neu730 - Biosciences in the Public Eye and in our Laws

Module label: Biosciences in the Public Eye and in our Laws
Module code: neu730
Credit points: 6.0 KP
Workload: 180 h

(3.5 SWS Supervised exercise (UE) Total workload 158h: 48h contact / 40h preparation of presentation / 70h term paper 0.5 SWS Lecture (VO) Total workload 23h: 10h contact / 13 h background research)

Used in course of study:

- Bachelor's Programme Biology > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Business Administration and Law > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Business Administration for Medium-Sized Enterprises > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Business Administration for Top Athletes > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Business Informatics > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Chemistry > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Comparative and European Law > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Computing Science > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Economics and Business Administration > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Education > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Engineering Physics > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Environmental Science > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Intercultural Education and Counselling > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Mathematics > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Physics, Engineering and Medicine > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Physics > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Social Studies > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Bachelor's Programme Sustainability Economics > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Biology > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Business Administration and Law > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Business Administration for Medium-Sized Enterprises > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Business Administration for Top Athletes > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Economics and Business Administration > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Dutch Linguistics and Literary Studies > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Economic Education > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Economics and Business Administration > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Education > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Elementary Mathematics > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme English Studies > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Gender Studies > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme General Education > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme German Studies > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme History > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Material Culture: Textiles > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Mathematics > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Music > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Philosophy / Values and Norms > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Poltics-Economics > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Protestant Theology and Religious Education > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Slavic Studies > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Social Studies > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Special Needs Education > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Sport Science > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Dual-Subject Bachelor's Programme Technology > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
- Fach-Bachelor Pädagogisches Handeln in der Migrationsgesellschaft > Fachnahe Angebote Biologie
Entry requirements
Skills to be acquired in this module

+ Scient. Literature
++ Social skills
+ Data present./disc.
++ Ethics

Upon completion of this course, students

- have basic knowledge of non-biological aspects of professional life (e.g., law, management, languages)
- know the basic safety and environmental concerns in bioscientific workplaces
- are able to critically define and discuss ethical conflicts in biological research, e.g., in the context of stem cell research or data manipulation
- have the ability to communicate scientific concepts, both orally and in writing
- are able to prepare and give a coherent presentation in a team
- have practised to lead a group discussion

Module contents

Lectures introduce the legal framework and the application procedures for experimental work with animals, humans and genetically modified organisms.
In supervised exercises, students research the ethical aspects and controversial issues of about 10 particular topics in the biosciences. They take turns in summarizing and presenting each topic in small teams, and leading a critical discussion of each topic. Problem-based, independent research of the scientific background by the students is an integral part of this module.

Example topics:
- Good scientific practise and fraud
- Neuroenhancement
- Artificial intelligence
- Animal welfare, Animal experiments
- Overfishing, Nature conservation
- State-of-the-art genetic tools and their implications
- Genetically modified organisms, e.g., in food production, chimeras
- Stem cells
- Humans as experimental subjects

A bonus can be obtained through active participation during the semester. Active participation requires regular oral contributions to the group discussions, that go beyond giving your own talks. A bonus improves the exam mark by one step (0.3 or 0.4). The bonus is optional, an exam mark of 1.0 is achievable without a bonus. A bonus cannot be applied to pass a failed exam.

Reader’s advisory

Current law and interpretative commentaries, e.g., by the German Research Council (DFG) or the German Ethics Panel
Introductory papers aimed at lay persons, e.g. from “The Scientist” or widely respected newspapers
Problem-based, independent search for relevant scientific literature is an integral part of this module

Links

Languages of instruction
- German, English

Duration (semesters)
- 1 Semester

Module frequency
- annually, summer term

Module capacity
- 18

Modulart
- je nach Studiengang Pflicht oder Wahlpflicht

Lern-/Lehrform / Type of program

Vorkenntnisse / Previous knowledge
- Fundamentals of genetics, physiology, ecology and biological systematics

Examination Time of examination Type of examination
Final exam of module within a few weeks of summer term lecture Term paper
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<td></td>
<td>period</td>
<td>In addition, mandatory but ungraded: Regular participation during the semester is required (max 3 days of absence)</td>
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<th>Course type</th>
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<th>SWS</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>SuSe</td>
<td>28 h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar und Übung</td>
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<td>2.00</td>
<td>SuSe</td>
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*Total time of attendance for the module* 56 h