

## *MEX Nationalpark Bayerischer Wald*

### *Multiday Excursion to the Bavarian Forest National Park*

**Bachelor – Summer Term 2018**

This excursion will be held in English.

#### **Description**

The Nationalpark Bayerischer Wald (Bavarian Forest National Park) is Germany's first national park (founded in 1970) and one of its largest. It borders to Czech Bohemian Forest, also partly a protected area, forming one of the largest contiguous area of forest in Central Europe. The Bavarian Forest National Park exemplifies many interesting aspects and challenges of nature conservation in Germany, including tensions between conservation and land use, an increasing focus on protecting wilderness and for allowing ecosystem dynamics (e. g., forest disturbance), the return of large mammals, particularly lynx and wolf, and the challenges that cross-border protected areas face. The excursion will discuss and showcase these issues, mainly in the field and during hikes, and allow for interactions with both researchers working in the national park as well as park officials. A focus will also be on large mammals and ongoing restoration and reintroduction work (e. g., lynx, wildcat, European bison). Students will receive literature before the excursion and are expected to be prepared. To receive credit, students will have to write a report.

#### **Time schedule**

Day 1	Trip to the Bavarian Forest National Park
Day 2	Excursion and hike to the park, meeting with researchers of the NP office. Focus on large mammal management and reintroductions, and protecting wilderness.
Day 3	Hike in the surrounding of the park, meeting with NP officials. Focus on interactions between the park and the surrounding local communities.
Day 4	Trip back to Berlin

<b>Dates:</b>	12 - 15 July 2018 (starting and ending at the Geography Department)
<b>Transportation:</b>	Buses of the Geography Department
<b>Approximate costs:</b>	150 €, including accommodation, transport, food (without drinks) and fees
<b>Report:</b>	Participants are expected to write a short excursion report (Protokoll) in order to get credits (Exkursionstage)
<b>Credits:</b>	1 (SP)
<b>Requirements:</b>	This excursion is open to everyone but particularly useful for students participating in the <u><i>Module Conservation Biogeography</i></u> and/or those that have completed the <u><i>Module Introduction to Biogeography</i></u> .
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