

# BIO 365 ecological networks

Alessandro Vindigni  
alessandro.vindigni@ieu.uzh.ch

coordinators: Jordi Bascompte and Alessandro Vindigni

co-teachers: S. Bhandary, L. Cosmo, K. Gawęcka, E. Knop, F. Pedraza, M. Román

# Course plan

## 24FS BIO365 Ecological Networks

			Thursday March 14	Friday March 15		Tuesday March 19	Wednesday March 20	Thursday March 21	Friday March 22		Tuesday March 26	Wednesday March 27	Thursday March 28		Tuesday April 9	Wednesday April 10	Thursday April 11	Friday April 12
From	To																	
10:15	12:00	LECTURE	Outline and Introduction	The role of species in networks			Topological patterns in ecological networks	Null models	Network robustness			Models of ecological dynamics	Genetic networks			Spatial networks	Coevolution	Open time
	Speaker		Vindigni	Cosmo			Cosmo	Pedraza	Vindigni			Bhandary	Roman			Gawecka	Cosmo	
12:00	13:00		Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
	Instructor(s)	EXERCISE	Vindigni	Roman		Knop Grognez	Bhandary Vindigni	Pedraza	Vindigni		Gawecka Vindigni	Bhandary	Roman		Gawecka Vindigni	Gawecka	Cosmo	Vindigni
13:00	17:00		Toolkit for network analysis	Species-level metrics		Sampling an ecological network	Network-level metrics	Null models	Measuring network robustness		Distribute papers students' short talks	Models of ecological dynamics	Analyzing genetic networks		Students' short talks	Comparing networks in space	Models of evolution	Single-choice exam

## Course grading

- Practical sessions (RStudio, report, and short-talks): up to 3 points
- Single-choice test sessions: up to 2 points

# Guidelines for students short talks

## Rules

- groups of **2(3) people**
- **8 minutes** each talk
- **All** group members must be presenting
- upload slides on **OLAT** by **11 AM** on 9th April

## Presentation guidelines

- **Motivation:** Introduce the context and the questions addressed by this study
- **Methods:** Identify the tools used and relate them with concepts discussed during the course
- **Discussion:** Highlight the main results; evaluate the strengths and limitations of the approach
- **Perspective:** Propose a further analysis of the data or a future development of the study

## Group and paper preferences (if you wish!)

Fill the spreadsheet: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1G7ifT1dMlPdFU\\_V-1UhujoLasp7YWMc9cjq39rRHAPk/edit?invite=CK3Nu5IL#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1G7ifT1dMlPdFU_V-1UhujoLasp7YWMc9cjq39rRHAPk/edit?invite=CK3Nu5IL#gid=0)

**Albert\_2013\_EcoLett** - Assessing the robustness of networks of spatial genetic variation

**Bastolla\_2009\_Nature** - The architecture of mutualistic networks minimizes competition and increases biodiversity

**Dunne\_2002\_EcoLett** - Network structure and biodiversity loss in food webs robustness increases with connectance

**Fortuna\_2010\_JAnimEcol** - Nestedness versus modularity in ecological networks two sides of the same coin

**Knop\_2017\_Nature** - Artificial light at night as a new threat to pollination

**Sole\_2001\_ProcB** - Complexity and fragility in ecological

**Stouffer\_2011\_PNAS** - Compartmentalization increases food-web persistence

**Thebault\_2010\_Science** - Stability of ecological communities and the architecture of mutualistic and trophic networks

**Wande-Li\_2022\_NatureComm** - Plant-frugivore network simplification under habitat fragmentation leaves a small core of interacting generalists