

**Education Programme in Biology  
in the discipline of biological sciences  
conducted in English  
at the Doctoral School of Exact  
and Natural Sciences**

**I**

**General provisions**

1. The education programme in Biology has been developed according to the Act of 20 July 2018 on Law on Higher Education and Science and the guidelines in force at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków.
2. The education programme leads to achieving learning outcomes for the qualifications at Level 8 of the Polish Qualification Framework (PQF).
3. The education programme in Biology lasts 8 semesters.
4. English is a medium of instruction of the programme.
5. Detailed requirements and eligibility criteria for admission to the programme are defined in the admission terms and conditions as approved by the Jagiellonian University Senate.
6. Within 12 months of the commencement of the programme, a doctoral student shall submit an Individual Research Plan (IRP) to the education programme coordinator for their opinion and submission to the Director of the Doctoral School.
7. A doctoral student is required to achieve a minimum of 40 ECTS credits (ECTS – European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) allocated to the Biology education programme and to attain all the required learning outcomes at the Level 8 of the Polish Qualification Framework, of which:
  - a minimum of 30 ECTS is related to the preparation to conduct and communicate research;
  - a minimum of 24 ECTS is completed within the framework of elective classes developing professional skills;
  - a minimum of 25 ECTS is completed by the end of the semester in which mid-term assessment is conducted;
8. Detailed instruction for achieving and assessing learning outcomes shall be specified in the syllabuses of the individual courses.

## **II**

### **Professional traineeship**

1. Professional traineeship shall take the form of teaching or co-teaching.
2. The rules of traineeship for doctoral students in the Biology programme shall be determined by the Director in agreement with the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Biology of the Jagiellonian University .
3. The number of hours of professional traineeship shall not exceed 60 teaching hours (a teaching hour equals 45 minutes) per academic year.
4. The 1<sup>st</sup> year doctoral students shall only assist in teaching classes of a minimum of 10 teaching hours, from which they prepare a note with the signature of the course coordinator or of the supervisor, and attend classes developing their teaching skills.

## **III**

### **Study and research progress assessment**

1. The supervisor(s), in cooperation with the programme coordinator and the Director of the Doctoral School, shall supervise implementing the education programme and the Individual Research Plan of the doctoral student.
2. Annually, but no later than by 17 September, a doctoral student shall submit to the programme coordinator a written report on the implementation of the Individual Research Plan, reviewed by the supervisor(s) and the auxiliary supervisor. The report shall include, in particular: a brief summary of the doctoral student's research (both on scientific progress and progress in the preparation of the dissertation) and teaching activities.
3. Verification of the implementation of the programme is carried out by the programme coordinator.
4. The programme coordinator shall evaluate the implementation of the programme and research progress on the basis of: the opinion of the supervisor(s) and credit for the courses included in the education programme schedule.
5. The programme coordinator may decide to reschedule the doctoral student's duties resulting from the education programme and to accept courses or activities not specified in the education programme as part of the performance of the duties (with the relevant allocation of ECTS credits), provided that changes to the Individual Research Plan are not needed. Such courses may be taken in place of obligatory courses as well as other courses.
6. When additional funding is available or in well justified cases, the programme coordinator, in consultation with School representatives of the Jagiellonian University PhD Student Association and the Director of the Doctoral School, may oblige doctoral students to take courses not specified in the education programme.
7. By the end of the 24<sup>th</sup> month of education, a doctoral student shall be subject to mid-term assessment before the assessment committee appointed by the Director of the Doctoral School.

8. The date of the mid-term assessment is established by the Director of the Doctoral School on the proposal of the programme coordinator.
9. One month before the scheduled meeting of the mid-term assessment committee, the doctoral student shall submit to the programme coordinator a written report on the implementation of the Individual Research Plan. The report has to be approved by the supervisor(s) and the auxiliary supervisor before submission.

Prior to the scheduled date of the mid-term assessment, the supervisor may organise an open session at which the doctoral student will present the degree of progress of the Individual Research Plan. The date and format of the session shall be determined by the education programme coordinator.

## **IV Schedule**

## SCHEDULE FOR THE EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN BIOLOGY

<b>DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF EXACT AND NATURAL SCIENCES EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN BIOLOGY</b>						
Item	Aim	Description	PQF*	Semest er	No of ECTS	No of hours
<b>OBLIGATORY COURSES WITHIN THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF EXACT AND NATURAL SCIENCES (MINIMUM 6 ECTS)</b>						
Doctoral School Seminar conducted in English		Assessment: <b>credit based on participation</b>	P8S_WG P8S_UW P8S_UK	V-VIII	2 (1+1)	Minimum 6 seminars a year
Philosophy (Philosophy of nature)		Assessment: <b>credit with a grade</b>	P8S_WK	V-VI	4	30 hours - lectures 15 or 30 hours - seminars
<b>ELECTIVE JOINT ACTIVITIES FOR THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF EXACT AND NATURAL SCIENCES (MINIMUM 4 ECTS)</b>						
English for Environmental Sciences		Assessment: <b>examination</b>	P8S_UK	I-II	4	60 hours
Polish for foreigners		Assessment: <b>examination</b>	P8S_UU	I-IV	4	60 hours
Modern foreign language (as a second foreign language)		Assessment: <b>examination</b>	P8S_UU	I-IV	4	60 hours

Activities enhancing professional and soft skills development (career planning, managerial skills, business communication, e.g. <i>Document and literature management as tools to facilitate working on a doctoral dissertation</i> ), <i>Elements of rhetoric and communication</i> offered by the Jagiellonian Competence Development Center.	Assessment: <b>credit</b>	P8S_WK P8S_KR P8S_KO	I-VIII		
<b>ELECTIVE ACTIVITIES DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL SKILLS (MINIMUM 24 ECTS)</b>					
<b>OBLIGATORY TO OBTAIN - 16 ECTS</b>					
Evaluation of progress in PhD thesis (I year)	Assessment: <b>credit</b>	P8S_UW P8S_UO	I-II	2 (2 x 1)	2 x 25 hours
Evaluation of progress in PhD thesis (II year)	Assessment: <b>credit</b>	P8S_UW P8S_UO	III-IV	4 (2 x 2)	2 x 40 hours
Evaluation of progress in PhD thesis (III year)	Assessment: <b>credit</b>	P8S_UW P8S_UO	V-VI	2 (2 x 1)	2 x 25 hours
Evaluation of progress in PhD thesis (IV year)	Assessment: <b>credit</b>	P8S_UW P8S_UO	VII-VIII	2 (2 x 1)	2 x 25 hours
Seminars I	Assessment: <b>credit</b>	P8S_UK	I-II	2 (2 x 1)	2 x 15 hours
Seminars II	Assessment: <b>credit</b>	P8S_UK	III-IV	2 (2 x 1)	2 x 15 hours
Seminars III	Assessment: <b>credit</b>	P8S_UK	V-VI	2 (2 x 1)	2 x 15 hours

<b>CORE COURSES TO CHOOSE FROM: MINIMUM 2 OFFERED EVERY 2 YEARS (MINIMUM 8 ECTS)</b>					
Biomedical research methods: from antigen to antibody and beyond	Assessment: <b>credit with a grade</b>	P8S_WG P8S_UW P8S_KK	I-IV	4	15 hours – lecture 25 hours – seminar
Methods in environmental sciences and nature conservation	Assessment: <b>credit with a grade</b>			4	50 hours – laboratory and field workshops
Molecular Ecology for PhD Students	Assessment: <b>examination</b>			4	15 hours – lecture 15 hours – class 15 hours – seminar
Methodological Workshop in Evolutionary Biology – grant writing Methodological Workshop in Evolutionary Biology – practical part	Assessment: <b>credit with a grade</b>			4 (2 x 2)	30 hours + 30 hours workshop
Courses and activities leading to attaining competences to accomplish Individual Research Plan (e.g. summer schools, courses completed at other universities, including foreign universities), No. of ECTS and No. of hours determined individually for each course	Assessment: <b>as provided in the course syllabus</b>		I-VI		
<b>OTHER COURSES TO CHOOSE FROM</b>					
Statistics for research sciences	Assessment: <b>examination</b>	P8S_UW	III-V	4	30 hours – seminar 15 hours – practical classes

Advanced Research Communication	Assessment: <b>credit with a grade</b>	P8S_WG P8S_KK	II	3	10 hours – lecture 20 hours – practical classes
<b>ACTIVITIES DEVELOPING TEACHING SKILLS (MINIMUM 6 ECTS)</b>					
Efficient Teaching	Assessment: <b>credit with a grade</b>	P8S_UU	I-II	3	30 hours – workshops
Traineeship in academic didactics	<b>Class observation report on teaching given by the PhD Student</b>	P8S_UU	In accordance with the guidelines adopted at the Faculty	direct teaching hours 10 hours – 1 ECTS (max. 6 ECTS within the entire course of education)	minimum 10 hours a year
<p><b>Additional obligatory courses:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PhD students who start their education in the Doctoral School are required to complete a <b>Health and Safety at Work</b> training / BHP.</li> <li>2. <b>First Aid</b> course (theoretical part and practical part) is to be completed by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.</li> <li>3. PhD students who plan research involving vertebrate animals are required to take training to obtain appropriate qualifications.</li> </ol>					

\*PQF /PRK – Polish Qualifications Framework / *Polska Rama Kwalifikacji* in accordance with the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education on the characteristics of second-level learning outcomes for qualifications at Levels 6-8 of the Polish Qualifications Framework.

<https://prk.men.gov.pl/en/1en/>

Conducting research and preparing a doctoral dissertation within the meaning of Article 187(3) of the Act of 20 July 2018 - Law on Higher Education and Science (i.e. Journal of Laws of 2023, item 742 as amended) fulfills in part achieving all types of learning outcomes for qualifications at Level 8 of the PQF. The achievement of these outcomes is verified by the supervisor.

Doctoral students with disabilities and persons in a special health situation may apply for the adaptation of the education process realisation to their needs, according to the principles specified in the order of the Jagiellonian University Rector.

## V

### **Final provision**

The *Biology* education programme in the discipline of biological sciences at the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences shall enter into force on the date of the Resolution.