

**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 Alumbrosos

**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