



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

SLUkurs

Syllabus

**PFS0045 Management and conservation of lowland forests in Nepal,
7.5 credits**

Syllabus approved

2009-08-19

Subjects

Biology

Education cycle

Third cycle

Grading scale

Pass / Failed

The requirements for attaining different grades are described in the course assessment criteria which are contained in a supplement to the course syllabus. Current information on assessment criteria shall be made available at the start of the course.

Language

English

Prior knowledge

The course is open to PhD-students in biology, ecology and social science working on sustainable use of natural resources. Number of PhD-attendants is limited to 12.

Objective, including learning outcomes

The main objective of this course is to train students in comparative analysis of ecosystem management with emphasis on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. Focus will be on woodland ecosystems and aquatic systems in lowland Nepal. After participating in the course the students should have gained a thorough understanding of functioning, conservation issues and management of ecosystems in lowland subtropical regions of Nepal.

Content

The course will consist of three parts all which are mandatory. In part I the students are assigned to reviews on topics pertaining to biodiversity conservation and resource management in Nepal. Assignments are reported individually and then compiled. Part II consists of a c. 2 week long field course in Nepal, including meeting with staff and individual presentation of own PhD-project project at Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu, a full day mountain forest excursion in the Kathmandu area, followed by a longer stay at Chitwan area in south-central Nepal. Students will here meet and interact with Chitwan National Park authorities and Biodiversity Conservation Center staff in Sauraha. Students will perform a minor field study as individual project during this part of the course. The field course will start and end in Kathmandu. Part III, performed after returning to Sweden, consists of reporting on results from field studies and how these relate to their own research fields and/or resource management in Sweden in an essay form. Essays and reports compiled before the field trip are merged into a final report.

The field trip is planned 20 February - 4 March 2010. Before that there will be an introductory meeting for information and assignment of individual literature projects. This will be followed by individual work on the projects. Presentation of reports and preparatory lectures will take place in the beginning of November. Essays should be submitted by the end of March 2010.

Requirements for examination

See content above

Additional information

Students are required to cover costs for visits in Umeå, transport to Kathmandu and food during the field trip (c. 10.000 SEK). Please prepare a brief CV and a statement of no more than 200 words outlining your PhD research topic and

why the course would be beneficial to you. Also add if you have participated on a similar field course before. This information, and any enquiries, should be sent to the course organizers (LE) by e-mail not later than 1 October 2009.

Responsible department

Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Environmental Studies