Department of Biology Education

Stockholm University

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Plant Systematics**
**Växtsystematik**

**15.0 Higher Education Credits**
**15.0 ECTS credits**

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|---|---|
| **Course code:** | BL7020 |
| **Valid from:** | Autumn 2007 |
| **Date of approval:** | 2006-09-27 |
| **Department** | Department of Biology Education |
| **Subject** | Biology |

## 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). 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 |
|---|---|---|
| 7020 | Plant Systematics | 15 |

## Course content

The course covers the diversity, morphology, biology, systematics and taxonomy of the plants, from a phylogenetic perspective. Also theory and methods for phylogenetic analysis based on morphological and molecular data.

## Learning outcomes

It is expected that the student after taking the course will be able to:
• give a both theoretical and practical account of the diversity of plants, both systematical, morphological and anatomical.
• by hand calculate simple matrices, and to optimize characters on a given tree.
• explain the signification of different support values and what defines different types of phylogenies based on morphological and molecular data.

## Education

The education consists of lectures, laboratory exercises, computer analyses, study visits, project work and a plant-geographical excursion. Participation in laboratory exercises, computer analyses, study visits, oral presentation, excursion 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 laboratory exercises and project work
•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.

**Limitations**

The course can not be included in a degree together with the course Plant Systematics 10 p (BI3480) or the equivalent.

**Misc**

The course may include compulsory elements in field, wich may entail additional cost for the student. The course is a component of the Master's Programme 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.