



П Л О В Д И В С К И У Н И В Е Р С И Т Е Т
„ПАИСИЙ ХИЛЕНДАРСКИ“

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Б И О Л О Г И Ч Е С К И Ф А К У Л Т Е Т

Декан:
(проф. д-р Румен Младенов)

УТВЪРЖДАВАМ:
Ректор:
(проф. д-р Запрян Козлуджов)

У Ч Е Б Е Н П Л А Н

на специалност „Екология и опазване на екосистемите“ (на английски език)

Редовно обучение (за специалисти)

образователно-квалификационна степен „магистър“

Учебният план
е приет на Факултетен съвет с Протокол № 204/24.03.2015 г.
и одобрен от Академичния съвет с Протокол № 41/27.04.2015 г.

Влиза в сила от учебната 2015/2016 г.

ECTS model of an academic curriculum

Department

Biology

Professional field

4.3. Biological Sciences

Specialty

Master's program "Ecology and ecosystems conservation"

Form of education

Full-Time

Approved with a protocol of AB

Approved with a protocol of FB

Annotation

Ecology is one of the contemporary modern sciences. The destructive changes in nature require the sustainable use of renewable natural resources, which require extensive environmental knowledge.

The graduate master program "Ecology and ecosystems conservation" aims at two target groups: to EU citizens, who speak English, and persons from non-EU countries, who speak English language. Due to this, the program is entirely in English - including all academic courses and composition of a Master Thesis. Proficiency knowledge of English for these professionals is a necessary requirement for successful stepping onto the international labor market of specialists, graduated in "Ecology and ecosystems conservation"

Improving the qualifications of the graduates is guaranteed by the objectives of the program - training of graduates in the field of ecology and conservation of ecosystems, who will meet the modern market's demands of work in this direction. The courses included in the program are taught by specialists in ecology and conservation of natural ecosystems from the Faculty of Biology of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", Agricultural University - Plovdiv, BAS institutes, as well as MEW, environmental consultant companies and NGOs, which ensures the adequacy of the teaching process.

Subjects covered in the master program are selected according to the modern European standards in the field of ecology and conservation of natural ecosystems. They are logically arranged to build-up the students' knowledge, both theoretically and supported by many fields and practical work. The masters' degree in "Ecology and ecosystems conservation" will give the students, the necessary competencies related to the knowledge of structure and functioning of the natural ecosystems; the mechanisms of assessment of the influence of the anthropogenic factors; the specific legal requirements, for management and protection of natural ecosystems; how to successfully use and adequate protection against anthropogenic pressure on nature by using mechanisms regulated by laws and institutions specialized in this field.

Based on these facts, through quality training, carried out by highly qualified specialists and teachers to ensure successful implementation of the labor market for graduates of this master's program in line with the mission and goals of Plovdiv University to educate and create competitive specialists at European level.

Professional Qualification

Ecologist in Ecosystems Conservation

A level of qualification

Master of Science (MSc) in Ecology

Specific requirements to admittance

The applicants must have an educational qualification degree "Bachelor of Science" (BSc) or "Master of Science" (MSc) in the following professional fields: Ecology, Environmental Sciences, Agroecology, Biology, Biology and Chemistry, Education in Biology, Biotechnology, etc. English language proficiency is required.

Acknowledgements of presiding level of education

The applicants submit application form and diplomas of Bachelor's or Master's degree and diploma (certificate) for English language proficiency (if available). A commission ranks the candidates in success.

Requirements and rules for qualification

For getting the qualification a total of 75 credits is required; 54 in mandatory courses and 6 of them are from facultative (elective) courses; 15 are from a state of examination.

Program profile (the specialty)

The education in the specialized module includes:

- acquisition of theoretical knowledge in the field of ecological science and its branches;
- acquisition of practical skills in the field of ecological science and its branches;

Basic results of education

The specialists with master's degree "Ecology and ecosystems conservation" receive significant theoretical training and may apply contemporary knowledge and methods in different branches of the Ecology, such as Ecosystem ecology, Conservation ecology, Ecological monitoring and ecotoxicology, Applied ecology etc. Their knowledge expands in areas related to Ecology, such as Ecotourism, International environmental standards and Waste management.

Professional profile of graduated students with examples

The graduated masters can work as specialists with higher education in:

- Research institutes, centers and universities;
- Public and private laboratories for ecological monitoring and environmental assessment;
- Regional Inspectorates on the Environment and Waters (RIOEW);
- Environmental agencies;
- Water basins directorates;
- Directorates of protected territories (nature reserves, nature parks, national parks etc.);
- Ecological departments of city halls and companies;
- Rescue centers for wildlife;
- Non-governmental environmental organizations;
- Fisheries;
- Forestry.

Tuition

€ 750 per semester for EU citizens / € 1500 per semester for non-EU citizens

Period of Study

2 semesters (1 year)

№	ECTS Code	Academic courses	Curriculum						Extracurricular			ECTS	FE
			TNA	L	S	LE	C	H	TNE	ST	...		
First semester													
1		Ecosystem ecology	45	45	0	0	0	0	135	135		6	E
2		Ecological toxicology	45	30	15	0	0	0	105	105		5	E
3		Urban ecology	60	45	0	15	0	0	120	120		6	E
4		Environmental monitoring and assessment	50	30	0	20	0	0	100	100		5	E
5		Study design and statistical analysis in ecology	50	30	0	20	0	0	105	105		5	R
6		Elective module 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecology of invasive species • Paleoecology • Ecological legislation • Ecology essay 	30	30	0	0	0	0	50	50		3	R
Total for the first semester			280	210	15	55	0	0	615	615		30	
Second semester													
1		Conservation ecology	60	45	15	0	0	0	120	120		6	E
2		Applied ecology	45	30	0	15	0	0	105	105		5	R
3		Ecosystem services	60	45	15	0	0	0	120	120		6	E
4		Waste management	50	30	20	0	0	0	100	100		5	E
5		Ecotourism and recreation in natural ecosystems	45	30	15	0	0	0	105	105		5	E
6		Elective module 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecology of cave ecosystems • Restoration ecology • International environmental standards • Principles of the Landscape ecology 	30	30	0	0	0	0	50	50		3	R
Total for the second semester			290	210	65	15	0	0	600	600		30	
Total for the whole course:			585	420	80	85	0	0	120	1200		60	
Conditions to Graduate: Successful Completion of the Courses, State Examination OR Master Thesis and Its Defense												15	
TOTAL ECTS			75										

Legend:

Curriculum (academic hours in the semester): **TNA** – total number of curricular hours, **L** – for lectures; **S** – for seminars (exercises); **LE** – for laboratory exercises; Other (**C** – for colloquiums, **H** - Control and Evaluation of the Teaching).

Extracurricular: **TNE** – total number of extracurricular hours, **ST** – for self-training, etc.

ECTS - ECTS credits; **FE** – form of examination (marked with **E** - examination, **R** – regular control)

Master program coordinator:

Associate Professor Gana Gecheva, PhD

Chief Assistant Ivelin Mollov, PhD

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