NEW OFFERING

Professional Master's Program

- ❖ **Innovative, Relevant and Interdisciplinary**
- ❖ **1.5-year Postgraduate Program**
- ❖ **Integrative and Modular Approach**

First cycle (January 2015 - April 2016)
application period: November to December 8,2014

Second cycle (September 2016 - December 2017)
application period: January 2016 to May 31, 2016

University of the Philippines

Diliman • Los Baños • Visayas

Professional Masters in Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management

Initial Area of Specialization: Marine Protected Areas

Admission Requirements

√ Bachelor's degree from a reputable institution of higher learning
√ Minimum of 2 years relevant work experience
√ Proof of English proficiency (TOEFL minimum score of 500 for foreign students)
√ Interview

CONTACT INFORMATION

Interested parties may contact any of the PM-TMEM Program Coordinators:

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Professional Master's Program on Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management

Initial Area of Specialization Marine Protected Areas

Introduction

The Coral Triangle (CT) is a geographic area referring to the triangular area of the tropical marine waters of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste that contain at least 500 species of reef-building corals. The region represents the global epicenter of marine biodiversity, with the Philippines located at the "center of the center" of world marine biodiversity. However, the marine resources of the Philippines and the region have been faced with the threats of unsustainable fishing practices, land-based pollution and coastal development, including the hazards and risks of climate change.

In order to accelerate marine conservation, there is a need to address the range of gaps in effective management and good governance of tropical marine ecosystems (ASEAN Center for Biodiversity, 2011) especially the dearth of skilled expertise in this field. This brings to fore the *urgent need for an academic program that will integrate science and experience in order to address social and ecological concerns important to biodiversity and marine conservation,* linked to the sustainable development of the region .

Overview of the Program

The upcoming Professional Masters in Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management (PM-TMEM) is designed for professionals who wish to pursue careers in government, civil service organizations, and private sector involving the management and governance of tropical marine ecosystems. It focuses on the application of the sciences for the development of professional skills and practical analyses of practitioners. This program will be implemented following a modular, sequential approach that can be completed in 1.5 years. A distinctive element of the PM-TMEM program is its integrative and trans-disciplinary approach within and across the courses, with lectures and field components handled by various interdisciplinary teams of faculty, including local and international experts. The program culminates with the completion of an independent special project that addresses gaps in the management and governance of tropical marine ecosystems on within the students' areas of responsibility.

PM-TMEM is part of the graduate offerings of the University of the Philippines (UP), with specific collaboration among 3 campuses -- UP Diliman, UP Los Baños, and UP Visayas. The program combines the expertise and vast experience of well-established programs in the 3 campuses: (i) *UP Diliman's Marine Science Institute*, (ii) *UP Visayas' Institute of Fisheries Policy and Development Studies,* and (iii) *UP Los Baños' School of Environmental Science and Management,* and the *College of Forestry and Natural Resources.* All students from the 3 UP campuses will constitute a batch who will attend all courses of the program as a single class.

Program Format

PM-TMEM is composed of 7 modules equivalent to 35 academic units of course work consisting of lecture, field work, presentations, and applications. The duration of the program is 1.5 years. In the program's modular, sequential approach, each module will have 2 courses taken sequentially with 2-3 weeks contact time per module. Students are given pre-module preparatory assignments and post-module take-home assignments. The final module will consist of students' presentations of their special projects. PM-TMEM is designed so that students can continue with their respective professions while enrolled in the program.

Description of Program Courses

1st Trimester (12 units)

Module 1 – TMEM in the Coral Triangle

TMEM 201. Tropical Marine Ecosystems. Ecological foundations of tropical marine ecosystems

TMEM 210. Intercultural Understanding in the Management of Tropical Marine Ecosystems. Introduction of intercultural competence as an essential skill of effective tropical marine ecosystem managers

Module 2 – Fundamentals of Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management

TMEM 202. Dynamics of Tropical Marine Socio-Ecological Systems. Interactions of social, political, cultural, economic, and ecological issues in tropical marine ecosystems

TMEM 203. Marine Environmental Planning and Management. Principles and tools of marine environmental planning and management

2nd Trimester (10 units)

Module 3 – Management and Governance of Tropical Marine Ecosystems

TMEM 220. Marine Protected Area Management and Governance. Integration of socio-ecological systems and designs; legal frameworks, governance and administration principles, and sustainable financing schemes

TMEM 211. Communication in Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management. Concepts, principles, processes, and necessary tools of communicating knowledge, issues, and policies for stakeholders involved in tropical marine ecosystem management

Module 4 – Strategic Planning for Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management

TMEM 221. Strategic Planning for Marine Protected Areas. Application of strategic planning principles and tools for Marine Protected Areas

TMEM 296. Seminar

3rd Trimester (10 units)

Module 5 –Marine Protected Area Management Plan Implementation

TMEM 222. Implementation of the Marine Protected Area Management Plan. Management processes, systems and standards that support the day-to-day operations of single site Marine Protected Areas

Module 6 – Marine Protected Area Systems

TMEM 223. Marine Protected Area Networks and Large Marine Ecosystems. Networking and alliance building within and among local, provincial, and national entities for the governance of marine protected area networks and large marine ecosystems

4th Trimester (3 units)

Module 7 – Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management Effectiveness and Good Governance

TMEM 297. **Special Problem**