



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

Biogeography and macro-ecology 809 (ZEN 809)

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| Qualification | Postgraduate |
| Faculty | Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences |
| Module credits | 15.00 |
| Programmes | MA Environment and Society (Coursework) MSc Environmental Ecology (Coursework) |
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Contact time | 4 discussion classes per week |
| Language of tuition | English |
| Academic organisation | Zoology and Entomology |
| Period of presentation | Year |

Module content

Biogeographic consequences of plate tectonics, Pleistocene southern African climatic, geological, edaphic and geomorphological patterns. Reconstructing biogeographic histories (speciation, extinction, dispersal, vicariance, endemism, provincialism and disjunction); phytogeographical patterns, biomes, vegetation types. Methodological issues in macro-ecology; patterns of body size, abundance and energetics; geographic range sizes; species dynamics in landscapes; implications of macro-ecological patterns to ecology; biogeography and evolution; macro-ecological perspectives on conservation: species richness, hierarchical diversity, hotspots, spatial and temporal patterns in diversity (genetic, taxonomic, functional); causal mechanisms, species diversity, biodiversity and global change.

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