Course Unit Descriptor

Study Programme: BSc in Biology

Course Unit Title: EDIBLE AND POISONOUS FUNGI

**Course Unit Code:** OB030

Name of Lecturer(s): Associate Professor Maja Karaman

Type and Level of Studies: Bachelor

Course Status (compulsory/elective): elective

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: 5** 

# Prerequisites:

### **Course Aims:**

The objective of the course is to familiarize students with: the importance of mushrooms as a specific group of organisms from the aspect of their use in nutrition and healing treatment (functional food), but also as groups of microorganisms that produce specific toxins and thus poses a threat to human health. Introducing students with basic morpho-anatomical characteristics of edible mushrooms and their nutritional values, as well as with the most important species and genera of toxic mushrooms, the chemical nature of toxic substances, poisoning syndromes and first aid measures.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

Identification of basic species and genera of edible and poisonous fungi in nature; Understanding the importance of using mushrooms in a diet as a source of healthy food (vitamins, minerals, essential amino acids, ballast non-viable components) and as a supplement, dietary supplements (beverages, tinctures, etc.); Identification of poisoning syndrome and first aid procedures.

#### Syllabus:

*Theory*. Life strategies and the importance of mushrooms; Rules for collecting mushrooms in the field and preparing edible mushrooms; Determination of fungi with special reference to edible and poisonous species; Nutritional values of mushrooms; Medicinal properties of mushrooms; The most important types of edible mushrooms; Types of mushrooms grown for commercial use; Mechanisms of toxins; Heavy metals, radioactive elements and other toxic, poisonous substances in wild growing mushrooms; False and mild mushroom poisoning; The most important poisonous fungi and poisoning syndromes: phalloidin, orellanin, gyromitrin, muscarin, pantherin, psilocybin, coprinus syndrome, paxillus syndrome, gastrointestinal syndromes; Recognition of symptoms of mushroom poisoning, first aid procedures and treatment.

*Practice.* field work - recognition of edible and poisonous mushroom species and rules of collecting edible species, laboratory work - determination of edible and poisonous mushroom species, conservation of mushrooms, preparation of beverages and tinctures, first aid procedures and treatment etc.

## **Required Reading:**

- 1. Chang, S.T. & Miles, P. (2004): Mushrooms– cultivation, nutritional value, medicinal effect and environmental impact, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida.
- 2. Bresinsky, A. & Besl., H. (1990): A Colour Atlas of Poisonous Fungi, Wolfe Publishing Ltd., London, England.

3. Uzelac, B. (2005): Skripta za sakupljače gljiva - početni kurs, Beograd.

- 4. Jordan, M. (1998): The Encyclopedia of Fungi of Britain and Europe, David & Charles, Edinburgh.
- 5. Courtecuisse, R., Duhem, B. (1995): Mushrooms and Toadstools of Britain& Europe, Collins, London.

Weekly Contact Hours:		Lectures: 2		Practical work: 2	
Teaching Methods: Lea	ctures, lab	oratory exercises, colloqui	ıms, fieldworl	c, and seminar work on selected topics.	
Knowledge Assessmen	t (maxim	um of 100 points):			
Pre-exam obligations	points	Final ex	am	points	
Active class participation	2	written	exam	20	
Practical work	18	oral exa	m	20	
Preliminary exam(s)	30				
Seminar(s)	10				