



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

SLUkurs

Syllabus

PFS0133 Boreal forest history, Biodiversity and Dynamics, 7.5 credits

Syllabus approved

2016-02-24

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 students must be accepted as PhD-students in biology or other relevant discipline

Objective, including learning outcomes

A thorough understanding of the differences and similarities in history and biodiversity of primeval forests throughout the region is best gained by direct comparison

of selected forests, representing primeval stands as well as conditions where past human use has influenced their development. Excursions, supplemented with a set of relevant research papers, will provide in-depth understanding of North European boreal forests. In addition, demonstrations and discussions of field methodologies, leading to defining terms and establishing common sampling protocols will provide a basis for own future studies.

Content

The course will comprise literature, field-lectures, excursions and field-work. During summer the students will read the literature consisting of c. 20 articles on topics ranging from biodiversity in boreal forests, forest history and inventory methods. In August there will be an extended field-week with lectures and exercises in forest reserves in northern Sweden.(Granlandet, Nilasjåkk, Bårgå and Tjeggelvas) Students will write excursion reports including a brief review of selected papers as a final assignment.

Requirements for examination

There will be examination of literature and lectures during the field-trip through discussion and seminars and the students will also write a short post excursion report including material from literature and lectures after the course which will be graded by the teachers.

Additional information

The course will comprise a reading assignment (August 15-25) an intensive field-week (August 29-Sept 3) when we travel to and make excursions in forest reserves in northernmost Sweden and a final writing assignment during September. The students must attend the field-week (August 29-Sept 3), but can do the reading and writing wherever they prefer. Admission to the course is by application. You should send a brief statement giving details on your PhD work and a motivation for attending the course (1 page maximum). The application should be sent to Lars Östlund (lars.ostlund@slu.se) before May 20, 2016.

Responsible department

Department of Forest Ecology and Management