



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet  
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

# SLUkurs

## Syllabus

**PNG0039 Conservation, Development and Communication in Diverse Landscapes : Theories and Methods, 4.5 credits**

## Syllabus approved

2012-03-02

## Subjects

Other Social 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

English

## Prior knowledge

To have been accepted as a PhD student at a university department.

## Objective, including learning outcomes

The overall objective is to elaborate on themes in the field of theory of science and research methodology. The course will be complementary to courses already

offered within the research schools associated to the Department of Urban and Rural Development. The aim is also to give opportunities for the participating PhD students to discuss theoretical and methodological issues in relation to their PhD projects. Practical applications will be discussed in the context of a field trip.

Upon completion of the course, the PhD students will be better equipped to position their research projects in relation to theory and methods in science. They will also be more experienced in formulating researchable questions.

## **Content**

The course will contain lectures, discussions and seminars and a field visit.

In lectures, key concepts and themes in social science research will be discussed, such as social constructionism, reflexivity, gender and development, and methodologies, such as action research and case studies. On completion of the course, participants will be better able to position themselves in the landscape of theories and methods.

Course components:

Part 1 (3,0 credits): Individual reading of literature. Lectures and seminars

Part 2 (1.5 credits): Field trip, group work and discussions.

## **Requirements for examination**

Active participation during the intensive field visit and the lectures and seminars including studies of literature and presentation and discussion of a group work – in all three weeks full time work load.

## **Additional information**

This year's implementation:

To be developed according to the mix of students interested and received, to include Agroecology, Natural Resource Management, Nature Conservation, Rural Development, Urban Development and Planning.

Venue:

Universidad Nacional Agraria-UNA located in Managua, Nicaragua. The field case will be at the Zapatera Island National Park, 2 hours away from Managua, where SOL has an ongoing research engagement.

Course duration:

Lectures, seminars and a field visit will be held during Feb 25 - Mar 5, 2013. Total course time including own studies and preparations Feb 18 - March 8, 2013.

Fees and scholarships:

There is no fee for the course, but travel costs, accommodation and living costs have to be covered by the participant's projects. The Department's research schools may offer scholarships for PhD students who want to participate.

Lecturers/supervisors:

Prof. Rolf Johansson, SLU

Prof. Nadarajah Sriskandarajah, SLU

PhD Candidate Camilo Calderón, SLU

Assistant Professor Hans Peter Hansen (to be confirmed)

Staff from UNA, Nicaragua (to be confirmed)

Official from MARENA, Nicaragua (to be confirmed)

### **Responsible department**

Department of Urban and Rural Development