

Literature Review/introductory essay in Soil Sciences

Approved: 2023-02-17

Subject: Soil Science

Education cycle: postgraduate

Prerequisites: PhD candidates accepted for PhD studies in Soil Science at SLU. A course in information retrieval at the SLU library is recommended as a complement.

Objective: The objectives of the essay is - to introduce the PhD candidate to the scientific literature of their research field - to train the PhD candidate in retrieving scientific literature relevant to their own PhD project - to train the PhD candidate in reading and discussing scientific information and presenting it in written form – to put their research questions and methods into perspective of current scientific literature within their field of research.

Content The PhD candidate shall retrieve literature relevant to the PhD project, read it and write a 10-15 page review paper in English. In the paper the PhD candidate shall discuss how the proposed PhD project relates to findings presented in the literature and how the PhD project will contribute to improved knowledge. The main supervisor and the supervisory team is responsible for recommending relevant literature. The main supervisor/supervisory team should also read and comment outlines and manuscript-versions of the essay and should read and approve the essay before it's submitted to the department board of post graduate education (see below). The essay should be well structured, include one or several relevant tables, illustrations and/or figures and should be written in English. The PhD candidate shall also write a short description of their PhD project (1/2 A4), suitable for publication at the homepage of the Department of Soil and Environment.

Examination: The paper (10-15 pages) and the short description (1/2 A4) of the project are to be approved by the Board of Post Graduate Education at the department (MoM-FUN).

Responsible department: Department of Soil and Environment

Location: Uppsala

The completion of the literature review constitutes a compulsory part of the 1-year follow-up of PhD-students at the department of Soil Sciences, according to a decision by the Head of department from 2019-01-01.

Students admitted after 2019-01-01 get no course credits for the essay, but completing the essay is still compulsory.

Students admitted before 2019-01-01 get 7 hp for the essay.