University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Mechanisms of evolution, PG_00132651		
Field of study	Biology		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2028/2029
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	3	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	5	ECTS credits	1.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Laboratory of Biosystematics and Ecology of Aquatic Invertebrates -> Department of Evolutionary Genetics and Biosystematics -> Faculty of Biology -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	prof. dr hab. Tadeusz Namiotko	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	0.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15

E-learning hours included: 0.0

Learning activity and number of study hours

Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan	Participation in consultation hours	Self-study	SUM
Number of study hours	15	2.0	8.0	25

Subject objectives

1 To understand the pathways and mechanisms of evolution.
2. Ability to use this knowledge to explain the causes and extent of biodiversity.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[BIOLL3_W10] The graduate is familiar with the development and current state of knowledge and the latest trends in biology, as well as their relationship with other natural disciplines	The graduate will be able to assess the development, current state of knowledge and critically evaluate the latest hypotheses of evolutionary biology, explain why it is the central theory of biology and indicate its relationship to other natural sciences.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
[BIOLL3_U07] The graduate should be able to independently search for and use available sources of biological information, including electronic sources	The graduate will find by themself and use reliable sources of information on evolutionary biology, including electronic sources.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion
[BIOLL3_W06] The graduate will know the characteristics, systematics and understand the evolution of selected groups of organisms including molecular basis and basic concepts and mechanisms of evolution	The graduate will describe the basic concepts and mechanisms of evolution and explain the causes of biodiversity using selected examples of plants and animals	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion

Subject contents

The concept of natural selection, genetic drift and sexual selection. Natural selection as a factor responsible for
adaptive change. Evolution of quantitative traits. Concepts of species. Adaptive radiations, evolutionary trends and rates of evolutionary change. Evolution of biodiversity, mass extinctions. Selected topics on the major transitions in evolution, key periods in the history of life on Earth and the origin of some higher taxa.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	conversation/discussion	51.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Futuyma D.J., Kirkpatrick M. 2017. Evolution. Oxford Univ. Press. articles on evolutionary biology (e.g. from current and archive issues of Scientific American and from electronic sources)	
	Supplementary literature	articles on evolutionary biology (e.g. from current and archive issues of Scientific American and from electronic sources)	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed			
Work placement	Not applicable		

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