



DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SCIENCES

BIO765 Degree Project in Marine Ecology, 30 credits

Marin ekologi, examenskurs, 30 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Marine Sciences on 2018-09-05 and was last revised on 2023-04-20 to be valid from 2023-05-01, spring semester of 2023.

Field of education: Science 100%

Department: Department of Marine Sciences

Position in the educational system

The course is a master's degree course in marine science and/or biology, with emphasis on marine ecology. The course consists of a degree project comprising 30 credits. The course can be taken as a freestanding course or be included in a programme.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Marine Science, Master's Programme (N2MAV), 2) Nordic Master's Programme in Sustainable Production and Utilization of Marine Bioresources (N2MAB) and 3) Biology, Master's Programme (N2BIO)

Main field of studies

Biology

Marine Sciences

Specialization

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

A2E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (120 credits)

Entry requirements

Alternative 1: A minimum of 120 credits, including 75 credits within biology, 30 credits in marine biology and a bachelor's degree project in the field of biology.

Alternative 2: A Bachelor's degree (180 hp) in marine science including a bachelor's

degree project focusing on marine biology.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- have in-depth theoretical knowledge of marine ecology and to apply this knowledge to marine systems thinking
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical background to a problem in marine ecology and its relevance to overall marine systems

Competence and skills

- have in-depth knowledge of scientific methodology, especially with regard to the methodology of the study
- demonstrate the ability to independently plan and conduct a theoretical or experimental study
- demonstrate the ability to complete the task within the given time frame
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss collected data and information orally and in writing

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to seek, evaluate and critically interpret information relevant to the work

Course content

The course comprises, one and a half semester of study in which the student carries out and presents an independent scientific work in the field of marine science.

The task may be:

- an experimental work or an analysis and evaluation of scientific data
- a critical literature review based on original works

The thesis can be done at the Department of Marine Sciences, at another department within the subject area or externally at companies, institutes or authorities and is supervised by a scientifically trained researcher.

The final work is presented in writing in the form of a scientific report and through an oral presentation.

The work can be done together with another student, but it is required that the work is written and presented individually and that it is clear which part of the overall work the

student has been responsible for.

Form of teaching

The course is an independent project in which the student will study a scientific issue for one and a half semester. A scientifically trained supervisor is available for guidance during the work.

The degree project may be carried out in Gothenburg or be partly located at a research station for Marine Sciences (Tjärnö and/or Kristineberg) or at other departments outside the University where relevant activities are carried out.

Language of instruction: English or Swedish depending on the organization's requirements

Assessment

The thesis must result in a scientific report in English and a summary in Swedish (if the student is a Swedish speaker) of no more than one A4 page. The work is presented orally at the end of the course. The student's performance is assessed by an examiner appointed by the department according to a procedure decided by the Faculty of Science.

A student who did not pass the examination, will be offered possibilities to take re-exams. Opportunities to supplement experimental parts are limited and are decided upon in consultation with the supervisor and the examiner.

If a student, who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application shall be sent to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg regarding special educational support, the examiner (in case it is compatible with the course's objectives and if not unreasonable resources are required) can decide to give the student an alternative examination form.

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year, but maximum two years from the last time the course was given.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

The grade is assessed according to the guidelines and criteria developed by the Faculty

of Science.

To pass (G) requires 30 points (50%) and the mean value for each of the five main criteria (1-5) should be at least 2 (Sufficient). To pass with distinction (VG) requires 51 points (85%), and that the report is submitted on time.

Concerning application of the ECTS scale for grade please see Vice-Chancellor's decision 28/05/2007, No. G 8 197/07 as well as 28/02/2011, No. O 2009/0554.

Course evaluation

A written evaluation is done at the end of the course. In the written evaluation, the student is anonymous. The results and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.

Additional information

The course literature is determined individually for each project in consultation with the supervisor and examiner.

Where applicable: Travel to and from the research station represents additional costs for the student.