

BSc Degree Programme

Semester	1		
Course code	BIOL 11542		
Course Name:	Animal Form, Function and Behaviour		
Credit Value:	2		
Core/Optional	Core		
Pre requisites	G.C.E. (A/L) Biology		
Co-requisites	None		
Hourly Breakdown	Theory	Practical	Independent Learning
	26	08	66
Course Aim/Intended Learning Outcomes:			
After completion of the course unit, the student will be able to;			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ describe hierarchical organization of animal body plans in relation to their functions, ➤ explain basic behavioural patterns of animals for their survival and reproduction, and ➤ demonstrate practical skills in recognizing different animal forms and relating them to functions and the environment, and ➤ demonstrate practical skills in recognizing basic behavioural patterns of animals in the field. 			
Course Content:			
Introduction to animal kingdom, variation in animal body size, plan and shape in relation to functions and environment, Material exchange with the environment, hierarchical organization of animal body plans, Basic principles of animal nutrition, Circulation and respiration, Osmoregulation and excretion, Homeostasis, neural and hormonal coordination, Reproduction and development.			
Introduction to animal behavior, Basic behavioural patterns, Fixed Action patterns, Learning, Animal communication, Communication in social insects, Animal rhythms including migration, hibernation and biological clocks, Sexual behavior, mate selection and parental care, Aggression, Motivation and drive, Social organization in higher vertebrates including territoriality, dominant hierarchical system, altruism and kin selection.			
Practical sessions on animal form and function, and animal behavior.			
Teaching /Learning Methods: A combination of lectures, practical sessions, computer based learning, self-studies, assignments and small group discussions.			
Assessment Strategy: Continuous assessment and end of course examination.			
Continuous Assessment 20%		Final Assessment 80%	
Details: Online/ in-class Tutorials 20%		Theory (%) 80%	Practical (%) NA Other (specify) NA
Recommended reading:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manning A. & M. S. Dawkins (1995). An Introduction to Animal Behaviour, Cambridge University Press. 2. Raven, P. H. & G. B. Johnson (2010). Biology. 8th Edition. Tata McGraw-Hill Edition. 3. Reece, J. B., L. A. Urry, M. L. Cain, S. A. Wasserman, P. V. Minorsky & R. B. Jackson (2011). Biology - Campbell, Global Edition. 9th Edition. Pearson Education Inc. 			