

Master Thesis Opportunity

Functional Traits & Functional Diversity in an Oceanic Archipelago

The Department of Biodiversity, Macroecology and Biogeography is offering 1–2 Master's thesis projects focusing on the **functional traits of the vascular Flora of the Azores archipelago**.

Project Scope

- Investigate how plant functional diversity is shaped by island assembly processes
- Assess the impact of **invasive alien plant species** on native island flora
- Contribute to our understanding of biodiversity, evolution and ecological function on oceanic islands

What the Thesis Involves

- **Fieldwork** on the Azores (~6–8 weeks in **late summer 2026**)
- **Field & lab-based measurements** of plant functional traits
- **Collaboration** with research partners at the University of the Azores and Goethe University Frankfurt; financial support for field work can be provided

Requirements

- Strong interest in **functional ecology, biodiversity, and island biogeography**
- **Good physical condition** (hiking in rugged terrain required)
- **Solid data analysis skills in R**

Interested?

For more information or to apply, please contact:
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