

UNIVERSITY OF WARMIA AND MAZURY Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry

Course description

56S1-OCHROPRZ

NATURE CONSERVATION

ECTS: 4.0

Course status: obligatory *

Year of the study: II

HOURS PER SEMESTER/WEEK: LECTURES: 15/1; CLASSES: 30/2 FIELD OF THE STUDY: Environmental protection Level of study: First-cycle (Engineer's degree) program

COURSE CONTENTS

LECTURES: Nature - basic concepts and definitions. Nature as a set of diverse values: cognitive, educational, aesthetic, and economic. Man's attitude to nature expressed in the stages of his evolution - conservation of nature throughout history. Motives, directions, and strategies of nature conservation. The history of nature conservation in Poland. Landscape conservation. Basic legal acts concerning nature and landscape conservation in Poland. Organization of nature conservation in Poland. International nature of environmental protection and nature conservation. Strategy for nature conservation in the European Union. Poland's participation in international cooperation for nature conservation. Poland's international commitments. Agreements, conventions, programs, projects. Agriculture and nature conservation. Agri-environmental programs.

CLASSES: Biodiversity and landscape diversity as the main objective of nature conservation. Methods of nature conservation in the course of using resources. Nature conservation in Poland - threats to fauna and flora. Strict and partial species protection of plants and animals. Threat categories of species according to the IUCN classification "Red Lists" and "Red Books" of plants and animals. Relict and endemic species. Restitution and introduction of species. Active nature conservation. Plants and animals legally protected in Poland – description and discussion of selected species. System and functions of protected areas. National parks and their role in the conservation nature. Nature reserves. Natural monuments. landscape parks. Protected landscape areas. Ecological use. Natural and landscape complexes as fragments of the natural and cultural landscape with historical and aesthetic values. NATURA 2000 areas. Monitoring of threats to environmentally valuable areas. Invasive species.

EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE: Learning and using nature conservation instruments and threats resulting from disturbance of its balance in the economic and political decision-making field in Poland and on the international arena.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge. The student has basic knowledge of nature conservation's directions, motives, and strategies. The student practically recognizes the basic protected species of plants and animals. It identifies the causes, extent, and effects of human impact on ecological systems and processes and the biodiversity of ecosystems.

Skills. The student uses the necessary information in the protection of selected species of plants and animals and has the ability to properly and precisely communicate with various entities in verbal, written, and graphic form. The student can analyze phenomena concerning ecological systems' functioning and assess their impact on the life and functioning of rare and protected species, especially in forest areas.

Social competences. The student is aware of the importance of nature conservation in everyday life and for future generations, and shows understanding and responsibility for the current and future natural reality. He applies the acquired knowledge in practical activities in

TEACHING FORMS AND METHODS

Lectures. Information lecture with a multimedia presentation.

Classes. Auditorium exercises, lab exercises, and presentations made by the students.

FORM AND CONDITIONS FOR VERIFICATION OF LEARNING OUTCOMES

Lectures. Written test - passing guarantees obtaining 60% of the maximum score.

Classes. Part 1- written test. Passing guarantees obtaining 60% of the maximum score in both parts independently. Part 2 - assessment of the presentation made by the student.

BASIC LITERATURE

1) Dobrzański G., B. M. Dobrzańska, D. Kiełczewski. Ochrona środowiska przyrodniczego, wyd. Wydawnictwo Ekonomia i Środowisko, Białystok, 1997. 2) Olaczek R. Ochrona przyrody, wyd. PWRiL Warszawa, 2000. 3) Symonides E., Ochrona przyrody, Wyd. Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 2008.

ADDITIONAL LITERATURE

1) Radziejowski J., Obszary chronione w Polsce, wyd.IOŚ, Warszawa, 1996.

THE TEACHER/TEACHERS CONDUCTING THE CLASSES:

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^{*} note: optional courses availability depends on polish students choice!