

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

General information	
Academic subject	MARINE PLANT BIOLOGY (integrated exam of GENERAL AND APPLIED BIOLOGY)
Degree course	Science of Marine Productions and Resources (L38)
Academic Year	I year
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	5
Language	Italian
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	I semester
Attendance	Not compulsory

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Department and address	Taranto presso Ex II Facoltà di Scienze MM.FF.NN, Via Alcide de Gasperi, (Quartiere Paolo VI) - 74123 Taranto
Virtual headquarters	Microsoft Teams platform
Tutoring (time and day)	By appointment (phone or e-mail)

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	Introduce to the knowledge of the main plant groups of the marine environment (algae and plants) and of their biology and ecology; provide tools for the identification of the main marine plant organisms with particular reference to the most common and/or important of the Mediterranean Sea.
Course prerequisites	Basic knowledge of general botany
Contents	Aquatic organisms: algae and phanerogams. Definition and general characters. Systematic criteria and phylogenesis of algae. Review of the main algal Divisions: morphological, biological, and ecological characteristics. Characteristics of marine Angiosperms with particular reference to morphology, biology and ecological importance of the species occurring in the Mediterranean Sea. A brief overview of structure and functions of marine plant communities.
Books and bibliography	G. Pasqua, G. Abate & C. Forni. Botanica generale e diversità vegetale. IV edizione. Padova: Piccin Nuova Libreria 2019. ISBN 978-88-299-2979-5.
Additional materials	Lacking a text which includes all the topics of the course, the teacher suggests the consultation of the above mentioned book, also providing, as a support for students, the lecture material (PDF).

Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
125	50	-	75
ECTS			
5	5	-	
Teaching strategy			

	<i>The course is structured in lectures for which the teacher uses multimedia presentations.</i>
Expected learning outcomes	
Knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morphological, biological and ecological characteristics of the main groups of marine plant organisms • Plant communities in the marine environment, also in relation to the influence of anthropic impact and climatic fluctuations
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of different groups of marine plant organisms • Understanding of the main functions and adaptations in relation to the environment • Acquisition of tools for the conservation and management of marine plant communities
Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical discussion of important aspects of the marine plant biology • Autonomous extension of the acquired knowledge by reading and understanding specific texts • Acceptance of the newest topics of scientific papers related to the field of interest

Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	The assessment of a single student is based on an oral examination. The exam consists of a series of questions that require the discussion of a topic, linked with other topics, in order to evaluate the acquired knowledge, reasoning and communication skills, the ability to solve practical problems.
Evaluation criteria	Communication skills, the ability to link different topics and to synthesize are evaluated.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	<p>The exam grade is expressed in thirtieth. The exam is passed with a grade of at least 18/30. A simple knowledge of terms and concepts is not sufficient to pass the exam. The results of the tests of the modules "Marine Plant Biology" and "General Biology and Zoology" contribute to the definition of the final grade of the General and Applied Biology exam.</p> <p>The final grade of the General and Applied Biology exam is the result of the collegial judgment regarding the evaluations obtained in the two modules of "Marine Plant Biology" and "General Biology and Zoology". Knowledge, clarity, communication skills, acquired competence and level of in-depth study are essential elements for the attribution of the exam grade.</p> <p>To students with a strongly positive evaluation in both modules of the Integrated Course of General and Applied Biology, the Examination board may decide, unanimously, to award honours at the final mark (30 cum laude).</p>
Additional information	