

Department of Natural Sciences

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The main professional activities of the Department

Training fields

General training objectives:

- students' professional studies of natural sciences
- the formation of students' responsible thinking of environment and health
- motivation of students' responsible environmental activities
- the development of students' skills and competences in order to mediate the approach of sustainability and change people's attitude

I. Elementary school teachers' training /4 academic years/

Objectives:

- the establishment of students professional and methodological attitude towards natural sciences
- enable students to complete education service for 6-12 years old children with responsible attitude towards natural sciences, health and environment

Subject fields of basic training /for all students/:

- natural studies and environmental protection – physics, chemistry, biology and geography; the methodology of natural studies
- structure and function of the human body
- health science
- health improvement

Subject fields of additional training /for specialized students/:

- the theory and practice of physics and chemistry
- general physical geography
- natural and economic geography of Hungary
- the theory and practice of botany
- the theory and practice of zoology
- general biology
- ecology and environmental culture
- complex outdoor practice
- health science
- functional anatomy
- health improvement

II. Nursery school teachers' training /3 academic years/

Objectives:

- the establishment of students' professional and methodological attitude towards natural sciences
- enable students to complete education service for 3-6 years old children with the establishment of responsible attitude towards natural sciences and environment by considering children's age
- enable students to act as role models to children and families concerning personal behaviour and environmental culture

Subject fields:

- realization of natural studies and methodology in the everyday practice of the nursery school
- ecology, natural and environmental protection
- health science, health improvement
- realization of children's *green* outdoor activities

III. Infant and early childhood education /3 academic years/

Objective: the training of professionals dealing with the daily care and education of 0-3 years old children

Subject fields /Health Science/:

- functional anatomy
- theory and practice of the development and care of healthy infants and young children
- paediatrics and applied pharmacology;
- theory and practice of children's nursing
- dietetics
- infectious diseases, epidemiology
- first aid
- education of healthy lifestyle

Subjects of optional and compulsory course selection:

- Zoopedagogy in Budapest Zoo
- Education of sustainability
- Health improvement
- Relation of natural science and practical training
- Global problems at the beginning of the 21th century
- Nursery school education with differentiation
- Environmental culture – environmental awareness

IV. Further training for active professionals

Subjects:

- Education of environmental sustainability with entertainment
- Nursery school teachers' training of environmental education
- Professional training of specialized natural studies

Research

Main fields:

- *3-12 years old children's education of life management with the attitude of sustainability, and of health improvement*

objectives:

- the increase of the efficiency of health improvement in nursery and elementary schools
 - the development of students' competences and methodological culture in the field of health improvement
- *BEAGLE project: Biodiversity Education and Awareness to Grow a Living Environment* – <http://www.beagleproject.org/hu/>

BEAGLE is an online project on biodiversity for six European countries. Its main objective is the development of teachers' and school children's knowledge of biodiversity and sustainable development by the phenological examination of certain trees and data analysis by the development of a central data base.

- Perceived health research on students' health conditions – in co-operation with University of Pécs

Objectives:

- analysis of health conditions and factors
- development of students' awareness on leading healthy lifestyle

Departmental events

- Earth Day
- Students' Research Workshop
- Health Day
- World Day of Water
- Field trips

Staff

Name	Title/position	e-mail contact	Main professional fields
DR. Sarolta DARVAY PhD	docent, head of department	darvay.sarolta@tof.k.elte.hu	- Functional anatomy - General Physical Geography - Health science - Health improvement - Natural Studies and methodology
Ms Klára B. DR. ZSOFFAI PhD	senior assistant professor	zsoffay@freemail.hu	- Natural Studies and methodology - Functional anatomy - Health science
Ms Ilona BIHARINÉ DR. KREKÓ	docent	ikreko@gmail.hu	- Natural Studies and methodology - Ecology - Nature and environmental protection
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