

Admission requirements

We expect from you

- enthusiasm for science and the biodiversity on our planet;
- a BSc degree in Biology or related sciences with a study profile in biodiversity, ecology or evolution;
- B2 English language skills.

Students are selected on the basis of a competitive procedure.

Admission to the programme is based on i) your BSc grades, ii) the overlap of your elective BSc modules with the MSc BEE, iii) your letter of motivation for applying, including information about relevant additional qualifications, and iv) your participation in student administration and governance (if applicable).

Job perspectives

Due to the importance of biodiversity for human society, graduates can follow many avenues for employment in academia and in the private sector. The majority of graduates work in nature and environmental protection and in the management of natural resources in public authorities, state offices, non-governmental organisations, consulting firms, engineering offices, and non-university research institutions. Many graduates complete a research doctorate after receiving their MSc, with excellent local opportunities at our institute and other major research centres (including the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research, and others). All these institutions have developed specialised graduate schools.



How to apply

Please visit our website for information about the application procedure:

<https://biologie.lw.uni-leipzig.de/studium-lehre/master-of-science-biologie>

The application deadline is **May 31, 2019**. Students with a degree from a German university apply through AlmaWeb (<https://almaweb.uni-leipzig.de>).

Students with a degree from a university abroad apply through uni-assist (<https://www.uni-assist.de/en/how-to-apply/apply-online>).

You also need to enclose a letter of motivation (max. two pages) and submit a summary of your bachelor thesis.



Contact for questions related to general organisational matters (enrolment and course of studies)

Office for Studies Affairs (Faculty of Life Sciences)
Talstraße 33
04103 Leipzig, Germany
Masterbewerbung.LW@uni-leipzig.de

Contact for scientific questions

Research groups at the Faculty of Life Sciences, Institute of Biology
<https://www.lw.uni-leipzig.de/en/home.html>

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UNIVERSITÄT
LEIPZIG

Faculty of Life Sciences



International Master of
Science Programme

**Biodiversity,
Ecology and
Evolution (BEE)**

Study programme

We offer a wide range of courses covering

- evolutionary and ecological processes generating biodiversity;
- biodiversity change, its drivers and consequences;
- the role of biodiversity for ecosystem functions and services;
- conservation and eco-engineering;
- advanced statistics and modelling.

In the master programme you will

- learn how exciting and relevant biodiversity research is;
- plan and conduct cutting-edge research;
- apply your science to tackle real-world problems;
- develop essential soft skills;
- prepare for a job in science, conservation, ecological consultancy, biotechnology or the green industry.

Key benefits:

- study in a vibrant international hotspot of biodiversity science with world-leading institutions (UL/iDiv, UFZ, MPI-EVA)
- enjoy small courses led by dedicated lecturers
- one-to-one mentoring for every student to help you achieve your potential and your personal career goals
- learn to conduct independent research through courses preparing you for your thesis project
- easily integrate internships and study abroad in your programme
- use unique research platforms (Ecotron facility, Global Change Experimental Facility, Canopy Crane, large-scale biodiversity experiments, zoological and botanical collections)
- profit from course programmes of two partner universities in Jena and Halle
- live in a vibrant city with a rich cultural scene, affordable housing, and a lot of green spaces

Study contents and milestones

The curriculum is structured in such a way that both the relevant temporal scales (geological, historical, recent), spatial scales (local, regional, global) as well as the levels of the hierarchy of life of the underlying phenomena and processes are covered. Interdisciplinary connections to partner disciplines, such as computer sciences, social sciences, and biotechnology, are also integrated. Methodological competences are taught using quantitative techniques (e.g., advanced biostatistics, experimental design, bioinformatics, modelling), laboratory techniques (e.g., molecular biology, chemical analysis, single cell analysis), and field techniques (field experiments, monitoring, sensor-based methods).

In the first and second semester, differences in knowledge between students from different backgrounds are balanced and essential basics are taught in two mandatory and four elective modules. In the third semester, students complete an external internship in order to establish contacts with potential employers and institutions. A theoreticum and a lab course prepare you for your master thesis in the fourth semester. In the third semester, it is also possible to study abroad.

Modules	ECTS
1. Mandatory Modules	20
2. Elective Modules	40
3. Internship	10
4. Theoreticum	10
5. Lab course	10
6. Study abroad (alternative to 3.–5.)	30
7. Master thesis	30
Total	120

Leipzig – a hotspot of biodiversity research

Leipzig and its partner universities in Central Germany, Halle and Jena, jointly run the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig (www.idiv.de), with its headquarters in Leipzig. iDiv is a research centre funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The iDiv consortium comprises about 800 scientists, many of them from abroad, creating a hotspot of biodiversity research. Hundreds of scientists from all over the world visit Leipzig every year for workshops and research visits, thus enriching the academic life. The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ (www.ufz.de) with research institutes in Leipzig and Halle is the biggest federal research institution in the field of ecological and environmental research. Another key player in Leipzig is the Max-Planck-Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (www.eva.mpg.de) with a strong expertise in molecular evolution and great ape research. Jointly, the iDiv consortium runs world renowned experimental platforms such as the Jena Experiment, the Leipzig Canopy Crane, the Global Change Experimental Facility, and an Ecotron facility all home to biodiversity research. Members of the consortium are involved in a wide range of conservation, ecological restoration and rewilding projects, and are active in the science-policy arena (e.g., IPBES, GEO BON, Future Earth). The Institute of Biology at Leipzig University integrates a strong expertise in organismic biology with cutting-edge research approaches and questions.

