Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Board of Education

Syllabus for EnvEuro – European Master in Environmental Science

120 credits

Utbildningsplan för EnvEuro – European Master in Environmental Science,

120 högskolepoäng

DECISION

Programme code:	NM025
Date:	2010-10-20
Decision by:	Faculty Board of the Faculty of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences
Latest revision:	09 January 2026
Revised by:	Programme Board for Education in Natural Resources and Agriculture
SLU ID:	SLU.ua.2026.3.1.1-80
Applies from:	Autumn semester 2026
Board responsible:	Programme Board for Education in Natural Resources and Agriculture

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE AND OTHER ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To get admitted to the double degree EnvEuro programme the student must:

1. Apply and be admitted to SLU via universityadmissions.se

   and

2. Apply and be admitted to the EnvEuro consortium via the consortium website, enveuro.eu.

Admission through universityadmissions.se to the programme EnvEuro - European Master in Environmental Science requires a first-cycle qualification comprising 180 credits including 90 credits specialised studies in natural sciences i.e. biology, agricultural science, forest science,

geology, environmental science. Applicants with equivalent qualifications obtained by means of a degree from another country, or with equivalent knowledge obtained in some other way, may also be regarded as fulfilling the specific entry requirements.

This programme is taught in English. The applicant must further have a level of English equivalent to upper secondary school English, called English 6. SLU regulations state that applicants may meet this requirement if they were awarded a first-cycle degree from a Swedish university, or have completed 120 credits at SLU. For more information about fulfilling the requirement, please see universityadmissions.se. **Note that the EnvEuro consortium has higher requirements on English proficiency, which are mandatory for admission.**

Specific requirements apply for admission to the individual courses included in the programme. Some courses have higher admission requirements than only being admitted to the programme. However, there are combinations of courses that only require admission to the programme.

OBJECTIVES

General objectives

The general objectives for first- and second-cycle courses and programmes are specified in the Swedish Higher Education Act (Chapter 1, Sections 8–9).

Objectives for a Degree of Master

In accordance with the annex to the Ordinance for the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, for a degree of Master (120 credits) the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in certain areas of the field as well as insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate specialised methodological knowledge in the main field of study.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues critically, autonomously and creatively as well as to plan and, using appropriate methods, undertake advanced tasks within predetermined time frames and so contribute to the formation of knowledge as well as the ability to evaluate this work
- demonstrate the ability in speech and writing both nationally and internationally to clearly report and discuss his or her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required for participation in research and development work or autonomous employment in some other qualified capacity.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

DEGREE

Degree awarded on completion of the programme

Upon completion of the programme, the degree of Master of Science is awarded. Other general qualifications may be awarded, provided that the requirements for them are fulfilled. More information can be found in SLU´s degree regulations.

Students who fulfil the qualification requirements for a degree will be issued a degree certificate upon request. The degree certificate will specify the qualification as *Degree of Master of Science (120 credits) with a Major in Environmental Science*.

In addition to a degree from SLU, the student may apply for a degree (double degree) from one of the other participating universities in the EnvEuro consortium.

Degree requirements

A **degree of Master of Science (120 credits)** with a major in **environmental science** is awarded to students who fulfil the course requirements (courses with a Pass grade) of 120 credits, of which at least 90 credits at second-cycle level, according to the following:

- at least 30 credits of courses with specialised study in the main field environmental science (A1N; A1F),
- at least 30 credits from an independent project (master thesis) in the main field environmental science (A2E).

In addition, the student must hold a degree of Bachelor or professional qualification of at least 180 credits or an equivalent qualification.

Requirements for a double degree

To earn a double degree, the degree requirements from both home and host universities as well as following requirements must be fulfilled:
- pass on the course Environmental Management in Europe, distance course,
- at least 30 credits of elective courses at SLU according to an approved study plan
- at least 30 credits of courses at one of the other EnvEuro universities
- successfully completed an independent project (master thesis) within environmental science according to an approved study plan and instructions from the EnvEuro consortium.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Programme description

The aim of the programme is to make students, following completion of their studies, well prepared to work on environmental and natural resource issues linked to one or several of the areas soil, water and biodiversity, based on knowledge about European ecosystems and management of environmental issues in Europe. The programme offers various opportunities for specialisation, both to students interested in management and policy issues and to students interested in deepening their knowledge in the direction of natural sciences.

The programme is offered in cooperation with several partner universities (see www.enveuro.eu).

The programme is divided into four semesters, each corresponding to 30 credits, of which the first semester is the "basic semester package" (BSP). Semesters two and three are "advanced semester packages" (ASPs), and the final semester consists of an independent project (master thesis). As part of the programme, all students should study at two of the partner universities. The first year is at the home university, in this case SLU, and the second year at one of the other universities, the so-called host university.

Basic semester package (BSP)
The purpose of the basic semester package is to provide the students with a common base for and background to the courses in the advanced semester package, and to introduce and practice concepts, theories and tools that recur later on in the programme. The introductory course Environmental management in Europe consists of a mandatory in-person introduction when students and teachers meet up, but is thereafter carried out at as distance learning. The purpose of the introductory course is to introduce the students to European conditions in relation to natural resources and environments, including environmental legislation, environmental monitoring and policy issues, among other subjects. The remainder of the BSP consists of courses at SLU.

Advanced semester package (ASP)
Ahead of semesters two and three, students select their ASP and specialisation. At SLU, there is the opportunity to choose between three different specialisations: Water Resources, Soil Resources and Land Use, and Environmental Management. Provided that the student fulfils the entry requirements for the individual courses, there is no limit to how a student can combine the two different ASPs. The student can choose two ASPs within the same specialisation, or within two different specialisations. For a degree within the programme, it is required that, in addition to the independent project (master thesis), at least 30 credits consist of the main field environmental science.

Independent project (master thesis)
The studies conclude with an independent project (master thesis), where the student can implement their knowledge, abilities and approach to a current issue within the subject area of the programme. The work is carried out at the host university, but with a supervisor from SLU as well.

Studies at SLU
Scientific approaches and scientific methods are practiced through the use of SLU's broad

research in lectures, seminars, field exercises and laboratories as well as through supervision. The students' training in generic skills is an integral part of subject courses and the independent project (master thesis). The ability to communicate orally and in writing is practised and developed in various ways throughout the programme, in dialogue with different groups within and outside SLU. The ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge is developed through work on complex issues, with particular focus on environmental and natural resource issues from a European perspective.

Courses on the programme

Main fields of study

MV = Soil Science, LV=Food science, MX = Environmental science, BI = Biology, TN=Technology, LU = Rural development, LB = Agricultural science, ÖT=Other subject

* The course has specific entry requirements beyond what can be fulfilled through courses within the program, see entry requirements in the course syllabus.

Specialisation: Environmental Management

Course and main field of study/specialisation

Year 1

Environmental management in Europe, 15 cr, MX, A1N
Food waste - current situation and future opportunities, 7,5 cr, LV/MX, A1N
Introduction to environmental communication - Understanding and addressing environmental challenges from a communication perspective, 15 cr, MX, A1N
Rurality, livelihood and gender, 15 cr, LU/MX, A1N
*Water quality in the landscape: processes, management, and policy, 7,5 cr, MX A1N
Geographic information systems for environmental and natural science studies, 7,5 cr, TN, A1N
Communication theory and strategy, 15 cr, MX, A1F
Governance of natural resources, 15 cr, LU, A1N
Conflict, dialogue and facilitation, 15 cr, MX, A1N
Models for sustainable water management, 7,5 cr, MX, A1N
Engaging critically with environmental governance practices, 15 cr, MX, A1N
*Environmental assessment, 15 cr, MX, A1N

Year 2

The Context and Process of Research I: Theories and Methods, 7,5 cr, LU/MX, A1N
The Context and Process of Research II: Theories and Methods, 7,5 cr, LU/MX, A1N
Introduction to environmental communication - Understanding and addressing environmental challenges from a communication perspective, 15 cr, MX, A1N
*Soils of the world and sustainable water and soil management, 15 cr, MV/TN, A1N
*Water quality in the landscape: processes, management, and policy, 7,5 cr, MX A1N

Models for sustainable water management, 7,5 cr, MX, A1N
Geographic information systems for environmental and natural science studies, 7,5 cr, TN, A1N
The Process of Research: Qualitative Methods, Data Analysis and Academic Writing, 15 cr, LU/MX, A1N
Communication theory and strategy, 15 cr, MX, A1F
Governance of natural resources, 15 cr, LU, A1N
Master thesis in Environmental Science, A2E, 30 cr, MX, A2E

Specialisation: Soil resources and land use

Course and main field of study/specialisation

Year 1

*Soils of the world and sustainable water and soil management, 15 cr, MV/TN, A1N
*Soil water processes in agroecosystems, 15 cr, MV/MX, A1N
Environmental management in Europe, 15 cr, MX, A1N
*Water quality in the landscape: processes, management, and policy, 7,5 cr, MX A1N
*Soil and water chemistry, 7,5 cr, MV/MX A1N
Models for sustainable water management, 7,5 cr, MX, A1N
Geographic information systems for environmental and natural science studies, 7,5 cr, TN, A1N
*Environmental geochemistry, 15 cr, MV/MX, A1N
*Soil biology and biogeochemical cycles, 15 cr, MV/BI, A1N
*The ecology of cropping systems, 15 cr, BI/LB, A1N
*Environmental assessment, 15 cr, MX, A1N

Year 2

*Soils of the world and sustainable water and soil management, 15 cr, MV/TN, A1N
*Soil water processes in agroecosystems, 15 cr, MV/MX, A1N
Qualified work placement 2, 15 cr, ÖÄ, AXX
*Water quality in the landscape: processes, management, and policy, 7,5 cr, MX A1N
*Soil and water chemistry, 7,5 cr, MV/MX A1N
Models for sustainable water management, 7,5 cr, MX, A1N
Geographic information systems for environmental and natural science studies, 7,5 cr, TN, A1N
Research internship in Soil Science, 15 cr, MV A1F
Research internship in Environmental Science, 15 cr, MX A1F
Safe nutrient recycling, 15 cr, MX/BI, A1N
*Environmental geochemistry, 15 cr, MV/MX, A1N
Master thesis in Environmental Science, A2E, 30 cr, MX, A2E

Specialisation: Water resources

Course and main field of study/specialisation

Year 1

Environmental management in Europe, 15 cr, MX, A1N
*Ecology for Fish Management and Conservation, 15 cr, BI, A1N

*Soil water processes in agroecosystems, 15 cr, MV/MX, A1N
*Water quality in the landscape: processes, management, and policy, 7,5 cr, MX A1N
*Soil and water chemistry, 7,5 cr, MV/MX A1N
Models for sustainable water management, 7,5 cr, MX, A1N
Geographic information systems for environmental and natural science studies, 7,5 cr, TN, A1N
*Principles of Fisheries Science, 15 cr, BI, A1N
*Environmental geochemistry, 15 cr, MV/MX, A1N
*Soil biology and biogeochemical cycles, 15 cr, MV/BI, A1N
*Environmental assessment, 15 cr, MX, A1N

Year 2
Ecology for Fish Management and Conservation, 15 cr, BI, A1N
*Soils of the world and sustainable water and soil management, 15 cr, MV/TN, A1N
Soil water processes in agroecosystems, 15 cr, MV/MX, A1N
Qualified work placement 2, 15 cr, ÖÄ, AXX
*Water quality in the landscape: processes, management, and policy, 7,5 cr, MX A1N
*Soil and water chemistry, 7,5 cr, MV/MX A1N
Models for sustainable water management, 7,5 cr, MX, A1N
Geographic information systems for environmental and natural science studies, 7,5 cr, TN, A1N
Research internship in Soil Science, 15 cr, MV A1F
Research internship in Environmental Science, 15 cr, MX A1F
Safe nutrient recycling, 15 cr, MX/BI, A1N
Principles of Fisheries Science, 15 cr, BI, A1N
*Environmental geochemistry, 15 cr, MV/MX, A1N
Master thesis in Environmental Science, A2E, 30 cr, MX, A2E

The courses offered may change during the course of the programme. Decisions on the courses offered are taken well in advance of the next academic year.

For each course, there is a course syllabus providing more detailed course information. Information on when courses are offered is available on the SLU student web.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AND OTHER REGULATIONS

Transitional provisions

Other regulations

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The mandatory application to the EnvEuro consortium must be made according to the instructions on the consortium website: enveuro.eu.

The program begins with a mandatory in-person kick-off for all first-year students in the program, from all partner universities. This meeting is partly at your own expense.

At SLU, three of the program's specializations are offered for semesters 2 and 3: *Water Resources, Soil Resources* and *Land Use, and Environmental Management*. At the other universities within EnvEuro, where students starting at SLU study in year two, more specialisations are offered.

General regulations for first- and second-cycle courses and programmes

For more information on semester dates, examination, credit transfer and admission to the latter part of a programme, please see the Regulations for education at Bachelor's and Master's level, available on the SLU student web.

Possibilities for further studies

Students who complete the programme and are awarded a degree of Master have the option to continue their studies at doctoral level.