University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Plant Taxonomy, PG_00196851		
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 Optional subject group Subject group related to scientific research 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 Plant Taxonomy -> Department of Plant Taxonomy and Nature Conservation -> Faculty of Biology -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	dr Sławomir Nowak	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	0.0	0.0	15.0	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	3.0	7.0	25

Subject objectives

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to the current state of research in plant taxonomy, including the latest research methods. To present the basics of the history of classification of organisms and artificial and natural classification systems. To familiarize the student with the code of botanical nomenclature, as well as various definitions of taxonomy. To develop the ability to use a key to identify species, as well as to understand the basics of its preparation. To develop in the student an awareness of the need to classify organisms in the context of biodiversity loss.

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[BIOLL3_U12] The graduate is able to use Polish and foreign languages specific to biology in a way that is understandable and accessible to both specialists and non-specialists	student uses specialized language in the field of plant taxonomy and understands the concepts of this field of science both in Polish and English	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SU3] text preparation/written work [SU5] implementation of a problem task [SU8] observation of student's independent or team work
[BIOLL3_W14] The graduate has an advanced understanding of experimental methods and the most important techniques used in the biological sciences	student is able to perform simple phenetic and phylogenetic analyses and interpret their results	[SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW5] implementation of a problem task
[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	student understands the impact of achievements from other fields of biology on the development of taxonomy and can give examples of them	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SW3] text preparation/written work [SW5] implementation of a problem task
[BIOLL3_K01] The graduate is prepared to evaluate his/her own knowledge, understand the need for continuous learning and development, and is open to new ideas	student is aware of the changes in taxonomy over time and the impact of the development of biological sciences on these changes	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK3] text preparation/written work [SK5] implementation of a problem task [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work
[BIOLL3_K08] The graduate is ready to be honest, reliable and apply the principles of savoir-vivre in academic and professional work	student prepares projects individually or in a group based on taxonomic data in an honest and reliable manner	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report [SK3] text preparation/written work [SK5] implementation of a problem task [SK8] observation of student's independent or team work

Subject contents

Taxonomic collections. Taxonomic studies. Keys to determination. Code of nomenclature. Use of the latest information sources and databases in taxonomic research. Sources of taxonomic information. Modern methods used in the development of classification systems: phenetic (taxometry), phylogenetic (cladistics), molecular analysis.

Prerequisites and co-requisites

Assessment methods and criteria

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
Tasks during the course	51.0%	50.0%
Working during class time	51.0%	50.0%

Recommended reading

Basic literature	Stace C.A. 1993. Taksonomia roślin i biosystematyka. PWN. Warszawa.
Supplementary literature	Stearn W.T. 2004. Botanical Latin. 4th ed. David and Charles Publishers. Jeffrey, C. 1977. Biological Nomenclature (2nd. edn.). Edward Arnold Davis Heywood. 1963. Principles of angiosperm taxonomy. New York. Spalik K, & Piwczyński M. 2006. Rekonstrukcja filogenezy i wnioskowanie filogenetyczne w badaniach ewolucyjnych. Kosmos 58(3-4): 485-498. Laneand C.E, Archibald J.M. 2008. The eukaryotic tree of life: endosymbiosis takes its TOL. Trends in Ecol. & Evol. 23(5): 268-275. Stuessy T. 2009. Paradigms in biological classification. Taxon 58: 1707-1708.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	The grade for exercises is determined on the basis of attendance at classes (attendance is mandatory) and partial grades received during the semester for tasks performed during and between classes. In the absence of a sufficient number of points for a pass in the classes, the student is required to write a final paper covering the range of material from the classes.
Work placement	Not applicable

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