

I. Institution

1. Institution's name	Kazan State University (KSU)
2. Faculty (department)	Faculty of Biology, Department of Zoology of Vertebrates
3. Postal address E-mail Web-Homepage	Department of Zoology of Vertebrates, Faculty of Biology, Kazan State University, 18 Kremlevskaya st., 420008, Kazan, Russia E-mail: office1@ksu.ru , admission@ksu.ru www.ksu.ru
4. Contact person/coordinator	Prof. Valery Yakovlev, tel. +7 8432 315146 E-mail: Valery.Yakovlev@ksu.ru
II. Course's profile	
5. Course's name	Biodiversity of water and terrestrial ecosystems in basin of the Middle Volga River
6. Course's profile (please give some key words to specify the focus)	Invertebrate and vertebrate (fish, amphibian, reptilian, bird and mammalian) species composition, state, trends, anthropogenic loads and consequences for biodiversity, conservation, "Red Books" of Russia and Tatarstan Republic, nature reserves and other protected territories in eastern part of European part of Russia
7. Possibly to get the ECTS points (Yes/No)	Yes
8. Class hours/week	20-24
9. Integrated Russian language course for beginners (Yes/No, hours/week)	Yes (optional)
10. Language of instruction	English
11. Integrated practical training/research program course for beginners (Yes/No, brief description)	Seminars and acquaintance with collections of two zoological museums of KSU, visit to Rhaifa State Nature Reserve, excursion, field research work on Zoological Station of KSU on the Kuybyshev Reservoir, freshwater and terrestrial animals. Collateral closing seminar \ discussion with participation of the German and Russian students for review of a water fauna on territories of Middle Volga Basin and Germany
12. Integrated cultural program: excursions etc. (Yes/No, brief description)	Cultural program will be as a part of study and students will see museums, exhibitions and historical places in and around Kazan. Students will also have bus and boat tours to Rhaifa Virgin Mary monastery and island-town Sviyazhsk, dendropark and museum of Rhaifa State Nature Reserve. All excursion and trips offered will cost no more than EURO 50
13. Number of students (min-max)	10-18
14. Tuition fees (Euro/month/person)	300-350
15. Course's duration	4 weeks
III. Accommodation	
17. Accommodation conditions: student hostel (description of accommodation facilities, incl./excl. food, costs (Euro, month /person)	-
18. Accommodation conditions: quest family (optional): Yes/No, incl./excl. food, costs (Euro, month /person)	Staying with a host family (room, breakfast \$ dinner) (monthly EURO 200)

Additional description of the course in the free form

Courses will be conducted on the basis of the faculty of Biology, Zoological Station of KSU and the Rhaifa State Nature Reserve. The lecturers have international experience in teaching and in biology and ecology. Scientists, post-graduated students and students from the Department of Systematic Botany and Ecology of University of Ulm, Germany (Prof. Dr. M. Kazda) and the Department of Vertebrate (Prof. Valery Yakovlev) are the participants of the project titled "Influence of water level fluctuation on *Typha*-dominated littoral communities of the Kuybyshev Water Reservoir (Tatarstan Republic, Russia)" (2002-2004). Several participants from Ulm University conducted together with Russian scientists and students comprehensive researches during summer 2002, and field measurements will be performed in summer periods of 2003-2004.

Biodiversity of water ecosystems in basin of the Middle Volga River

The main objective of the course is to provide to the students a comprehensive knowledge in zoogeography and (fish, amphibian, reptilian, bird and mammalian) fauna features in East part of European Russia. Lectures, seminars, and also the study of materials of the oldest zoological museums in Russia - museum KSU, excursions and field observations in the Rhaifa State Nature Reserve, where the age of trees reaches 250-300 years, rare, exotic and protected species habit will be proposed. After the collateral work with the KSU students, passing the summer field practice on the basis of Zoological Station on a coast of the Kuybyshev Water Reservoir (the biggest in Europe), will be organized seminar/discussion on a comparative analysis of fauna preservation in Republic Tatarstan (or/and eastern part of European part of Russia) and in Germany (or concrete region, where the university is located). A final result of work will be a list of species to be protected and development of the ecological and nature protection recommendations.

Course convenors:

Prof. Valery Yakovlev, Vertebrate Zoology Department, KSU
Prof. Vyacheslav Kuznetsov, head of Vertebrate Zoology Department, KSU
Dr. Michail Gorschkov, Director of the Rhaifa State Nature Reserve