



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Biology

Syllabus

Bachelor's thesis in Biology

Course Code: BIGC16

Course Title: Bachelor's thesis in Biology
Kandidatuppsats i biologi

Credits: 15

Degree Level: Undergraduate level

Progressive Specialisation: First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements, contains degree proj. for B.A./B.Sc. (G2E)

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

Registered for 60 ECTS credits in Biology, including cell biology, botany, ecology, and zoology in equal measure, with 45 ECTS credits completed, and a theoretical specialisation course (G2F) in Biology of at least 15 ECTS credits, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

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

- seek, collect, evaluate, and critically review scientific literature in the field of Biology,
- independently plan and complete a research project in Biology within given time limits,
- analyse and compile data, as well as infer conclusions and make relevant assessments on the basis of the analysis of the compiled data,
- reflect upon and assess research questions and research topics in Biology in terms of

ethics,

- present and discuss their results orally and in writing,
- adapt the design of the presentation to a given audience,
- independently identify their need of further knowledge and enhance their knowledge in special areas of Biology.

Content

Students carry out a research project, individually or in pairs. The content and form of the project are selected in consultation with the supervisor and the course coordinator. Projects build on the students' previous studies in Biology and constitute specialisations in relation to previous studies. Parallel to the project, the course includes a mandatory literature module and participation in research seminars arranged at Karlstad University or other higher education institutions.

Instruction is provided in the form of supervision throughout the course. The completed project is presented in the form of a written thesis, which is presented orally and peer reviewed.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on the completion of a research project presented in a written thesis, an individual oral presentation of the project, individual peer review of another student's work, and an individual written hand-in assignment on the mandatory research seminars, including aspects of research ethics.

Final seminars including oral presentations and peer review take place at Karlstad University.

The Bachelor thesis is an independent project, but the project study is often carried out by two students working together. In order for assessment of individual performance to be possible, each student must be able to defend all parts of the thesis individually, respond to criticism, and engage in constructive discussion about the thesis in the final seminar. The division of labour and responsibility must also be clearly outlined in the written thesis.

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 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 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.

Excursions involving extra costs for the students and overnight stays off campus may be included.

BIGC11 Practical Course in Biology, or similar, does not qualify students for this course.