COURSE SYLLABUS

Academic year 2025 - 2026

1. Programme Information

1.1. Higher Education Institution	**„Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu**
1.2. Faculty	Faculty of Sciences
1.3. Department	Environmental Sciences, Physics, Physical Education and Sports
1.4. Field of study	Biology
1.5. Level of study [1]	Bachelor
1.6. Programme of study	Biology (in english)

2. Details about the course

2.1. Name of course	Biogeography			Code	FSTI.MFE.BIOEN.L.SO.5.2200.E-4.4
2.2. Course coordinator	Lecturer Ioan Tăușan, PhD				
2.3. Seminar / laboratory coordinator	Lecturer Ioan Tăușan, PhD				
2.4. Year of study[2]	3	**2.5.** Semester[3]	5	**2.6.** Evaluation form [4]	E
2.7. Course type [5]	O	**2.8.** The formative category of the course [6]			S

3. Estimated total time

3.1. Course Extension within the Curriculum – Number of Hours per Week					
3.1.a.Lecture	3.1.b. Seminar	3.1.c. Laboratory	3.1.d. Project	3.1.e Other	Total
2	1				**3**
3.2. Course Extension within the Curriculum – Total Number of Hours within the Curriculum					
3.2.a.Lecture	3.2.b. Seminar	3.2.c. Laboratory	3.2.d. Project	3.2.e Other	Total[7]
28	14				**42**

Time Distribution for Individual Study [8]	**Hours**
Learning by using course materials, references and personal notes	18
Additional learning by using library facilities, electronic databases and on-site information	10
Preparing seminars / laboratories, homework, portfolios and essays	10
Tutorial activities [9]	4
Exams[10]	2

3.3. Total Individual Study Hours [11] ***(NOSI$_{sem}$)***	**44**
3.4. Total Hours in the Curriculum (*NOAD$_{sem}$*)	**56**
3.5. Total Hours per Semester [12] **(*NOAD$_{sem}$* + *NOSI$_{sem}$*)**	**100**
3.6. No. of hours / ECTS	**25**
3.7. Number of credits[13]	**4**

4. Prerequisites (if needed)

4.1. Courses that must be successfully completed first (from the curriculum) [14]	Botany, Verterbate biology, Inverterbate biology, General ecology
4.2. Competencies	

5. Conditions (wherever applicable)

5.1. For course/lectures [15]	Video-projector, White board
5.2. For practical activities (lab/sem/pr/other) [16]	

6. Learning outcomes [17]

Number of credits assigned to the discipline: 4				
Learning outcomes				Credit allocation based on learning outcomes
No.	Knowledge	Aptitudes	Responsibility and autonomy	
LO 1	The student/graduate describes, defines, and discusses fundamental principles in the field of biology, as well as interdisciplinary aspects (e.g., evolutionism, general ecology, plant physiology, animal physiology).	The student/graduate applies working methods using modern instruments/equipment and classical laboratory techniques to perform, design experiments, record and analyze appropriately the results obtained.	The student/graduate uses their own knowledge and experience to develop the scientific community and society in general by participating in professional and/or community activities	2
LO 2	The student/graduate correctly uses and explains the specific terminology used in the field of Biology, the main concepts and laws, the characteristics of biological systems from the perspective of the principles of organization and functioning of living matter.	The student/graduate defines, describes, discusses/presents the major concepts in the field of Biology.	The student/graduate demonstrates responsibility and autonomy in the use of scientific knowledge in the field of Biology, by conducting research, developing or improving concepts, theories, operational methods or biotechnological products, making ethical and professional decisions within the scientific process.	1
LO 3	The student/graduate defines, explains, and exemplifies basic and modern experimental techniques in the analysis and characterization of biological systems,	The student/graduate uses, investigates, and critically analyzes the principles of operation and use of equipment/instruments, techniques/working methods for investigating the functioning of biological systems.	The student/graduate applies the knowledge learned in other courses to explain the interactions of organisms with the environment.	1

	records and presents experimental results, and explains the principles of scientific methods.			

7. Course objectives (resulted from developed competencies)

7.1. Main course objective	Knowledge of the main issues in chorology and the biogeographical regionalization of the Earth and Romania.Knowledge of the problems of synecology and the presentation of the synecological regionalization of the biosphere.
7.2. Specific course objectives	The study of Chorology focuses on the geographical distribution of organisms (the areal), examining its size and how it has evolved over time, leading to biogeographical regionalization of the Earth. This understanding is deeply linked to historical events, such as the evolution of continental and oceanic configurations across geological eras (plate tectonics), the reconstruction of ancient animal distributions (palaeobiogeography), and the major impacts of Quaternary glaciations. Complementary to this is Synecological Regionalization, which classifies the biosphere based on its major ecological communities or biomes (e.g., deserts, forests), analyzing their structure, general characteristics, and the limiting factors that define them.

8. Course description

8.1. Lecture[18]		**Teaching methods** [19]	**Hours**
Lecture 1	Introduction to biogeography		2
Lecture 2	Dispersal		2
Lecture 3	Extinction		2
Lecture 4	Interspecific relationships		2
Lecture 5	Migration – case study: birds and mammals		2
Lecture 6	Palaeogeographical theories		2
Lecture 7	Classification of the biogeographical realms		2
Lecture 8	Terrestrial biomes – 1		2
Lecture 9	Terrestrial biomes – 2		2
Lecture 10	Aquatic biomes – 1		2
Lecture 11	Aquatic biomes – 2		2
Lecture 12	Centre of evolution – Mammals - 1		2
Lecture 13	Centre of evolution – Mammals - 2		2
Lecture 14	Elements of Biogeography: Case study – Romania		2
		Total lecture hours:	**28**

8.2. Practical activities

8.2.a. Seminar		**Teaching methods** [20]	**Hours**
Seminar 1	Terrestrial biomes: Tundra		2
Seminar 2	Terestrial biomes: Taiga		2
Seminar 3	Terestrial biomes: Grasslands		2
Seminar 4	Terestrial biomes: Seasonal forests		2

Seminar 5	Terestrial biomes: Rainforests		2
Seminar 6	Aquatic biomes: Fresh water		2
Seminar 7	Aquatic biomes: Deep seas		2
		Total seminar hours	28

9. Bibliography

9.1. Recommended references	Huggett, R. J. (2004). *Fundamentals of biogeography*. Routledge.
	Cox, C. B., Moore, P. D., & Ladle, R. J. (2016). *Biogeography: an ecological and evolutionary approach*. John Wiley & Sons.
	Lomolino, M. V., Sax, D. F., Riddle, B. R., & Brown, J. H. (2006). The island rule and a research agenda for studying ecogeographical patterns. *Journal of biogeography*, *33*(9), 1503-1510.
	Lomolino, M. V., Sax, D. F., & Brown, J. H. (Eds.). (2004). *Foundations of biogeography: classic papers with commentaries*. University of Chicago Press.
	Whittaker, R. J., & Fernández-Palacios, J. M. (2007). *Island biogeography: ecology, evolution, and conservation*. Oxford University Press, USA.
9.2. Additional references	

10. Conjunction of the discipline's content with the expectations of the epistemic community, professional associations and significant employers of the specific study program [21]

The content of the course and seminars is similar to that of disciplines with the same theme at other universities in the country and worldwide. The information conveyed is permanently updated in relation to current studies in the field.
The courses and seminars develop the capacity to understand the distribution of flora and fauna across the globe, how it has evolved in the past, and how their distribution can be guided in the future. They develop the capacity to apply the accumulated knowledge to solve practical problems (e.g., assessing plant and animal resources, determining the efficiency of cultivating certain plants or raising certain animals in relation to the geographical environment, the risk of invasive/harmful species spreading, etc.) across various fields of activity.

11. Evaluation

Activity Type	11.1 Evaluation Criteria	11.2 Evaluation Methods		11.3 Percentage in the Final Grade	Notes.[22]
11.4a Exam / Coloquium	• Theoretical and practical knowledge acquired (quantity, correctness, accuracy)	Tests during the semester [23]:	%	60 % (minimum 5)	
		Homework:	%		
		Other activities[24]:	%		
		Final evaluation:	100 % (min. 5)		
11.4b Seminar	• Frequency/relevance of participation or responses	Evidence of participation, portfolio of papers (reports, scientific summaries)		% (minimum 5)	
11.4c Laboratory	• Knowledge of the equipment, how to use specific tools; evaluation of tools, processing and interpretation of results	• Oral response • Written questionnaire • Laboratory notebook, experimental works, reports, etc.		% (minimum 5)	

		• Practical demonstration		
11.4d Project	• The quality of the project, the correctness of the project documentation, the appropriate justification of the chosen solutions	• Self-evaluation, project presentation • Critical evaluation of a project	40 % (minimum 5)	
11.5 Minimum performance standard[25]				

The Course Syllabus will encompass components adapted to persons with special educational needs (SEN – people with disabilities and people with high potential), depending on their type and degree, at the level of all curricular elements (skills, objectives, contents, teaching methods, alternative assessment), in order to ensure fair opportunities in the academic training of all students, paying close attention to individual learning needs.

Filling Date: |_1_|_1_| / |_0_|_9_| / |_2_|_0_|_2_|_5_|

Department Acceptance Date: |_1_|_7_| / |_0_|_9_| / |_2_|_0_|_2_|_5_|

	Academic Rank, Title, First Name, Last Name	**Signature**
Course Teacher	Lecturer Ioan Tăușan, PhD	
Study Program Coordinator	Assoc. Prof. Ana-Maria Benedek-Sîrbu, PhD	
Head of Department	Lecturer Ioan Tăușan, PhD	

[1] *Bachelor / Master*
[2] *1-4 for bachelor, 1-2 for master*
[3] *1-8 for bachelor, 1-4 for master*
[4] *Exam, colloquium or VP A/R - from the curriculum*
[5] *Course type: R = Compulsory course; E = Elective course; O = Optional course*
[6] *Formative category: S = Specialty; F = Fundamental; C = Complementary; I = Fully assisted; P = Partially assisted; N = Unassisted*
[7] *Equal to 14 weeks x number of hours from point 3.1 (similar to 3.2.a.b.c.)*
[8] *The following lines refer to individual study; the total is completed at point 3.7.*
[9] *Between 7 and 14 hours*
[10] *Between 2 and 6 hours*
[11] *The sum of the values from the previous lines, which refer to individual study.*
[12] *The sum (3.5.) between the number of hours of direct teaching activity (NOAD) and the number of hours of individual study (NOSI) must be equal to the number of credits assigned to the discipline (point 3.7) x no. hours per credit (3.6.)*
[13] *The credit number is computed according to the following formula, being rounded to whole neighbouring values (either by subtraction or addition*

$$No.credits = \frac{NOCpSpD \times C_C + NOApSpD \times C_A}{TOCpSdP \times C_C + TOApSdP \times C_A} \times 30\ credits$$

Where:

- NOCpSpD = Number of lecture hours / week / discipline for which the credits are calculated
- NOApSpD = Number of application hours (sem./lab./pro.) / week / discipline for which the credits are calculated
- TOCpSdP = Total number of course hours / week in the Curriculum
- TOApSdP = Total number of application hours (sem./lab./pro.) / week in the Curriculum
- C_C/C_A = Course coefficients / applications calculated according to the table

Coefficients	**Course**	**Applications (S/L/P)**
Bachelor	2	1
Master	2,5	1,5
Bachelor - foreign language	2,5	1,25

[14] *The courses that should have been previously completed or equivalent will be mentioned*
[15] *Board, video projector, flipchart, specific teaching materials, online platforms, etc.*
[16] *Computing technology, software packages, experimental stands, online platforms, etc.*
[17] *The learning outcomes will be stated in accordance with the specific standards of the ARACIS expert commissions (https://www.aracis.ro/ghiduri/)*
[18] *Chapter and paragraph titles*
[19] *Exposition, lecture, board presentation of the studied topic, use of video projector, discussions with students (for each chapter, if applicable)*
[20] *Discussions, debates, presentations and/or analyses of papers, solving exercises and problems*
[21] *The relationship with other disciplines, the usefulness of the discipline on the labour market*
[22] *CPE – Conditions Exam Participation; nCPE – Does Not Condition Exam Participation; CEF - Conditions Final Evaluation; N/A – not applicable*
[23] *The number of tests and the weeks in which they will be taken will be specified*
[24] *Scientific circles, professional competitions, etc.*
[25] *The minimum performance standard in the competence grid of the study program is customized to the specifics of the discipline, if applicable*