UCLouvain

lboe2141

2026

Restoration ecology

2.00 credits	15.0 h + 15.0 h	Q1

Teacher(s)	Evens Ruben ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	1. Concepts in restoration ecology 2. Summary of ecological foundations/ecological theory 3. Restoration action as a multi-disciplinary process (including the importance of bridging the gap between 'science' and 'practice') 4. Available techniques for restoration of biotopes and landscapes 5. Translocation and re-introduction of species 6. Restoration experience with different types of biotopes (including dry grassland and heathlands, wet grasslands and mires, forests, rivers and floodplains, freshwater bodies)
Learning outcomes	**At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :** 1 Restoration ecology is the field of study that provides the scientific background and underpinnings for practical ecological restoration of habitats, ecosystems, landscapes and their communities and species; a field that is currently undergoing expansion. Students are guided to explore to what extent available ecological theory and concepts can be made applicable in the specific, interventionist, trans-disciplinary context of ecological restoration. During the lectures, students will be trained to address these concepts in field case studies. Students need be aware of the significant gap between theory and practice and the crucial role of clear communication (and translation) from ecologists tot non-ecologist project members in restoration programmes. Students need also be aware of the opportunities restoration programmes may provide for testing ecological theory.
Evaluation methods	There is a written exam on the theoretical part of the lectures with open questions (comprehension questions). For the practical course part (TP), the student has to prepare an individual report according to our guidelines. The theoretical exam counts for 60% of the final mark, the report for 40%.
Teaching methods	The course consists of a theoretical part (classroom lectures) and a practical part. It will be as interactive as possible, giving each student the opportunity to ask questions and actively participate in discussions on the theory and practice of restoration ecology. For the practical part, students will first visit a study site. Based on this site, they will develop a restoration plan, which they will present during an oral presentation accompanied by a short written report. Lecures are in french.
Content	This teaching unit focuses on the analysis and understanding of the principles of restoration ecology within the broader framework of conservation biology. The topics covered include: 1. Restoration ecology: frameworks & definitions (setting the scene) 2. Biological & ecological preparation: what we need to know 3. Beyond ecological preparation & general restoration practices 4. Monitoring 5. Habitat restoration implementations: examples in different environments
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	2		🔍
Master [60] in Biology	BIOL2M1	2		🔍