



DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

BIO402 Fungal identification, 5 higher education credits

Artbestämning av svampar, 5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences on 2014-09-14 and was last revised on 2015-10-05 to be valid from 2016-01-01, autumn semester of 2016.

Field of education: Science 100%

Department: Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences

Position in the educational system

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Biodiversity and Systematics, Nordic Master's Programme (N2BIS) and 2) Biology, Master's Programme (N2BIO)

Main field of studies

Biology

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Admission to this course requires university studies of a minimum of 60 hec in Biology. To provide the requirement in English by an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL, IELTS, the English proficiency should be equivalent to the level of English 5/English Course A from Swedish Upper Secondary School.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

- To be able to identify the most common macro-fungi under field conditions and with confidence identify the most poisonous species that occur in the Nordic countries.

- To know the symptoms and efficacy of fungal toxic compounds that occur in our most common and dangerous poisonous fungi.

Skills and Abilities

- To be able to identify fungal species from a predefined list of species, that will be provided to the participants.
- In critical cases being able to ensure identification with use of microscope.
- To be able to help the public and hospitals with identification of edible and poisonous fungi.

Judgement and Approach

- To know the biology of our most common macro-fungi.
- Being aware of the limitations in species identification that is based on macro-morphology alone.

Course content

The course is divided into 5 modules, including one week with field excursions and species identification.

1. Morphological structures and terms used for identification of fungi, 1.0 hp grading scale: Fail (U), Pass (V)
2. An overview of the fungal kingdom, the main groups of macro-fungi and morphological classifications, 1.0 hp grading scale: Fail (U), Pass (V), Pass with distinction (VG)
3. One intensive week with field excursions and species identifications, 2.0 hp grading scale: Fail (U), Pass (V), Pass with distinction (VG)
4. Poisonous fungi and fungal toxic compounds, 0.5 hp grading scale: Fail (U), Pass (V), Pass with distinction (VG)
5. Fungal ecology, 0.5 hp grading scale: Fail (U), Pass (V)

Form of teaching

The course comprises five modules and is mainly given as e-learning on the Gothenburg University teaching platform GUL, but includes one intensive week at a field station, with field excursions and species identification.

Assessment will take place at the end of each module as a written exam or an essay. The ability to identify fungi correctly will be assessed for module 3 at the end of the field course, and a Pass is required to pass the entire course.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish

Assessment**Grades**

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).
Written exams on learning outcome for modules 1,2, 4 and 5 amounts 50% of the grade.
The exam on species identification, module 3, amounts 50% of the grade.

Course evaluation

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Additional information

Module 3, the intensive week on species identification, is located at a field station with accommodation. Students are expected to cover the cost for transport to and from the station as well as for food.