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# Master's degree



### Overview

Degree	Master of Science
Teaching language	• English
Languages	All obligatory and the majority of optional courses are held in English (less than 10% in German). Participants write the Master's thesis in English.
Full-time / part-time	• full-time
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter and summer semester
Application deadline	The application deadline is usually 15 August for the winter semester and 15 February for the summer semester. www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No

#### Description/content

#### Study focus

The research-oriented Master's programme (MSc) in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation (EEC) is rooted in organismal biology, i.e. it deals holistically with "entire" organisms, their mutual interactions, and their relationship to the abiotic environment. Offered modules range from theoretical foundations of ecology and evolution to their applications in, e.g. sustainability research or species conservation. In addition to conveying the current state of knowledge in the various specialist areas, a broad range of laboratory, experimental, and field observational methods as well as computer-aided modelling are in the focus of your education. Small teaching groups allow for early and individual contact with the broadly trained lecturers and tutors.

#### Study objectives

The programme aims to teach you a scientific way of thinking as well as the mastery of modern methods in ecology, evolutionary research, and nature conservation. In addition, you will acquire scientific foundations that will enable you to recognise both interrelationships and mechanisms in

organisms and ecological systems. You will learn how to apply this knowledge across disciplines.

The programme equips you to successfully conquer the competitive scientific job market or for continuing your further academic education with a suitable PhD programme of your choice. A Master's degree in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation qualifies you for independent activities in academic research, or a position in (inter-)national authorities and administrative bodies as well as in companies and organisations in applied ecology, e.g. planning offices, environmental associations, or freelance projects.

### **Course Details**

#### Course organisation

The curriculum is subdivided into individual modules, which are in turn composed of individual courses (lectures, seminars, practical courses, and excursions). During the first two semesters, we aim to balance the level of knowledge of all students in the three main topics of ecology, evolution, and nature conservation. We also highly value a solid deepening of existing skills in the areas of experimental design, data collection and statistics, where profound methodological competence will be essential for all fields of activity of our graduates.

The programme comprises the two compulsory modules one and two, which teach you the state of the art in ecology, evolution, and conservation as well as methods for experimental design, data acquisition, handling, and analysis (e.g. statistics). Based on these solid foundations, we offer a broad range of elective modules, which can be assembled according to individual interests. In doing so, we increasingly rely on intellectual freedom and individual self-responsibility in the compilation of the modules and the specialisation each student strives to achieve. Students conduct their own practical research project in a specialisation module before they complete their degree with the Master's thesis.

## A Diploma supplement will be issued

Yes

#### International elements

- International guest lecturers
- Specialist literature in other languages

# Course-specific, integrated German language courses

No

Course-specific, integrated English language courses

No

### Costs / Funding

# Tuition fees per semester in EUR

None

#### Semester contribution

No tuition is charged for studying at the University of Potsdam (with the exception of a few continuing education courses). There is only an administrative fee of currently 292 EUR. This semester contribution includes the "Deutschland-Semester-Ticket" entitling you to free use of local public transport all over Germany.

#### Costs of living

The average monthly living expenditures of students at the University of Potsdam are 935 EUR, but

this can vary between 600 and 1,100 EUR, largely depending on accommodation. A more detailed list of the average monthly expenditures of our students can be found here.

Funding opportunities within the university

No

### **Requirements / Registration**

# Academic admission requirements

In general, the prerequisite for admission to a Master's programme is a first professionally qualifying academic degree, e.g. a Bachelor's degree. More specifically, you should have obtained your first degree in mathematics, biology, or the natural sciences, or in science-oriented degree programmes in environmental sciences, agricultural sciences, forestry, or geosciences.

For details, see the official admission requirements at www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master.html.

Language requirements

English: B2, German: A2

Application deadline

The application deadline is usually 15 August for the winter semester and 15 February for the summer semester.

www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master

Submit application to

www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master/consecutive

### **Services**

Possibility of finding parttime employment Job opportunities for students alongside their studies are numerous. Depending on personal and professional skills, students can find jobs in the service sector (e.g. in restaurants, supermarkets, cinemas, museums, theatres, etc.) or work as student research assistants at the University of Potsdam or at one of the many non-university research institutions located in the area. Berlin, the capital city of Germany, is located just around the corner, and students can also find jobs there. Please see this website for further information.

#### Accommodation

There are several student dormitories in Potsdam. These are administered exclusively by Potsdam's Association for Student Affairs ("Studentenwerk Potsdam"). You can apply for a room in one of these dormitories if you are under the age of 30. If you are a Master's student, you can only apply if the degree at the University of Potsdam is your first Master's programme. Additionally, there are also a few private dormitories in Potsdam, to which these conditions do not apply. However, many students prefer to find an apartment in Potsdam or Berlin, which they often share with fellow students. The housing market is very tight, so please start looking for an accommodation as early as possible.

For information on how to register for a dorm room or find accommodation elsewhere, please click here.

#### Career advisory service

The Career Service of the University of Potsdam supports students and graduates who want to actively shape their careers. The aim is to ensure comprehensive career orientation and to provide opportunities for the development of professional skills. The Career Service offers workshops, seminars, and individual counselling. There are information pages on a wide range of occupational

fields as well as a database of internships and jobs. Many of the services are also available in English.

# Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Welcome event
- Tutors
- Specialist counselling
- Buddy programme
- Visa matters

General services and support for international students and doctoral candidates

https://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/international/contact/io

#### **Contact**

#### **University of Potsdam**

Institute of Biochemistry and Biology

PD Dr Thilo Heinken

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Tel. +49 3319774854

- Course website: https://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/meec/index
- f https://www.facebook.com/unipotsdam
- https://twitter.com/unipotsdam
- in https://www.linkedin.com/school/university-of-potsdam/
- https://www.instagram.com/unipotsdam/

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### International Programmes in Germany - Database

www.daad.de/international-programmes www.daad.de/sommerkurse

#### Editor

DAAD - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst e.V. German Academic Exchange Service Section K23 – Information on Studying in Germany Kennedyallee 50 D-53175 Bonn www.daad.de

#### **GATE-Germany**

Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing www.gate-germany.de

#### Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

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