

Semester:	08		
Course Code:	ZOOL 42882		
Course Name:	Mammalogy		
Credit Value:	02		
Status:	Optional		
Pre-requisite:	ZOOL 12703		
Co-requisite:	None		
Hourly Breakdown:	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning
	24	18	58

Intended Learning Outcomes:

After completion of this course unit, the student will be able to:

1. explain the evolution, global distribution and diversity of mammals,
2. describe the morphology and anatomy of egg laying, marsupial and placental mammals,
3. discuss the physiological and behavioral adaptations of mammals,
4. demonstrate skills in identifying mammalian fauna of Sri Lanka using taxonomic keys and field guides,
5. suggest strategies for management of mammalian fauna, and
6. discuss the ecological and economical importance of mammalian fauna.

Course Content:

Introduction and history of mammalian studies. Evolution and biogeography of mammals. Morphology and anatomy of mammals. Physiological and behavioral aspects of mammals: integument, support and movements, modes of feeding, sensation, control system and biological rhythms, communication, reproduction, environmental adaptations and adaptive radiation. Classification of mammals: egg laying, marsupial and placental mammals. Diversity of major egg laying, marsupial and placental mammalian orders. Threats, conservation and management of selected mammals. Ecological and economical importance of mammals, humans as the most 'advanced' mammalian group.

Practical sessions on: Identification of mammals using taxonomic keys, field guides and indirect evidences in the field, field sampling, tagging, and tracking of mammals, behavioral study of mammals.

Teaching /Learning Methods:

A combination of lectures, laboratory and field practical sessions, computer-based learning, self-studies, field-based assignments and group discussions.

Assessment Strategy:

Continuous assessment and end of semester examination. Percentage given for each sub component indicates the percent contribution to the final marks.

Continuous Assessment 40 %		Final Assessment 60 %		
Details:		Theory 60 %	Practical	Other
Assignments	20 %		-	-
Presentations	10 %			
Field reports	10 %			

Recommended Readings:

1. Vaughan, T., J. Ryan & N. Czaplewski (2013). Mammalogy. Jones & Bartlett Learning.
2. Feldhamer, G. A., L. C. Drickamer, S. H. Vessey, J. F. Merritt, & C. Krajewski (2020). Mammalogy: adaptation, diversity, ecology. 5th edition, JHU press.
3. Zachos, F. E. (2021). Illustrated Checklist of the Mammals of the World.
4. Yapa, A. & G. Ratnavira (2013). Mammals of Sri Lanka. Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka.
5. Recently published scholarly articles from reputed journals related to Mammalogy.
6. International Union for Conservation of Nature. (www.iucn.org).