Department of Biology Education

Stockholm University

Syllabus

for course at first level

The Diversity and Evolution of Organisms
Organismernas mångfald och evolution

15.0 Higher Education Credits
15.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	BL2031
Valid from:	Spring 2022
Date of approval:	2020-01-11
Changed:	2021-12-15
Department	Department of Biology Education
Main field:	Biology
Specialisation:	G1N - First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Decision

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

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Swedish upper secondary school courses Biology B and Chemistry B, or equivalent.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
DEL1	Botany	7.5
DEL2	Zoology	6
DE3B	Evolutionary Theory	1.5

Course content

a. The course deals with the origin and development of life and the structure of the most important groups of organisms, lifestyle, diversity and phylogeny. The course also deals with the most important evolutionary processes involved basis for the diversity and phylogeny of organisms and how our understanding of these processes has changed through time.
Most groups of organisms are covered in the course, but the sub-courses are called "botany" for practical reasons respectively "zoology".
b. The course consists of the following parts:
• Part 1, Botany, 7.5 credits
• Part 2, Zoology, 6 credits
• Part 3, Evolutionary Theory 1.5 credits

Learning outcomes

It is expected that the student after taking the course will:
*be able to describe the main groups of organisms, including their structure, lifestyle, diversity and phylogeny (parts 1, 2)
* be able to give an account of the history of organisms on Earth (parts 1, 2, 3)
* be able to account for the most important evolutionary processes and interpret and understand the importance of phylogenies (part 3)
* be able to use a microscope (parts 1, 2) and dissect (part 2).

Education

The education consists of lectures and laboratory exercises, demonstrations and seminars.

Forms of examination

a. The course is examined as follows:
Assessment of part 1 takes place through written test and laboratory reports, part 2 through written and practical test and part 3 through written test.
The examiner can decide on adapted or alternative examination formats for students with disabilities.
b. A passing final grade requires participation in laboratory exercises. If special reasons exist, following consultation with the teacher involved, the examiner may grant the student exemption from the obligation to participate in certain compulsory instruction.
c. Grading: The final grade of the course is set according to a seven-point goal-related grading scale:
A = Excellent
B = Very good
C = Good
D = Satisfactory
E = Adequate
Fx = Failed, some additional work is required
F = Fail, much additional work required
Grades of part 1 and 2 will be set according to a seven-point criterion-referenced scale and part 3 according to a two-point grading scale: fail (U) or pass (G).
The final grade of the course is determined by weighing the grades from part 1 and 2, where each grade is weighed in relation to the scope of the course part.
A passing final grade requires passing grades on all included parts.
d. The course's grading criteria are handed out at the start of the course.
e. Students who receive a failing grade on a regular examination are allowed to retake the examination as long as the course syllabus is still valid. The number of examination opportunities is not limited. 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 to the subsequent examination, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the department board. The course includes at least three examination opportunities per academic year the course is offered. For the academic years that the course is not offered, at least one examination opportunity is offered. For practical course elements such as laboratory sessions, demonstrations, excursions, seminars and oral presentations, examination opportunities are only offered during the period of time when the course is given.
f. There is no possibility 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 the course was discontinued. Requests must be made to the departmental board. The provision also applies in the case of revisions of the course syllabus and revisions of the required reading.

Limitations

The course can not be included in a degree together with the courses The Diversity and Phylogeny of Organisms (BL2002, BL2013, BL2023, BL2029, BL2033) or Diversity and Phylogeny of Organisms, without experimental animals BL2004, BL2014, BL2025, BL2032 or the equivalents.

Misc

This course is part of the Bachelors programme in Biology and Marine Biology, but may also be taken as a separate course.

Required reading

Course literature is decided by the department board and published on the Department`s website at least 2 months before the start of the course.