

Ecology

Code: 100768
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500250 Biology	OB	3	1

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Javier Retana Alumbros

Prerequisites

There are no official prerequisites, but it is assumed that the student has previously acquired enough solid knowledge on subjects like: Biostatistics, Botany, Zoology, Extension of Zoology and Genetics

Objectives and Contextualisation

This is a general subject that introduces the student to concepts and basic methodologies of Ecology. The subject also includes an approach to most current topics around this science.

This subject provides the basic contents and methodologies for the study of the structure and dynamics of natural systems in three basic levels of organization:

1. Populations: studying the concept of population and introducing students in techniques of sampling abundance of organisms, in demography ecology and in population dynamics.
2. Communities: teaching the student to evaluate the structure of the communities, the interactions between species and their manifestations at community level (food webs)
3. Ecosystems: Introducing the student in the exchange of matter and energy in food webs, as a preliminary step to the study of biogeochemical cycles which will be studied mainly in the Biosphere Sciences subject

Content

The subject contents are organized into 11 topics

Introduction to Ecology
Organisms responses to environmental factors
Populations: basic demographic concepts and processes
Population dynamics
Species interactions

Composition and structure of communities
Community dynamics - Disturbances
Trophic webs
The flux of energy and matter through ecosystems
Ecological succession
Global change