

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Biodiversity: Patterns and Processes

Biodiversitet: mönster och processer

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	BL8001
Valid from:	Autumn 2007
Date of approval:	2006-09-11
Department	Department of Biology Education
Subject	Biology
Specialisation:	AXX - Second cycle, in-depth level of the course cannot be classified

Decision

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

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admittance to the course requires knowledge equivalent to one of the course, Ecology II 15 credits, Conservation Biology 15 credits or Evolution & Biodiversity 15 credits. (Three credits corresponds to approximately two weeks full-time studies). Swedish upper secondary school course English B or equivalent or one of the following tests. Cambridge CPE och CAE: Pass. IELTS : 6.0 (with no part of the test below 5.0). TOEFL (paper based): 550 (with minimum grade 4 on the written test part). TOEFL (computer based): 213. TOEFL (internet based): 79.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
8001	Biodiversity: Patterns and Processes	7.5

Course content

The course covers global, regional and local diversity in plants and animals. It will explore geographic patterns, biodiversity estimates and different threats to diversity. This course will provide a deeper knowledge about processes that affect biodiversity, such as speciation, productivity, history, selection and disturbance.

Learning outcomes

It is expected that the student after taking the course will be able to: • measure biodiversity and to understand what processes that affects biodiversity • understand anthropogenic impact on biodiversity and how this will interact with economic and ethical issues • do an inventory program aimed for conservation purposes.

Education

The education consists of lectures, seminars, individual or group work, and written and /or oral presentations.

Participation in seminars, group work, oral presentation and group education associated with this 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/or oral examination

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:

- approved written and/or oral presentations

- participation in all 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.

Misc

The course is a component of the Bachelor's Programmes in Biology, and it can also be taken as an individual course.

Required reading

Course literature is decided by the departmental board and is described in an appendix to the syllabus.