

Examination Regulations

for

Sustainable Development Management M.A.

Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Dated 19 February 2021
(Official Notice 27/2021)

In accordance with Section 2 (4) sentence 1, Section 28 (1) and Section 64 of the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Hochschulgesetz NRW*), in the amended form produced by the Act for the Future Development of Universities (*Hochschulzukunftsgesetz*) of 16 September 2014 (GV.NRW. 2014, p. 547), which entered into force on 1 October 2014 and was last amended by the Act of 1 December 2020 (GV.NRW., p. 1110), which entered into force on 8 December 2020, as well as in accordance with the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences (RPO) from 3 January 2018 (Official Notice 07/2018), the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Society and Economics of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences has enacted the following Examination Regulations for Sustainable Development Management M.A.:

Contents

- Section 1 Scope
- Section 2 Academic objectives and purpose of examination; master's degree
- Section 3 Admission requirements
- Section 4 Standard duration of study; programme structure; volume of instruction hours
- Section 5 Scope of examinations
- Section 6 Scope and form of the thesis
- Section 7 Admission to the thesis and the colloquium
- Section 8 Credit values for the thesis and colloquium
- Section 9 Awarding of the master's degree
- Section 10 Entry into force and transitional provisions

Section 1

Scope

These Examination Regulations apply to Sustainable Development Management M.A., offered in English by the Faculty of Society and Economics of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, and are valid in conjunction with the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's Master's Degree Programmes of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences (RPO).

Section 2

Academic objectives and purpose of examination; master's degree

(1) This degree programme is concluded with a final assessment: the master's examination. Academic aims and objectives are outlined in Section 3 RPO. In particular, this master's degree programme aims to empower students to apply social science methodologies in the area of sustainable development and develop practical solutions that are unrestricted by traditional disciplinary boundaries.

(2) A Master of Arts degree, abbreviated as "M.A.", is awarded for passing the master's examination.

Section 3

Admission requirements

(1) General admission requirements are defined in Section 4a RPO.

(2) A professionally qualifying undergraduate degree in a relevant field is defined as a degree in economics or social science, particularly in one of the following fields: regional economics, political science, social science, business economics, interdisciplinary studies with an emphasis on economics or social science, industrial engineering with an emphasis in business economics, or a different engineering discipline with an emphasis in industrial engineering. In addition, the Examination Board can also verify whether other undergraduate degrees related to sustainability will qualify, provided the degree has a social science emphasis.

(3) A cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on the German grading scale, or alternatively an A or B on the ECTS grading scale, must have been awarded for the previous degree referred to in subsection (2).

(4) For English language requirements, refer to Section 4a (6a) RPO.

(5) Applicants are ineligible for admission if they have previously failed the final attempt at a mandatory examination in a degree programme at a university subject to German Basic Law which shares a significant overlap in content with this degree programme.

Section 4

Standard duration of study; programme structure; volume of instruction hours

(1) Further clarifying the information set forth in Section 5 (2) RPO, the standard duration of study for applicants with an undergraduate degree consisting of 180 credits (ECTS) or six full-time semesters of study is four semesters.

(2) This degree programme has a total volume of instruction of 44 SWS (combined hours per week from all lecture periods in the standard study duration).

(3) Additional information about how this degree programme is organised and the type, form and scope of modules can be found in the attached study and examination plan (see annex). At the same time, the study and examination plan is a recommendation for effectively completing the degree programme within the standard period of study. Additional information about learning outcomes, qualification aims, contents and forms of examination can be found in the module guide, which is published and accessible to all persons at the University.

(4) Students in this degree programme may submit a written request to the Exam Board to earn a total of 6 elective credits in modules offered by other faculties of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. Approval shall be granted if the focus areas of the selected modules correspond to focus areas in the elective catalogue or supplement these appropriately.

(5) Students are not legally entitled to be given the opportunity to participate in all courses in the study and examination plan every semester. Furthermore, there is no entitlement for a course to continue despite insufficient numbers of participants. The possibility of obtaining the required number of credits for graduation from the elective catalogue for this degree programme remains unaffected. A choice will always be available.

(6) The modules M-SD 1 7101 (Current Issues in Sustainable Development), M-SD 2 7105 (Quantitative Research Methods), M-SD 3 7120 (Applied Project in Sustainable Development) are offered each semester so that students are given the option of speeding up their graduation progress.

Section 5

Scope of examinations

(1) The time allotted to students for a written examination is based on the number of obtainable credits and shall not exceed 120 minutes. As a rule, 20 minutes shall be allotted for each credit.

(2) When registering for the first examination attempt in an elective module, students must make a binding decision as to whether the examination shall be assessed for credit or recorded as a voluntary examination without credit in accordance with Section 31 RPO.

(3) For examinations in modules scheduled for the first semester (per the study and examination plan) students must register for their first attempt no later than the fourth semester; students must register for modules scheduled for the second semester (per the study and examination plan) no later than the fifth semester. If a student has not undertaken an examination attempt nor submitted a request to do so before the deadline, then he or she shall be registered on an obligatory basis by the Examination Board for the final examination opportunity remaining before the deadline. Subsection (5) applies accordingly.

(4) Students who failed an examination from the first two semesters (per the study and examination plan) and have not registered for their next attempt within two semesters shall be automatically registered for a new attempt on a compulsory basis in accordance with subsection (5).

(5) If a student has not undertaken a new attempt at a failed examination nor submitted a request to do so before the deadline, then he or she shall be registered on a compulsory basis

by the Examination Board for the final remaining examination opportunity before the deadline. This also applies regardless of whether the examination in question was offered again before the deadline. If a student registers for the final examination opportunity before the deadline of his or her own accord, then withdrawing from said examination in accordance with Section 15 (6) RPO is not permitted. If the student does not appear to the examination and cannot provide a good reason for his or her absence, then the examination shall be assessed as Failed (5.0). The Examination Board must be notified in writing immediately of any mitigating circumstances for missing an examination and credible supporting evidence must be provided. In cases of illness, the Examination Board reserves the right to request a medical certificate from a doctor of the Board's choosing. If the Examination Board deems the reasons valid, the deadline will be extended until the next regularly occurring examination opportunity.

(6) Students are exempted from compulsory examination registration if they are on an official leave of absence in accordance with Section 9 of the Enrolment Regulations of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. In exceptional cases, other students can apply for an exemption from obligatory examination registration, in particular those who:

- a) are responsible for the care and upbringing of minors within the meaning of the German Federal Education and Training Assistance Act, Section 25 (5), or
- b) are acting as elective representatives in executive bodies of the University, the student body or the faculty, or
- c) are currently assuming the duties of Equal Opportunities Officer at the University, or
- d) have an impairment or are suffering from a serious illness which prolongs their duration of study.

Requests for exemptions must be submitted no later than four weeks before the start of the examination phase or the first scheduled examination, provided it is scheduled to occur in the examination phase. In the case of a), an exemption should generally not exceed three semesters; in the cases b) and c), it should generally not exceed two semesters.

(7) An assignment, term paper or project must generally be completed before the end of the semester. The text portion of an assignment, term paper or project should not exceed 30 DIN A4 pages.

(8) An oral examination within the meaning of Section 18 (2) RPO shall be at least 10, but no more than 20 minutes in duration per person.

Section 6

Scope and form of the thesis

(1) The text portion of the thesis should generally be between 60 and 100 pages (DIN A4) in length. The thesis may also be supplemented with other media as well, provided their use is appropriate and useful as additional documentation in accordance with the assigned topic. In this case the length of the text portion of the thesis may deviate from the aforementioned minimum requirement.

(2) Students are given a period of four months – from the assignment date to the submission deadline – to complete the thesis. The thesis may not be submitted within eight weeks of the assignment date.

Section 7
Admission to the thesis and the colloquium

- (1) In addition to the thesis admission requirements defined under Section 24 (1) RPO, students must also have obtained at least 48 credits.
- (2) In addition to the colloquium admission requirements defined under Section 27 (2) RPO, candidates must have obtained 87 CP.

Section 8
Credit values for the thesis and colloquium

- (1) Twenty-two credits are awarded for passing the master's thesis.
- (2) Three credits are awarded for passing the colloquium.

Section 9
Awarding of the master's degree

The master's degree specified in Section 2 (2) is officially conferred upon issuing of the master's degree certificate (refer to Section 29 (1) RPO).

Section 10
Entry into force and transitional provisions

- (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 first enrolled in Sustainable Development Management M.A. of the Faculty of Society and Economics of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in or after winter semester 2021-2022.
- (2) Students who enrolled in Sustainable Development Management M.Sc. before winter semester 2021-2022 may continue their studies according to the previous Examination Regulations dated 1 July 2015 (Official Notices 12/2015), as amended on 26 February 2018 (Official Notices 14/2018), until 28 February 2025 at the latest. Accordingly, the Examination Regulations dated 1 July 2015 (Official Notice 12/2015), as amended on 26 February 2018 (Official Notice 14/2018) shall expire on 1 March 2025.
- (3) Students currently studying according to the Examination Regulations dated 1 July 2015 (Official Notice 12/2015), as amended on 26 February 2018 (Official Notice 14/2018), may submit a written request to the Examination Board to switch to these new Examination Regulations. The Examination Board is responsible for all credit recognition decisions for previously completed modules and examinations.

Note: These examination regulations entered into force on 5 June 2021.

Annex

Study and examination plan for Sustainable Development Management M.A.

Version from 6 July /2020

Nr.: No.	Module Modules	CH	Typ Type					Ex	CP	CH WT	CH ST	CH WT/ST
			V	SL	Ü	Pra	Pro					
M-SD 1 7101	Aktuelle Fragen der nachhaltigen Entwicklung Current Issues in Sustainable Development	4	2	2				P	6			4
M-SD 1 7102	Entwicklungsökonomik Development Economics	4	2	2				P	6	4		
M-SD 1 7103	Entwicklungsinstitutionen und Entwicklungspolitik Development Institutions and Development Policy	4	4					P	6	4		
M-SD 1 7104	Feldforschung und Wirkungsevaluierung Development Fieldwork and Impact Evaluation	4	2		2			P	6	4		
M-SD 2 7105	Quantitative Forschungsmethoden Quantitative Research Methods	4	2		2			P	6			4
M-SD 2 7106	Internationale Ökonomik und Entwicklung International Economics and Development	4	2		2			P	6		4	
M-SD 2 7107	Völkerrecht und Compliance International Law and Compliance	4	2			2		P	6		4	
M-SD 2 7108	Management von Entwicklungsprojekten Management of Development Projects	4	2			2		P	6		4	
	Wahlpflichtfächer*** Elective subjects***	8	4	4				P	12	4	4	
	Abschlussphase Final phase											
M-SD 3 7120	Angewandtes Projekt der nachhaltigen Entwicklung Applied Project in Sustainable Development	4	1				3	P	5			4
M-SD 3 7121	Masterarbeit Master's Thesis							P	22			22
M-SD 3 71 22	Kolloquium Colloquium							P	3			3
	Gesamt Total	44	23	8	6	4	3		CH CP	16 24	16 24	12 42

Nr. No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Sommersemester) List of elective subjects (summer term)	CH	CP
M-SD_1 7111	Gender und Entwicklung Gender and Development	4	6
M-SD_1 7112	Nachhaltige Stadtentwicklung Sustainable Urban Development	4	6
M-SD_1 7113	Infrastruktur und menschliche Entwicklung Infrastructure and Human Development	4	6
M-SD_1 7114	Natürliche Ressourcen und Nachhaltigkeit Natural Resources and Sustainability	4	6

Nr.: No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Wintersemester) List of elective subjects (winter term)	CH	CP
M-SD_2 7115	Diversitätsmanagement und Verhandlungstechniken Diversity Management and Negotiation Skills	4	6
M-SD_2 7116	Armut und Gefährdung Poverty and Vulnerability	4	6
M-SD_2 7117	Verhaltensökonomie im Entwicklungskontext Behavioural Development Economics	4	6
M-SD_2 7118	Sozialunternehmertum und Management von NPOs Social Entrepreneurship and Management of NPOs	4	6

Nr.: No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Winter- und Sommersemester) List of Elective Subjects (winter and summer terms)	CH	CP
M-SD 1 7019	Foreign Language Course	4	6
M-SD 2 7019	Foreign Language Course		

Abbreviations:

Ex	Art der Prüfung, <i>Type of examination</i>
CH	Semesterwochenstunden, <i>Contact hours per week</i>
WT	Wintersemester, <i>Winter term</i>
ST	Sommersemester, <i>Summer term</i>
CP	Kreditpunkte, <i>Credit points</i> (= ECTS credits)
V	Vorlesung, <i>Lecture</i>
SL	Seminaristischer Unterricht, <i>Seminaristic lecture</i>
Ü	Übung, <i>Exercise</i>
Pra	Praktikum, <i>Practical training</i>
Pro	Projekt, <i>Project</i>
P	Prüfung, <i>Examination</i>