12:00 – Welcome address and introduction to M.Sc. Program “Environmental Management” at the University of Warsaw

12:20 – Lecture 1. The Warm, the Great and the Mountain: What’s on in the lakes of Poland by Barbara Pietrzak Ph.D., Department of Hydrobiology

13:00 – short break

13:10 – Lecture 2. The curse of the white gold: the story behind the Aral Lake by Monika Mętrak Ph.D., Department of Plant Ecology and Environmental Protection.

Lecture 1. The Warm, the Great and the Mountain: What’s on in the lakes of Poland.
The not-so-wild East of Europe. The Great Mazurian Lakes recover after the political system transformation, yet face new and multiple challenges today. The Lakes of the High Tatra Mountains underwent fish stocking, but still reveal what a deep fishless lake is like. Climate warming creeps behind. Does the powerplant-heated lake system near Konin offer a glance into the future?

Lecture 2. The curse of the white gold: the story behind the Aral Lake
There was a lake once in the heart of continental Asia. In fact, the fourth biggest lake in the world. Now, less than one third of its waters remains. Over the uncovered lake sediments, wind blows clouds of toxic dust. This parched land was devastated by humans in an event called by many environmentalists an ecocide. Massive water mismanagement in this region was caused by large-scale cultivation of cotton, the so called "white gold".

All activities take place at the Faculty of Biology, Miecznikowa St. 1., lecture hall 9B.