

**Grading criteria for independent projects at Master’s level (120 credits) A2E, 30 credits, in biology, environmental science, food science, soil science, chemistry, technology and agricultural science. The criteria apply to the NJ Faculty course dates from the autumn term 2014.**

**Evaluation with respect to individual course objectives: Master (120 credits)**

Each row in the table below represents an objective in the syllabus, the columns represent the grade levels. The achieved grade level for each objective is entered in the rightmost column. **Note that the criteria for the underlying grading level must be met for a higher grade to be possible.** Example: If all sub-criteria for grades 3 and 4 are met for objective 1, a four (4) is set for objective 1. If all sub-criteria for grade 3 are met for objective 2, only one of the sub-criteria for grade 4, but all sub-criteria for grade 5, a three (3) is set for objective 2.

<b>Objective</b> The student, through the independent project, should advance his/her subject knowledge in the area.	For <b>grade level 3</b> for each objective, the following must be met	For <b>grade level 4</b> for each objective, the following must be met	For <b>grade level 5</b> for each objective, the following must be met	Grade level for the objective
Objective 1  <b>After completing the course, the student should be able to identify, delimit and formulate scholarly problems in the chosen problem area, based on previously acquired knowledge.</b>	<i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated the ability to place his/her work in a larger context.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated advanced knowledge in the subject area of the work.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated insight into current research issues in the field.</li> </ul>	<i>The following criterion:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student's proposal for a new or expanded question demonstrates that the student has a good understanding of the field in which the student has conducted the project.</li> </ul>	Not possible for objective 1	
Objective 2  <b>After completing the course, the student should be able to independently plan and perform a qualified scientific investigation.</b>	<i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has completed the project in a responsible manner.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated the ability to judge the plausibility of his/her findings and place them in a relevant context.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated the ability to reflect on the choice of method.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated the ability to take his/her own initiatives in discussion and consultation with the supervisor.</li> </ul>	<i>Two of the following four sub-criteria</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated the ability to reflect on the choice of method.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated a good ability to evaluate findings and place these in a larger context.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> During the project, the student has demonstrated the ability to identify questions/problems that have arisen and has handled these in an independent manner.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated during the work that he/she can apply the appropriate precision to different stages.</li> </ul>	<i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated great ability to take initiative and contribute his/her own ideas and solutions in discussion and consultation with the supervisor.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has completed the project within the planned time frame (see <a href="#">guidelines for higher grades</a> at retakes).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has, if given the opportunity, actively participated in discussion on the choice of method.</li> </ul>	
Objective 3	<i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i>	<i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i>	<i>The following criterion:</i>	

<p><b>After completing the course, the student should be able to independently seek, evaluate, critically interpret and compile relevant information.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated ability to interpret and evaluate the content of the sources used.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated the ability to independently compile and analyse his/her data.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated the ability to independently compile and analyse his/her data.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has in a clear way related his/her own findings to original scholarly literature in the area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has demonstrated a very good ability to independently and thoroughly evaluate and critically interpret his/her own findings.</li> </ul>	
<p>Objective 4</p> <p><b>After completing the course, the student should be able to make a written English presentation of scientific findings in the chosen problem area.</b></p>	<p><i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The written presentation is in English.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has handled formalities properly.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has used scholarly language and a vocabulary appropriate to the subject.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The tables and figures used in the project are relevant and have been handled and presented properly.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The project is within the given constraints (such as scope).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The material is ready for publication in accordance with applicable SLU guidelines.</li> </ul>	<p><i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The written project is linguistically thorough with good readability, which includes a well-planned and correct choice of words, correct sentence structure, grammar and spelling.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The written project exhibits a cogent, rigorous and concise argumentation.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The student has selected tables and figures that considerably enhance the reader's understanding of the work.</li> </ul>	<p><i>The following criterion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The structure, argument and analysis of the written project demonstrate that the student has a very good understanding of the field.</li> </ul>	
<p>Objective 5</p> <p><b>After completing the course, the student should be able to report and discuss results orally.</b></p>	<p><i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The oral presentation is clear and has a well-planned structure.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The presentation reports the findings obtained and the conclusions in a scientific manner.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The oral presentation remained within the given constraints regarding time and scope.</li> </ul>	<p><i>All of the following sub-criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> In the oral presentation, the student has demonstrated sensitivity towards the audience by the way he/she responded to questions or through dialogue with the audience.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The oral presentation is clear and concise in performance and argument.</li> </ul>	<p>Not possible for objective 5</p>	
<p>Objective 6</p> <p><b>After completing the course, the student should be able to summarise a scholarly work in the chosen problem area for an audience interested in popular science.</b></p>	<p><i>The following criterion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Language, structure, message and scope have been adapted to a target group interested in popular science.</li> </ul>	<p>Not possible for objective 6</p>	<p>Not possible for objective 6</p>	
<p>Objective 7</p> <p><b>After completing the course, the student should be able to provide constructive criticism on the texts and presentations of others.</b></p>	<p><i>The following criterion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The oral and written work of the reviewer shows that he/she has familiarised himself/herself with the work and done substantial preparations for the review.</li> </ul>	<p>Not possible for objective 7</p>	<p>Not possible for objective 7</p>	

## Weighted grades

The overall grade is derived from the attained grade level of the individual objectives (rightmost column in the table above), and is tested from the "top down" as shown below.

For a weighted **grade 5** it is required that the student has achieved a minimum of one of the combinations in the table below, i.e.

- no grade below 3 for any of the objectives;
- *and* grade 5 for objectives 3 and 4;
- *and* the highest possible grade either for objective 1 (combination 1) *or* for objectives 2 and 5 (combination 2).

Objective	Highest possible grade	Grade levels for grade 5	
		Combination 1	Combination 2
Objective 1	4	4	3
Objective 2	5	4	5
Objective 3	5	5	5
Objective 4	5	5	5
Objective 5	4	3	4
Objective 6	3	3	3
Objective 7	3	3	3
Select the combination that may have been met by the student		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For a weighted **grade 4** it is required that the student has achieved a minimum of one of the combinations in the table below, i.e.

- no grade below 3 for any of the objectives;
- *and* grade 4 for both objectives 3 and 4;
- *and* grade 4 either for objectives 2 and 5 (combination 1) *or* for objectives 1 and 2 (combination 2) *or* for objectives 1 and 5 (combination 3).

Objective	Grade levels for grade 4			
	Combination 1	Combination 2	Combination 3	
Objective 1	3	4	4	
Objective 2	4	4	3	
Objective 3	4	4	4	
Objective 4	4	4	4	
Objective 5	4	3	4	
Objective 6	3	3	3	
Objective 7	3	3	3	
Select the combination that may have been met by the student		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For **grade 3** (approved), it is required that the student has achieved grade level 3 for all objectives.

The weighted grade is entered below:

**Grade:**    U        3        4        5