UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES

GV0502 Earth Science Seminar II: Performing, presenting and evaluating scientific studies, 5 higher education credits

Geovetenskapligt Seminarium II: Genomför en vetenskaplig studie, 5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Earth Sciences on 2016-07-01 to be valid from 2016-07-01, autumn semester of 2016.

Field of education: Science 100%
Department: Department of Earth Sciences

Position in the educational system

The course is intended for students in the Master's program in Earth Sciences, N2GVS. The course is complementary to GV0400 or GVG400.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Earth Sciences (N2GVS)

Main field of studies	*Specialization*
Earth Sciences	A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires a minimum of 165 hec completed courses in the main field of Earth Sciences , of which 75 % with a grade of at least Pass. In addition, the courses GV0401 or GVG400 need to be completed with at least a pass. Students with equivalent education may after review be admitted to the course.

Learning outcomes

The learning outcomes after completing the course should be interpreted as deepened.

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

Knowledge and understanding

- Know and understand the essential steps needed to carry out research on the level expected in a Master's thesis project. This includes literature research, dealing with problems and unexpected developments, time management, drafting, writing and presenting a scientific report.
- Know and understand the fundamental requirements of scientific publishing, including ethics of publishing, correct and appropriate referencing of other works, presentation of data in tables and figures.
- Know essential aspects of publishing in scientific journals and the relevance of publishing.
- Students will also be made aware of different career opportunities for graduated geoscientists in research and practice and the specific requirements and challenges associated with the different options.

Skills and abilities

- Students will be able find data and literature related to a specific research topic and relate secondary literature to the own research.
- Structure a research report in a logical, meaningful way
- Present data in tables and figures in a meaningful way.
- Know how to use and cite references and judge the value of previous studies
- Drawing conclusions and writing a discussion.
- Giving constructive feedback - how to be the perfect opponent.

Judgement and approach

On the level that can be expected from a student in a Master's program:

- Understand the requirements, and obstacles that are associated with carrying out research
- Be able to judge the quality of research outcomes.
- Critically reflect on the own work and the work of others

Course content

The objective of the course is to assist students in the process carrying out and successfully completing a research project in Earth Sciences. A special focus is on the Master's Thesis project. A secondary objective is to provide information on the existing job opportunities for graduates in geosciences, both in research, industry and consulting. The course will serve as a platform for discussion of problems related to thesis work and general questions related to geosciences. This will be achieved by the

active participation of research staff and invited guests.

Form of teaching

The course consists of two elements: Seminar (3hp) and Project (2hp).

Seminar includes attendance and active participation in discussions. The seminar includes:

- Talks by researchers from within the department and by invited speakers from both research and practice.
- Short courses on technical and organizational issues around carrying out research activities including formalities of the thesis process.
- Short courses on writing and presenting scientific results.

The project, which can be done in groups or individually, consists of a SWOT analysis of the own research project and a research project of another student.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The course consists of two elements: Seminar (3hp) and Project (2hp).

Seminar: Attendance in 70% of classes and active participation in discussions. Students who cannot participate in the expected number of regular classes can alternatively submit a written report showing that they have acquired the knowledge and skills provided in the course. Scope and contents of the report are set by the course leader.

Project: Oral presentation and report.

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).

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 from the last time the course was given.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass (G) and Fail (U).
The final grade is G (pass) or U (fail).

To receive a G (pass) for the entire course, both parts (seminar, 3hp and project 2hp) have to be passed individually.

Course evaluation

Course evaluation is performed in two steps. Partly in dialogue with students and course coordinator, partly in an anonymous questionnaire via GUL.

The results of 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 will be on the materials provided during the course.

Students enrolled in the Master's program in Earth Sciences, N2GVS, have priority to the course