Want to study abroad in Europe? Come to Nancy!

- An urban area of 400,000 inhabitants and 50,000 students (Université de Lorraine and 10 Engineering schools)
- Easy access from Paris by TGV (high speed train), and close to Germany, Belgium, and Luxembourg
- Nancy has a great architectural history (part of the UNESCO World Heritage) including the Art Nouveau period, and is surrounded by forests and hills ideal for recreational activities
- Many cultural and entertainment events all year round (e.g. NJP Jazz festival, le Livre sur la Place book fair)

More info at: www.nancy-tourisme.fr

Support research departments

- Silva, UL-INRAE-AgroParisTech
- Bureau d’Economie Théorique et Appliquée, INRAE-CNRS-AgroParisTech-UL-UniStra
- Biogéochimie des Ecosystèmes Forestiers, INRAE
- Laboratoire d’Inventaire Forestier, I.G.N.

European/International partnerships

- Université de Lorraine, AgroParisTech and INRAE are members of the NFZ forest network (Nancy–Freiburg–Zürich) for higher education and research (www.nfz-forestnet.eu)
- AgroParisTech belongs to the consortium Erasmus Mundus MSc European Forestry and offers the major Forests and their Environment as the educational support for the 2nd year (http://www.uef.fi/en/web/mdp-europeanforestry)
- INRAE and AgroParisTech are members of the European Forest Institute (EFI)
- International network opportunities further arise from international research collaborations at Université de Lorraine, AgroParisTech and INRAE

Decipher the functioning and dynamics of temperate forest ecosystems and develop quantitative tools for their sustainable management in a context of global environmental changes...

Joint MSc program of Université de Lorraine & AgroParisTech

**Forests and their Environment**  
**Concept and objectives**

This MSc major (M2) offers a broad perspective and in-depth training on the functioning and dynamics of European forests, providing a basis to address challenges arising from environmental constraints and forest management.

The objective is to prepare for 1) **professional careers in R&D or expert positions in the environmental diagnosis and management of forest ecosystems** in private/public national/international institutions, 2) **scientific careers in research institutions conducting programs in forest ecology and management**.

- **An introductory session** gives an overview of European forests and the major issues related to their management.
- **The core of the major provides fundamental and applied knowledge on the functioning and dynamics of forest ecosystems and communities**, including tree physiology, biogeochemistry and ecology.
- **A “tools & methods” session** provides knowledge and training on the main quantitative tools used in ecosystem diagnosis and experiment analysis, including GIS, statistics, and modelling.

**Institutional framework and connection to research**

The MSc program provides a research-driven approach to the understanding and management of forest ecosystems. The teaching staff includes more than 30 professors and senior scientists from 9 research labs at Université de Lorraine (UL), AgroParisTech and Institut National de Recherche Agronomique (INRAE, [www.nancy.INRAE.fr](http://www.nancy.INRAE.fr)).

In addition to the balance between fundamental and practical knowledge, **practitioners from organizations involved in forest management and R&D will also provide a connection to forest management issues, and ensure both a professional and academic education.**

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**Master curriculum**

**The first semester (S9) includes 9 training units for a total of 30 ECTS credits.** Training units are as follows:

**Fundamental and applied knowledge**

- European forests, sustainable forest management, certification
- Understanding tree structure and functions
- Biogeochemical cycles in forest ecosystems
- Dynamics of forest plant and tree communities
- Forests and forestry in a context of global change

**Tools and methodology**

- Project in forest management
- Advanced statistics or GIS for forest science and forest ecology
- Models in forest management
- Forestry wood-chain tour

**The second semester (S10) consists of an internship of a duration of 20 weeks** evaluated through a written dissertation and an oral defence for **30 ECTS credits**. The internship takes place either in a research laboratory or in institutions, companies or associations of relevant fields of application. Internships can be proposed by students.

**Application and Admission**

The **Forests and their Environment** major seeks to recruit 15-20 students on selective bases.

Depending on their education, applicants should justify a 1st-year MSc level (M1) or a master’s degree or equivalent (M2), as acknowledged in the EHEA (European Higher Education Area), and educational background in the fields of forestry, plant science, ecology, ecophysiology, or environmental science.


Applications should include 1) the Europass documents ([https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/home](https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/home)), 2) marks obtained in the previous educational year, 3) a letter of application, and 4) one letter of recommendation from a senior professor/scientist of earlier educational courses/internships.

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**Contacts & Informations**

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