

COURSE OUTLINE

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	OF SCIENCES		
ACADEMIC UNIT	OF BIOLOGY		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	UNDEGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE	BIO_ΠAE	SEMESTER	6-8
COURSE TITLE	FAUNA OF GREECE		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES		WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
	Lectures, lab exercises and field trip	3	6
COURSE TYPE	Specialised general knowledge, Skills development		
PREREQUISITE COURSES	None. However, the students are highly encouraged to have attained the knowledge offered with the course Animal Biology I and Animal Biology II.		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS	Greek		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	Yes		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://eclass.upatras.gr/courses/BIO203/		

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes
<p>By the end of the course, the students will have the ability to comprehend the reasons behind the large diversity of the Greek fauna, to discuss the general distribution patterns of its endemism and diversity, to recognize its most important constituents, focusing on terrestrial vertebrates (amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals) and to understand the methodologies applied for recording and sampling terrestrial fauna. At the same time, they will have gained the capability to assess the threats and pressures sustained by the threatened and endemic species of the terrestrial fauna and a deeper knowledge of biodiversity and its values.</p> <p>In addition, they will have developed the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acquaintance with the procedures followed during field work, in order to record and/or capture terrestrial species of the Greek fauna with the use of different approaches and specialized equipment. - Species identification of representatives of the Greek fauna, particularly of terrestrial vertebrates (amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals), that are encountered/observed/captured in the field, taking advantage of the theoretical part of the course and using specialized field guides. - Familiarization with Red Data Books and application of the IUCN criteria in assessing the threat status of animal species.
General Competences
<p>Adapting to new situations. Working independently. Team work. Respect for the natural environment. Promotion of free, creative and conductive thought.</p>

3. SYLLABUS

<p>The richness of the Greek fauna, Effects of paleogeography, paleoclimate and geology on the formation of the Greek fauna. Speciation in the Greek area. Animal biodiversity in Greece and distribution patterns, focusing on Vertebrates. Endemic, threatened, rare and protected species of the Greek fauna. Threats and pressures, faced by the Greek fauna and respective conservation measures. Application of the IUCN criteria, in order to assess the threat status of animals.</p>

4. TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

DELIVERY	Face-to-face	
USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY	<p>Use of video projections during lectures and lab work. Enhancement of teaching by using video streaming technologies over the internet (Youtube-like).</p> <p>Creation of digital photograph archives of the animals and their habitat, by the students, during the field trip.</p> <p>Support of the educational process and communication with the students, using the online eclass platform of the University of Patras.</p>	
TEACHING METHODS	Activity	Semester workload
	Lectures	22
	Lab exercises	11
	Literature review and study	9
	Participation in the field trip	45
	Essay, regarding the results of the field trip	45
	Independent study and exams preparation by the students	45
	Course total	150
STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION	<p>Written exam in Greek, requiring short or longer replies.</p> <p>Written report in Greek on the results and impressions of the field trip</p> <p>The written exam and the written report contribute equally to the total course grade (by 50% each).</p> <p>Minimum passing grade: 5</p>	

5. ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Suggested bibliography:

1. Notes for the course 'Fauna of Greece' in MS Powerpoint – G. Mitsainas.
2. P. Pafilis (editor) (2020): Fauna of Greece-Biology and management of the wild fauna. Broken Hill Publishers Ltd. ISBN-13: 9789925575053 [in Greek].