

BIO 102

GENERAL BIOLOGY II (2 Units)

Basic Principle of Zoological Nomenclature

Zoological nomenclature is the system of scientific names applied to taxonomic units of animals (taxa) known to occur in nature, whether living or extinct.

Basic requirements:

1. Uniqueness

- Binomial nomenclature proposed by Carolus Linnaeus

2. Universality

- Adoption of Latin, being a dead language

3. Stability

- Devoid of constant changes and confusion

Binomial nomenclature

- Binomial nomenclature follows certain conventions.
- Each scientific name has two parts:
 - Generic name and
 - Specific name

Binomial nomenclature

- Rules of writing the scientific names of organisms include:
 1. All scientific names of organisms are usually Latin. Hence they are written in italics
 2. There are two parts of a name. The first word identifies the genus and the second identifies the species
 3. When the names are handwritten, they are underlined; they are italicized if typed
 4. The name of the genus starts with a capital letter and the name of the species starts with small letter