

Syllabus

for course at first level

Tellus II - Physical Geography

Tellus II - Naturgeografi

12.5 Higher Education

Credits

12.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	GE4023
Valid from:	Autumn 2015
Date of approval:	2015-10-05
Department	Department of Physical Geography
Main field:	Earth Sciences
Specialisation:	G1F - First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus has been approved by the Board of Science at Stockholm University 2015-10-05.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to the course requires knowledge equivalent to Earth I - Physical Geography, 15 ECTS credits (GE2020) or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
DEL1	Quaternary Geology	4.5
DEL2	Biogeography and Soil Science	4
DEL3	Remote Sensing, GIS and Cartography	4

Course content

a. The course deals with the Earth's shape, mapping- and remote sensing methods and Geographical Information Systems as well as basic cartography. Furthermore, it deals with the Quaternary climate development, soil classification, soil genesis and distribution, litho-, bio- and chronostratigraphical analysis methods as well as soil related environmental problems. Also the interaction between soil conditions and biotopes, links between the physical landscape and species distribution as well as biogeography's application in nature preservation are addressed during the course

b. The course consists of the following course units:

1. Quaternary Geology 4.5 credits
2. Biogeography and Soil Science 4 credits
3. Remote Sensing, GIS and Cartography 4 credits

Learning outcomes

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

Unit 1

- Explain basic drivers of Quaternary climate variations
- Describe the genesis, classification, distribution and characteristics of soils
- Explain litho-, bio- and chronostratigraphical analysis methods applied in Quaternary Geology

Unit 2

- Present basic concepts in soil sciences, discuss soil related environmental problems and exemplify the interaction between soil conditions and biotopes
- Explain the links between the physical landscape and species distribution, and biogeography's application in nature preservation

Unit 3

- Explain the Earth's shape, mapping- and remote sensing methods and Geographical Information Systems as well as basic cartography
- Identify, describe and interpret basic landscape elements in maps, satellite- and aerial pictures

Education

The course is given only as a distance learning course. The teaching consists of web-based teaching. Instructions are in English.

Forms of examination

a. The course is examined as follows: Knowledge assessment takes the form of

- written examination (Unit 1 and 2)
- written presentation (Unit 1, 2 and 3)

Examination is in English.

b. Grades will be set according to a seven-point scale related to the learning objectives of the course:

A = Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Adequate

Fx = Fail, some additional work required

F = Fail, much additional work required

The course unit 3 will be graded according to a two-point scale: Pass (G) or Fail (U).

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

d. In order to pass the course, students must receive a passing grade on all course units. The final grade on the course is determined by weighting the grades from all course units, where each grade is weighted in relation to the scope of the course unit.

e. Students who receive a failing grade on a regular examination are allowed to retake the examination as long as the course is still provided. The number of examination opportunities is not limited. Other mandatory course elements are equated with examinations. A student who has received a passing grade on an examination may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. A student who has failed the same examination twice is entitled to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the department board.

The course includes at least two examination opportunities per year when the course is given. At least one examination opportunity will be offered during a year when the course is not given.

f. There is no facility to improve the grade Fx to a pass grade in this course.

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 must be made to the departmental board. The provision also applies in the case of revisions to the course plan and the revisions of the course literature.

Limitations

The course may not be included in examinations in combination with courses

Tellus II (GG4033), Tellus II (GG4038), Physical Geography I (GE2007), Planet Earth 2 (GO1090), Tellus II (GG3001), Tellus II (GG3005), Earth Science I (NG8100), Geology and Marine Geoscience I (GG2002/GG2005), Geology (GG2006), Hydrology and Quaternary Geology (GE2003), Physical Geography and Quaternary Geology (GE2011) or equivalent.

Misc

The course is part of bachelor's Programme in Earth Science, Distance Learning programme but can also be

read as a separate course.

Required reading

The course literature is decided by each relevant department board and published on the Department of Physical Geography's website at least two months before the start of the course.