Main course information	
Academic subject	Fauna conservation
Degree course	Master's degree in Science of nature and environment
Degree class	LM/60 & LM/75
ECTS credits (CFU)	6
Compulsory attendance	Yes
Teaching language	Italian
Accademic Year	2019/2020

Professor/Lecturer	
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Tutorial time/day	Monday and Friday 11-13

Course details	Pass-fail exam/Exam with mark out of 30	SSD code	Type of class
	Exam with mark out of 30	BIO/05	Lecture & field trip

Teaching schedule	Year	Semester
	1	1

Lesson type	CFU/ECTS	Lessons (hours)	CFU/ECTS lab	Lab hours	CFU/ECTS tutorial/workshop	Tutorial/workshop hours	CFU/ECTS field trip	Field trip Hours
	5	40					1	20

Time management	Total hours	Teaching hours	Self-study hours
	150	60	90

Academic Calendar	First lesson	Final lesson
	01/10/2019	13/12/2019

Syllabus	
Course entry requirements	Basic knowledge in Zoology and Animal biodiversity
Expected learning outcomes (according to Dublin Descriptors) (it is recommended that they are congruent with the learning outcomes contained in A4a, A4b, A4c tables of the SUA-CdS)	
Knowledge and understanding	To acquire further knowledge in the faunistic field (with respect to the three-year degree courses in zoology) by studying the threats to which animals are subjected on the planet and understanding the two-way link between human population and other animal species. Knowledge of the conservation status of the most representative national/regional fauna. Knowledge of the main methods of wildlife census in terrestrial environments. Knowledge of the main methods of repopulation and reintroduction of species. Rudiments of diagnosis of the conservation status of animal species.
Applying knowledge and understanding	Application of wildlife monitoring and conservation techniques in nature.
Making informed judgements and choices	Acquisition of autonomy in the evaluation and interpretation of experimental data and in the setting of strategies for the application of monitoring techniques and protection of fauna in the natural environment.
Communicating knowledge and understanding	Acquisition of vocabulary and terminology related to the conservation of fauna to understand the relative bibliography and to communicate specific knowledge.
Capacities to continue learning	Acquisition of the ability to investigate and read the evolution of the discipline with a critical spirit, by consulting texts and databases. The knowledge and skills necessary to deal with the complex issues related to the conservation of the fauna in a conceptually correct manner require a considerable learning ability that is developed and tested during the lesson period.

Syllabus	
Course content	The biology of conservation. What is biodiversity. Outline on animal biodiversity at a global level and in Italy. The value of biodiversity. The threats to biodiversity. Habitat destruction, fragmentation and degradation. Climate changes. Species overfishing. Alien and invasive species. Extinctions. Conservation of populations and species. Monitoring of populations. The censuses. The conservation categories. The IUCN and the red lists. The legal protection of fauna. Italian laws, Law 157/92. European laws, Birds and Habitats Directives. International agreements. The establishment of new populations. Repopulation, reintroduction, introduction. Some case studies. Ex situ conservation. Protected areas (PA). PA in Italy, Law 394/91. Planning and management of PA. Conservation outside the PA. Recovery of degraded ecosystems. The challenge of sustainable development. Case studies: the bath sponge (Spongia officinalis) along the coasts of Salento; the wolf (Canis lupus) and the wild boar (Sus scrofa) in the Alta Murgia National Park.
Course books/Bibliography	Primack e Boitani (2013). Biologia della conservazione. Zanichelli.
Notes	During the course students will be provided with further bibliographical references.
Teaching methods	Lectures and seminars; direct experience acquired during educational excursions.
Assessment methods (indicate at least the type written, oral, other)	Oral examination.
Evaluation criteria (Explain for each expected learning outcome what a student has to know, or is able to do, and how many levels of achievement there are	It is considered necessary for the student to pursue the following learning objectives: Learning capacity. In addition to the acquisition of concepts, the ability to make connections with general zoology and animal biodiversity is evaluated. Knowledge at exclusively notional levels is not evaluated above average values (23-26/30). Ability to apply knowledge and understanding. The knowledge of census techniques necessary for monitoring and management of the fauna on the territory is an essential requirement to be positively evaluated during the examination. Autonomy of judgment. Knowing how to choose, in different territorial contexts, which are the main faunal emergencies, as well as the most suitable methods for the protection of animal species, shows maturity in the preparation and is positively judged. Communication skills. Knowing how to communicate the contents of wildlife conservation in a clear and scientifically correct way is essential to decision-making and is considered fundamental for the positive outcome of the examination.
Further information	