# The Teaching of the Biological Subjects, their Connection to Research and Practice

- but not only about this...



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**TeComp** 

#### Let me introduce myself

#### Education

2014 - Assoc. Prof.
 Faculty of Mining and Geology VŠB - Technical University of Ostrava.
 Field of science: Environmental Protection.
 Habilitation thesis: Plants as indicators of the state of the environment in natural and contaminated areas.

- 2009 PhD. Faculty of Science, Comenius University in Bratislava + Institute of Botany, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava PhD thesis: Spatial analysis of ecoelements and phytogeographical boundaries – case study in the Zvolen basin.
- 1989 Dr. Faculty of Natural Sciences, Comenius University Bratislava Thesis: Genus Crepis L. in Slovakia - species of mountain and alpine locations.

#### 1998 – teacher at the Matej Bel University (MBU)

| the courses whi                                | ch I led | according to | field of study   |
|--|----------|--------------|--|
| Name of the profile course                     | Degree   | Acad. year   | Field of study   |
| Flora of habitats of Slovakia                  | l.       | previous     | Ecological and Environmental Sciences  |
| Phytocoenology                                 | I.       | previous     | Ecological and Environmental Sciences  |
| Diversity and Phylogeny of Vascular Plants     | I.       | current      | Teacher Training and Education Science Ecological and Environmental Sciences |
| Field course in botany and zoology *           | I.       | current      | Teacher Training and Education Science Ecological and Environmental Sciences |
| Dendrology                                     | I.       | current      | Teacher Training and Education Science Ecological and Environmental Sciences |
| Practical botany *                             | I.       | current      | Teacher Training and Education Science Ecological and Environmental Sciences |
| Habitats of Slovakia *                         | I.       | current      | Teacher Training and Education Science Ecological and Environmental Sciences |
| Applied botany *                               | II.      | current      | Teacher Training and Education Science Ecological and Environmental Sciences |
| Restoration Ecology *                          | II.      | current      | Ecological and Environmental Sciences  |
| Biosystematic, evolution and ecology of plants | III.     | current      | Ecological and Environmental Sciences  |

<sup>\* -</sup> the course is realized in cooperation with another colleague from the department or the Institute of Botany of the Slovak Academy of Sciences

2019 – we have created common workplace - Central Slovak Center for Science and Education SAS and MBU

## Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica

University in the heart of Slovakia, university with a heart.















FILOZOFICKÁ
FAKULTA UNIVERZITY
MATEJA BELA



PEDAGOGICKÁ FAKULTA UNIVERZITY MATEJA BELA



FAKULTA PRÍRODNÝCH VIED UNIVERZITY MATEJA BELA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3a54BSIbDg

## Faculty of Natural Sciences

#### Department of Biology and Ecology

- 2. Department of Physics
- 3. Department of Chemistry
- 4. Department of Mathematics
- Department of Technology
- 6. Department of Environmental Management
- Department of Geography and Geology
- 8. Department of Computer Science







13 teachers, 1 postdoc, 1 assistant of head of department

#### our own logo katedra biológie a ekológie



#### Our most important principle

 to realised study programmes with emphasis on field exercises and practice

#### Department of Biology and Ecology

- 2 study programmes
  - Teaching of Biology Teacher preparation programme degrees: | Bc. | MSc. |
    - with another subject from 3 faculties (e.g. chemistry, physics, geography, mathematics, languages, history, philosophy, psychology, art education, physical education)
    - Branch of study: Teacher Training and Education Science
    - only full time
  - Ecology and Protection of Ecosystems | Bc. | MSc. |
  - Evolution of Ecosystems and their Protection | Ph.D. |
    - till 2021/2022

## **Environmental Biology**

- new, joint study programme of two departments

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since 2021/2022
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Field (branch) of study: Ecological and Environmental Sciences

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Form: full time | Bc. | MSc. | PhD. |
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external time | PhD. |

Language: Slovak

#### This study programme replaced:

- Ecology and Protection of Ecosystems | Bc. | MSc. |
- Environmental Safety | Bc. |
- Environmental Management | MSc. |
- Remediation of Environmental Burdens | Ph.D. |

# Teaching of Biology

Bc.

Compulsory

| Course Name                                | Cr. | Duration     |
|--|-----|--------------|
| Plant anatomy and morphology               | 4   | 2P + 1C      |
| Anatomy and morphology of animals          | 4   | 2P + 2C      |
| Taxonomy of cyanobacteria, algae and fungi | 4   | 2P + 1C      |
| Microbiology                               | 4   | 2P + 1C      |
| Systematic zoology of invertebrates        | 4   | 2P + 2C      |
| Systematic zoology of vertebrates          | 4   | 2P + 2C      |
| Taxonomy of plants                         | 4   | 2P + 2C      |
| Field course of botany and zoology         | 4   | 100sC        |
| Human anatomy and evolution                | 5   | 2P + 2C + 2S |
| Human and animal physiology                | 4   | 2P + 2C      |
| Molecular biology and genetics             | 5   | 2P + 1C + 2S |
| Plant physiology                           | 4   | 1P + 1C + 1S |
| General geology                            | 4   | 2P + 1C      |
| Fyziológia živočíchov a človeka            | 4   | 2P + 2C + 0S |

## Teaching of Biology | Bc. | Compulsory elective courses

| Course Name                                      | Cr. | Duration     |
|--|-----|--------------|
| Microscopic and preparation techniques           | 3   | 1C + 1S      |
| General ecology                                  | 3   | 2P + 1S      |
| Practical course of plant anatomy and morphology | 3   | 2C           |
| Statistical methods in biology                   | 3   | 2P           |
| Biogeography                                     | 4   | 2P           |
| Etology  | 4   | 1P + 1S      |
| Theriology                                       | 3   | 2S           |
| Dendrology                                       | 4   | 1C + 2S      |
| Natural and artificial ecosystems                | 4   | 2P           |
| Introduction to physics                          | 4   | 2P + 2S      |
| Global problems of the environment               | 4   | 2P + 0C + 0S |

## Teaching of Biology | MSc. | Compulsory courses

these are subjects connected with didactics and school practice

## Compulsory elective courses

| Course Name   | Akt. | Cr. | Duration |
|---|------|-----|----------|
| Activating methods and forms in teaching biology    | !    | 3   | 18       |
| Applied botany                                      |      | 3   | 1P + 1S  |
| Practical exercises in biology teaching             |      | 3   | 2C       |
| Selected chapters of molecular biology and genetics |      | 3   | 2P       |
| Applied zoology                                     |      | 3   | 1P + 1S  |
| Practical exercises in biology teaching 2           | !    | 3   | 2C       |
| Evolutionary biology                                |      | 3   | 1P + 1S  |

## Environmental Biology | Bc. |

https://ais2.umb.sk/repo2/repository/default/ais/studijneplany/2021-2022/FPV\_UMB/EN/nENBI.xml

#### Compulsory courses

Diversity and Phylogeny of Vascular Plants (7 credits)

- 2 h lectures/week + 3 h exercises/week
- 50 h field exercises

Habitats of Slovakia (6 credits)

2 h lectures/week + 3 h exercises/week

#### Compulsory elective courses

Practical Botany (4 credits)

2 h exercises/week

# Environmental Biology | MSc. | Compulsory courses

https://ais2.umb.sk/repo2/repository/default/ais/studijneplany/2021-2022/FPV\_UMB/EN/nENBI\_m.xml

| Course Name  | Akt. | Cr. | Duration     |
|--|------|-----|--------------|
| Ecological Synthesis   |      | 6   | 2P + 2S      |
| Biological Foundations of Nature Conservation                    |      | 6   | 2P + 2S      |
| Selected Chapters from Environmental Law                         |      | 5   | 3S           |
| Ecosystem Services   |      | 5   | 2P + 1S      |
| Environmental Impact Assessment                                  |      | 6   | 2P + 2S      |
| Practice in Nature and Environmental Protection<br>Organizations |      | 5   | 50sC         |
| Biological Foundations of Nature Protection - Field Exercises    |      | 4   | 20sC         |
| Restoration Ecology  |      | 6   | 2P + 1C + 1S |
| Green Economy  |      | 5   | 2P + 1S      |
| Methods of Scientific Work                                       |      | 4   | 3S           |

## Environmental Biology | PhD. |

## Compulsory courses

#### Study section

#### Compulsory courses

| Blok - ENBI - doktorands | ké štúdium   |     |          |
|--------------------------|--|-----|----------|
| Course Code              | Course Name  | Dr. | Duration |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-102/22    | Methodology and Ethics of Scientific Work          | 16  | 26sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-101/22    | Statistical Methods and Ecological Research Design | 16  | 52sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-103/22    | English Communication for Scientists               | 16  | 26sS     |

#### Compulsory elective courses

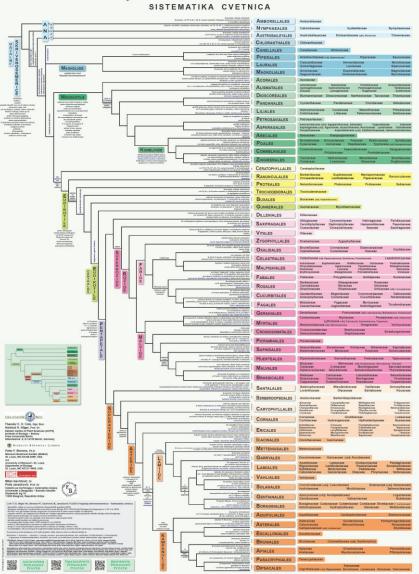
| Blok - ENBI - Doktorands | ké štúdium   |     |          |
|--------------------------|--|-----|----------|
| Course Code              | Course Name  | Dr. | Duration |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-201/22    | Conservation Biology   | 12  | 52sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-202/22    | Paleoecology: Field Methods, Data Processing And Interpretation              | 12  | 39sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-203/22    | Environmental Microbiology and Microbial Community Ecology                   | 12  | 39sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-204/22    | Ecological Remediation of Degraded and Contaminated Environmental Components | 12  | 39sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-205/2     | Biosystematics, Phylogenesis, and Plant Ecology                              | 10  | 26sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-206/22    | Conservation Genetics  | 10  | 26sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-207/22    | Adaptive Management in Area and Species Based Conservation                   | 10  | 26sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-208/22    | Geochronology and Geoanalytical Methods in Paleoecology                      | 10  | 26sS     |
| KBE FPV/3e-ebi-209/22    | Global Environmental Changes in Earth Development                            | 10  | 26sS     |

# Diversity and Phylogeny of Vascular Plants FILOGENIJA SKRIVENOSEMENICA

- lectures: according to the cladistic system
  - Stevens, P. F. (2001 onwards).
    Angiosperm Phylogeny Website.
    Version 14, July 2017 [and more or less continuously updated since]."
    will do.

http://www.mobot.org/MOBOT/res
earch/APweb/

https://www.researchgate.net/pu blication/344193089 Plant Phyloge ny Posters PPP poster titles and languages with links



# Diversity and Phylogeny of Vascular Plants

- exercises: processed list for students
  - 20 taxa of Bryophytae
  - 20 taxa of Lycopodiophyta+ Monilophyta
  - 20 taxa of Gymnospermae
  - 240 taxa of Angiospermae
  - according to
    - herbarium items
    - ■live plants
    - pictures

#### ANGIOSPERMAE-KRYTOSEMENNÉ **ANGIOSPERMAE** Bazálne vetvy krytosemenných rastlín rad: Nymphaeales - leknotvaré čeľaď: Nymphaeaceae - leknovité 1. Nymphasa alba VU § - lekno biele Magnoliidová vetva rad: Magnoliales - magnóliotvaré čeľaď: Magnoliaceae – magnoliovité Magnolia sp. – magnolia rad: Piperales – pieprotvaré čeľaď: Aristolochiaceae – vlkovcovité 3. Asarum europaeum - kopytnik európsky Jednoklíčnolistové rad: Alismatales – žabníkotvaré čeľaď: Araceae - áronovité Arum alpinum – aron alpský Lemna minor – žaburinka menšia (Lemnaceae) čeľaď: Potamogetonaceze – červenavcovité Potamopeton sp. (napr. crispus, natans, obtusifolius CR) – červenavec (kučeravý, plávajúci, tupolistý) rad: Liliales – l'aliotvaré čeľaď: Colchicaceae - jesienkovité Colchicum autumnale – jesienka obyčajná (Liliaceae) čeľaď: Liliaceae - ľaliovité Gagea Intea – krivec žltv Lilium bulbiferum NT § – l'alia cibul'konosná Lilium martagon LC – l'alia zlatohlavá čeľaď: Melanthiaceae - kýchavcovité 11. Paris quadrifolia - vranovec štvorlistý (Liliaceae) Veratrum album – kýchavica biela (Liliaceae) rad: Asparagales - asparágotvaré čeľaď: Alliaceae - cesnakovité Allium ursinum – cesnak medvedi (Liliaceae) čeľaď: Amaryllidaceae - amarylkovitě









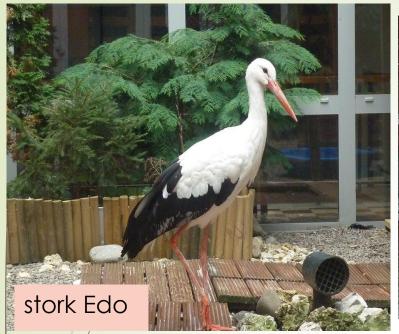
## Zoology

- live contact with handicapped animals
  - rescue station for handicapped animals
  - a unique opportunity to observe behavior, feeding, care...

















## Field course of botany and zoology

- an intensive, 5-day summer course designed to teach students basic skills in field botany and zoology.
- presentation of different habitats and their biodiversity
- using traditional and online taxonomic keys to identify plants
- Collecting and preparing herbarium specimens for teaching and scientific purposes - 50 taxa

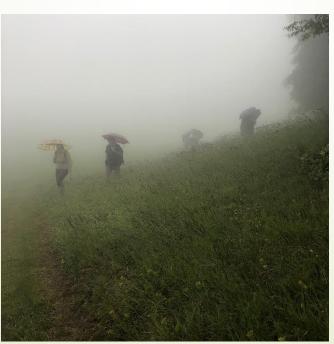
























Zamenis longissimus, syn. Elaphe longissima





Rupicapra rupicapra subsp. tatrensis

## Foreign field course of zoology

- Neusiedlersee (A) bird watching
- Hortobagy National Park (HU) ungulate observations



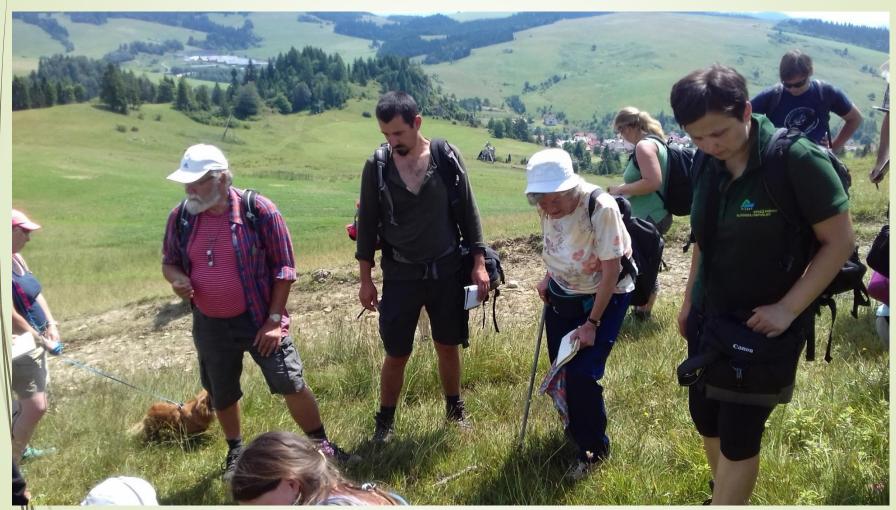


# Floristic courses of Czech and Slovak Botanical Society



Dr. Petr Koutecký, † Assoc. Prof. Vít Grulich, Dr. Pavol Mereďa

## Floristic courses of Czech and Slovak Botanical Society





Prof. Karol Ujházy, Assoc. Prof. František Máliš

#### Sometimes we are like bees in a hive



## Dendrology

- getting to know the trees around the school about 30 taxa
- excursion to at least one from 3 arboretums in Slovakia





## Habitats of Slovakia Phytocoenology







#### Connection to Research

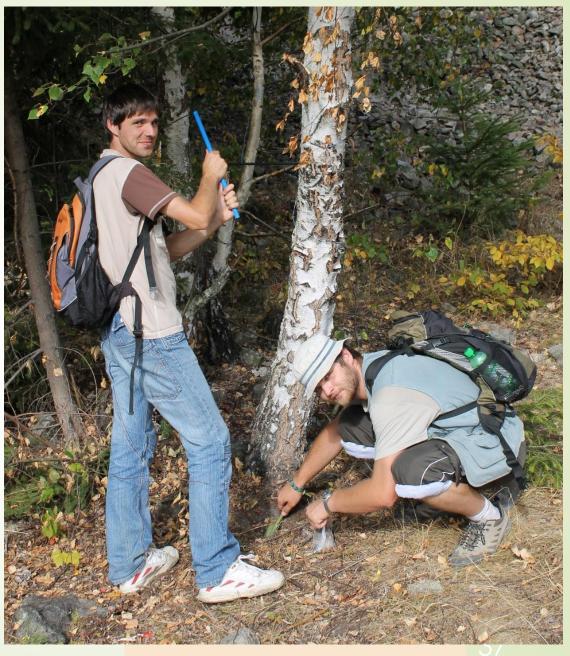
| Participa                | ation in conducting the most important research projects over the last six years  |
|--------------------------|---|
| 2021 –<br>2024           | VEGA 2/0132/21 Diversity of grasslands in Slovakia after two decades in EU  |
| 2017 –<br>2019           | VEGA 2/0040/17 Dynamics of human-altered non-forest habitats in the process of ecological restoration   |
| 2013 –<br>2016           | VEGA 2/0099/13 Management, restoration and diversity of grassland vegetation  |
| 2021 –<br>2025           | APVV-20-0358 Reading in the natural archives: thousands of years of history of the environment and climate change recorded in the alpine lakes of the Ukrainian Carpathians |
| 2019 –                   | VEGA 1/0291/19 Imobilization of potentialy toxic elements in contaminated soils of  |
| 2022                     | selected European Cu-deposits   |
| 2015 –                   |   |
| 2015 –<br>2017<br>2014 – | selected European Cu-deposits  VEGA 1/0538/15 Comparison of country remediation possibilities in surrounding of   |







sampling of needles

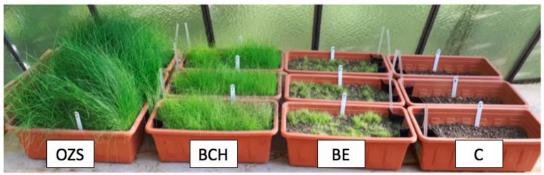


wood bore; sampling of soil



Miscanthus sacchariflorus (Maxim.) Benth. is a metallophyte suitable for the phytoremediation of mine wastes (Cd, Pb, Zn)







greenhouse experiments

Life on the edge. Evolutionary and bioecological aspects of the stenoendemic species Daphne arbuscula Čelak. (Thymelaeaceae)













#### Connection with practice

- professional excursions and compulsory professional experience
  - water management companies,
  - hydrometeorological institute,
  - municipal solid waste landfills,
  - Slovak Environment Agency,
  - State nature protection,
  - environmental departments at the municipal office
  - administration of national parks and protected landscape areas
  - NGO
  - factories





















## Thank you for your attention

