



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree



## Biology

Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg • Oldenburg

## Overview

Degree	Master of Science
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	Courses are held in English. The Master's thesis must be written in the English language.
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>full-time</li></ul>
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Additional information on beginning, duration and mode of study	<p>This Master's programme cannot be studied online.</p> <p>Courses start yearly in mid-October. For international students, it is highly recommended to arrive in Oldenburg by 1 October and take part in the international orientation week (first week in October) and the programme-specific orientation week for first semester biology students (second week in October).</p>
Application deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>General application deadline: 15 June for the following winter semester</li><li>We appreciate earlier applications from international applicants (e.g. by 15 April) because applications via uni-assist need additional processing time.</li><li>Application deadline for entry into higher semesters: 15 July and 15 January</li></ul>
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	<p>The Biology Master's degree programme is a research-oriented course of studies that aims to provide in-depth training in the techniques and methods used in modern biology and related fields. The course of studies enables students to create a clear specialisation profile in the areas of biodiversity, ecology and evolution as well as neurobiology, molecular and cellular biology and genetics. The course of studies lays the groundwork for PhD work and thus forms the basis of education for the next generation of academics in the institute of biology and environmental sciences.</p>

The programme takes an interdisciplinary approach necessary for adequately conveying the complexity of biological sciences. It thus prepares students to work independently in industry, business, research or at other private or public institutions. Students acquire in-depth, interdisciplinary knowledge of mathematics and biological systems spanning the molecular and organism levels. The programme uses a methodological and practical approach to enable students to conduct independent research in accordance with scientific and ethical standards and to interpret and present research results appropriately. The international nature of the scientific community demands not only sound knowledge of subject matter but also well-developed communication skills, especially in English. Structured, hypothesis-driven thinking, communication skills and social competences form the basis of successful professional practice.

The Master's degree programme in Biology has the following learning outcomes:

- in-depth biological expertise
- in-depth knowledge of biological working methods
- data analysis skills
- interdisciplinary thinking
- critical and analytical thinking
- independent research and knowledge of scientific literature
- ability to perform independent biological research
- data presentation and discussion in German and English (written and spoken)
- teamwork
- ethical and professional behaviour
- project and time management
- statistics and scientific programming

Reasons for studying biology in Oldenburg:

- **Flexible:** individual study plans, no mandatory courses, wide range of biology modules, optional choice of courses from related MSc programmes (e.g. Landscape Ecology, Marine Environmental Sciences, Neuroscience or Molecular Biomedicine)
- **Intensive:** block courses with a focus on one topic at a time
- **Hands-on:** Almost all courses include lab time or field trips and fieldwork.
- **Science-oriented:** individual student projects in research groups
- **Personal:** small groups, close contact to teachers and scientists
- **Future perspectives in Oldenburg:** graduate school, collaborative research projects

## Course Details

### Course organisation

The programme takes two years to achieve 120 credit points (CP). A Master's thesis (30 CP) is mandatory. Courses can be selected according to your individual preferences of topics and types of modules:

#### 1) Background Modules (min. 24 CP)

Background Modules convey general knowledge on biological topics. Modules take place in three to seven week blocks (between 6 and 15 CP) and usually consist of a lecture, seminar and internship with 8 to 20 participating students.

#### 2) Research Modules (min. 15 CP)

Research Modules consist of individual research projects which, depending on students' choice of supervisor, take place in either a working group at the University of Oldenburg or in an external research organisation. During the research project, students work with a specific research question for six to seven weeks (15 CP). The individual nature of this module allows students to practice independent academic work, including experimental techniques, working with academic literature and presenting results. This module prepares students to begin the Master's Thesis Module (30 CP) at the conclusion of their studies which includes a substantial research project and a colloquium.

#### 3) Skills Modules

Skills Modules (6 or 3 CP) serve to support the development of practical skills and take place in

courses with up to 24 students. Topics include various biological working techniques, academic English and bioethics.

#### 4) Elective studies (max. 30 CP)

30 CP can be chosen from other relevant programmes (e.g. Landscape Ecology, Marine Environmental Sciences, Neuroscience, Informatics, Hearing Technology and Audiology) or from courses offered by other universities in Germany or abroad. Modules stemming from outside the MSc Biology programme should be relevant to the rest of the course of studies and must be approved by the examination board.

For further details or examples of different individual curricula, please visit our website: <https://uol.de/en/biology/studies/master-of-science-biology>.

» [PDF Download](#)

A Diploma supplement will be issued	Yes
Special promotion / funding of the programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ERASMUS+</li></ul>
Course-specific, integrated German language courses	No
Course-specific, integrated English language courses	Yes

## Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Semester contribution	Approx. 400 EUR per semester
Costs of living	You should expect to spend about 950 EUR per month to cover personal expenses (accommodation, health insurance, food).
Funding opportunities within the university	No

## Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A Bachelor's degree in biology or a related field (e.g. behavioural biology, biodiversity, ecology, evolutionary biology, molecular genomics, neurobiology, sensory biology, among others)</li></ol> <p>OR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2. A Bachelor's degree in which at least 50% of the credit points or equivalent were in biology or a related field</li></ol> <p>In both cases, the Bachelor's must be completed or missing a maximum of 30 credit points (or the equivalent in a non-ECTS system).</p>
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<b>Language requirements</b>	English (level B2) Refer to admissions regulations for details.
<b>Application deadline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General application deadline: 15 June for the following winter semester</li> <li>• We appreciate earlier applications from international applicants (e.g. by 15 April) because applications via uni-assist need additional processing time.</li> <li>• Application deadline for entry into higher semesters: 15 July and 15 January</li> </ul>
<b>Submit application to</b>	<p>German applicants: <a href="https://uol.de/studium/bewerben">https://uol.de/studium/bewerben</a></p> <p>International applicants (EU and non-EU): <a href="https://www.uni-assist.de/en/how-to-apply/">https://www.uni-assist.de/en/how-to-apply/</a></p> <p>Universität Oldenburg c/o uni-assist e.V. 11507 Berlin Germany</p>

## Services

<b>Possibility of finding part-time employment</b>	Students are permitted to work alongside their studies. If you are a student from a non-EU country, you are allowed to work 120 full days or 240 half days per year.
<b>Accommodation</b>	Information and support is provided by the International Office of University of Oldenburg: <a href="https://uol.de/en/io">https://uol.de/en/io</a> .
<b>Career advisory service</b>	General career advisory service by the university
<b>Support for international students and doctoral candidates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome event</li> <li>• Buddy programme</li> <li>• Specialist counselling</li> </ul>
<b>General services and support for international students and doctoral candidates</b>	Individual advice from the programme coordinator
<b>Supervisor-student ratio</b>	Students of this rather small programme (25 students per year) can choose research projects offered by more than 30 local supervisors. All background and skills modules are taught in small groups (usually between six and 20 students).

# Contact

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📘 <https://www.facebook.com/UniversitaetOldenburg/>

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📷 <https://www.instagram.com/accounts/login/?next=/uni.oldenburg/>

📺 <https://www.youtube.com/user/UniversityOldenburg>

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# International Programmes in Germany - Database

[www.daad.de/international-programmes](http://www.daad.de/international-programmes)  
[www.daad.de/sommerkurse](http://www.daad.de/sommerkurse)

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Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing  
[www.gate-germany.de](http://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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