

Docent Lectures at the Faculty of Science, Stockholm University

The docent lecture is a teaching examination (not a scientific seminar) to demonstrate the candidate's ability to conduct teaching of the highest quality. The lecture is given after the scientific evaluation is completed and approved. The title of the lecture is proposed by the Head of Department in consultation with the lecturer and, is approved by the representative of the evaluation group. The choice of teaching method is up to the candidate; the length of the lecture shall be 45 minutes and should be held in Swedish or English. The content should correspond to a lecture in a second-cycle course. The topic for the lecture can well be an overview over an existing, or possible course, freely with connection to the lecturer's own research.¹

The representative of the evaluation group is chair of the docent lecture. The representative of the evaluation group initiating the lecture with a presentation of herself/himself and a presentation of the lecturer, informs of the form for a docent lecture, that it will be for 45 minutes and that it will be time for questions afterwards.

The docent lecture is a unique opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their teaching skills to colleagues in their section. Serious preparation by a researcher at the level of associate professor typically results in approval. However, if the lecture is considered poorly prepared or otherwise inadequate, it will not be approved. Thus, we want to emphasise that the lecture is a genuine test, not just a formality.

After the lecture, the attending member of the evaluation group obtain considerations from the relevant professor and director(s) of studies, appointed by the Head of Department. The member of the evaluation group decides if the lecture is approved/not approved and writes a report, which is to be sent to the Faculty of Science Office. The Dean of the Faculty will shortly thereafter appoint the candidate as docent.

¹ This includes the natural sciences, mathematics and teaching methods within these fields.