

Title of BIP: Biodiversity in Mountain Ecosystems

General information
<p>Objectives and Description:</p> <p>Learn and apply methods to assess biodiversity in mountain ecosystems</p>
<p>Methods and outcomes:</p> <p>We provide students with methods and tools to evaluate diversity at multiple levels</p>
<p>Field of Education:</p> <p>Life Sciences</p>
<p>Target audience / Participants profile:</p> <p>Students coming from Degrees related to Environmental, Biological, Agricultural, Veterinary, Natural Sciences and Earth Sciences</p>
<p>No of ECTS issued:</p> <p>3 ECTS, 35 hrs of virtual classes (8 hours of distance learning) + 40 hrs of field and laboratory activities in Pau</p>
<p>Language of instruction and requirements:</p> <p>English, French, Spanish, Italian – Slides and reports in English</p>
<p>Dates for physical activity:</p> <p>2-6 June 2025</p>
<p>Location of physical activity:</p> <p>Pau and Gavarnie</p>
<p>Dates for virtual component:</p> <p>April and may 2025</p>
<p>Virtual Component Description:</p> <p>Introductory virtual classes on methods to samples diverse components of mountain diversity</p>
Organizing Board
<p>Receiving/Host university:</p> <p>University De Pau Et Des Pays De L'Adour, France (Gipsy Peltier, g.peltier@univ-pau.fr)</p>
<p>Sending/Partner universities:</p> <p>P1. Università degli Studi di Torino, Italy (DBIOS, Luca Pietro Casacci, luca.casacci@unito.it; DISAFA, Michele Freppaz, michele.freppaz@unito.it; DSV, Joana Nery, joana.nery@unito.it)</p> <p>P2. Universidad Pública de Navarra, Spain (Inigo Virto, inigo.virto@unavarra.es)</p>

Detailed programme

1. Planned activities during virtual component:

- the study and classification of plants, method of identification and study of mountain distribution (quadrat, transects, etc.), link with pollinating insects
- study the diversity of soils: soil genesis, soil survey, soil ecosystem services, the pedodiversity of the Pyrenees, also in comparison with the Alps
- study of the biodiversity of insects, mountain arthropods, methods of capture and study
- study of breeds of livestock native to the Pyrenees, comparison with those of the mountains of Italy and Spain

Language course offered by UNITA are recommended to the students who are willing to participate

2. Planned activities during physical component:

1st day:

Welcoming in Pau - 9:30 a.m. / 10 a.m

Departure to the mountains (Gavarnie) within the morning , picnic in mountains, study of biodiversity (flora and fauna)

<https://www.lourdes-infotourisme.com/offres/la-tourbiere-du-lac-de-lourdes-poueyferre-fr-3152704/>

Dinner, night and breakfast in Gavarnie

2nd and 3rd day :

Study of biodiversity (flora and fauna, and soil) in different places around the village, during short hikes.

Half day for bird watching

Zaragoza: Wildlife faeces collection and identification

Dinner, night and breakfast in Gavarnie, picnic provided by the host

4th day:

Coming back to Pau in the morning, picnic,

Afternoon Laboratory activities : identification of collected pollen, environmental DNA

Free evening for all, students and teachers sleep in accommodation of their choice (in Pau).

5th day:

Laboratory activities (9h – 17h),

Soils: Study and analysis of basic soil properties in samples from different soils/horizons, and interpretation of the results in terms of soil functioning and ecosystem services. This will involve some lab work, the use of specific manuals and guidelines, and the use of existing databases of soils in the North and South sides of

the Pyrenean range.

Analysis of wildlife faeces: microscopy assessment of predominant material, shape, odor, color and freshness of faeces

samples collected in the Tourbière of the Pyrénées.

Farewell cocktail

Application procedure

fill in application form available here: *to be generated later*

deadline: March 31st