Partner

University of Bologna
Latest technical facilities are offered in the field of plant science by the University of Bologna, one of the oldest universities of the world. The new “College of Agriculture” is directly involved in the experimental area. One of the main topics of the institution is fruit-growing and viticulture with a special focus on ecophysiology and breeding. Traditional knowledge is combined with the latest insight in molecular biology.

Free University of Bozen-Bolzano
The Faculty of Science and Technology of this University was founded in 2007, and is grown rapidly by recruiting highly qualified scientific staff from abroad and from Italy, expanding the teaching offer to the Master and PhD levels, developing a range of local, national and international scientific cooperations, and enlarging its research facilities.

MATE University
The faculty of Horticultural Science became one of the prominent places of European horticultural teaching during the last 150 years. The educational objectives are to provide excellent skills in each branch of sustainable horticulture based on up-to-date knowledge in natural science. The graduating students are specialists, familar with foreign and Hungarian horticulture. A special role is given to ecological approaches, quality aspects and integrated technologies.

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna
Main research focuses of the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences Vienna are renewable resources. Thereby importance is attached to various fields of activity to contribute to the protection of these fundamentals of life for future generations. Principle basics for the modern education are focal points in research of practical relevance and ecological interest, internationality and multidisciplinarity.

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Drone video of the Dahlem campus of the Thaer Institute:

Study programme

International Master in Horticultural and Plant Sciences

Albrecht Daniel Thaer-Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences

Faculty of Life Sciences

Study programme

International Master in Horticultural and Plant Sciences

WELCOME

About 1.600 students are currently enrolled at Albrecht Daniel Thaer-Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences at the Faculty of Life Sciences. It is situated on two locations: The Campus Mitte at the city centre and the green Campus Dahlem. The Thaer-Institute is involved in several research cooperations, including patner universities and research centres. It is also member of the German Research Alliance (DAFA).

Berlin, the capital of Germany, offers a unique combination of international metropolitan life and rich cultural diversity. With its wide range of museums, theatres and opera houses, as well as numerous parks and green spaces, the city provides an attractive environment for studying and living. The surrounding landscapes of Brandenburg offer additional recreational opportunities close to the city.

The future English Master's degree program "HoPla – International Master in Horticultural and Plant Sciences" is planned to be offered starting in the winter semester 2026. This will enable students to study exclusively at Humboldt University in Berlin or in cooperation with the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna, University of Bologna, Free University of Bozen and MATE University – University of Budapest. If certain conditions are met, students have the possibility to obtain a Master's degree at HU Berlin or a Double Degree (M.Sc.) with a partner university.

The admission to the master program requires an university degree equivalent to the German Bachelor or Diplom in Life Sciences. These include, in particular, horticultural sciences, agricultural sciences, forestry sciences, environmental sciences, ecology, biology.

Curriculum

The Master's program is designed to prepare students for qualified professional careers as well as for doctoral studies. All modules are taught in English. Graduates are equipped to analyze complex challenges in the fields of horticultural and plant sciences and to develop and implement targeted solutions, taking into account both natural scientific and societal contexts. Throughout the program, students acquire in-depth subject-specific, theoretical, methodological and social competencies essential for independent scientific work, along with creativity, innovation skills and a strong sense of responsibility in a dynamic professional environment.

A key feature of the program is its strong international orientation. Students have the opportunity to study at internationally renowned horticultural science institutes at European partner universities and to select courses from a shared international module pool. Successful completion of the program qualifies graduates for careers in research and teaching within academia, participation in national and international research and development projects, and professional roles in areas such as horticulture and plant production, public administration, pharmaceutical industries, food trade, science communication, as well as research, development and related services.

The recommended study plan is structured as follow:

Semester	Module	ECTS	University
1st	Compulsory modules	30	HU
2nd/3rd	Compulsory elective modules	50	HU or up to 45 ECTS can be taken from the partner university
	Interdisciplinary Compulsory elective modules	10	
4th	Master thesis	30	HU or in cooperation with the partner university

Modules

Compulsory modules at HU (30 ECTS required/ 10 ECTS each module)

- Methods in Ecophysiology and Crop Quality Assessment
- Advanced Plant Pathology
- Transdisciplinary Research on Agriculture, Horticulture, Food and Natural Resources

Compulsory elective modules at HU (50 ECTS required/ 10 ECTS each module)

- Seminar Horticultural Science
- Monitoring and Evaluation of Agrarian Processes
- Plant Nutrition in Horticultural and Agricultural Systems
- Current Topics in Phytomedicine
- Plant Pathogens in the Environment and Control Management
- Combined Farming Systems
- Modelling and Phenotyping in Crop Science
- Horticulture of the Future (Fexible multi-module including Horticultural Plant Breeding, Urban Agriculture and Horticulture, and Plant Health)
- Soil Systems, their Regeneration and Improvement
- Current Development in Horticultural and Agricultural Systems (Flexible multi-module including Case Studies in Plant Pathology 1 and 2, Field Crop Management 1, Digitization for Sustainable Food Systems, and Rehabilitation of Degraded Landscapes 1)
- Specific Phytomedicine
- Plant Laboratory Sciences
- Plant-Microbe Interactions
- Field and Laboratory Methods in Soil Research
- Quantitative and Qualitative Methods
- Business and Management

Interdisciplinary elective modules (10 ECTS required)

In the interdisciplinary elective area, master's modules from the designated module catalogs of other subjects or central institutions totaling 10 ECTS must be completed at the student's discretion.