

Integrated Practicals

SEM 2 – 3 ECTS

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1. Prerequisites

speaking and writing of:

- English

specific prerequisites for this course:

Students have a basic knowledge in biology, especially regarding some general ecological processes, and a have a basic knowledge in chemistry

2. Learning outcomes

- After this course the student is able to perform a simple aquatic toxicity test applying the invertebrate *Daphnia magna*, assess the fitness and energy budget of an aquatic vertebrate, the common carp, under stressful circumstances, and understand nutrient flows and their consequences.

3. Course contents

This course consists of three different parts integrating ecological fieldwork, toxicology and physiology:

1) a three-day acute aquatic toxicity test, applying the waterflea *Daphnia magna*

2) a three-day physiological test assessing the aerobic energy consumption and energy stores of the common carp at different temperatures

3) an ecological field course looking at nutrient cycling

4. International dimension

- This course stimulates international and intercultural competences.
- Students use course materials in a foreign language.

- Students work together (online) with international students.

5. Teaching method and planned learning activities

5.1 Used teaching methods

Class contact teaching

- Practice sessions

Personal work

Assignments

- In group

Excursions

5.2 Planned learning activities and teaching methods

Attendance to the practical trainings and excursions is compulsory. Illegitimate absence during one or more practical trainings/excursions may lead to the mention “absent” for the entire part of practical trainings/excursions and exclusion from any practical training exam.

5.3 Facilities for working students

Classroom activities

- no specific facilities

6. Assessment method and criteria

6.1 Used assessment methods

Examination

Practical examination

- Practical

Continuous assessment

- Assignments
- Participation in classroom activities

6.2 Assessment criteria

Active participation during the practical exercises is highly valued. The assessment consists of the evaluation of three reports of the practical courses. Each report contributes equally to the final mark.

The evaluation criteria are based on the structure of the reports, the description of the materials and methods, the presentation of the results and the discussion.

For each of the practical courses the students work together in small groups of 2 to maximally 4 students.

7. Study material

7.1 Required reading

Guidelines of the practical courses

7.2 Optional reading

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8. Contact information

For questions students are encouraged to take contact via e-mail and if needed make an appointment.

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