

# What we teach ...

Our teaching represents an integral part of the study programmes offered at the Department of Geography and Regional Research. Already in the Bachelor and Teacher degrees, but particularly in the Master and PhD programmes as well as the Master in Environmental Sciences (in English), possibilities to specialize in the fields of physical geography are manifold.

Here, teaching is tightly coupled to the research in the group in order to allow students to profit from the available expertise, and to bring them in touch with applied questions, enhancing their chances in various segments of the job market.

Programme	Years	Competences
Bachelor Geography (in German)	3	Basic knowledge of physical geography, its methods and applications
Master Geography (in German)	2	Enhanced knowledge of physical geography, its methods and applications
Master Environmental Science (in English)	2	Focus on the relationship between the society and the environment
Teacher Geography and Economics (in German)	3+2	Basic knowledge of physical geography and its methods, with a particular focus on teaching at high school
PhD Geography (in English)	3	Ability to conduct independent research at an international level

# Who we are ...



## Geomorphological Systems and Risk Research

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**ENGAGE**   
 Geomorphological Systems  
 & Risk Research



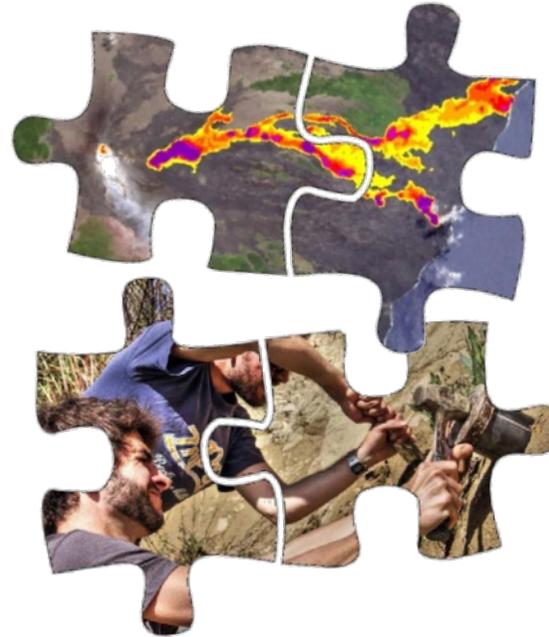
 universität  
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 Institut für Geographie und Regionalforschung

## What is interesting for us ...

- Which types of environmental changes result from climate change in high-mountain areas?
- How does environmental change affect society?
- How can we reduce the risks associated to landslides?
- Which strategies are useful to manage our rivers in a sustainable way?
- Why are all natural disasters actually social disasters?

These and similar questions are explored in the ENGAGE group. Thereby we try to document, to describe, and to explain the processes and their interrelations in nature. On this basis –in close cooperation with colleagues specialized in social sciences –we attempt to better understand the feedbacks between society and environment. In this way we aim at contributing to a responsible and sustainable management of natural resources on the one hand, and risks on the other hand.



## How we do research ...

Many scientific questions call for the combination of various methodological approaches: besides conceptual considerations, the spectrum applied in the ENGAGE group includes field work as well as laboratory analyses and, increasingly, computational methods such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) or numerical simulations.

## Think globally Act locally

In order to understand globally relevant dynamics and challenges (such as the manifold consequences of climate change), it is necessary to analyze them in various geographic contexts.

Therefore we work –both in teaching and in research –with case studies all around the world, from Vienna and Lower Austria across the Alps and Italy all the way to China, New Zealand, and South America. Thereby, we put a particular focus on the high-mountain areas of the world.

