



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

SLUkurs

Syllabus

PNG0070 Reviewing and Summarizing Science - Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Science* (*But Did Not Ask), 2.0 credits

Syllabus approved

2017-02-20

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

enrollment as PhD student

Objective, including learning outcomes

The objectives of this course are (1) to learn how to find and to evaluate scientific key publications,

(2) to understand the purpose of the peer review system and be able to write a constructive scientific review,
 (3) to be able to summarize the key findings of a paper in 1-2 sentences, (4) to understand the value of conferences. Overall the objectives of the course are to help the students understand how to navigate the scientific publications and the process scientific communication.

Content

- (1) Key publications and how they come about,
- (2) How to read a paper and how to review a manuscript,
- (3) How to write a literature review
- (4) Conferences – How to use them to your advantage

Requirements for examination

Active participation and writing of a literature review according to Scrimgeour & Pruss (2016).

Additional information

This is a general skills course for all natural scientists, also other than biologists and soil scientists.

For day 1, please find (and bring) a key publication in your field and present it briefly (who wrote it, what is it, why is it a key publication and how did it become one). Since we are 14 students and we have only 2 hours scheduled for this, this should be very brief (max. 8 min).

For day 2, please bring an example of a paper you struggle with. Think about why this is difficult for you to read.

Please also bring a paper you have refereed (if you have refereed one).

You can also ask your supervisor to share a manuscript she or he has been asked to referee and bring their evaluation or write your own. Please also read the articles about refereeing manuscripts (attached).

For day 3, please bring 5 papers that you want to or have included in your literature survey.

For day 4, please bring a list of conferences relevant for you. Check how large these are in number of participants, are they national or international, would you have a mentor (supervisor) with you at the conferences if you went, and how well does

the topic fit your thesis topic.

External teacher: Antonia Liess, lector at Halmstad University, Associate Editor of Freshwater Science.

All lectures will be public and given at MVM.

Responsible department

Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment