



Erasmus Mundus Joint  
Master Degree in  
Marine Environment

UPV/EHU-SOTON-UBx-ULiège-UAc

[www.mer2030.eu](http://www.mer2030.eu)



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
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REF: 619798-EPP-1-2020-ES-EPPKA1-JMD-MOB

Academic years:  $\{\text{anyo\_academico}\}$   
Contract N°: MER2030  $\{\text{numero\_alumno}\}$

### Student Agreement

### European MSc in Marine Environment

### MER2030 EMJMD - MER CONSORTIUM

UNIVERSIDAD DEL PAÍS VASCO/EUSKAL HERRIKO UNIBERTSITATEA (ES)  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON (UK)  
UNIVERSITÉ DE BORDEAUX (FR)  
UNIVERSITÉ DE LIÈGE (B)  
UNIVERSIDADE DOS AÇORES (PT)

### The undersigned

Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (UPV/EHU), acting as the coordinating institution of the MER consortium, represented by its Rector, Professor Eva Ferreira García

and

Mrs/Mr:  $\{\text{nombre\_completo}\}$

Birth date:  $\{\text{fecha\_nacimiento}\}$

Nationality:  $\{\text{nacionalidad}\}$

Gender:  $\{\text{can\_gender}\}$

Passport/NIC N°:  $\{\text{pasaporte}\}$

### Have agreed as follows:

#### Article 1 : Consortium

The Erasmus Mundus Master course European MSc in Marine Environment (MER2030 EMJMD) is organised jointly by the Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (UPV/EHU, Basque Country, Spain), the University of Southampton (SOTON, United Kingdom), the Université de Bordeaux 1 (UBx, France), the Université de Liège (ULiège, Belgium), and the Universidade dos Açores (UAc, Portugal)

The Programme International Coordinator is Prof. Ionan Marigómez (UPV/EHU).

The local coordinators of the partner universities are:

UPV/EHU: Prof. Manu Soto

SOTON: Prof. Cecilia D'Angelo

UBx: Prof. Jorg Schafer

ULiège: Prof. Sylvie Gobert

Uac: Prof. Patricia V García

#### Article 2 : Registration

In the framework of MER2030 EMJMD programme, the student has submitted an application to the MER Consortium Secretariat. Applicants are required to complete the admission procedure, providing documents and forms available at the web page ([www.merplus.eu](http://www.merplus.eu)). Once selected, they will be registered, according to the administrative procedure prevailing, by the MER Consortium Secretariat as a regular student at UPV/EHU as well as at those universities towards their individual mobility will take place.



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They will then benefit from all rights guaranteed to regular students and they will have the same obligations and duties as well concerning academic, administrative and financial aspects.

The study scheme is the following:

Semester 1 : UBx, SOTON or UAc

Semester 2: UPV/EHU

Semester 3 : SOTON, ULiège or UAc

Semester 4 : UPV/EHU, SOTON, UBx, ULiège or UAc (or in associated institutions linked through agreement to the MER consortium or to one MER Partner University after MER Consortium JPB approval)

**Article 3: Participation Costs and Fees**

The student agrees that the coordinating institution of the MER2030 EMJMD Master Programme, UPV/EHU, will receive the registration fees of €9000<sup>\*\*\*</sup>/year i.e. €18000<sup>\*\*\*</sup> for the whole programme (Partner Country) or €4500/year i.e. €9000 for the whole programme (Partner Country) according to the following schedule:

	Partner Country**	Programme Country ***
REGISTRATION YEAR 1 (60 ECTS)	4500 *	9000 * (DUE IN JULY 26 <sup>TH</sup> YEAR 0*)
REGISTRATION YEAR 2 (60 ECTS)	4500 *	9000 * (DUE IN JULY 26 <sup>TH</sup> YEAR 1*)
TOTAL REGISTRATION (120 ECTS)	9000 €	18000 €

\* Can be paid at once or in **two instalments**: 50% (2250 or 4500 €) can be paid **before July 26<sup>th</sup>** provided the remaining 50% (2250 or 4500 €) is paid **before December 15<sup>th</sup>**

\*\* Officially **reduced fees** provided by European national administrations (i.e., large families, etc) can be applied. Proof of recognition must be duly provided

\*\*\* Partial waivers are admitted for students.

**BANK TRANSFER (INDICATE MER-EHU + YOUR NAME)**

**PAYMENT BANK: BILBAO BIZKAIA KUTXA**

**BRANCH: 0292 UNIVERSIDADES**

**ADDRESS: GRAN VIA 30, EDIFICIO BASKONIA**

**E-48009 BILBO/BILBAO, BASQUE COUNTRY (SPAIN)**

**CCC: 2095 0292 90 9107713464**

**IBAN: ES22 2095 0292 90 9107713464**

**BIC/SWIFT: BASKES 2BXXX**

**A COPY OF THE BANK TRANSFER DOCUMENT MUST BE UPLOADED TO THE ONLINE APPLICATION SYSTEM**

These fees cover tuition fees and insurance coverage - and include free access to libraries, labs, or internet inside the consortium Universities (UPV/EHU, SOTON, UBx, ULiège, UAc) or associated research partners through which the study programme is completed. The Coordinating institution, UPV/EHU, distributes the registration fees and other participation costs among the partners as agreed in the MER consortium agreement.



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#### **Article 4 : Mobility scheme**

The mobility scheme of the students implies that the student follows the programme through 3 Partner Universities (30 ECTS each), with one mandatory stay in UPV/EHU at the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Students expend their 1st semester in UBx, SOTON or UAc (30 ECTS), the 2nd semester in UPV/EHU (30ECTS) and the 3rd semester in SOTON, ULiège or UAc (30 ECTS). During the 4th semester students conduct their MSc research in any Partner University (UPV/EHU, SOTON, UBx, ULiège, UAc) or in collaborating institutions (Associates or elsewhere).

However, to guarantee a balanced distribution of the students among the partner institutions, the JPB can decide not to follow the student's first choice. Selection will be done based on the student grade ranking and students wishes.

#### **Article 5 : Academic calendar and exam sessions**

Students are been informed on the academic calendar of each institution through the MER Consortium website (<http://merconsortium.eu>) and the links provided there. Exams can be oral or written. Information as well as the lecture objectives and content are given in Module description book. Each partner institution will use its local grading system as well as the ECTS grading scale in order to provide a greater transparency and ease the academic recognition of periods of studies spent in each partner institution.

It is expected that all students will progress to the MSc. To progress from Semester 1 (30 ECTS) to Semester 2 (30 ECTS) the student must achieve a minimum ECTS grade of E (i.e. a pass) in all modules. To progress from Semester 2 (30 ECTS) to Year 2 (30 ECTS in courses + 30 ECTS Master Thesis) the student must also achieve a minimum ECTS grade of E in all modules.

Master Thesis research might be started anticipated, if so scheduled in this Student's agreement, since for some research subjects seasonality may be crucial. Nevertheless, this opportunity to start the project earlier does not imply any change in the general requisites: the student must achieve a minimum ECTS grade of E in all modules at Semesters 1-3 (90 ECTS) to progress to Dissertation.

Each of the Institutions will use its own grading system and the results have been translated into the ECTS grading scale. If the student fails in obtaining all credits at the end of the 1st year (September), his/her mobility will have to be stopped as well as the payment of the grant. He/she'll no longer be allowed to follow the MER2030 EMJMD Programme.

To be awarded the MSc Degree the student must have successfully passed all modules at grade A-to- E under the ECTS scheme. All learning activities can be evaluated twice (except in certain cases, duly specified in the course description, i. e. training session). If a student fails once, he/she can present the exam a second time. If he/she has moved to the following partner institution, the assessment will be done remotely. If the student fails a second time to the same evaluation, he/she won't be allowed to follow the MER2030 EMJMD Programme.



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**Article 6 : Health insurance**

All students will be covered by the student insurance system active in UPV/EHU and at each of the partner universities through which mobility is accomplished.

In addition, MER2030 EMJMD students benefits from the SIP program (for Self-Funded students) which offers the same conditions as the EMIS programme (for Erasmus Mundus Scholarship holders).

**Article 7: Attendance of courses and assessment**

The student will regularly attend the courses delivered in the MER2030 EMJMD programme.

The student will complete the assignments and will participate to all exams (except adverse personal circumstances).

The student will obey the rules of the academic institution where he/she is taking its courses, in terms of safety, ethical and attendance.

**Article 8 : Degree**

The Joint MER2030 EMJMD programme is recognised by the 5 universities that comprise the MER consortium. After having successfully passed all exams as well as the master project, the student will be awarded a joint/double MSc Degree and European Diploma Supplement issued by those partner universities through which mobility has been accomplished.

Type of degree awarded:

- Joint Degree: UPV/EHU, Soton, ULiège and UAc will award a Joint Degree, issued by UPV/EHU. Graduates will receive a Joint Degree from either UPV/EHU-Soton, UPV/EHU-ULiège, UPV/EHU-UAc, UPV/EHU-ULiège-Soton, UPV/EHU-ULiège-UAc or UPV/EHU-UAc-Soton depending on the study pathway. The Joint MSc Degree Diploma is issued by the Coordinating Partner University on behalf of all Partner Universities and signed by the authorised signatories of the Partner Universities delivering the Joint Degree, is granted by all Partner Universities in recognition of a single body of work and incorporates all logos and/or coat of arms of the Partner Universities. UPV/EHU, Soton, ULiège and UAc follow existing national regulations and procedures needed to officially register each graduate's individual Degree in their respective country.
- Double Degree: A separate parallel Degree is issued by UBx for students following pathways A1, A2 and A3.
- The Programme is designed to allow specialisation in particular areas of marine science. Two pathways are available, "Marine Environment" and "Marine Resources and Ocean Services", designed to provide in-depth knowledge in individual marine disciplines. Choosing one of these pathways is not a requirement; students can still maintain a multidisciplinary choice of options within the timetabling constraints of the Programme.



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A single common Joint European Diploma Supplement will be delivered, that will detail the mobility path, the institutions involved and all the courses (with competences, skills and marks) followed during this mobility.

In addition, a MER Consortium Joint Degree Certificate and Transcript of Records will issued as additional supporting documents (not officially recognised by the universities) by the MER Consortium Secretariat. These documents will be useful for recent graduates until the Universities produce the official documents.

**Article 9 : Duration of the Agreement**

The Agreement is valid from academic year indicated in the front page and remains valid until the end of the normal duration of the MER MSc programme (24 months until September Year 2).

**Article 10 : Dispute settlements**

Parties will try to resolve any disputes arising from this agreement in a conciliatory manner. If no solution is reached, a proposal will be taken by the MER JPB.

Made in two originals, one for each party.

Plentzia , \${fecha\_decision}

<p><b>UNIVERSIDAD DEL PAIS VASCO/ EUSKAL HERRIKO UNIBERTSITATEA</b></p> <p>MER2030 EMJMD Prog Intl Coord Acting on the Rector's authority, Ionan MARIGOMEZ</p>	<p><b>The Student</b></p> <p><b>Name and signature .</b> <b>\${nombre_completo}</b></p>
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## ANNEX 1 : PROGRAMME ORGANISATION: MODULES, COURSE LIST & MOBILITY

MODULE	COURSE	TYPE	ECTS	UNIV
FUNDAMENTALS IN OCEAN SCIENCE	Introduction to Biological Oceanography	CSS1	3,75	SOTON
	Introduction to Chemical Oceanography			
	Introduction to Marine Geology			
	Introduction to Physical Oceanography			
	Biological Oceanography	CBS1 CAS1	6	UBx UAc
	Chemical Oceanography			
	Dynamic Oceanography			
	Seafloor Geology	CLS3 CAS3	6	ULiège UAc
Marine Ecology				
CLEAN OCEAN	Advanced Instrumental Analysis	OP	4	EHU
	Cellular and Molecular Biomarkers			
	Ecological Quality Assessment in Coastal Ecosystems			
	Environmental (toxico) Genomics			
	Environmental Analytical Chemistry			
	Environmental Chemometrics			
	Environmental Monitoring and Risk Assessment in Aquatic Systems			
	Biology of Marine Mammals	OP	6	ULiège UAc
Ecotoxicology and Risk Quantification of Marine Pollutants	OP	6	ULiège	
HEALTHY AND RESILIENT OCEAN	Degradation and Rehabilitation of Estuarine Ecosystems	OP	4	EHU
	Eutrophication and Harmful Algae			
	Ocean Global Change Biology			
	Marine Microbial Ecology			
	Marine Resource Genomics			
	Socio-economic Aspects of Climate Change			
	Large Scale Ocean Processes	OP	7,5	SOTON
	Marine GeoArchaeology			
	Biogeochemical Cycles in the Earth system			
	Coastal Sediment Dynamics	OP	6	ULiège
	Biogeochemical Cycles in the Ocean			
Carbon, Nutrient, Greenhouse ... and Geological Oceanography				
Marine Plant Biology and Ecology	OP	6	UAc	
Oceans and Health				
PREDICTABLE AND SAFE OCEAN	Applied and Marine Geophysics	OP	7,5	SOTON
	Computational Data Analysis for Geophysicists and Ocean Scientists			
	Geodynamics and Solid Earth Geophysics			



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SUSTAINABLY HARVESTED OCEAN	Introductory Remote Sensing of the Oceans			
	Microfossils, Environment and Time			
	Analysis of Environmental Data and Modelling	CBS1 CAS1	6	UBx UAc
	Instrumentation and Measurements in Operational Oceanography	OP	4	EHU
	Satellite Oceanography and Meteorology			
	Mathematical Analysis and Modelling Methods Applied to the Environment	OP	6	ULiège
	Remote Sensing of the Oceans	OP	6	ULiège UAc
	Geographical Information Systems	OP	6	UAc
	Maritime and Coastal Spatial Planning and Law			
	Comparative Endocrinology and Endocrine Disruption...	OP	4	EHU
	Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management			
	Environment and Fisheries/Aquaculture Interactions			
	Histology and Histopathology of Aquatic Animals			
	Marine Resources Genomics			
	Physiological Energetics of Marine Organisms			
	Deep Sea Ecology			
	Marine Conservation and Policy	OP	7,5	SOTON
	Zooplankton Ecology and Processes			
	Biochemistry and Physiology of Marine Animals	OP	6	ULiège
Functional and Molecular Marine Microbiology				
Aquaculture and Blue Biotechnology	OP	6	UAc	
Fisheries and Fish Biology				
OCEAN SCIENTIST CAREER	Contemporary Topics in Ocean and Earth Sciences	CSS1	7,5	SOTON
	Research in Marine Environment and Resources	C	6	EHU
	Multicultural Integration in EU	OP	4	
	Marine Entrepreneurship			
	Professional Practice in Marine /Environmental Sectors	OP	6	ULiège
Master Thesis	C	30	EHU	



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## STUDENT MOBILITY SCHEDULE

Throughout the coursework, students can make a selection between **alternative mobility pathways**:

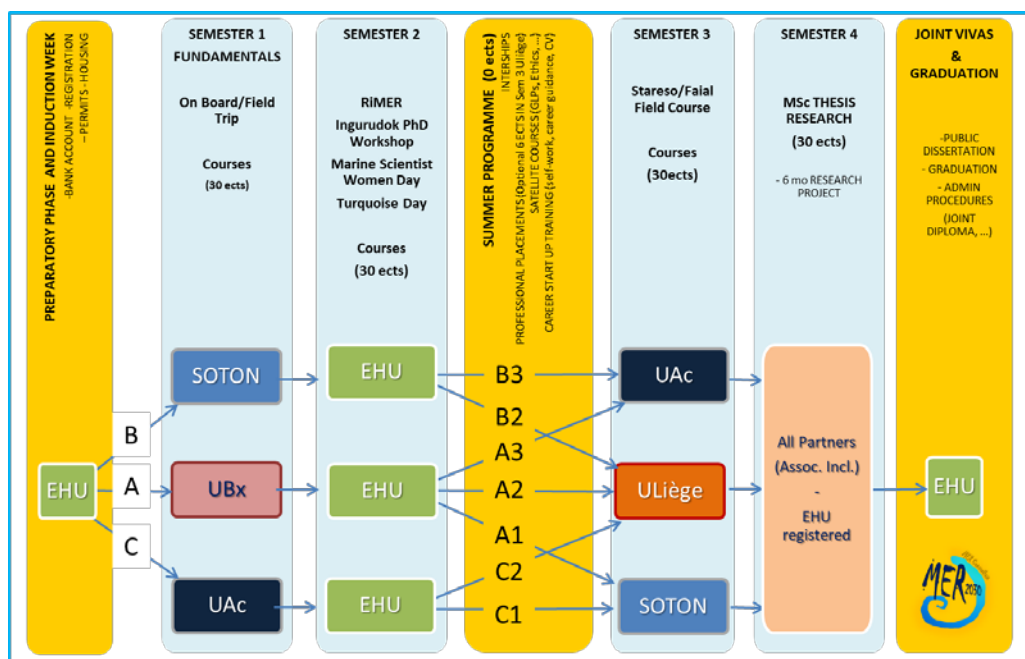
- A1 (UBx-UPV/EHU-Soton)
- A2 (UBx-UPV/EHU-ULiège)
- A3 (UBx-UPV/EHU- UAc)
- B2 (Soton-UPV/EHU-ULiège)
- B3 (Soton-UPV/EHU-UAc)
- C1 (UAc-UPV/EHU-Soton)
- C2 (UAc-UPV/EHU-ULiège)

**Semester 1:** Students start at UBx, Soton or UAc for 30 ECTS providing competences for Fundamentals in Ocean Science (Physical, Chemical and Biological Oceanography and Marine Geology) and some additional competences or transferable skills specific for each host partner.

**Semester 2:** Students stay at UPV/EHU where they follow the compulsory RiMER course and may follow optional courses (Modules 2-7) with a bias towards experimental biology and biotechnological approaches to investigate and manage the marine environment. Likewise, during this semester students meet stakeholders as a part of the Part 2 of the RiMER course in the PiE-UPV/EHU.

**Semester 3:** Students stay at Soton, ULiège or UAc for 30 ECTS acquiring competences and transferable skills specific for each of these partners (mainly, but not exclusively, the Ocean Physical Environment in Soton, the Ocean Biological Environment in ULiège and the Conservation and Management of Marine Resources in UAc). Likewise, during this semester, students may get academic recognition in ULiège of a Professional Practice (6 credits) previously undertaken within the MER Consortium framework in a non-academic partner.

**Semester 4:** The MSc Thesis research work can be entirely, or jointly, undertaken in Soton, UPV/EHU, UBx, UAc and ULiège or in an associated institution in Europe or overseas. Organization of the thesis work is documented in detail in the Catalogue of Courses. All the MSc Theses are presented at Joint Viva Sessions at the second week of September, in UPV/EHU, with members of all the Partner universities, staff from associates and external (invited) examiners.







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## Mobility Pathways

### SEMESTER 1 UBx

COURSE	ECTS	TYPE
Analyses of Environmental Data and Modelling	6	CBS1
Biological Oceanography	6	CBS1
Chemical Oceanography	6	CBS1
Dynamic Oceanography	6	CBS1
Seafloor Geology	6	CBS1

**CBS1: Compulsory at UBx Semester 1**

### SEMESTER 1 Soton

COURSE	ECTS	TYPE
Introduction to Biological Oceanography	3.75	CSS1
Introduction to Chemical Oceanography	3.75	CSS1
Introduction to Marine Geology	3.75	CSS1
Introductory Physical Oceanography	3.75	CSS1
Applied and Marine Geophysics	7.5	OPT
Biogeochemical Cycles in the Earth System	7.5	OPT
Coastal Sediment Dynamics	7.5	OPT
Computational Data Analysis for Geophysicists and Ocean Scientists	7.5	OPT
Contemporary Topics in Ocean and Earth Sciences	7.5	OPT
Deep Sea Ecology	7.5	OPT
Geodynamics and Solid Earth Geophysics	7.5	OPT
Introductory Remote Sensing of the Oceans	7.5	OPT
Large-scale Ocean Processes	7.5	OPT
Marine Conservation and Policy	7.5	OPT
Marine GeoArchaeology	7.5	OPT
Microfossils, Environment and Time	7.5	OPT
Zooplankton Ecology and Processes	7.5	OPT

**CSS1: Compulsory at Soton Semester 1**

**OPT: Optional at SOTON in Semester 1**

NOTE: Some courses may be not offered every academic year



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SEMESTER 1 UAc

COURSE	ECTS	TYPE
Analyses of Environmental Data and Modelling	6	CAS1
Biological Oceanography	6	CAS1
Chemical Oceanography	6	CAS1
Dynamic Oceanography	6	CAS1
Seafloor Geology	6	CAS1

**CAS1: Compulsory at UAc Semester 1**

SEMESTER 2 UPV/EHU

COURSE	ECTS	TYPE
Research in Marine Environment and Resources	6	C
Advanced Instrumental Analysis	4	OPT
Cellular and Molecular Biomarkers	4	OPT
Comparative Endocrinology and Endocrine Disruption	4	OPT
Degradation and Rehabilitation of Estuarine Ecosystems	4	OPT
Ecological Quality Assessment in Coastal Ecosystems	4	OPT
Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management	4	OPT
Environment and Fisheries/Aquaculture Interactions	4	OPT
Environmental Analytical Chemistry	4	OPT
Environmental Chemometrics - Formerly Environmental Data Analysis	4	OPT
Environmental (Toxico)Genomics	4	OPT
Environmental Monitoring and Risk Assessment in Aquatic Systems	4	OPT
Eutrophication and Harmful Algae	4	OPT
Histology and Histopathology of Aquatic Animals	4	OPT
Instrumentation and Measurements in Operational Oceanography	4	OPT
Marine Entrepreneurship	4	OPT
Marine Microbial Ecology	4	OPT
Marine Resources Genomics	4	OPT
Multicultural integration in EU	4	OPT
Ocean Global Change Biology	4	OPT
Physiological Energetics of Marine Organisms	4	OPT
Satellite Oceanography and Meteorology	4	OPT
Socio-Economic Aspects of Climate Change	4	OPT

**C: Compulsory**

**OPT: Optional at EHU in Semester 2**



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**SEMESTER 3 Soton**

COURSE	ECTS	TYPE
Applied and Marine Geophysics	7.5	OPT
Biogeochemical Cycles in the Earth System	7.5	OPT
Coastal Sediment Dynamics	7.5	OPT
Computational Data Analysis for Geophysicists and Ocean Scientists	7.5	OPT
Contemporary Topics in Ocean and Earth Sciences	7.5	OPT
Deep Sea Ecology	7.5	OPT
Geodynamics and Solid Earth Geophysics	7.5	OPT
Introductory Remote Sensing of the Oceans	7.5	OPT
Large-scale Ocean Processes	7.5	OPT
Marine Conservation and Policy	7.5	OPT
Marine GeoArchaeology	7.5	OPT
Microfossils, Environment and Time	7.5	OPT
Zooplankton Ecology and Processes	7.5	OPT

**OPT: Optional at SOTON in Semester 3**

NOTE: Some courses may be not offered every academic year

**SEMESTER 3 ULiège**

COURSE	ECTS	TYPE
<b>Marine Ecology</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>CLS3</b>
Biochemistry, Physiology of Marine Animals	6	CSS1
Biogeochemical Cycles in the Ocean	6	CSS1
Biology of Marine Mammals	6	CSS1
Carbon, Nutrient, Greenhouse Gases Dynamics ... and Geological Oceanography	6	OPT
Ecotoxicology of Marine Pollutants	6	OPT
Functional and Molecular Marine Microbiology	6	OPT
Marine Plant Biology and Ecology	6	OPT
Numerical Methods Applied to the Environment	6	OPT
Professional Placement in Marine /Environmental Sectors	6	OPT
Remote Sensing of the Oceans	6	OPT

**CLS3: Compulsory at ULiège Semester 3**

**OPT: Optional at ULiège in Semester 1**



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SEMESTER 3 UAc

COURSE	ECTS	TYPE
Marine Ecology	6	CAS3
Aquaculture and Blue Biotechnology	6	OPT
Biology of Marine Mammals	6	OPT
Fisheries and Fish Biology	6	OPT
Geographical Information Systems	6	OPT
Maritime and Coastal Spatial Planning and Law	6	OPT
Oceans and Health	6	OPT
Remote Sensing of the Oceans	6	OPT

**CAS3: Compulsory at UAc Semester 3**

**OPT: Optional at UAc in Semester 3**

SEMESTER 4 - UBx, SOTON, ULiège, EHU (or Associate)

COURSE	TYPE	ECTS
Master Thesis	30	C

**C: Compulsory**





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ANNEX 2: AGREED STUDY PLAN

PATHWAY: \${pathway}

\${agreed\_plan}

**Tutor:** \${tutor}

**Supervisor:** \${supervisor}

**Research Area:** \${investigacion\_area}

**MSc Thesis Research Institution** \${investigacion\_grupo}

**or Research Group:**



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## ANNEX 3: PRINCIPLES, RIGHTS, OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EUROPEAN HIGH EDUCATION AREA AND THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

### European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers

The European Commission has adopted a European Charter for Researchers and a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. These two documents, addressed to researchers as well as to employers and funders in both the public and private sectors, are key elements in the European Union's policy to make research an attractive career, which is a vital feature of its strategy to stimulate economic and employment growth. Giving individual researchers the same rights and obligations wherever they may work throughout the European Union should help counter the fact that research careers in Europe are fragmented at local, regional, national or sectoral level, and allow Europe to make the most of its scientific potential.

As a MSc student, you must be aware of these principles and requirements. Some of them will apply to you right now as MSc student (e.g., admission, administrative tasks, supervision, mentoring, non-discrimination, research environment, funding and salaries, gender balance, access to career advice, intellectual property rights, co-authorship, etc.). Others will apply to the research career you might be willing to start as a doctoral candidate after the MSc graduation; being aware of them will help you in preparing yourself for this endeavour.

The European Charter for Researchers is a set of general principles and requirements which specifies the roles, responsibilities and entitlements of researchers as well as of employers and/or funders of researchers. The aim of the Charter is to ensure that the nature of the relationship between researchers and employers or funders is conducive to successful performance in generating, transferring, sharing and disseminating knowledge and technological development, and to the career development of researchers. The Charter also recognizes the value of all forms of mobility as a means for enhancing the professional development of researchers. In this sense, the Charter constitutes a framework for researchers, employers and funders which invites them to act responsibly and as professionals within their working environment, and to recognise each other as such. The Charter addresses all researchers in the European Union at all stages of their career and covers all fields of research in the public and private sectors, irrespective of the nature of the appointment or employment, the legal status of their employer or the type of organisation or establishment in which the work is carried out. It takes into account the multiple roles of researchers, who are appointed not only to conduct research and/or to carry out development activities but are also involved in supervision, mentoring, management or administrative tasks.

The General Principles and Requirements applicable to Researchers deal with: research freedom, ethical principles, professional responsibility, professional attitude, contractual and legal obligations, accountability, good practice in research, dissemination, exploitation of results, public engagement, relation with supervisors, supervision and managerial duties, continuing professional development. The General Principles and Requirements applicable to Employers and Funders deal with: recognition of the profession, non-discrimination, research environment, working conditions, stability and permanence of employment, funding and salaries, gender balance, career development, value of mobility, access to research training and continuous development, access to career advice, intellectual property rights, co-authorship, supervision, teaching, evaluation/appraisal systems, complaints/appeals, participation in decision-making bodies, and recruitment.

The Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers aims to improve recruitment, to make selection procedures fairer and more transparent and proposes different means of judging merit: Merit should not just be measured on the number of publications but on a wider range of evaluation criteria, such as teaching, supervision, teamwork, knowledge transfer, management and public awareness activities. The Code consists of a set of general principles and requirements that should be followed by employers and/or funders when appointing or recruiting researchers. These principles and requirements should ensure observance of values such as transparency of the recruitment process and equal treatment of all applicants, and are complementary to those outlined in the European Charter for Researchers. The General Principles and Requirements for the Code of Conduct deal with: recruitment, selection, transparency, judging merit, recognition of mobility experience, recognition of qualifications, etc.)





Erasmus Mundus Joint  
Master Degree in  
Marine Environment

UPV/EHU-SOTON-UBx-ULiège-UAc

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Requirements for the Code of Conduct deal with: recruitment, selection, transparency, judging merit, recognition of mobility experience, recognition of qualifications, etc.)

*Definitions*

- **Researchers:** Professionals engaged in the conception or creation of new knowledge, products, processes, methods and systems, and in the management of the projects concerned.
- **Early-Stage Researchers:** Researchers in the first four years (full-time equivalent) of their research activity, including the period of research training.
- **Experienced Researchers:** Researchers having at least four years of research experience (full-time equivalent) since gaining a university diploma giving them access to doctoral studies, in the country in which the degree/diploma was obtained or researchers already in possession of a doctoral degree, regardless of the time taken to acquire it.
- **Employers:** all those public or private institutions which employ researchers on a contractual basis or which host them under other types of contracts or arrangements, including those without a direct financial relationship. The latter refers particularly to institutions of higher education, faculty departments, laboratories, foundations or private bodies where researchers either undergo their research training or carry out their research activities on the basis of funding provided by a third party.
- **Funders:** all those bodies which provide funding, (including stipends, awards, grants and fellowships) to public and private research institutions, including institutions for higher education.

Table. Summary of the elementary rights, obligations and responsibilities of the MER Consortium and the MSc student within the Erasmus Mundus framework.

	Financial	Administrative	
Consortium rights	To charge fees for tuition and participation in the course	To select students based on the established criteria	
		To question documents that have been provided	
Consortium obligations and responsibilities	To distribute studentships and scholarships in a timely manner	To terminate the agreement if the student does not fulfill the obligations or behaves in an inadmissible way	
		To inform the funder (e.g. EACEA in the case of Mundus) of any problems or incidents	
	To inform the funder (e.g. EACEA in the case of Mundus) of any student who leaves the course		
	To distribute fees in the consortium in an equitable manner based on ECTS	To apply to the funder (e.g. EACEA in the case of Mundus) for an extension in case a student must interrupt studies (eg pregnancy, illness)	
	To report to the funder (e.g. EACEA in the case of Mundus) on the financial execution of studentships and scholarships	To report to the funder (e.g. EACEA in the case of Mundus) on course implementation	
Student rights	To receive the studentship in a timely manner	To award the Diplomas and Diploma Supplements in a timely manner	
		To be treated in an equitable manner	
Student obligations	To pay for the student and scholar insurance	To respect the administrative requests in a timely way	
		To pay for the student travel	To travel on the established dates
		To respect the rules of the hosting institutions	

Annex 4:

MER Consortium Code of Ethics available on the MER Consortium web page

Annex 5: Data protection

The European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), in the context of managing the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, collects and processes the personal data of some of the candidates. In particular, certain data of the scholarship holders (students and scholars), non-scholarship holders and reserve list candidates is shared with the Agency through the [EACEA Mobility Tool](#), and treated according to the following [privacy statement](#).