

ForBio class at Skibotn Field Station, Tromsø University
Bio-8001 Biosystematics methods and biodiversity [http://en.uit.no/for-studiesokere/vis-emne?p_document_id=302008&ar=2012&semester=H]

Skibotn, Storfjord, Troms, North Norway, July 30 - August 4, 2012

Application: Please download a registration form (English version, please) from the following website:

http://uit.no/ansatte/organisasjon/artikkel?p_menu=42428&p_document_id=199684&p_dimension_id=88199

and send it to Sergei V. Drovetski (sdr002@uit.no)

Deadline: 15th of June 2012

Dates: July 30 - August 4, 2012

Language of instruction: English

Grade: Pass/Fail

Course materials: Identification literature for the practical part (for vascular plants the identification book is in Norwegian)

Course responsible/ contact person: Sergei V. Drovetski, sdr002@uit.no

Instructors: Reidar Elven (vascular plants; Natural History Museum, University of Oslo), Inger Greve Alsos (vascular plants, Tromsø Museum, University of Tromsø), Lars Söderström (bryophytes, NTNU), Sergei V. Drovetski (birds, Tromsø Museum, University of Tromsø), others pending confirmation.

Course objectives: to provide field experience for PhD students and post-docs in biosystematics within the fields of botany, ornithology, and possibly another discipline to be arranged, who want to gain increased knowledge of the species and data collection, specimen identification, and conservation for taxonomic research.

Course activities: The course extends over one week of intensive work, including daily field excursions, laboratory work, and seminars. For more details, see preliminary program below.

Required previous knowledge/course specific requirements: Master degree in zoology, botany, or similar disciplines. The course is primarily intended for PhD students and post-docs. However it is also open for other students and non-students.

Assessment: Performance during the practical parts of the course and a practical exam, which will be arranged on the last day of the course. The exam will consist of identification of specimens using keys and documenting the distinct morphological characters of the specimens that are used to classify it to taxa at different taxonomic levels.

Make sure to read additional information below the preliminary timetable

Preliminary timetable (subject to change)

Monday, July 30

11:30 Departure from Tromsø
13:45 Arrival to the Skibotn field station
13:45 - 14:15 Short tour of the station and room selection
14:45 - 16:45 First field excursion
17:00 - 18:00 Dinner
18:15 - 20:30 Seminar/Lab work

Tuesday, July 31

08:00 - 08:45 Breakfast
08:45 - 09:00 Brief introduction to today's excursion and destinations.
09:00 - 15:00 Field excursion, lunch in the field
15:00 Return to the Skibotn field station
15:15 - 16:45 Lab work
17:00 - 18:00 Dinner
18:15 - 20:30 Seminar/Lab work

Wednesday, August 1

08:00 - 08:45 Breakfast
08:45 - 09:00 Brief introduction to today's excursion and destinations.
09:00 - 16:30 Field excursion, lunch in the field
16:30 Return to the Skibotn field station
17:00 - 18:00 Dinner
18:15 - 20:30 Seminar/Lab work

Thursday, August 2

08:00 - 08:45 Breakfast
08:45 - 09:00 Brief introduction to today's excursion and destinations.
09:00 - 15:00 Field excursion, lunch in the field
15:00 Return to the Skibotn field station
15:15 - 16:45 Lab work
17:00 - 18:00 Dinner
18:15 - 20:30 Seminar/Lab work

Friday, August 3

08:00 - 08:45 Breakfast
08:45 - 09:00 Brief introduction to today's excursion and destinations.
09:00 - 15:00 Field excursion, lunch in the field
15:00 Return to the Skibotn field station
15:15 - 16:45 Lab work
17:00 - 18:00 Dinner
18:15 - 20:30 Seminar/Lab work

Saturday, August 4

08:00 - 09:00 Breakfast, moving out of living quarters
09:00 - 11:30 Exam
11:30 - 12:15 Lunch
12:15 - 14:15 Lab clean up

14:30 - Departure from the Skibotn field station

16:30 - Arrival to Tromsø (places in a hotel will be reserved for students that have to stay overnight)

Additional information

Course costs for ForBio members: No cost. The Norwegian-Swedish Research School in Biosystematics will cover course-related expenses (travel cost from home institution to Skibotn at lowest fare, accommodation and food during course provided by the station) for PhD students and post-docs enrolled at Norwegian or Swedish universities who have projects in biosystematics or related topics and are ForBio members. To apply for ForBio membership please visit our membership page:

<http://www.forbio.uio.no/membership/>

If you are unsure if you qualify for this grant, do not hesitate to ask.

Master students in biosystematics also can register for this course, but PhD students have a priority if the course fills up.

Terms for reimbursement: For travel reimbursement you will have to fill out the standard Norwegian travel form and submit it with all receipts. We will give you instructions on how to fill out this form. For the travel we will cover your accommodation and transportation expenses. You must order flight tickets within 4 days after you receive confirmation from us; this is to get access to the cheapest tickets possible. Other types of transportation (bus, trains, etc.) that can be pre-booked, should also be booked as early as possible. All who need to stay overnight at Oslo Airport on the way to or from the course, must contact us. We will place you in double rooms for keeping costs low.

Information for non-students interested in biosystematics (researchers, nature consultants, etc.): Persons with a genuine interest in biosystematics who want to participate in this course without taking the exam, first have to register as ForBio associates (please visit ForBio membership page (<http://www.forbio.uio.no/membership/>)). After registration as ForBio associate, please download a registration form (English version, please) from the following website:

http://uit.no/ansatte/organisasjon/artikkel?p_menu=42428&p_document_id=199684&p_dimension_id=88199

and send it to Sergei V. Drovetski by e-mail to sdr002@uit.no. The deadline is the same as for ForBio members: 15 June 2012.

Course costs for ForBio associates: ForBio associates will have to cover the following expenses: travel to and from Tromsø (arranged by themselves), travel between Tromsø and Skibotn and transportation during course (total of 1000 nok), stay at Skibotn Station (includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner; 285 nok per person/day = 1700 nok). If you wish to rent linens, it is additional 55 nok per person/day = 330 nok. Evening snack is also available for additional 55 nok per person/day.

Please, also be aware that the University insurance does not cover your participation, so make sure you have insurance privately or through your company that allows ordinary fieldwork. Let us know if you arrange your own transportation to and/or from the Skibotn field station. This will reduce the cost for your participation. We will send you an invoice shortly after registration.

Course logistics: The course will be based at the Skibotn Field Station [http://uit.no/publikum/prosjekter/prosjekt?p_document_id=220199]. There will be field excursions every day from Monday to Friday. We will have breakfast at 8 AM, bring lunch to the field, return to the station before 5 PM, have dinner, and then have evening sessions in the laboratory. Students are expected to bring their own handheld magnifying glass and/or binoculars. Feel free to bring your own other equipment, books, etc.

Clothing: We can expect all kinds of weather, from temperatures near freezing during the day in the mountains, to pleasant 25°C in the lowlands. So bring clothing for all kinds of weather including rubber boots. Mosquito repellents/nets can come in handy.

Meals: The food is ordinary Norwegian meals. For breakfast you have a choice of bread with various types of spreads and cereals with milk. Dinners are everyday meals (for example fish burgers, meat balls, schnitzels – almost always served with boiled potatoes and vegetables). Let us know about any requirements for special diet. If you want to have coffee or tea with you in the field, you must bring your own thermos