

- Master of Science in Biology with specialisation in Animal Ecology
- 2 years, full-time, 120 ECTS credits
- Department of Biology
- Lund Campus
- Application deadline: January 2025
- Programme start: August 2025

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

On the Master's programme in Animal Ecology, you will learn how to analyse and understand evolutionary processes at the level of genes, individuals and populations. You will achieve skills in analysing and understanding how evolutionary and ecological processes form appearance, physiology and behaviour in animals. You will also learn how to analyse costs and benefits of different traits and how these are optimised to form reproductive and survival strategies. We offer an excellent research environment, particularly in topics such as animal migration, molecular ecology, life history trade-offs, evolutionary biology, disease resistance in natural populations and host-parasite interactions. You will use modern field and laboratory methods in studies of ecological and evolutionary issues applied on animals in basic research, as well as applied conservation-related research. Special emphasis is on birds as model systems.

### Special features of the programme:

- Evolutionary theory applied to ecological problems
- Close connections to research in an international environment
- Integration of theoretical analyses with strong training of laboratory skills and experience in field work
- Testing of evolutionary hypotheses

## PROGRAMME MODULES/COURSES

**Compulsory courses:** Population and Community Ecology, Animal Ecology, and Molecular Ecology and Evolution or Conservation Biology, and a Master's degree project in Animal Ecology.

**Electives:** Ornithology, Sensory Biology, Modelling Biological Systems, Processing and Analysis of Biological Data, Bioinformatics and Sequence Analysis, and Evolutionary Biology – Patterns and Processes.

Most courses are full-time studies, and you usually take only one course at a time. The courses are typically teaching-intensive, with lectures, seminars, excursions as well as theoretical and practical exercises. You are expected to spend about 40 hours per week on studies, self-studies included. Normally, you take two courses of 15 credits per semester, i.e. a total of 60 credits per year.

## CAREER PROSPECTS

The knowledge and skills you will gain on this programme will open doors to employment within many sectors in academia and the public sector. The programme provides you with a solid grounding for PhD studies. Employment can be found within agencies concerned with environmental protection, education and within academia through research funding.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND HOW TO APPLY

### Entry requirements

A Bachelor's degree of at least 180 credits, of which 90 credits must be in science, including 5 credits in statistics and 60 credits in biology comprising cell biology, genetics, ecology and zoology, or the equivalent. English Level 6.

### How to apply

- 1. Apply online:** Go to [www.lunduniversity.lu.se/biology-animal-ecology](http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se/biology-animal-ecology). Click on "Apply" and follow the instructions for the online application at [www.universityadmissions.se](http://www.universityadmissions.se), the Swedish national application website. Rank the chosen programmes in order of preference.
- 2. Submit your supporting documents:** Check what documents you need to submit (i.e. official transcripts, degree diploma/proof of expected graduation, translations, proof of English, passport) and how you need to submit them at [www.universityadmissions.se](http://www.universityadmissions.se).
- **Programme-specific supporting documents:** When applying for this programme, you must also submit a 'Summary Sheet' with your application. See the programme webpage for details.
- 3. Pay the application fee (when applicable).**



“The flexibility and accessibility are the best part. The way the courses are you have so many professors that come in; it's not the same person teaching all the time. This way, you get a lot of different perspectives and people who have done all sorts of research. They use a lot of real-world examples from their own research, so you also get to learn about things that you haven't thought of and see practical applications of the concepts you're learning.”

Amandine Tooth from the USA





### Selection criteria/additional info

The selection will be based on grades awarded for previous academic courses, as well as the statement of purpose and qualifications from research/work of relevance (from the applicant's 'Summary Sheet').

### Tuition fees

Tuition fee SEK 170 000 per year for non-EU/EEA citizens. No fee for EU/EEA citizens. See [www.lunduniversity.lu.se](http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se) for details on tuition fees.

### ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

We have outstanding competence in education and research, covering a large number of biological disciplines from molecular biology to large-scale ecology. Several of our research groups are world-leading in their topic and a large number of international projects is coordinated by the department of Biology. As our education is integrated with the department's research, you will have researchers as teachers and get involved in ongoing projects during your studies. Our courses range from basic to Master's level. We offer around 40 advanced level courses as well as an extensive postgraduate programme.

### ABOUT LUND UNIVERSITY

Lund University was founded in 1666 and is repeatedly ranked among the world's top universities. The University has around 47 000 students and 8 800 staff based in Lund, Helsingborg and Malmö. We are united in our efforts to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition.

Lund is considered one of the most popular study locations in Sweden. The University offers one of the broadest ranges of programmes and courses in Scandinavia, based on cross-disciplinary and cutting-edge research. The unique disciplinary range encourages boundary-crossing collaborations both within academia and with wider society, creating great conditions for scientific breakthroughs and innovations. The University has a distinct international profile, with partner universities in about 70 countries.

Lund University has an annual turnover of EUR 938 million, of which two-thirds go to research in our nine faculties, enabling us to offer one of the strongest and broadest ranges of research in Scandinavia.

### CONTACT

Programme webpage:

[www.lunduniversity.lu.se/biology-animal-ecology](http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se/biology-animal-ecology)

Study Advisors

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