

SYLLABUS

Name: History of European Cenozoic mammals (25-BI-S2-W-HECM-AN)

Name in Polish: Historia ssaków kenozoiku Europy

Name in English: History of European Cenozoic mammals

Information on course:

Course offered by department: Faculty of Biological Sciences

Course for department: Faculty of Biological Sciences

Default type of course examination report:

Grading

Language:

English

Short description:

Prerequisites regarding knowledge, skills, and social competences for the course/module:

Basic knowledge of vertebrate zoology, palaeontology and ecology.

Student's own work:

- preparation for classes
- reading the indicated literature
- writing a class report
- preparation for the test

Description:

Educational aims:

Cenozoic history of evolution and transformation of mammalian fauna in Eurasia under changes of natural environment. The formation and a modern picture of mammals in Eurasia.

Course content:

Lectures: Stratigraphy, time and division of the Cenozoic in Poland and in the world. Research methods and reconstruction of paleoenvironments. Evolution of vegetation and climate in the Cenozoic. The rise of the mammals. Mesozoic mammals - "life in the shadow of dinosaurs". Cretaceous/Palaeogene boundary - the beginning of the great mammalian radiation. Palaeocene - a period of trials. Eocene - epoch of great changes, greenhouse effect, divided Europe, great invasion from Asia. Oligocene - development of open environments, evolution of herbivores and predators. Miocene - time of herbivores. Pliocene - a time of change, the appearance of glaciers in the northern hemisphere. Pleistocene - a great cold engulfs Europe, man enters the arena. Pleistocene rhythm of changes in the natural environments. The Pleistocene/Holocene boundary - the Great Extinction. Species-forming role of glaciations, Pleistocene refugia and their role in recreating fauna. Holocene - the civilisation impact on the contemporary image of mammalian fauna. History of Polish mammal fauna in the Cenozoic.

Classes: Broader overview on selected topics from the lectures.

Bibliography:

Mandatory and recommended reading list:

Benton M. J. 2008. The history of life. A very short introduction. Oxford University Press.

Benton M.J. and Harper D.A.T. 1997. Basic palaeontology. Pearson Education.

Cowen R. 2013. History of Life. John Wiley & Sons.

Dixon D., Benton M. J., Kingslay A., Baker J. 2001. Atlas of life on Earth. Barnes & Noble.

Kurtén B. 1968. Pleistocene mammals of Europe. Weidenfeld and Nicolson, London.

Niethammer J., Krapp F. 1993.: Handbuch der Säugetiere Europas. AULA-Verlag, Wiesbaden.

Wilson D. E., Reeder D. M. 2005. Mammal species of the World. A taxonomic and geographic reference. Johns Hopkins University Press, Washington.

Learning outcomes:

Intended learning outcomes

Student:

K_W01

knows history of changes of Cenozoic fauna and its environment in Europe;

K_U01

reconstructs the origin, evolution, radiation, migrations, periods of extinction as well as the current state of mammalian fauna on our continent.

K_W02

understands the impact of changes in mammalian fauna in the past due to global and local environmental changes and increasing anthropopressure on their contemporary distribution

K_K04

respects the law of protection of palaeontological finds and understands the need for their proper management as an element of intellectual property resources.

Assessment methods and assessment criteria:

Assessment methods for the intended learning outcomes:

- Lectures:
- written test.
- Classes:
- completing a project.

Credit requirements for individual components of the course/module:

USOSweb: Szczegóły przedmiotu: 25-BI-S2-W-HECM-AN, w cyklu: <brak>, jednostka dawcy: <brak>, grupa przedm.: <brak>

- Lectures:
- test.
- Classes:
- student's project.

Course credits in various terms:

<without a specific program>			
Type of credits	Number	First term	Last term
European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)	3	2023/24-Z	