FREIBURG »GREEN CITY«

Freiburg has gained its name and reputation as „Green City“ thanks to its high environmental standards, innovative research and development and its general attitude towards the environment. With extensive use of solar energy and other renewable sources, the city attracts researchers and environmental organizations from around the world. But Freiburg is green not only because of its policies and politics. No other city of comparable size (220,000 inhabitants) has such a diversity of landscapes ranging from the mountains of the black forest to Mediterranean-type vegetation in the Rhine valley.

As one of Germany’s most beautiful cities, Freiburg is a traditional, yet also youthful and dynamic university town. Its location near the French and Swiss border make it an ideal starting point to explore Europe.

FACULTY

The faculty of Environment and Natural Resources was originally founded as Faculty of Forest Sciences. Over years it expanded and now includes also Bachelor- and Master programmes in Environmental Sciences, Hydrology, Meteorology, Geology and Geography. Core fields of research are the sustainable use of natural resources and renewable energies, protection of livelihood/bases of life (soil, water, air, biodiversity), adaptation to Global Change and natural hazards and risks. The findings are used for basic research as well as for transfer to the economy, society and political consulting.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- Duration: 4 semesters
- 120 ECTS credits
- Course start: October
- Language of instruction: German and English
- Application deadline: June 30th
- Admission restricted: yes

CONTACT

University of Freiburg
Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources
Programme Coordinator
Sunniva Dalmühle
Tennenbacherstraße 4
D-79106 Freiburg
Tel.: +49 (0) 761 203 3608
info-forst@unr.uni-freiburg.de
www.msc-forst.uni-freiburg.de
Forest Sciences and Forestry have a long tradition at Freiburg University and in the nearby Black Forest. Excellent research structures and a unique variety of landscapes thus provide the ideal environment for future forest and forestry experts. Our mission is to qualify professionals who will be able to deal with the current challenges and questions of ecologically, economically and socially sustainable forest management, in science and practice. What makes our programme unique is the splitting into three elective tracks, accompanied by a choice of core and individual elective modules. This very flexible structure allows students to build their individual academic profile and prepare for their future careers. The three elective tracks are: Forest Sciences (German), International Forestry (English) and Wildlife and Biodiversity (English). The MSC Forestry Sciences is a research oriented programme, but still most modules include excursions, case studies or lab work.

CURRICULUM
The master course is a two-year (4-semester) full-time programme (120 ECTS). Teaching is organized in three-week block modules. During the first and the second semester students participate in 5 core modules and 6 modules from their chosen elective track. Whereas the core modules can be chosen from a pool of modules, the elective track modules are more fixed. The third semester offers a great variety of individual electives. A minimum 7-week internship is scheduled for the break between the second and third semester, but can also take place at any other time. The fourth semester is entirely for writing the master thesis.

HIGHLIGHTS
Close links to the equally structured MSc Environmental Sciences provide interdisciplinary perspectives. Intensive cooperation with the Forest Research Institute of Baden-Wuerttemberg (FVA), located in Freiburg, and Freiburg’s Forest administration open up many opportunities for internships, student jobs and master theses. Students who want to study abroad can choose among 32 Erasmus partner faculties in 18 countries or benefit from agreements with faculties in Canada, Russia, Brazil, Chile and Iran.

TARGET GROUP
Graduates with a Bachelor’s degree in a forestry or environmental science programme with an average grade of at least 2.9 (German grade). Forestry background knowledge is important, depending on the favourite Elective Track further competences might be necessary.

CAREER PERSPECTIVES
The Master (M.Sc.) Forest Sciences is an internationally accredited certificate that offers graduates to choose employment from a wide variety of job possibilities depending on the choice of core modules, elective tracks, the internship and Master’s thesis – as well as the selected language. While the modules held in English are of a more international orientation (e.g. NGO’s, research, forest management, wood trade, forester’s offices), the German modules offer preparation for the classic forestry activities within Germany.

TRADITION  BIODIVERSITY  VARIETY  WOOD USE  SUSTAINABILITY  INTERNATIONAL

m.sc. forest sciences

1st SEMESTER
- Research Skills
- Forest Inventory Designs
- Forest Economics and Management
- Forschungskompetenzen
- Analyse der Waldpolitik
- Waldinventur, Waldwachstum, Informationssysteme
- Forstwirtschaft
- International Forestry
- Wildlife and Biodiversity

2nd SEMESTER
- Ecosystem Management
- Soil Ecology Management
- Bodenkunde und Standortanalyse
- Waldbau und Waldschutz
- Forstwirtschaft
- International Forestry
- Wildlife and Biodiversity

3rd SEMESTER
- Internship (7 weeks)
- 5 Individual Elective Modules

4th SEMESTER
- Master Thesis (6 months)
- Core Modules
- Elective Track Modules
- Individual Electives / Internship

Possibility for studying abroad