



UNIVERSITY OF ŽILINA

Institute of High Mountain Biology in Tatranská Javorina

MASTER'S DEGREE STUDY

CONTACTS

University of Žilina in Žilina
University-wide study programme

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ACCREDITED STUDY PROGRAMME OFFERED FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

MASTER'S DEGREE STUDY PROGRAMME

FULL-TIME STUDY

LENGTH OF STUDY 2 YEARS

Alpine and Mountain Ecology

PART-TIME STUDY

LENGTH OF STUDY 2 YEARS

-

Detailed information about the study programme:

- curriculum,
- course information sheets





EXPECTED NUMBER OF ACCEPTED APPLICANTS TO THE FIRST YEAR

MASTER'S DEGREE STUDY		
STUDY PROGRAMME / FIELD OF STUDY	PLANNED CAPACITY	
	FULL-TIME	PART-TIME
Alpine and Mountain Ecology / Ecological and Environmental Sciences	20	-
TOTAL	20	-



TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION

Basic condition of admission

The basic condition for admission to master's (engineering) degree study (the second-degree study programme) is the full completion of the first degree of university study (Higher Education Act, No. 131/2002 Coll., as amended). In the case of a foreign applicant or a student who completed his/her study abroad, he/she shall submit along with the application form (no later than the date of enrolment), a decision on the recognition of the certificate of completion of the first degree of higher education recognised by a relevant institution in the Slovak Republic, or he/she shall ask UNIZA for the recognition of the certificate of education.

Other conditions of admission

As a condition for admission to the master's degree study programme Alpine and Mountain Ecology, the applicant must have obtained a minimum of 80 credits in subjects focused on ecological and environmental sciences (ecology, biology, geology, limnology, and equivalent subjects) during his/her previous bachelor's degree study. Applicants who meet this condition will undergo an oral interview. The oral interview will be related to the final thesis of the applicant's bachelor's degree study and will verify the applicant's knowledge of English, which is necessary for the creation of the master's thesis. In the selection procedure, the study results achieved in the bachelor's degree study (ranking according to weighted average) will be taken into account.



ADMISSION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

The basic and other terms and conditions of admission are applicable for applicants from abroad as well as for applicants from Slovakia.

Foreign students who study in a foreign language (i.e., not Slovak) pay the tuition fee as stated in Section 92 (8) of the Higher Education Act. The tuition fee is specified by the UNIZA directive and published for the respective academic year on the university's website. Foreign students who study in the Slovak language do not have to pay the tuition fee. Applicants from the Czech Republic can use the form valid in the Czech Republic to submit their application for study. For foreign applicants who were accepted on the basis of intergovernmental agreements, bilateral agreements, or Slovak government grants, the terms and conditions stated in the respective documents are applicable.



APPLICATION FORM

Applicants fill in the application form - Prihláška na vysokoškolské štúdium - 2. Stupeň or they can also use an electronic application form. The electronic application can be filled in via the UNIZA website: <https://vzdelavanie.uniza.sk/prijimacky/index.php> or on the Portal VS (University Portal): <https://prihlaskavs.sk/sk/>.

Even in the case of the electronic application form, it is required to print it, sign it, enclose other required documents including the proof of payment of the fee and send it by post to the address of UNIZA **within the stipulated deadlines**.

If the applicant wants to participate in the admission procedure at several faculties of UNIZA, the application forms must be submitted separately to each faculty with payment of the relevant fee.

Attachments to the master's degree application form:

1. curriculum vitae,
2. proof of payment of the admission fee,
3. copy of the diploma,
4. information on the results of the previous study, a list of grades from individual subjects.

Admission fee:

Send € 30 to: Žilinská univerzita v Žiline, Univerzitná 1, 010 26 Žilina
Bank: Štátna pokladnica
IBAN: SK40 8180 0000 0070 0008 0700
Const. symbol: 0308
Variable symbol: 19032 – magisterské štúdium

Payment method: payment can be made by bank transfer or postal order to the above account.

Proof of payment: proof of payment is to be sent to UNIZA address with the application form.

Tuition fees – in accordance with the Higher Education Act, information about the amount of tuition fee for the relevant academic year will be published on the website of the University of Žilina within the stipulated deadlines.

With payment of the admission fee from the EU member states, the EES countries, territories that are considered a part of the EU (Treaty of Rome, Section 299) and SEPA countries, it is necessary to use **BIC: SPSRSKBAXXX, IBAN: SK40 8180 0000 0070 0008 0700**.



USEFUL DATES

Open Day	Deadline for submitting the application form	Entrance examination
12 February 2026 from 11:00 a.m.	1 st round: until 31 March 2026 2 nd round: until 11 August 2026	1 st round: 4 June 2026 2 nd round: 24 August 2026

If the applicant has not yet completed his/her bachelor's degree study within the deadline for submission of applications, he/she will send a list of subjects/courses he/she has already completed as well as a list of subjects that he/she has enrolled for the last semester, together with the expected date of their completion. By the deadline for submitting supplementary documents, the applicant will send the final transcript (a list of completed subjects) and diploma. If he/she has not yet obtained the diploma, he/she must send a confirmation from his/her educational institution proving that he/she has obtained a degree. The Institute of High Mountain Biology will create a preliminary list of potential applicants. The final decision will be sent to the applicants upon successful completion of their studies and after obtaining a bachelor's degree.



ACCOMMODATION

All students are entitled to accommodation in accordance with the internal regulations of the University of Žilina. During the study in Tatranská Javorina, it is possible to be accommodated on the IHMB premises or in private accommodation facilities in the surrounding villages. The IHMB can help find suitable accommodation for students. Fees for accommodation are set according to the valid price lists of accommodation facilities.



CATERING

During the study in Tatranská Javorina students can prepare meals on the premises of the IHMB by themselves or board individually.



SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Students in the master's degree study programme can obtain motivational scholarships (for excellent results or exceptional achievements) in accordance with the stated criteria. Foreign stays within ERASMUS + programme are supported by financial grants in the amount determined for the given country. **Students of the study programme Alpine and Mountain Ecology can obtain motivational departmental scholarships in accordance with the stated criteria.** In the event of an unfavourable social situation, students can apply for a social scholarship during their study.



GRADUATE PROSPECTS

MASTER'S DEGREE STUDY PROGRAMME

ALPINE AND MOUNTAIN ECOLOGY

(Field of study 1610 Ecological and Environmental Sciences)

Why to study Alpine Ecology?

The alpine environment has been undergoing enormous changes in recent times, with real economic impact on neighbouring and more distant countries. With a rapidly changing climate, the integrity of alpine ecosystems is changing too, and there are thousands of plant and animal species being affected. There is a radical retreat of glaciers as a source of water in mountain valleys, especially in the summer and autumn periods; the traditional agriculture scheme vanishes; the qualitative composition of flowing water changes; endemic and relict species of biota recede. Water resources, power plants, and dams in the high mountains now provide other than the planned capacity of energy or irrigation; the economics of the water and wood processing industries are changing; the conditions of the tourism industry and the dependence of the regions' economies on it are changing.

The aim of the master's degree study programme Alpine and Mountain Ecology is to educate young scientists focused on solving the above problems.

The combination of theory and practice is the basis for the study programme, providing students with the necessary theoretical knowledge as well as the practical experience required for employment or further study.

Aim of the study programme

The aim of the study programme is to educate the graduates with the good multidisciplinary knowledge in a wide area of Alpine Ecology.

Independent work will be emphasized, especially when writing the diploma thesis. Students will be trained to understand and critically evaluate information, methods, and research results. Students will also learn about interdisciplinary cooperation and communication and how scientific research and reporting are carried out. Completion of these programmes will provide sufficient qualification for doctoral study.

Students who complete this programme can proceed to doctoral programmes in the fields of natural sciences, ecology, and similar areas of research.

Graduate prospects

Graduate has general knowledge about ecological phenomena and contexts in nature, about the effects that limit or develop them. He/she is able to identify and interpret interactions in the environment according to the orientation of his/her diploma thesis (in water, in air, in soil, and on its surface) on the basis of model groups of organisms (plants, animals), data obtained from specialised workplaces dealing with environmental monitoring, or on the basis of changes in countries. He/she can independently solve some partial tasks related to the protection and creation of the environment. He/she can work in basic or applied research, in specialised activities of state nature protection, or in non-governmental organisations dealing with conservation. He/she understands the basic problems of mutual relations between abiotic and biotic components of ecosystems on the basis of biological, chemical, landscape, geographic, and conservation aspects of the environment. He/she can identify anthropogenic impacts on the environment and propose related environmental protection. Under the guidance of an experienced expert he/she is able to solve independently some of the easier tasks related to environmental protection and creation of the environment.