



State final exam

Study programme:

Ecology

Guarantor (chairman of the study program board):

Prof. RNDr. Jan Lepš, CSc.

State final exam (SFE) in Master's programme Ecology is oral and has two parts – the knowledge exam and the defense of Master thesis. A committee of 4-6 members examines student's expert knowledge as well as his ability of complex thinking. Both parts of SFE take place at the department where the Master thesis was performed.

Knowledge part of SFE contains three levels:

1. Fundamentals of Ecology – broad questions on general ecological principles (recommended courses e.g.: KBE/023 Evolutionary Ecology, KBE/542E Conservation Biology, KBO/334E Population Ecology, KBO/426 Community Ecology, KZO/412I Molecular Ecology).
2. elective either Plant Ecology, Animal Ecology, or Ecological Statistics – questions on specific problems of given fields of ecology (specific courses cannot be recommended as the traditional split on plant/animal approach is intermingled in the mandatory-elective courses, the distinction is mainly in view of the topics from the aspect of botanist/zoologist, and selection of topics more relevant for plants/animals; the last topic does not focus on organisms but on analysis of ecological data).
3. Theoretical Background of the Master Thesis Topic and Methodology – questions related to the topic of Master thesis, but broadening the usual discussion at the defense by further theoretical and methodological context (specific courses cannot be recommended, question topics should be based on specialized facultative courses of student's focus, and possibly from literature suggested by the supervisor).