



About the Forest Science MSc degree

The Forest Science MSc degree program approach is to provide an interdisciplinary education to the protection and management of Mediterranean forest resources with a problem-driven and problem-oriented character - an approach which focuses on knowledge transfer and application of the acquired knowledge.

The Forest Science MSc degree program is characterized by a professional orientation for satisfying demands that arise from the hilly and mountain regions on the Mediterranean basin, in which the economic and social development of the forests require a renewed management approach.

The MSc degree program has close links with national and international forestry and environmental organisations, and staff of these organisations make regular contributions to the course.

Lectures, seminars and independent learning are supported by an active programme of lab sessions that are often held outdoors to bring a hands-on reality to the education students get in the classroom field. In addition to the lab sessions, forest visits and a week-long joint field study tour are organized to areas that are managed for a range of objectives (details vary from year to year) where student meets resource managers working on behalf of different stakeholders and is engaged in discussion with them.

Structure

The taught part of the MSc degree program is based on lectures, seminars, practicals and directed study, allowing an opportunity to examine a broad range of topics in detail and develop personal skills and expertise. A range of different assessment methods are used including reports, presentations, practical write-ups and written exams.

The MSc degree program has three curricula:

- Curriculum Forest Science
- Curriculum Land and forest conservation
- Curriculum Responsible production of good and services

Duration

2 years full-time (120 ECTS - credits)

Program map

	Forest Science	Land and forest conservation	Responsible production of good and services
Year 1	Forest policy, Introduction to GIS, Forest pathology and wood alterations, Wildlife conservation and management, Communication skill		
	Economics of forest resources, Insect ecology and management, Silvicultural systems	Valuation and assessment of forest and environmental goods and services, Insect ecology and management, Silvicultural systems	Economics of forest resources, Biodiversity and ecosystem services in forest, Silviculture in Mediterranean mountain forests, Integrated watershed management, Management and treatment in mountain and Mediterranean forests
Joint field module			
Year 2	Forest hydrology, Erosion control and stream restoration, Forest resources exploitation, Forest ecosystems and global change, Forest land planning	Management of mountain forests and logging systems, Forest hydrology, Mountain fluvial morphology and stream restoration, Geology of mountain areas	Societal marketing: forest certification and other tools, Forest operations, Social responsibility by public and private organizations
Research planning 8 credits elective and graduate thesis			

Entry

A undergraduate degree in a relevant subject, e.g. Forestry, Environmental Sciences, Ecology, Conservation Sciences, Sustainable Development, Geography or Biological Sciences. Alternatively, a undergraduate degree in an unrelated subject plus relevant practical experience may be accepted. Applicants are judged on their individual merits, work experience and other factors are also considered.

Since the language of instruction is English, students whose first language is not English must provide of a minimum knowledge of English such as level B2 according to Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) or equivalent.

Qualification

Qualification Framework (QF) for European Higher Education Area (EHEA): 2nd cycle

European Qualification Framework (EQF) level 7

National Qualification Framework (NQF) of Italy: 2nd cycle

Career Prospects

The MSc degree program provides a strong foundation for careers involving the biological and environmental aspects of forestry, forest conservation, research, and teaching.

Graduates from the MSc degree program could cover positions at postgraduate (MA) level in the public/private administrations, local development agencies, NGOs, natural parks, and forest enterprises both in the EU and overseas.

The MSc degree program also forms a stepping stone in post-graduate research and has produced high calibre research scientists in the fields of forest science, and natural resource management.

The award allows to access to the exam for becoming certified professional forester registered in the Italian Board of professional agronomists and foresters (Law n. 3, January 7, 1976 modified and integrated by Law n. 152, February 10, 1992)

