



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

# SLUkurs

## Syllabus

**PVSoo68 Environmental and Animal Ethics, 5.0 credits**

## Syllabus approved

2011-11-11

## Subjects

Other Social Science/Animal Science

## 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

Swedish

## Prior knowledge

Accepted to PhD programme at SLU

## Objective, including learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- Account for the key problems in environmental and animal ethics in a nuanced way

- Describe and give nuanced account of key concepts and theories in environmental and animal ethics
- Reflect on and thoroughly analyze the strengths, weaknesses and problems of these concepts and theories
- Discuss problems in environmental and animal ethics in oral and written academic discourse
- Independently gather information and formulate and argue for one's own point of view on a problem in environmental or animal ethics of relevance for the student's own field

## **Content**

Environmental and animal ethics concern questions on how humans ought to relate to nature and animals. Some examples of such questions are: Does nature or ecosystems have intrinsic value? Do animals have rights, and how can they be interpreted? Can it be acceptable to sacrifice nature in order to make economic gains? Is it morally acceptable to patent crops in the developing world? During the course such questions are discussed against the background of different ethical points of view. Therefore the students exercise and improve their ability to conduct critical discussions, through seminars and written assignments. Some aspects of the intellectual history of the environmental and animal ethics debate are also introduced.

## **Requirements for examination**

Passed written assignment, passed active participation in seminars with completed assignments.

## **Additional information**

Evening course 35%

## **Responsible department**

Department of Animal Environment and Health