



Specification of Master of Administration (MA) Program on International Water Governance and Water Diplomacy

The megatrends of our era, such as demographic change, urbanization or climate change, create new pressures on how countries manage water domestically and in their international relations. Scientific consensus suggests that the current water crisis is a crisis of governance. Therefore, the root of the problem does not necessarily lie in the limited availability of water. Instead, how laws, policies, and financial decisions on water are made, implemented, and monitored by government and society.



In response to these challenges, The Faculty of Water Sciences (FWS) at the Ludovika University of Public Service (Ludovika-UPS), Hungary, **launched a unique MA Program on International Water Governance and Water Diplomacy**, starting in September 2020. The two years of up-to-date, practice-oriented training for practicing and future water managers, diplomats, and national and international civil servants are engaged in transboundary or global environmental issues. The training location is at the Ludovika Campus, Budapest.

Description of the Study Programmes

The three-semester MA programme aims to train water diplomacy and water policy experts with skills in water conflict management and problem-solving required by international organizations, EU institutions, national public and state administrations and the water sector. Based on a blend of natural and social sciences, extensive field training, and project-based teamwork, the program is aimed to enable students to master complex water policy challenges, decisions, and conflict situations. The common intellectual background for all the courses is the "**horizontal system thinking**" on **sustainability and climate change adaptation principles and practices**.

The FWS implements **two types of training** within the framework of the MA Program on International Water Governance and Water Diplomacy:

- full-time (regular) training (90 credits)
- part-time (corresponding) training (90 credits)

The program comprises five broad knowledge clusters as follows:



- **Module 1. The science, technology and water management** knowledge cluster provides an introduction to the scientific and technical fundamentals of water governance: hydrology, integrated water resources management, and sustainability challenges of water policy.
- **Module 2. Policy, public administration and governance** knowledge cluster analyses the basic features of institutions, politics, and socio-economic dimensions of water governance. It discusses the global (UN) water governance and framework and the regional river basin development. It also provides an introduction to water project management from an international perspective.
- **Module 3. The sustainability and system theory** knowledge cluster focuses on the sustainability challenges of water management, as well as on the ethical and security aspects of natural resource management. It also covers a general introduction to diplomacy and the military dimensions of water. There is a strong emphasis on cross-cutting issues and system thinking.
- **Module 4. The law and diplomacy** knowledge cluster comprises three courses dedicated to the legal regulation of water at the national, international, and European Union levels. The international and EU environmental and nature protection laws are on the agenda. There is a definite focus on the knowledge of international diplomacy dedicated to preventing and resolving water-related interstate conflicts and disputes.
- **Module 5: Conflict management, problem-solving and communication** knowledge cluster focuses on the general theories of conflict management and communication sciences and applies them to the specific issues of water conflicts. It also covers the essential elements of global environmental problem-solving and the decision support tools in water governance.

Additional student benefits

Options to participate in professional programs: targeted student information on UPS conferences, workshops, and other professional programs

Students' Science Club. From March 2023, we will launch a pilot forum for the Students of Water Diplomacy MA program. Aim: „Open a window” for informal thematic discussions among the students and lecturers.

Research involvement. Options to participate in the Department's Research projects (i.e., National Laboratory of Water Sciences) or relationship to UPS Institute of Environmental Sustainability.

Participation in UN-related international cooperation. The Training Program's students may get involved in the activities of the UNESCO Chair on Water Conflict Management. The President of the UNESCO Chair is Prof. András Szöllősi-Nagy, who is, in parallel, a Principal Lecturer of the MA Training Program. We also have emerging cooperation from the World Meteorological Organization and UNITAR.

A more comprehensive range of student traineeship (internship): students can conduct an internship at a chosen company, institution, or organization in the water sector

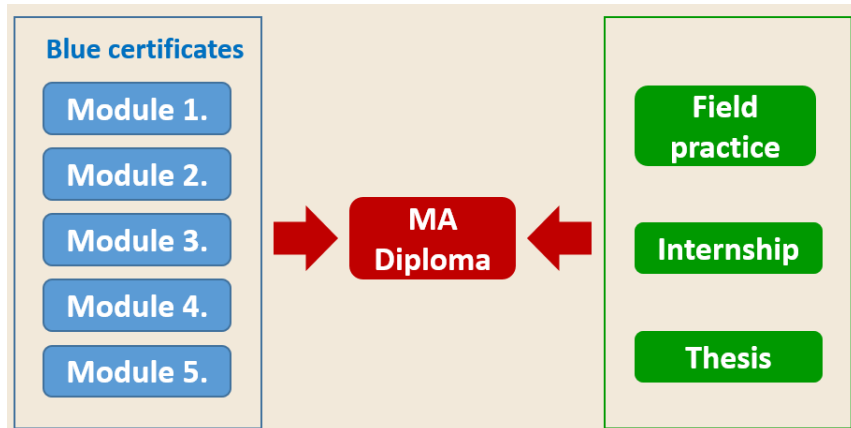
Ludovika-UPS issues a “**blue certificate**” (micro-credentials) upon completion of each module (i.e. if the student has earned credits in all the subjects of the module). A micro-credential is an academic study certificate, including the subject description and credit value, which is a public document certifying the learning outcomes obtained through the completion of a particular module of the course.



How to get a Master's diploma?

The student completes his/her studies with a final exam. The final exam is an “overall crosscheck” by assessing the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to obtain a diploma, during which the student must also demonstrate that he/she can apply the acquired knowledge. To obtain a **Master's degree**, students should:

- accumulate 90 credits,
- Complete hydrology - Water Management Field Training (5 days)
- complete an internship (4 weeks),
- write and successfully defend a diploma thesis and
- pass a successful final exam at the Final Exam Committee.



Application procedure, tuition fee, grants

Application procedure

Ludovika-UPS has a user-friendly **application website** to guide students through the application procedure. <https://en.uni-nke.hu/admissions/why-ludovika-ups>

The **entry requirements for the MA Programme** on International Water Governance and Water Diplomacy are available here: <https://en.uni-nke.hu/admissions/requirements/entry-requirements/ma-programs/international-water-governance-and-water-diplomacy>

An **initial one-off application fee** of EUR 150 must be paid by each incoming student applying for any training programs in Ludovika-UPS. The non-refundable application fee must be transferred to the University's bank account. It is part of the application procedure and does not guarantee the applicant's admission to the selected program. If an applicant re-applies for a program, he or she must pay the application fee again. No exception to this rule can be made under any circumstances. The application fee must be paid independently of the tuition fee.

**Deadline for application:
30 April 2024**



Tuition fee

The regular tuition fee is EUR 2250 /Semester. All fees are applicable to students admitted for the 2023/2024 academic year. More information is here: <https://en.uni-nke.hu/admissions/tuition-fees>

Grants, scholarships

The University of Public Service offers several scholarships for students:

Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship ¹	https://en.uni-nke.hu/scholarships-and-grants/stipendium-hungaricum/about-the-scholarship
Scholarship for Christian Young People ² :	https://hungaryhelps.gov.hu/apply/
Ludovika Fellowship programme ³	https://en.uni-nke.hu/scholarships-and-grants/ludovika-fellowship
Ludovika International Talents Program ³	https://en.uni-nke.hu/scholarships-and-grants/ludovika-international-talents-program

Further information:

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¹ funded for foreign students by the Hungarian Government

² managed by the State Secretariat for the Aid of Persecuted Christians and for the Hungary Helps Program

³ funded for foreign academics by the Ludovika UPS