



Nature and environment on Gotland

A course offered to biology students at Yunnan University, Nanjing University, Shandong University, Sichuan University, Nankai University, Huaqiao University, Lanzhou University, Nanchang University, Jinan University (Guangzhou) and Sun Yat-sen University.

Aim

The course will give an overview of the very special nature and ecosystems on the island of Gotland in the Baltic Sea and its natural history, including the effects of climate, history, geology and human impact. The course will have a focus on environmental issues covering human impact on the coastal environment, the agricultural landscape and on the climate.

After the course the student should be able to

- describe important coastal and terrestrial ecosystems on Gotland,
- explain in basic terms how these ecosystems are structured and affected by geology, physical factors, climate and human impact,
- describe various renewable energy sources and their impact on the environment

Contents

Teaching will take place in the facilities of Uppsala University Campus Gotland in Visby, at the field station in Ar at northern Gotland (about 60 km north of Visby) and in the field. Focus of the course is on ecosystem structure and human impact, and the content therefore makes it possible to compare with similar ecosystems in other parts of the world.

The course is divided into three parts:

Part 1 is dealing with coastal ecosystems such as rocky shores, sandy shores and shallow bays, covering e.g. the effects of eutrophication. In **Part 2** we will focus on human impact on the environment, e.g. on the climate, including several study visits to industrial facilities, such as limestone industry as well as facilities for renewable energy, such as wind power plants, a sun power plant and a biogas facility. **Part 3** is covering the ecology of and human impact on terrestrial ecosystems including semi-natural grasslands, old-growth forest and wetland.

Each part will be introduced in a lecture, focusing on important processes, such as productivity, nutrient limitations, soil processes and other abiotic factors and, most importantly, the impact of human activities. Most of the time will be spent on excursions and study visits, to give hands-on experience. The students will work in small groups under guidance of experienced teachers. As examination, student groups will present the results from the field studies.

There are 28 places at the course. The course fee is 25 000 RMB, which includes travels, accommodation and food during the field part of the course.

The course is given in English. In your application you don't have to enclose any document of proficiency in English, but for successful result at the course you should master English fairly well. If there are more applicants than places at the course we make a selection based on your letter of intention. After the course you will receive a document/diploma that you have studied this course of 5 credits.

Read more and see pictures: www.ibg.uu.se/nature-gotland



”Nature and environment on Gotland”, 5 credits

25 July – 15 august, 2016

The course starts on Monday 25th July 2016, with a lecture at Campus Gotland in Visby. We will then drive with minibuses for about one hour to our field station in Ar, on northern Gotland.

The formal part of the course will end at Saturday 7 August. The last week of the course 8-15 August, you can finish writing reports and a course evaluation. If you have already done that you can choose to use the days between 8 and 15 August for whatever activity you wish. Some of you may wish to return to China as soon as possible and some may wish to use these days for tourism activity on Gotland or somewhere else in Sweden. After admission to the course I wish to have information from all of you about your plans for the days between 8 and 15 August.

When you in April 2016 apply for a Visa to Sweden you shall include a letter from me that facilitates the process to get the Visa. In the letter I will inform about the course content and the course period. Since you will get a Visa for the period 25th July until 15th August you can use the last week for tourism without having a special tourist Visa.

Last day for application is 20th December 2015. The application should include your e-address, information about which program you study and a short letter of intention (reasons why you wish to study Nature and environment on Gotland).

Where you should send you application:

Students from Shandong University: Ass. Professor Zhang Shuping, School of Life Sciences (spzhang@sdu.edu.cn; +86-150-9896 1392). *Students from Nanjing University:* Ms. Hong Xingyu (hongyuxing@nju.edu.cn; +86-25-83593371). *Students from Yunnan University:* vice-Dean, School of Life Science, Chen Suiyun (chensuiyun@ynu.edu.cn; +86-871-6503 1491), or Dean, School of Ecology and Environmental Science, Duan Changqun (chqduan@ynu.edu.cn; +86-871-6503 2753). *Students from Nankai University:* Luan Jianhong, International Office (nkuaioe@gmail.com; +86-22-2350 8686). *Students from Sichuan University:* Xu Jing, International office (phoenixgirl213@163.com; +86-28-8546 8886), or Professor Sun Qun, head Dept. of Biotechnology (qunqunsun2002@yahoo.com.cn). *Students from Huaqiao University:* Professor Xu Ruian, Dean, School of Biomedical Sciences (ruianxu@hqu.edu.cn; +86-595-22690952), Professor Wang Shibin, College of Chemical Biology and School of Environmental Engineering (sbwang@hqu.edu.cn; +86-592 6162326), or Xu Tao, Director, School Office (swyxxy@hqu.edu.cn).

Information about admission will be given before 15th January 2016. Admitted students will in May 2016 get information from the course leaders about practical matters.

Please contact me (margareta.krabbe@ibg.uu.se) if you have questions about the course.

You are very welcome to the course!

Margareta Krabbe
Head of department
Biology Education Centre
Uppsala University

