Student Handbook Annex – TRACEE Master ST9

Study track 9: Global Change Biology

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1 The study track 9: Global Change Biology

The study track Global Change Biology (ST9) equips students with a deep understanding of biodiversity, ecological interactions, and the impacts of global change on ecosystems.

1.1 The vision of the study track

Students will be prepared through a combination of scientific theory and practical, field-based skills to address complex environmental challenges using cutting-edge methods in biodiversity conservation and ecological analysis. The study track provides students with a well-rounded skill set in ecological research, statistical modelling, and project management, blending rigorous scientific training with hands-on experience.

1.2 Target group of students: Entry requirements

The ST9 aim for student with a Bachelor in Natural Science or equivalent, especially those specialised in Biology.

1.3 Intended Learning outcomes of the study track

In addition to the learning outcome for the programme, the student will, at the end of ST9, be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to apply an interdisciplinary approach and systems thinking in Global Change Biology, integrating knowledge of biotic and abiotic interactions, evolutionary history, and responses to past, present, and future climatic and environmental changes.

- Demonstrate proficiency in the scientific method, including designing and conducting investigations, applying knowledge to real-world biodiversity challenges, and staying updated on advancements in the field.

- Demonstrate the ability to communicate and debate biodiversity management and preservation with diverse audiences, critically evaluate the ethical and social dimensions of interventions, and promote naturalistic awareness.

- Demonstrate the ability to independently acquire and update knowledge, adapt to diverse cultural perspectives, and enhance cross-border collaboration and language skills.

2 Structure overview of the study track 9

The study track is divided in 4 semesters of 30 ECTS each for a total of 120 ECTS.

The study track takes place at Stockholm University (SU), Sapienza University of Rome (SUR) and Aix-Marseille University (AMU).

- The first semester corresponds to the programme common core. It takes place in Stockholm, Sweden (SU) in autumn and is described in the Student Handbook.
  Autumn semester 2025: 1 September 2025 – 18 January 2026

- The second semester is the first part of the study track specialisation in Global Change Biology. It takes place during the spring semester in Rome, Italy (SUR).
  Spring semester 2027: [Start date and end dates to be decided]

- The third semester is the second part of the study track specialisation in Global Change Biology. It takes place during the autumn semester of the second year in Marseille, France (ULB)
  Autumn semester 2027: [Start date and end dates to be decided]

- The fourth and last semester is dedicated to the final degree project, the Master thesis. It takes place during the spring semester 2027 at SU, SUR or AMU.
  SU: 18 January 2027 – 6 June 2027
  SUR: [Start date and end dates to be decided]
  AMU: [Start date and end dates to be decided]

Study track	**Semester 1**	**Semester 2**	**Semester 3**	**Semester 4**
ST9: Global Change Biology	SU	SUR	AMU	SU or SUR or AMU
	Common Core	**Study Track**		**Master Thesis**
	Transdisciplinary stream			

3 Study track content overview

The study track overview by study progress is presented below:

University	Code	Module Title	ECTS per Semester				Total ECTS
			S1	S2	S3	S4	
SU	Mandatory	Climate, Energy and Environment – A Transdisciplinary Perspective • Systems Thinking (3 ECTS) • Climate, Environment and Energy – A Natural Science Perspectives (9 ECTS) • Climate, Environment and Energy – A Social Science Perspectives (9 ECTS) • Climate, Environment and Energy – A Humanities Perspective (6 ECTS) • Creating Knowledge Through Transdisciplinary Methods (3 ECTS)	30				30
SUR	Mandatory	Global Change Biology		6			30
	Mandatory	Conservation of Forest Resources		6			
	Mandatory	Plant Paleoecology and Evolution		6			
	Mandatory	Micropaleontology Applied to Climate Change		6			
	Mandatory	Chemiometrics		6			
AMU	Mandatory	Biogeography: Past and Present			3		30
	Mandatory	Biotic Interactions (3 ECTS)			3		
	Mandatory	Ecosystems Functioning: Global Changes and Ecosystem Services (6 ECTS)			6		
	Mandatory	Sampling Strategies and Statistical Modelling of Ecological Systems (3 ECTS)			3		
	Mandatory	Statistical Modelling for Functional and Spatial Ecology (3 ECTS)			3		
	Mandatory	Implementing the Scientific Approach: Collaborative Field Schools (6 ECTS)			6		
	Mandatory	Expert Approach to Ecology (3 ECTS)			3		
	Conditionally Elective	Professional Tools, 1 among 2 in the list provided: • Science Workshop: From State of the Art to Mediation (3 ECTS) • Setting Up Projects – Public Procurement – Entrepreneurship (3 ECTS)			3		
SU / SUR / AMU	Mandatory	Master Thesis				30	30
			30	**30**	**30**	**30**	**120**

4 Your semester at Sapienza University of Rome (SUR)

4.1 Arrival and welcome activities

To help you settle in at SUR, we run a **Welcome Week** in September and February fully dedicated to international students. We will help you find your way around, settle in, learn about your courses and faculty and make new friends. Detailed information on the Welcome week agenda and activities will be available on our website 2-3 weeks prior to your arrival.

The Hello Help Desk is a welcoming office providing in-depth and customized information to international students who wish to study, conduct research or participate in internships at Sapienza University. Hello provides also a first contact service that helps students in contacting the right offices and people. The Hello Help Desk is staffed by 100 Sapienza students from all around the world with an excellent knowledge of the English language. Students can request information on enrolment, undergraduate and graduate degrees, specialisation schools, PhDs, master courses, internships, individual courses and thesis research. The Hello helpdesk also organizes visits of the University campus for international students. The Hello information desk fulfils its activities in the venue located under the dean's building porch. In order to benefit from the infodesk service you do not need an appointment.

More information:

HELLO - International Student Help Desk: Rectorate (Aula Magna Colonnade) of the main Campus, Office hours: Monday – Friday 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, E-mail: hello@uniroma1.it

4.2 Visa and Resident permit

4.2.1 Visa and Customs

EU citizens do not need a visa to enter Italy. However, if your stay will be longer than three months, you will need to register at the Anagrafe of the Comune where you live. Non-EU citizens have to apply for a student visa at the Italian Embassy or Consulate in their home country. Please keep in mind that you can only apply for your visa after having received confirmation of your admission to the university. The full list of documents required for visa application is available on Italian Embassy websites and on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: (www.esteri.it/MAE/EN).

If you are travelling from a Schengen country, there is usually no passport control at the airport (in compliance with the Schengen agreement). If you are travelling from a non-Schengen country, you will undergo a passport and visa check. Please make sure you have all the required documents.

4.2.2 Airport Security

You may be stopped at the airport and asked additional security questions. If you encounter any problems on arrival or if you have any concerns regarding your passage through immigration/ passport control, please ask the Immigration Officer to contact Sapienza International Office by telephone (Tel. 06 4991 0789 From Monday to Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm).

4.2.3 Residence Permit

All non-EU citizens who intend to stay in Italy for longer than 3 months must apply for a residence permit within 8 working days from their arrival in Italy. Please note:

- This does not apply to students from a European Union member state (or EU equivalent states)
- If you lose your residence permit you will have to reapply following the instructions below.

How to Apply: Pick up a residence permit kit at any post office. There is one on the main campus by the Viale Regina Elena entrance or you can go to the main post office branches either at Piazza San Silvestro or Piazza Bologna (10 minute walk from the main campus). Complete the application form using a black pen and attach photocopies of the required documents along with 15 a tax revenue stamp (ask for a €16 *marca da bollo* at any tobacconist). Instructions are included in the Residence Permit Kit; however, if you are unsure or have any difficulties, you can ask for assistance at our International Office or at the HELLO Office.

Once you have completed your application form, you need to present it at the post office. On filling your application, you will have to pay around €130 (for the Residence Permit procedure). The post office will give you a receipt for your application, which is your proof of having applied for the residence permit and also indicates the date/time/place of your appointment with the Immigration Office (Police). You will have to go to the appointment to complete the application for your residence permit. For the first appointment, you must bring 4 passport-sized ID photos with a white background, one of which will be attached to your residence permit.

4.2.4 Tax code

The Tax code (*Codice Fiscale*) is an alphanumerical code based on your first name, family name and date and place of birth. It is used by the public administration to identify citizens living in Italy. Everyone living in Italy must have one. The Codice Fiscale is also necessary to apply for a residence permit, to open a bank account, to sign a rent agreement, to obtain a canteen card and for many other procedures/ activities.

You will be able to apply for your tax code directly on campus during the Welcome Week that is organised for incoming students. Should you not be able to attend the welcome event, you can apply at the Agenzia delle Entrate (Via Ippolito Nievo 36) when you arrive in Rome. Office Hours: Mon-Wed-Fri 7:50 am – 1:30 pm and Tues-Thurs 7:50 am – 3:30 pm The office is located about 500m from the Trastevere train station and can be reached with tram n. 8 or bus no. 3 or 780, getting off at the Piazza Ippolito Nievo stop.

The Italian Embassy/Consulate in your country of residence could also issue your tax code before your departure.

4.3 Housing

Sapienza University does not have student housing per se, but offers a series of affiliated housing agreements and recommendations. The Sapienza website provides constantly updated information on housing opportunities, rental agencies, etc. Private Accommodation On average, prices for a private room in a shared apartment range from €350 to € 550 (or higher) per month, depending on distict/area. Please note that you will also be required to pay a 1-3 month deposit when you sign a contract. Always demand a signed receipt of payment, if it is not given to you.

4.4 Living expenses

Rome is not a cheap city, but it is much cheaper than many other European cities and there are plenty of reasonably priced and low-cost alternatives for students. Food is great and generally inexpensive, especially if you shop at a supermarket or local market stalls. Eating out, movies and other leisure activities are, again, less expensive than many other European capitals. A meal at a restaurant will vary depending on where and what you wish to have, but a pizza and a beer in a pizzeria costs about €10-15, unless of course you are in the heart of the tourist city centre! Public transportation in the city is also relatively cheap - €1.50 per journey - and much cheaper if you invest in a monthly or yearly pass. Trains are also far cheaper than in other European cities. Moreover, you can take advantage of a large range of student offers and discounts available at clubs, museums, sporting events, etc. Your greatest expense will be housing, depending on which area of Rome you choose.

On average, you will need at least €800-900/month to live in Rome. Although you only need proof of about €450/month to apply for your student VISA, please be warned that this is not enough to live in Rome.

A word of advice:

Do not make any advance payments from abroad. Make sure to meet with the person who is providing the accommodation when you arrive in Rome before making any payments and if you have any doubts do not hesitate to contact the Welcome Office for advice. To obtain a visa, you may require proof of accommodation (a receipt or letter attesting your accommodation). If this is the case, temporary accommodation at a hostel or bed and breakfast will provide you with the necessary proof without having to spend large amounts of money from abroad.

Unfortunately, due to the high demand for student housing in Rome, some landlords take advantage of the enormous influx of students by trying to rent their properties to students without an official rental contract. Clearly, this leaves the tenant unprotected and is illegal under Italian law. Bill no. 23/2011 has made it easier to report dishonest landlords and force them to provide you with a legal contract.

Like any major city, Rome has its problems. Although it's a relatively secure city in terms of personal safety, you should pay special attention to your purse, wallet and other personal belongings when you are on public transport (buses, subway, trains, etc.). If you take a Taxi, make sure that the driver activates the meter and only charges you for correct supplements. These are all listed and detailed in Italian and English on laminated posters on the back seats of all taxis.

Should you lose or have your wallet stolen, you must go to a Police or Carabinieri station to file a declaration. Also don't forget to block your ATM card with your bank and any credit cards via phone or web.

4.5 Bank

You can open a bank account at any bank in Italy by presenting the following documents:

- Tax identification code (codice fiscale)
- Passport and Visa
- Letter of invitation/acceptance by host university (where applicable).

You can also choose to open a BancoPosta account at Poste Italiane (Italian Post Office). Unicredit bank and Poste Italiane have a branch at the Sapienza University main campus.

4.6 Public transport

Metrebus, Rome's public transport system, integrates a variety of different transport services: underground/tube, urban trains, buses and trams. There are several different types of Metrebus tickets that can be bought at ticket offices, newsagents, tobacconists and automatic machines in stations. You should not board on the public transport without a ticket. Please remember that you must always validate your ticket at the beginning of your journey and when transferring onto the metro (your ticket must be re-stamped within 100 minutes from the first validation stamp and is then valid until the end of your journey on the metro). It is only valid for one metro journey, but you can take more than one bus. You must keep your ticket with you while travelling on public transport and be ready to show it, on request, to ticket inspectors.

Types of Tickets:

BIT - Integrated Time Ticket: it costs € 1.50 and lasts 100 minutes from the initial validation; only one metro or train journey is permitted.

Daily Pass: it costs €7 and is valid for 24 hours from first validation for an unrestricted number of journeys.

Monthly Pass: it costs €35 and lasts for the calendar month, as printed on the pass, for one person for an unrestricted number of journeys; you can buy a monthly pass from any tobacconist and news agency up to the fifth day of each calendar month; starting on the sixth day of each month, the pass can only be purchased from ticket offices and ATAC sales points; the holder must complete the pass with his/her personal details. Holders must show their pass along with some form of ID to ticket inspectors.

Annual Pass: it costs €250 and is valid for 365 days from the date stamped on the pass; it can be purchased at any ATAC ticket office by filling out the forms and attaching a passport photograph.

Need help figuring out your route? Use the ATAC wizard: https://viaggiacon.atac.roma.it/

Taxis in Rome are white. They have an identification name and number on the front door and all have meters. They can be easily found in every part of the city at special taxi stops or you can call one of the numerous radio-taxi companies at: 06 3570, 06 6645, 06 8822, 06 4157, 06 4994 or 06 5551.

4.7 Navigating campus

Find your way around Sapienza campuses without getting lost! Sapienza Virtual Tour is an app that works on any device and helps you easily locate offices, structures, lecture halls, libraries, labs, museums and student offices.

Sapienza Virtual Tour

Sapienza Maps

4.8 Student health

Upon arrival in Italy, all international students must prove adequate health coverage. EU citizens and non-EU citizens access healthcare differently. In Italy, assistance, registration and activation of health coverage are provided by ASL (Aziende Sanitarie Locali).

EU citizens can access medical services in Italy and all EU countries with their European Health Insurance Card (or E106 form). The EHIC allows free access to general practitioners, hospitals and A&E services (including surgical services). A co-payment is required for specific examinations or specialist visits.

Non-EU citizens must have private health insurance with specific requirements, approved by the Consulate/Embassy issuing the visa. Alternatively, they may choose to register with the Italian National Health Service (Italian acronym SSN) by paying a fee. The registration fee is to be paid by postal order addressed to: "Amministrazione P.T. - contributo Servizio Sanitario Nazionale", C/C number 370007", inserting the reason for payment in Italian "Iscrizione volontaria al Servizio Sanitario Nazionale" (Voluntary registration with the National Health Service). Once the payment has been made, you can register with the nearest ASL by presenting the following documents:

- Certificate of residence (or self-certification)
- Valid ID card/passport
- Tax code (codice fiscale)
- University enrolment certificate (or self-certification)

What to do in case of a medical emergency

Call the free number 118 (ambulance) or go to the nearest hospital or "guardia medica" (out-of-hours service doctor). At the A&E, the patient is colour-coded according to the severity of their situation (in

order of severity: red, yellow, green, white), which determines the priority with which they will be treated. In the case of a white code, waiting times can be very long.

For minor health problems, it is advisable to contact your GP directly. If necessary, they will refer you to a specialist check-up and provide you with the required documentation. To book an appointment for a specialist examination, call the toll-free number 80 33 33 (CUP - Centro Unico Prenotazione) and tell them which service your GP requires.

Remember always to carry your health/insurance card (tessera/assicurazione sanitaria) and your residence permit.

Emergency numbers (toll-free):

- 112 General Emergency
- 113 Police
- 115 Fire Brigade
- 116 Car Rescue Service
- 118 Emergency Medical Care
- On-campus emergency services: 800 811 192

4.9 Life on Campus

Settling into a different environment and adjusting to new situations can be challenging, but SUR provides students with a variety of extra-curricular activities, services and counselling. We truly hope you will enjoy your time at Sapienza and make the most of it both academically and personally.

4.9.1 Libraries

With 6,000 seats, Sapienza's 46 libraries provide you with the largest university library holdings in Italy, made out of 2.7 million books and scientific journals, supported by around 160 librarians. And if you want to stay at home, by accessing online, you can read over 20,000 ebooks and more than 44,000 electronic journals and consult more than 170 databases for research. But there is much more: reading rooms open even at night, computer stations, courses on how to carry out bibliographic research or compile a bibliography, cultural activities such as book clubs, bibliographic exhibitions and bookcrossing zones**.**

SUR offers you:

- more than 40 libraries organized in 120 branches (map)
- Bookable rooms for study groups
- 2.7 million items such as books, journals, movies, maps, printed music, etc.
- Borrow services
- 20,000 e-books, 44,000 e-journals, about 170 databases, also available off campus
- Reference services face to face and by email
- Classes about how to perform a bibliographic research or how to compile a bibliography
- Cultural activities such as reading circles, bibliographic exhibitions, bookcrossing
- Paid internships in libraries
- More than 160 librarian.

All these services are free for Sapienza users.

24H Reading Rooms

Sapienza has five 24-hour reading rooms equipped with WIFI and electrical outlets for the use of personal devices. Access is reserved to regularly enrolled Sapienza students holding the student card. Addresses, opening hours and requirements for access are available on the dedicated webpage.

4.10 ICT Services

You can use the campus Wi-Fi by selecting "Sapienza" from the available wireless networks. International students can access the network by using their enrolment identification number (matricola) as a username and their Infostud password.

The Student Information System Infostud, which is accessible from the student section of the Sapienza website, is the main tool to manage administrative procedures for students, including: registration, booking exams, viewing completed exams, printing forms and certificates such as the university fee paying slip, degree records with completed exams, enrolment certificates, etc. Infostud allows students to print certificates and documents with the University digital stamp of certification. Exchange students can use InfoStud for exam registration only. The results of the exams taken during the stay at Sapienza will be included in the official Transcript of Records issued by Sapienza International Office (non-EU students) or the Faculty (Erasmus+ EU students).

All enrolled students have a free Google account for Sapienza students. Your e-mail format will be: surname.name@studenti.uniroma1.it. The university will use this account for all communications. Sapienza E-mail Account

The ITC Infosapienza Centre manages our university's Moodle system. The Moodle platform also allows for the creation of communities of students and teachers aimed at sharing information, stimulating debate and spreading good study habits. The system currently includes more than 1,000 courses involving almost 70,000 students and over 1,000 professors from all the Faculties.

4.11 Canteens

To eat at the university canteens, you have to apply for a canteen card. Please contact the specific referee of your programme (Erasmus+; Mobility Confap Italy; etc.) for further information.

Canteens:

- Via De Lollis 22 Mon–Fri 11:45 am–3:00 pm and 6:45 pm–9:00 pm; Sat 11:45 am–3:00 pm 23
- Via del Castro Laurenziano, 9 Mon - Sat 11:30 am–3:00 pm
- Via delle Sette Sale, 19 Mon–Fri 11:45 am–2:30 pm

4.12 Leisure & Free Time

To help international students get most out of everyday life at Sapienza there are a number of student groups, clubs and organisations keen to involve new international members. These include:

- Sapienza Sport: web.uniroma1.it/sapienzasport/
- Music at Sapienza (MuSa) Orchestras:
  - Classical MuSa (orchestra and chamber music);
  - MuSa Jazz (bands and solo musicians);
  - MuSa Choir (vocalist groups devoted to polyphonic and choral music).
- University Concert Institution (IUC) Lungotevere Flaminio 50, 00196 Rome. E-mail: botteghino@istituzioneuniversitariadeiconcerti.it
- Theatron – Ancient Theatre at Sapienza Piazzale Aldo Moro, 5 - E-mail: theatron@uniroma1.it
- Erasmus Student Network – Sapienza www.esn-roma.it. Student discounts are available for a wide range of products and services, as well as sports and cultural activities, both on and off campus.

4.13 Well-being, special needs and disability support

At SUR, we are committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all our students throughout their time with us. You may take care of your health and well-being thanks to free-of-charge services

as well as highly qualified medical staff and specialists. We provide nutrition and stop smoking services, a guidance to choosing your general practitioner and much more.

Sapienza Salute (Sapienza health and wellness counselling) offers health and wellness counselling services to all members of our community (students, academic and administrative staff), creating a virtual and virtuous bridge between Sapienza and Policlinico Umberto I General Hospital, Sant'Andrea Hospital and Polo Pontino.

Prevention is better than cure. SUR provides students with tools that can be useful to prevent the most common diseases amongst university students. Click the following links for more information:

- Sports in CUS Facilities (in Italian)
- Gong - Sapienza Nutrition Services (in Italian)
- Protect Your Love (in Italian)
- Unitab – Tobaccology Unit (in Italian)

Mental Health Counselling Service

Good health is about physical, mental and social well-being. Studying at a university is a delicate phase in any young person's life. It often involves a completely new environment and profoundly different studying requirements than what many students experienced in high school. Students have different relations with professors and their peers. And all of this often leads to new hardships and often innocuous habits can turn into dangerous psychological and physical habits. The purpose of this service is to provide students with useful tools for recognizing a state of distress or dependency and to offer the support needed to embark on the pathway out of such conditions. **Do you not feel at ease with yourself or around others? Do you have emotional or motivational difficulties?** If you wish, you can contact one of our Psychological Counselling Centres or attend "Noi bene" (Italian)

Services for Disabilities and Specific Learning Difficulties

All Sapienza students with disabilities and LD, that are officially certified as being equal to or above 66% have the right to specific services to help them with their academic career, allow access to all university facilities and provide full inclusion. You will need to register with the Sapienza Disabilities Office (Sportello per le relazioni con studenti disabili) to take advantage of these services. For further information: Office for students with disabilities and specific learning difficulties

The Rector of Sapienza University appoints a Delegate for the Integration of Students with disabilities and specific learning difficulties and to coordinate, monitor and support the initiatives necessary to promote the active participation of students in university life (L. 17/1999). In addition, each Faculty has a lecturer as a Contact Person for the active participation of students with disabilities and specific learning difficulties.

Self-help groups for student on the autism spectrum

The self-help groups for student on the autism spectrum provide a safe context to confront and open up to new reflections on the problems experienced, to access new solutions and, in general, feel less alone and alienated. At Sapienza University there are two on-campus groups and an online group. More information.

Technical-Scientific Committee on Diversity and Inclusion

The Scientific -Technical Committee on Diversity and Inclusion has been set up in order to favor the processes of inclusion and combat any form of discrimination, direct or indirect, within the University. The Scientific -Technical Committee on Diversity and Inclusion will work in close contact with the University Governance, to implement strategic plans and initiatives aimed at enhancing the potential of

individuals, supporting equality and integration, promoting collaboration and the creation of new networks, both internal and external, to favor policies for inclusion. Scientific -Technical Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.

Accessibility

SUR is committed to providing disabled students with accessibility to all university services. Many buildings have undergone renovation to allow greater accessibility, but not all barriers have been eliminated to date because of the sheer size of the university, as well as cultural heritage restrictions that have often made it hard to achieve a correct balance between conservation and accessibility.

4.14 Spiritual life

Rome is a large, multi-ethnic city that caters to followers of many different religions. A listing of the major places of worship in Rome is available at: tavolointerreligioso.org/luoghi-di-culto-a-roma/

In the main Campus there is a catholic church: Cappella Universitaria,
http://www.cappelladellasapienza.it/

4.15 Language courses

The main goal of Sapienza Language Centre (https://cla.web.uniroma1.it/en) is to coordinate and expand the whole spectrum of language acquisition opportunities and provide excellent language learning conditions to both internal and external students, administrative and academic staff. We offer a variety of services, including the organization and implementation of language courses and advising on all aspects of language learning. Italian language courses are free of charge for all students who wish to attend them. If you want a certificate for your Italian level, Sapienza is an authorised exam centre of DITALS, so you can take the test in Sapienza.

The Centro Linguistico di Ateneo also organises courses for all students in the following languages:

- French (intermediate)
- Spanish (beginner and intermediate)
- Persian (beginner)
- Romanian (beginner)
- Chinese (beginner)
- Greek (beginner and intermediate)

BiblioTandem

It is a cultural-linguistic exchange that brings Italian and international students at Sapienza to improve their language skills by experiencing other cultures and lifestyles. BiblioTandem is an opportunity for incoming students to meet native-speaker students of the same Faculty. The service is available in the following libraries:

- C. Darwin Biology and Biotechnology Library. For information bibliotecadarwin@uniroma1.it
- Physics Library. For information biblioteca@roma1.infn.it
- "Gabriello Illuminati'' Library. For information bibliotecailluminati@uniroma1.it
- "Guido Castelnuovo" Mathematics Library. For information biblioteca@mat.uniroma1.it
- Environmental Biology Library. For information bibliodba@uniroma1.it

5 Your semester at Aix-Marseille University (AMU)

5.1 Arrival and welcome activities

AMU organize free integration activities every semester:

https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/integration-week

According to status and nationality the student must take care of French government formalities: https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/consular-procedures

https://administration-etrangers-en-france.interieur.gouv.fr/particuliers/#/

5.2 Housing

AMU holds a contingent of rooms with CROUS, a state-run public operator. This enables to every exchange students to benefit from accommodation at very competitive rates. AMU's handbook pages 21 et 23:

https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/exchange-student-accommodation

5.3 Living expenses

If you need to obtain a visa or a residence permit to continue your studies at AMU, you must be able to prove that you have sufficient resources to support yourself in France. For non-EU students the amount officially required by the French authorities is 615 € per month. This amount will not be enough to cover all of your expenses while you are in France, so we can help you anticipate future expenses : https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/cost-living-france

5.4 Student health

AMU's Health Center gives students access, by appointment, to medical consultations, whether for general medicine or gynecology, with no advance payment thanks to full third-party payment. Handbook p.27 et 29

https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/consultations-au-centre-de-sante-universitaire (SSE)

https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr/# (CPAM)

5.5 Special needs and disability support

Universities are by its very nature, an open, universal institution dedicated to equal rights and opportunities. As a public institution, its mission is to promote the integration and success of every student. In line with these values, it is vital to take on board the issue of disability. Aix-Marseille University is deeply attached to this issue, and is committed to promoting disability.

5.6 Life on Campus

Essential on campus, the Student Life Offices (BVE) welcome and support students from their arrival and throughout their studies. Depending on their needs (financial aid, scholarships, health, social services, culture, sports…), they provide information and guidance, directing students to various university services or external organizations.

https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/node/10392

AMU is a partner of Jobbaviz, a job search platform, and also offers internal student job opportunities within the university. Handbook p.37 https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/student-jobs (SUIO)

5.7 Student organisations

AMU is aware of the interest and importance of student associations, encourages and supports its student associations. Student organisations:

https://www.univ-amu.fr/en/public/student-associations (DVEC)

6 The Master Thesis

You will have the possibility to register your Master thesis as a course either at SU, SUR or AMU for the final semester of the programme that take place during the spring semester 2027. The procedure of registration, assessment method and examination follow the local regulations of the university responsible.

6.1 The master thesis at Stockholm University

Students at Stockholm University would register to the course: "Transdisciplinary Studies of Climate, Environment and Energy, Independent Project".

The independent project is 30 ECTS and aims to provide experience and advanced knowledge in scientific and transdisciplinary work within the fields of climate, environment, and/or energy. Key elements include planning, execution, and reporting. Additionally, students will practice literature review, writing a scientific report, and presenting research results orally in seminars.

The course is divided into two parts:

- Part 1: Planning (5 ECTS). Assessment is based on a written report
- Part 2: Implementation (25 ECTS). Assessment is based on an oral and written presentation of the independent project

More information is available in the syllabus of the course.

6.2 The master thesis at Sapienza University of Rome

The Master thesis consists of an original study conducted with rigorous scientific method under the supervision of one or more Faculty members. The 30-ECTS thesis work aims to impart advanced knowledge and expertise in scientific and transdisciplinary activity related to energy, the environment, and/or climate.

In order to be admitted to the final examination, the student must have earned all the ECTS required by the teaching regulations and must have fulfilled the administrative formalities required by the University Regulations. An oral defense of the thesis is given before a seven-member university jury. A 110-point grading scale is used for the final dissertation (66 is the minimum grade necessary to graduate). The graduation grade takes into account the average (credit-weighted) marks obtained in the examinations of the previous semesters, as well as of the thesis defence.

More information is available on the webpage of the TRACEE Programme at SUR.

6.3 The master thesis at Aix-Marseille University

At Aix Marseille University, the master thesis consists in an independent project in which students develop and apply their knowledge and skills in the professional environment provided by an academic laboratory from Aix Marseille University as well as non-academic partners.

Students complete a 5 to 6-month internship, accounting for 30 ECTS, leading to the writing of a Master thesis and an oral defense. The internship is based on a project proposed by one of the research teams,

and should bear a strong transdisciplinary perspective related to Earth sciences and climate, energy and/or environment. To do so, students will be supervised by one or more Faculty members. At the end of the internship, the oral defense will take place in front of a jury composed by the pedagogical team of the Master and volunteers' researchers/lecturers from the laboratory. The final grade will be the combination of the thesis manuscript evaluation and the oral presentation, and will be provided on 20 points grading scale. Finally, the graduation grade takes into account the average (credit-weighted) marks obtained in the examinations of the previous semesters, as well as of the thesis defense.

More information is available at https://masters.osupytheas.fr/formations/master-stpe/

Contact us

Do you have any questions about the TRACEE Master programme? Please do not hesitate to contact us!

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