



## **Visiting Professor Program Academic Year 2024/2025**

**TEACHING COMMITMENT:** 12 hours

**COURSE TITLE**

**Evolution of Behavior**

**TEACHING PERIOD**

1st term

**SCIENTIFIC AREA**

Zoology

**LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH**

English

**COURSE SUMMARY**

The course contributes to the following training objectives of the Master's course:

The acquisition of general and in-depth knowledge concerning the main theoretical and methodological achievements necessary to both proximate and ultimate causes of animal and human behavior emerging from scientific literature, including applied ethology.

The acquisition of neurological and hormonal mechanisms underlying the development and display of behaviours, methodological approach to the reconstruction of evolution of behavior, evolution of communication system in social group and in reproductive systems of amphibians, birds, primates and cetaceans.

The acquisition of a multidisciplinary approach based on the integration of both naturalistic-descriptive and the experimental approaches including the analysis of acoustic structure of signals.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Basic knowledge in evolutionary biology, communication, behavior, and adaptation to the natural environment. Specific skills on the main themes of the etiological investigation for the study of animal and human behavior, including the study of vocal and behavioral repertoires and acoustic analysis. Ability to critically examine the main etho-zoological topics using the available scientific literature.

Capacity to effectively and clearly describe ethological themes with appropriate terminology.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDES THE COURSE**

Two seminars for the Bachelor students and a seminar addressed to PhD students and research fellows.

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### **VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE**

The role of VP for this teaching must be filled by a person with a solid background in the field of animal behavior, ranging from the load-bearing themes of classical Ethology to the most recent case studies. A strong teaching bent, fluency in English, and attention to students from different three-year backgrounds are desirable.

### **CONTACT REFERENT**

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