

Module title		Abbreviation
Ecology of Alpine Environments		07-MEAE-242-m01
Module coordinator		Module offered by
holder of the Chair of Animal Ecology and Tropical Biology		Faculty of Biology
ECTS	Method of grading	Only after succ. compl. of module(s)
5	numerical grade	--
Duration	Module level	Other prerequisites
1 semester	graduate	--
Contents		
<p>This practical block-course is mainly conducted in the German Alps and include field trips to the different ecosystems along elevational gradients, encompassing colline to subnival elevations. After exploring the habitat characteristics in different elevational belts, students will develop their own small research project focusing on the patterns and drivers of species diversity, species traits, animal-plant-interactions and/or animal-related ecosystem functions along climate- and land-use gradients. Throughout the course, they will learn the fundamentals of a sound research design and go through the steps of scientific work, including planning, conducting standardized experiments, and analyzing, interpreting, and presenting data to a (non-/) scientific community with critical discussion. In an integrated seminar students will learn about the importance of mountain ecosystem research in the context of climate change and for the UN Sustainable Development Goals.</p>		
Intended learning outcomes		
<p>At the end of the module, students can characterize habitats of different elevational belts and can explain the importance of mountains in climate protection and for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals. They know the fundamentals of a good study design and can apply different methods to record diversity, interactions, ecosystem functions and explanatory environmental parameters. They are able to evaluate and interpret data collected from climate and land use gradients in a statistically meaningful way and present and defend them in front of a broader audience.</p>		
Courses (type, number of weekly contact hours, language – if other than German)		
Ü (3) Module taught in: German and/or English		
Method of assessment (type, scope, language – if other than German, examination offered – if not every semester, information on whether module is creditable for bonus)		
<p>a) written examination (30 to 60 minutes, including multiple choice questions) or b) log (15 to 30 pages) or c) oral examination of one candidate each (30 to 60 minutes) or d) oral examination in groups of up to 3 candidates (30 to 60 minutes) or e) presentation (20 to 45 minutes) Language of assessment: German and/or English</p>		
Allocation of places		
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Additional information		
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Workload		
150 h		
Teaching cycle		
Teaching cycle: summer semester		
Referred to in LPO I (examination regulations for teaching-degree programmes)		
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Module appears in		



Master's degree (1 major) Biosciences (2024)