



LUND UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Science

SYLLABUS

Date
10 February 2016

Reg. No.
U 2016/94

Syllabus for the course Graduate studies in biology: the science and its philosophy, NABI006 *Swedish title: Forskarutbildningen i biologi: biologin som vetenskap och dess filosofi*

The course syllabus was confirmed by the Faculty board for graduate studies 12 October 2016. The course is in the third cycle and amounts to 1.5 credits.
The course syllabus is formally approved in Swedish. This is a translation.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, participants shall be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Know how the Department of Biology is organized and its principal structures for decision-making and management.
- Understand the rights and responsibilities of a graduate student in biology.
- Understand the role of being a researcher, teacher, and advisor in the (Swedish) academic system.
- Understand the modern thoughts on the philosophy of science, epistemology and the role of science in society.
- Have an idea about the roots of science and the historical establishment of biology as a science.
- understand the basic principles of scientific publishing.

Skills and abilities

- To judge and form an opinion in the broad aspects of ethics in science, including problems of scientific misconduct, fraud and fabrication, conflicts of interest, and intellectual property rights.
- Use the department's and the university's library resources.

Judgement and approach

- Reflect on the role of science and the universities in society.
- Compare the epistemology and ontology in the natural sciences and other sciences

Course content

Presentations of the structure and organization of the Department of Biology. The rights and responsibilities of a graduate student (in Sweden). Oral presentations of the students' own research projects. The outlines of the history of sciences and modern thoughts on the philosophy of science. Scientific publishing. The ethics of science. The role of science in society and how it is funded (in Sweden).

Teaching

Lectures, seminars and own oral presentations.

Assessment

Attendance and passing the library and information retrieving training.

Grading scale

Possible grades are Pass and Fail. To pass the course, the student must attend the entire course, pass a short presentation of his/her own research project, and pass the library training.

Language of instruction

English.

Entry requirements

Admitted to third cycle studies in biology.

Additional information

The course is given yearly, usually in February/March. The course is mandatory for PhD students in Biology at Lund University, and it is strongly recommended that the course is taken as early as possible in the program.