

- Faculté des sciences
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EXC Mediterranean ecology (3BL2266)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Master en biogéosciences	Excursion: 7 j	Voir ci-dessous	3
Master en biologie	Excursion: 7 j	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 Edward Mitchell & assistants

Contenu

Mediterranean marshlands, estuaries, steppes, maquis shrubland, and mountain regions will be visited and their ecological compositions observed and compared with special emphasis on the relationships between geology, vegetation and the conservation of the unique biodiversity of the region. Although the general comprehension of the ecosystems is the goal of this excursion, field observations will emphasise on plants but invertebrates and vertebrates will also be presented and observed. Students' special interests can be taken into consideration as well. For logistic reasons the course is limited to ca. 20 students. The exact number may vary depending on the possibility (transport and accomodation).

Forme de l'évaluation

Continuous assessment pass.

The students will give presentations on a chosen ecosystem among those visited during the field trip, and students' performance and interest in the field will be evaluated (25% of the grade). Students will also have to turn in a final report of the field trip (75% of the grade). All marks are a form of continuous assessment, i.e. outside the exam period. As the excursion takes place during spring term, deadline for completion of the final report is May 31.

Modalités de rattrapage

In case of insufficient grade students will write another report which will be due by the first day of the following exam session (i.e. August).

Documentation

Relevant PDFs or other material for preparation of the presentations will be provided. Students will have access to a library (guide books) several useful books are also available at the University of Neuchâtel library.

Pré-requis

The field course is open to all students inscribed in the Master of Biology program at Neuchâtel as well as other programs (BGS, Biodiversity conservation).

Forme de l'enseignement

Direct observations and explanations of ecosystem characteristics and processes in the field. Field identification of plants and animals. Evening lectures and discussions.

Objectifs d'apprentissage

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

- Prepare a synthetic presentation on a chosen ecosystem
- Compare different ecosystems and the degree of human impact
- Describe the structure and functioning of an ecosystem
- Simulate curiosity and sense of observation of biodiversity and biotic interactions
- Interpret field observations to assess the degree of human impact

Compétences transférables

- Integrate field observations and information from the litterature to write a synthetic assessment of a given ecosystem

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