

COURSE SYLLABUS

Academic year 2025 - 2026

1. Details about the program

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. Study cycle ¹	BACHELOR
1.6. Specialization	BIOLOGY

2. Details about the course

2.1. Course name	Ethology			Code	FSTI.MFE.BIOEN.L.SO.5.2100.E-4.2		
2.2. Course coordinator	Assoc. Prof. Ioan Sîrbu, PhD						
2.3. Practical activity coordinator	Assoc. Prof. Ioan Sîrbu, PhD						
2.4. Year of study ²	3	2.5. Semester ³			5	2.6. Type of assessment ⁴	C
2.7. Type of discipline ⁵		O	2.8. Formative category of the discipline ⁶				S

3. Estimated total time

3.1. Proportion of the discipline within the curriculum – <i>number of hours / week</i>					
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. Proportion of the discipline within the curriculum – <i>number of hours / week</i>					
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
Allocation of time budget for individual study⁸					No. hours
Study based on textbook, lecture notes, bibliography and course notes					14
Additional research: library, specialized electronic platforms and field or on-site investigation and documentation					15
Preparing for the seminar / laboratories, home assignments, reports, portfolios and essays					15
Tutoring ⁹					10
Examinations ¹⁰					4
3.3. Total number of hours for individual study¹¹ ($NOSI_{sem}$)					58
3.4. Total number of hours in the curriculum ($NOAD_{sem}$)					42
3.5. Total number of hours per semester¹² ($NOAD_{sem} + NOSI_{sem}$)					100
3.6. No of hours / ECTS					25
3.7. Number of credits¹³					4

4. Prerequisites (if applicable)

4.1. Prerequisite courses for enrollment to this subject (from the curriculum) ¹⁴	
4.2. Competencies	

5. Requirements (wherever applicable)

5.1. Lecture organization and structure ¹⁵	
5.2. Organization and structure of practical activities (lab/sem/pr/other) ¹⁶	

6. Learning outcomes¹⁷

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 tools/equipment and classic laboratory techniques to perform, design experiments, record, and appropriately analyzes the results obtained.	The student/graduate uses their own knowledge and experience to contribute to the development of 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.	2

7. Course objectives (reflected by the framework of specific competencies)

7.1. General objective	Introduction to the science of animal behaviour
7.2. Specific objectives	The study of behaviour as an adaptative factor, the knowledge of ethological analysis, of the mechanisms involved in different types of behaviours and their significance. Knowledge of the adaptative functions of behaviour, of the evolutionary significance of different behaviours. Understanding the biological basis of human behaviour.

8. Course description

8.1. Lecture ¹⁸		Teaching methods ¹⁹	No. of hours
Lecture 1	Definition and history of ethology	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	2
Lecture 2	Development and branches of ethology	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	2
Lecture 3	Causes of behaviours - motivations	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	2
Lecture 4-5	Potential, effective, key and triggering stimuli	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	4
Lecture 6-7	Triggering mechanisms of behaviours	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	4
Lecture 8	Susbstitution, ambivalent and reorientation behaviours	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	2
Lecture 9	Learning; ontogenetic development of behaviours	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	2
Lecture 10-11	The adaptative character of behaviours	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	4
Lecture 12-13	Behaviour phylogeny and evolution	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	4
Lecture 14	Biological causes of pathological behaviours	Interactive lecture, explanation, conversation, problematisation	2
			Total number of lecture hours: 28

8.2. Practical activities (8.2.a. Seminar ²⁰)	Teaching methods	No. of hours
Sem. 1. Methods used in ethological studies. Behaviour description and analysis	Interactive lecture with Power Point, explanation, conversation, problematisation, dialogue.	2
Sem. 2. Ethograms construction and interpretation	Interactive lecture with Power Point, explanation, conversation, problematisation, dialogue.	2

Sem. 3. Feeding and defence behaviours	Interactive lecture with Power Point, explanation, conversation, problematisation, dialogue.	2
Sem. 4. Reproductive behaviours. Parental care	Interactive lecture with Power Point, explanation, conversation, problematisation, dialogue.	2
Sem. 5. Social behaviours	Interactive lecture with Power Point, explanation, conversation, problematisation, dialogue.	2
Sem. 6-7. Human behaviour biology	Interactive lecture with Power Point, explanation, conversation, problematisation, dialogue.	4
Total number of hours: seminar		14

9. Bibliography

9.1. Recommended references	Krebs, J.R., Davies, N.B., 1993 - An Introduction to Behavioural Ecology. Oxford, Blackwell Scientific Publications, London, Edinburgh, Boston, Melbourne, Paris, Berlin, Vienna.
	Pease, A., Pease, B., 2004 - The definitive book of body language. Pease International, www.peaseinternational.com.
9.2. Additional references	Ruhela, A., Sinha, M., 2010 - Recent Trends in Animal Behaviour. Oxford Book Company, Jaipur.
	Slater, P.J.B. (Editor), 1989 - Encyclopedia of Animal Behaviour. Facts on File Inc., New York
	Szekely, T., Moore, A.J., Komdeur, J., 2010 - Social Behaviour; Genes, Ecology and Evolution. Cambridge University Press.
	***, 1987 - Psychology of Reproductive Behaviour; An Evolutionary Perspective. Ed. David Crews, Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey.

10. Correlating the course description with the expectations and requirements of representatives of the epistemic community, professional associations and significant employers and stakeholders related to the study program and the specific area²¹

The course content enables students to obtain skills of understanding and reproduction of the terms, concepts and principles of ethology, gives them the ability to communicate using the specific scientific language and to interpret the observations on animal and human behaviour.

11. Evaluation

Type of activity	11.1 Assessment criteria	11.2 Assessment methods		11.3 Percentage of the final grade	Notes. ²²
11.4a Exam / Colloquium	• Theoretical and practical knowledge (quantity, correctness, accuracy)	Midterm / ongoing assignments ²³ :	10%	80%	
		Home assignments:	%		
		Other activities ²⁴ :	%		
		Final assessment:	90%		
11.4c Seminar	• Knowledge of equipment, methods of using specific instruments and tools; assessment of tools or achievements, processing and interpretation of results	• Written exam		20%	
11.5 Minimum performance standard ²⁵					
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The course description includes components adapted to SEN (Special Educational Needs) persons, according to their type and degree, at all curricular elements and dimensions (competencies, objectives, course description, teaching methods, alternative assessment), in view of providing and ensuring equitable and fair opportunities to academic education for all students, with special attention to special educational needs.

Date of submission: 15 / 09 / 2025

Date of approval in the Department: 17 / 09 / 2025

	Degree, title, first name, surname	Signature
Course Teacher	Assoc. Prof. Ioan Sîrbu, PhD	
Study Program Coordinator	Assoc. Prof. Ana-Maria Benedek-Sîrbu, PhD	
Head of Department	Lecturer Ioan Tăușan, PhD.	

¹ Licență / Master

² 1-4 pentru licență, 1-2 pentru master

³ 1-8 pentru licență, 1-3 pentru master

⁴ Examen, colocviu sau VP A/R – din planul de învățământ

⁵ Regim disciplină: O=Disciplină obligatorie; A=Disciplină opțională; U=Facultativă

⁶ Categoria formativă: S=Specialitate; F=Fundamentală; C=Complementară; I=Asistată integral; P=Asistată parțial; N=Neasistată

⁷ Este egal cu 14 săptămâni x numărul de ore de la punctul 3.1 (similar pentru 3.2.a.b.c.d.e.)

⁸ Liniile de mai jos se referă la studiul individual; totalul se completează la punctul 3.37.

⁹ Între 7 și 14 ore

¹⁰ Între 2 și 6 ore

¹¹ Suma valorilor de pe liniile anterioare, care se referă la studiul individual.

¹² Suma (3.5.) dintre numărul de ore de activitate didactică directă (NOAD) și numărul de ore de studiu individual (NOSI) trebuie să fie egală cu numărul de credite alocate disciplinei (punctul 3.7) x nr. ore pe credit (3.6.)

¹³ Numărul de credit se calculează după formula următoare și se rotunjește la valori vecine întregi (fie prin micșorare fie prin majorare)

$$\text{Nr. credite} = \frac{\text{NOCpSpD} \times C_C + \text{NOApSpD} \times C_A}{\text{TOCpSpD} \times C_C + \text{TOApSpD} \times C_A} \times 30 \text{ credite}$$

Unde:

- NOCpSpD = Număr ore curs/săptămână/disciplina pentru care se calculează creditele
- NOApSpD = Număr ore aplicații (sem./lab./pro.)/săptămână/disciplina pentru care se calculează creditele
- TOCpSpD = Număr total ore curs/săptămână din plan
- TOApSpD = Număr total ore aplicații (sem./lab./pro.)/săptămână din plan
- C_C/C_A = Coeficienți curs/aplicații calculate conform tabelului

Coeficienți	Curs	Aplicații (S/L/P)
Licență	2	1
Master	2,5	1,5
Licență lb. străină	2,5	1,25

¹⁴ Se menționează disciplinele obligatoriu a fi promovate anterior sau echivalente

¹⁵ Tablă, videoproiector, flipchart, materiale didactice specifice, platforme on-line etc.

¹⁶ Tehnică de calcul, pachete software, standuri experimentale, platforme on-line 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 Titluri de capitole și paragrafe

¹⁹ Expunere, prelegere, prezentare la tablă a problematicei studiate, utilizare videoproiector, discuții cu studenții (pentru fiecare capitol, dacă este cazul)

²⁰ Discuții, dezbateri, prezentare și/sau analiză de lucrări, rezolvare de exerciții și probleme etc.

²¹ Legătura cu alte discipline, utilitatea disciplinei pe piața muncii

²² CPE – condiționează participarea la examen; nCPE – nu condiționează participarea la examen; CEF - condiționează evaluarea finală; N/A – nu se aplică

²³ Se va preciza numărul de teste și săptămânile în care vor fi susținute.

²⁴ Cercuri științifice, concursuri profesionale etc.

²⁵ Se particularizează la specificul disciplinei standardul minim de performanță din grila de competențe a programului de studii, dacă este cazul.