

Master's Programme in Ecology, Evolution and Biodiversity conservation

Gain a perspective on biology from the level of genes to communities of species and become an expert in ecology, evolutionary biology and conservation biology.



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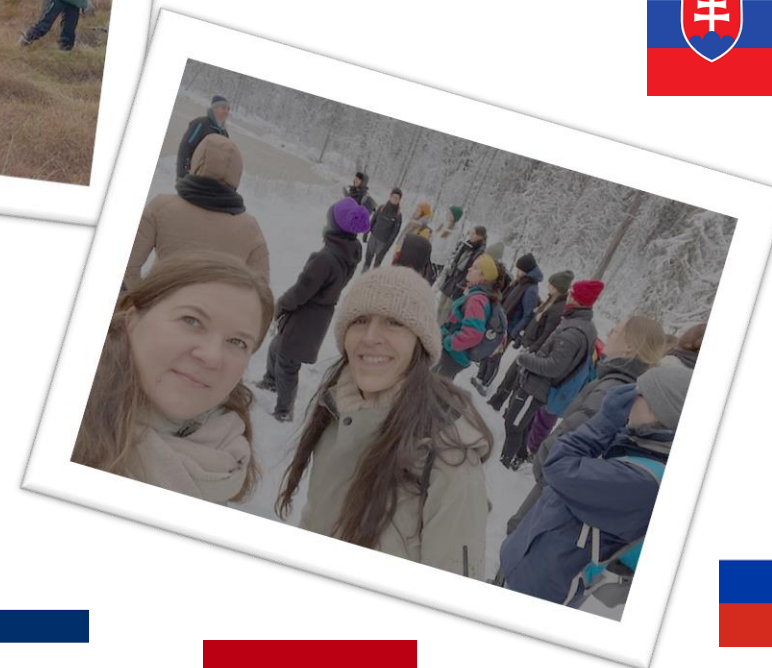
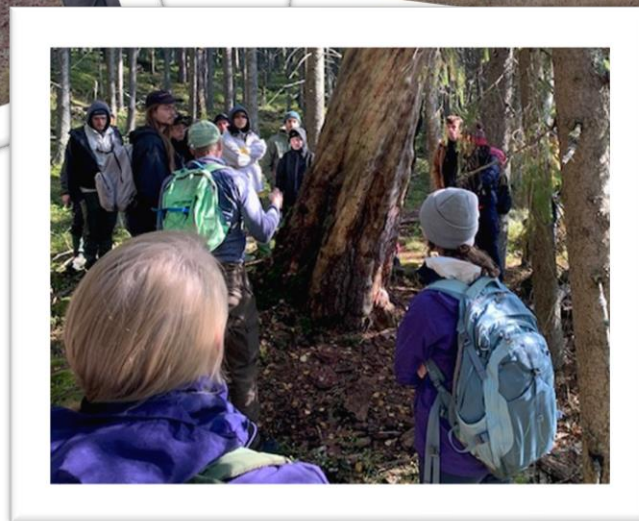
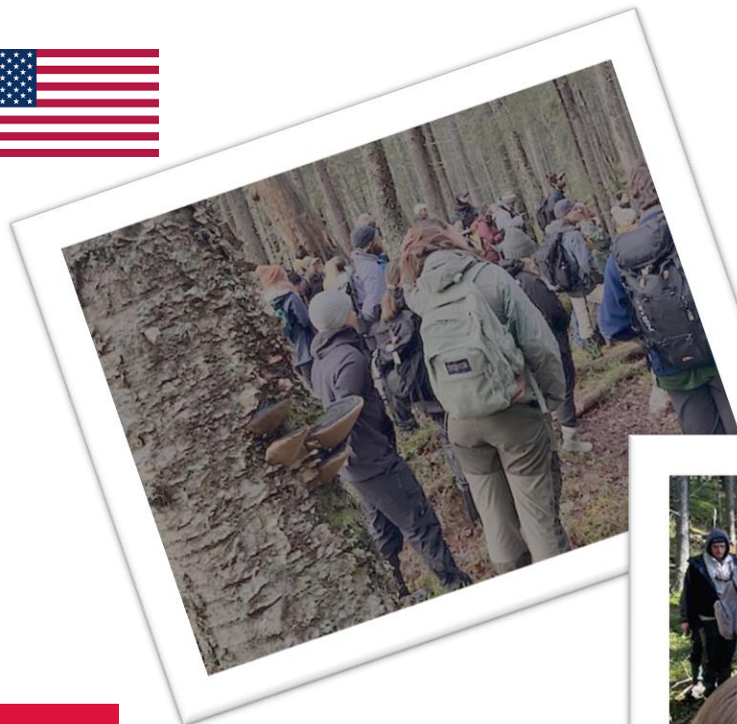
Sara Alfthan
uni-help@helsinki.fi

STUDENT TUTORS:

Sovit Raj Regmi
North Ross
Rojina Ghimire
Martina Rubi Hernandez

EEB ORIENTATION DAY

Highly international MSc programme



Students in 2026:
15 different nationalities
> 50% from outside Finland

General information

https://studies.helsinki.fi/instructions/article/study-planning-and-psp-guidance?check_logged_in=1

[Frontpage](#) > [Instructions](#) > Study planning and PSP guidance

Study planning and PSP guidance

Belongs to themes: [For new degree students](#) [Where can I get guidance and advice?](#) [Study support](#) [Plan your studies](#)

By selecting a degree programme you are able to see the general content as well as the possible degree programme-specific content. You do not have to select a degree programme to see the Open University's instructions.

Select degree programme

Master's Programme in Ecology, Evolution and Biodiversity conservation



Your degree requirements include writing a personal study plan (PSP), a process that starts during the orientation week and continues throughout the degree programme to support your progress and the development of your expertise. You receive support and guidance from the teacher assigned to this role and from Student Services.

- All announcements and specific information from the Master's Programme is dispatched to firstname.lastname@helsinki.fi e-mail addresses (e.g. e-mail lists use it)
 - If you are not using @helsinki.fi, use automatic forwarding
 - Check your junk folder regularly

Learning outcomes and objectives in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB)

Upon graduating you can:

- master the main theories and methods in ecology, evolutionary biology & conservation biology
 - apply your skills to solving practical problems
 - plan and successfully carry out scientific research projects
 - write good scientific English
 - work in research projects and groups
 - Be employed with your transferable skills as an expert in different types of duties:
 - Research (41%), research training towards PhD with your skills and solid theoretical background (graduate school ELOISA)
 - In local, national and EU administration, experts in public, private and third sector, education, conservation practitioners, media etc.
- "Practical and theoretical skills":
Course work, book exams, MSc thesis, internships*
- "Transferable/Soft skills":
Throughout your studies,
MSc thesis, internships*

EEB 120 cr – Curriculum 2026-2030

Every EEB student takes:

- EEB compulsory core & specialized studies 80 cr
- EEB complementary studies 20 cr
- Other studies 20 cr

EEB compulsory, core studies 60 cr

each course is 5 cr

EEB-001 Ecology

EEB-020 Evolution

EEB-003 Statistical methods

+ **EEB-006** Your MSc thesis 30 cr

EEB-004 Thesis planning

EEB-005 Thesis support

EEB-019 Quantitative methods

EEB compulsory, specialized studies 20 cr

Each course 5 cr – choose 4

1 Ecology

EEB-308
Biodiversity

EEB-310
Macroecology &
Global change
EEB-113
Behavioural
ecology

EEB-301
Conservation
fundamentals
EEB-302
Conservation
conflicts

2 Biodiversity conservation

EEB-314
Conservation
genetics

GMB-204
Population
genetics
EEB-201
Molecular lab
methods

3 Evolution

EEB-310
Eco-evo
dynamics

- + Every EEB student will
- make annual **study plan**
- take **thesis maturity test**



EEB Curriculum 2026-2030 in a nutshell (120 cr.)

- **EEB-compulsory core studies (60 cr)**

- EEB-001 **Ecology** (5 cr)
- EEB-020 **Evolution** (5 cr)
- EEB-003 **Statistical Methods** (5 cr)
- EEB-019 **Quantitative Methods** (5 cr)
- EEB-004 + EEB-005 **MSc thesis planning & Scientific writing** (5+5 cr)
- EEB-006 + VIIKB-001 (30 cr): **MSc thesis & maturity examination**

- Discipline core studies, analytical methods, MSc thesis and supporting courses



EEB Curriculum 2026-2030 in a nutshell (120 cr.)

- **EEB-compulsory core studies (60 cr)**

- EEB-001 **Ecology** (5 cr)
- EEB-020 **Evolution** (5 cr)
- EEB-003 **Statistical Methods** (5 cr)
- EEB-019 **Quantitative Methods** (5 cr)
- EEB-004 + EEB-005 **MSc thesis planning & Scientific writing** (5+5 cr)
- EEB-006 + VIIKB-001 (30 cr): **MSc thesis & maturity examination**

- **EEB-compulsory specialized studies (20 op)**

- Must choose four

- EEB-308 **Biodiversity** (5 cr)
- EEB-118 **Behavioural ecology** (5 cr)
- EEB-310 **Macroecology** (5 cr)
- EEB-203 **Eco-evolutionary dynamics** (5 cr)
- GMB-204 **Population genetics** (5 op)
- EEB-201 **Molecular laboratory skill** (5 cr)
- EEB-314 **Conservation genetics** (5 cr)
- EEB-301 **Fundamentals of conservation biology** (5 cr)
- EEB-302 **Dialogues in conservation biology** (5 cr)

- Scheduled so that can be carried out during the first year (except MSc thesis & EEB-005)



EEB Curriculum 2026-2030 in a nutshell (120 cr.)

Advanced Studies, 100 cr

- **EEB-compulsory core studies (60 cr)**

- **EEB-compulsory specialized studies (20 op)**

- **EEB-complementary studies (20 cr)**

- Theory & Methods (e.g. Geoinformatics, Marine biodiversity, Speciation...)
- Field courses (e.g. Field Course in Arctic Ecology & Field course in Mammalian Ecology)
- Working life experience through internships (in and/or outside academia)
- Book exams



EEB Curriculum 2026-2030 in a nutshell (120 cr.)

Advanced Studies, 100 cr

- EEB-compulsory core studies (60 cr)

- EEB-compulsory specialized studies (20 op)

-

- EEB-complementary studies (20 cr)

Other studies, 20 cr

- From EEB:n or from other MSc programmes (esim. ECGS, GMB, LYYRA, Neuro, Geography...)

- Good to plan based on own interest – based on what skills you may need for your future
- EEB-, other elective studies and MSc thesis carried out during the second year

For tuition fee paying students only (to support integration):



National Language Scholarship

Starting from autumn 2026, a National Language Scholarship will be awarded to students who complete Finnish or Swedish language studies at the University of Helsinki.

Eligibility

To qualify for the scholarship, you must:

- Be a tuition-fee-labile student whose study right begins in **2026 or later**.
- Complete at least **5 credits** of either Finnish or Swedish language courses **at the University of Helsinki during one academic year**.
- Complete the credits in **one** language only. Finnish and Swedish credits **cannot** be combined to meet the 5-credit requirement.
- Be registered as an **attending student** when the scholarship is paid, **in the autumn term of the following academic year**.

Scholarship Amount and Payment

- **€800** per eligible academic year.
- The scholarship is paid to your **Finnish bank account**.



Teaching arranged and scheduled in four 7-8 week periods

Schedule for the Academic Year 2026-2027

Autumn 2026

Spring 2027



1st teaching period
Aug 31– Oct 18

Exam and study week
Oct 19 – 25

2nd teaching period
Oct 26– Dec 13

Exam and study week
Dec 14 – 20

Intensive period
Jan 4 – 17

3rd teaching period
Jan 18– Mar 7

Exam and study week
Mar 8 – 14

4th teaching period
Mar 5 – May 9

Exam and study week
May 10 – 16



Example schedule – 1st years:

Period 1		Period 2		Period 3		Period 4	
Compulsory Core Studies (select all)		Compulsory Core Studies (select all)		Compulsory Core Studies (select all)		Compulsory Core Studies (select all)	
EEB-001 Ecology – From theory to practice	5	EEB-003 Statistical Methods in Ecology		EEB-004 Planning a Master's Thesis			
EEB-020 Evolutionary Biology	5			Compulsory Specialized Studies (select min 20 cr)		Compulsory Specialized Studies (select min 20 cr)	
EEB-019 Quantitative Methods in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	5	Compulsory Specialized Studies (select min 20 cr)					
		EEB-301 Fundamentals of Conservation Biology	5	EEB-203 Eco-Evolutionary Dynamics	5	EEB-310 Macroecology and Global Change	5
		GMB-204 Population Genetics	5	EEB-308 Biodiversity Research and Assessments	5	EEB-302 Conservation Dialogues: Expanding Ecologists' Toolkit	5
		Complementary EEB Studies (select 20 cr)		EEB-118 Behavioural Ecology and its Applications	5	EEB-314 Conservation Genetics	5
				Complementary EEB Studies (select 20 cr)		EEB-201 Molecular Laboratory Methods and Analyses	
		EEB-204 Speciation theory **	5	LSI34008 Experimental and Monitoring Design in Ecology**	5	EEB-116 Climate Change and Biodiversity: Consequences and Conservation Measures **	5
		EEB-313 Geoinformatics in Ecology	5				

- Good to plan based on own interest
- Don't over schedule – approximately 15 cr / period
- If the compulsory studies offered are not what you are interested in, fill your schedule with the **complementary** or **other studies**

Many FBES Professors and lecturers share interest in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology



Helen Phillips



Johanna Mappes



Marjo Saastamoinen



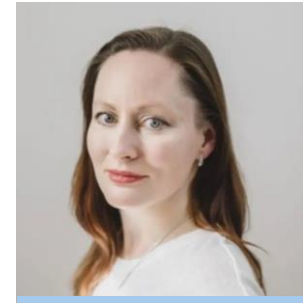
Craig Primmer



Elina Kaarlejärvi



Riitta Savolainen



Emma Vitkikainen



Péter Poczai



Anna-Liisa Laine



Julia Kemppinen



Rose Thorogood



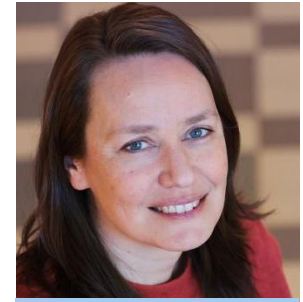
Anne Duploux



Claudius Kratochwil



Perttu Seppä



Heini Kujala



Tutku Aykanat



Jarno Vanhatalo



Frauke Ecke



Fredrick Guillaume



Ulrika Candolin



Mar Cabeza



Ville Mustonen



Tomas Roslin



Roosa Laitinen

Interested in plants?



Anna-Liisa Laine

Plant disease & biodiversity



Julia Kempainen

Plant biodiversity, traits & microclimate

Plasticity & adaptation in plants



Roosa Laitinen

Plant community ecology



Elina Kaarlejärvi



Biological stations



Janne Sundell



John Loehr



Alekandra
Lewanowska



Eva Kisdi



Aleksi Lehikoinen



Natural History
museum (LUOMUS)

Faculty of Science



Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences (FBES)

'Code of Conduct'

- How we encounter each other and behave at our Faculty (founded on the University's shared values)
 - **Pursuit of truth**
 - **Lead with empathy**
 - **Embrace freedom, creativity & collaboration**
 - **Champion diversity, reject discrimination**
 - **Driving progress through sustainability**
- More specific CoCs for
 - RESEARCH**
 - TEACHING**
 - LABORATORIES**
 - FIELD RESEARCH & RESEARCH COURSES**
 - AI USAGE**



Code of Conduct

TEACHING

- Engagement and Participation
- Open communication
- Safety and Environmental Awareness
- Continuous Improvement and Professional Development

FIELD RESEARCH & RESEARCH COURSES

- All fieldwork and field courses should be a safe, rewarding and enjoyable experience for all.
- No tolerance for harassment, bullying, or victimization in any form.
- The use of alcohol and recreational drugs whilst in scheduled sessions in the field is prohibited.
- Taking photos or videos of other people and posting of them on social media, requires that informed consent is obtained from anyone who could be identified in the photo/video.

AI USAGE

AI in general is extremely efficient and useful tool. There is no reason to avoid or restrict its usage, due to extraordinary nature and capability of AI it does require some commonly agreed rules and ethical consideration (Transparency, Human accountability, Respect for authorship, Data privacy compliance, critical evaluation etc)

Link:

<https://flamma.helsinki.fi/en/group/bio-ja-ymparistotieteellinen-tiedekunta/viikki-code-of-conduct>

EEB ORIENTATION DAY

EEB JORY



Marjo Saastamoinen
Director (FBES)



Rose Thorogood
Vice director (HiLIFE)



Elina Kaarlejärvi
(FBES)



Helen Phillips
(FBES)



Timo Pihlajamäki



Jarno Vanhatalo,
(FBES & Faculty of Science)



Julia Kemppinen
(FBES & Luomus)



Caludius Kratochwil
(HiLIFE)

Jurina Orosova



Sovit Raj Regmi

ACADEMIC TUTORING

- Each student has an assigned guiding teacher (for 2 years)

Your first contact-point in study related issues:

1. <https://studies.helsinki.fi/instructions>
2. Uni-help@helsinki.fi
3. Your teaching tutor



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Otso, Puhalainen