

DISCOVER THE
FOUNDATIONS OF
BIODIVERSITY
FROM ECOSYSTEMS
TO GENOMES

# MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSC) IN BEHAVIOUR, EVOLUTION AND CONSERVATION

# **GENERAL OUTLINE**

# **Objectives**

The Master of Science in Behaviour, Evolution and Conservation is for students who wish to deepen their knowledge in ecology, behavioural ecology, evolutionary biology and conservation biology, as well as to develop relevant technical, quantitative and research management skills.

Students' personal research projects account for 50% of the credits towards the degree, chosen from a diverse range of projects that may involve field work, laboratory experiments, genomics, computation or modelling, in a broad range of animal, plant and microbial systems.

## **Career prospects**

This programme offers a unique combination of advanced quantitative skills and knowledge of processes that shape biological diversity.

This opens the way for many careers, including in:

- Academic research
- Museums
- Conservation non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
- Governmental research stations and offices
- Public services for environmental protection
  - Private applied ecology or genetic service companies
- Public health
- Biology education

Other examples of opportunities and alumni's profiles:

www.unil.ch > Study > Transition to employment

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

# Organiser

School of Biology, Faculty of Biology and Medicine: www.unil.ch/ecoledebiologie

#### Degree awarded

Master of Science (MSc) in Behaviour, Evolution and Conservation

# **ECTS** credits

120

# Duration

4 semesters

# Teaching language

English. Recommended level: C1.

#### Contact

École de Biologie Quartier UNIL-Sorge Amphipôle CH–1015 Lausanne Tél. +41 (0)21 692 40 10 biologie-etudiants@unil.ch

# **Additional information**

www.unil.ch/eb-bec



# **EDUCATIONAL CONTENT**

#### Description

The first semester of studies consists of compulsory courses covering both conceptual and methodological aspects. The knowledge and skills acquired will be applied in the context of a small individual research project.

From the second semester, the programme consists of a personal Master research project and optional courses dedicated to evolution, evolutionary genetics, animal behaviour and conservation biology.

#### Possibilities of specialisation

Within the framework of the master, it is possible to follow the general programme or choose one of three specialisations:

- Behaviour, Economics and Evolution (in collaboration with the Faculty of Business and Economics - HEC)
- Computational Ecology and Evolution
- Geosciences, Ecology and Evolution (in collaboration with the Faculty of Geosciences and Environment)

It is also possible to pursue the Master without specialisation.

Some compulsory and optional courses will be common to all specialisations, while others will be specific to the chosen specialisation.

## Mobility

The Master research project can be conducted in a partner institution recognised by UNIL including a non-academic research laboratory, elsewhere in Switzerland or abroad.

# **SYLLABUS**

#### 1st semester-30 ECTS

Common study programme

- Concepts in Ecology
- Concepts in Evolution
- Data Analysis in Biology
- Scientific Writing

# Specific courses depending on the specialisation:

- Molecular Methods in Ecology and Evolution
- Microeconomics and Game Theory
- Spatial Analysis and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in Ecology
- Advanced Python Programming

#### First step research project

# 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> semester-90 ECTS

# 40 ECTS

Choice of optional courses (including field courses), seminars, exercises and practical work in:

- Evolution
- Conservation Biology
- Ecology
- Scientific Mediation
- Behavioural Ecology

#### Optional field courses

- Invertebrate Biodiversity along Altitudinal Gradients
- Ecology and Evolution of the Mediterranean

  Flora
- Mountain Ecosystems in the Alps

#### 50 ECTS

Personal Master research project

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

#### **Admission requirements**

Candidates must be holders of a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Biology or in a field considered to be equivalent awarded by a Swiss university. Other degrees awarded by a foreign university may be considered equivalent and grant access to the programme with or without further conditions.

#### Administrative information

School of Biology biologie-etudiants@unil.ch

# Director of the programme

Prof. Tadeusz Kawecki Tadeusz.Kawecki@unil.ch

#### **Enrolment**

Applications must be submitted to the Admissions Office before April 30<sup>th</sup>: www.unil.ch/immat

Candidates requiring a visa to study in Switzerland: February 28th.

#### **Start of courses**

Mid-September Academic calendar: www.unil.ch/calendrier

## Part-time Master's degree

Under certain conditions, Master's studies can be followed part-time. In this case, they correspond to semi-continuous studies (50%) for the entire duration of the course.

For more details concerning the required conditions:

www.unil.ch > Study > Studying at any stage of your life > Part-time studies > Part-time Masters

**General information on studies, guidance** www.unil.ch/soc

Accomodation and financial assistance www.unil.ch/sasme

# International

www.unil.ch/international



