

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Degree Project in Physical Geography and Quaternary Geology
Examensarbete i naturgeografi och kvartärgeologi

**30.0 Higher Education
Credits**
30.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	GE9009
Valid from:	Autumn 2011
Date of approval:	2006-09-27
Changed:	2011-05-16
Department	Department of Physical Geography
Main field:	Physical Geography and Quaternary Geology
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 on 27 September 2006 and revised 16 May 2011.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Competence equivalent to a Bachelor's degree and a minimum of 30 ECTS credits advanced courses within a subject relevant for the degree project. Also required is knowledge equivalent to Swedish upper secondary school course English B/English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
EX30	Degree Project	30

Course content

The course consists of an independently conducted research project or investigation formulated in collaboration with a supervisor. The work shall be presented in the form of a scientific paper and an oral presentation.

Learning outcomes

After the course, students are expected to:

- conceive, plan, design and carry out a research project or investigation using a relevant methodology
- position the research project or investigation in a context of scientific theory and history of ideas, and in relation to the present research front
- collect, compile, analyse and critically interpret a data material
- account for and discuss results and conclusions in a wider scientific or applied perspective
- write a scientific paper or report according to general scientific rules and recommendations
- present the research project or investigation orally in the form of a conference presentation
- perform the degree project within the stipulated period of time

Education

The education consists of an individual project and seminars.

Participation in seminars and any associated integrated education is compulsory. In the event of special circumstances, the examiner may, after consultation with the teacher concerned, grant a student exemption

from the obligation to participate in certain compulsory education.

Students are entitled to a minimum of 20 hours of tuition, with individual tuition constituting at least 7 hours. In special circumstances, students are entitled to change tutor. Any such request shall be made to the departmental board.

Forms of examination

a. The course is examined as follows:

- Written and oral presentations of the individual project work

b. Grades are assigned according to a seven-point goal-related grading scale:

A = Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Sufficient

Fx = Fail (more work required before credit can be awarded)

F = Total fail

c. The grading criteria will be distributed at the beginning of the course.

The basic assessment criteria are:

1. Understanding of the assigned task
2. Execution of the experiment/field work/theoretical task
3. Knowledge of the theoretical background
4. Interpretation and analysis of results
5. Independence
6. Ability to keep to the agreed timetable for the work
7. Presentation – oral report
8. Presentation – written report

d. To be awarded a pass, the minimum grade E is required 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 course elements. Students who have passed an examination may not be re-examined 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 shall be made to the departmental board.

f. Students awarded the grade Fx are given the opportunity to improve their grade to an E. The examiner decides the supplementary assignments to be performed and the pass mark criteria. The supplementary assignments will take place before the next examination session.

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 course instruction has ended. Requests thereof shall be made to the departmental board. This provision also applies in the case of course syllabus revisions.

Limitations

The course may not be included in degrees in combination with the following courses, or equivalents thereof: Degree Project in Physical Geography 10/15/20/30 credits (NG3520/NG3530/NG3540/NG3550/NK4000) or Degree Project in Quaternary Geology 10/20 credits (KÄ3060/KÄ3070/KÄ3080).

Misc

The course may include teaching in the field, which may entail additional cost for the student. The degree project corresponds to the independent work that is required for a Master's degree, as specified by the Higher Education Ordinance.

The course is part of the Master's programme in Physical Geography and Quaternary Geology but can also be read as a separate course.

Required reading

The literature is based on scientific publications and reports in the relevant subject area, found through literature searches or distributed by the main supervisor and/or assistant supervisor.