

Module name	Animal Communication and Cognition
Erasmus code	
ISCED code	
Language of instruction	English
Website	
Prerequisites	None
ECTS points hour equivalents	Contact hours (work with an academic teacher): 30 Total number of hours with an academic teacher: 60 Non-contact hours (students' own work): 60 Total number of non-contact hours: 60 Total number of ECTS points for the module: 4 ECTS
Educational outcomes verification methods	Multiple choice test
Description	The science of animal communication is a rapidly growing field of study which plays an important role as an auxiliary discipline in a number of different areas of study, including behavioural ecology, neurobiology and cognitive science. Animal communication encompasses the study of visual, auditory, olfactory and somatosensory signals as well as electrocommunication, thermocommunication and autocommunication. The discipline analyses both functions of animal communication (contest, mating, alarm calls, territory and food-related signals) and the evolution of different sensory-neural pathways.
Reading list	1) Barnard, C. (2004). Animal Behaviour 2) Dugatkin, L.A. (2014). Principles of Animal Behavior 3) Rogers, L.J., Kaplan, G. (2002). Songs, Roars, and Rituals. Communication in Birds, Mammals and Other Animals 4) Biocommunication of Animals, ed. G.Witzany
Educational outcomes	KNOWLEDGE The student will acquire a detailed insight into the main research areas of behavioural ecology, with particular reference to the animal communication and cognition. The student will gain a knowledge of scientific terminology in the field of behavioural ecology and neurobiology. SKILLS The student is able to apply biological knowledge to the description of cognitive processes on genetic, organismal and populational level. The student can identify the common misconceptions regarding the field of animal communication ATTITUDES The student seeks to deepen his/her knowledge of behavioural ecology by reading scientific journals and books, as well as discussing various evolutionary topics with the teacher and peers.
Practice	None

Information about classes in the cycle

Website	
Educational outcomes verification methods	Multiple choice test
Comments	

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A list of topics	1) An outline of behavioural ecology 2) The evolution of behaviour 3) Neural pathways and endocrine system 4) Genetic basis of behaviour 5) Learning and cultural transmission 6) Communication and mating 7) Kinship 8) The role of communication during cooperation 9) Antipredator behaviour 10) Habitat selection 11) Animal personalities 12) Communication in birds 13) Communication in mammals 14) Human-animal communication 15) Zoosemiotics
Teaching methods	Lecture
Assessment methods	Multiple choice test