1.	**Field of study**	**Environmental Protection**
2.	Faculty	Faculty of Natural Sciences
3.	Academic year of entry	2025/2026 (winter term)
4.	Level of qualifications/degree	first-cycle studies
5.	Degree profile	general academic
6.	Mode of study	full-time

7.	**General information about the module**
Module name	**Polymers and the environment**
Module code	1OS_23_48
Number of the ECTS credits	2
Language of instruction	
Purpose and description of the content of education	Natural and synthetic polymers and plastics are used in a variety of applications. Of particular relevance are non-biodegradable macromolecules that accumulate in the environment posing a real threat to the functioning of ecosystems. The course will also discuss biological and synthetic substitutes for many stable, environmentally harmful compounds that will soon become the basis of the modern circular economy. Laboratory experiments will help to assess the influence of various physical, chemical and biological factors which, acting synergistically or antagonistically, contribute to the degradation of plastics in the environment.
List of modules that must be completed before starting this module (if necessary)	not applicable

8. Learning outcomes of the module

Code	Description	Learning outcomes of the programme	Level of competenc (scale 1-5)
01	Defines the origin and importance of biopolymers and conventional plastics. Lists and describes abiotic and biological factors affecting polymers in different environments. Distinguishes labels on plastics and directs them to the appropriate stream according to circular economy principles. Discusses the benefits and risks of using plastics in different industries.	1OS_U07	3
		1OS_U08	4
		1OS_U09	3
		1OS_U12	3
		1OS_W01	3
		1OS_W02	3
		1OS_W04	3
		1OS_W05	3
		1OS_W11	3
02	Constructs and proposes experiments. Analyses the results of laboratory experiments and draws correct conclusions.	1OS_U01	3
		1OS_U02	5
		1OS_U04	4
		1OS_U07	3

		1OS_U08 1OS_U10 1OS_U12 1OS_W05	3 3 3 3
03	Cooperates with the group and contributes to its effective work. Follows the safety procedures in the specialised laboratory.	1OS_K01 1OS_K02 1OS_K04 1OS_K05	3 3 3 3

9. Methods of conducting classes

Code	Category	Name (description)
b01	Problem-solving methods	Problem-based lecture *an analysis of a selected scientific or practical problem accompanied by its assessment and an attempt to provide a solution to the issues presented in the lecture as well as the indication of the consequences of the proposed solution*
b02	Problem-solving methods	Lecture-discussion *transmission of content involving interaction with the lecture audience; discussion of lecture-related issues is one of its elements or constitutes its follow-up*
b03	Problem-solving methods	Activating method – educational games *learning content in the guise of a rule- and/or principle-based game; conducted in a deliberately arranged situation based on the description of relevant facts and processes; learners compete with one another within the framework of rules laid down by the academic teacher; varieties include simulation games – involving a simulation of real situations; decision games – based on the decision-making process and the recognition of the consequences of the decisions made (e.g., a decision tree); psychological games – increasing the emotional-volitional component of the participants' attitudes*
b08	Problem-solving methods	Activating method – peer learning *learning through the exchange of knowledge in a group/team/pair of students, i.e., in the so-called learning cell; a kind of mutual learning; an approach focused on student activity under the guidance of the person teaching the course; a learning situation where students with a similar level of experience learn from one another*
b09	Problem-solving methods	Activating method – flipped classroom *anticipatory learning; work in class is based on previously studied material indicated by the person teaching the course; preparation outside the classroom serves the purpose of getting familiar with the issues whose knowledge is necessary for participating in the in-class discussion and the training in the related practical skills; the activity is based on the work of students under the guidance of the person teaching the course*
d01	Programmed learning methods	Working with a computer *e.g., Webquest; implementation of educational tasks using electronic and digital devices, computer programs and Internet applications; the academic teacher acts as a consultant; students' work is carried out step by step according to the plan laid own by the person teaching the course and following his instructions, and proceeds towards producing the indicated results within the set deadline*
e01	Practical methods	Laboratory exercise / experiment *[also conducted as fieldwork] a method of practical application of knowledge; implemented in three stages: the recognition of a problem induced by the task content, the formulation of the problem and the attempt to solve it accompanied by the assessment of the effects; the goal is to acquire skills, abilities and habits, and to consolidate the acquired knowledge so that it becomes operational; the laboratory method assumes greater independence of learners than carrying out an experiment*
e04	Practical methods	Project scheduling

		proceeding according to the steps proposed within a specific methodology for the completion of a task; e.g., identifying project objectives, determining the result, identifying strengths, limitations, opportunities and threats (SWOT), establishing a schedule of activities, assessing resources, establishing an implementation plan; the initial diagnosis; the reassessment of assumptions; the process of preparing the practical implementation of a project
f01	Methods of self-learning	Self-education *a method which involves independent acquisition of knowledge, skills and social competences, extending their scope and quality; complementary to the learning process taking place in class; taking on the task of developing and adjusting qualifications on one's own; self-study*
f02	Methods of self-learning	Individual work with a text *searching for and acquiring new information using textbooks and other written sources (including their digital versions); searching for texts, selecting fragments for analysis/interpretation, using other texts to solve a problem related to the studied issue*
f03	Methods of self-learning	Conceptual work *a (mainly intellectual) activity carried out independently (or in a selected group) resulting in the creation of a concept, idea or project; creating a plan based on a vision; developing a general outline of a project; producing a simplified sketch of the variant versions of a procedure/product/work*

10. Forms of teaching

Code	Name	Number of hours	Assessment of the learning outcomes of the module	Learning outcomes of the module	Methods of conducting classes
01	lecture	6	course work	01	b01, b02, b09, f01, f02
02	laboratory classes	24	course work	01, 02, 03	b03, b08, b09, d01, e01, e04, f01, f02, f03

11. The student's work, apart from participation in classes, includes in particular:

Code	Category	Name (description)	Is it part of the BUNA?
a01	Preparation for classes	Search for materials and review activities necessary for class participation *reviewing literature, documentation, tools and materials as well as the specifics of the syllabus and the range of activities indicated in it as required for full participation in classes*	Yes
a02	Preparation for classes	Literature reading / analysis of source materials *reading the literature indicated in the syllabus; reviewing, organizing, analyzing and selecting source materials to be used in class*	No
a04	Preparation for classes	Consulting materials complementary to those indicated in the syllabus *agreeing on materials complementary to those indicated in the syllabus, supporting the implementation of tasks resulting from or necessary for class participation*	Yes
a05	Preparation for classes	Production/preparation of tools, materials or documentation necessary for class participation *developing, preparing and assessing the usefulness of tools and materials (e.g. aids, scenarios, research tools, equipment, etc.) to be employed in class or as an aid when preparing for classes*	No
b01	Consulting the curriculum and the organization of classes	Getting acquainted with the syllabus content *reading through the syllabus and getting acquainted with its content*	Yes
b02	Consulting the curriculum and the organization of classes	Verification / adjustment / discussion of syllabus provisions *consulting the content of the syllabus, possibly in the presence of the year tutor or members of the class group, and, if necessary, reassessing the provisions concerning special conditions for class*	Yes

		participation, e.g., space and time requirements, technical and other requirements, including conditions for participation in classes outside the walls of the university, classes organized in blocks, organized online, etc.	
c01	Preparation for verification of learning outcomes	Determining the stages of task implementation contributing to the verification of learning outcomes *devising a task implementation strategy embracing the division of content, the range of activities, implementation time and/or the method(s) of obtaining the necessary materials and tools, etc.*	Yes
c02	Preparation for verification of learning outcomes	Studying the literature used in and the materials produced in class *exploring the studied content, inquiring, considering, assimilating, interpreting it, or organizing knowledge obtained from the literature, documentation, instructions, scenarios, etc., used in class as well as from the notes or other materials/artifacts made in class*	No
c03	Preparation for verification of learning outcomes	Implementation of an individual or group assignment necessary for course/phase/ examination completion *a set of activities aimed at performing an assigned task, to be executed out of class, as an obligatory phase/element of the verification of the learning outcomes assigned to the course*	Yes
d01	Consulting the results of the verification of learning outcomes	Analysis of the corrective feedback provided by the academic teacher on the results of the verification of learning outcomes *reading through the academic teacher's comments, assessments and opinions on the implementation of the task aimed at checking the level of the achieved learning outcomes*	Yes
d02	Consulting the results of the verification of learning outcomes	Development of a corrective action plan as well as supplementary/corrective tasks *reviewing and selecting tasks and activities enabling the elimination of errors indicated by the academic teacher, their verification or correction resulting in completing the task with at least the minimum passing grade*	No
e01	Activities complementary to the classes	Undertaking, on one's own initiative and individually, activities aimed at expanding the scope or depth of the teaching content, also beyond the walls of the University *a set of activities undertaken independently and on the student's own initiative, aimed at expanding the depth and scope of knowledge and skills, their revision and repetition, retention or verification, also activities carried outside the university, e.g., in a culture promoting or educational institution, a laboratory, in the open air, etc.; also self-education*	No

Information on the details of the module implementation in a given academic year can be found in the syllabus available in the USOS system: https://usosweb.us.edu.pl.