Course Unit Descriptor

Study Programme: BSc in Biology

Course Unit Title: Plant Systematics with basic phylogeny

Course Unit Code: OB027

Name of Lecturer(s): Associate Professor Goran Anačkov

Type and Level of Studies: Bachelor Academic Degree

Course Status (compulsory/elective): Compulsory

Semester (winter/summer): Summer

Language of instruction: English

Mode of course unit delivery (face-to-face/distance learning): Face-to-face

Number of ECTS Allocated: 8

Prerequisites: Required prepared personal herbarium collection, during Field work 1 and 2, according to standards.

Course Aims:

Introduction to basic systematic groups of higher plants, their morphology, evolution and phylogeny.

Learning Outcomes:

Obtaining basic knowledge of plant systematics. The basis for other botanical courses. General knowledge of the origin, kinship, diversity and characters of some vascular plant groups.

Syllabus:

Theory

Systematics as science, the basic concepts and research methods. Taxonomy and systematics, taxonomic categories, binary nomenclature, subordination of systematic units. The history of the Earth and plant life. The main evolutionary directions of selected vascular plants and phylogenetic concepts. Adaptive radiation, ancestral lines and outcome groups. The first land plants: Rhyniophyta, Zosterophylophyta, Bryophyta, Psilotophyta, Lycopodiophyta, Equisetophyta, Polypodiophyta; organization, reproduction and evolutionary significance. Occurrence of seeds. Plants with seeds. Gymnosperms, characteristics and distribution. Angiosperms, characteristics and basic groups. The characteristics of main groups in monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants.

Practice

Taxonomy as a fundamental basis of Systematics, determination of plants, the basic concept and rules. External morphology and breeding systems of selected representatives of the systematic groups: thalloid and true mosses, isosporic and heterosporic lycopods, ferns, horsetails, gymnosperms and angiosperms.

Required Reading:

- 1. Tatić, B., Blečić, V. (1996): Sitematika i filogenija kormofita. Zavod za udžbenike i nastavna sredstva, Beograd. (in Serbian)
- 2. Mägdefrau, K., Ehrendorfer, F. (1988): Botanika, sistematika, evolucija i geobotanika. Školska knjiga, Zagreb. (in Serbian)
- 3. Takhtajan, A. (2009): Flowering Plants, 2nd ed. Springer Science+Business Media, Berlin.
- 4. Simpson, M. (2006): Plant Systematics. Elsevier Academic Press, Amsterdam.
- 5. Judd, W., Campbell, C., Kellogg, E., Stevens, P., Donoghue, M. (2008): Plant systematics: a phylogenetic approach, 3rd ed. Sinauer Associates, Inc., Sunderland.
- 6. Nikolić, T. (2013): Sistematska botanika Raznolikost i evolucija biljnog sveta. Alfa d.d., Zagreb. (in Croatian)

Weekly Contact Hours: 8		Lectures: 4	Practical work: 4	
Teaching Methods: Theoretical lectures, laboratory exercises.				
Knowledge Assessment (maximum of 100 points):				
Pre-exam obligations	points	Final exam	points	
Active class		written exam	30	
participation		written exam	30	
Practical work		oral exam	40	
Preliminary exam(s)	30			
Seminar(s)				

The methods of knowledge assessment may differ; the table presents only some of the options: written exam, oral exam, project presentation, seminars, etc.