

Semester:	07 and 08		
Course Code:	ZOO L 43948		
Course Name:	Research Project		
Credit Value:	08		
Status:	Compulsory		
Pre-requisites:	ZOO L 41732 & ZOO L 42773		
Co-requisites:	None		
Hourly Breakdown:	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning
	-	-	800
Intended Learning Outcomes:			
After completion of this course unit, the student will be able to:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. develop and present a research proposal on an identified research problem related to a specific field in Zoology, 2. conduct independent research on the identified research problem according to the scientific method, 3. analyse research data using appropriate statistical tests and interpret results in a scientific manner, 4. present the research results in the form of a dissertation, and 5. present the research synopsis to academic audience orally and defend the research findings effectively. 			
Course Content:			
A short-term research project based on the scientific method on an identified research problem related to any of the following areas of Zoology under the supervision of a senior academic staff member: Aquaculture, Conservation Biology, Ecology, Ecotoxicology, Entomology, Fish Biology, Fisheries Management, Herpetology, Mammalogy, Ornithology, Parasitology, Physiology, Plant Nematology, and Wildlife Management.			
Literature review related to the research topic. Development of a research proposal on the identified research problem and oral presentation of the proposal. Data collection based on field and/or laboratory work using appropriate tools and techniques. Statistical analysis of data. Preparation of the dissertation based on stipulated requirements. Oral presentation of research synopsis and defense of the research findings.			
Teaching /Learning Methods:			
Literature survey using library and web sources, research proposal development, data gathering based on laboratory and/or field work, data analysis and interpretation, preparation of dissertation, oral presentations.			
Assessment Strategy:			
Continuous assessment and end of the year examination. Percentage given for each sub-component indicates the percent contribution to the final marks.			
Continuous Assessment 10 %		Final Assessment 90 %	
Details:		Theory	Practical
Research proposal	10 %	-	-
			Other
			Dissertation 60 %
			Oral presentation & defense 30 %

Recommended Readings:

1. Peer reviewed literature related to the assigned research topic.
2. Comstock, G. (2013). *Research Ethics (A Philosophical Guide to the Responsible Conduct of Research)*. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge.
3. Fowler, J., L. Cohen & P. Jarvis (1998). *Practical Statistics for Field Biology*, 2nd Edition, John Willey & Sons.
4. Clark, K. R. & R. M. Warwick (2001). *Change in Marine Communities: an approach to statistical analysis and interpretation*, 2nd edition, PRIMER-E: Plymouth.