

**Working Group: Biodiversity Research/ Systematic Botany**  
**Seminar: "Current Topics in Biodiversity Research"**  
**Alternating with joint seminar "Ecological Colloquium"**  
 (Shared among six working groups at the University of  
 Potsdam focusing on plant or animal ecology)  
**Schedule for the Summer Semester 2023**

**Format of the seminar (Mondays 14:15-15:45 h):** All presentations will be streamed live via Zoom. If the guests are present in person, the seminar will additionally be held in presence (indicated as 'hybrid' in the table below, comments section).

**Moodle page:** <https://moodle2.uni-potsdam.de/course/view.php?id=36577>

**Zoom Meetings:** <https://uni-potsdam.zoom.us/j/63491012242>, Meeting ID: 634 9101 2242, Passcode: 45004213

**In person seminars:** Held in the large lecture hall at Maulbeerallee Campus (Maulbeerallee 2): Room [5.03.1.04](#)

Date	Speaker	Home Institution	Title	Host	Comment
17.04	Prof. Brendan Wintle	MelbourneUniversity (Melbourne, Australia)	"Integrated economic, land-use and biodiversity modelling to support conservation decisions at multiple scales"	WG Zurell	Ecological Colloquium, hybrid
24.04	Dr. Elmar Veenendaal	Wageningen University (Netherlands)	"Drivers of Forest-savanna-transitions with special emphasis on West Africa"	<a href="#">GreenGaDe</a> project	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter), hybrid
01.05	<b>No seminar (Public holiday)</b>				
08.05	Dr. David Vasseur	Yale University, New Haven (Connecticut, USA)	"Integrating temperature variation into population dynamic models: working toward improved forecasting of extinction risk"	WG Gaedke	Ecological Colloquium, hybrid
15.05	Dr. Alexandra Sandhage-Hofmann / Steffanie Mantik	University of Bonn / University of Potsdam, WG Linstädter	"The effect of conservation with elevated elephant numbers on soils in Namibian savannas" / "The effect of land-use change on species diversity, ecosystem services & disservices in Namibia"	Project " <a href="#">Future Rural Africa</a> "	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter), zoom
22.05	Dr. Ildikó Órban / Dr. Katharina Stein	University of Potsdam, WG Linstädter	[Introduction of their expertise to the working group]	Projects: <a href="#">NamTip</a> & " <a href="#">Future Rural Africa</a> "	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter), hybrid
29.05	<b>No seminar (Public holiday)</b>				
05.06	Dr. Thorsten Wiegand	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research	"Spatial patterns allow combining analytical and individual-based simulation models"	WG Jeltsch	Ecological Colloquium, hybrid
12.06	Dr. Robert Rauschkolb	Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena	"The PhenObs initiative - Linking plant phenology to functional traits in herbaceous species in Botanical Gardens"	<a href="#">PhenObs</a> initiative	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter), hybrid
19.06	James Nana Ofori / Maximus T. Anochirim	University of Potsdam, WG Linstädter	[Progress of PhD + master theses]	<a href="#">GreenGaDe</a> project	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter), hybrid
26.06	Dr. KOUAME Y. Anicet Gervais	Nangui Abrogoua University Ivory Coast	"Interaction with fire, ontogenesis and carbon stocks estimation in savanna woody communities: a case study of the West African Guinean savanna"	Projects: " <a href="#">Future Rural Africa</a> " & <a href="#">GreenGaDe</a>	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter), zoom
03.07	Prof. Karsten Wesche	Technical University of Dresden	From specimen-based measurements to landscape level patterns: biomass studies in grasslands of Germany and Mongolia	WG Linstädter	Ecological Colloquium, hybrid
10.07	Magnus Dobler / Hiba EL Hjjabi	University of Potsdam, WG Linstädter	[Progress of PhD theses]	" <a href="#">Future Rural Africa</a> " & <a href="#">Priority Research Area</a> " <a href="#">Evolutionary Systems Biology</a> "	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter), hybrid
17.07	Dr. John Godlee	Edinburg University (Scotland)	"Carbon dynamics in the dry tropics: intrinsic and extrinsic drivers of woody biomass change"	Projects: <a href="#">GreenGaDe</a> & " <a href="#">Future Rural Africa</a> "	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter) zoom
24.07	Dr. Stephanie Jurburg	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research	"Drought in the soil microbiome"	<a href="#">SeBAS</a> project (Biodiversity Exploratories)	Internal seminar (WG Linstädter), hybrid