

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

General information	
Academic subject	PREVENTION OF PARASITIC DISEASES OF WILDLIFE integrated exam of PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES IN WILDLIFE
Degree course	Animal Science L38
Academic Year	III year
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	2
Language	Italian
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	II Semester: 26/02/2024 – 14/06/2024
Attendance	Mandatory

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Virtual headquarters	Microsoft Teams platform if necessary
Tutoring (time and day)	Monday and Wednesday: 15:00 – 17:00

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	The teaching aims to provide knowledge on the main parasites and parasitic diseases, including those of zoonotic concern, and on the preventative measures to carry out for reducing the risk of infection in wildlife including those living in confined spaces (i.e., animals in the zoo or Safari Park), as well as in public health.
Course prerequisites	The student has to pass to the exams of “Biosafety and Health Management” and “Parasitology, Mycology and Management of synanthropic animals”
Contents	The topics covered during the course will refer to hints of taxonomy, biology and pathogenesis of parasites as well as the clinical manifestations and the prophylactic interventions to be adopted. In particular, brief introduction on the importance of wildlife, the interaction of the main factors in determining parasitic diseases including those of zoonotic concern and their risk to public health; Protozoa infection in wild and zoo animals; Trichinellosis and echinococcosis; Mange and diptera in carnivores and wild ungulates; Infestation by ticks and transmitted pathogens and Tick-borne diseases in wildlife.
Books and bibliography	-Taylor M.A., Coop R., Wall R. (2022). “Parassitologia e Malattie Parassitarie degli Animali”, Edizione italiana, EMSI. -Petretti F. (2003). “Gestione della fauna. Il management delle popolazioni animali negli ambienti naturali, agricoli e urbanizzati”. Ed. Edagricole Bologna. -Dispense a cura del Prof. R.P. Lia “Diagnosi di laboratorio delle principali malattie degli animali domestici” disponibili online (www.bariparasitology.it) e appunti dalle lezioni del corso.
Additional materials	Lecture notes are recommended

Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
50	8	10	32
ECTS			
2	1	1	
Teaching strategy		<p>The teaching includes theoretical and practical activities. The teaching activities will be held in classrooms equipped with multimedia tools through the projection of power point presentations. Innovative and interactive teachings will be held through online search in specific parasitology websites.</p> <p>Practical activities will be held in laboratories equipped with specific instruments such as optical microscopes and stereomicroscopes or in autopsy room. Each student will individually perform the practical activities consisting in the identification of ectoparasites by macro- and microscopic examinations and detection of endo- and ectoparasites during a necroscopy and performing diagnostic tests. Furthermore, the student will learn how to collect biological specimens and how to store them. The students will join field activities (i.e., wild animal recovery center).</p>	
Expected learning outcomes			
Knowledge and understanding on:		The student will acquire the knowledge on the main parasitic diseases of wildlife, on population dynamics and on the strategies to be adopted for their prevention.	
Applying knowledge and understanding on:		The student will be able to apply, when possible, intervention strategies for reducing the risk of infection by endo- and ectoparasites in different species of wild animals focused on the animal welfare and the species conservation. In addition, the preventative measures aim to the reduction of parasitological damage on the meat production in a contest of public health	
Soft skills		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Making informed judgments and choices</i> At the end of the course, the student should be able to diagnose the main parasitic diseases and identify the parasite, and to adopt preventive measures for reducing the risk of infections in other animals and in humans. • <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> The student should acquire knowledge and technical terminology for properly discuss with technicians and practitioners • <i>Capacities to continue learning</i> The students will apply this knowledge in specific contexts as well as they will be able to deepen them during work-experience or internship activities in given environments such as zoological park and wild animal recovery centers 	

Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	The skills acquired during the course will be assessed through an oral exam.
Evaluation criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Knowledge and understanding</i> The student has to demonstrate a good knowledge of the topics covered by the program and dealt with during the lessons and practical activities. • <i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i> She/he has to know the morphological and biological aspects of parasites and the diseases they caused and describe how to prevent and control them. • <i>Autonomy of judgment</i>



	<p>Being able to express her/his opinion independently</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> <p>Use the appropriate terminology and able to critically discuss the contents of the subject</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Communication skills</i> <p>Be able to discuss about different aspect of parasitic diseases in wildlife including the preventive measure or protocol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Capacities to continue learning</i> <p>Improve the knowledge of the topics through advanced courses and training periods</p>
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	The learning achieved by the student will be assessed by an oral exam for evaluating the degree of knowledge acquired on the studied topics. Passing the exam will require a final mark expressed out of thirty.
Additional information	