

Desert Studies

Semester: **2026-A**

Environmental and Aquatic Microbiology-New

A

Mandatory Courses

Course No	Lecturer	Subject	Credits	Day	Time	Campus	Building	Room	Rem
001-2-0153	Dr. Chris Arnush, Dr. Scott Hansen	Writing a Scientific Paper	2	Wed	14:00-16:00	Sde Boker	Water Inst.	15	Students are required to complete the course in their second semester of studies (or 3rd semester)
470-2-0100	prof. Roi Gazit and Dr. Shira Ovadia	The Care and Use of Animals in Research	0			Online program			
900-5-2002	Online Program	Training in Chemical & Biological Safety	0			Online program			
900-5-5001	Online Program	Educational Software on Getting to Know the Law for the Prevention of Sexual Harassment	0			Online program			

B Core courses (at least 6 credits)

Mandatory Courses

Course No	Lecturer	Subject	Credits	Day	Time	Campus	Building	Room	Rem
001-2-3021	Prof. Itamar Giladi	Biostatistics: Class (can be completed during the program)	3	Tue	08:30-10:00	Sde Boker	Biology	32	Final exam in a computer lab.*0 credit points for students in the Ecology and Nature Conservation department. Limited to 17 students

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Mandatory Courses

Course No	Lecturer	Subject	Credits	Day	Time	Campus	Building	Room	Rem
001-2-3021 EX	Prof. Itamar Giladi	Biostatistics: Exercice (can be completed during the program)		Wed	09:00-11:00	Sde Boker	School	Computer room	Final exam in a computer lab.*0 credit points for students in the Ecology and Nature Conservation department. Limited to 17 students
001-2-5011	Prof. Zeev Ronen	Environmental Microbiology	3	Thu	15:00-18:00	Sde Boker	Water Inst.	Seminar Room	

C Seminars and Thesis Writing - Mandatory Courses:

* Students will take the seminars at their home institutes

Mandatory Courses

Course No	Lecturer	Subject	Credits	Day	Time	Campus	Building	Room	Rem
001-2-1000		Thesis Writing - Continuation	0						Mandatory for students on study extension
001-2-2222	Dr.Gilad Gabay(coordinator)	Departmental Seminar	0	Wed	11:30-12:30	Sde Boker	Old Admin. Build.	1	Mandatory each semester. 4 times during the degree
001-2-5555	Dr. Avner Ronen and Dr. Elad Levintal (Coordinator)	Departmental Seminar	0	Wed	13:00-14:00	Sde Boker	Old Admin. Build.	Seminar Room	Mandatory each semester. 4 times during the degree
001-2-6666	Dr. Sofia Bouchebti	Departmental Seminar	0	Tue	12:00-13:00	Sde Boker	Old Admin. Build.	Seminar Room	Mandatory each semester. 4 times during the degree
001-2-9991		Thesis Writing - A	6						Mandatory for students on their 3rd semester
001-2-9992		Thesis Writing -B	6						Mandatory for students on their 4rd semester
205-2-2522	Prof. Itamar Giladi&Prof. Yaron Ziv	Workshop in Ecology and Environmental Sciences	0.5	Mon	12:00-14:00	Beer-Sheva	38	135	mandatory

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D Limited choice (at least 9 credits)

Elective Courses

Course No	Lecturer	Subject	Credits	Day	Time	Campus	Building	Room	Rem
001-2-2015	Prof. Dina Zilberg, Prof. Amit Gross	Introduction to Aquaculture	3	Tue	12:00-15:00	Sde Boker	Biology	136	
001-2-5005	Prof. Amit Gross, Prof. Zeev Ronen	Laboratory Methods for Environmental Studies	3	22-26/02/2026 + 01-03/03/2026	08:30-18:00	Sde Boker	Water Inst.	Seminar Room	Eight-day intensive course offered during the Fall Break
001-2-5063	Prof. Edo Bar-Zeev	Lab-course: New Methods in Biofilm Characterization	3	01-05/03/2026	08:30-17:00	Sde Boker	Water Inst.	15	Five-day intensive course offered during the Fall Break. Home Exam

E Elective Courses (at least 9 credits)

Elective Courses

Course No	Lecturer	Subject	Credits	Day	Time	Campus	Building	Room	Rem
001-2-0022	Dr. Anat Bernstein	Stable Isotope Application in Contaminant Hydrology	2	Wed	08:30-10:00	Sde Boker	Water Inst.	10	Frontal Exam
001-2-2025	Prof. Dina Zilberg	Practical Fish Disease Diagnosis (A) (Prerequisite: Theoretical fish diseases course)	1						for schedule please contact the lecturer
001-2-2036	Prof. Gideon Grafi	Molecular Biology and Epigenetics	2	Sun	08:30-10:00	Sde Boker	Biology	32	Home Exam
001-2-2038	Prof. Naftali Lazarovitch	Soil Physics	3	Tue	15:00-18:00	Sde Boker	Biology	32	Home Exam
001-2-2040	Prof. Gideon Grafi	Lab Course in Epigenetics	4	22-26/02/2026		Sde Boker	Biology	136	Five-day intensive course offered during the Fall Break + preperation during the fall semester
001-2-2060	Dr. Nina Kamennaya	History of the landuse, agriculture & domestication	2	Wed	09:00-11:00	Sde Boker	Biology	32	

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Elective Courses

Course No	Lecturer	Subject	Credits	Day	Time	Campus	Building	Room	Rem
001-2-2070	Prof. Inna Khozin-Goldberg	Biology and Biotechnology of Microalgae	3	Tue	12:00-15:00	Sde Boker	Biology	32	
001-2-2076	Dr. Nina Kamennaya	Practical Environmental Cytometry	2.5	01-05/03/2026	08:00-17:00	Sde Boker	Biology	32	Five-day intensive course offered during the Fall Break
001-2-2290	Prof. Dina Zilberg	Guided Reading on Aquatic Animal Health	2			Sde Boker			Guided reading course - limited to two students. Please coordinate with the course lecturer
001-2-3035	Prof. Berry Pinshow and Prof. J. Scott Turner	Biophysical Ecology in the Namib Desert: Online Course	2	Mon	17:00-19:00	Sde Boker	Biology	A3	
001-2-3045	Dr. Shirli Bar-David	Conservation Genetics	3	Wed	11:00-14:00	Sde Boker	Biology	136	
001-2-3079	Prof. Ariel Novoplansky	Scientific Presentation (Group A)	2	Wed	11:00-13:00	Sde Boker	Biology	A3	
001-2-3079 GB	Prof. Ariel Novoplansky	Scientific Presentation (Group B)	2	Wed	13:00-15:00	Sde Boker	Biology	A3	
001-2-3084	Prof. Michal Segoli	Evolutionary Ecology	4	Tue	13:00-17:00	Sde Boker	School	1	
001-2-3333	Prof. Boris Krasnov	Guided Reading on the Ecology of Parasites and Parasitism	2			Sde Boker			Guided reading course - limited to two students
001-2-5028	Prof. Moshe Herzberg	Microbial Biofilms in Water and Wastewater Treatment Processes (prerequisite: Introduction to Microbiology)	2	Tue	15:00-17:00	Sde Boker	Water Inst.	Seminar Room	
001-2-5075	Dr. Elad Levintal	Do-it-yourself sensors for environmental research – advanced course 1	1.5	Sun	13:00-15:00	Sde Boker	Water Inst.	Seminar Room	This is a yearly course. Completion of the course is contingent upon registration in both the fall (001.2.5075) and spring semesters under course number 001.2.5076.

F General Course (at least 3 credits)

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Elective Courses

Course No	Lecturer	Subject	Credits	Day	Time	Campus	Building	Room	Rem
001-2-1200	Prof. Simon Barak & Dr. Buzi Raviv	BGU Radio Academy – Podcast production course	2	22-26/02/2026		Sde Boker	School	1	Five-day intensive course offered during the Fall Break. The course will be held contingent upon registration of minimum 4 students
001-2-5029	Prof. Noam Weisbrod	Rural Water Development	2	Mon	16:00-18:00	Sde Boker	Water Inst.	Seminar Room	(minimum 12 students)
001-2-5069	MOOC	Water & the Environment: Current challenges and solutions	3						Online course. Frontal exam in Sde-Boker campus
205-2-1601	Prof. Ofer Ovadia	Ecology of Populations	3	Mon	08:00-12:00	Beer-Sheva			
205-2-1609	Dr. Shai Pilosof	Networks in Biology-Ecology	3	TBD		Sde Boker			Six-day intensive course offered during the Fall break in Sde Boker
369-2-6451	Prof. Ariel Kushmaro	Molecular Aspects in Microbial and Bio-Environmental Ecology	3	Mon	12:00-15:00	Beer-Sheva	42	342	

New - for students who began from October 2022