Department of Biology Education

Stockholm University

Syllabus

for course at first level

Marine biologi
Marinbiologi

15.0 Higher Education Credits
15.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	BL5033
Valid from:	Summer 2023
Date of approval:	2022-10-19
Department	Department of Biology Education
Main field:	Biology
Specialisation:	G2F - First cycle, has at least 60 credits in 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 60 credits in Biology including Diversity and Evolution of Organisms 15 credits (BL2031), Ecology 15 credits (BL4019), Faunistics 5 credits (BL2022) and Floristics 5 credits (BL2021).

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
DEL1	Theory	3
DEL2	Field studies Askö laboratory	1.5
DEL3	Field studies Tjarno Marine Biology Laboratory	6
DEL4	Project work	3
DEL5	Human impact	1.5

Course content

a. The course covers
• aquatic fauna and flora along the Swedish coastline
• marine communities and the abiotic and biotic factors regulating them
• marine biology and ecology on an individual, population, community and ecosystem level, including biological interactions, eco-physiology, flows of energy and matter
• studies and assessments of human impacts in the marine environment.

b. The course consists of the following parts:
Part 1: Theory (3hp),
Part 2: Field studies Askö laboratory, Baltic Sea (1.5 hp),
Part 3: Field studies Tjarno Marine Biology Laboratory, North Sea (6 hp),
Part 4: Project work, report and seminar (3 hp),
Part 5: Human impacts (1.5 hp)

Learning outcomes

It is expected that the student after taking the course will be able to:
• account for important factors that control the biodiversity and function of marine ecosystems with emphasis

on conditions on the Swedish west coast and in the Baltic Sea (Parts 1 - 3)
• explain how marine organisms and ecosystems react to natural and human impacts (Parts 1-3, 5)
• demonstrate skills in developing observational and experimental studies of marine organisms using both field- and lab-based approaches.(Parts 2,3)
• demonstrate the ability to formulate research questions, plan and implement research, acquire and analyse data, and communicate scientific results. (Parts 2-5)

Education

Instruction consists of lectures, field studies, seminars, exercises, project work, group work, presentations and laboratory exercises.

The course is held in English.

Forms of examination

a. Examination for the course is in the following manner: Assessment of knowledge of part 1 takes place through written examination, part 2 and 3 through written examination and oral and written presentation. part 4 and 5 through oral and written presentation.
The examiner can decide on adapted or alternative examination formats for students with disabilities.
The examination will be conducted in English.

b. A passing final grade requires participation in field studies, seminars, exercises, project work, presentations, laboratory exercises and group work. 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 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

Grades of part 1, 4 and 5 will be set according to a seven-point grading scale.
Grades of part 2 and 3 will be set according to a two-point criterion-referenced scale: fail (U) or pass (G).A passing final grade requires passing grades on all included parts.The final course grade is an average of the three parts of the course graded A-F, weighted to account for the different number of credits of the four parts.

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

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.

f. Students awarded the grade Fx are given the opportunity to improve their grade to E. The examiner decides on the supplementary assignments to be performed and the pass mark criteria. The supplementary assignments will take place before the next examination opportunity. Upon a passing supplementation of deficiencies in understanding – minor misunderstandings, minor inaccuracies or too limited reasoning in some parts – the grade E is used. Upon a passing supplementation of basic formality errors, the grades A-E are used.

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

This course may not be included in a degree together with the course Marine Biology 15 credits (BL5009) or with equivalent courses.

Misc

The course is a component of the Bachelor's Programmes in Biology and Marine Biology, and it can also be taken as an individual course. The course includes compulsory elements in the field, which entail certain costs for the student. The education includes elements which may consist of collection of living plants and animals as well as experiments, where these animals are killed and examined.

Required reading

The required reading is decided by the department board and published on the courses page in the online catalogue at least 2 months before the start of the course.