

ERASMUS Intensive Course EUROSTAIN, North-, South Tyrolean Alps, 13th to 25th May 2012
"Training on sustainable management of European mountain areas"
Preliminary Programme of the IP course EUROSTAIN

Topics, course programme, class material for the IP course EUROSTAIN

Based on a detailed ecological and environment-economical inventory from the Tyrolean Alps, the ecological impact of land-use changes will be analysed and indicators for sustainable development in rural areas will be elaborated. In discussions with decision makers, scenarios and implementation strategies will be developed by using state of the art technologies (planning games, modelling and visualising tools). The link to EU research projects guarantees newest scientific methods taken into account thoroughly.

Project target group

The target group includes students in the second stage of study of the departments of "Applied Ecology", "Landscape Planning", "Agriculture and Forestry Studies", and "Environmental Engineering". The Intensive Programme will allow elaborating the methodical basis for the analysis and assessment of status, endurance and potential development of rural areas. It represents a contribution to the training of experts in the fields of environmental planning and decision making and environmental monitoring concentrating on sustainable development in rural areas.

Activities, method, pedagogic and didactic concept

Instruction comprises the fields of environmental monitoring; remote sensing and GIS; collection and assessment of ecological and socio-economic indicators in rural areas; Environmental Impact Assessments; visualising environmental monitoring results; methods of optimisation of interactions between ecology, economy and decision making applied to specific examples (i.e. selected success studies). During the IP, theoretical and experimental work both in the laboratory and outdoors will be closely linked. Short introductory lectures will allow the students to get an idea of the topic and the methods applied in each case.

Certificate of course participation

To participate in IP EUROSTAIN the Innsbruck students are asked to be enrolled for both lectures (LV 743154 + LV 743156). Based on an individual report each participant will receive certificates for both lectures and EU funding.

Working language, registration, estimated expenses, EU funding, prepayment

The teaching language for the intensive course will be English. The ultimate deadline for registration is the 29th of February 2012. Accommodation cost in South Tyrol (half board: bed & breakfast, dinner) will be 142 Euro, 107 Euro are funded by the EU Intensive Programme, the rest of 35 Euro has to be paid by the students themselves. The bus transfers in Northern Tyrol will cost 15 Euro. Bus transfers in Southern Tyrol (80 Euro) are funded by the EU Intensive Programme. In South Tyrol lunch (lunch packets) have to be paid by the students themselves. To cover all costs each Innsbruck student has to pay 50 Euro (prepayment), the rest of 187 Euro will be funded by the EU.

Number of participating students

The overall number of participating students in the IP course is limited to 44. The Universities Evora (PT), Zaragoza (ES), Pamplona (ES), Tartu (EE), Nitra (SK), Padova (IT), Trento (IT) and Bolzano (IT) have nominated 24 students and the University of Innsbruck has the possibility to nominate up to 20 students.

Further important information

Participating students should be able to walk in mountain terrain and be suitably equipped for mountain hiking. Sufficient knowledge of English is necessary to be able to follow lectures and explanations in English, and to take part in discussions and also to give short oral presentations in English, as the course is held in English!

Lecture-contributing Institutions

University of Innsbruck¹, Free University of Bolzano/Bozen², Università degli Studi di Trento³, Universidad de Zaragoza⁴, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona⁵, University of Aberdeen⁶, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra⁷, European Academy Bolzano/Bozen⁸, Instituto Pirenaico de Ecología Jaca⁹, Departement Natural Hazards and Alpine Timberline, BFW¹⁰, Office Tyrolean Gov., Forest Service¹¹, Autonomous Province of Bolzano¹², Alpengasthof Praxmar¹³, Alpengasthof Praxmar¹⁴.

Preliminary Programme of the Erasmus Intensive Course EUROSTAIN
Innsbruck (A), Mals and Bolzano (I), 13th to 25th May 2012

Sunday, May 13 16:30 – 19:00 19:30	Opening Lecture – University of Innsbruck Opening lecture (Cernusca ¹) Welcome – vinum academicum
Monday May 14 09:30 – 13:00 14:00 – 17:30	Introductory Lectures – University of Innsbruck <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scientific background of the IP course (Cernusca¹)• Sustainable land use and land use change in the Alps (Tappeiner^{1,8})• Sustainable Water Management in Alpine Mountain Areas (Comiti²)• Sustainable management in the Carpathian Mountain Areas (Hresko⁷)• Sustainable land use in the Ebro Valley & Pyrenees (Badia⁴, Fillat^{4,9}, Gomez^{4,9})• Ecotourism: is it the answer to sustaining mountain communities? (Bayfield⁶)
Tuesday May 15 09:30 – 14:00 15:00 – 17:30	Visit and Lectures – Alpenzoo, Innsbruck <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lectures on conservation and management of Alpine fauna (Herrero⁴) and ex situ conservation (Martys¹³)• Visit to the zoo (Martys¹³ and Alpenzoo staff¹³)• Lectures on ecosystem services (Gomez^{4,9}) and• Sustainable energy at European, national and regional level (Bayfield⁶, Stöhr¹¹)
Wednesday May 16 09:00 – 17:30	Field visits and lectures – EU-Pilot study area Stubai Valley (Bahn ¹ , Bayfield ⁶ , Cernusca ¹ , Höller ¹⁰ , Newesely ¹ , Stöhr ¹¹ , Tappeiner ^{1,8} , Tasser ⁸) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable land use and global changes• Forest development and protection from natural hazards• Effects of global changes on mountain ecosystems – EU research projects
Thursday May 17 08:30 – 18:00	Field visits and lectures – Haggen - Kühtai - Praxmar (Bayfield ⁶ , Cernusca ¹ , Höller ¹⁰ , Newesely ¹ , Sattler ¹ , Melmer ¹⁴) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Success story Haggen – Forest restoration – protection from natural hazards.• Ski resort Kühtai – Winter tourism based on artificial snow.• Hydropower plant Sellrain-Silz – Conflict hydropower development – nature conservation.• Effects of global changes on mountain lakes – Limnology. Research Station Kühtai, 2417m.• Success story Praxmar – Eco tourism as a tool for sustainable rural development
Friday May 18 09:30 – 16:00 16:00 – 18:00	University of Innsbruck – Decision Modelling, Stakeholder Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Democratic Ecology. Making ecological decisions with stakeholders (Bayfield⁶).• Decision modelling and stakeholder consultation in the Catalanian pasture area (López⁵).• Key pad Workshop (Bayfield⁶). University of Innsbruck – Barn dances (Bayfield ⁶).
Saturday May 19 09:30 – 16:00	University of Innsbruck – Decision Workshop 1 (Sustainable Tourism Development) Three Groups (developers, planners, nature conservationists) consider three different management plans (No further development; Further winter expansion; Summer expansion) (Bayfield ⁶ , Cernusca ¹)
Sunday, May 20 09:30 – 16:00	University of Innsbruck – Workshop 2 (Sustainable Valley Development) Three Groups consider alternative management plans for the “Sellrain Valley” (Eco-tourism, Local quality produce, Renewable energy) (Bayfield ⁶ , Cernusca ¹)
Monday, May 21 9:00 11:00 – 18:00	Field visits and lectures – Upper Vinschgau Valley Bus Transfer to the Upper Vinschgau Valley, Italy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reschen hydropower reservoir (Willigis¹², Tappeiner^{1,8}, Tasser^{1,8})• Sustainable River Management: Etsch-Dialogue Vinschgau Valley
Tuesday May 22 09:30 – 14:00	Field visits and lectures – Matscher Valley <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable management and global changes (Tappeiner¹, Tasser^{1,8}, Bertoldi⁸, Niedrist^{1,8})
Wednesday May 23 08:30 – 16:00 17:00	Field visits and lectures – Geology and Natural hazards <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geology and natural hazards (Mair¹², Tappeiner^{1,8}, Tasser^{1,8}) Bus Transfer to Youth Hostel in Natz
Thursday May 24 08:30 – 18:00	Field visits and lectures – Interaction between flood risk and land use in mountain basins <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field visit to the Rienz and Ahr basins, Pustertal (Comiti², Tonon²)
Friday May 25 08:30 – 10:30 08:30 – 16:00 16:00 – 17:00 17:30 20:30	Free University of Bolzano – Restoration Ecology – Ecosystem Restoration <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to ecosystem restoration: History, concepts, and limitations - examples from Central Europe (Zerbe²)• Field visit and on-site discussion: Restoration of traditional land-use systems (Zerbe²)• Final discussion and Evaluation of IP Eurostain (Cernusca¹) Bus transfer to Innsbruck, Italians return to home Universities End of the IP course in Innsbruck

For further information see <http://eurostain.uibk.ac.at>