

14. LIFE BELOW WATER

Our University has a unique sample with respect to sustainability and the protection of the natural environment. Located near the Golden Horn, our University makes great efforts in order to prevent marine pollution and protect life on land, which should be taken as an example.

Strict measures are taken with respect to waste management to prevent marine pollution. A waste management system equipped with advanced technology has been adopted to prevent waste and wastewater from being released into the sea. The rainwater is collected through a separate system in order to prevent the wastewater from being released into the sea, and the water from washbasins and toilets is separately processed accordingly. These waters are directed to the modern treatment facilities through a sewage channel.

In addition, great importance is attached to the efficient management of the liquid waste from the laboratories. This waste is sent to the licensed disposal and recycling facilities in an attempt to minimize the environmental impacts thereof.

Our University aims to raise awareness of the students and personnel about the environment through attempts including but not limited to strict waste management. Training programs and environmental projects are organized in order to raise awareness and respect for the impacts of marine pollution and the protection of life on land.

The courses given within the organization of our University in connection with this goal are detailed below.

14.1. Courses

- **KHAS 107 Design:** The mandatory course of design for all the first year students under the Core Program discusses the relationships between design and urban commons and attracts attention to life below water in Istanbul considering the context of urban typical and coexistence, and the project “Bluefish Protection Team” intended to safeguard the endangered water creatures, and specific examples such as the drawings of fish in Istanbul by Akillas Millas are discussed. Through classroom exercises, the students diligently document and map the aquatic life in the Golden Horn near the campus.
- **KHAS 101 Origins and Consequences:** This course analyzes the valuable consequences of inventions in the different scientific fields for people, and the module called the Foundations of Evolution motivates the students to think of what to do to maintain the impact of people on life below water at a sustainable level. The students do research homework in any field of their choice, analyzing the topic thoroughly.
- **KHAS 105 Universal Values and Ethics:** The Ecologic Crisis and Coexistence of Species module encourages the student to discuss the possibilities of the coexistence of different species and the importance of aquatic life in the context of an ecologic crisis.
- **KHAS 110 Social Responsibility:** Within the scope of this course, the students in one of the authentic project groups called Reef 34 arranged some efforts to bring into question the pollution in the Bosphorus. Accordingly, the students brought into question the fact that the people cause the seas to be polluted, creating a negative impact on life below water, providing information thereon. A sea cleaning event was organized with the contributions of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality at the semester’s end.