

■ ADMISSION

Applicants have to prove an excellent academic and professional record and hence shall have:

- a relevant academic degree (university, college or equivalent)
- a very good command of English
- and a demonstrable interest in contributing professionally to the sector.

The application procedure is based on submission of documents (application form plus supporting materials, a full CV, a letter of motivation and two reference letters) and a subsequent oral interview (personal, skype).



Triglav National Park, Slovenia

■ THE MCA-TEAM

The scientific director **Michael Jungmeier** (jungmeier@e-c-o.at) has taken the overall responsibility for the scientific and pedagogic quality of the program. The administrative director **Alexandra Liegl** and her staff answer to all organizational matters. Program coordinator **Susanne Glatz-Jorde** is the contact point for lecturers, applicants, participants and graduates (glatz-jorde@e-c-o.at). She is supported by a network of regional contact points: see our homepage www.cuas.at/mca

The programme is being counselled by **3 different Advisory Boards**. A continuous flow of information and exchange within this network provides the programme management with up-to-date knowledge and access to current trends and discourses in nature conservation:

The **Institutional Board** of the MCA's function is to give access to most recent developments, decisions and policies of relevant international institutions. Members are, for example, representatives of the IUCN/WCPA, KfW German Development Bank, the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the Ramsar Convention or the Europarc Federation. Full List of Members: see our homepage www.cuas.at/mca

The **Scientific Board** is securing the excellency of scientific methods and pedagogic approaches, as well as to give access to most recent concepts and theories, empiric work and research results. It consists of scientists and researchers from Europe's centres of excellence in environmental studies and from most renowned Universities.

The **Austrian Experience Pool** is an open forum that gives access to exemplary Austrian parks, best practice, show cases, model projects but also conflicts and problems that can be visited, discussed and analysed by the program's participants. Possibilities for seminar works, master thesis and internships arise out of the fluent exchange.

Please get in contact with Susanne and her team any time. Please learn more about program, the team, our lecturers and trainers and members of the advisory board at our homepages:

www.cuas.at/mca and www.mca.e-c-o.at



The core team: Alexandra Liegl, Michael Jungmeier, Susanne Glatz-Jorde

CARINTHIA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
CENTER FOR FURTHER EDUCATION

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Zimbabwe/Zambia



Albania



Ethiopia



Ukraine



Hungary



Armenia

MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM

MANAGEMENT OF CONSERVATION AREAS

IN COOPERATION WITH
E.C.O. INSTITUTE OF ECOLOGY

WWW.CUAS.AT/MCA



OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM



PROFESSION & CAREER

The planning and managing of conservation areas involves many different legal, administrative and technical aspects – the demand for highly skilled experts is growing. The Carinthian University of Applied Sciences has launched an international postgraduate master degree program dealing with these inter- and transdisciplinary challenges.

The aim of this program is to promote biodiversity conservation and regional sustainable development in Europe and worldwide by educating and training (future) managers of conservation areas. The MCA program focuses on skills which enable and empower to:

- manage conservation areas effectively;
- use new ways of communication;
- deal with stakeholders in a better way;

Graduates of this program work as managers of conservation areas, national parks, biosphere reserves or world heritage sites. They develop and support community-managed sites and indigenous protected areas or shape the future of international organizations. Graduates may also work in the consulting, planning and scientific sector.

“GLOBALLY, PROTECTED AREAS HAVE PROFESSIONALISED THEIR WORK SIGNIFICANTLY. WE OBSERVE AN INCREASING DEMAND FOR SKILLED, WELL TRAINED AND HIGHLY MOTIVATED PERSONALITIES IN THE SECTOR” ANDREJ SOVINČ, EUROPEAN VICE CHAIR OF THE WORLD COMMISSION ON PROTECTED AREAS, WCPA.

TUITIONAL CONTENT

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing the MSc Program the manager and decision makers of conservation areas will be able to fully promote and understand biodiversity conservation and its contribution to sustainable development. The knowledge will be applicable worldwide and hence will have a strong focus on development cooperation.

Participants will gain:

- a comprehensive understanding of the **aims and roles of conservation areas** with regards to the conservation of biodiversity and (integrated) regional development;
- a detailed knowledge of the full range of **tools available for the management of conservation areas**;
- the ability to **analyze and solve problems** encountered when establishing, planning or managing conservation areas, including the implementation of inter- and transdisciplinary dialogues with all stakeholder groups;
- **hard and soft skills** to create mutual benefits for nature conservation on the one hand and the local population on the other hand, particularly in peripheral regions as well as in developing countries.

The technical components of the program have a focus on terrestrial, in particular mountainous ecoregions.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Academic title:
“Master of Science (MSc) – Management of Conservation Areas”

Organization:
4 terms, 120 ECTS; Tuition fee: € 12.900,-

Start and Deadline for Application:
For details see our homepage: www.cuas.at/mca

Besides the core team (Carinthian University of Applied Sciences and E.C.O.), lecturers are around 30 internationally recognised experts. They represent the broad portfolio of different backgrounds, ranging from theoretical (science) to practical knowledge (park managers, consultants, international organizations). Innovative teaching and training formats support the development of relevant competencies. Interactive settings give way to peer-to-peer learning and allow for individual interaction with trainers and lecturers. An international advisory board supports the program in terms of quality control and gives access to most recent research, technologies and trends.

CURRICULUM

The duration of the university certificate program is **4 terms (2 years) and 19 courses**. The total work load of the program is **120 ECTS**. All presence courses are conducted in eight blocks of five to 12 days and therefore allow to combine the training with an upright employment. Hence, substantial components of the training are provided by e-learning. Presence courses will be held in different venues, for instance in seminar facilities of different parks and conservation areas in Central Europe.

| | Course title | SWS | Days of presence | ECTS |
|----------|--|-----|------------------|------------|
| Term I | Introduction to the course of studies and basic information on the topic | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| | Introduction to categories and institutional frameworks of conservation areas | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| | Introduction to scientific foundations of the management of conservation areas | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| | Reflexion I: Transdisciplinarity, group dynamics and trans-cultural learning | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| | Principles of development cooperation, development planning and development research | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| | Thesis I: Introduction to topic / conducting a scientific study | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Term II | Principles of management, public management and business administration | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| | Conservation methods & technologies: tools and devices | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| | Principles of strategic planning and interactive communication designs | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| | Reflexion II: Transdisciplinarity, group dynamics and trans-cultural learning | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Thesis II: Contents, methods, exposé | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Term III | Methods for the integrated and participative planning of conservation areas | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | Methods for the integrated and participatory management of conservation areas I: Internal process | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| | Reflexion III: Transdisciplinarity, group dynamics and trans-cultural learning | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Thesis III: Supervised empirical work | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Term IV | Methods for the integrated and participatory management of conservation areas II: External processes | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | Methods for the integrated management of buffer zones, corridors and conservation area networks | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| | Thesis IV: Analysis, resulting, editorial work | 5,5 | 3 | 11 |
| | Final exam (commission) | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| | | | | 120 |

“THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS SUCH AS UNESCO BIOSPHERE RESERVES IS A DIFFICULT TASK. BRINGING TOGETHER NATURE CONSERVATION, RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN A PARTICIPATIVE WAY REQUIRES NOT ONLY ENTHUSIASM AND INSPIRATION BUT ALSO A LARGE EXPERTISE ON THE MANIFOLD ASPECTS OF CONSERVATION AREAS. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THIS MASTER COURSE IS A VALUABLE INSTRUMENT IN IMPROVING THE MANAGEMENT OF CONSERVATION AREAS.”
GÜNTHER KÖCK, AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, AUSTRIAN MAB NATIONAL COMMITTEE

