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› Special Study Program (SSP)
Evolution & Biocomplexity

Requirements

A Bachelor's degree in natural or life sciences is required for the admission to the 2-year MSc program Biosciences and therefore also for the admission to the SSP Evolution & Biocomplexity.

How to apply

Please announce your interest in the SSP to the examination office of the faculty (Prüfungsamt, Katja Viefhues) as early as possible. For more information on how to plan your studies and get credits please contact the advisor Dr. Maik Bartelheimer or the course director Prof. Dr. Jürgen Gadau.

Getting started

Places may be limited in some of the modules and each module can also be chosen from students who are not on the SSP. To guarantee places in all selected modules, students should contact us before the choice of modules on the MSc is put online.



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For further information, please visit our website:
www.wwu.de/evolution/teaching/ssp.html

living.knowledge



Why study evolution?

Life on earth is amazingly diverse and organisms, molecular networks and ecosystems have a most impressive complexity. This diversity and complexity in form and function has originated by two simple processes: variation and selection. They are the two cornerstones of evolution, the central theory of biology.

Modern evolutionary thinking can help to understand and address pressing challenges of humankind, such as disease epidemiology, climate change or bioinvasions.

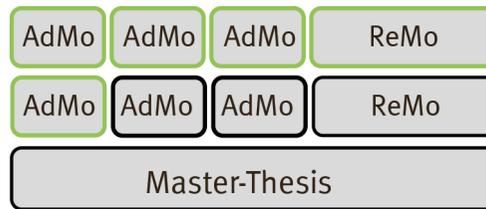


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About the SSP

The “Special Study Program (SSP) in Evolution and Biocomplexity“ is a specialisation within our existing MSc in Biosciences at the WWU Münster.

Students have to choose four out of six Advanced Modules (AdMos) (4 weeks each, 5 EC) from courses in Evolutionary Biology plus one out of two Research Modules (ReMos) (6-8 weeks, 10 EC) in one of the groups at the Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity (IEB). Alternatively, 10 credit points can be obtained at a partner university either in Germany or abroad.



AdMo: Advanced Module; ReMo: Research Module

For further information on the available modules, please refer to our website.

www.wwu.de/evolution/teaching

Selected students from each SSP cohort will be awarded the **Annual Bernhard Rensch Prize** in Evolution and Biocomplexity.

Groups in evolutionary biology

The following groups are currently conducting research in the field of evolution and biodiversity at the University of Münster:

- Animal Evolutionary Ecology (Prof. Kurtz)
- Evolution & Biodiversity of Plants (Prof. Müller)
- Evolution & Sexual Conflict (Dr. Fricke)
- Evolutionary Cell Biology (Dr. Catania)
- Evolutionary Ecology of Plants (Prof. Xu)
- Limnology (Prof. Meyer)
- Molecular Evolution & Bioinformatics (Prof. Bornberg-Bauer)
- Molecular Evolution & Sociobiology (Prof. Gadau)
- Plant Evolutionary Genomics (Dr. Wicke)

Taking courses elsewhere

Up to 10 credits in advanced or research modules can also be taken at another cooperating university in Germany or abroad. Students must contact their mentor before deciding on external modules and discuss their choice.



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About the IEB

The IEB integrates several groups that work on evolutionary ecology of animals and plants, (molecular) phylogeny and evolution, aquatic ecology, biocomplexity, and evolutionary bioinformatics.

A tradition of excellence in evolutionary research and teaching has been built at the school of Biological Science (FB13) at the University of Münster. Bernhard Rensch, one of the key contributors to the modern synthesis, directed the former Institute of Zoology for many years and helped establish the university as a center for evolutionary study.

The IEB is associated to several initiatives such as the Münster Graduate School of Evolution (MGSE), the DFG Research Training Group 2220 “Evolutionary Processes in Adaptation and Disease” (EvoPAD) and a Research Group on the evolution of ageing in social insects (FOR 2281).