

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Biodiversity and Systematics, Degree Project**  
**Biodiversitet och systematik, examensarbete**

**45.0 Higher Education  
Credits**  
**45.0 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	BL9063
<b>Valid from:</b>	Spring 2016
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2016-02-29
<b>Department</b>	Department of Biology Education
<b>Main field:</b>	Biology
<b>Specialisation:</b>	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.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to the course requires knowledge equivalent to a Bachelor's degree and 30 ECTS credits advanced courses in Biology, within a discipline relevant for the specific project. Swedish upper secondary school course English B/English 6 or equivalent.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
9A63	Project plan	5
9B63	Project work	40

## Course content

The course consists of a theoretical or practical work that is designed individually for the student, in collaboration with a supervisor. The student carries out this work independently. The work is presented in a written report and orally at a seminar.

## Learning outcomes

It is expected that the student after taking the course will be able to:

- present advanced knowledge of current problems and methods of work within a biological subject area
- formulate and define the limits of a scientific problem and to search for and critically examine relevant scientific information
- plan and carry out an independent scientific investigation
- analyse and present the results of the investigation in the form of a scientific essay.

## Education

The education consists of supervision and eventual seminars.

Participation in eventual seminars is compulsory. An examiner may rule that a student is not obliged to participate in certain compulsory education if there are special grounds for this after consultation with the relevant teacher.

## Forms of examination

a. Examination for the course is in the following manner: measurement of knowledge takes place through: written and oral presentations.

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:

• participation in eventual compulsory education

e. Students who fail to achieve a pass grade in an ordinary examination have the right to take at least further four examinations, as long as the course is given. The term “examination” here is used to denote also other compulsory elements of the course. Students who have achieved a pass grade on an examination may not retake this examination in order to attempt to achieve a higher grade. Students who have failed to reach a pass grade on two occasions have the right to request that a different teacher be appointed to set the grade of the course. A request for such appointment must be sent to the departmental board.

### **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 Degree Project in Biology 10 p (BI4380) or the equivalent.

### **Misc**

The course may include field studies, which may entail additional cost for the student. The course constitutes the compulsory independent work required for the Master's degree. The course is a component of the Master's Program in Biology, and it can also be taken as an individual course.

### **Required reading**

The literature is based on scientific publications and reports within the relevant field, found by the student through literature search, and literature distributed by the principal supervisor and/or the assistant supervisor.