

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Environmental Field Studies
Miljövetenskapliga fältstudier

**7.5 Higher Education
Credits**
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	MI8021
Valid from:	Spring 2020
Date of approval:	2018-10-01
Department	Department of Environmental Science
Main field:	Environmental Science
Specialisation:	A1F - Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to the course requires knowledge equivalent to 30 credits on the Master's programme in Environmental Science with a focus on Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology or the Master's programme in Environmental Science with a focus on Atmosphere, Biogeochemistry, Climate including the course Large Scale Challenges to the Climate and the Environment, 15 credits, (MI7014).

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
HELA	Field Studies	7.5

Course content

a. The course discusses the principles of planning and conducting field investigations in environmental science. Field excursions will provide knowledge of the composition and structure of different environmental compartments such as soil systems, inland water systems, coastal systems and the lower atmosphere. The course will offer hands-on experience with sampling and measurement of core environmental properties as well as demonstration of state-of-the-art techniques. Each field excursion is followed by seminars and exercises where biogeochemical concepts and processes are evaluated.

Learning outcomes

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

- Describe the composition and function of environmental compartments using biogeochemical concepts and core parameters
- Design and plan field investigations
- Give examples of state-of-the-art field techniques
- Describe basic principles behind the field sampling and measurement methods
- Interpret and draw quantitative and qualitative conclusion from environmental data and be aware of sources of uncertainties
- Reflect on advantages and limitations of model-, experimental- and field-based studies

Education

The instruction consists of lectures, seminars and excursions. Participation in seminars and excursions and

any associated integrated instruction is compulsory. In the event of special circumstances, the examiner may, after consultation with the concerned instructor, 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 assignments and a written exam.

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

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 and participate in all mandatory instruction.

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 (if necessary: for each course unit) 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. 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 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).

Misc

The course is part of the Master's programme in Environmental Science focusing on Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry and is an elective course in the Master's programme in Environmental Science focusing on Atmosphere, Biosphere and Climate but can also be read as a separate course.

Required reading

The course literature is decided by the department board and published on the Department of Environmental Science and Analytical Chemistry's website at least two months before the start of the course.