



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Biology

Syllabus

Floristics and faunistics

Course Code:	BIG001
Course Title:	Floristics and faunistics <i>Floristik och faunistik</i>
Credits:	15
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

Major Field of Study:
BIA (Biology)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2024-01-24, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2024 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

General admission requirements

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- without aids identify Nordic vascular plants, mosses, and lichens, as well as animals during an excursion,
- use identification keys to determine common vascular plants and animals and animal groups in the Nordic flora and fauna,
- use biological terms to describe the structure of plants and animals,
- describe important characteristics of some common Nordic plant families and animal groups,
- describe and compare different plant communities and habitats, and ecological adaptations

among Nordic animals and animal groups,

- sample and make preparations of invertebrates, and
- conduct a simple inventory of mosses and lichens and present it in writing.

Content

Teaching is in the form of lessons, laboratory exercises, field excursions, identification and inventory exercises. At the beginning of the course, students participate in mandatory day-long excursions in different parts of Värmland. In lessons and laboratory sessions, the course covers the design of identification keys, botanical and zoological terms and concepts, some plant families and animal groups as well as a selection of representative species and groups. A number of different Nordic habitats are presented, including environmental aspects and representative plants and animals.

In floristics, the most common vascular plants, mosses, and lichens are presented in their various environments as well as characteristic species of different plant communities and indicator species for identification of plant communities. In faunistics, the basics are covered through working with collected materials and later moving on to field identification in natural habitats.

Students develop their ability to write reports on research results through inventory and sampling exercises, presented in class, and deepen their knowledge of different plant and animal species and communities, biological diversity, and the ecological demands of species.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Learning outcomes are assessed based on individual written species and group identifications without aids, an individual report on the sampling and preparation of bugs, an individual report on an inventory assignment, and a written exam.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded for the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

Mandatory field excursions can entail extra cost for students.