

Consecutive Master program

Biodiversity: Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation (BEEC)

- with option of double-degree IMABEE -

Info-Session – 12 March 2026

Study program director: Prof. Dr. Stefan Scheu

Coordination: Dr. Barbara Wick

Agenda

1. Application and admission
2. Program and study structure
3. Modules and study plans – where to find information
4. Double-Degree IMABEE
5. Outlook – Professional perspective



Application and admission

- Admission to each winter semester: 40 students
- Application period:

**Non-EU citizenship and non-EU
BSc degree (10%)**

1 Jan – 15 Feb

- Application procedure:
 - Registration + submission of documents
 - Online Assessment Test
 - Interview
 - Await decision

EU citizenship or EU BSc degree

1 Apr – 15 May

- Application procedure:
 - Registration + submission of documents
 - [Ranking](#) (grade, special knowledge, additional skills)
 - Await decision



Application and admission

- **Criteria / Requirements** (website: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/123968.html>)
 - BSc degree in biology or related field (completed or with at least 150 credit points/CP at time of application)
 - Proof of at least 125 CP from *Natural Sciences*, including at least 60 CP in *Biology*
 - English (C1) (not first language, BSc not in English)
 - CV, descriptions of modules



Program and study structure - BEEC

- Two years, four semesters (120 CP)
- Organized modularly (block and semester-long courses)
 - ✓ Selection from 43 BEEC modules
 - ✓ Selection from 39 modules from other master programs (Biology, Agricultural Sciences, Forest Sciences & Forest Ecology, Geoscience & Geography)
- English as main teaching language
- Possibility of double degree – International Master of Biodiversity, Ecology and Evolution (IMABEE)

Program and study structure

1. – 4. Semester		4. Semester
Professional Studies (78 C)	Compulsory Modules (18 C)	Master's Thesis (26 weeks)
	Area of Specialization (36 C) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ecology (plants or animals) 2. Evolution 3. Conservation Biology 	
	Supplementary Modules (24 C)	
	Key Competences (12 C)	
(90 C)		
	(30 C)	



Program and study structure - Specialization

➤ **Three main areas of specialization**

- A. Ecology (with specification in plants or animals): Functionality of biodiversity
- B. Evolution: Development of biodiversity
- C. Conservation Biology: Preserving biodiversity

➤ **One area of specialization must be selected**

- ✓ Note: Demand from students for Conservation Biology is high – it might not be possible to take all the desired courses as planned !



Program and study structure – Specialization (36 CP)

A. Ecology (with specification in plants or animals)

a. Two core modules (12 CP) – selection from 3

- i. *Plant ecology & ecosystem research*
- ii. *Vegetation ecology & vegetation history*
- iii. *Animal ecology*



i. Dr. Hertel



ii. Prof. Behling



iii. Prof. Scheu

b. Compulsory elective modules (12-24 CP)

- Plants: selection from 8 [e.g. community ecology of plants]
- Animals: selection from 5 [e.g. interactions in soil food webs]

c. Elective modules (0-12 CP) – selection from 17



Program and study structure – Specialization (36 CP)

B. Evolution

a. Two core modules (12 CP)

i. *Evolutionary biology*

ii. *Evolution of embryophyta*



i. Prof. Wimmer



ii. Prof. Hörandl

b. Compulsory elective modules (12-24 CP) – selection from 10 [e.g. phylogenomics, next generation sequencing in evolutionary biology]

c. Elective modules (0-12 CP) – selection from 8



Program and study structure – Specialization (36 CP)

C. Conservation biology

a. Three (from 4) core modules (18 CP)

i. *Conservation biology*

ii. *Animal ecology*

iii. *Plant ecology & ecosystem research or*

iv. *Vegetation ecology & vegetation history*



i. Prof. Kamp



ii. Prof. Scheu



iii. Dr. Hertel



iv. Prof. Behling

b. Compulsory elective modules (12-18 CP) – selection from 7 [e.g. nature conservation inventories, data analysis for field biologists]

c. Elective modules (0-6 CP) – selection from 12



Program and study structure – Compulsory modules (18 CP)

➤ **Compulsory modules (18 CP)**

a. M. Biodiv.400 (8 CP):

- Species identification courses
- 4 one-day field trips: 2 zoological, 2 botanical

b. M.Biodiv.405 (4 CP):

- One extended field trip / excursion (botanical or zoological focus)

Note: Costs for excursions range from about 200/300 EUR to 1.600 EUR and are covered by the participants.



Program and study structure – Compulsory modules (18 CP)

➤ **Compulsory modules (18 CP)**

- c. M.Biodiv.417 (6 CP) – preparing module for MSc thesis:
- Research colloquia: 14 talks over one or several semester
 - Project management: development + defense of thesis proposal, identification of supervisors



Program and study structure

- **Master thesis (30 CP, 26 weeks)**
 - ❖ Prerequisite for the beginning of the thesis:
 - 60 CP accomplished, including compulsory modules (18 CP)
 - ❖ In Göttingen or abroad



Modules and study plans

➤ **Where to find information and overviews?:**

Website: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/693870.html>



About the programme

- › [Programme outline](#)
- › [Programme and study structure \(pdf\)](#)
- › [Qualification and professional perspectives](#)
- › [Documents and workflows \(owncloud\)](#)
- › [Key competencies](#)
- › [List of modules and study regulations](#)
- › [Option: IMABEE programme](#)



Application and admission

- › [Application and requirements](#)
- › [Required documents](#)
- › [Selection process](#)
- › [FAQ for the application](#)
- › [Semester fees](#)



Getting started

- › [Information for new students](#)
- › [For international students](#)
- › [Campus Map](#)
- › [Starter Package](#)
- › [FAQ for 1st-Years](#)
- › [FlexNow: Registration rules](#)



Modules and study plans

1. **List of modules** – Module handbook: <https://uni-goettingen.de/en/37262.html>
2. **Exemplary study plans for each area of specialization** – in:
 - a) Examination and study regulation: <https://uni-goettingen.de/en/37262.html>
 - b) OwnCloud: <https://owncloud.gwdg.de/index.php/s/JSDGzWcQXF4u3bf>
3. **BEEC modules: times and course places - OwnCloud:**
<https://owncloud.gwdg.de/index.php/s/JSDGzWcQXF4u3bf>



Double – Degree IMABEE

- **Double Degree Program (<https://www.imabee.eu/>)**
 - Partner universities: Rennes, France (coordination) + Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands, Masaryk University Brno, Czech Republik, University of South-Eastern Norway
 - 12 Incomings + 12 Outgoings per year
 - Double Degree
 - ✓ 1st year home university (60 CP)
 - ✓ 2nd year host university (60 CP, including MSc thesis)



Double – Degree IMABEE

- Göttingen students who start in winter term 2026/27 move to host university in winter term 2027/28 – start: 01 September
- No separate application needed – the application for consideration is indicated in application for admission (checkbox)
- The students' final decision is made at the end of the first semester



Outlook – Professional perspectives

- **Scientific career** – PhD programs at Göttingen, e.g. Biological Diversity and Ecology (<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/promotion/20917.html>)
- **Governmental authorities** (e.g. Federal Agency for Nature Conservation)
- **Inter/National Environmental Organisations** (e.g. WWF, BUND - German Federation for the Environment and Nature Conservation, NABU - The Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union, IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature)
- **Educational Institutions** (e.g. museum, regional environmental education centers)
- **Public media** (e.g. science journalism)



Communication and documentation/information

Contact – Barbara Wick:

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Documentation and information:

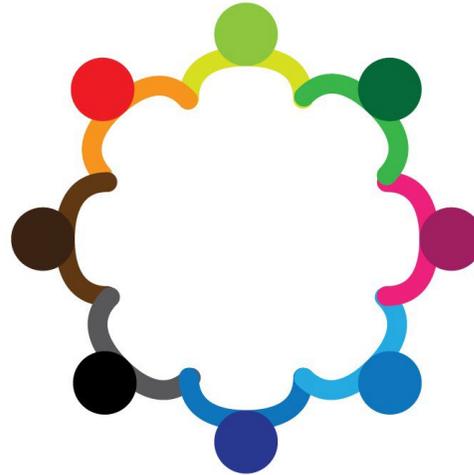
- Website
- OwnCloud (tab [Programme overview / Information](#), website BEEC)
- BioBlog: <https://bioblog.uni-goettingen.de/>



Questions?

Thank you for your attention.....

Image-Film about studying and life
in: [Collect Lasting Memories |
University of Göttingen - YouTube](#)



..... we look forward to receiving your applications