Department of Biology Education

Stockholm University

Syllabus

for course at first level

Tropical Marine Biology
Tropisk marinbiologi

7.5 Higher Education Credits
7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	BL5003
Valid from:	Autumn 2007
Date of approval:	2006-07-24
Department	Department of Biology Education
Subject	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 Cell and Molecular Biology 15 credits, Diversity and Phylogeny of Organisms 15 credits, Physiology 15 credits and Ecology, Floristics and Faunistics 15 credits.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
5003	Tropical Marine Biology	7.5

Course content

The course covers the tropical marine landscape and the interaction between different ecosystems such as the mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass beds, run-off area and the open ocean. These ecosystems are analyzed with overarching topics such as ecotourism, resilience, climate change impacts etc. Emphasize is put on interactions between different ecosystems, what goods and services are produced and how people affect their natural support system.

Learning outcomes

It is expected that the student after taking the course will be able to:
• understand the function and structures of tropical aquatic ecosystems an the interactions between them,
• provide basic decision support about how role of the environment in the development of coastal tropical communities,
• provide knowledge about how humans affect their environment from a systems-oriented perspective.

Education

Instruction consists of internet-based tutorials based on the course homepage, discussion groups on the course online forum and written home examination. Participation in group discussions and independent work as well as 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 examination (home 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, and participation in all compulsory education.

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.

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 may not be included in a degree together with the course Management of Aquatic Recources in the Tropics 5 p (BI3820) or the equivalent.

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.