Diving into ecological issues on all size scales and connecting scientific findings to societal implications or environmental policies

In this specialisation you’ll be trained to become an environmental expert, analysing the human impact on nature. You’ll learn to unravel the effects of stressors, like carbon dioxide emission or toxic agricultural pesticides. This requires a flexible perspective, from a cells to ecosystems.

Why study this specialisation at Radboud University?

• This specialisation is closely connected to the Institute for Water and Wetland Research (IWWR), a leading institute in research to wet ecosystems and stress biology.
• Radboud University has tight relationships with water authorities, counties, and other related organisations, such as Natuurplaza.
• With two internships, you’ll get a thorough background in academic research.
• There is a lot of attention for your personal development, with an orientation course focussing on your future career and extensive one-on-one contact with your supervisors.

change perspective

Radboud University
Programme outline (2 years, 120 EC)
The programme of this specialisation consists of:
• Compulsory courses (15 EC)
• Specialisation electives (3 EC)
• Philosophy elective (3 EC)
• Science electives (9 EC)
• Free electives (6 EC)
• 2 Internships (2 x 36 EC)
• Literature thesis 1 (6 EC)
• Literature thesis 2 / Field course (6 EC)

Courses
Below you can find an overview of the compulsory courses and some examples of electives. Please have a look at the online prospectus (see 'More information') for more detailed information.

Compulsory courses
• Orientation in Biology and Environmental Sciences (3 EC)
• Ecological and Environmental Concepts (3 EC)
• Management of Ecosystems (3 EC)
• Biodiversity and Ecological Assessment (3 EC)
• Environmental and Ecological Modelling (3 EC)

Examples of specialisation electives
• Sustainable Production and Consumption (3 EC)
• Ecology and Management of Large Rivers (3 EC)
• Population Ecology (3 EC)
• Apoptosis (3 EC)
• Field Course Alpine Ecology (6 EC)
• Microbial Cell Structure and Function (3 EC)

Research internship
During your internships, you’ll be responsible for your own experiments, under the supervision of one of our top researchers at the Institute for Water and Wetlands Research (IWWR). At Radboud University, the most relevant departments are:
• Environmental Science (ru.nl/environmentalscience)
  › Prof. Jan Hendriks and Prof. Mark Huijbregts
• Aquatic Ecology and Environmental Biology (ru.nl/science/aquatic)
  › Prof. Leon Lamers
• Animal Ecology and Physiology (ru.nl/animal)
  › Prof. Henk Siepel and Prof. Gert Flik
• Microbiology (ru.nl/microbiology)
  › Prof. Mike Jetten
You can also choose to perform an internship at another university, a company or a research institute. There are, for example, close contacts with the Max Planck Institute in Germany. For other possibilities, you can always contact a lecturer or the student advisor (see ‘More information’).

Your advantages on the labour market
This Master’s specialisation is an excellent preparation for a career in research, either at a university or at a company. After graduation, about one third of our students quickly take up a position as researcher and one third starts working at a policy officer at a governmental organisation or an NGO. The rest of the students usually choose for a position in industry, for example as a risk analyser of toxic substances.

Admission requirements
You are required to have a Bachelor's degree in Biology, Environmental Sciences or a closely related discipline. You must also have a sufficient proficiency in English. Students from a University of Applied Sciences (HBO) need to follow a pre-Master's or minor in Biology. Other additional deficiency programmes are tailor-made. For details, please visit the website or contact the student advisor (see ‘More information’).

Application procedure
The programme starts in September. The application deadline is 1 April for students from non-EU/EEA countries and 1 May for students from within the EU/EEA. You apply for the Master’s programme in Biology via www.studielink.nl. After admittance to the Master’s programme, you can enrol for the specialisation in Water and Environment.

>>> More information

Prospectus: www.ru.nl/prospectus/sciencefaculty

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www.ru.nl/masters/waterandenvironment