

One semester in Sicily

Practical semester, Bachelor thesis, Master thesis or voluntary service at Mount Etna.



Dear Students,

we offer you the possibility to come to Sicily for one semester to become active with us: Giacche Verdi Bronte and the Manfred-Hermsen-Stiftung. We are small non-profit associations working on environmental projects.

A brief insight: In the small rural river valleys between Etna and the Nebrodi Mountains, the migration corridor of certain animal species, we are working on the establishment of a biosphere reserve and carry out various environmental education projects with children as well as practical, planning and experimental nature conservation activities and surveys on biodiversity.

Erasmus+ your support for going abroad: The Erasmus+ education programme enables students to finance a stay abroad within the European Union. The participation of your university in an Erasmus+ scholarship programme is necessary. Many students have already taken advantage of this support to participate in our projects in Sicily.

A new project for diverse agriculture/biodiversity/ecology studies: "Good agricultural practice in the landscape around the volcano Etna – ecological and social needs in relation to European support and limitations of the CAP. In contrast to the European average, Sicily and the other regions of southern Italy still have a reasonably good biodiversity rate within the cultivated areas. In comparison with an Italian index of birds in agricultural land, which has fallen by 30% since 2000, it appears almost stable in these regions. This is largely due to the conservation of some traditional crops and ecological mosaics, which are essential for the protection of wild species. For the project we are searching for students with knowledge in botany or zoology or the biological agriculture sector. You should be interested in the interaction of land use and biodiversity. You as a student will accompany local experts for farm visits and may contribute to the expert's general research with specific studies on biodiversity or farming practice, depending on their academic field. The results of the studies should lead to a better and more precise support policy for the region of Sicily in the new agricultural programme from 2021.

If you would like to know more: visit our website [<http://www.giaccheverdibronte.it>] or send a short e-mail to [gvbronte@gmail.com] or to the Manfred-Hermsen-Stiftung [info@m-h-s.org]. It is also possible to contact the present volunteers just mention this in your message. **If you want to apply:** simply send us a CV with a picture of you and a motivation letter in which you tell us about your intentions.