

My CareerHub SERT project adverts for projects that can count as placements

Placement opportunity title

Staff name(s):	Marin Cvitanovic and Elena Cantarello
Project title:	Resilience of forests as a socio-ecological system: linking theory to practice in Eastern Europe
Project location:	Croatia
Project time (month):	First two weeks of July 2019

Project Description

This project will investigate forests in northern Croatia. Its main aim is to understand forest resilience under different socio-environmental pressures, such as climate change, livelihood strategies and land abandonment. Within Eastern Europe, almost half of Croatian territory is covered by forests and the country underwent post-socialist transition but also joined the EU in 2013, making it an excellent study area to measure resilience during and after political and economic changes. The region of northern Croatia is characterised by a large number of small private forests and it is selected as a case study for this research. The expedition will work in collaboration with the University of Zagreb to investigate the following questions:

(i) What are the main social and environmental pressures affecting forests in Croatia?

Here we will organise a workshop at the University of Zagreb, Department of Geography.

(ii) What data need to be collected to examine whether forests are resilient to these pressures?

Here you will be trained to use ecological surveying equipment to assess forest structure and composition. You will also be required to map areas according to their characteristics.

(iii) Investigate which forest management practices would make forests more resilient?

Here we will organise final workshop(s) back at BU to discuss the results.

The project will be for two weeks (1 week field work). The fieldwork will take place in the first half of July. We will spend 3 nights in Zagreb and 3 nights in a rural area of Zagorje.

Student groups this opportunity is likely to most suit:

This SERT is aimed at students in Geography and Green Economy, but other students (LES degrees) are welcome to apply. Please note, this project requires at least moderate fitness as will involve walking in hilly areas. Summer in Croatia is very hot (temperature higher than 30°C). It also needs you to be willing to sleep in undeveloped rural areas (sleeping bags required) and to generally be happy to muck in and be a great team player.

The SERT will count as a two week placement as will include additional follow-up workshops including analysis of data, producing presentations, videos and reports.

How much will it cost?

The full cost of the trip (including flights, transport in Croatia, accommodation and food) is expected to be approximately £450 per person. This does not include travel costs to the UK airport (students will be expected to make their own way there). It will be from Heathrow airport.

Please note that you will have the opportunity to apply for LES student International Travel Grants (ITG). These are awarded on a competitive basis. Each student ITG is worth £400.

How many days placement will this count as?

10 days.

How many student places are available?

4

How to apply or find out more information

For further information contact Marin Cvitanovic
mcvitanovic@bournemouth.ac.uk

To apply please send Marin your CV and a short letter of application explaining why you would like to apply. If accepted onto the placement you must also register your placement place with Julie Gill through myCareerhub for it to count officially as a BU placement.

Deadline for application

31st Jan 2019