



Course Specifications

Course Title:	Animal Ecology
Course Code:	23073367-3
Program:	BSc Biology.
Department:	Biology
College:	Aljumum University College
Institution:	Umm Al-Qura University

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3 hours
2. Course type
a. University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: 3 rd year / level 6
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any): Vertebrate (23072262-3).
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any):

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	28	16
2	Blended	42	16
3	E-learning		
4	Correspondence		
5	Other		

7. Actual Learning Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Learning Hours
Contact Hours		
1	Lecture	28
2	Laboratory/Studio	42
3	Tutorial	
4	Others (specify)	
	Total	
Other Learning Hours*		
1	Study	
2	Assignments	
3	Library	
4	Projects/Research Essays/Theses	
5	Others (specify)	
	Total	

* The length of time that a learner takes to complete learning activities that lead to achievement of course learning outcomes, such as study time, homework assignments, projects, preparing presentations, library times

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

Animal ecology is the study of animals and how they relate to their environment. It will study basic concepts of ecology including climate and environmental periodicity, terrestrial ecosystems, aquatic ecosystems, limiting factors and the ecological niche

concept, habitat selection models, territoriality, ecological traps, movement, dispersal, migration, managing time and energy, growth and bioenergetics, and physiological flexibility. Labs will integrate field- based and quantitative approaches in the study of individual variation in ecological settings. Labs will also focus on writing skills. For the essay requirement, students must complete an Independent Field Study and write a 2500 word report. Animal Ecology is highly recommended for students who have a strong interest in ecology, behaviour, evolution, and environmental science

2. Course Main Objective

- 1) Annual review of course by departmental course planning committee.
- 2) Comparison of course topics with equivalent local and international courses.
- 3) Class meetings consisted of lectures by the instructor, combined with audio-visual materials related to the lectures topics.
- 4) Electronic materials have been utilized to support the lecture course material.
- 5) Utilizing of recent research published in scientific journals.
- 6) Improve the course contents according to the recent Text Book.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge:	
1.1	To differentiate between ecosystems.	
1.2	Employ recent communication and information technologies effectively in different tasks related to animal ecology.	
1.3	Be aware of the proper ways to deal with the environment.	
1...	Identify the bases of modern taxonomy	
2	Skills :	
2.1	The student is able to propose solutions to some problems.	
2.2	1) To use computer and internet.	
2.3	2) To describe the disorders arise after any organ injury	
2...		
3	Competence:	
3.1	Developing oral presentations.	
3.2	1) Communicating personal ideas and thoughts.	
3.3	2) Work independently and as part of a team to finish some assignments.	
3...	3) Communicate results of work to others	

C. Course Content

No. of Weeks	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1 st week	1. Different ways to study the ecology and Ecosystem and its components (living and non- living).	2
2 nd week	2. Factors that affect the succession and ecosystem types.	2
3 rd week	3. The density of organisms and the ways of calculating density. 4. Some ecological laws.	2
4 th week	5. Aquatic eco-system in its different forms (sea- river-lake – swamp). Characteristics of each region from the previous	2

	environmental regulations and the types of organisms that exist in each region	
5 th week	6. Med term exam	2
6 th week	7. Diversity and Richness and environmental age pyramids	2
7 th week	8. Environmental relationships that can arise between individuals of the same and different species (Harmful relationships and beneficial relations.	2
8 th week	9. Relations between animals and plants, food chains and food webs.	2
9 th week	10. Tribal communities and tribal forms of growth in the environment, organisms spread and distribution	2
10 th week	11. Environmental terrestrial biomes and characteristic for each biome. Plant species and animal inhabiting each biome	2
11 th week	12. Diversity laws and its applications in the terrestrial ecosystem	2
12 th week	13. Revision, and Presentations	2

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge		
1.1	1) To differentiate between ecosystems. Employ recent communication and information technologies effectively in different tasks related to animal ecology. 2) Be aware of the proper ways to deal with the environment	In-class lecturing where the previous knowledge is linked to the current and future topics. Homework assignments. Discussions (connecting what they learn in the class and applying this information in laboratory). Handout of lecture notes for each topic	Homework and quizzes. Midterm and final written exams (theoretical and practical). Evaluation of reports. Oral presentation. Course work reports.
1.2			
...			
2.0	Skills		
2.1	Developing oral presentations	1) Application of essential scientific techniques through lectures, classes and essays. 2) Small group discussion. 3) Ask the students to make small search project during the semester. 4) Making connections between different topics across the course.	Course work reports. Evaluation of the topics prepared by students according to the content, arrangement, and covering of the topic. Midterm and final exams. Checking the homework assignments
2.2	Communicating personal ideas and thoughts.		
...	Work independently and as part of a team to finish some assignments.		
3.0	Competence		
3.1	Use information and communication technology	Oral presentations. 1) Internet search assignments and essays. 2) Incorporating the use and utilization of computer in the course requirements.	1) Evaluation of student essays and assignments. 2) Evaluating the laboratory written reports. 3) Marks given to for good
3.2	Use IT and communication technology in gathering and interpreting information and ideas		
...	Use the internet as a means of communication and a source of information.		

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
		3) Students will be asked for delivering a summary regarding certain topics related to the course.	reports and presentations 4)-Evaluating during the discussion in lecture and reports. Part of the grad is put for student's written participation

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Home works, search or presentation.	4th and 8th weeks	10 %
2	Midterm "Written Test (1)"	8th week	30%
3	Final Exam "Practical Test"	15th week	20%
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice :

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Smith, R.; Smith, R. M. (2000). <i>Ecology and Field Biology</i> . (6th ed.).
Essential References Materials	-Begon, M.; Townsend, C. R., Harper, J. L. (2006). <i>Ecology: From individuals to ecosystems</i> . (4th ed.). Blackwell. -Allee, W.; Emerson, A. E., Park, O., Park, T., and Schmidt, K. P. (1949). <i>Principles of Animal Ecology</i> . W. B. Saunders Company
Electronic Materials	http://www.eulc.edu.eg/eulc/libraries/index.aspx www.animal-ecology.info/
Other Learning Materials	

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration)	Classrooms, laboratories.

Item	Resources
rooms/labs, etc.)	
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	data show.
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	
Reference No.	
Date	

Head of Department


Dr. Wessam M. Filfilan

Stamp

