

# Examination Regulations

for

## **Sustainable Agriculture B.Sc.**

at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Dated 22 January 2013

*Please note: this English translation is provided for information purposes only.  
Only the German version published in the Official Notices of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences is legally binding.*

In accordance with Section 2 (4) sentence 1 and Section 64 (1) of the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia [Hochschulgesetz – HG NRW], in the amended form produced by the Greater Liberty for Higher Education Institutions Act [Hochschulfreiheitsgesetz] of 31 October 2006 (Law and Regulations Gazette of NRW – GV.NRW. 2006, p. 474), last amended by Article 1 of the Act amending the Higher Education Act and the Art Colleges Act [Gesetz zur Änderung des Hochschulgesetzes und des Kunsthochschulgesetzes] of 18 December 2012 (GV.NRW. 2012, p. 672) and by Section 2 (4) of the Universities of Applied Sciences Establishing Act 2009 [Fachhochschuleerrichtungsgesetz 2009] (GV.NRW. 2009, p. 255) and by the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's Programmes (RPO) of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences of 22 October 2012 (published in the Official Notices on 29 October 2012), the Founding Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences has issued the following examination regulations:

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## **Section 1**

### **Scope of application**

These examination regulations shall apply to the English-taught bachelor's degree programme Sustainable Agriculture of the Faculty of Life Sciences of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, in conjunction with the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's Programmes [Rahmenprüfungsordnung; hereinafter "RPO"] of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. These examination regulations govern the standard seven-semester mode of study (full-time study), the nine-semester dual-vocational mode of study (dual study), and the nine-semester part-time mode of study for working professionals [berufsbegleitendes Studium].

## **Section 2**

### **Aims and objectives; purpose of examination; degree awarded**

(1) The bachelor's examination concludes the degree programme and constitutes a first academic and scientific qualification towards a career. The general aims and objectives for bachelor's programmes are outlined in Section 3 RPO. This degree programme is designed to produce graduates who can apply complex methods from numerous fields – in particular agriculture, natural science, social science and economics – and who can use these methods to develop practical, interdisciplinary solutions. A strong command of the English language is key to achieving success in this degree programme, as it provides the essential basis for this programme's continuous goal of broadening and deepening students' technical language and communication skills.

(2) The academic degree "Bachelor of Science", abbreviated as "B.Sc.", shall be awarded for the successful completion of the bachelor's examination.

## **Section 3**

### **Entry requirements**

(1) The general entry requirements for bachelor's degree programmes are outlined in Section 4 RPO.

(2) A "related or comparable programme of study" within the meaning of Section 4 (6) RPO is defined as any undergraduate (bachelor's or German 'Diplom') degree programme at a university or university of applied sciences in Germany if that programme's content predominately falls under the umbrella of agricultural science.

(3) Sufficient proficiency in English can be demonstrated by submitting a valid and recognised language certificate equivalent to CEFR level B2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). Generally, the following language tests and scores are accepted as valid proof:

- IELTS: 6.0 or better
- TOEFL (iBT): minimum 80
- TOEFL (PBT): minimum 550
- TOEFL (CBT): minimum 213

(4) Exempted from this language certificate requirement are applicants who have acquired English language abilities equivalent to level B2 over the course of earning their university entrance qualification [Hochschulreife] at a secondary school in Germany. This is considered the case when an applicant has successfully completed at least seven years of English at a German secondary school and earned a final cumulative mark of at least “sufficient” (4.0 or better) for the subject.

#### **Section 4 Preparatory internship**

Students in this degree programme are required to complete an eight-week preparatory internship (within the meaning of Section 4 (3) RPO) at an extramural company, public authority, or nonprofit organisation and in a context relevant to the curriculum. The internship should familiarise the student with questions and matters relating to agricultural science and engineering, as well as business administration and organisation.

#### **Section 5 Programme structure; volume of studies; progression of studies**

(1) This degree programme has a total volume of study of 122 credit hours [Semesterwochenstunden – SWS].

(2) In accordance with the framework outlined in Section 6 (5) RPO, the modules of this programme comprise a total sum of 210 credit points (hereinafter “CP”).

(3) Before commencing the dual study programme, a vocational training period of 14.5 months must be completed through a company and a vocational school in Germany. The dual study programme begins after this period. In the initial phase of study, the student studies at the University full-time. A second vocational training period then commences in the third semester. The student studies part-time in the fourth and fifth semesters, attending four days of lectures at the University and one day at the vocational school per week. The vocational training portion of the dual study programme generally concludes by the start of the fifth semester with a comprehensive examination, in German, conducted by the respective German Chamber of Agriculture. In the sixth semester the student is required to complete a work placement or an exchange semester at a university abroad. Contrary to Section 5 (1) sentence 2 RPO, the dual mode of study for Sustainable Agriculture B.Sc. has a standard duration of seven semesters. Both the vocational training position and the company providing the training must have a clear thematic relevance to the degree programme. The Faculty of Life Sciences shall be responsible for assessing the relevance of a proposed training position or company.

(4) The part-time mode of study [berufsbegleitendes Studium] allows working individuals to continue their profession while studying on a part-time basis. In this mode of study, the regular content of the first two semesters is taught over the course of four semesters instead. During this time, the part-time student’s work week is divided into two days of study at the University and three days at their place of employment.

(5) Additional information about the structure and progression of the programme, as well as about the type, form and scope of modules, can be found in the study and examination

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schedule in the annex of these examination regulations. For details about a module's qualification aims, content and most commonly offered mode of examination, please refer to the descriptions in the module guide, which is available in the dean's office for all students and staff to review.

### **Section 6 Scope of examinations**

- (1) The time allotted to students for a written examination is based on the CP value of the respective course unit(s). As a general rule, 60 minutes shall be allotted for every two CP.
- (2) An oral examination generally lasts at least 30 minutes, but no more than 45 minutes.
- (3) The text portion of an assignment, term paper or project should not exceed 30 DIN A4 pages in length (not including annexes).

### **Section 7 Scope and form of the bachelor's thesis**

- (1) As a rule, the text portion of the bachelor's thesis should be between 40 and 100 DIN A4 pages in length (not including annexes). The thesis may also be supplemented with other media, provided they are appropriate and helpful for the documentation of the thesis in accordance with the assigned task. In this case the text portion of the thesis (not including annexes) may have less pages than the minimum requirement defined in sentence 1.
- (2) The bachelor's thesis can also be admitted as group work if each student's individual contribution fulfils the requirements in Section 23 (1) RPO and is clearly distinguishable and thus assessable due to clear delimitation by section, page numbers or other criteria that ensure distinct identification of each student's separate contribution.

### **Section 8 Admission to the bachelor's thesis and colloquium**

- (1) In conjunction with the general prerequisites for admission to the bachelor's thesis (Section 24 (1) RPO), students must show that they have acquired 175 CP.
- (2) In conjunction with the general prerequisites for admission to the colloquium (Section 27 (2) RPO), candidates must show that they have acquired 202 CP.

### **Section 9 Credit points for the bachelor's thesis and colloquium**

- (1) Twelve CP shall be awarded for successfully passing the bachelor's thesis.
- (2) Eight CP shall be awarded for successfully passing the colloquium.

**Section 10**  
**Conferment of the bachelor's degree**

The bachelor's degree specified in Section 2 (2) is officially conferred with the issuing of the bachelor's degree certificate (Section 30 (1) RPO).

**Section 11**  
**Entry into force**

(1) These examination regulations shall enter into force on the day after their publication in the Official Notices [Amtliche Bekanntmachungen] of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. These regulations apply to all students who first enrolled in the Sustainable Agriculture B.Sc. programme of the Faculty of Life Sciences of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in or after winter semester 2012-2013.

(2) Students who first enrolled in the Sustainable Agriculture B.Sc. programme before winter semester 2012-2013 are permitted to continue studying under the previous examination regulations from 31 January 2011 (published in the Official Notices 06/2011), but must graduate before 29 February 2016.

(3) By written request submitted to the Examination Office, students who are currently studying under the previous examination regulations from 31 January 2011 may opt instead to study under these updated examination regulations. In this case, the examination board shall be responsible for decisions on the transfer and recognition of credit points earned under the previous examination regulations.

# Annex

## Recommended study and examination schedule for Sustainable Agriculture B.Sc.

Module No./ Modul-Nr.	Subjects / Module	CH/SWS	Type					Ex/Prü	CP	CH / SWS					SS / ST 6	WS / WT 7		
			L/V	S	E/Ü	LC/Pr	Pro			WS / WT 1	SS / WT 2	WS / WT 3	SS / ST 4	WS / WT 5				
SAg_1	Agroecology and sustainable development Agrarökologie und nachhaltige Entwicklung	4	3			1			T	5	4							
SAg_2	Sustainable learning - learning sustainability Nachhaltiges Lernen - Nachhaltigkeit lernen	4	2			2			T	5	4							
SAg_3	Climate change and water management Klimawandel und Wassermanagement	4	4						P	5	4							
SAg_4	Economics and logistics Ökonomie und Logistik	4	4						P	5	4							
SAg_5	Analysis and interpretation of data Analyse und Interpretation von Daten	4	2			2			P	5	4							
SAg_6	Agricultural chemistry Agrikulturchemie	4	2				2		P	5	4							
SAg_7	Soil science and tillage Bodenwissenschaften und Bodenbearbeitung	6	3			1	2		P	5	2	4						
SAg_8	Bio- and food chemistry Bio- und Lebensmittelchemie	4	2				2		P	5		4						
SAg_9	Project Projekt	4		1				3	P	5		4						
SAg_10	Biology and biodiversity Biologie und Biodiversität	4	2				2		P	5		4						
SAg_11	Basics of animal sciences: Anatomy, physiology and animal nutrition Grundlagen der Nutztier-wissenschaften: Anatomie, Physiologie und Ernährung	4	2				2		P	5		4						
SAg_12	Analysis of international land use and cropping systems Analyse internationaler Landnutzungs- und Pflanzenbausysteme	4	2	2					P	5		4						
SAg_13	International markets, trade and agricultural policy Internationale Märkte, Handel und Agrarpolitik	4	3			1			P	5			4					
SAg_14	Energy and agricultural engineering Energie und Agrartechnologie	4	2			2			P	5			4					
SAg_15	Crop physiology and nutrition Pflanzenphysiologie und -ernährung	5	3				2		P	5			5					
SAg_16	Advanced interpersonal and intercultural communication Interpersonelle und interkulturelle Kommunikation	4		2	2				P	5			4					
SAg_17	Ethics and philosophy in life sciences Ethik & Philosophie in den Lebenswissenschaften	3			3				P	5			3					
SAg_18	Crop health Pflanzengesundheit	4	4						P	5			4					
SAg_19	Sociological and psychological aspects of sustainable development Soziologische und psychologische Aspekte nachhaltiger Entwicklung	4	2	2					P	5				4				
SAg_20	Animal health and breeding Tiergesundheit und Tierzucht	4	2			2			P	5				4				
SAg_21	Agrotechnology and new agriculture Agrartechnologie und neue Landwirtschaft	4	2			2			P	5				4				
SAg_22	Horticulture and agroforestry Gartenbau und Agroforst	4	2				2		P	5				4				
SAg_23	Elective modules 1 Wahlpflichtkatalog 1	6	6						P	9				6				
SAg_24	Animal Welfare Tiergerechtigkeit	4	2				2		P	5						4		
SAg_25	Food processing and human nutrition Lebensmittelverarbeitung und Ernährung	4	2				2		P	4						4		
SAg_26	Sustainability analysis of international supply chains Nachhaltigkeitsanalyse internationaler Wertschöpfungsketten	4						4	P	5						4		
SAg_27	Resource economics and risk assessment Ressourcenökonomie und Risikobewertung	4	2			2			P	5						4		
SAg_28	Sustainability management and food safety Nachhaltigkeitsmanagement und Lebensmittelsicherheit	4	2				2		P	5						4		
SAg_29	Elective modules 2 Wahlpflichtkatalog 2	6	6						P	9						6		
<b>total credit hours / Semesterwochenstunden</b>		<b>122</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>				<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>			
											<b>Credit Points</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>
														<b>152</b>				
														<b>210</b>				

SAg\_30: Internship or Study abroad (30 CP) // Auslandsstudiensemester oder Praxissemester (30 CP)  
 SAg\_31: Project with excursion // Projekt mit Exkursion (8 CP); SAg\_32: Bachelor Thesis / Bachelorarbeit (12 CP);  
 SAg\_33: Colloquium // Kolloquium (8 CP)

Abbreviations: // Abkürzungen  
 CH = credit hours per week // SWS = Semesterwochenstunden  
 WS = winter term // Wintersemester  
 SS = summer term // Sommersemester  
 Ex/Prü = type of examination // Prüfungsart  
 CP = credit points (= ECTS-points)  
 L/V = Lecture // Vorlesung  
 S = seminar // Seminar  
 E/Ü = exercise // Übung  
 LC/Pr = lab course // Praktikum  
 Pro = project // Projekt  
 T = certificate // Testat (unbenotet)  
 P = examination (graded) // benotete Prüfung

	total	1.Sem	2.Sem	3.Sem	4.Sem	5.Sem	6.Sem	7.Sem
CH	122	26	24	24	22	26		
CP	210	30	30	25	29	33	30	28

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# Elective Catalogue\*

Elective modules 1 Wahlpflichtkatalog 1		SWS	CP	Ex	
SAg_23.1	Sustainable field crop and specialty crop production Nachhaltiger Anbau von Feldfrüchten und Spezialkulturen	2	3	P	
SAg_23.2	Sustainable animal husbandry Nachhaltige Tierhaltung	2	3	P	
SAg_23.3	Phytomedicine Phytomedizin	2	3	P	
SAg_23.4	Traceability of agricultural products Rückverfolgbarkeit von Agrarprodukten	2	3	P	
SAg_23.5	Pasture, grassland and fodder production Weidewirtschaft, Grünland und Futterproduktion	2	3	P	
SAg_23.6	Soil ecology, soil biology and soil protection Bodenökologie, Bodenbiologie und Bodenschutz	2	3	P	
SAg_23.7	Applied sustainability in agriculture Angewandte Nachhaltigkeit in der Landwirtschaft	2	3	P	
SAg_23.8	Module from any other study course at the Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences Wahlmöglichkeit Angebot HRW	2	3	P	**
SAg_23.9	Module from any other study course at the Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences Wahlmöglichkeit Angebot HRW	2	3	P	**
3 elective modules amount to		6	9		

Animal Tier
Plant/soil Pflanze/Boden
Economy/analysis of sustainability Ökonomie/Nachhaltigkeitsanalyse

Elective modules 2 Wahlpflichtkatalog 2		SWS	CP	Ex	
SAg_29.1	Herd management and health Herdenmanagement und -gesundheit	2	3	P	
SAg_29.2	Advanced agricultural engineering and energy harvesting systems Hochleistungsagartechnologie und Energieerntesysteme	2	3	P	
SAg_29.3	Livestock and environment Nutztiere und Umwelt	2	3	P	
SAg_29.4	Advanced environmental psychology and field methods of consulting Spezielle Umweltpsychologie und Feldmethoden der Beratung	2	3	P	
SAg_29.5	Organic farming Ökologische Landwirtschaft	2	3	P	
SAg_29.6	Methods in Agroecology Methoden der Agrarökologie	2	3	P	
SAg_29.7	Module from any other study course at the Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences Wahlmöglichkeit Angebot HRW	2	3	P	**
SAg_29.8	Module from any other study course at the Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences Wahlmöglichkeit Angebot HRW	2	3	P	**
3 elective modules amount to		6	9		

\* The faculty reserves the right to determine a minimum number of participants for offering an elective subject. The possibility of obtaining the required number of credit points remains unaffected.

\*\* Subject to the approval of the chair of the examination board.

Issued on the basis of a resolution put forth by the dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences on 12 February 2013 and with official approval granted by the Executive Board on 5 February 2013.

Kleve, 20 February 2013

Professor Dr Marie-Louise Klotz

President of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences