

## Uni Bayreuth: start of the new master's programme Environmental Geography in autumn 2016

The ongoing trend of global environmental change has created a worldwide demand for experts who are able to address these processes. The University of Bayreuth has seized this opportunity to fill the growing demand for experts in the field by launching the new master's programme Environmental Geography (M.Sc.) in Winter Semester 2016/17, taught entirely in English. International, interdisciplinary, and with excellent career prospects for its graduate – this best describes the new English-taught master's programme. And FYI: the programme is tuition-free. Application deadline: 15 July 2016!



Environmental changes at any scale, from global to local, are of crucial importance to life on planet Earth. In addition to climate change, the major contemporary challenges include loss of biodiversity, soil degradation, and a rise in natural risks such as landslides, forest fires, and floods.

*Climate, biosphere, substrata, and topography, as well as human influences jointly shape the appearance of landscapes. The new master's programme Environmental Geography puts students in a position to understand and analyse this interplay between the compartments.*  
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Processes of environmental change always have to be considered in the context of their interactions with society. Physical geography – as an interdisciplinary field with a marked focus on the environment-society nexus – is among the core disciplines addressing and examining these environmental changes.

### International, interdisciplinary, and held completely in English

Ongoing environmental changes around the world have created a demand for more and more experts capable of addressing these processes at the local, regional, and global scales. The University of Bayreuth has seized this opportunity to fill the growing demand for experts in the field by launching the new master's programme Environmental Geography (M.Sc.) in Winter Semester 2016/17. The master's programme is interdisciplinary in nature and covers the spectrum of subjects researched at the Bayreuth Centre for Ecology & Environmental Research (BayCEER). Students benefit from the close cooperation between the departments involved. The research fields addressed by BayCEER scientists are global change, biodiversity, ecosystems, and environmental and nature protection.



“Environmental changes are global – and our highly qualified master’s graduates will be able to work at locations around the world. For this reason, Environmental Geography is taught entirely in English,” explains Prof. Dr. Cyrus Samimi, programme coordinator for Environmental Geography and Professor of Climatology in the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences at the University of Bayreuth. “We are hoping our programme will attract outstanding international students to do their master’s studies on our charming little campus in northern Bavaria. Incidentally, the programme is tuition-free,” the climate expert said.

According to Prof. Dr. Samimi, a unique feature of the master’s programme Environmental Geography is that it is one of the few English-taught master’s programmes to cover topics in physical geography.

## Best career prospects for graduates

A variety of career fields will be open to graduates of the master’s programme Environmental Geography, e.g. in geoinformation and remote sensing, in landscape analysis, environmental analysis, and development cooperation, in consulting, and in research and teaching. Possible employers include national environmental and area planning authorities as well as private consultancies that offer domestic and/or international assessment of – and advise on – environmental protection, planning and management. Other employers include environmental protection units of large companies and organizations active in development cooperation.

There are also excellent opportunities for talented master’s students to pursue doctoral research in order to prepare themselves for an academic career. The University of Bayreuth Graduate School supports the University’s doctoral researchers across all subjects, both in their independent research and in their personal development.

### **The new master’s programme Environmental Geography at a glance:**

- Requirements: bachelor’s in Geography, Geo-Ecology, or a comparable degree, as long as a basic understanding of the Earth sciences was acquired
- Language of instruction: English
- Start of the programme: Winter Semester 2016/17
- Standard period of study: 4 semesters of full-time study
- Degree awarded: Master of Science (M.Sc.)
- Aptitude assessment process – application deadline: 15 July 2016
- Programme coordinator: Prof. Dr. Cyrus Samimi

[www.envigeo.uni-bayreuth.de](http://www.envigeo.uni-bayreuth.de)



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## ■ New programmes starting in Winter Semester 2016/17

The University of Bayreuth is adding five new programmes of study along with a new supplemental programme (with an elite certificate) to its 47 attractive master's programmes. All of them have an international focus and are taught in English. And FYI: the programme is tuition-free. Applications are now being accepted!

“On the one hand, we are hoping to attract talented students to Bayreuth to later serve as a base for recruiting our junior scholars. On the other hand, our new programmes are a response to the challenges of globalization and an increasingly international labour market,” University President Prof. Dr. Leible explained. “We also hope that developing our range of English-taught programmes will help ensure that we remain an attractive partner for international scholars and higher education institutions.”

## An overview of the new programmes (in alphabetical order):



- **Biofabrication (M.Sc.)**
  - Aptitude assessment process – Application deadline: 15 July 2016
- **Development Studies (M.A.)**
  - Specific admission requirements – Please submit documents by 15 July 2016



- **Environmental Chemistry (M.Sc.)**
  - Aptitude assessment process – Application deadline: 15 July 2016
- **Environmental Geography (M.Sc.)**
  - Aptitude assessment process – Application deadline: 15 July 2016
- **History & Economics (M.A.)**
  - Aptitude assessment – Application deadline: 15 July 2016
  
- **Supplemental Programme Biological Physics (part of Elite Network of Bavaria)**
  - Selection process – Application deadline: 15 June or 15 August 2016

Information and programme flyers are available online:

[www.uni-bayreuth.de/en/studies/master/01-new-master](http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/en/studies/master/01-new-master)



## The University of Bayreuth at a Glance

The University of Bayreuth is a young, research-oriented campus university. The University's founding mission in 1975 was to support interdisciplinary research and teaching and to develop interdisciplinary research priorities with which it could strengthen its own profile. Its research programmes and programmes of study are frequently updated and cover the natural sciences, law, business and economics, languages and literature, and cultural studies.

A good instructor-to-student ratio, high performance standards, interdisciplinary collaboration, and academic excellence have allowed the University to maintain its strong position in the rankings. The University of Bayreuth ranked 35<sup>th</sup> among the best young universities in the world in the Times Higher Education (THE) worldwide ranking "150 under 50".

The University of Bayreuth has been an international leader in African Studies for many years; the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS) is part of the Excellence Initiative by the German federal and state governments. High Pressure & High Temperature Research carried out at the Bavarian Research Institute of Experimental Geochemistry & Geophysics has also established a strong reputation worldwide. Polymer research at the University is a frontrunner in the funding ranking published by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The University of Bayreuth has a tight international network of strategically selected university partnerships.

There are currently around 13,500 students enrolled in 146 different programmes of study offered by the University's six faculties. With around 1,200 members of the academic staff (of whom there are 235 professors) and roughly 900 non-academic staff members, the University of Bayreuth is one of the region's largest employers.

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