UNIVERSITY of NICOSIA

Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
NUTR-265	Human Ecology	6
Prerequisites	**Department**	**Semester**
BIOL 231 and NUTR 320	Life & Health Science	Fall/Spring
Type of Course	**Field**	**Language of Instruction**
Core requirement	Nutrition/Dietetics	English/Greek
Level of Course	**Lecturer(s)**	**Year of Study**
1st Cycle	Dr Eleni Andreou	2nd
Mode of Delivery	**Work Placement**	**Corequisites**
face-to-face	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

This course will introduce students to ecological concepts and applications and will also provide the framework that will enable students to make informed decisions on environmental issues. The course looks at food webs along with energy production and flow and students will begin to appreciate the conflicts between such issues as bio-fuels and food supplies. The course addresses amongst other issues the ecology of competition, population growth and parasitism and disease.

The main objectives of the course are to:

- The knowledge, understanding and application of subject-specific information, principles and concepts relevant to Home Economics and Human Ecology.
- An awareness and understanding of contemporary issues, initiatives, current developments and their implications for Home Economics and Human Ecology.
- The use of investigative, experimental, managerial and manipulative techniques to gather, organise and present information, ideas, descriptions and arguments, clearly and logically, in order to reach justified decisions and conclusions
- The ability to appreciate critically the interdependence between creativity and aesthetic principles and identify and evaluate factors and relate them to specific needs
- To demonstrate aesthetic awareness, and be creative when communicating ideas and decisions

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Understand the relationship between biology and basic ecological issues
2. Relate ecological principles to environmental consequences
3. Understand the quantitative language of graphs and ecology
4. Develop critical thinking in discussing ecological data and issues
5. Develop life-long learning skills and a deeper understanding of environmental issues

Aims

6. To encourage an investigative approach to study and an ability to evaluate, manage and make economical, environment-friendly and safe use of resources.
7. To develop the ability to make informed decisions.
8. To provide experiences of problem-solving, research methodology and practical application when working to a design brief.
9. To promote an awareness of design and develop aesthetic appreciation and creative skills
10. To foster a sensitive, caring attitude that will lead to the identification and realisation of people's needs.
11. To further the concern for the natural environment
12. To create an awareness of the impact of rapidly changing technology on the family and society and to develop the skills required to efficiently manage this impact and related lifestyle changes.

Course Content:

1. Introduction to Ecology
2. Natural History : Life on Land
3. Natural History : Life in the Water
4. Ecology of individuals : Temperature and water relations
5. Ecology of individuals : Energy and nutrients relations
6. Ecology of populations : Population distribution and abundance; population dynamics
7. Ecology of Populations : Population growth
8. Ecology of Interactions: Competition
9. Ecology of Interactions Exploitation (predation, herbivory, parasitism and disease)
10. Ecology of Interactions : Mutualism
11. Communities and Ecosystems : Species abundance and diversity
12. Communities and Ecosystems : Food webs, Energy production and flow

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, class discussion, assignments

Assessment Methods:

Assignments, Tests and Mid-term Exam; Final Exam

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Ecology : Concepts and Applications.	MC Molles.	McGraw-Hill 4th edition	2006	ISBN 10-007309761
Elements of Ecology	RL Smith and TM Smith	Benjamin Cummings 6th edition	2005	ISBN 080534830
The Nutrition Society Textbook Series: Introduction to Human Nutrition (2nd Edition)	Michael J Gibney Susan A Lanham-New Aedin Cassidy Hester H Vorster	Wiley-Blackwell A John Wiley & Sons Ltd	2009	978-1-4051-6807-6

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Foundations of Ecology : Classic Papers with Commentaries	LAA Real and JH Brown	University of Chicago Press	1991	ISBN 10-0226705943, ISBN 13-9780226705941