



Full Syllabus



Course Title

Introduction to Ecology

Lecturer

Michal Gruntman

Semester

A

Course requirements

Final grade components

Final exam (100%) and weekly assignments (each assignment with a passing score gives one bonus credit point in the final grade, if the final exam's grade is at least 60%).

Course schedule

Class no. / Date	Subject and Requirements (assignments, reading materials, tasks, etc.)
01.01.24	Introduction: the scientific method in ecology, levels of organization in ecology
08.01.24	Evolution: microevolution, natural selection, genetic drift, and gene flow
15.01.24	Evolution: macroevolution, the biological species concept and speciation
22.01.24	"catching-up" week
29.01.24	Population ecology: population dynamics, life-history strategies
05.02.24	Small populations: endangered species conservation and metapopulations
12.02.24	Competition: types of competition, niche partitioning and species coexistence
19.02.24	Predation and Mutualism: models, coevolution and adaptations
26.02.24	Community ecology: patterns of species richness and diversity across scales
04.03.24	Ecological succession: models of succession and management implications
11.03.24	Ecosystem ecology: trophic levels, keystone species and food webs

Optional course reading

Begon M., Townsend C.R. & Harper J. 2006. Ecology: From Individuals to Ecosystems. Willey-Blackwell

Real L.A. & Brown J.H. (eds). 1991. Foundations of ecology: classic papers with commentaries. University of Chicago Press.