


3.00 credits

24.0 h + 12.0 h

Q1

Teacher(s)	Van Dyck Hans ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. History of behavioural ecology</li> <li>2. Major concepts of behavioural ecology</li> <li>3. Functional and mechanistic aspects of the study of behaviour</li> <li>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)</li> <li>5. Behaviour and conservation biology</li> <li>6. Behavioural ecology of the human species</li> </ol>
Learning outcomes	<p><b>At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :</b></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"> <li>1 The general objective is to develop a conceptual framework for studying and understanding animal behaviour from an ecological and evolutionary perspective.</li> </ol> <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"> <li>1. The history of behavioural ecology;</li> <li>2. Basic concepts of behavioural ecology;</li> <li>3. Functional and mechanistic factors explaining animal behaviour;</li> <li>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</li> <li>5. Behaviour and conservation.</li> </ol>
Inline resources	Moodle website
Faculty or entity in charge	BIOL

<b>Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)</b>				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Master [120] in Biology of Organisms and Ecology	BOE2M	3		
Master [60] in Biology	BIOL2M1	3		