



Faculty of Social and Life Sciences  
Biology  
Syllabus

**Course Approval**

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Social and Life Sciences on 5 December 2007, and is valid from the Spring semester of at Karlstad University. It replaces the former syllabus BIOC03.

**Course Code:** BIGC02

**Conservation Biology, 15 ECTS Credits**  
(Naturvårdsbiologi, 15 Swedish credit points)

**Degree Level:** Bachelor

**Progression Level:** C

**Language of Instruction**

Swedish

**Prerequisites**

60 hp Biology. At least 45 hp passed, of which 15 hp should be Ecology

**Major Field of Study**

Biology

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should:

- be able to describe
  - Biological diversity on different level and geographical scales
  - The concept of biological diversity
  - The effect of humans on biological diversity, historically and recently
  - Factors that threatens biological diversity, like habitat loss, fragmentation, over exploitation, introduced species and climate change
  - The special problems of small populations
  - The importance of landscape ecology for biological diversity
  - Examples of strategies and practical conservation measures in order to save and restore biological diversity
  - The importance of biological diversity and ecosystem services
  - Values and ethics of relevance to conservation
- Actively participate in discussions of relevance to conservation
- Read and understand scientific papers
- Complete a small project with relevance to conservation biology
- Complete a population viability analysis

Content and Form of Instruction

The course covers biological diversity, landscape ecology, threat factors, conservation strategies and practical conservation work.

The course contains:

- A theoretical part with lectures of relevant parts of the course literature
- Discussion seminars on part of the course literature and scientific papers
- A project in a small group
- A week long excursion

Participation in seminars, the project and the excursion is mandatory

### Reading List

See separate document.

### Examination

Course literature and contents of lectures and seminars are examined by a written test. Practical course components such as the project and excursion are examined in writing.

### Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of 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 assessment is based on student views and experiences as reported in written course evaluations and/or group discussions. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of the measures to be taken.

### Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

### Additional Information

Students who enrolled before 1 July 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the earlier admission. Upon completion students may request degree and course certificates to be issued under the current ordinance if they meet its requirements.

Overlapping courses cannot be included in the same degree program. BIGC02 cannot be included together with BIOC03 or BIAD02.

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor's and Master's levels at Karlstad University, ref. C2007/368, stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.

The course contains an obligatory field excursion, demanding stay-over outside Karlstad, which lead to extra costs for students.

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