bio655 - Ornithology

Module label: Ornithology
Module code: bio655
Credit points: 12.0 KP
Workload: 360 h
Used in course of study: Master's Programme Biology > Background Modules
Contact person

Module responsibility
- Franz Bairlein

Authorized examiners
- Georg Martin Klump
- Sandra Bouwhuis
- Christine Köppl
- Ulrike Langemann
- Henrik Mouritsen
- Heiko Schmaljohann
- Franz Bairlein

Module counseling
- Georg Martin Klump
- Sandra Bouwhuis
- Christine Köppl
- Ulrike Langemann
- Henrik Mouritsen
- Heiko Schmaljohann
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Entry requirements
Skills to be acquired in this module

- The module imparts advanced knowledge on different aspects of ornithology. The students acquire:
  - An extended knowledge of morphological and physiological fundamentals and the resulting ecological and behaviour-biological consequences in birds
  - Knowledge, presentation and discussion of relevant English literature from various fields of ornithology
  - Deepened biological expertise
  - Deepened knowledge of biological working methods
  - Critical and analytical thinking
  - Independent searching and knowledge of scientific literature
  - Data presentation and discussion in German and English (written and spoken)

Module contents

The module is composed of the lecture “Ecology and Physiology of Birds”, a seminar accompanying the lecture “Current Questions of Ornithology”, a seminar “Behavioural Ecology of Birds”, and a seminar “Methods in Field Ornithology”.

Lecture “Ecology and Physiology of Birds”:
This lecture consolidates special aspects of systematics, morphology, physiology, migration, orientation, population biology, communication and behavioural ecology in birds.

Seminar “Current Questions of Ornithology”:
In this seminar, original English publications are presented and discussed which deal with current research results from various fields treated in the lecture. Every student reads a paper on one scientific article and discusses the results of that article with the other participants.

Seminar “Behavioural Ecology of Birds” (option 1):
In the seminar, current literature relating to the life history of birds will be reported. During the term, each participant is presenting an original paper in a short talk and the group of students will be guided to critically discuss the paper.

Seminar “Methods in Field Ornithology” (option 2):
The core methods of field ornithology, such as stable isotopes, bird census, ringing, radar, radio tracking, etc., will be introduced with the help of English scientific papers by the students. In the presentations the corresponding methods will be explained in detail with an emphasis on the pros and cons of the method. The aim of this seminar is to learn how to deal with scientific methods in a critical way.
Reader’s advisory


Links
Participating Institution: Institut für Vogelforschung
http://www.ifv-vogelwarte.de

Languages of instruction
German, English

Duration (semesters)
1 Semester

Module capacity
30

Reference text
associated with bio900

Modulart
MM (Mastermodul / Master module)

Lern-/Lehrform / Type of program
je nach Studiengang Pflicht oder Wahlpflicht

Vorkenntnisse / Previous knowledge

Examination Time of examination Type of examination

Final exam of module

Presentations 40% (the main seminar is mandatory, one of the two options one need to be taken)
Written examination 60%
Regular active participation is required for the module to be passed successfully.

Course type Comment SWS Frequency Workload attendance
Lecture 4.00 WiSe 56 h
Seminar 4.00 WiSe 56 h

Total time of attendance for the module
112 h