



Topics in Molecular Biosciences, 10 credits

Obligatory course for PhD students at MBW

Obligatory for PhD students registered after 1st July 2017

Aims:

This course aims at providing:

- broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the subject area of “molecular biosciences”, defined as in the *General study programme for PhD studies in Molecular Bioscience*,
- insight into the research methodology that is used in different specific subject areas within molecular biosciences outside the student’s specific area of research,
- increased capacity to identify the need of knowledge in specific areas of research outside the student’s own specific area,
- understanding of the possibilities, limitations and societal impact of research in different specific areas within molecular biosciences.

These are some of the examination goals defined by *Högskoleförordningen* and included in the *General study programme for PhD studies in Molecular Bioscience*.

Realization:

- The students will participate in a series of discussion seminars.
- The course will run continuously with 3-weeks intervals (one discussion seminar every third week) and the students can start the course at any time during the year.
- Each seminar will be organized by one of the group leaders (GLs) at MBW and will cover the GL’s broad research area.
- In preparation for each discussion seminar, the GL in charge will select relevant scientific literature and will make it available to the students three weeks before the discussion.
- The scientific literature shall cover the GL’s research topic and will consist of review articles and/or book chapters (2-3 in total). Original research articles can occasionally be considered, but will generally be too specialized given that the purpose of this course is to provide broad knowledge.
- After having read the literature, the students will participate in a discussion session together with the GL.
- Each student shall take part in 15 discussion seminars to complete the course (see details on examination below).
- MBW recommends doctoral students to start this course during the second year of PhD studies.

- The course must be completed before the end of the third year of doctoral studies.
- All GLs at MBW will participate in the course on a rotation basis.

Examination and criteria for “passed”

Each student shall participate in 15 discussion seminars and get the grade “passed” in each of them to pass the course.

The 15 discussion seminars do not need to be the same for all the students.

For each student, the seminars should cover different specific areas within the three profile areas at MBW and should include research in different types of organisms and model systems (virus, bacteria, achaea or eukaryotes) according to the definition of "molecular biosciences" provided in our *General study programme for PhD studies in Molecular Bioscience*.

For each doctoral student, the discussion seminar that covers the own research topic cannot be included in the course (although all the students are welcome to attend all the discussion seminars).

The GL in charge of each discussion seminar will act as examiner for that particular seminar. Each seminar will normally be evaluated as follows:

- The students must have read the scientific literature provided by the GL.
- The students must attend and actively participate in the discussion.
- The students must show achievement of the course aims during the discussion.

Registration of credits

- Immediately after each discussion seminar, the GL in charge will send a list of “passed” students to the MBW Administration.
- After 15 passed seminars, the student will apply for the registration of the credits in Ladok using the form “Registration of credits for PhD studies”.