

## Module syllabus: Arthropods diversity and conservation

## 1. Overall information

Module coordinator	dr hab. prof. UŚ Karina Wieczorek
Contact	karina.wieczorek@us.edu.pl; +48 32 359 1506
ECTS	2
Method for the verification of learning outcomes	The final grade for the module is weighted on the average of the following student activities:  - Active participation in the field studies (continuous evaluation of practical skills) $(0.5)$ - Report $(0.5)$ To be awarded a final grade, the student must have passed each activity of the module.  Grades: below $51\%$ – fail (F); $52-60\%$ – with minimum academic criteria (E); $61-65\%$ – satisfactory (D); $66-75\%$ – good (C); $76-85\%$ – very good (B), $\geq 85\%$ – excellent (A)

## 2. Description of student activity and work

Lecture/discussion sessions	
Responsible instructor	dr hab. prof. UŚ Karina Wieczorek
Content	The main objective of this module is for students to develop an understanding of the morphological structures of the various groups of arthropods in relation to their living environment. Students will learn about their role in the ecosystem with particular emphasis on insects and other arthropods of agricultural, forestry and urban significance, as well as invasive species, their impact and control. A huge variety of arthropods and disproportionately small number of protected species in this group of invertebrates will be the starting point for further discussions on effective ways to protect them.  Lectures/discussion sessions comprise topics ranging from ecological theory to practical management.  Lecture/discussion session content understanding the organisation and functions of the body of insects, their habitats, behaviours, relation to one another and to the surroundings in which they live, their classification, distribution and diversity with an emphasis on their economic importance.
Number of didactic hours (contact hours)	15
Literature	Chapman R.F. 2013. The insects. Structure and Function. Cambridge University Press. Samways MJ., McGeoch M., New T.R. 2010. Insect conservation: A handbook of Approaches and Methods (Techniques in Ecology & Conservation). Oxford University Press





The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/species/our_work/invertebrates/

Field studies		
Responsible instructors	Staff of Department of Zoology	
Field studies	Field observation of the adaptational variety of arthropods. Field observation of threatened or endangered species of arthropods. Assessment of the biodiversity of the studied area.	
Methodology	<ul> <li>Collecting arthropods in the field using standard methods</li> <li>Calculating and elaborating on the results</li> <li>Protocols commitment and presentation</li> </ul>	
Number of didactic hours (contact hours)	15	
Literature	Chapman R.F. 2013. The insects. Structure and Function. Cambridge University Press. Samways MJ., McGeoch M., New T.R. 2010. Insect conservation: A handbook of Approaches and Methods (Techniques in Ecology & Conservation). Oxford University Press  The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species	
	http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/species/our_work/invertebrates/	

## 3. Forms of verification

Continuous evaluation of knowledge, activity and practical skills	
Grades	Grades are awarded on a scale of A-F, where A is the best and F is a fail.  An excellent performance (A) – the student actively participates in the field studies, demonstrates an excellent understanding of the field procedures for particular tasks (its aims, sequence and outcomes), is engaged and creative in solving current problems and in an assessment and presentation of results.  A good performance (C) – the student demonstrates a good judgment and knowledge, correctly provides and exhibits a sense of the field procedures, properly provides an assessment and presentation of results.  A satisfactory performance (E) – the student demonstrates a satisfactory judgment and knowledge, is poorly engaged and needs additional help to finish required tasks and final assessment during the field studies, present satisfactory presentation of results.  A performance that does not meet the minimum academic criteria (F) – the students is not engaged in the field procedures for particular tasks, poorly interprets and presents results.

Reports from realised field studies	
Evaluation	Evaluation comprises judgment and knowledge related to all of the field activities that are required during field studies, i.e. methods, engagement in realisation,







quality of assessing and presenting the results, use of reference materials,
including field guidelines and keys for identifying arthropods.
Grades for reports are awarded on a scale of A-F, where A is the best and F is a
fail.
An excellent report (A) – without any essential errors
Fail (F) – no report