













Blended Intensive Programme (BIP)

Ecological Restoration for Ecosystem Sustainability





OPEN! CALL FOR APPLICANTS - ERASMUS+ Blended Intensive Programme

University of Évora, within the <u>EU GREEN University Alliance</u>, organizes Blended Intensive Programme open for all the students from EU GREEN partner universities.

The University of Évora jointly with the University of Extremadura, the Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences, the Atlantic Technological University (ATU, Ireland), the University of Parma (UNIPR), and the University of Angers (UA) offer their students the opportunity to participate in a

Blended Intensive Program. The Blended Intensive Program is officially approved by the EU in the framework of the ERAMSUS+ 2021/2027.

BIPs are one of the new and innovative formats of student mobility introduced by the new Erasmus + 2021-2027 Program. These programs, jointly developed by multiple higher education institutions, feature advanced and innovative pedagogical approaches that combine short-term face-to-face (physical) mobilities with virtual learning.

BIPs are inherently transnational and transdisciplinary, as curricula are developed and taught together by partner institutions in different countries. The combination of in-person and virtual learning spaces allows students and professors to experience and exchange highly collaborative, challenge-based, and research-steeped methods of teaching and learning.

Coordinating and organizing University

Universidade de Évora (UÉvora, Portugal) P EVORA01

Prof. Carla Pinto Cruz

Co-organizing Universities

University of Extremadura (UNEX, Spain)
Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences (UPWR, Poland)
Atlantic Technological University (ATU, Ireland)
University of Parma (UNIPR, Italy)
University of Angers (UA, France)

Programme Description

Ecological restoration is a relevant science and a key practical tool for biodiversity conservation, that aims to recreate, initiate, and accelerate ecosystem recovery after being altered or degraded by disturbances. There is a pledge and a growing demand for ecological restoration actions, framed in several European policies, which will require well-trained, qualified professionals. This BIP is designed to provide skills and competencies to better understand ecological and conservation complexity and to integrate analytical and operational skills in the implementation of restoration plans.

The course is divided into four modules whose learning outcomes are described as follows

Module 1.- Restoration concepts

Learning outcomes

- Become familiar with the principles of ecological restoration and understand its ecological background.
- Become aware of the relevance of ecological restoration.
- Analyze the ecological needs to be addressed in the restoration process.
- Assess the ecological framework in a restoration process.
- Know how to identify the ecological framework.
- Be able to set an ecological framework before establishing a restoration process.
- Knowledge about the ecological processes that are crucial to consider in ecological restoration.

- Understand how the inherent ecological characteristics influence ecological restoration processes.

Module 2.- Restoration drivers and objectives

Learning outcomes

- Become familiar with the restoration drivers, threats, legislation, and tools to prioritize restoration.
- Become aware of the need to set priorities in ecological restoration.
- Analyze priorities in ecological restoration.
- Assess the main threats to ecosystems that require ecological restoration.
- Know how to prioritize ecological restoration.
- Be able to set a practical methodology to define priorities in ecological restoration.
- Knowledge about the legislation and funding in a restoration context.
- Understand the drivers behind ecological restoration.

Module 3.- Planning restoration projects

Learning outcomes

- Become familiar with the restoration planning, implementation, and monitoring processes.
- Become aware of the main tools used in ecological restoration.
- Analyze a set of indicators to monitor the effectiveness of ecological restoration projects.
- Assess the best tools in a restoration project.
- Know how to plan and implement a restoration project.
- Be able to prepare and implement a restoration project.
- Knowledge about all the necessary components and steps in ecological restoration projects.
- Understand how to carry out a restoration project.

Module 4.- Restoration in practice: analysis of case studies

Learning outcomes

- Become familiar with restoration case studies across different ecosystems.
- Become aware of the challenges in restoration projects
- Analyze the differences in procedures across case studies presented.
- Assess common procedures and actions across ecological restoration case studies.
- Know how ecological restoration is implemented across different ecosystems and countries.
- Be able to identify the main tools used in restoration case studies.
- Knowledge about the diversity of approaches to carrying out restoration projects.
- Understand how different tools are used in varying ecosystems.



General information about the course

Cost: free of charge

Date: June 17th – September 20th

Study period and scope:

 $\label{eq:VIRTUAL} VIRTUAL \ attendance - 17^{th} - 28^{th} \ Jun \ 2024; \ 1^{st} - 5^{th} \ Jul \ 2024; \ 20^{th} \ Sep \ 2024$ $IN-PERSON \ attendance \ in \ University \ of \ \'evora, \ Portugal \ - 2^{nd} - 6^{th} \ Sep \ 2024$

Language of instruction: English – B2

ECTS for participation in the programme: 6

Number of places: 30

Deadline for application: April 12th.

For any question or information send an e-mail to your local Academic Coordinator (see list below)

UNIVERSITY	CONTACT PERSON
University of Évora	Prof. Carla Pinto-Cruz e-mail: ccruz@uevora.pt
University of Extremadura	Prof. Victor Rolo e-mail: rolo@unex.es
Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences	Prof. Magdalena Szymura e-mail: magdalena.szymura@upwr.edu.pl
Atlantic Technological University	Prof. Jose Maria Fariñas-Franco e-mail: josemaria.farinas-franco@atu.ie
University of Parma	Prof. Alessandro Petraglia e-mail: alessandro.petraglia@unipr.it
University of Angers	Prof. Alain Pagano e-mail: alain.pagano@univ-angers.fr









Detailed Information

See ANNEX: https://gdoc.uevora.pt/883473

Conditions for Admission

This BIP has been designed for graduate and post-graduate students, <u>including Master and PhD</u>. Participation to the program is open to students of any discipline connected with contents related to the BIP.

The selection for this programme will be based on the evaluation of submitted CVs and statements of personal motivation - Why have you applied for this BIP? What are your expectations?

How to apply

- Students should complete the <u>APPLICATION FORM</u> until 12th April 2024: https://forms.gle/cyJDuzdZte5fZiQ89
- Students should send the following documents to mobility@uevora.pt till 14th April 2024:
 - Copy of valid ID or passport
 - -Transcript of Records (A certificate of enrolment at the home University with a list of passed exams and grades)
 - Language certificate
 - Motivation letter (containing, if any, experiences abroad)

Selection procedure

An appointed Committee formed by Prof. Carla Pinto-Cruz (University of Évora), Prof. Rui Lourenço (University of Évora), Prof. Carlos Alexandre (University of Évora), Prof. Victor Rolo (University of Extremadura), and Prof. Jose Maria Fariñas-Franco (Atlantic Technological University) will carry out the selection procedures. Selection is based on the following criteria:

- Academic performance
- Motivation
- English language competence

- Evaluation of further qualifications and skills

Students should expect to hear back about the result of their application by 21th April 2024. Selected students must communicate their acceptance or withdrawal within 5 days from the publication of the selection results by contacting their university program coordinator. Selected students will be contacted with further instructions upon completion of the selection procedures.

Financial support

The attendance of the Blended Intensive Programme may be covered by an ERASMUS+ SMS Short Mobility Grant for all mobile students (excluding students from the hosting University). This financial support may only be guaranteed by the selected student's home University. The University of origin of each selected student is fully for the management of the financial aspects of the mobilities in accordance with the provisions of the competent ERASMUS+ National Agency.

No financial support is foreseen for host institution students as they will not be traveling for the purposes of participation in this program (non-mobile participants).

Please refer to your local coordinator or Erasmus/International Relations Office for any further information related to the financial support made available.

Administration contact:

Marina Cordeiro

Division of Internationalization and Mobility
University of Évora
mobility@uevora.pt