



The [Nicholas School of the Environment](#) (Duke University) and Venice International University offer the third edition of a Summer Program that provides training in key topics about the impact of sea level rise on coastal areas and cities, and about adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Environmental Management in a Changing World: Coping with Sea Level Rise

2016 edition - 11-23 July 2016

Detailed [Program](#)

Program [Schedule](#)

The symptoms of Global Warming, and in particular an accelerating sea level rise, are already detectable in several regions of the globe. The discussion, at a governmental level, on the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions is ongoing, but strategic decisions have to be taken soon in particular in regard to low-lying coastal areas and cities, considering that coastal areas less than 5 meters above sea level are home to roughly 200 million people worldwide (World Ocean Review 2013). The Venice Lagoon will be used as a “laboratory”, the ideal location to study the intertwined dynamics of human and natural systems under a climate change. The Venice Lagoon is a diverse ecosystem providing invaluable services, which has been deeply transformed over the long history of the Venetian State and, in more recent years, by large scale engineering works. The area is also an exceptionally well-documented case of the coexistence of the natural and the built environments, of the tension between sustainable and unsustainable uses of natural resources, and of the potential for vigorous political controversy over possible adaptation strategies. VIU is uniquely positioned, both geographically and for the suite of multidisciplinary knowledge which it encompasses, to provide an educational program of unmatched quality on these topics.

Target:

Graduate students and working professionals from any university, research institute, or other organization (private companies, government agencies, NGOs) with an interest in environmental issues and ability to read and write fluently in English. Advanced undergraduates will also be considered.

100% of participants rated the program as "highly valuable" in 2015.

What they say about us:

"The classes and professors at VIU were incredible, I met so many wonderful people and

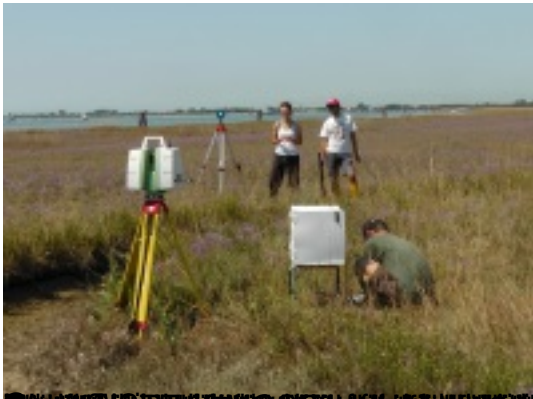
learned a lot"

"The ratio of students to professors was ideal"

"The facilities of VIU are great"

"A positive aspect was the opportunity to network"





9,000 years ago, the sea level was 100 meters higher than it is today. In the last 100 years, the sea level has risen by 10 centimeters. In the next 100 years, it is expected to rise by 1 meter. This is a significant increase, especially in coastal areas where the land is low-lying. The rising sea level is a major threat to coastal infrastructure and ecosystems. It is causing erosion, flooding, and saltwater intrusion. In some areas, the sea level is rising so fast that it is already causing damage to buildings and roads. This is a global problem that requires urgent action. We need to find ways to protect our coastal areas from the rising sea level. This includes building sea walls, dikes, and other coastal defenses. We also need to protect our coastal ecosystems, which can help to absorb some of the excess water. Finally, we need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, which are the main cause of global warming and sea level rise.

