APPLICATION

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
GENERAL UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE QUALIFICATION, ADVANCED TECHNICAL COLLEGE ENTRANCE QUALIFICATION OR EQUIVALENT DEGREE; BACHELOR’S DEGREE IN A RELEVANT FIELD OF STUDY

| 3 | SEMESTERS – 120 CREDIT POINTS (CP) |
| WS | START IN WINTER SEMESTER (SEPTEMBER) IN UCD |

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

The application and enrolment for the course takes place at UCD. Persons responsible for this degree course at School of Biology and Environmental Science at UCD and first contact persons for the application procedure are:

Dr. Florence Renou-Wilson
School of Biology and Environmental Science College of Science
University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland
☎ +353 87 2836078 | ✉ GlobalChange@ucd.ie

Applying online:
To apply online go to www.ucd.ie/apply, create a user account, select “Postgraduate Programmes” and select “MSc Global Change: Ecosystem Science and Policy”. Please note that the annual course fee covers the full 16-month period.

FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ONLINE:

http://masterglobalchange.org
www.uni-giessen.de/studium/global
Global change refers to planetary-scale changes occurring in complex socio-ecological systems. Understanding the intricate changes in our land, air and water requires advanced scientific knowledge in measurement, modelling and prediction. This joint international MSc course between the University College Dublin (UCD) and the Justus Liebig University Giessen (JLU) is a response to these global change challenges.

WHAT MAKES US SPECIAL
This international master’s course is jointly offered by Justus Liebig University Giessen, Faculty of Biology and Chemistry, and University College Dublin, School of Biology and Environmental Science. It is completely taught in English. Graduates will receive a joint master’s degree from both universities.

The first semester is based in Dublin, Ireland, whereas the second semester continues in Giessen, Germany. You will be involved in active research groups in both countries, contributing to their on-going ecosystem studies in order to experience the process of creating scientific knowledge in ecosystem science. In addition to acquiring skills in measuring, analysing and understanding what is behind scientific data you will have the opportunity to develop your analytical, presentation and communication skills to enable you to participate in the policy making process.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
- Bachelor’s degree with honours (GPA 2.48 or higher) and 180 ECTS credit points (or an officially equivalent accepted academic degree) in an appropriate life sciences discipline, such as biology, agriculture or environmental science (including zoology, ecology, biochemistry, geology and physics).
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent, such as TOEFL (ibt) score of 90 or PTE score of 63.

COMPOSITION OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME
The 16 month long 120 credit points course starts in September at UCD in Ireland. The first semester is comprised of lectures, seminars, small group work and is followed by a 6-week work placement (January to February). The second semester continues in March at JLU in Germany. The third semester is comprised of the individual research project which can be undertaken in working groups, either at UCD or JLU. On completion of the research project students will produce a minor thesis in the form of a scientific paper.

You will gain experimental and theoretical knowledge in the following topics:
- Global change: Ecology; techniques and adaptations,
- Environmental law and policy including Environmental impact assessment,
- Science and policy,
- Core skills for research,
- Ecosystem and Model development,
- Policy consultancy,
- Resources economics and environmental management,
- Biodiversity informatics,
- Palaeoclimatology.

In addition you will be able to choose an optional module each semester to extend your knowledge in an area of your choice.

CAREER OPTIONS
Graduates may pursue roles as policy advisers, scientific analysts or researchers in government, international organisations, NGOs, research institutes or consulting companies. There are also many opportunities for further studies. The skills you acquire, particularly through the completion of the minor thesis, provide a strong foundation for PhD research.

Prospective employers include the Environmental Protection Agency, governmental departments, European Commission; European Environment Agency and International organisations (e.g. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; United Nations Environment Programme; International Union for the Conservation of Nature, Food and Agricultural Organisation).

FURTHER INFORMATION
The University College Dublin, the largest university in Ireland, has around 23,000 students. It ranks under the top 2% of the world’s universities and emphasises on research and innovation. It is a purpose-built, modern parkland campus close to Dublin city centre. The UCD College of Science is dedicated to the creation, delivery and communication of new knowledge and innovation across the spectrum of science. With staff of 705 and a student population of 5,500 including 1,800 postgraduate students, the College is a vibrant community dedicated to excellence in all our pursuits.

The Justus Liebig University ranks as one of the nation’s top universities in life sciences and cultural studies. With around 28,500 students, 11 faculties and 8 scientific centres, the university has truly developed an international profile and is prepared to meet any challenges that the future may bring. JLU Faculty of Biology and Chemistry is a vibrant faculty with 2,500 students and 37 professors and their academic staff representing all major subjects of natural and life sciences research.