UNIVERSITY of NICOSIA

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
OGEN-315	Biodiversity	6
Department	**Semester**	**Prerequisites**
Management & MIS	Fall / Spring	None
Type of Course	**Field**	**Language of Instruction**
Major Elective	Energy, Oil and Gas Management	English
Level of Course	**Year of Study**	**Lecturer(s)**
Undergraduate	3d	Dr Marios Valiantis
Mode of Delivery	**Work Placement**	**Co-requisites**
face-to-face	N/A	None

Objectives of the Course:

To provide the student with a comprehensive understanding of the main aspects about species, biodiversity and taxonomy, and about the fundamental concepts of conservation, genetics, evolution and adaptation.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1. Explain the classification system for organisms and appreciate biodiversity within plant and animal taxonomy
2. Understand the role and diversity of micro-organisms
3. Use dichotomous keys for identification of organisms
4. Research, compile and write a literature-based report.

Course Content:

Biodiversity of living organisms; Covention on Biological Diversity; features of the major groups of animals and plants and their classification; diversity and functional importance of microorganisms; an introduction to genetics, evolution and natural selection; the use of and construction of identification keys; an introduction to the conservation of biodiversity.

Teaching Methods:

Lectures, In-class exercises, In-class discussions and homework

Assessment Methods:

Assignments, mid-term exam, final exam

Required Textbooks:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Kevin J Gaston and John I Spicer	*Biodiversity*	Blackwell Sciences, Oxford	1998	

Recommended Textbooks / Reading:

1. Beeby A.,and Brennan A-M 2008 *First Ecology*. 3rd Ed. Oxford University Press.
2. Cain, M.L., Yoon, C.K. and Singh-Cundy, A. 2009. Discover Biology. 4th Ed. W.W. Norton & Company
3. Dobson, M. & Frid, C. (2008) Ecology of Aquatic systems. Oxford University press
4. Mackenzie, A. Ball. A. and Virdee, S. (2001) BIOS Instant notes in ecology. (2nd edition) Taylor & Francis.

Websites:

1. National Biodiversity Network www.**nbn**.org.uk/
2. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/
3. The Natural History Museum, London http://www.nhm.ac.uk/
4. University of Oxford Botanic Garden www.**botanic-garden**.ox.ac.uk
5. World Conservation Union http://www.iucn.org/