COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Biological Psychology	**621C14001**

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: Lecturer Dr. Alvydas Šoliūnas **Other(s):** Junior Research Fellow Vaida Survilienė; Assoc. Prof. Eduardas Budrys; Senior Research Fellow Mindaugas Mitkus	Institute of Biosciences, Life Science Center, Saulėtekio al. 7, LT-10223, Vilnius

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
Full-time studies (2nd stage)	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Lectures, seminars, exercises	Second (spring) semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites:	**Additional requirements (if any):**

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	64	66

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed
The course unit aims to develop: *Specific competences:* • ability to understand foundations of animal behavior: instinctive behavior, classical and instrumental conditioning, intellectual behavior; • ability to apply scientific approach when investigating, analyzing, and explaining behavior of animals; *Generic competences:* • analytical and critical thinking ; • skills for self-development, learning skills in order to study general science resources;

Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
• ability to distinguish different forms of animal behaviour; • ability to estimate specific cognitive abilities of animals: time and number representation, navigation, communication forms, social behaviour forms; • ability to distinguish forms of behaviour that are common for animals and humans; • ability to critically evaluate literature on animal behaviour; • skills to use specific methods for experimental investigation of specific forms of animal behaviour.	Lectures, seminars, video demonstrations, literature analysis, exercises	Colloquiums and examination

• ability to design and perform the experiments with animals: a) ability to raise the research goals based on analysis of scientific literature; b) ability to use the appropriate methods of experiment and behaviour analysis ant to choose the appropriate research objects; c) ability to properly perform the experiment ant to deal with emerging problems; d) ability to analyse and summarize the data and to draw conclusions; • acquisition of practical skills to work in groups: a) ability to design collectively an experiment, to coordinate the work in the groups, to organize the discussion, to deal with emerging problems, to present the collectively obtained results; b) ability to evaluate critically and adequately the contribution of each member of the group	Exercises (performance of experiment in a group, search and analysis of information), presentations (preparation and delivery of a presentation), discussions	Two presentations (methods and design of experiment, and results of experiment)

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Self-study work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Internship/work placement	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Classical and instrumental conditioning: methods, theories, and mechanisms. (*A. Šoliūnas*)	8						8	9	Textbooks and scientific literature reading.
2. Discrimination learning and categorisation: methods and theories. (*A. Šoliūnas*)	2		2				4	3	Textbooks and scientific literature reading.
3. Short-term and long term memory: methods, theories, and mechanisms. (*A. Šoliūnas*)	2						2	3	Textbooks and scientific literature reading.
4. Specific abilities: perception of time and numbers; short-distance and long-distance navigation. (*A. Šoliūnas*)	4		2				8	6	Textbooks and scientific literature reading.
5. Scientific project: observation of animal behaviour, study of learning. (*V. Survilienė*)			4			20	24	30	Literature reading, preparation of presentations, practical works.
6. Ethology and behaviourism. Trends in the study of animal behaviour, the problems and methods. (*V. Survilienė*)	2					4	6	3	Textbooks and scientific literature reading.
7. Social behaviour, socialisation and communication, language: attributes, experiments, theories. (*V. Survilienė*)	8						6	6	Textbooks and scientific literature reading.
8. Behaviour of insects and the factors that govern it. (*E. Budrys*)	2						2	3	Textbooks and scientific literature reading.
9. Intellectual behaviour, the evolution of intelligence. (*A. Šoliūnas, M. Mitkus*)	4						4	3	Textbooks and scientific literature reading.
Total	**32***		**8****			**24*****	**64**	**66**	

* (Lectures) - A.Šoliūnas – 18 h; V. Survilienė – 10 h, E.Budrys – 2 h. M.Mitkus – 10 h;

** (Seminars) - A. Šoliūnas – 2 h; V. Survilienė – 6 h;
*** (Internship) - V. Survilienė – 24 h.

Assessment strategy	Weight%	Deadline	Assessment criteria
1st Colloquium (open or closed questions of several degree of difficulty).	23 %	Before the 2nd colloquium	Maximum grade is 2.3 points. Grade is proportional to the cumulative percentage of points for all questions, i.e. the 2.3 points correspond to 100 % of points of all questions.
2nd Colloquium (open or closed questions of several degree of difficulty).	23 %	Before the 3rd colloquium	Evaluation is the same as in the 1st colloquium.
3rd Colloquium (open or closed questions of several degree of difficulty).	23 %	Before the end of semester	Evaluation is the same as in the 1st colloquium.
Reserved colloquium – retake of the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd colloquium.		Before the end of semester	Evaluation is the same as in the 1st colloquium. The grade of reserved colloquium is accepted and the previous grade is cancelled.
Scientific project	31 %	Before the end of semester	31 % (3.1 point) consists of: 1) 2 % for fulfilment of practical tasks given by lecturer (2 % - tasks accomplished, 0 % - not accomplished); 2) 29 % for accomplishment of scientific project: 10 % for presentation of literature analysis and methods of experiment (1st presentation, should be presented before the 1st colloquium); 19 % for presentation of data analysis, results, and conclusions of experiment, and for the discussion about experiment (2nd presentation, should be presented on the last sessions of practice). The grade of scientific project consists of: • The evaluation from the lecturer (filling in the form according to the criteria, where 0 points correspond to work not done and 10 points correspond to work done perfectly); • The evaluation from other students (filling in the same form); • The contribution (0-100%) of the student in the work of a group (the grade is estimated by the members of a group)
Verbal and written examination.	69 %	During the session	Exam is compulsory only for the students that collected less than 3.45 points in colloquiums (i.e. less than 50 % of maximum points). Other students may take the exam to improve the grade of colloquiums. In this case, only the grade of exam is admitted. 69 % (6.9 points) sum consists of answers to three thematic questions (23 % each). Written answers at the request of the lecturer and with the student's consent may be supplemented by oral answers.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsary reading				
J. M. Pearce.	2008	Animal learning and cognition, 3rd ed.		Psychology Press
Optional reading				
M.F. Bear, B.W. Connors & M.A. Paradiso	2016	Neuroscience. Exploring the Brain, 4th ed.		Wolters Kluwer
M. Domjen	2015	The Principles of		Cengage Learning

		Learning and Behavior, 7th ed.		
J.J. Bolhuis (ed.)	2000	Brain, perception, memory		Oxford University Press
R. Martin & P. Bateson	1993	Measuring Behaviour: An Introductory Guide.		Cambridge University Press
J.J. Bolhuis (ed.)	2000	Brain, perception, memory		Oxford University Press