



Course syllabus

Faculty of Technology

Department of Forestry and Wood Technology

5TS01E Skogs- och träteknik, examensarbete (master), 30 högskolepoäng

Forest and Wood Engineering, Degree Project (Master), 30 credits

Main field of study

Forest and Wood Engineering

Subject Group

Forest Science

Level of classification

Second Level

Progression

A2E

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Technology 2016-06-20

The course syllabus is valid from spring semester 2017

Prerequisites

Qualification required Bachelor's degree or Bachelor of Science in Engineering. In addition, 90 credits in advanced level at Forestry and Wood Technology which must include 4TS011 Methodology and planning of technical research projects, 7.5 credits or equivalent.

Objectives

The course objective is to develop skills so that student can work independently to complete a project. The independent project must treat a problem of theoretical and practical aspect and contribute to the development of knowledge in the subject area. After completing the course the student should be able to:

- identify and formulate a problem critically, independently and creatively
- plan and carry out a skilled task within the given time frame
- discuss critically and select appropriate/relevant scientific methods of data collection
- analyze problem critically, independently and systematically and evaluate the collected data
- make judgments with regard to the scientific, social and ethical aspects and demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of the research work
- present result in the form a report according to the international publishing standard
- argue for the significance of the research findings in a coherent text
- develop skills on reviewing theses critically and constructively followed by the revision of theses accordingly

- present orally and discuss the independent work
- examine critically and discuss another independent work

Content

Student should independently write a thesis based on scientific principles in consultation with supervisor. Student will defend it in the form of a seminar and revise according to the criticism made by fellow reviewers. The course also includes a critical and constructive seminar discussion after the presentation. The course comprises:

- Define problem and make individual project plan
- Search literatures for review purpose with a high degree of independence
- Collect, evaluate and process different kinds of source materials
- Evaluate and narrow down research relevant questions
- Data collection and analysis
- Thesis writing
- Oral presentation and opposition during the defense

Type of Instruction

Mainly is in the form of supervision and seminars. Throughout the degree project and theses work, students work independently with the consultation of supervisors. Due to the independent nature of the work, the course can include, for example, laboratory or field work. Intermittent meeting and discussion are carried out according to a timetable agreed upon with the supervisor and the course coordinator.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

The grade A constitutes the highest grade on the scale and the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade E is the lowest grade on the scale that will result in a pass. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as fail (i.e. received the grade F). Grade A-B is regarded pass with distinction. In order to receive this, students should have demonstrated a highly independent and motivated activity in relation to research in project work and a critical aptitude in the written and oral presentations. Students who fail to pass the examinations, have opportunity to retake the examinations are provided in accordance with local regulations at the university.

Before attending the final seminar, students must present their master theses orally in a research seminar in connection with the departmental meeting. Besides, they are encouraged to make a poster about their theses work for dissemination purpose.

In the final examination, students present and defend their theses. Each student must also act an opponent to other student's work.

Course Evaluation

During the course or in close connection to the course, a course evaluation is to be carried out. The result and analysis of the course evaluation are to be communicated to the students who have taken the course and to the students who are to participate in the course the next time it is offered. The course evaluation is carried out anonymously. The compiled report will be filed at the Faculty.

Other

Some parts of the course may entail costs paid by the course participant. Course can be studied by international students and in these cases instructions are given in English. Students are to be informed about the grading criteria using the A–F scale. And it should be done latest by the start of the course.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Required reading

Required literature and additional study material are chosen in consultation with the supervisor and course coordinator. Guideline for writing masters theses is provided by

the course coordinator.