Faculty of Science

BIOF06, Biology: Human Biology and Evolution, 7.5 credits

Biologi: Humanbiologi och evolution, 7,5 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Study programmes board, Faculty of Science on 2013-01-21 and was last revised on 2015-12-15. The revised syllabus applies from 2016-01-01, spring semester 2016.

General Information

The course is an optional course for a degree of Bachelor of Science in Biology.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Main field of studies	*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*
Biology	G2F, First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

On completion of the course the student shall be able to:

- account for the basics of the biology and evolutionary history of man
- describe how the biology and evolutionary history of man can be used to understand human behaviour, diseases, social organisation, and cooperation
- give examples of how man is influenced by the interplay between genetic and environmental factors

Competence and skills

On completion of the course the student shall be able to:

- use and master relevant concepts in human biology, such as evolutionary medicine, selfish genes, "memes", sexual selection, and evolution of life history traits
- discuss factors that influence the mental and physical health of humans
- argue in a scientific way orally and in writing

Judgement and approach

On completion of the course the student shall be able to:

- critically evaluate and discuss the importance of biological differences (e.g. gender differences and differences between ethnic groups) based on a general evolutionary biological context

Course content

The course consists of lectures and two discussion seminars about current literature on human evolutionary biology.

During the lectures, different themes are addressed with a specialisation on:

- exercise physiological and evolutionary aspects on physical activity
- appetite regulation and energy balance
- the genetic basis of ADHD and hereditary diseases and syndromes
- evolutionary medicine
- biological gender differences and evolution of human sexuality
- evolution of diseases: influenza and HIV
- stress and immunosuppression
- evolutionary genetics and sexual conflicts
- human partner choice and sexual selection
- Richard Dawkins and the concepts "selfish genes" and "memes"
- evolution of human cooperation
- evolution of human life histories

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and discussion seminars and written presentation. At the end of the course, a final seminar about general and new research literature regarding human biology is held. Participation in lectures, seminars, and presentations is compulsory.

Assessment

The examination takes place orally in the form of group seminars and through a written presentation at the end of the course.

For students who have failed at the regular examination, an additional examination in close connection to this is offered.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.
To pass the entire course, approved group seminars, approved written presentation, and participation in at least 75% of the lectures, are required.

Entry requirements

For admission to the course, 60 credits of studies in natural sciences, medicine, or technology, is required.

Further information

The course is given part-time, evenings. The course may not be included in a degree together with BIOF02 Human Biology 7.5 credits.

Subcourses in BIOF06, Biology: Human Biology and Evolution

Applies from H12

1301 Human Biology and Evolution, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass