



DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

BIO090 Biodiversity in Western Sweden, 7.5 credits

Biodiversitet i Västsverige, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences on 2020-12-16 to be valid from 2021-01-18, spring semester of 2021.

Field of education: Science 100%

Department: Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences

Position in the educational system

The course is offered within the international summer school for sustainable development but in case of a vacancy, it can also be read as a freestanding course. The course is given with increased rate of study.

Main field of studies

Biology

Specialization

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

- Be able to give an account of how biodiversity can be understood at different levels (genetic, species and ecosystem level) and why it is a key for sustainable development
- Be able to give an account of the difference between climate change and loss of biodiversity as different types of ecological crises
- Give an account of example of methods for how threatened species can be preserved in and ex situ

- Identify a selection of key biotopes in Western Sweden and give an account of their importance for biodiversity
- Be able to give an account of how and why natural history collections are carried out and how they are used in research and education
- Be able to give an account of aim and method behind the IUCN's red listing of species

The course is sustainability-focused, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria. The content also constitutes the course's main focus.

Course content

The course gives a basic introduction to biodiversity research and therein included key concepts such as evolution and ecological patterns. The course covers current threats against global biodiversity in a historical perspective. The course focuses on biodiversity and unique habitats in Gothenburg with surroundings and global biodiversity that is preserved ex situ in Western Sweden. The basic concepts for practical conservation biology and practical considerations and consequences are introduced. Members of Gothenburg's Global Biodiversity Center (GGBC) that include sixteen organisations that all work with biodiversity and conservation biology contribute to the course.

Form of teaching

The course consists of a series of lectures, seminars and field trips to collections and premises for living collections in Western Sweden that represents examples of both in and ex situ preserving of threatened species. The course is given with increased rate of study, where 7.5 credits are read in four weeks during July month.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The course is assessed continuously through active participation in seminars and exercises and through a final project.

A student who has failed the same examination twice by the same examiner has the right to change the examiner. The student shall submit a written request to the Department. The request shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

A student with a recommendation for special educational support from the University of Gothenburg may receive an adapted examination or alternative examination form provided that the examiner decides it is compatible with the course objectives and it does not require unreasonable resources.

In the event where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student is guaranteed at least three examinations (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year up to two years after the course has been discontinued/changed. The same applies to placements and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). For the grade Pass (G) active participation in field trips and exercises and passed project work is required. To pass with distinction (VG) apart from participation in field trips and exercises also Pass with distinction on the project work is required. Detailed assessment criteria for the project work are made available during the course.

Course evaluation

A written anonymous course evaluation is carried out on completion of the course. The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and to the students who are starting the course.

Additional information

The course is an introductory course in the field of biology that is offered in University of Gothenburg's international summer school for sustainable development. It can not be used in a degree in science.