



## **Hello and welcome to the Wildlife Biology Course at Grimsö Wildlife Research Station!**

**Below you will find some information that we hope will be helpful as you prepare for the course.**

The course starts on **Monday August 29 at 10:00** in “Loftsalen,” the large lecture hall at Grimsö. The final day of the course is Thursday 31 October. During the course, most days will be scheduled from 8:30 to 16:30. However, we will sometimes start before 08:30 and/or run past 16:30 depending on the day’s activities. Lectures will be mixed with more practical activities like field trips and group projects. You will also likely need to spend some time studying or working on projects during the evenings and weekends.

**Arriving at Grimsö:** You are welcome to arrive the day before the course starts (Sunday, August 28). Please note that there is no public transportation to Grimsö. If you are coming by bus or train, we can pick you up in Lindesberg or Skinnskatteberg, which are the nearest towns with train stations. You are also encouraged to drive your own car if you have one. There is free parking at Grimsö, and the directions provided by Google Maps are correct. Please remember to let us know when you arrive so that someone can pick you up or greet you at Grimsö. If you are coming by car, maps are also attached.

**Address:** Grimsö Wildlife Research Station (in Swedish: “Grimsö forskningsstation”), Grimsö 152, 730 91 Riddarhyttan.

**Accommodation:** There is student housing at the Grimsö manor, where students will live in shared rooms (2 students per room), with shared bathrooms. Sheets and blankets are included in your rooms, so you don’t need to bring your own. Please note that space in the rooms is limited.

There is a kitchen with fridges, a freezer, a stove, and oven in a nearby building where students can prepare food, but please be aware that the kitchen is shared by all students. Also, during shorter periods there will be people attending other courses hosted at Grimsö, and these course participants may also use the cooking facilities.

At the manor house, there is a TV, wireless internet, and microwave ovens. In the nearby office building, there are washers and dryers for laundry, and a sauna that is available for students to use. Students are responsible for cleaning their own rooms, common living areas, cooking facilities and laundry room during the course, as well as washing their sheets if need be during the course. There is a schedule for the laundry room, and students can sign up for specific time slots.

**Cost for accommodation: 4 900 SEK** for the whole course. Please note that this is a package cost for the whole course so if you miss a few days here and there they will still be charged the price above. You can pay the fee for your room anytime during the course using credit card or swish.

Please bring your food for at least the first night and morning if you arrive the day before the course starts. There is nowhere to buy food at Grimsö on the weekends!

Please be aware that Grimsö is in a remote area, and there are no stores nearby. The closest convenience store and gas station are located in Riddarhyttan, which is 15 km away. There are a number of grocery stores and other shops in Lindesberg (30 km from Grimsö, see below). There is no transportation to these towns, and students will be responsible for organizing trips to town among themselves. This is usually not a problem, as there are usually a few students who bring cars. If you are undecided regarding whether to bring your own car, we would recommend it.

**Lunch:** Students can prepare their own lunch in the shared kitchen, or purchase lunch from the restaurant at the manor on weekdays. The restaurant does not serve breakfast or dinner.

The restaurant at the Grimsö manor serves lunch on work days (i.e. Monday – Friday) for 104 **SEK per lunch (or 10 lunches for 1000 SEK)**. One main dish is prepared each day, with salad and bread on the side. The manor restaurant cannot consider special food requirements (i.e. vegetarian or food allergies) each day. Vegetarian dishes are sometimes prepared, and the lunch menu for each day is available the previous week.

If you want to eat lunch at the restaurant occasionally, please sign up for the 'single lunch package' before the course starts. There will be a weekly lunch menu available where students can book single lunches one week in advance. Every month, you pay for the number of lunches that you have booked.

If you want to eat lunch at the Grimsö restaurant every day, you can sign up for the 'lunch package' before the course starts (includes lunches for ALL days scheduled at Grimsö). The lunch bill is paid every month (i.e. 104 \* the number of days scheduled at Grimsö.) Please note there is no 'package price' for lunches since there are excursions planned for the course (where we will be away the whole day and hence not eat lunch at Grimsö). There is no discount for booking the lunch package.

**Pets:** There are a limited number of rooms in cabins close to the manor in which dogs are allowed (2 beds in each room – please note that the rooms are shared by owners and dogs, and space is limited!). Please contact me if you are interested in bringing your dog to the course – these rooms are booked on a first-come, first-served basis, and once they are full, we are not able to accommodate additional dogs. Please note that the dogs are only allowed in the designated cabins, and not in the manor, lecture halls, office building or kitchen. No other pets are allowed.

**We have some questions that I would like you to reply to (by e-mail) as soon as possible:**

1. Confirm that you have received this information
2. Confirm that you will participate in the course (*not needed if you have already responded to the question from Jens*)
3. Whether you plan to live at Grimsö manor during the course
4. Whether you plan to eat lunch at the Grimsö manor restaurant during the course (i.e. sign up for the 'lunch package' or the 'single lunch package').
5. Provide your arrival information, including flights and train information, or approximate arrival time if driving

**Course literature:** We will use book chapters and scientific articles as course literature. The literature will be provided at course start and during the course.

**Suggested things to bring:** Rain gear, rubber boots or heavy hiking boots, warm clothes, small back pack, compass, binoculars, and thermos. Bring your own computer, notebooks and pens, etc. If you have a car, we suggest you bring it – it will be handy for some parts of the course (you will get compensated for the driving you do for course activities) and your own errands (e.g. shopping groceries).

**Studentkåren (student union):** Ultuna studentkår can be reached at [uls\\_kans@stud.slu.se](mailto:uls_kans@stud.slu.se) or 018-67 11 14.

**Post office, grocery stores, etc:** Mail is delivered to Grimsö on weekdays. There are post offices and banks in Lindesberg (ca 30 km south from Grimsö). In Lindesberg, you will also find grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, pharmacies, a library, swimming hall, gym, and movie theater. There is also a small grocery store and a gas station in Riddarhyttan (ca 15 km north from Grimsö).

**Spare time:** There is a nice lake to go for a swim about 1.5 km SW of the station and you can fish in Sörmogen and Sverkestaån nearby Grimsö (you don't need a fishing license for the part of Sörmogen that is closest to the research station – in other parts of the lake and Sverkestaån you need a license – "Sveafiskekortet"). We play floor hockey ("innebandy") in Lindesberg on Wednesday evenings (18:30-20:00) so bring your athletic gear if you want to join! There are also great opportunities to pick berries or mushrooms nearby the station and nice trails for running, or hiking etc.

**Tuition fee for non-EU/EEA/Switzerland citizens:** Please note that your acceptance to the course is conditional on paying the tuition fee – your final acceptance to the course will not be complete until you have paid your tuition – please contact student affairs at 018-67 28 00 or [studexp.ultuna@slu.se](mailto:studexp.ultuna@slu.se) for questions about tuition fees – we have nothing to do with tuition fees but are required to remind you that your final acceptance will not be complete until you pay your tuition. Paying tuition applies to all students who do not hold an EU passport.

See the student website for details and a preliminary schedule (that will be posted soon): <https://www.slu.se/en/education/programmes-courses/courses/?sprak=en&anmkod=10099.1819>.

**We look forward to seeing you at Grimsö!**

**Jens Persson**

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