An international programme for future water managers, combining ecology, hydrology, and socio-economics

What is the best way to handle invasive species in a river ecosystem? Or how do you protect a city like New Orleans from floods? In this double degree programme, you'll learn to tackle these kinds of problems on the basis of ecological, hydrological, and social-economic aspects. We focus on ecological solutions, which are often more effective than technical adjustments.

This is a double degree programme of Radboud University (RU) and the University of Duisburg-Essen (UDE) in Germany.

Why study this specialisation at Radboud University?
• You'll profit from the expertise at two universities and after successful completion get both a Dutch and a German diploma.
• This specialisation is closely connected to the Institute for Water and Wetland Research (IWWR), a leading institute in wetland ecosystem and stress biology research.
• Radboud University has close ties to water authorities, from regional water authorities to international agencies, consultancies and non-profit organisations.

change perspective

Radboud University
Programme outline (2 years, 120 EC)
This specialisation is partly taught at the University of Duisburg-Essen (UDE) and partly at Radboud University (RU). The programme consists of:
- Compulsory courses at RU (27 EC)
- Compulsory courses at UDE (30 EC)
- Philosophy of water management at RU (3 EC)
- Project water management at UDE or RU (16 EC)
- Electives at UDE or RU (14 EC)
- Master’s thesis at UDE, RU or externally (30 EC)

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

Examples of compulsory courses
- Ecological and Environmental Concepts at RU (3 EC)
- Integrated Water Management at RU (3 EC)
- Water Governance and Spatial Planning at RU (3 EC)
- Hydrogeology and Application at UDE (4 EC)
- Waste Water Treatment at UDE (3 EC)
- Water-borne Diseases at UDE (2 EC)

Examples of specialisation electives
- Ecology and Management of Large Rivers at RU (3 EC)
- Field course Alpine Ecology at RU (6 EC)
- Microbiology of Wetland Ecosystems at RU (3 EC)
- Ecology and Management of Large Rivers (3 EC)
- Quantitative Conservation Biology (3 EC)
- Social aspects of Water Management (3 EC)
- Principles of Systems Biology (3 EC)

Master’s thesis
During your internships, you will be responsible for your own experiments, under the supervision of one of our top researchers. 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
- Institute for Science, Innovation and Society (www.ru.nl/isis)
  > Prof. Toine Smits

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
After graduation, most students quickly take up a position as project coordinator, policy officer, or analyser at a water-related governmental organisation. But there are of course also various other possibilities, like consultant, risk analyser, teacher, or researcher. Every year, Radboud University offers about five to ten PhD positions in this field of research. Of course, many graduates also apply for a PhD position at related departments in the Netherlands or abroad.

Admission requirements
You are required to have a Bachelor’s degree in Biology, Environmental Sciences, Water Sciences, or a closely related discipline. You must also have a sufficient proficiency in English. Students from a University of Applied Sciences (HBO) may 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 Transnational ecosystem-based Water Management.

>>> More information
Prospectus: www.ru.nl/prospectus/sciencefaculty
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