Department of Physical Geography

Stockholm University

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Geography, Degree Project
Geografi, examensarbete

45.0 Higher Education Credits
45.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	GE9021
Valid from:	Spring 2013
Date of approval:	2012-01-16
Changed:	2013-01-14
Department	Department of Physical Geography
Main field:	Geography
Specialisation:	A2E - Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Decision

This syllabus has been approved by the Board of the Faculty of Science at Stockholm University on 16 January 2012 and revised 14 January 2013.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Competence equivalent to a Bachelor's degree and a minimum of 30 ECTS credits advanced courses within, Geography, Physical Geography and Quaternary Geology or Human Geography. Also required is knowledge equivalent to Swedish upper secondary school course English B/English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
HELA	Geography, Degree Project	45

Course content

The course consists of an individual research project.

Learning outcomes

After the course, students are expected to:
• conceive, plan, design and carry out a research project using a relevant methodology
• position the research project in a context of scientific theory and history of ideas, and in relation to the present research front
• collect, compile, analyse and critically interpret a data material
• account for and discuss results and conclusions in a wider scientific or applied perspective
• write a scientific paper or report according to general scientific rules and recommendations
• present the research project or investigation orally in the form of a conference presentation
• perform the degree project within the stipulated period of time
• when motivated identify and review ethical aspects on own and others' research projects

Education

The education consists of an individual project and seminars.

Participation in seminars and any associated integrated education is compulsory. In the event of special circumstances, the examiner may, after consultation with the teacher concerned, grant a student exemption

from the obligation to participate in certain compulsory education.

Students are entitled to a minimum of 30 hours of tuition, with individual tuition constituting at least 10 hours. In special circumstances, students are entitled to change tutor. Any such request shall be made to the Director of Studies.

Forms of examination

a. The course is examined as follows: Knowledge assessment takes the form of written and oral presentations of the individual project work, and activity at seminars

b. Grades are assigned according to a seven-point goal-related grading scale:

A = Excellent
B = Very good
C = Good
D = Satisfactory
E = Sufficient
Fx = Fail (more work required before credit can be awarded)
F = Total fail

c. The grading criteria will be distributed at the beginning of the course.

The basic assessment criteria are:
1. Understanding of the assigned task
2. Execution of the experiment/field work/theoretical task
3. Knowledge of the theoretical background
4. Interpretation and analysis of results
5. Independence
6. Ability to keep to the agreed timetable for the work
7. Presentation – oral report
8. Presentation – written report

d. To be awarded a pass, the minimum grade E is required as well as participation in all compulsory education.

e. Students who fail an ordinary examination are entitled to sit additional examinations as long as the course is offered. There is no restriction on the number of examinations. Examinations also include other obligatory elements of the course. Students who have passed an examination may not be re-examined in order to achieve a higher grade. Students who have failed on two occasions are entitled to request the appointment of a different examiner for the next examination. Any such request shall be made to the departmental board.
The course has at least two examinations for each academic year in the years in which instruction is provided. Intervening years include at least one examination.

f. Students awarded the grade Fx are given the opportunity to improve their grade to E. The examiner decides the supplementary assignments to be performed and the pass mark criteria. The supplementary assignments will take place before the next examination session.

Interim

Students may request that the examination be conducted in accordance with this course plan even after it has ceased to be valid. However, this may not take place more than three times over a two year period after course instruction has ended. Requests thereof shall be made to the departmental board. This provision also applies in the case of course syllabus revisions.

Limitations

The course may not be included in degrees in combination with the following courses, or equivalents thereof: Geography, Degree Project I (NK3090), Geography, Degree Project II, (NK3100), Geography, Degree Project (NK3110).

Misc

The course may include teaching in the field, which may entail additional cost for the student. The degree project corresponds to the independent work that is required for a Master's degree, as specified by the Higher Education Ordinance.

The course is part of the Master´s programme in Geography and the Master´s programme in Globalisation,

Environment and Social Change but can also be read as a separate course.

Required reading

The literature is based on scientific publications and reports in the relevant subject area, found through literature searches or distributed by the main supervisor and/or assistant supervisor.