Prerequisites: Graduated students from a relevant field, such as Natural Resources Management, Biological Sciences (Biology, Botany, Zoology), Forestry, Environmental Sciences and Agriculture are eligible to join the winter school. Selection criteria applied will be: student performance, interviews and inclusiveness.

Expectation: Students are asked to attend 10 hours a day, including class, practicum and field work.

Course contents and format: The course is divided into four thematic areas:

- Environment and biodiversity conservation.
- Ethnobiology and community development.
- Bioprospecting and drug discovery.
- Natural resources management and development.

Teaching activities will include class room lectures, class/laboratory practicals and field work.

Grading: The grading will be based on a 100 point scale. Evaluation will be based on attendance (20%), participation and assignments (40%), presentation (20%), and final report (20%). Certificate will be issued at the end of the course, both with the logos of TU and UP.

Attendance: Daily attendance is compulsory in order to receive full credit for the course.

Field activities: The activities will focus on the following topics, but are not limited to:

- Environmental challenges
- Biodiversity: status and conservation
- Medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPS)
- Agricultural practice
- Traditional ecological knowledge
- Community conservation
- Sustainable tourism
- Protected area system
- Ethnicity, cultural values and norms
- Energy issues and challenges

Presentation: Students will present their work (individual/group) on pre-identified topics before they go to the field for a detailed study. At the end of the course, all presentations will be available at the UP DAFNAE website www.dafnae.unipd.it/en and www.recast.edu.np and used as source of information for e-learning purposes.

Final report: Students will submit a final report before their presentation.

Registration fees:

- International participants: 300 €
- Nepalese participants: NRs. 5,000
- Participants from other SAARC countries: 150 €

Registration fees include: participation to the school, attendance of lectures, teaching material, field visits, visit to a Panchase Protected Forest. Registration does NOT include: international flight and transfers to the school location; accommodation in Kathmandu.

Credits: 4 ECTS Credits (pending approval from PU)

Application procedure: Application form is available on the School institutional website, along with submission details.

Contacts:

For any school programme details, please contact either: Prof. A. Masi (antonio.masi@unipd.it) or Prof. R. Chaudhary (ram@cdbtu.wlink.com.np; turecast@mail.com.np). For advice about accommodation or any other logistics issue, please contact the students' tutor Dr. Irene Amoruso (irene.amoruso@gmail.com).

Final note: Full programme can be downloaded from the School institutional website. In case any change is applied to the lectures, students will be immediately notified.

International Summer School

Environment and Biodiversity Management in Nepal Himalayas

Kathmandu (Nepal)
July 25 - August 12 2016

www.dafnae.unipd.it/en/ISWS-Nepal2016
www.facebook.com/IWS2016Nepal
www.recast.edu.np

A collaborative programme between the Tribhuvan University of Kirtipur (TU - Nepal) and the University of Padua (UP - Italy).

The course is organized by the TU Research Centre for Applied Science and Technology (RECAST) and the UP Dept. of Agronomy, Food, Natural Resouces, Animals and Environment (DAFNAE).

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
त्रिभुवन विश्वविद्यालय

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PADOVA

Background:

The Tribhuvan University (TU) of Kirtipur, Nepal, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Padova (UP), Italy, in 2004. Under this MOU, some faculty researchers from TU made academic visits to University of Padova. There has been also an exchange of visits of high level TU faculties from TU to UP and vice versa. In this regard, Prof. A. Martin, Prof. A. Masi and Prof. S. Bona from UP visited TU in 2014 and 2015 for strengthening the collaboration between the two institutions. Prof. A. Masi also visited RECAST in March 2015 and made a presentation on possible collaboration between RECAST and UP, in the field of biological and environmental sciences. At that time, it was agreed to initiate an international winter school jointly with UP and TU, RECAST.

Course Collaborators:

- Prof. Ram P. Chaudhary, TU
- Prof. Antonio Masi, UP

Leading Host Coordinators:

- Dr. Sajani Shrestha, RECAST, TU
- Prof. K.R. Shrestha, RECAST, TU
- Prof. Antonio Masi, UP

Advisory Committee:

- Prof. Sudha Triphati, Rector, TU
- Prof. Chirika Shova Tamrakar, Dean, Institute of Science and Technology, TU
- Mr. Durga Pandey, RECAST, TU
- Prof. Maurizio Borin, Dean of DAFNAE, UP
- Prof. Barbara Baldan, Dept. Biology, UP
- Prof. Serena Varotto, DAFNAE, UP
- Prof. Krishna Kumar Shrestha, TU
- Prof. Krishna Das Manandhar, TU
- Prof. Khadga Basnet, TU
- Prof. Kedar Rijal, TU
- Dr. Ganesh Agrawal, RLABB
- Dr. Giri Raj Tripathi, TU
- Mr. Keshav Poudel, RECAST, TU
- Prof. Stefano Dall'Acqua, Pharmacy Dept., UP

Course description:

The course will be open to the students from all over the world, thus providing a unique opportunity to the students to learn contemporary issues in Nepal in the areas of environmental management, cross-cultural learning and strengthen capacities of both countries institutions. Scientists from TU and UP will be instructors and mentors. In addition, other experts from Nepalese governmental, non-governmental and private sectors will be involved. Students will have the chance to enhance their knowledge by visiting some world cultural heritage sites in Kathmandu. In addition, the students will travel to a protected forest close to the Annapurna Conservation Area, one of the most popular destinations of Nepal, and conduct their individual/group research within a broad framework of environmental management, and write reports. Final presentations will be held in Kathmandu. Each student will be evaluated and a certificate will be issued in Nepal, jointly by TU and UP.

Topics covered in the course include four thematic areas (see course content and format). A detailed lecture will be available in the first day and with some reading materials. Daily attendance will be taken for evaluation of the students.

Teaching material (doc, ppt slides, scientific papers) will be available at the DAFNAE website www.dafnae.unipd.it/en and at www.recast.edu.np at the beginning of the course, to be later used as a source of information for e-learning purposes by all attendants of the school.

Number of students:

Expected 20-30 students (approximately 20 international students and 10 from Nepal, India and other SAARC countries).

Class dates: 25 July - 12 August 2016

The course will be accomplished in three weeks, including two weeks of lectures and exercise in Kathmandu plus one week of field work held in the Panchase Protected Forest close to Pokhara, in Western Nepal.

Working hours:

The class will be held normally for six hours a day (10:00-17:00) in Kathmandu for two weeks. Classroom sessions include lectures (4 hrs) and practical/exercise/reading (2 hrs) in class.

Field work will be in Panchase Protected Forest and includes group work, discussion, and report writing. It will be about ten hours a day in the field. The total working hours accomplished will be at least 120 hours.

Course objectives:

The main objective of the summer school is to acquaint the students with contemporary environmental issues of the Nepalese Himalaya, expose them to the biodiversity and environmental management, local communities' role and contribution to manage the natural resources, and cross-cultural learning.

Learning Outcomes:

The students should be able to learn the following after the accomplishment of the course:

- *Be familiar with environmental resources in Nepal Himalaya.*
- *Ecosystem services and biodiversity management.*
- *Cultural diversity and conservation of resources.*
- *Potential resources for bioprospecting of biological resources.*
- *Agroecosystems in Nepal and compare with Europe.*
- *Protected area system and conservation.*
- *Communities, gender and indigenous peoples' contribution to conservation and development.*
- *Resource management in Nepal.*
- *Discuss environmental quality issues in Nepal and compare and contrast them with the European multicultural way.*