

Warsaw Agricultural University

www.sggw.waw.pl

Warsaw Agricultural University (SGGW) is the oldest agricultural academic school in Poland, its history dates back to 1816. It educates experts for the broad-sense needs of the national biosphere. It offers wide-ranging programs of study – from biological and technical, through medical, economics and humanities.

The WAU community has good conditions to pursue its goals. Beginning in October 2003, all classes are offered on the new campus located in the southern part of Warszawa, in Ursynow. It is the most modern university campus in Poland, with excellent conditions not only for learning but also for teaching and research, as well as individual development, including sports. The WAU campus consists of 47 buildings with a total usable space of over 200,000 m², over 1,500 classrooms, including 292 lecture halls, with the total area of over 40,000 m².

At present, the university consists of 11 faculties and 6 interfaculty units. The teaching staff is over 1,100 strong, including 250 full professors. There are 25,000 students enrolled (full time undergraduate students and students in PhD and other graduate programs).

The range of the academic programs is systematically enlarged and currently includes 23 majors, of which 17 are offered by the eleven Faculties and six by interdepartmental and interdisciplinary programs. Within these 23 majors there are total of 60 areas of specializations.

The research and education covers the entire field of agriculture related sciences, among the others: Landscape Architecture, Biology, Biotechnology, Economics, Finance and Banking, Regional Planning, Informatics and Econometrics, Environmental Engineering, Forestry, Environment Protection, Horticulture, Agriculture, Sociology, Agricultural and Forestry Techniques, Wood Technology, Commodity Sciences, Tourism and Recreation, Food Technology, Human Nutrition, Veterinary Medicine, Management and Production Engineering, Management and Marketing, Animal Science.

Academic Systems

In 2002, WAU introduced the two-tiered system, as per the Bologna Declaration.

Depending on the major, Bachelor programs are 3 to 3.5 years in duration, and Master's programs are an additional 1.5 to 2 years. BSc graduates have an opportunity to continue in MSc programs, either in the same or a different field. This offers an opportunity for changes in specialization after the baccalaureate, and completion of two diplomas in two distinct areas.

WAU recognizes the ECTS system (European Credit Transfer System). Therefore, national and international student exchanges are possible. The MSc programmes consists of 90 – 120 ECTS, depending on the major:

- 90 ECTS for MSc programmes in so called “technical” majors (1,5 years, 3 semesters)
- 120 in others (2 years, 4 semesters).

The technical majors (90 ECTS for MSc program) are:

- biotechnology,
- civil engineering,
- forestry,
- environmental protection,
- horticulture,
- environmental engineering,
- agriculture,
- agricultural and forestry engineering,
- wood technology,
- food technology and human nutrition,
- animal science,
- landscape architecture,
- regional planning and management,
- management and production engineering,
- agricultural and commodity science

The others (120 ECTS for MSc programmes) are:

- management and marketing,
- finance and banking,
- computer science and econometrics,
- sociology,
- tourism and recreation,
- biology,
- economics

From 2007 the university will offer the following summer schools with English as a language of instruction:

- Biodiversity of nutrition
- Water management
- Restoration and management of environment
- Safety in food chain

Admission Requirements for International Students

On the international level, student exchanges are organized in the context of the EU Programs (Socrates-Erasmus and Leonardo da Vinci). Currently, the University offers about 100 lecture courses in English as the language of instruction. This permits tailoring individual programs of study. The general admission criteria for MSc is a relevant BSc diploma.

See: <http://www.sggw.waw.pl/cpe/przedmioty/index-e.html>

Unfortunately full MSc programs with English as a language of instruction are not offered so far, what make it difficult for students from outside EU to join. English-based area of specialization will be offered from the summer semester 2007 in the Environmental Protection and Computer Science and Econometrics majors.

See: <http://www.sggw.waw.pl/cpe/mgr/k02-e.html>

Regular MSc programs with English as the language of instruction are also being planned within the Biotechnology, Veterinary Medicine and Environmental Engineering majors.

The tuition fee starts from 2000 EURO per academic year for undergraduate studies and 3000 EURO for postgraduate and PhD studies. A registration fee of 200 EURO is to be paid upon entry into the program. The tuition depends on the costs of research necessary to complete the program, and is determined on a case-by-case basis by the Dean of Faculty. The tuition does not cover living expenses in Poland.

Doctoral programs for foreign students are offered by each of the 11 faculties of WAU. The tuition starts at 3000 Euro. The recipients of scholarships granted by the Government of Poland are admissible into the doctoral programs for foreign students. Their applications for admission are to be filed through an Embassy or a Consulate of Poland. In exceptional cases the tuition may be partially reduced.

The required application documentation includes:

- a copy of a university degree diploma (Master of Science, Master Engineer, Veterinary Surgeon, etc) translated into English and certified by an Embassy of Poland*,
- curriculum vitae,
- description of the proposed field and area of specialization of the doctoral dissertation,
- certified academic records (transcripts of all applicable undergraduate and graduate credits, including the lectures, number of hours, notes),
- a letter of recommendation from an academic advisor or tutor (usually this will be a full Professor)
- a list of scientific publications,
- medical certificate of health.

**formal diploma verification is required for all applicants from countries with which Republic of Poland does not have bilateral treaties on mutual recognition of academic degrees and diplomas.*

Grading system

- 2 – fail
- 3 - sufficient
- 4 – good
- 5 – very good

Academic calendar

Winter semester 1/10 – 30/01
Summer semester 15/02 – 15/06
(no modules)

Student services

The university has a rich and fully computerized Main Library, over 50 computer laboratories with Internet access, an impressive number of modern and well equipped laboratories (almost 650, with a total area of over 28,000 m²).

Additional facilities, for sports and recreation such as an indoor swimming pool and tennis courts, weight rooms, an indoor equestrian facility and outdoor sports fields.

In the planning stages are a multimedia hall and a sports stadium.

The university has a new greenhouse complex, a Small Animal Clinic, Equine Clinic, Center for Hipotherapy and excellent facilities for vocational and practical training in modern experiment stations in agriculture and forestry.

Housing information

WAU offers over 3800 dormitory spots on its campus, with ever improving standards, its own hotels, underground parking garage and large dining facilities (including several dining halls and over a dozen cafeterias).

Estimated cost of living for a student per semester

- approximately 100 EURO per month for accommodation plus approximately 200 € per month for food if student is cooking by himself. Eating out is much more expensive;
- 20 € per month for local transport (bus, trams, subway). Taxi journeys are more expensive;
- You will need some money for books and writing materials;
- Personal spending: ca. 80 € per month including leisure activities such as cinema (ticket price: ca. 5 €)

Contact information

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