



Master's Program in Coastal and Marine Management

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- Cross-disciplinary master's program
- Internationally oriented – taught in English
- Individually tailored studies
- Ecology – economics – social science
- M.R.M. degree (Master of Resource Management)
- 120 ECTS, normal completion time 18 months
- Exciting and ambitious program
- Degree granted by the University of Akureyri

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The master's program in Coastal and Marine Management prepares students to engage with one of the most compelling and important subjects today: natural resource management and utilization. Students examine the management methods used by the world's coastal nations, such as integrated coastal and marine management, which aim at maintaining the sustainability of coastal communities and resources. All instruction takes place in Ísafjörður at the University Centre of the Westfjords, but the degree is conferred by the University of Akureyri, one of Iceland's state-run universities, which has specialized in fisheries science and related matters for many years. All instruction and correspondence is in English. For further information, see www.uwestfjords.is.

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Coastal and Marine Management is a demanding and ambitious master's program in environmental and resource management. The program is cross-disciplinary and prepares students for diverse and exciting positions in both the public and private sectors. Among the fields which the master's program in Coastal and Marine Management prepares students to work in are resource and land use planning, environmental impact assessment, consulting work, teaching and research. The program is internationally oriented and taught in English, and both students and instructors come from a diverse range of countries. The master's program in Coastal and Marine Management brings together people of different backgrounds who share their experience, knowledge, and ideas in a small-scale, creative and fertile intellectual environment, with the goal of finding ways of using natural resources in a sustainable way. We welcome new faces to join our exciting group of natural resource management specialists.



Dagný Arnarsdóttir
Program Director

Program Details

- The program totals 120 ECTS credit units. Students complete 75 units of coursework over a 10-month period and then a 45-unit final project.
- Instruction takes place in three-week cycles, during which a single 6 ECTS course is taught intensively.
- Considerable attention is given to connecting classroom study with real-life conditions, by means of field observation, field trips, visits to companies, and practical projects.
- Knowledge of their field, experience, and ability to convey their knowledge are the qualities looked for in selecting program instructors. A high priority for the program is that both instructors and staff members are accessible to students.
- The University Centre of the Westfjords offers students outstanding study and work facilities.
- We also invite you to take single courses as a guest student, with the approval of your home university. The course catalogue is available on our website.
- All students accepted to the Coastal and Marine Management program are invited to take a three-week course in Icelandic Language and Culture, free of charge, which will be held in Ísafjörður in August.



“By choosing to study Coastal and Marine Management in Iceland, I hope that the knowledge gained by this region's dependency on coastal resources coupled with the expertise of many international instructors, can help me better prepare for a future in the growing field of coastal management.”

Traian C. Leu

Coastal and Marine Management student 2008-2009

If you have an unquenchable interest in environmental, planning, and resource issues, then we have something to discuss!

Are you looking for a trustworthy program which offers dependable preparation in coastal and marine management? You'll find it here.

If you have completed an undergraduate university degree and want a graduate education which brings you exciting and varied job opportunities, you should come to the University Centre of the Westfjords!



Welcome to the Westfjords

The Westfjords are the most remote region in Iceland and stand at the gates of the Arctic. In the Westfjords, Iceland is as you imagined it: magnificent and untouched. Fishing villages nestle in deep fjords between breathtaking mountains, and a new stretch of shoreline greets travelers as they round every headland.

Ísafjörður is the largest town in the Westfjords, and has all the services that you will need. There are superb sports facilities, including winter sports and mountain activities. From Ísafjörður it is a quick trip to the nature preserves in Hornstrandir and Jökulfirðir.

On our website www.uwestfjords.is you will find extensive information about coming to Iceland, student life in Ísafjörður and other practical matters. The staff of The University Centre is at your service for further information and assistance on any of these issues.



- Coastal and marine areas include 77% of the earth's resources and ecological systems. Over 40% of the earth's population lives in coastal regions.
- Planning and resource use must take climate change into consideration. Climate change has the potential to create both opportunities (such as the opening of the Northeast Passage) and threats (such as rising sea levels).
- Icelandic universities, organizations, companies, and government bodies have a tremendous amount of specialized knowledge and experience in the management and utilization of marine and coastal regions.
- The Westfjords make up only 10% of Iceland's land area, but contain 33% of its coastline. This coastline is largely pristine and undeveloped, and offers many diverse utilization opportunities.

Core courses:

- Applied methodology
- Integrated coastal and marine management
- Coastal and marine ecology
- Physical processes of coastal and marine environment
- Society and natural resources
- Economics of coastal and marine environments
- Coastal and marine politics and policy

Applications:

The application deadline for the master's program is April 15th for EU/EEA Citizens and February 15th for others. Students who plan to take a single course may apply later.

Each application is given careful individual consideration.

Further information and application forms are available at www.uwestfjords.is

Questions are welcome: contact cmm@uwestfjords.is