

# INTERNATIONAL MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SOILS AND GLOBAL CHANGE (SOIL BIOGEOCHEMISTRY AND GLOBAL CHANGE)

PROGRAMME JOINTLY OFFERED BY GHEENT UNIVERSITY, AARHUS UNIVERSITY, BOKU UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF GÖTTINGEN

120 ECTS CREDITS - LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

## WHAT

The International Master of Science in Soils and Global Change (IMSOGLO) programme aims at teaching the knowledge, tools, technologies and applications in the context of soils and global change by bringing together the expertise of research groups at 4 renown EU universities: Ghent University, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (Vienna), University of Göttingen, and Aarhus University.

The academic partners are complementary, and each have specific expertise in biogeochemical and physical aspects of soils under global change and can thus provide the necessary multidisciplinary approach to cover the complete chain:

- All partner Universities work on soils worldwide, which is useful to provide a variety in classroom examples to the students and allows a rich choice in study areas for thesis research;
- Aarhus University has a strong profile in soil physics and global change issues in arctic and temperate regions;
- The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (Vienna) has a strong profile in soil microbiology and greenhouse gas fluxes in temperate and tropical soils;
- The University of Göttingen has a strong profile in biogeochemistry of agricultural and natural soils of temperate and tropical soils;
- Ghent University has a strong profile in physical and chemical soil degradation research and optimal soil & water management worldwide.

The academic partners collaborate closely with non-educational partners from both the public and private sectors. Associated Partners have a structural regular commitment towards the programme, and the large networks at all partner institutes allow options for theses and internships through ad hoc opportunities, offers or requests.

## STRUCTURE

This 2-year programme contains 120 ECTS credit units and has two specialisation options of 90 ECTS:

- **Soil biogeochemistry and global change** is organised by Ghent University, the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna and the University of Göttingen and leads to a joint MSc-diploma issued by these 3 universities.

Student mobility within Europe is an integral part of the 2-year programme. Both specialisations share

the introductory module of Soil Fundamentals at Ghent University (first semester, 30 ECTS, which includes a joint primer event) and a joint summer activity at the end of the second semester. The courses and locations during the second and third semester depend on the chosen specialisation. Students follow mandatory courses and choose eligible courses up to a total of 30 ECTS per semester (see [www.imsoglo.eu](http://www.imsoglo.eu) for a list of mandatory and elective courses). The MSc-thesis is done at one of the universities organising the specialisation, with co-supervision from the other university. It is also possible to do the thesis in conjunction with one of the associated partners: Joint Research Centre of the European Community, or Chinese Academy of Sciences (Nanjing).

## LABOUR MARKET

A needs analysis at the start of IMSOGLO has shown there is a substantial need for soil consultants primarily in the fields of agronomy and pollution. There is a larger need for academics, mainly in the fields of land-use change and greenhouse gas emissions, which strongly proves the need and relevance for the scope of the programme: soils and global change. Analysis of alumni of preceding MSc-programs showed that almost 45% of the alumni took jobs in the public sector, mostly in research and partly in education. About 50% of the alumni took jobs in either consultancy, industry or agriculture/agro-industry.

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## TOELATINGSVOORWAARDEN VOOR HOUDERS VAN EEN VLAAMS DIPLOMA

### 1 Na onderzoek van de bekwaamheid van de student om de opleiding te volgen:

- Een diploma van een bacheloropleiding in het academisch onderwijs binnen één van de volgende studiegebieden (of een combinatie ervan):
  - Biotechniek
  - Industriële Wetenschappen en Technologie
  - Toegepaste Biologische Wetenschappen
  - Toegepaste Wetenschappen
  - Wetenschappen

### Additional Information on Admission (Flemish Degree)

All students who meet the minimum eligibility requirements mentioned above can be admitted by the Management Board (MB), while the Student Selection Group proposes an admission list. For all students who have received a positive advice from the MB of IMSOGLO and the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering at Ghent University with respect to admission to the programme, the Head of Department of Student Administration and Study Programmes draws up an official admission letter. This letter lays down the rules for the registration method and states the participation fee. A copy of this letter will be sent to all partner institutions.

All candidate students (regardless of the country in which they obtained the diploma that grants access to the programme) are admitted on an equal basis.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEGREE STUDENTS

The course is open to a holder of an academic Bachelor degree (minimum 180 ECTS credits) in pure or applied sciences (e.g., Chemistry, Biology, Geology, Physical Geography, Geo-ecology, Civil or Agricultural Engineering, Environmental or Agricultural Sciences, etc.) or an equivalent level from a recognised university or Engineering College. The obtained bachelor degree must contain at least 40 ECTS credits in natural sciences (physics, chemistry, mathematics, ecology, biology, geography, environmental sciences and agricultural sciences).

More information can be found on the programme website [www.imsoglo.eu](http://www.imsoglo.eu).

Information on admission requirements and the

administrative procedure for admission on the basis of a diploma obtained abroad, can be found on the following page:

[www.ugent.be/admission](http://www.ugent.be/admission)

## LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Language requirements Dutch: no language requirements

Language requirements for this study programme differ from the required standard level for English taught study programmes as specified in the Ghent University Education and Examination Code:

### English:

The English language proficiency can be met by providing a certificate (not older than 2 years) of one of the following tests: (other certificates such as TOEFL/IELTS predictive tests and TOEIC will not be accepted)

- TOEFL IBT 90
- ACADEMIC IELTS 6,5 overall score with a min. of 6 for writing
- ESOL CAMBRIDGE English CAE (Advanced)

Exception: Candidates having obtained at least 60 ECTS credits during higher education in one of the following countries can provide an English language of instruction certificate issued, stamped and signed by their previous university: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Australian Territories, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Cameroon, Canada, Cook Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Great Britain, Guernsey, Guyana, Hongkong, India, Ireland, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Jersey, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia, Namibia, Nauru, New-Zealand, Nigeria, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Rwanda, Salomon Islands, Samoa, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, South-Africa, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, United States of America, United Kingdom Overseas Territories, US Territories, Vanuatu, Zambia or Zimbabwe.

A language of instruction certificate will not be accepted if the degree was obtained in another country than the countries listed above.

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## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Study programme

[studiekiezer.ugent.be/international-master-of-science-in-soils-and-global-change-soil-biogeochemistry-and-global-change-en/programma](https://studiekiezer.ugent.be/international-master-of-science-in-soils-and-global-change-soil-biogeochemistry-and-global-change-en/programma)

### Information sessions

#### Graduation Fair

[afstudeerbeurs.gent/en/students/further-studies](https://afstudeerbeurs.gent/en/students/further-studies)

#### Open Days

Each spring there is a **Graduation Fair**. It consists of a job fair (with more than 200 different companies) and a postgrad/master fair.

For some programmes, there is a specific **Open Day**. If this is the case, you will find the date here (at the latest Feb 15th).

23 April 2024 19u00 - 21u00 - Campus Coupure (E-blok, Agora), Coupure Links 653, 9000 Gent

### Enrolling institution

Ghent University, University of Göttingen, Boku University, Aarhus University

Information on enrolment at Ghent University.

### Application Deadline (for International degree students)

More information on programme specific application procedures and deadlines for both **Belgian and international students**.

### Tuition fee

More information is to be found on: [www.ugent.be/tuitionfee](https://www.ugent.be/tuitionfee)

### Contact

Ghent University  
Faculty of Bioscience Engineering  
International Training Centre  
Coupure Links 653  
9000 Gent  
[applications.itc@ugent.be](mailto:applications.itc@ugent.be)  
[imsoglo@ugent.be](mailto:imsoglo@ugent.be)

#### Learning path counsellor

Mevr. Isabelle Vantornhout  
[studietraject.coupure.bw@UGent.be](mailto:studietraject.coupure.bw@UGent.be)

[www.imsoglo.eu](https://www.imsoglo.eu)