M.Sc. Global Change Geography

Prof. Tobias Krüger
Transformations and uncertainties of land-water systems
IRI THESys Modules: 1, 7, 8

Prof. Tobias Kümmerle
Conservation science, land system science
Biogeography Modules: 3, 4, 7, 8

Prof. Tobias Lakes
Spatial analysis and modelling of human-environment interactions
Geoinformation Science Modules: 1, 6.1, 7, 8

Prof. Wolfgang Lucht
Earth system analysis and modelling, sustainability science
PIK Module: 2

Prof. Dörthe Tetzlaff
Ecohydrology and landscape hydrology
IGB Module: 5.1

Prof. Christoph Schneider
Climatology – urban climate and air quality, cryosphere and climate
Climate Geography Modules: 2, 5.1, 7, 8

Further Information
Information on the study programme:
hu.berlin/mscgeo
Information regarding application and deadlines:
hu.berlin/apply
Programme summary

Master students of the M.Sc. Global Change Geography will gain profound knowledge of current research questions, approaches and insights regarding the interactions between environment and society in the context of global change. Therefore, the programme aims at providing knowledge on scientific methods and findings from physical geography, in particular biogeography, climatology, hydrology, remote sensing, sustainability sciences, and geoinformation science. Students learn to integrate scientific theories, findings, and procedures for analysing and modelling human-environmental systems. In addition, the specialization of scientific key skills such as scientific writing and presenting, the analysis of primary literature as well as special language skills in English is a major qualification goal. The competencies for dealing with questions of global change and sustainable transformation are provided by applying a wide range of teaching and assessment modes such as classical classroom teaching, virtual lessons, research guided project work, intense research seminars and field work.

The study programme qualifies students for a wide range of professional fields, such as employment in science, planning, consultancy, nature conservation, development cooperation, specialized media or international organizations.

Programme organization

The M.Sc. Global Change Geography is a two-year master programme. Year one consists of compulsory and elective modules. The modular structure of year two with flexible and research orientated specialization modules enables students to tailor the programme around individual interests and career goals. All courses are taught in English. See overview below for details.

Application and Enrolment

Applicants hold a BSc degree in physical geography or a neighbouring discipline. German language skills are not required for this study programme. For further information on requirements and procedures, see hu.berlin/apply and hu.berlin/mscgeo.

Understanding the Geography of Global Change

Humanity has become the major driver of regional and global change in the Anthropocene. While we face planetary constraints regarding resources, climate and ecological resilience, rapid transformations are taking place from local to planetary scales.

The M.Sc. Global Change Geography at Humboldt-Universität aims at providing a broad understanding of these processes from a physical geography perspective.

Exemplary Study Programme

1. Semester

1 Quantitative Methods for Geographers
2 Climate and Earth System Dynamics
3 Global Land Use Dynamics

compulsory partly elective free elective

4 Ecosystem Dynamics and Global Change

5 Acquisition and Analysis of Environmental Data
5.1 Field observation in climatology and hydrology
5.2 Earth observation

6 Environmental Modelling
6.1 Spatial modelling of the human-environment systems
6.2 Systemic sustainability assessments of urban areas

7 Elective Specialization 1
8 Elective Specialization 2
9 Scientific Writing

General Elective

Master Thesis