

Course Title: **Biodiversity**

Course Code: **CONS500**

Descriptor Start Date: **01/01/2023**

Descriptor End Date: **20/07/2025**

POINTS: **15.00**

LEVEL: **5**

PREREQUISITE/S:

COREQUISITE/S:

RESTRICTION/S:

## LEARNING HOURS

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Hours may include lectures, tutorials, online forums, laboratories. Refer to your timetable and course information in Canvas for detailed information.

**Total learning hours: 150**

## PRESCRIPTOR

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Introduces the diversity, structure, and evolution of multicellular life on Earth – with a particular focus on Aotearoa New Zealand – including the effects of geophysical and anthropogenic factors.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Describe the uniqueness of Earth and how its abiotic processes shape evolution.
2. Differentiate the major groups of multicellular life, their tissue types, and organ systems.
3. Explain the uniqueness of Aotearoa New Zealand biota in the context of evolution on other land masses.
4. Discuss the influence of human activities on biodiversity, evolution and extinction.
5. Demonstrate appropriate practical skills and safe practice.
6. Present work at the appropriate academic standard.

**Disclaimer: Course descriptors may be amended between teaching periods/semesters**

## CONTENT

Includes but not limited to:

- Earth's abiotic processes and how they support biodiversity
- Spatial and temporal patterns in biodiversity
- Evolution, structure, and major taxonomic subgroups of fungi, plants and animals
- Evolutionary relationships and phylogenies
- Anthropogenic influences on extinction and biodiversity
- Evolutionary and biogeographical explanations for Aotearoa New Zealand's unique biota

## LEARNING & TEACHING STRATEGIES

A combination of lectures, tutorials, laboratory, fieldwork, and self-directed learning.

## ASSESSMENT PLAN

Assessment Event	Learning Outcomes
Tests (6 x 20 minutes)	LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4
Portfolio	LO2, LO5, LO6
Written Assessment (1500 words)	LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5, LO6

### Grade Map

#### MAP1

A+ A A- Pass with Distinction  
B+ B B- Pass with Merit  
C+ C C- Pass  
D Fail

### Overall requirement/s to pass the course:

Students must pass all learning outcomes at least once to achieve a passing grade in the course.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

Please refer to the additional information for a list of the recommended readings or resources.

**For further information, contact:** Te Ara Hauora A Putaiao - Faculty of Health & Environmental Science

**Principal Programme:** HA1041, Bachelor of Science

**Related Programme/s:** AK1018 Certificate in Applied Science  
AK1041 Bachelor of Science  
AK3750 Diploma in Applied Science

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