Study Programme : MSc in Biology

Degree level: Master degree

Course Title: Animal taxonomy

Professor: dr Smiljka Šimić, dr Snežana Radenković

Required/Elective Course: Elective

Number of ECTS: 8

Prerequisites:

Course Objective: This course introduces students to origin and adaptive radiation of animals, body plans, different methods in animal taxonomy (electron microscopy and the use of microcharacters; cytotaxonomy, chemotaxonomy, immunotaxonomy, numericical taxonomy, behavioural characters) and codex of zoological nomenclature, that forms the basis of good taxonomic practice.

Course Outcome: Basic background for students who will pursue further work on Master Thesis and Doctoral Dissertation in Animal Taxonomy.

Course Content:

Theoretical part Definitions of following terms: systematics, taxonomy, classification and nomenclature. Origin and adaptive radiation. The evolution of body form in animals and hox genes. Procedures in animal taxonomy. Principles of animal taxonomy. Principles of nomenclature of zoological taxa. Taxonomic characters (selection and types of characters). Electron microscopy in animal taxonomy. Chemotaxonomy, immunotaxonomy. Behavior as taxonomic character – bioacoustics, bioluminescency, activity. Host – parasite and host – symbiont relationships in taxonomy. Citotaxonomy. Numerical taxonomy.

Practical part Keys and identification. Museums, collections in taxonomy. Descriptions of taxa; preparing manuscripts for publishing.

Reading List:

P. Simonović. „Principi zoološke sistematike“, Zavod za udžbenike i nastavna sredstva, Beograd, 2004.
H. E. Gotto. “Animal Taxonomy”, Edvard Arnold, London, 1982.
D. Quicke “Principles and Techniques of Contemporary Taxonomy”, Blackie Acad. & Prof., London, 1997;
D. L. Hawksworth “Prospects in Systematics”, Syst. Assoc. Clarendon Press – Oxford, 1988;
Ch. Jeffrey “Biological Nomenclature”, Edward Arnold, London, 1977.

Total hours:				
Lectures: 2	Practicals: 1	Other:	Student research work:5	

Methods of instruction:

Assessment (maximum number of points 100)

Requirements	**points**	**Final exam**	**points**
Active participation in lectures		Practical exam	20
Active participation in practicals		Oral exam	50
Test(s) or			
Pre-exam testing	30		