

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Animal Diversity - Invertebrates

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10.0 Higher Education

Credits

10.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	BL7044
Valid from:	Spring 2016
Date of approval:	2015-08-21
Department	Department of Biology Education
Main field:	Biology
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus has been approved by the Board of the Faculty of Science at Stockholm University.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to the course requires knowledge equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in Biology and English B/English 6 or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
HELA	Invertebrates	10

Course content

The course covers:

- animal diversity and evolution with emphasis on modern systematic research.
- a systematic review of the biology, comparative anatomy, and phylogeny of extant and some fossil animal groups.
- a discussion of current hypotheses on invertebrate evolution

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- be familiar with the main animal groups, their biology, comparative anatomy, diversity and life cycles
- be able to describe and discuss the evolution and phylogeny of Metazoa,
- be able to discuss current hypotheses on Animal evolution.

Education

Instruction consists of internet-based lectures based on the course homepage and discussion groups on the course online forum, and field studies. Participation in group discussions and field studies and any associated integrated instruction 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 instruction.

Forms of examination

a. The course is examined as follows: Knowledge assessment takes the form of written examination. If the instruction is in English, the examination may also be conducted in English.

b. Grading is carried out according to a 7-point scale related to learning objectives:

A = Excellent

B = Very Good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Sufficient

Fx = Fail

F = Fail

c. Grading criteria for the course will be distributed at the start of the course.

d. A minimum grade of E is required to pass the course, together with approved submitted work and 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 resit it 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 must be made to the departmental board.

The course has at least two examinations (if required: for each element) 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 is carried out in accordance with this syllabus even after it has ceased to apply. This right is limited, however, to a maximum of three occasions during a two-year-period after the end of giving the course. A request for such examination must be sent to the departmental board.

Limitations

The course can not be included in a degree together with the course Systematic Zoology 15 hp (BL7004) or the equivalent.

Misc

The course is a component of the Nordic Master's Programme in Biodiversity and Systematics, and it can also be taken as an individual course. The course includes compulsory elements in field, which may entail additional cost for the student.

Required reading

Course literature is decided by the departmental board and is described in an appendix to the syllabus.