

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

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and Agricultural Science

Reference: Gabriella Persdotter Hedlund

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General syllabus for the doctoral programme in the subject of:

BIOLOGY with specialisation in VIROLOGY

Valid as of 15 May 2013

Department to which the syllabus applies
PLANT BIOLOGY

Subject code
NLBIV100

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 of biology with specialisation in virology. 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 a specialisation in virology. 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, specialising in virology, are normally knowledge corresponding to at least 120 credits in biological subjects. An approved advanced study project of at least 15 credits shall have been completed. If a student with another comparable education shall be admitted to doctoral studies, this shall be decided in consultation with the relevant main supervisor, supervisory group, director of doctoral studies at the department and the head of department on an individual case basis.

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 work which is presented in a doctoral thesis normally corresponding to 165-210 credits. The thesis can be presented as a monograph or as a compilation thesis, of which the latter is the standard. 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 focus 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.