Department of Biology Education

Stockholm University

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Academic Theory, Methods and Writing for Transdisciplinary Environmental Research
Vetenskapsteori, metoder och uppsatsskrivande för tvärvetenskaplig miljöforskning

3.0 Higher Education Credits
3.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	BL8027
Valid from:	Autumn 2008
Date of approval:	2007-09-19
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 a Bachelor's degree. 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
8027	Theory and Writing for Trans,disciplinary Environ Research	3

Course content

The course covers perspectives from a variety of theoretical frameworks from different disciplines and prepares the participant for independent Master's thesis work. The course includes lectures and seminars on case study methodology and on how to write a thesis, and, using and integrating approaches from different disciplines.

Learning outcomes

It is expected that the student, after taking the course, will be able to: • relate, describe and discuss different theoretical frameworks in transdisciplinary environmental research; • be familiar with a number of scientific, including transdisciplinary, methods and their applicability to solving problems in the realm of sustainable enterprising.

Education

The education consists of lectures, group exercises and seminars
Participation in group exercises, seminars 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 oral presentations.

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 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.

Limitations

The course can not be included in a degree together with the course Sustainable Environmental Enterprise, Theory 20 p (BI4630).

Misc

The course is a component of the Master's Programme in Sustainable Enterprising, 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.