Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences specialisation in

microbiology

www.unil.ch/ecoledebiologie
OBJECTIVES / ASSETS
Microbiology is a fascinating area of science, with many different aspects enabling excellent career prospects. Microbial sciences are very well represented in the Lausanne academic and hospital environment.

The objectives of the Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences (MLS) specialisation Microbiology are:

• To study through in-depth class work a wide range of advanced topics in microbial sciences, covering genetics and genomics, synthetic biology, plant and environmental microbiology, cellular microbiology, virology, microbial pathogenesis, bacteriology, fungal biology, yeast models, epidemiology and (clinical) diagnostics including drug resistance.

• To offer excellent opportunities for personal research topics in microbial sciences, notably in the fields mentioned above.

• To prepare you for careers in areas related to microbial sciences, such as diagnostics, biotechnology, academic or industry research, FAMH clinical microbiology, or environmental management and administration.

• To offer a stimulating environment to prepare you for fundamental and applied research.

CONTENT
The MLS specialisation in Microbiology shares two common activities with the other MLS specialisations. This includes a unique experimental class during two semesters on (bacterial) genome sequencing, covering the latest sequencing technologies and hands-on bioinformatics for genome annotation, comparison and interpretation. It also includes a common class on writing of a scientific review and research proposal.

The programme further offers a range of optional classes in concise block format (four half days) during two semesters, which cover specific major areas in modern microbiology research. Classes consist of literature reading and presentations, exercises, web-based study and paper discussions. A personalised curriculum can be assembled using additional optional classes from the other Master programmes, under the condition that a certain amount of credits are chosen among microbiology classes. Class topics include: Bacterial Genomes and Genome Evolution, Synthetic Biology, Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Advanced Bacterial Genetics, Virus-Host Interactions, Fungal Pathogenesis, Plant Interactions with Microbes and Insects, Anti-Infective Agents, Cytoskeleton, Bacterial Virulence and Pathogenesis, Epidemiology and Microbial Ecology.

Finally, the specialisation requires a First-step research project, which can be carried out in any area of the Master programme, and a Master project that must be conducted on an approved microbiology topic.

GENERAL INFORMATION
The Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences (MLS) amounts to 90 ECTS credits and is taught entirely in English. MLS students may obtain the Master without specialisation, or with specialisation Microbiology, Bioinformatics or Integrative Biology.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Candidates to the Master MLS must hold a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Biology or in a field considered to be equivalent, awarded by a Swiss university. Another degree or academic title may be judged equivalent and give access to the Master’s degree programme, with or without further conditions.

CONDITIONS FOR OBTAINING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF MASTER’S DEGREE WITH SPECIALISATION
www.unil.ch/eb-mls > Study programme > Regulations and directives

To obtain the Microbiology specialisation, you must choose and pass your Master’s project within the field of the specialisation.

If you want to obtain the Master’s degree with a specialisation, you must indicate your choice to the School of Biology when enrolling for the Master’s thesis.

Head of studies
Prof. Richard Benton

Responsible for the specialisation
Prof. Jan van der Meer

Further information
www.unil.ch/eb-mls > Specialisations > Microbiology