

Mammalian Biology - ZYU5307

Information Sheet - 2023/2024

Welcome to the Mammalian Biology course, a three-credit course offered by the Department of Zoology, in the 2nd semester. Please read this information sheet carefully and plan your activities accordingly. For any further assistance please contact the coordinator:

Senior Coordinator: Dr C.D Jayasinghe Tp:0112881446; email: cdjay@ou.ac.lk



Course material

There are three blocks (I, II, III) ZYU5307. Block I and II are available as printed books, while block III is in the format of printed handouts. You can collect them from dispatch centres of the OUSL at the beginning of the 2nd semester. Course materials are also available in the online course as PDF files. Further, some sessions are available as pre-recorded video presentations in the online course.



Academic activities

Refer the 2nd semester Zoology Activity Schedule and Faculty CAT time table for dates and times of activities.

Activity	Blocks covered in Day schools/Tests	Mode
Day school 1	Block I	Zoom
Day school 2	Block I & II	Zoom
NBT 1	Block I & II (MCQ/Structured)	On site (All RC & selected study centres)
Day school 3	Block II & III	Zoom
Day school 4	Block III	Zoom
NBT 2	Block II & III (MCQ/Structured)	On Site (All RC & selected study centres)
Practical sessions	5 groups depending on the number	CRC, KRC, MRC, JRC (Online)
Revision D.S.	Discussion of problems	Zoom/onsite

CRC: Colombo Regional Centre; KRC: Kandy Regional Centre; MRC: Matara Regional Centre, ARC: Anuradhapura Regional Centre; JRC: Jaffna Regional Centre; BRC: Batticaloa Regional Centre

You will be also provided with a work plan to proceed with this the course material and online course of This course.



Day Schools

- ☑ During the 2nd semester, there will be four Day Schools (DSs).
- ☑ Day Schools will be conducted via zoom as discussions. Before the DS, send any problems you wish to discussed, to the coordinator via online course or email to cdjay@ou.ac.lk

Revision Day School

- ☑ A Revision Day School will be conducted just before the Final examination to further clarify any problems and to discuss previous final examination question papers.

Online support

- ☑ This course is supported by the Moodle Online Course. The online facility provides course information, learning resources, such as videos, MCQs, CAT and Final exam papers, and practical reservation.
- ☑ There is also an assessment test which contributes marks towards the CAM. Log in from OUSL home page or <https://learnou.ac.lk/> User name: your NIC number; password: s-user (unless you have changed the password). Refer the attached logging information sheet.



Practical Sessions

- ☒ In the practical class, you will be assessed based on online group presentations on related topics of mammals. The practical session includes two days. Practical group reservation will be done only via learnousl. Based on your preference you can form a group and select the practical group convenient to you and a group mammal that you like to prepare the presentations. On the first day will be informed how group work is going to conduct and on the next day (Friday) you will have to present your group work via zoom platform. **Attendance on both days of the practical session is compulsory. Please log into the online course to check your group number and presentation topic before you come for practical sessions.**

Practical reservation

- Practical group reservation is only possible via online reservation. Communicate with your friends and form a group before you select a practical group. You cannot change your group once you log into one group without informing the senior coordinator.
- Only those who have signed up for the particular group will not be admitted to the presentation sessions.

Exemption from attending practical sessions

- ☒ A student who has obtained a Practical Assessment Mark of 30% or more, but fails to obtain eligibility to sit the final examination, may seek exemption from attending the practical session of the succeeding academic year only. You will be **exempted only if you obtain approval** to do so by requesting **in writing** to the Senior Coordinator. When granted such an exemption, the practical marks obtained in the previous year will be taken for computing the CAM.



Assessment & Evaluation of the Course

Continuous Assessment Tests

- ☒ This course has 2 No Book Tests (NBT), each of one-hour duration. Refer to the Zoology Activity schedule/CA schedule for the dates and times. The study material covered in each test and the nature of the test (MCQ/Structured, etc.) is indicated in the Table given earlier.
- ☒ Online assessment
- In addition to NBTs, there will be an online test which contributes to the practical mark.

Eligibility to sit the final examination

- ☒ Continuous Assessment Mark (OCAM) is computed on the two NBTs and the Practical Assessment Test as follows:
- ☒ **OCAM = 50% of the best NBT + 20% of the other NBT + 30% of the Practical Assessment Mark (PAM)**
- ☒ To be eligible to sit the final examination, you must satisfy **all three criteria** below:
- Attendance on all days of the practical session. ☒ PAM should be 30% or more.
 - OCAM should be 35% or more.

Final Examination

- ☒ Final examinations, based on all units, will be held at end of 2nd semester and will consist of an Essay type question paper of 2 hours duration with 4 out of 6 questions to be answered.
- ☒ The Overall Mark (OVM) will be computed based on both the CAM and Final Examination Mark. Refer to the Faculty Prospectus for details on the computation of OVM and final grades.

ZooNet Award for ZYU5307 will be awarded to the student who scores **the highest Overall Mark and an A Grade** at the Final Exam (provided final exam was sat in year of obtaining eligibility).