Department of Biology Education

Stockholm University

Syllabus

for course at first level

The Baltic Sea Environment
Östersjöns miljö

15.0 Higher Education Credits
15.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	BL5011
Valid from:	Autumn 2007
Date of approval:	2006-09-11
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

Admittance 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. (Three credits corresponds to approximately two weeks full-time studies).

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
5A11	Theory	10.5
5B11	Field studies	1.5
5C11	Essay and seminar	3

Course content

a. The course covers basic biology and structure-building abiotic and biotic factors of Baltic Sea animal and plant communities, flows of energy and materials in the Baltic Sea ecosystem and how these are affected by human activities, e.g. eutrophication, industrial discharges and toxic substances. Exploitation and management of natural resources, as well as today's problems and events in the Baltic Sea area are analyzed.
b. The course includes the following elements: Theory 10.5 hp Field studies at the Askö Laboratory 1.5 hp Essay and Seminar 3 hp

Learning outcomes

It is expected that the student after taking the course will be able to: • present the important factors governing biodiversity and ecological processes in the Baltic Sea explain how the Baltic Sea ecosystem reacts to natural and human impacts • use his/her knowledge to work with Baltic Sea environmental questions in teaching and at national or regional authorities

Education

The education consists of lectures, group work, excursions, field studies, seminars, exercises, project work, written and oral presentations as well as laboratory exercises.
Participation in excursions, field studies, seminars, exercises, project work, written and oral presentations as well as laboratory exercises 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: presentation of project work and 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 laboratory exercises
•approved field studeies
•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 education includes collection of living plants and animals, and studies where these animals are killed and examined. The course includes compulsory elements in the field, which entail certain costs for the student. 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.

Required reading

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