

Dear participant,

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire!

About the research

This questionnaire is part of a research that investigates the importance of theoretical knowledge in biological research and education.

The research has *two objectives*:

1. Investigate how a close connection between theoretical biological education and biological research can be ensured.
2. Measure the perceived relevance and importance of theoretical knowledge by researchers and students within the field of biology.

The results of this research are used to evaluate the relevance and actuality of current theoretical biological education and curricula in Dutch universities. Are the most important theoretical frameworks and analysis methods biological research use part of university biology curricula? And if not, what is missing?

Results are expected to be available at the end of June 2025. If you or your institution are interested in the results of this research, you can leave your contact details behind later in the questionnaire, or send an email to t.p.w.vervenne@uva.nl at any moment.

About the questionnaire

This questionnaire *measures*:

- the most important theoretical principles in your research field.
- which scientific fields are perceived as most important for biological research.

The **target group** of this questionnaire is *researchers in the field of biology of Dutch universities and scientific institutions*.

It is important that you understand the procedure of this research. Therefore, please read the following text.

Instruction

In this survey you are asked to fill out 13 questions. All questions relate to your personal views on the research field of biology and which topics are most relevant in your research field. There are no 'right' or 'wrong' answers, so please feel free to give your honest opinion. Filling out the survey will take approximately 5 to 10 minutes.

Voluntariness

Taking part in this research is voluntary. All information will be treated confidentially. You can stop filling out the questionnaires at any moment, without having to state the reason. Not all questions have to be answered to finish the survey.

Discomfort, risks, and insurance

No special insurance applies as there is no expected discomfort or risks for the participants of

this survey.

Confidentiality

The data from this research will be used for scientific analysis. No personal information will be used in the analysis or reporting. Responses to the survey are anonymous, unless participants choose to include their contact information for follow-up.

There are two questions which will ask if you want to leave your email address: either to be contacted for a follow-up interview and / or to receive the results of this study. If you leave your contact information in one of these fields, your information can be linked to your other survey answers. Sharing your contact information is in both cases completely optional. If you do choose to leave your contact details in one or both of these fields, they will not be part of the analysis or (scientific) communication of the research and will be treated confidentially. Personal information from these entry fields will be erased from the survey results 7 days after you have filled out the questionnaire, in order to make your answers fully anonymous again.

Contact

For questions or further information about this survey, you can contact T.P.W. Vervenne (t.p.w.vervenne@uva.nl) or dr. M. Bruijning (m.bruijning@uva.nl) from the University of Amsterdam. For any complaints or pressing matters related to this questionnaire, you can contact the member of the Ethics Board of the Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Dynamics at the University of Amsterdam, dr. C.J. Hickey (email: c.j.hickey@uva.nl). You may download this information [here](#).

By confirming the five statements below you declare to have read and understood the above information. Additionally, you declare to agree with the procedure as described above.

- I am a researcher at a Dutch university / research institute.
- I am older than 18 years of age.
- I have read and understood the above information.
- I agree to participate in this survey and to the use of the data obtained with it.
- I keep the right to stop filling out the survey at any moment I wish to.