

Fish and fisheries ecology 2023

Dept. of Aquatic Resources' postgraduate seminar course

This course is developed for PhD students interested in fish and fisheries ecology. It is based on a series of seminars covering a broad range of research topics and activities of relevance in the field. The course is running 31 October -18 December 2023, and includes a three-day IRL workshop and 4 online seminars. The workshop, seminars, literature and preparation renders 3.0 credits (ECTS), which is 2 weeks full time studies. An important part of the course is that the topics discussed during the course has a clear link to the students' PhD projects.

Purpose and Objectives

1. The course will provide advanced knowledge in fish and fisheries ecology, including assessment and management practices of aquatic resources.
2. The course will present recent advances in fish and fisheries ecology with specific relevance to ecosystem-based fisheries management and other selected research themes.
3. The course provides practice in oral presentation, argumentation and discussion and foster appreciation for diverse views.
4. The course provides practice in putting theory and general concepts into the context of the student's own work and vice versa.
5. The course will offer a network opportunity for Swedish PhD students engaged in topics related to fish and fisheries ecology.

Expected Learning outcomes

1. The student should be able to explain topical subjects within in fish and fisheries ecology.
2. The student should be able to in detail explain and discuss chosen concepts in fish and fisheries ecology.
3. The student should show ability to critically examine and discuss scientific texts.
4. The student should demonstrate ability to link theory to their own research
5. The student should be able to orally present a scientific text in a comprehensible way given the target group.

Literature

Recent key papers and relevant review papers, specific to each seminar (2-4 per seminar)

General set-up of course

1. The course starts with a 3-day workshop **31 Oct-2 Nov 2023** led by the course leaders, taking place as a physical meeting at SLU-Aqua (Lysekil), which entails:
 - a. Introduction to the course
 - b. Students present their projects
 - c. Ground rules for seminars set by the students, together with the course leaders.
 - d. Introduction to research and facilities at SLU Aqua
 - e. One seminar (detailed description below)
 - f. Excursion
 - g. Networking activities

In this meeting, graduate students from SLU-Aqua that have previously taken the course will be participating in points b and g.

2. Four online seminars, based on 2-4 scientific papers, planned and coordinated by teachers and co-arranged by the students.
 - a. The students will take turns to be responsible to make a short introduction to the subject to be discussed at the specific seminar, including selecting one of the papers for the seminar. However, the coordination of the seminar should still be the responsibility of the teacher. Which seminar(s) each student is responsible for (can be more than one responsible student per seminar) will be organized via email together with the course leader, before the starting date of the course.
 - b. Each student should for every seminar prepare at least two questions to bring up in the discussions of the group.
 - c. Each discussion seminar should end with:
 - students briefly accounting for an interesting idea presented in the literature or during the discussion,
 - students reflecting on how theories and concepts discussed during the seminar may be of relevance for his/hers doctoral projects and
 - opportunity for everyone to give feedback on the discussion.

Examination

Examination will be based on:

1. Active participation in the discussions, preparation of questions, presentation of ideas, introduction of the subject and paper for at least one seminar, and the provision of feedback during discussions. In the case that a student cannot attend a seminar, he/she will need to hand in a summary (1 page) of the literature for that seminar, including a written version of points in 2c, above.
2. The student must participate in the workshop and at least 3 (of the in total 4) seminars (and hand in written reports for the seminar which he/she could not attend) to pass.
3. Grades: Pass/ Not pass (G/U)

Course leaders

Assoc. Prof. Jonas Hentati-Sundberg (Jonas.sundberg@slu.se) & Assoc. Prof. Magnus Huss (magnus.huss@slu.se) at the Department of Aquatic Resources, SLU.