of behavioural ecology 2. Major concepts of behavioural ecology 3. Functional and mechanistic aspects of the study of behaviour 4. Theory, applications and discussion about a selection of issues (e.g. Living in group, Fight and assessment, Sexual conflict and sexual selection, Communication and the evolution of signals) 5. Behaviour and conservation biology 6. Behavioural ecology of the human species
Learning outcomes	<p>At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :</p> <p>Behavioural ecology adopts an evolutionary approach for the study of behaviour; the relationships between behaviour, ecology and evolution are explored in this field of biology.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The general objective is to develop a conceptual framework for studying and understanding animal behaviour from an ecological and evolutionary perspective. <p>Students will be trained to formulate and test hypotheses by carefully analyzing and discussing observational and experimental behavioural ecological studies.</p>
Evaluation methods	<p>There is a written exam on the theoretical part of the lectures with open questions (comprehension questions). For the practical course, the student has to prepare a report according to our guidelines.</p> <p>The theoretical exam counts for 70% of the final mark, the report for 30%.</p>
Teaching methods	<p>This teaching unit has two parts.</p> <p>There are lectures based on a series of PowerPoint presentations with frequent discussions with the students.</p> <p>There is also an individual practical part; each student has to prepare a report on a given topic within the field of restoration ecology.</p> <p>The presentations are available on the Moodle website of this teaching unit, as well as the information about the report and a number of scientific papers.</p>
Content	<p>This teaching unit focuses on the analysis and understanding of the approaches of behavioural ecology.</p> <p>The topics that are covered include :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The history of behavioural ecology; 2. Basic concepts of behavioural ecology; 3. Functional and mechanistic factors explaining animal behaviour; 4. Theory, applications and discussion of the approaches in this field applied to a selection of topics (p.ex. living in group, fights and evaluation - sexual conflict and sexual selection, communication and evaluation of signals); and 5. Behaviour and conservation.
Inline resources	Moodle website
Faculty or entity in charge	BIOL

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Master [120] in Biology of Organisms and Ecology	BOE2M	4		
Master [60] in Biology	BIOL2M1	4		
Master [120] in Geography : General	GEOG2M	4		
Master [120] of Education, Section 4 : Biology	BIOL2M4	4		
Master [120] of Education, Section 4 : Geography	GEOG2M4	4		