

- Faculté des sciences
- www.unine.ch/sciences

Advances topics in conservation biology (3BL2285)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Master en biologie	Cours: 30 pg	Voir ci-dessous	3

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

Equipe enseignante

Prof. Clara Zemp

Contenu

In this course, students will learn and discuss concepts related to the relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, how this research field has been developing and potential implications for the management of natural resources and the conservation of biodiversity. Moreover, we will explore theoretical basis of biodiversity-ecosystem functioning relationships and the underlying mechanisms as well as the influence of interactions between organisms of multiple trophic levels, contrasting facets of biodiversity, and multifunctionality. Students will also be introduced to various empirical research approaches used to assess the relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning.

Forme de l'évaluation

Presentation (40%; ca. 20 min) and project report (60%; max 15 pages)

In self-directed projects, students are expected to develop research questions in the biodiversity-ecosystem functioning framework using their knowledge on concepts and theoretical basis of biodiversity and ecosystem functioning and design a methodological approach to assess it. Moreover, students are expected to lead discussions on biodiversity and ecosystem functioning related topics and develop their critical thinking.

Second attempt: if the final grade is below 4.0, the students are expected to contact me after the end of the semester; modalities of the second attempt will be discussed based on the feedback on the first report and presentation. The second attempt will have to be handed in before the next exam session.

Documentation

Scientific publications will be distributed on Moodle two weeks before each session.

Pré-requis

Reading of publications before the sessions.

Forme de l'enseignement

Lectures, paper presentations, debates and group discussions

Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Synthesise key messages of scientific publications related to biodiversity and ecosystem functioning
- Compare field research methodologies
- Analyse evidences in scientific publications
- Formulate research questions and hypotheses about biodiversity and ecosystem functioning
- Develop a proposal to advance the field of biodiversity and ecosystem functioning research

Compétences transférables

- Communicate in oral presentations
- Write a scientific report