

Introduction to teaching Biology

Semester: Autumn 2026

Introduction to teaching Biology is a professional development course in higher education teaching and learning. The course offers an introductory, practice-oriented education aimed at postgraduate students and researchers with little or no experience of teaching, who work at Stockholm University within the Faculty of Science, Biology Section. The course requires two weeks full time studies, and is equivalent to 3 credits in higher education.

Participants who fulfil all course requirements are entitled to a course certificate.

Courses at the Centre for the Advancement of University Teaching (CeUL) are designed to strengthen the basic pedagogical competence required for academic teacher positions. Courses offered by CeUL are aligned with SUHF's, the Swedish association of higher education, national goals and recommendations regarding teaching competence. The courses are based on research on higher education pedagogy and discipline-based education research, as well as, collegial exchange of experience.

Aim and intended learning outcomes

This course aims to provide participants with an introduction to teaching in higher education as well as guidelines and policies for university teaching. The participant gets an opportunity to develop basic skills and confidence in higher education teaching within biology.

Upon completion, participants will be expected to:

- use core concepts of teaching and learning in higher education
- adhere to the relevant rules and regulations for teaching in Swedish higher education, in particular at Stockholm University
- plan a teaching session to be carried out on a relevant course
- reflect on their own conceptions of teaching and learning

Content and course activities

The course is conducted in the form of five mandatory full-day campus seminars.

The course consists of the following elements:

- Discipline based education; teaching and learning in biology
- Planning your teaching
- Assessment and feedback
- Roles, language, ethical issues and security aspects

Obligatory activities and attendance

Participation in all course meetings is obligatory. Absence from one of the five course days can be replaced by a written assignment. Any further absence requires re-registration for the entire course.

Participants who have completed all course days, exercises and tasks with a passing result will receive a course certificate. Course assignments are expected to be completed by participants without undue assistance from generative AI.

Participants with disabilities may request adapted course assignments if needed, in consultation with the course responsible well in advance of the course start.

Literature

The course literature will be announced at the start of the course.

Course leader/s

Veronica Flodin, senior lecturer, Department of Teaching and Learning
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(Course responsible)

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