This course will examine factors regulating the distribution and functioning of major temperate terrestrial ecosystems, and some tropical ecosystems, as well as their ecosystem processes.

Regulating factors: climate, geology, surficial deposits, soils, microorganisms, flora and fauna.

Processes: disturbances (fire, wind, anthropic) and succession, productivity and biomass, carbon capture and sequestration.

- Two full-day field excursions (reserve Saturdays, September 16 & 23, 2017)
- Laboratory sessions (soil pH, soil nutrients, soil moisture and texture)

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Also: Temperate rainforest, Tropical montane rainforest, Tundra, Mediterranean scrub, Desert (hot & cold)