Linnæus University

Dnr: LNU-2024/4761

Course syllabus

Faculty of Technology

Department of Forestry and Wood Technology

5TS15E Skogs- och träteknik, självständigt arbete (master), 30 högskolepoäng

Forest and Wood Engineering, Independent project (master), 30 credits

Main field of study

Forest and Wood Engineering

Subject

Forest Science

Level

Second cycle

Progression

A2E

Date of Ratification

Approved 2024-12-16.
The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2025.

Prerequisites

Bachelors degree comprises of at least 90 credits in the main field of study as well as 45 credits at advanced level in the subject of Forestry and Wood Engineering or Forest Science, of which one of the following courses: 4TS023 Methodology and Planning of Technical Research Projects or 4TS011 Methodology and Planning of Technical Research Projects or equivalent methods course at advanced level. Advanced level method course can be replaced by 4TS022 Forest Ecosystem Services and 4TS021 Forest climate mitigation and adaptation and 4TS019 Digitalisation in Forestry and 4TS020 Forest damage in sustainable forestry for a circular bioeconomy.
Swedish 3 and English 6.

Objectives

After completed course, the student should know how to:

- Identify a research problem within the subject area and formulate researchable questions of both theoretical and practical relevance.
- Plan and conduct a scientific study within given timeframes using appropriate methods.
- Search for, collect, compile, analyse, evaluate, and critically interpret data, relevant information, and literature.
- Critically and systematically analyse and evaluate methods and complex results.
- Present the work in a scientific report, written in either Swedish or English.
- Summarize the work in a popular science format, in writing.
- Orally present and discuss the work, as well as critically review, discuss, and provide constructive feedback on another project.
- Reflect on the societal relevance of the work from the perspectives of various stakeholders.
- Reflect on ethical aspects of research and development activities.
- Identify personal knowledge and skill development needs relevant to the subject area and the conducted project.

Content

The student shall, based on previously acquired knowledge, plan, carry out, and present an independent project within a given timeframe. Through the course, the student shall further develop their skills in scientific work and significantly deepen their subject knowledge through:

- Problem formulation
- Ethical self-assessment
- Preparation of a project plan
- Literature review
- Data collection, data processing, and analysis
- Evaluation of methods and results
- Scientific report writing
- Popular science summary
- Oral presentation and opposition

Type of Instruction

The course includes supervision, lectures, and seminars. Each student is assigned a supervisor for support during the course.

Unless otherwise agreed, supervision is limited to the official duration of the course. At the course introduction, students will be informed of the amount of supervision time they can expect.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

The examination is based on three components: project implementation, written report, and seminar participation.

- **Project Implementation – 3 credits (individual assessment: U, G, VG)**

Includes the work process for the independent project, the project plan, and participation in seminars.

- **Written Report – 24 credits (individual assessment: U, G, VG)**

Includes the scientific report and the popular science summary.

- **Seminar – 3 credits (individual assessment: U, G, VG)**

Includes the final seminar with oral presentation and discussion.
The final grade is based on a weighted assessment of the three examination components. Participation in the final seminar, including an oral presentation of the student's own independent project and an opposition of another student's project, is mandatory. The final seminar takes place during an in-person session. This compulsory component is offered during the scheduled course period and during a designated re-examination seminar.

Grading is based on assessment criteria, which are communicated at the start of the course.

Resit examination is offered in accordance with Linnaeus University's Local regulations for courses and examination at the first- and second-cycle levels. In the event that a student with a disability is entitled to special study support, the examiner will decide on adapted or alternative examination arrangements.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation should be conducted during the course or in connection with its conclusion. The results and analysis of the completed course evaluation should be promptly communicated to students who have completed the course. Students participating in the next course instance should be informed of the results of the previous course evaluation and any improvements that have been made, no later than at the start of the course.

Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following course/courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course:
5TS10E (30 credits), 4TS30E (30 credits), and 4TS31E (15 credits).

Other Information

As the course is delivered with the support of ICT (Information and Communication Technology), a computer with a reliable internet connection is required. Some course components may involve costs that are to be covered by the student.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Materials are provided by the department.

Additional literature is selected in consultation with the supervisor.