

ForBio course: Subarctic terrestrial field course at Kevo, Finland

Time: July 4 - July 11, 2014 (arrival on July 3)

Place: Kevo Subarctic Research Institute, Finland (<http://www.utu.fi/en/units/cerut/Pages/home.aspx>)

Application deadline: 12.5.

Grading and credits: Pass/Fail, 2 ECTS

Level: PhD-level course

Language of instruction: English

Maximum number of students: ~30

Contact person: Aino Hosia (aino.hosia@um.uib.no)

Course content:

This field course in northern subarctic Finland will provide PhD students and postdocs in biosystematics with field experience, species identification skills and taxonomic methods relevant for their chosen group. As this is an advanced course, we will have parallel working groups concentrating on the following taxa: Lichens, bryophytes, vascular plants and insects. **Participants are requested to state which group they wish to study during the course in their course application!** Teaching will take place in small groups, with a special emphasis on specialist-lead daily field excursions to visit different habitats and collect material, and subsequent identification sessions at the station. On day one, introductory lectures on the area and the different taxa to be studied will be given. In addition to visiting biotopes in the vicinity of the station, we will have a day trip to the Norwegian coast. At the end of the course, results from the different groups will be summarized and presented in plenary, as well as compiled in a written report.

A more detailed course program will be sent to participants prior to course start. In case of questions, please contact Aino Hosia (aino.hosia@um.uib.no).

Special requirements:

Master's degree in zoology, botany or similar discipline. The course is primarily aimed at PhD students and postdocs working with biosystematics, but is also open for other students and non-students for whom it's relevant.

Please take into account that some level of physical fitness is required to participate in the daily field excursions!

Instructors:

Lichens: Kimmo Jääskeläinen

Bryophytes: Sanna Huttunen (University of Turku); Kimmo Syrjänen (Finnish Environment Institute)

Vascular plants: Heidi Solstad (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Reidar Elven (University of Oslo)

Insects: Jostein Kjærandsen (University of Tromsø)

Assessment:

The course is graded as pass/fail. Assessment will be based on student performance during the course. Depending on the group, students will also have to submit their identification notes and a course journal and/or prepare an insect collection or herbarium.

Locality:

Kevo research station is situated by Lake Kevojärvi, in the commune of Utsjoki, the northernmost municipality in Finnish Lapland. It lies about 60 km north of the continuous pine forest line and belongs to the subarctic or forest tundra zone, a birch subzone of the boreal coniferous forest. Most of the country is mountain birch (*Betula pubescens* ssp. *czerepanowii*) forest, while areas lying above 300-350 m are low treeless alpine heaths. Draft shrubs and vegetation rich in lichens and mosses are typical. Around the research station, however, there is an isolated pine forest which follows the Utsjoki and Kevojoki river valleys. In the vicinity of the station the topography is varied; the vegetation includes bogs, luxuriant woods, riverbanks, cliffs and the meadows which surround some of the Sami farmhouses. Most of the main biotopes are quite easy to reach. The station lies in the immediate vicinity of the Kevo strict nature reserve, a popular backpacking destination.

Please see the station website at <http://www.utu.fi/en/units/cerut/Pages/home.aspx> for more information.

Equipment:

You should bring clothing and shoes suitable for hiking in all kinds of weather and a small back bag for the daily excursions. Temperatures can be highly variable, from close to freezing to well over 20°C. Also be prepared for rain. A hat and mosquito repellent/net can come in handy.

Bring your own hand lens. You are also encouraged to bring a GPS (if you happen to have one) and relevant literature. Also bring other equipment you think you might need: camera, binoculars, drinking bottle, thermos for warm drinks etc. Remember that we will be on field excursions during the day! Please also note that there are limited opportunities to purchase things while on location – remember to take with you what you will need in terms of medication and other personal items.

Travel:

Due to the timing of the connections to Kevo (see below) most of you will probably be arriving late in the evening: I therefore suggest you arrive on Thursday (July 3rd) so that we can start the course on Friday the 4th. It is also possible to arrive a day early.

The buses to Kevo are operated by Eskelisen Lapin Linjat and Gold Line – timetables are searchable at <http://www.matkahuolto.fi/en/>. However, the most realistic option for most of you arriving from the south is on the Eskelinen route leaving 17.00 from the Rovaniemi railway station, the timetable for which is attached. There are several options for reaching this bus: You can either fly or take the train to Rovaniemi and take the bus all the way from there, or you can fly to Ivalo and catch the bus there later in the evening. Please note that since there is just a single daily flight from Helsinki to Ivalo, the Rovaniemi option might in fact be faster and cheaper. The Kevo bus stop is before Utsjoki (it's not shown in the timetable), the bus will be there at ca. 23.20.

Busses from Kevo leave at around 5.40 (Eskelinen, to Rovaniemi via Ivalo) and 12.20 (Gold Line, to Ivalo). Course ends at noon on Friday, July 11th.

It is also possible to arrive via Kirkenes: The timetable for bus no. 215 from Kirkenes to Hammerfest can be found here: <http://177finnmark.no/Rutetabeller/buss>. You will have to get off the bus on the stop closest to Utsjoki (between Sirma / Sirbmá and Levajok / Leavvajohka in the timetable). NB: The bus only runs on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday and leaves Kirkenes already at 8.05 a.m.! Let me know if you choose this option, so we can arrange further transport to the station for you. Consult the link above for return timetables via Kirkenes.

We request that you make travel arrangements within 10 days after receiving confirmation of a place in order to have access to cheaper flights. Please check the different options in order to find a reasonable price, and keep me posted on your travel arrangements so I can book accommodation and meals for you!

Accommodation and meals:

Accommodation will be in shared rooms at the station. Bed linen and towels are included. Meals will be provided, please let us know of any special dietary requirements in the application form!

More information about accommodation at the station can be found at <http://www.utu.fi/en/units/cerut/Pages/home.aspx> .

Cost:

There is no course fee.

ForBio will cover its members' course-related travel costs from their home University by bus/train/air (economy class; no taxi or private cars). Please remember to keep all receipts, tickets and boarding passes, as you need to present these in order to get your travel costs reimbursed! Meals and accommodation will also be covered for ForBio members. Information on how to make the travel reimbursement claim will be given to participants.

ForBio associates have to cover travel, accommodation and meals themselves. See link to price list on ForBio website, course announcement.

Insurance:

Please note that you will not be insured through ForBio. Make sure that you have insurance covering travel and basic field work either through your home institute or privately.

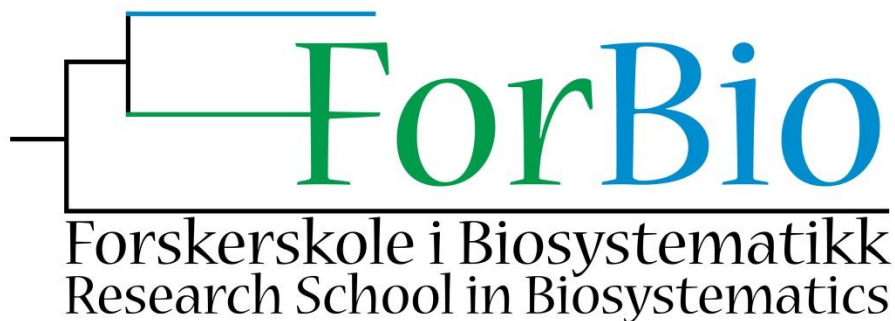
Admission:

The **application deadline is 12.5.**

Please follow the following procedure:

1. Register as ForBio member or associate (if not already registered) at <http://www.forbio.uio.no/membership/>
2. Send a completed course registration form (see link on ForBio website, course announcement) by email to Aino Hosia (aino.hosia@um.uib.no). **Remember to include which group (lichens, bryophytes, vascular plants or insects) you wish to participate in!**

The course is organized and funded by the Research School in Biosystematics (ForBio), and ForBio members have priority. ForBio associates can participate but have to cover their travel and stay. See <http://www.forbio.uio.no/> for more information.





ROVANIEMI – SODANKYLÄ – UTSJOKI – SKIPAGURRA –

Rovaniemi railway station
Rovaniemi bus station
Rovaniemi airport*

NB! The bus only stops at Rovaniemi airport if pre-ordered: call +358-400-299840. The bus does not wait for flights arriving after 17:25.

				13.9.-31.5.	1.6.-12.9.	
				Pika M-S	Pika K, To, P, S	Pika M-S
Rovaniemi rautatieasema	Rovaniemi rautatieasema	km	17.00	17.00	17.00	
Rovaniemi linja-autoasema	Rovaniemi linja-autoasema		17.20	17.20	17.20	
Rovakadunpää pys.		1	x	x	x	
Rovaniemi lentoasema	Rovaniemi lentoasema	9	T ⁽⁷⁾	T ⁽⁷⁾	T ⁽⁷⁾	
Napapiiri, 4-tien pysäkki		11	x	x	x	
Vikajärvi		28	x	x	x	
Alanampa		40	x	x	x	
Ylinampa		48	x	x	x	
Tiainen		60	x	x	x	
Käyrämö		70	x	x	x	
Raudanjoki th.		79	18.17	18.17	18.17	
Vuojärvi		90	x	x	x	
Torvinen		102	x	x	x	
Aska		113	x	x	x	
Sodankylä		130	19.00	19.00	19.00	
Sodankylä			19.15	19.15	19.15	
Kersilö		151	x	x	x	
Vuotso		221	20.15	20.15	20.15	
Tankavaara th.		232	x	x	x	
Kakslauttanen**		252	x	x	x	
Laanila, pys. **		258	x	x	x	
Saariselkä, Holiday Club pys.			20.45	20.45	20.45	
Saariselkä, Hotel Tunturi		262	20.40	20.40	20.40	
Hotelli Ivalo**			x	x	x	
Ivalo		293	21.15	21.15	21.15	
Ivalo			21.30	21.30	21.30	
Inari, Hotelli Inari		333	22.00	22.00	22.00	
Inari, Hotelli Inari				22.00	22.00	
Kaamanen, Kievari th.		362		22.20	22.20	
Utsjoki, (Uulan säästö)		458		23.35	23.35	
Utsjoki, (Uulan säästö)				23.45	23.45	
Nuorgam		501		0.25	0.25	
Suomen/Norjan raja (Suomen aika)		506		0.30	0.30	
Polmak		508		x	x	
Skipagurra (Norjan aika)		526		x	x	
Tana bru, Elva Hotel		531		23.55	23.55	
					1.6.-22.8.	
Tana bru,		531			M-S	
Varangerbotn		553			x	
Vadsø, Statoil		596			0.55	

Kevo Research Station ca. 23:20 →

Vuorot ajetaan mainittaina viikonpäivinä juhlapyhistä riippumatta. Poikkeus: Juhannuksena 20.6.14 ei ajeta Rovaniemi-Inari-Vadsø eikä 21.6.14 Vadsø-Inari-Rovaniemi. Jouluna ajetaan 24-25.12. Rovaniemi-Inari ja 25-26.12. Inari-Rovaniemi. Pääsiäisenä ajetaan lisävuoro Inari-Tanabru maanantaina (21.4.2014) ja Tanabru-Inari tiistaina (22.4.2014).
x = Pysähtyy tarvittaessa T = Poikkeaa tarvittaessa.
** = Pysäkki valtatie E75 varrella hotellin edustalla. 6) = Vie tarvittaessa Lapin keskussairaalalle.
7) = Poikkeaa tilattaessa. Tilaukset ennakkoon numeroomme 0400-299840 (ei odota klo 17.25 jälkeen saapuvia lentoja). Puhelin autoon 0400-395041.