Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

SLUkurs

Syllabus

PFS0066 Functioning of Boreal Forest Ecosystems, 7.5 credits

Syllabus approved

2010-12-17

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 all PhD students who have an interest in boreal ecosystems. The course is limited to 25 participants, and the applicants will be selected on the basis on merit and relevance of their research interest if the number of applicants exceed the number of positions available.

Objective, including learning outcomes

The aim of the course is to: 1) Introduce students to current topics in Boreal Ecology, 2) To bring students together with a variety of active researchers from a variety of specialized fields within Boreal Ecology, so they may interact in both formal and informal formats, 3) To give students an opportunity to develop and refine discussion and presentation skills, 4) To introduce students to current and high impact literature in the area of Boreal Ecology. 5) To bring students to a variety of forest sites that demonstrate some of the variability of Boreal Ecosystems.

Content

The course will occur in Arvidsjaur, Sweden, and will be comprised of literature, field and indoor lectures, field trips, and personal research presentations. The students will be provided with approximately 25 manuscripts approximately 2 months before the start of the course to prepare them for the course topics.

Requirements for examination

After the course, students will have a more thorough understanding of nutrient cycling, community dynamics, the role of fire, linkages between above and belowground subsystems, and climate change in Boreal Ecosystems; and, will be familiar with current high-impact literature within these sub-disciplines. Further, they will refine and learn skills in scientific presentation and formal discussion.

Additional information

The course will meet during the first week of June, 2013, upon which formal lectures, group discussions, and field visits will occur.

Responsible department

Department of Forest Ecology and Management