

## Syllabus

### **BI1290.3 The behavioural biology of the horse, 7.5 credits**

#### **Hästens beteendebiologi**

Version 3 in Slukurs. No corresponding version in Ladok

#### **Syllabus approved**

26 January 2017

The version applies to students admitted from spring 2022

The version is a module version

#### **Subjects**

Biology

#### **Education cycle**

First cycle

#### **Modules**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Horse behaviour and needs	0302	2.5
(Animal welfare and legislation	0303	2.0
Horse management, project work	0304	3.0

#### **Advanced study in the main field**

First cycle, entry requirements only from upper secondary school (G1N)

#### **Grading scale**

5:Pass with Distinction, 4:Pass with Credit, 3:Pass, U:Fail

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**

Knowledge equivalent to general entry requirements for higher education.

**Objectives**

The aim of the course is to provide knowledge of the behaviour and needs of the horse as well as give basic knowledge in how housing and handling influence the horse. On completion of the course, the student should be able to: - describe the evolutionary background of the horse both regarding environment and behavioural adaptations, - describe the behavioural disorders of the horse, how they arise and how they can be prevented and handled - account for the animal welfare legislation that regulates the housing environment, maintenance and handling of the horse at a general level - analyse and discuss the behaviour of the horse from different perspectives and with different target groups - account orally and in writing for the relationship between different horse management systems and how these influence the behaviour of the horse - under supervision review and discuss scientific and popular literature concerning the housing of horses and behaviour - account for ethological methodology with respect to horse at a general level.

**Content**

The course covers the biology of the horse and evolutionary origin as well as the behavioural adaptations that the horse has developed. The basic and normal behaviours of the horse, the behavioural needs of the horse, how these have been developed, the behavioural disorders and stereotypic behaviours of the horse will also be highlighted. The course gives an insight in how housing and handling can influence the behaviour of the horse. The course also includes practicing to interpret the signals and behaviour of the horse. The course also covers the legislation that regulates housing environments for horse. The course is carried out at distance with two compulsory weekend gatherings (Sat-Sun) at SLU in Skara. Apart from lectures e.g. compulsory seminars, exercises, study visits and project work are included.

## **Formats and requirements for examination**

Passed written and oral presentation of project work as well as approved participation in compulsory components.

- If the student fails a test, the examiner may give the student a supplementary assignment, provided this is possible and there is reason to do so.
- If the student has been granted special educational support because of a disability, the examiner has the right to offer the student an adapted test, or provide an alternative assessment.
- If changes are made to this course syllabus, or if the course is closed, SLU shall decide on transitional rules for examination of students admitted under this syllabus but who have not yet passed the course.
- For the examination of a degree project (independent project), the examiner may also allow the student to add supplemental information after the deadline. For more information on this, please refer to the regulations for education at Bachelor's and Master's level.

## **Additional information**

The course is designed as a distance course with two physical meetings with the emphasis placed on distance education. It is a necessity that the student has access to a computer and possibility to Internet connection. The course is given over a semester. A large part of the reading list is in English. Costs for the student in connection with study visits can occur.

- The right to take part in teaching and/or supervision only applies to the course date to which the student has been admitted and registered on.
- If there are special reasons, the student may take part in course components that require compulsory attendance at a later date. For more information on this, please refer to the regulations for education at Bachelor's and Master's level.

## **Responsible department**

Department of Animal Environment and Health

## **Supplementary Information**

*Finalized by:* Programnämnden för utbildning inom veterinärmedicin och husdjur (PN - VH)

*Biology Area:* Zoology  
*Course overlap:* BI0957  
*Replacement course:* BI0957