Degree competences to which the subject contributes

Specific:
1. Technology for aquatic organisms production.

Transversal:
2. EFFECTIVE USE OF INFORMATION RESOURCES - Level 3. Planning and using the information necessary for an academic assignment (a final thesis, for example) based on a critical appraisal of the information resources used.

Teaching methodology

With the whole group, the general objectives of the course are introduced through a brief exposition, developing the basic concepts of the subject. Through practical exercises the teacher tries to motivate and engage students to participate actively in their learning. It uses Support material is used, in the form of a detailed syllabus by ATENEA including: learning objectives in each topic, specific contents examples, programming and evaluation activities autonomous learning and related literature. With the small group, other activities are performed: problem-solving sessions related to the specific learning objectives of the course content, lab sessions that allow to develop basic skills instrumental, as well as initiate students in the application of the scientific method and case studies to enable developing critical analysis and application of concepts.

Typically, after each session specific tasks are proposed outside the classroom, which must be dealt well individually or in groups. The hours of autonomous learning are dedicated to studying, reading and problem solving oriented cases.

Learning objectives of the subject

After completing the course Production of aquatic organisms, the student should be able to describe the characteristics of the aquaculture sector and identify its various applications. The student will be also able to identify the elements that make a particular species interesting for aquaculture, understand their biological characteristics and their implications for the production. He/she will be able to understand the determinants of production in the aquatic environment and define the main parameters of water quality with relevance to the production, understanding their dynamics and their interactions and relating the adaptive mechanisms of aquatic species and its implication for production. The student will describe appropriate facilities for the production of aquatic organisms. Finally the student will learn to use appropriate technical management criteria for the production of aquatic organisms that take into account the animal welfare and the environmental sustainability. The technical management of crop is revised in two groups, differentiating between
organisms that require exogenous food (fish and shellfish) and those that are fed feed directly from the environment (molluscs and algae).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study load</th>
<th>Hours large group</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total learning time: 150h</td>
<td>40h</td>
<td>26.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours medium group:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours small group:</td>
<td>20h</td>
<td>13.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guided activities:</td>
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<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self study:</td>
<td>90h</td>
<td>60.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION TO AQUATIC ORGANISMS PRODUCTION

**Learning time:** 16h
- Theory classes: 2h
- Laboratory classes: 2h
- Self study: 12h

**Description:**
In this topic both the characteristics of the aquaculture sector and the aquatic environment are dealt, as well as the implications of production in aquatic environments.

**Related activities:**
- Activity 1: Lectures
- Activity 6: Search of data from production and markets of the major cultured species

INTERESTING ORGANISMS: CRITERIA AND MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

**Learning time:** 18h
- Theory classes: 6h
- Laboratory classes: 2h
- Self study: 10h

**Description:**
In this topic the main criteria to select species for aquaculture are analyzed. The characteristics that make a species an interesting candidate for aquaculture are revised.

**Related activities:**
- Activity 1: Lectures
- Activity 4: Necropsy and recognition of aquatic organisms

WATER QUALITY CRITERIA FOR AQUATIC PRODUCTION

**Learning time:** 30h
- Theory classes: 8h
- Laboratory classes: 4h
- Self study: 18h

**Description:**
This content covers the relationship between the main water parameters of interest in aquaculture and the adaptive response of aquatic organisms. Specifically the relationship between temperature and poikilothermia, salinity and osmoregulation, dissolved oxygen and respiration, pH and mineral balance and nitrogen compounds and nitrogen excretion. Other water parameters and/or compounds are also presented.

**Related activities:**
- Activity 1: Lectures
- Activity 4: Routine management in an aquaculture facility (water quality control, fish biometry)
- Activity 5: Estimation of dissolved oxygen and water flow requirements in a fish facility
### FACILITIES FOR AQUATIC ORGANISMS PRODUCTION

**Learning time:** 30h  
- Theory classes: 8h  
- Laboratory classes: 4h  
- Self study: 18h

**Description:**  
The content of this topic describes the general features of the various types of aquaculture facilities (general characteristics and site selection). After this introduction the land-based facilities and the open sea facilities are analyzed, including the elements in each type: water uptake, hydraulic circuit, types of tanks and water treatment in the land-based, and anchoring and floating systems in the open-sea systems. Facilities for algae production (open and closed reactors) are also analyzed.

**Related activities:**  
- Activity 1: Lectures  
- Activity 2: Avaluació dels continguts  
- Activity 5: Design of facilities.  
- Activity 7: Technical visit to a closed-circuit facility (Aquarium) (optional)

### PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT (FISH AND CRUSTACEAN)

**Learning time:** 34h  
- Theory classes: 10h  
- Laboratory classes: 4h  
- Self study: 20h

**Description:**  
This topic deals with the general overview of the production cycle in an aquaculture facility devoted to the production of organisms that depend on an active contribution of exogenous feeding (fish and shellfish - crustaceans). We review the various sections of importance in production: breeding, incubation and live food production, nutrition and feeding, monitoring of the stock evolution (growth management), health, interaction with the environment and quality of aquatic products.

**Related activities:**  
- Activity 1: Lectures  
- Activity 3: Estimation of the evolution of the fish stock
The final exam includes questions about concepts associated with the learning objectives of the course, with regard to knowledge or understanding, and a set of application exercises. The subject includes an intermediate with the same format. The two exams (intermediate and final) have different weight in the final grade (30 and 70%, respectively).

Continuous assessment includes the deliverables described in the various practical activities, both individually and in group. Its rating is the average of the activities.

The final score is the sum of the following partial grades:
N1: grade assessment exams
N2: continuous assessment (practical activities)
CG: generic skill
Nfinal: Final Grade

Nfinal = 0.6 N1 + 0.25 N2 + 0.15 CG

**Qualification system**

**Description:**
In this topic, the production of organisms that can grow upon the food provided by the environment is revised (molluscs and algae). Regarding the production of molluscs, seed collection, suspended and inland cultures are overviewed. Regarding the production of algae, the differences in the production of micro and macroalgae are analyzed. The production cycle in a microalgae facility is described in further detail, emphasizing the control of water quality and the evolution of the stock (continuous or batch production)

**Related activities:**
Activity 1: Lectures
Activity 2: avaluació dels continguts
Activity 4: Live food production: phytoplankton and Artemia.
Activity 7: Technical visit related with the topic (Agròpolis, bioreactor for wastewater treatment)

**Regulations for carrying out activities**
- If any of the activities is not done, the student will have to develop an alternative activity according to the teacher.
- The work must always be submitted by the deadline. Otherwise it won't be accepted.
- In the activities that are performed in pairs or groups, all members will receive the same grade. If there's any problem inside the pair or group, the teacher should be informed before the evaluation of the related deliverable.
- If a student cannot follow the work plan, it must be notified to the teacher in order to organize an alternative work plan involving the same dedication.
390340 - POA - Aquatic Organism Production

Bibliography

Basic: