

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Landscape Ecology - Theory and Design

Landskapsekologi - teori och design

15.0 Higher Education

Credits

15.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	GE7081
Valid from:	Autumn 2019
Date of approval:	2019-01-14
Department	Department of Physical Geography
Main field:	Physical Geography and Quaternary Geology
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

This syllabus has been approved by the Board of Science at Stockholm University 2019-01-14.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to the course requires knowledge equivalent to at least 90 ECTS credits in any of, or in a combination of, the main fields of biology, biology-earth sciences, geography, Earth sciences and environmental sciences. Also required is knowledge equivalent to Swedish upper secondary school course English 6.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
HELA	Landscape Ecology - Theory and Design	15

Course content

The course in landscape ecology concerns how landscape changes affect ecosystems and species distributions. It specially emphasise conservation of species diversity in changing environments. An important part of the course is to understand how political decisions, economy and physical geography have influenced, and is influencing, landscape configuration. There is a special focus on applied historical ecology, conservation and restoration of habitats in human dominated landscapes. The course is trans-disciplinary with the aim to increase the knowledge in how ecological processes are influenced by humans and how to design landscape ecological studies that might answer questions regarding these topics. Landscape ecological theory and study design is important in both practical environmental planning and conservation.

Learning outcomes

After the course, students are expected to:

- discuss and apply landscape ecology theories to understand consequences of time and space for conservation issues.
- understand and explain how socio-economical decision may affect ecological patterns and ecosystems.
- understand the link between the design and theory behind landscape ecological experiments
- apply landscape ecological theories and methods to analyse species patterns at a landscape level.
- successfully design, collect and analyse data as a landscape ecological project and write a project report were the student applies the theories.
- constructively analyse and criticise a landscape ecological project.

Education

Instruction consists of lectures, field trip, seminars, exercises and project work.

Participation in field trips, seminars, exercises, project work and any associated integrated instruction is compulsory. In the event of special circumstances, the examiner may, after consultation with the teacher concerned, grant a student exemption from the obligation to participate in certain compulsory instruction.

Instructions are in English.

Forms of examination

- a. The course is examined as follows: Knowledge assessment takes the form of
- written and oral examination
 - written examination and oral presentations of assignments related to seminars
 - written examination and oral presentations of project work

Examination is in English.

- b. Grades will be set according to a seven-point scale related to the learning objectives of the course:

A = Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

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E = Adequate

Fx = Fail, some additional work required

F = Fail, much additional work required

- c. The grading criteria will be distributed at the beginning of the course.

- d. In order to pass the course, students must receive a passing grade on all course and participate in all mandatory instruction.

- e. Students who receive a failing grade on a regular examination are allowed to retake the examination as long as the course is still provided. The number of examination opportunities is not limited. Other mandatory course elements are equated with examinations. A student who has received a passing grade on an examination may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. A student who has failed the same examination twice is entitled to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the department board.

The course includes at least two examination opportunities per year when the course is given. At least one examination opportunity will be offered during a year when the course is not given.

- f. Students awarded the grade Fx are given the opportunity to improve their grade to E. The examiner decides the supplementary assignments to be performed and the pass mark criteria. The supplementary assignments will take place before the next examination session.

Interim

Students may request that the examination be conducted in accordance with this course plan even after it has ceased to be valid. However, this may not take place more than three times over a two year period after course instruction has ended. Requests must be made to the departmental board. The provision also applies in the case of revisions to the course plan and the revisions of the course literature.

Limitations

The course may not be included in examinations in combination with courses Landscape Ecology, Advanced Course (BI3850), Landscape Ecology I (BL7001) Landscape Ecology II (BL8003), Landscape Ecology - Theory and Design (GE7047) or equivalent.

Misc

The course is part of Master's Programme in Landscape Ecology but can also be read as a separate course. The course include teaching in the field, which may entail additional cost for the student.

Required reading

The course literature is decided by the department board and published on the Department of Physical Geography's website at least two months before the start of the course.