COURSE OUTLINE

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	NATURAL SIENCES		
ACADEMIC UNIT	BIOLOGY		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	UNDERGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE	**BIO_HΘΛ**	**SEMESTER**	**7**
COURSE TITLE	**ETHOLOGY**		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES		**WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS**	**CREDITS**
	Lectures	2	3
COURSE TYPE	Field of Science Skills Development		
PREREQUISITE COURSES	NO Formally, there are no prerequisite courses. Nevertheless, a good knowledge of evolutionary biology, zoology, ecology and animal physiology is highly recommended.		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS	Geek		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	Yes		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://eclass.upatras.gr/courses/BIO238/		

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes
By the end of this course the student should be able to: 1) understand the content and scope of animal behavior studies 2) develop a critical view regarding explanations of animal behavior 3) understand the various levels of ethological explanations 4) identify important subjects for study in ethology 5) formulate sound scientific questions and hypotheses on animal behavior 6) discuss major theories and approaches in ethology and behavioral ecology 7) develop an evolutionary point of view regarding explanations of animal behavior 8) understand the comparative approach in ethology and, more generally, Biology.
General Competences
By the end of the course, the student will have developed the following **Special skills/competences**: 1) ability to set up simple but robust experiments for the study of behavior 2) ability to evaluate and present major theories and concepts of the evolutionary interpretation of behavior 3) deeper understanding of human behavior and its evolutionary roots. Additionally, by the end of this course the student will, furthermore, have develop the following **General Abilities**: 1) Working independently 2) Team work 3) Generation of new research ideas 4) Respect for the natural environment 5) Development of free, creative and inductive thinking.

3. SYLLABUS

1. Introduction to the study of ethology. Basic principles and concepts. 2. Animal behavior: history and development. 3. Proximate and ultimate questions and causes. 4. The development of behavior.

5. Control of behavior and neuronal mechanisms. 6. Organization of behavior: neurons and hormones. 7. Adaptations for survival, feeding and territoriality. 8. Communication: a world of signals and information. 9. Reproductive behavior. 10. Social behavior. Examples.

4. TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

DELIVERY	Face to face.	
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY	Support of educational procedure with use of the e-class electronic platform	
TEACHING METHODS	***Activity***	***Semester workload***
	Lectures (13 weeks x 2 hours per week)	26
	Elaboration of a project	7
	Home study	42
	Course total	**75**
STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION	1) Written exams (at the semester's end), accounting for the 80% of the Final Grade. 2) Elaboration & Presentation of a project (at the semester's end), accounting for the 20% of the Final Grade. Final Course Grade: Exams Grade x 0.6 + Project's Grade x 0.2 Grading scale: 1-10. Passing grade: 5	

5. ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Suggested bibliography:

1) Rubenstein D.R, Alcock J. (2019). Animal Behavior. Oxford University Press.
2) Davies N.B, Krebs J.R, West S.A (2017) Introduction to Behavioral Ecology. Wiley-Blackwell.
3) Instructors' Notes.

Related academic journals: