

Examination Regulations

for

Biological Resources, M.Sc.

at

Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Dated 30 November 2017

This English translation is offered for information purposes only.

Though every effort has been made to render a true and authentic translation, only the original German-language texts published in the Official Notices of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences are legally binding in meaning, sense and spirit.

In the event of discrepancy or doubt between the German original and this English translation, the German version takes precedence.

Contents

- Section 1 Applicability
- Section 2 Aims and Objectives; Master's Assessment
- Section 3 Admission Requirements
- Section 4 Standard Length of Study; Structure of Programme; Volume of Study
- Section 5 Time Allotted for Examinations
- Section 6 Master's Thesis
- Section 7 Requirements for Admission to Thesis and Colloquium
- Section 8 Recognition of Credits for Thesis and Colloquium
- Section 9 Awarding of the Master's Degree
- Section 10 Entry into Force
- Annex

Section 1 Applicability

These Examination Regulations apply to Biological Resources M.Sc., taught in English by the Faculty of Life Sciences at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, and supplement the General Examination Regulations ("RPO") for Master's Degree Programmes at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. These Examination Regulations apply equally to the full-time, three-semester mode of study and the part-time, six-semester mode of study.

Section 2 Aims and Objectives; Master's Assessment

- (1) The degree programme concludes with the master's assessment. The general aims and objectives of the programme are described in Section 3 RPO. In particular, it aims to enable students to apply methodologies from the natural sciences, engineering, economics and social sciences, to develop real-world solutions not confined to traditional disciplinary boundaries and to conduct scientific research.
- (2) The degree "Master of Science", abbreviated as "M.Sc.", shall be awarded for successfully completing the master's assessment.

Section 3 Admission Requirements

- (1) General admission requirements are described in Section 4 RPO.
- (2) Relevant fields of study for a professionally qualifying first degree, as required by Section 4 (1) RPO, are considered:
 - a. the natural sciences; or
 - b. agricultural sciences; or
 - c. economics.
- (3) In addition to Paragraph (2) above, the first degree must have been completed with a final cumulative grade of 2.5 or better according to the German grading scale, or, alternatively, an "A" or a "B" according to the ECTS grading scale, and said degree must have included at least 10 ECTS credit points ("ECTS") in the natural sciences and 10 ECTS in environmental / agricultural science for a combined total of least 30 ECTS from the fields of:
 - d. mathematics / statistics;
 - e. chemistry;
 - f. biology;
 - g. economics and social sciences;
 - h. environmental / agricultural science.
- (4) Sufficient command of the English language is also required. This is generally demonstrated with a language certificate certifying level B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). As a rule, the following tests and cut-off scores are accepted:
 - i. IELTS: minimum 6.0
 - j. TOEFL (iBT): minimum 80
 - k. TOEFL (PBT): minimum 550
 - l. TOEFL (CBT): minimum 213
- (5) Exemptions from the language certificate requirement in Paragraph (4) above are possible upon request. Exemptions are usually justified when an applicant's first degree was offered entirely in English or completed in an English-speaking country. The Faculty

Examination Board shall decide on all requests. The language requirement for this degree programme is considered met if an applicant has earned his or her first degree in a programme offered in English at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

- (6) In addition to the above, students in this degree programme must submit proof of at least twenty weeks of practical experience in a natural science or environmental science setting, or a successfully completed semester abroad before they can be admitted to the thesis. This requirement may be fulfilled via a Learning Agreement (refer to Section 4 (4) RPO).

Section 4

Standard Length of Study; Structure of Programme; Volume of Study

- (1) This degree programme consists of 42 SWS in total.
- (2) Curricular internships are considered mandatory requirements. Additional information can be found in the Internship Regulations of the Faculty of Life Sciences.
- (3) One credit point (CP) is equal to 30 hours of work in accordance with the guidelines of the European Credit Transfer Accumulation System (ECTS).
- (4) Additional information about the structure of this degree programme and the types, forms and scopes of its modules can be found in the examination schedule and study plan in the annex of these Examination Regulations. Details about an individual module's qualification aims, content and type of examination can be found in the descriptions in the module guide, which is available in the faculty's main office for all students and staff to view.
- (5) Deviating from Section 5 (1) RPO, the standard length of part-time study for this degree programme is six (6) semesters including examinations. Part-time studies allow working professionals to pursue a degree in addition to their career. In this arrangement, the content of the first two (full-time) semesters are instead taught over the course of four semesters. During this time, students attend two weekdays of lectures at the University and work at their employer on the other three. In addition, part-time students are allotted eight (8) months to complete their thesis.

Section 5

Time Allotted for Examinations

- (1) The time allotted for written examinations is based on the number of credits (CP) for the respective course. As a rule, 120 minutes are allotted for every 5 CP.
- (2) Oral examinations are allotted at least 30, but no more than 45 minutes per student.
- (3) No more than four (4) months shall be allotted for a term or project paper. These papers should have a minimum of 30 DIN A4 pages, not including annexes.

Section 6

Master's Thesis

- (1) As a rule, the written portion of the thesis should consist of 50 to 120 pages (DIN A4). In addition to the written portion, the thesis can also be supplemented with other media, provided they are appropriate and constructive contributions to the documentation in accordance with the assigned task. In this case, the thesis may contain fewer pages than the minimum requirement in Sentence 1.
- (2) The thesis can also be permitted as group work if each member's contribution meets the requirements in Section 21 (4) RPO and can be assessed independently because it can

be clearly separated from other members' work by specific sections, page numbers or other criteria which allow for clear differentiation.

- (3) Full-time students are allotted a period of four months to complete the thesis (from the date of assignment to the submission deadline), and part-time students eight months. The thesis may not be submitted during the first eight weeks after the date of assignment. The topic and task formulation must be realistically feasible to complete before the deadline. In exceptional cases, the Chair of the Faculty Examination Board can approve deadline extensions of up to four weeks if requests are duly justified and submitted before the original deadline. The thesis supervisor shall be consulted in connection with this request.

Section 7

Requirements for Admission to Thesis and Colloquium

- (1) In addition to the requirements for admission to the thesis (refer to Section 22 (1) RPO), students must also have successfully obtained 50 ECTS.
- (2) In addition to the requirements for admission to the colloquium (refer to Section 25 (2) RPO), students must also have successfully obtained 85 ECTS.

Section 8

Recognition of Credits for Thesis and Colloquium

- (1) Twenty-five (25) credits shall be awarded for successfully passing the thesis.
- (2) Five (5) credits shall be awarded for successfully passing the colloquium.

Section 9

Awarding of the Master's Degree

The master's degree certificate (see Section 28 (1) RPO) is official confirmation that the recipient has been awarded the degree specified in Section 2 (4).

Section 10

Entry into Force

- (1) These Examination Regulations shall enter into force on the day after their publication in the Official Notices of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. They apply to students who were first enrolled in Biological Resources, M.Sc. in the Faculty of Life Sciences at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in or after Winter Semester 2017/18.
- (2) Students who enrolled in Biological Resources, M.Sc. before Winter Semester 2017/18 are entitled to conclude their studies according to the provisions of the previous examination regulations (dated 19 February 2016, published in Official Notices 5/2016) until 31 August 2020.
- (3) Currently enrolled students who are studying according to the previous Examination Regulations (dated 19 February 2016) may submit a written request to the Faculty Examination Board to switch to these Examination Regulations for the remainder of their studies. The Examination Board shall have final say regarding credit transfers for previously completed modules.

Note: These Examination Regulations entered into force on 28 January 2018.

Annex

Examination Schedule and Recommended Study Plan for Biological Resources M.Sc. (Full-Time Study)

Version dated 19 April 2017

Module-Nr.	Module/Subjects	CH	Type					Exa	CP	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 3
			L	S	E	Pra	Pro					
BR_01	Micro-Simulations Mikrosimulationen	4	2		2			P	5	4		
BR_02	Animal ecology and ecosystem services Tierökologie und Ökosystemdienstleistungen	4							5	4		
	Animal ecology and ecosystem services Tierökologie und Ökosystemdienstleistungen		2					P				
	Animal ecology and ecosystem services Tierökologie und Ökosystemdienstleistungen					2		T				
BR_03	Soil biological resources Bodenbiologische Ressourcen	4							5	4		
	Soil biological resources Bodenbiologische Ressourcen		1	1				P				
	Soil biological resources Bodenbiologische Ressourcen					2		T				
BR_04	Closing cycles: Use and reduction of by-products Schließen von Kreisläufen: Verwendung und Reduzierung von Abfallprodukten	4							5	4		
	Closing cycles: Use and reduction of by-products Schließen von Kreisläufen: Verwendung und Reduzierung von Abfallprodukten		2					P				
	Closing cycles: Use and reduction of by-products Schließen von Kreisläufen: Verwendung und Reduzierung von Abfallprodukten					2		T				
BR_05	Elective module 1 Wahlpflichtkatalog 1	3						P	5	3		
BR_06	Applied research project 1 Angewandtes Forschungsprojekt 1	2					2	P	5	2		
BR_07	Environmental valuation and economic impact assessment Umweltbewertung und ökonomische Folgenabschätzung	4	2		2			P	5		4	
BR_08	Forest management and governance Bewirtschaftung und Management forstlicher Ressourcen	4	2	2				P	5		4	
BR_09	Underutilized plant resources Unternutzte Pflanzenressourcen	4							5	4		
	Underutilized plant resources Unternutzte Pflanzenressourcen		2					P				
	Underutilized plant resources Unternutzte Pflanzenressourcen					2		T				
BR_10	Processing biological resources Verarbeitung biologischer Ressourcen	4							5	4		
	Processing biological resources Verarbeitung biologischer Ressourcen		2					P				
	Processing biological resources Verarbeitung biologischer Ressourcen					2		T				
BR_11	Elective module 2 Wahlpflichtkatalog 2	3						P	5		3	
BR_12	Applied research project 2 Angewandtes Forschungsprojekt 2	2					2	P	5		2	
BR_13	Master Thesis Masterarbeit							P	25			X
BR_14	Colloquium Kolloquium							P	5			X
Semesterwochenstunden / hours per week		42	15	3	4	10	4	SWS		21	21	
								CP	60	30	30	30

Abkürzungen // Abbreviations

SWS = Semesterwochenstunden // CH = credit hours per week

Prü = Prüfungsart // type of examination

CP = credit points (= ECTS-points)

V = Vorlesung // Lecture

S = Seminar

Ü = Übung // Exercise

Pra = Praktikum // lab course

Pro = Projekt // project

T = Testat (unbenotet) // certificate

P = benotete Prüfung // examination (marked)

gesamt	1.Sem	2.Sem	3.Sem
SWS 42	21	21	
CP 90	30	30	30

		Type								
Elective modules 1 Wahlpflichtkatalog 1		CH	L	S	E	Pra	Pro	Ex	CP	
BR_05.1	Biological resource value chains and sustainability management Wertschöpfungsketten und Nachhaltigkeitsmanagement biologischer Ressourcen	3		3				P	5	
BR_05.2	Marine bioresources Biologische Ressourcen der Meere	3		3				P	5	
BR_05.3	Use of diversity in a changing world Nutzung von Diversität in einer sich ändernden Welt	3				3		P	5	
BR_05.4	Entrepreneurship and business management Existenzgründung und Unternehmensführung	3		3				P	5	
BR_05.5	Innovation management Innovationsmanagement	3	2		1			P	5	
BR_05.6	Module from any master study course at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences Wahlmöglichkeit aus dem gesamten Masterangebot HRW	3	3					P	5 *	
1 elective module amounts to									5	

		Type								
Elective modules 2 Wahlpflichtkatalog 2		CH	L	S	E	Pra	Pro	Ex	CP	
BR_11.1	Animals in bioeconomy Nutztiere in der Bioökonomie	3	3					P	5	
BR_11.2	Macro-Simulations Makrosimulationen	3		3				P	5	
BR_11.3	Rhizosphere biology Rhizosphärenbiologie	3				3		P	5	
BR_11.4	Business planning Business planning	3	2	1				P	5	
BR_11.5	Lecture Series Biological Resources Ringvorlesung Biologische Ressourcen	2	2					P	5	
BR_11.6	Module from any master study course at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences Wahlmöglichkeit aus dem gesamten Masterangebot HRW	3	3					P	5 *	
1 elective module amounts to									5	

Die Fakultät behält sich das Recht vor, eine Mindestteilnehmerzahl für das Zustandekommen eines Wahlpflichtkurses festzulegen. Die Möglichkeit des Erreichens der vorgeschriebenen Kreditpunktzahl bleibt unberührt. / The faculty reserves the right to determine a minimum number of participants for offering an elective subject. The possibility to obtain the required number of credit points remains unaffected.

Die Fakultät behält sich vor, das Wahlpflichtangebot im Laufe der Zeit bei neuen Entwicklungen in verschiedenen Feldern der Biological Resources durch weitere Fächer zu erweitern. / In case of new developments in the different fields of Biological Resources the faculty reserves the right to expand the range of elective modules with further subjects over the time.

* Die konkrete Auswahl aus dem gesamten Studienangebot der Masterstudiengänge der Hochschule Rhein-Waal bedarf der Zustimmung des Prüfungsausschussvorsitzenden. / The actual selection from any master study course at Rhine-Waal University has to be approved by the head of the examination committee.

Examination Schedule and Recommended Study Plan for Biological Resources M.Sc. (Part-Time Study)

Version dated 19 April 2017

Module-Nr.	Module/Subjects	CH	Type					Exa	CP	BERUFSBEGLEITEND				Sem 5	Sem 6
			L	S	E	Pra	Pro			Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 3	Sem 4		
BR_01	Micro-Simulations Mikrosimulationen	4	2	0	2	0	0	P	5	4					
BR_02	Animal ecology and ecosystem services Tierökologie und Ökosystemdienstleistungen	4	2	0	0	2	0	P	5	4					
BR_03	Soil biological resources Bodenbiologische Ressourcen	4	1	1	0	2	0	P	5	4					
BR_04	Closing cycles: Use and reduction of by-products Schließen von Kreisläufen: Verwendung und Reduzierung von Abfallprodukten	4	2	0	0	2	0	P	5		4				
BR_05	Elective module 1 Wahlpflichtkatalog 1	3	0	0	0	0	0	P	5		3				
BR_06	Applied research project 1 Angewandtes Forschungsprojekt 1	2	0	0	0	0	2	P	5		2				
BR_07	Environmental valuation and economic impact assessment Umweltbewertung und ökonomische Folgenabschätzung	4	2	0	2	0	0	P	5			4			
BR_08	Forest management and governance Bewirtschaftung und Management forstlicher Ressourcen	4	2	2	0	0	0	P	5			4			
BR_09	Underutilized plant resources Unternutzte Pflanzenressourcen	4	2	0	0	2	0	P	5			4			
BR_10	Processing biological resources Verarbeitung biologischer Ressourcen	4	2	0	0	2	0	P	5				4		
BR_11	Elective module 2 Wahlpflichtkatalog 2	3	0	0	0	0	0	P	5					3	
BR_12	Applied research project 2 Angewandtes Forschungsprojekt 2	2	0	0	0	0	2	P	5					2	
Semesterwochenstunden		42	15	3	4	10	4	SWS		12	9	12	9		
								CP	60	15	15	15	15		30

Master Thesis (25 CP) Colloquium (5 CP)
Masterarbeit (25 CP) Kolloquium (5 CP)

Abkürzungen // Abbreviations

SWS = Semesterwochenstunden // CH = credit hours per week
 Prü = Prüfungsart // type of examination
 CP = credit points (= ECTS-points)
 V = Vorlesung // Lecture
 S = Seminar
 Ü = Übung // Exercise
 Pra = Praktikum // lab course
 Pro = Projekt // project
 T = Testat (unbenotet) // certificate
 P = benotete Prüfung // examination (marked)

gesamt	1.Sem	2.Sem	3.Sem	4. Sem	5. Sem	6. Sem
SWS	42	12	9	12	9	
CP	90	15	15	15	15	30

Elective modules are identical to the full-time variant.