Study Programme: MSc in Biology

Degree level: Master degree

Course Title: Ecology and Geography of Invasive Plants

Professor: Ružica Igić, Goran Anačkov

Required/Elective Course: Elective course

Number of ECTS: 6

Prerequisites: Passed exams "Plant Ecology", "Biogeography"

Course Objective: Introducing the concept of biological invasion of plants, introduction, adventivness and naturalization, their potential for disturbing the vegetation equilibrium.

Course Outcome: Independently planning and conducting research of invasive plants, processing the results, their interpretation and presentation.

Course Content:

Theoretical part

The concept of invasive plant species, terminology. Ways and roads of introduction. From the introduction to the invasion. Biology and adaptive strategies of invasive plants. The classification of invasive plant species. The spread of invasive plants - the ways and roads. Taxonomic review of invasive plants, with special emphasis on the species in Serbia. Invasive flora - taxonomy, ecology and phytogeographyc characteristics. Spatial and time aspects of the development of invasive flora.

Practical part

Analysis of the flora and vegetation in specific areas: indigenous, urban flora and vegetation of protected areas, with specila review of invasive species. Analysis of the distribution and degree of presence of invasive species in the flora and populations of certain area. Monodominant communities with invasive species. Ecological analysis of the flora and vegetation. Analysis of life forms, and adaptive strategies of invasive species. Preparation of project proposals for biological control measures and prevention of species.

Reading List:

1. Myers, J., H., Bazely, D., R. (2003): Ecology and Control of Introduced Plants. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

2. Botta-Dukát, Z., Balogh, L., eds. (2008): The Most Important Invasive Plants in Hungary. Institute of Ecology and Botany Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Vácrátót.

Total hours:			9	
Lectures: 2	Practicals: 2	Other:	Student research work: 5	

Methods of instruction:

Lectures, exercise, seminar paper.

Assessment (maximum number of points 100)

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

Remark: