

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

Subject area: Research and doctoral education

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and Agricultural Science

Reference: Gabriella Persdotter Hedlund

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Valid as of 1 January 2013

Valid until: further notice

Document(s) repealed: -

General syllabus for the doctoral programme in the subject of:

BIOLOGY

Valid as of 1 January 2013

Department to which the syllabus applies	Subject code
ECOLOGY	NLBIOL06
MICROBIOLOGY	NLBIOL00
CHEMISTRY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY	NLBIOL01
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOR NORTHERN SWEDEN	NLBIOL03
FOREST MYCOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY	NLBIOL05
AQUATIC SCIENCE AND ASSESSMENT	NLBIOL04
PLANT BIOLOGY	NLBIOL07
CROP PRODUCTION ECOLOGY	NLBIOL08

The goals and design of the programme may vary between departments (see 4. Miscellaneous)

Regulations for third-cycle (doctoral) education at SLU

These can be found in the [Guidelines for third-cycle \(doctoral\) education](#) (reg. no SLU ua Fe.2012.40-3218) and [Admission regulations for third-cycle \(doctoral\) education at SLU](#) (reg. no. SLU ua Fe.2012.4.4-3467). These governing documents lay out rules and recommendations for *entry requirements, recruitment and admission, joint programmes leading to a double or joint degree, scope and content of the programme, planning and follow-up of the programme, procedure when a course or study programme is unsatisfactory, examination and degrees.*

General study plans for subjects within the doctoral studies can provide additional, subject-specific rules in addition to these joint rules. This document specifies the subject-specific rules for the subject biology. In other respects the third-cycle studies in this subject shall adhere to the Guidelines for third-cycle education and the Admission regulations for third-cycle education at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

1. Purpose and objectives

The goal is for the doctoral student, after completing their studies, to be familiar with the general tools of science as well as the research methods typical for the subject field of biology, the study of living organisms. At the NJ faculty, the subject has the following specialisations: cell biology, ecology, entomology, genetics, microbiology, molecular biology, mycology, conservation biology, virology, plant physiology, plant breeding and plant pathology (see specific general study plans for these specialisations). The purpose is to meet the qualitative targets for third-cycle studies specified in the Higher Education Ordinance, Annex 2 – Qualifications ordinance.

2. Entry requirements

Those admitted shall meet the following specific entry requirements.

The specific entry requirements for biology are normally knowledge corresponding to at least 90 credits in biological subjects.

3. Scope and content of the programme

The programme contains two main elements: research and coursework.

Research

While studying, the student shall conduct independent research which is presented in a doctoral thesis corresponding to at least 120 credits, or a licentiate thesis corresponding to at least 60 credits. The thesis is presented as a compilation thesis, normally comprising 3-5 works, or in special cases as a monograph. The thesis must be written in English, or in Swedish if this is relevant for the subject. All the works shall be of such a standard that they may be published in refereed international scientific publications. A licentiate thesis in the form of a compilation thesis should comprise 1-2 works. All the works shall be of such a standard that they may be published in refereed international scientific publications. The summarising section of a compilation thesis shall place the student's work in an international academic context and provide a synthesis of the various works and include a literature review of the subject.

Courses

The student is required to undertake coursework which corresponds to at least **45** higher education credits for a Degree of Doctor, and at least **25** higher education credits for a Degree of Licentiate. These studies shall include suitable general courses as well as individually selected subject courses.

4. Miscellaneous

Further information about third-cycle studies is available in SFS 2006:1053, and information about grants can be found in SFS 1995:938 as amended by 1998:81 (reprint), 1998:161 and 2006:1053. Information about third-cycle studies at SLU is available in the Admission regulations for third-cycle (doctoral) education (reg. no SLU ua 41-1482/07) with the annex to the Board's decision of 26 April 2007, reg.

no SLU ua 41-1482/07, the Vice-Chancellor's decision and the guidelines for doctoral education at the Faculty of Natural Resources and Agricultural Science (reg. no SLU ua 40-1244/08). Each department to which the third-cycle subject area is linked can choose to specify requirements in addition to those in this study plan. These requirements are to be specified in an annex.

5. Annexes

There are no annexes.