

## GOVERNING DOCUMENT

Subject area: Research and doctoral education

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and Agricultural Science

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## General syllabus for the doctoral programme in the subject of:

### BIOLOGY with specialisation in PLANT BREEDING

Valid as of 15 May 2013

Department to which the syllabus applies  
PLANT BIOLOGY

Subject code  
NLBIVF00

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 with specialisation in plant breeding. 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*

After completing the programme, the student should be familiar with the general tools of science as well as the research methods that are typical of the subject field biology with specialisation in plant breeding. The subject includes genetic and molecular genetic studies of biological processes and methods which when applied

can lead to new or improved crops. 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 are normally knowledge corresponding to at least 120 credits in biological subjects, of which at least 30 credits are in genetics, plant breeding or related 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 normally corresponding to 165-210 credits. The thesis may be submitted as a compilation thesis or as a monograph. In a compilation thesis, several of the works shall be of sufficient quality to be published in a high quality scientific journal with a referee system. Normally, a thesis in this subject includes 3-5 works. The variation depends on the individual performance. The doctoral student should preferably be the lead author of at least one work that is accepted and/or published at the time of the defence of the thesis. The thesis must be written in English.

A licentiate degree requires academic work corresponding to 85-105 credits. One or two works are expected to be included in the thesis. At least one of the works shall be of sufficient quality to be published in a high quality scientific journal with a referee system. The thesis must be written in English.

### **Courses**

The student is required to undertake coursework which corresponds to at least **30** credits for a Degree of Doctor, and at least **15** credits for a Degree of Licentiate. These studies shall include suitable general courses as well as individually selected subject courses. The scope and specialisation of the courses shall be adapted to the doctoral student's existing knowledge, specialisation and preferences. Participation in courses linked to a graduate school or equivalent network is encouraged.

## *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.