

Study programme: MSc in Biology			
Level: Master degree			
Course title: Biospeleology			
Lecturer: Ivo Karaman			
Status: elective			
ECTS: 6			
Requirements: no			
Learning objectives General knowledge on the genesis, adaptation, relict character and diversity of subterranean fauna.			
Learning outcomes Understanding importance of the subterranean fauna, knowledge of the threatening factors and biodiversity protection.			
Syllabus <i>Theoretical instruction</i> Subterranean habitats. Genesis of the cave systems. Karstification and subterranean karst relief forms. Morphological and hydrological features of caves. Anchialine caves. Cave organisms. Taxonomic review of troglobiont and stygobiont groups. Adaptation to subterranean life. Colonization of subterranean habitats. Cave ecosystems structure, spatial organization and trophic structure. Endemism and relict character of the subterranean fauna. Zoogeography of the subterranean fauna. Threats to the subterranean fauna and its protection. <i>Practical instruction:</i> Selected troglobite representatives of Balkan fauna. Fieldwork. Research study. .			
Literature Culver, D.C. and T. Pipan 2009. Biology of Caves and Other Subterranean Habitats. Oxford University Press, Oxford Juberthie C. & Decu V. (Ed.), 1994. Encyclopædia Biospeologica I; Juberthie C. & Decu V. (Ed.), 1998. Encyclopædia Biospeologica II; Juberthie C. & Decu V. (Ed.), 2001. Encyclopædia Biospeologica III; Đurović, P., ed. (1998): Speleološki atlas Srbije. Srpska akademija nauka i umetnosti, Geografski Institut «Jovan Cvijić», Zavod za zaštitu prirode Srbije, Geografski fakultet, Beograd, Biološki fakultet, Beograd, Posebna izdanja, 52.			
Weekly teaching load			Other:
Lectures: 2	Exercises: 2	Other forms of teaching:	Student research: 5
Teaching methodology Theoretical lectures, practical and fieldwork, standard methods.			
Grading method (maximal number of points 100)			
Pre-exam obligations	points	Final exam	points
lectures	5	Oral exam	40
practicals	10	Written exam	30
(other)	15		