

Course Unit	Exotic and Wild Animals	Field of study	Biology and Biochemistry
Bachelor in	Veterinary Nursing	School	School of Agriculture
Academic Year	2023/2024	Year of study	3
Type	Semestral	Semester	1
Workload (hours)	162	Contact hours	T - TP - PL - TC - S - E - OT - O -
		Level	1-3
		Code	9085-783-3102-00-23
		ECTS credits	6.0

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) José Paulo Mendes Guerra Marques Cortez

Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. - Identify some species of Portuguese and European fauna
2. - Apply knowledge about aspects of the ethology and ecology of these species, with an emphasis on threatened species, with aquaculture and hunting interest, and on exotic and introduced species
3. - To know national and international laws and regulations for commerce of wild fauna, protected species and invasive species
4. - To recognise the importance of animal recovering plans of threatened populations and species.
5. - Be able to contribute to the objectives of reintroduction programs for threatened species
6. -To acquire competences in veterinary nursing care in exotic and wild animals.

Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:
Biology

Course contents

Biology and ecology of native fauna in Portugal and Europe. Endangered, introduced and exotic fauna. Ecology and behaviour of animals in stress and non-stress conditions. Capture, handling and nursing techniques for wildlife. Restoration/recovery on wildlife animals and release of endangered species. Legislation. (Re)Introduction and reestablishment of locally/regionally extinct species.

Course contents (extended version)

1. Characteristics of most relevant animal species of Portugal
 - European and portuguese fauna: birds, mammals reptiles, amphibian and fish species
 - Introduced and exotic species commonly comercialized
2. Introduction to behaviour and ecology of wild animals
 - Movements in animals: migration and dispersal
 - Animal behaviour
 - Reproduction and mortality in wildlife species
3. Capture techniques, wild animal handling and feeding
 - Handling and reactions to humans
 - Techniques in rearing captive wild animals
4. Strategies for population recovering
 - Reproduction programs for captive animals
 - Case studies: zoos, oceanaria and recovering centers
5. Ecological considerations and laws in animal reintroductions
 - Human and ecological constraints to release recovered wild animals
6. Veterinary Nursing of Exotic Pets
 - Small Mammals
 - Avian species

Recommended reading

1. Ballard, B. , Cheek, R. , 2010. Exotic Animal Medicine for the Veterinary Technician. 2ª edição, Iowa State University Press, EUA, 520 pp.
2. Ferrand de Almeida N. , Ferrand de Almeida P. , Gonçalves H. , Sequeira F. , Teixeira J. e Ferrand de Almeida, F. 2001. Guia Fapas Anfíbios e Répteis de Portugal.
3. MacDonald, D. & P. Barret, 1999. Mamíferos de Portugal e Europa. Guias Fapas. Porto
4. Girling, S. , 2013. Veterinary Nursing of Exotic Pets. 2ª edição, John Wiley and Sons Ltd, NY, EUA, 376 pp.
5. Svensson L; Mullarney, K. and Zetterström, D. 2012. Guia de aves: o guia de campo mais completo das aves de Portugal e da Europa. 2ª ed. Assírio & Alvim

Teaching and learning methods

Lecture sessions with multimedia support. Practical classes on field and lab. Work group based on bibliographic resources

Assessment methods

1. Alternative 1 - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final)
 - Intermediate Written Test - 25% (The mid-term exam corresponds to half of the final exam)
 - Work Discussion - 50% (Includes short tests)
 - Final Written Exam - 50% (Only 25% if the student took the midterm test)
2. Alternative 2 - (Regular, Student Worker) (Supplementary)
3. Alternative 3 - (Student Worker) (Special)

Language of instruction

Portuguese, with additional English support for foreign students.

Electronic validation

José Paulo Mendes Guerra Marques Cortez	Marina Maria Pedrosa Meca Ferreira Castro	Hélder Miranda Pires Quintas	Maria Sameiro Ferreira Patrício
01-02-2024	01-02-2024	02-02-2024	02-02-2024