

UNIVERSITY OF CRETE SCHOOL OF SCIENCES & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST for Master's Program

"GREEN BIOLOGY - Plant Organism Biology from Molecule to Environment"

The Department of Biology at the University of Crete organizes and runs the Master's Program (MSc) in "GREEN BIOLOGY – Plant Organism Biology from Molecule to Environment", which applies modern techniques to explore the world of plants and develop innovative applications in various sectors of the economy. The program for the academic year 2025-2026 will commence in September 2025 and does not require tuition fees.

The **Green Biology MSc Program** aims at the intensive postgraduate specialization of young scientists, awarding a **Master's Degree (MSc)** according to European standards. Graduates will acquire the necessary skills to:

- a) Continue with **doctoral studies** and contribute to academic and research institutions.
- b) Join modern biological applications industries.
- c) Invest in excellence and innovation.

Graduates of the program hold positions at leading universities and research centers worldwide, such as the University of Exeter (UK), University of Uppsala (SE), Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (USA), University of Pennsylvania (USA), as well as at top institutions in Greece as professors and researchers. Many also collaborate with major companies.

Scope of the MSc Program

The MSc in **Green Biology** promotes knowledge and research in cutting-edge areas of Plant Organism Biology, such as:

- Molecular Plant Biology
- Genomics
- Biochemistry and Physiology of Plant Organisms
- Bioenergetics
- Plant Developmental Biology
- Molecular Phytopathology
- Ecology and Environmental Plant Biology

- Plant-Environment Interactions
- Biotechnological Applications

Structure of the Program

The Master's Degree (MSc) in Green Biology– Plant Organism Biology from Molecule to Environment is awarded after one year of intensive study, consisting of:

- Four months of coursework and seminars (30 ECTS credits)
- Eight months of laboratory training and thesis research (30 ECTS credits)

First Semester (September – December 2025)

Postgraduate students attend mandatory courses and seminars in seven thematic units, totaling at least 200 teaching hours (30 ECTS credits).

Second Semester (January – August 2026)

Students undertake:

- a) Two-month advanced laboratory training in a selected specialization field (5 ECTS).
- b) Research methodology training and conduct an independent research project in a laboratory of their choice (20 ECTS).
- c) Writing of the Master's Thesis (5 ECTS).

The MSc program collaborates with faculty members from the **Department of Biology**, other departments of the **University of Crete**, **Greek and international universities and research institutions**, as well as **other categories of instructors**.

Admission Requirements

The MSc program accepts applicants who hold a Bachelor's Degree (BSc) from universities in Greece or recognized by the Greek state (https://www.doatap.gr/home_english/) foreign institutions in the following fields: Biology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Medicine, Pharmacy, Agronomy, Chemistry, Physics, etc.

Selection Criteria

Candidates are evaluated based on:

- 1. **Undergraduate GPA**, course transcript, and ECTS credits.
- 2. Proven proficiency in English (minimum B2 level).
- 3. Recommendation letters.
- 4. **Personal interview** with the MSc committee.
- 5. **Additional qualifications** supported by submitted documents.

Interviews will take place in May 2025. Detailed dates, format, and schedule will be announced after the application deadline.

Application Process

Applications and supporting documents must be submitted by May 4, 2025, electronically via:

<u>https://postgrad.cict.uoc.gr</u>

Applicants must create a user account to complete their application.

Required Documents:

- 1. **Application form** (online submission).
- 2. **Statement of purpose** explaining motivations for postgraduate studies.
- 3. Three recommendation letters
- 4. One passport-size photo.

Supporting Documents (PDF format):

- 5. **Bachelor's degree certificate** (or transcript if the degree is pending).
- 6. Official transcript with GPA and ECTS credits.
- 7. Proof of English proficiency (minimum B2 level).
- 8. Copy of ID card or passport.

Additional Requirements for Foreign Degrees

Applicants with foreign degrees must provide:

- Apostille certification on their diploma and transcript.
- Official translation into Greek or English by the relevant embassy/consulate.

Submission Guidelines

- All documents must be in PDF format.
- Maximum file size per document: 2 MB.
- Total maximum size: 20 MB.
- Photos must be .png or .jpeg, size 200px x 200px, max 2 MB.

Enrollment Information

Accepted candidates must submit a **certified copy of their degree** during registration in **September 2025**.

For further details, visit the MSc program's website:

https://misuoc5.admin.uoc.gr/metaptyx/

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