DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE COURSE– 12:
Animal Behaviour Zoo-DSC-12

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical		
Animal Behaviour Zoo-DSC- 12	**04**	**02**	**Nil**	**02**	**Passed Class XII with Biology/ Biotechnology**	**NIL**

Learning Objectives

The learning objectives of this course are as follows:

- To provide an overview of animal behaviour in a scientific study of the wild and the wonderful ways in which animals interact with each other, with other living beings, and with the environment.
- to understand and appreciate different types of animal behaviour, their adaptive and evolutionary significance.
- to equip the students with an ability to pursue career in behavioural ecology other related areas.
- to apprise the students of the versatility of Animal behaviour and its crosstalk among conservation biology, molecular biology, behavioural ecology and integrated pest management.

Learning Outcomes

By studying this course, students will be able to:

- comprehend various types of animal behaviour and their importance.
- observe, analyse, interpret and document the different types of behaviour.
- enhance their skills by taking short projects pertaining to Animal behaviour.
- appreciate and develop passion to biodiversity; and respect the nature and environment.
- better understand and relate the fundamentals and advanced concepts so as to develop a strong foundation that will enable them to acquire skills and knowledge.

SYLLABUS OF DSC-12

UNIT- I Introduction to Animal Behaviour **4 hrs**

Origin and history of ethology; Pioneers of modern ethology: Karl *von* Frisch, Ivan Pavlov, Konrad Lorenz, Niko Tinbergen; Proximate and ultimate causes of behavior.

UNIT- 2 Mechanisms of Behaviour **5 hrs**

Innate behaviour, Instinct, Stimulus filtering, Sign stimuli, Code breakers.

UNIT- 3: Patterns of Behaviour **5 hrs**

Orientation: Primary and secondary orientation; Kinesis - orthokinesis, klinokinesis; **Taxis**: tropotaxis and klinotaxis, menotaxis (light compass orientation).

Learning: Associative learning, Classical and operant conditioning, Habituation, Imprinting;

Reasoning: Intelligence and artificial intelligence.

UNIT- 4: Communication **3 hrs**

Importance of communication; Role of Tactile, Chemical, Auditory, Visual stimuli in communication.

UNIT- 5: Social Behaviour **4 hrs**

Concept of Society; Insects' society; Honey bee: Society organization, polyphenism and polyethism; Foraging in honey bee, round dance, waggle dance; Experiments to prove distance and direction component of dance; Formation of new hive/queen.

UNIT- 6: Altruism **3 hrs**

Altruism, Inclusive fitness, Hamilton's rule

UNIT 7: Sexual Behaviour **6 hrs**

Asymmetry of sex; Sexual dimorphism, mate choice; Intra-sexual selection (male rivalry); Inter- sexual selection (female choice); Courtship behaviour, Courtship behavior in 3-spine stickleback; Infanticide; Parental care, sexual conflict in parental care.

Practical **(60 hrs)**

(Laboratory periods: 15 classes of 4 hours each)

1. Tools, techniques and methods used in studying animal behavior.
2. To study nests and nesting behaviour of the birds and social insects.
3. To study the behavioural responses of wood lice to dry and humid conditions.
4. To study geotaxis behaviour in earthworm.
5. To study the phototaxis behaviour in insect larvae.
6. To study different types of animal behaviour such as habituation, social life, courtship behaviour in insects and birds, and parental care from short videos/movies. At least two videos for each behaviour.
7. Construction of ethogram using suitable data to study animal behaviour.
8. Visit to Forest/Wild life Sanctuary/Biodiversity Park/Zoological Park to study and record the behavioural activities of animals and prepare a short report.

Essential/recommended readings

1. John Alcock, (2013) Animal Behaviour, Xth Edition, Sinauer Associates Inc., USA.
2. Manning, A. and Dawkins, M. S, (2012) An Introduction to Animal Behaviour, VI th Edition, Cambridge University Press, UK.
3. McFarland, D. (1985) Animal Behaviour, Pitman Publishing Limited, London, UK.

Suggestive readings

1. Rubenstein, D. (2022) Animal Behavior, XIIth Edition, Sinauer Associates, Oxford University Press, UK.
2. Gadagkar, R. (2021) Experiments in Animal Behaviour: Cutting-Edge Research at Trifling Cost, Indian Academy of Sciences. David McFarland, Animal Behaviour, Pitman Publishing Limited, London, UK.

NOTE: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.