

EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Description

The Master's degree course in Foundations and Practices of Sustainability comprises 5 modules of mandatory courses spread over the first 3 semesters, a module of free-choice courses extending over the 2nd and 3rd semesters, and a Master's thesis during the 4th semester.

Mobility

Subject to the prior agreement of the mobility Commission, you may study for one or two semesters in an institution recognised by UNIL while continuing to be registered with the University of Lausanne.

Skills development

At the end of the Master's degree course, you will be able to understand and analyse the major contemporary environmental issues in the light of the humanities applied to the environment, to evaluate the proposed solutions with a reflexive and critical approach, to perform case analyses and to propose solutions based on the knowledge acquired, to conduct a project, to identify and prioritise information using different supports, and to communicate and argue on environmental issues.

This panoply of skills, combined with specialist knowledge acquired in the course of studies, is excellent preparation for a wide range of employment opportunities such as those mentioned in the «Career Prospects» section.

SYLLABUS

Mandatory Courses 84 ECTS credits

Module 1: Fundamentals I: Philosophy, Ethics, History

- Ideas and Policies on Nature
- Elements of Environmental History
- General and Systematic Philosophy
- Law, Society and Environment
- Environmental Ethics: Introduction and Case Studies
- Environmental Ethics: Thematic Enhancement
- Sustainability and Economic Anthropology

25 ECTS credits

Module 2: Fundamentals II: Climate, Risk, Expertise and Governance

- Climate Change and Vulnerability
- Risks from a Social Sciences Perspective
- Participatory Democracy
- International Environmental Politics

15 ECTS credits

Module 3: Economics, Institutions

- Ecological Economics and Transition
- A Critical Approach to Technology
- Social Economics based on Solidarity and Transition
- Ecological Democracy and Transition
- Money, Finance and Transition

19 ECTS credits

Module 4: Practices

- Experiences and Protagonists of Sustainability: testimonies, conferences with professionals
- The Great Questions of Environmental Law
- Production and Consumption, Strategies for Dematerialisation
- Tools and Practices for Sustainability: project management; alternative management; sustainable entrepreneurship; social psychology and communication designed to appeal

17 ECTS credits

Module 5: Sustainability and the Living World

- Biodiversity
- Agroforestry and Permaculture

8 ECTS credits

Free-Choice Courses

Additional options chosen from a list of courses offered by the Faculty of Geosciences and Environment or other faculties or universities.

At least 6 ECTS credits

Module 7: Master's Thesis

- Preparation to the Master's Thesis
- Master's Thesis

30 ECTS credits

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Admission requirements

The candidate must satisfy the conditions for registration and enrolment at the University of Lausanne and hold a Bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss or foreign university. After reviewing the application file, a study upgrade may be requested. If the upgrade exceeds 60 credits, admission is refused.

Holders of a BSc in Geosciences and Environment from the University of Lausanne are admitted without conditions.

Enrolment and final date

Applications to be submitted before 30 April to the Admissions Office: www.unil.ch/immat
Candidates needing a visa to study in Switzerland: 28 February.

Start of courses

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

Part-time Master's degree

Under certain conditions, a Master programme can be followed part-time. See www.unil.ch/formations/master-temps-partiel.

General information on studies, guidance:

www.unil.ch/soc

Career prospects

www.unil.ch/perspectives

Accommodation and financial assistance

www.unil.ch/sasme

International

www.unil.ch/international



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Faculté des géosciences
et de l'environnement