

# Grading criteria - EX0578 Degree Project in Biology – E30, 30p

Appendix to the Syllabus

Marking	4 – 5	Excellent level	Excellent level	Excellent level	Excellent level	Excellent level	Excellent level
	3	Approved level	Approved level	Approved level	Approved level	Approved level	Approved level
<b>Objectives</b> The student should be able to:	<b>Objective 1:</b> Show considerably deepened knowledge within Biology.	<b>Objective 2:</b> Use previously acquired knowledge in order to independently plan and solve a scientific and research related task.	<b>Objective 3:</b> Show a deepened ability to independently search for, compile, evaluate and critically interpret literature and information of relevance for the task.	<b>Objective 4:</b> Independently write a scientific report in English, based on retrieved research data, with a clear aim and context to a defined audience or target group, according to given instructions.	<b>Objective 5:</b> Orally present the degree project in English within given time limits, be well prepared for a specified audience / group.	<b>Objective 6:</b> Discuss the results obtained and the conclusions and be able to scientifically relate them to broader contexts and practical applications.	
<b>Examination</b>	Oral hearing with the examiner	Written research plan proposal and practical work	Written report and practical work	Written report	Oral presentation	Written report and oral presentation	

**Mark 3** = If all objectives are fulfilled at approved level

**Mark 4** = If at least 4 objectives are fulfilled at excellent level

**Mark 5** = If all 6 objectives are fulfilled at excellent level

## The examination

- **Research plan written by the student before the project starts:** Before the project starts the student independently write a research plan proposal, where the issue is formulated, a hypothesis is presented and a scientific approach is suggested. The research plan should be considered as a proposal and the final project do not need to be based on it.
- **Practical work during the project:** The various skills of the student are continuously evaluated during the project. The ability to follow time plans, the scientific approach and the ability to solve emerging problems is evaluated.
- **Written report (first version):** The written report should be handed in according to instructions. It is suggested that the first version is handed in to the supervisor as three separate parts: A) material, methods and results, B) introduction and discussion, C) summary, abstract and list of references. This version is commented upon by the supervisor and is saved for later grading.
- **Written report (final version):** The student and the supervisor jointly decide when the final version electronically should be sent to the examiner by the way of Urkund. The examiner comments upon the report and save the handed in version for grading..
- **Oral presentation:** The oral presentation can be done, first with the permission by the examiner. An oral presentation should be advertised ahead in order to allow an audience with interest and competence to participate. At the presentation, the student individually presents the parts described in the written report. Opportunity for discussion and questions will be given.
- **Oral hearing:** In connection to the presentation, the examiner holds a hearing where the students' expertise and independence regarding methods and conclusions is evaluated. The hearing is a closed session where the examiner can use help from assistant examiners or by the supervisor when the subject demands it.

After the oral hearing, the supervisor and the examiner have a meeting. Afterwards, the examiner presents the final mark. It is up to the examiner to decide how to weight the objectives against each other. It should be considered that objectives, requiring less work (e.g. oral presentation) shouldn't be weighted as heavy as objectives requiring more work by the student. The mark is presented as a final mark. If the student wishes, a more detailed grading document can be presented where strengths and weaknesses are visualised. This can preferably be done by using the table below.

Table to use where strengths (+) and weaknesses (-) are presented to the student. Individual criteria can be added when needed. The criteria should be weighted in proportion to their work load.

	Evaluation		Comments
	+	-	
<b>Objective 1 – Knowledge within Biology</b>			
Expertise within the are of the project			
Critical attitude			
Analytical ability			
Relevant application of knowledge			
Draw own conclusions			
<b>Objective 2 – Scientific methods and approach</b>			
Ability to keep the time plan			
Scientific approach during the project			
Ability to solve problems			
Quality of the research plan proposal			
Independence			
<b>Objective 3 – Handling scientific information</b>			
Choice of relevant information			
Handling references in the report			
Independence			
<b>Objective 4 – Written report (focus on the first version)</b>			
Ability to follow instructions and supervision			
Language			
Disposition			
Description of methods			
Presentation of data and results			
Scientific approach			
Independence			
Total impression (first version)			
Total impression (final version)			

	Evaluation		Comments
	+	-	
<b>Objective 5 - Oral presentation</b>			
Follow given time limits			
Follow given instructions			
To give a complete and clear picture of the project			
To make a pedagogic presentation			
To follow a “red thread” in the presentation			
Adapted to and in contact with the audience			
<b>Objective 6 – Ability to discuss</b>			
Explain scientific aspects			
Explain practical aspects			
Ability to have a scientific discussion			
Independence			

<b>Date</b>	
<b>Course code</b>	
<b>Name of student</b>	
<b>Social Security Nr.</b>	
<b>Examiner</b>	
<b>Supervisor</b>	
<b>Final mark</b>	