

Anhalt University of Applied Sciences

DEGREE PROGRAM AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS

for obtaining the academic degree of

MASTER

for the degree program

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION (MLC)

as Double Degree program

of February 7, 2023

(Program-specific regulations)

On the basis of § 67a paragraph 2, § 77 paragraph 2 and § 13 of the Higher Education Act of the State of Saxony-Anhalt (*HSG LSA*) in the version of the announcement of 1 July 2021 (GVBl. LSA 367, 368), in conjunction with the Program and Examination Regulations for degree courses leading to a master's degree at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences (General Regulations) of 31.01.2018, in each case in the currently valid version, the following Program and Examination Regulations are adopted.¹

Contents

- § 1 Admission requirements and starting the program
- § 2 Goals and structure of the program
- § 3 Master's degree
- § 4 Normal program length and outline of the degree program
- § 5 Services to be provided at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences
- § 6 Recognition of coursework and examinations
- § 7 Program-specific types of instruction
- § 8 Registration for and admission to the Master's thesis, time of completion
- § 9 Certificate and diploma
- § 10 Comes into effect

Appendices

- Appendix 1: Syllabus and examination schedule
- Appendix 2: Standard course sequence

¹ In the German language version of these regulations, this section deals with the subject of gender-neutral language. For the English language version, this is not relevant and therefore omitted. This also applies to the usage of academic degrees and academic titles.

§ 1

Admission requirements and starting the program

- (1) The specified admission requirements of the Program and Examination Regulations for Master's Degree Programs at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences (General Regulations) apply.
- (2) The qualification for admission to the degree program must be evidenced in accordance with the Saxony-Anhalt Higher Education Act (*Hochschulgesetz des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt*) Admission requirements are a qualified university degree in Germany or abroad with a bachelor's or equivalent degree in nature conservation, agroecology, environmental sciences, agricultural sciences or a comparable area, and proof of a workload corresponding to at least 180 credit points. Qualified professional experience of at least one year following the first degree is also necessary.
- (3) Participation in the Double Degree program requires a valid cooperation agreement and the existence of a study plan agreed upon between the foreign partner university and the Department of Agriculture, Ecotrophology and Landscape Development at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences. The Department of Agriculture, Ecotrophology and Landscape Development is responsible for ensuring compliance with this coordinated curriculum and the syllabus and examination schedule (Appendix 1), and will appoint a degree program coordinator to oversee the Double Degree program.
- (4) The coordinated curriculum referred to in paragraph 3 shall specify the exact designation of the foreign degree programs offered in the Double Degree program. It regulates the mutual recognition of academic performance at the respective partner university of Anhalt University of Applied Sciences.
- (5) The existence of the prerequisites for the enrollment of students in the Double Degree program has to be verified by the Degree Program Advisor of the MLC degree program of Anhalt University of Applied Sciences and the partner university in accordance with the existing cooperation agreements in their current version. Students who have completed the first semester of study in the Double Degree program at the partner university may be admitted on the basis of a current proof of academic achievement from the partner university in accordance with the existing cooperation agreements. On this basis, a legally binding admission will be granted by a decision of the Student Service Center (SSC).
- (6) The basis for admission is an assessment of aptitude, which takes into account the final grade of the previous study, a motivational letter, and the personal suitability of the candidate. For the rest, 'Anhalt University's Statutes for University Entrance Examinations for degree programs with particular Qualification Requirements' (*Satzung zur Durchführung des Feststellungsverfahrens für Masterstudiengänge mit besonderen Eignungsvoraussetzungen der Hochschule Anhalt*), in their current version, is applied.
- (7) The applicant has to prove proficiency in spoken and written English as an admission requirement. Such proficiency has to be proven if the applicant cannot evidence graduation from an English-medium college or university. This language certificate is not required for native speakers. TOEFL, IELTS and equivalent English language certificates are accepted for proving language proficiency. The standard in this case is the TOEFL test with at least 85 out of 120 scores (IBT, Internet-Based Test) and for the IELTS 6.5 scores out of 9. Comparable tests may be recognized. This can alternatively be evidenced by adequate language certificates in conjunction with an entrance examination provided by Anhalt University of Applied Sciences.
- (8) The starting date of the studies is the first day of the winter semester (if enrolled in the first semester at Anhalt University) or the summer semester (if enrolled in the second semester at Anhalt University).

§ 2

Goals and structure of the program

- (1) One credit point is equal to one credit point according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). A credit is based on 30 hours of work.
- (2) The objective of this program is the global competitiveness of graduates. Upon completion of the program, graduates should be able to deal with new developments in agricultural and landscape ecology and international nature conservation in a professional and team-oriented manner and be equipped to implement them in sustainable land management. This program is geared to further develop the students' ability to work scientifically, transfer scientific findings into practice, determine and solve problems as well as improve consultation skills. The degree program has both a scientific and application orientation. The degree program is designed to develop the student's ability to work scientifically, to be capable of transferring scientific knowledge into practice, to identify and solve problems, and to provide counseling.
- (3) In the Master's degree program, courses and examinations are offered in English.

§ 3

Master's degree

- (1) The successful completion of the degree program leads to the award of two national degrees from the participating universities (double degree).
- (2) After having passed the Master's examination, the student is awarded the Master's degree by the Department of Agriculture, Ecotrophology and Landscape Development

Master of Science (M.Sc.)

- (3) The foreign partner universities award the Master's degree according to their legal regulations.

§ 4

Normal program length and outline of the degree program

- (1) The normal program length, during which the Double Degree program can be completed, is four semesters including the Master's examination.
- (2) For obtaining the Master's degree, a minimum of 120 credit points must be earned with compulsory and elective modules (cf. Appendix 1), with the Master's thesis and Master's thesis colloquium.
- (3) The first and second semester or the second and third semester will take place at the Anhalt University of Applied Sciences; the first or third and fourth semester will take place at the respective partner university. If the chosen topic of the Master's thesis cannot be guaranteed at the partner university, the Master's thesis can be written at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences in exceptional cases. For semesters at the partner university, re-registration at Anhalt University is free of charge.

§ 5

Services to be provided at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences

Students in the Double Degree program must complete at least 60 ECTS credit points at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences.

§ 6

Recognition of coursework and examinations

- (1) In cases where the examination board, on the suggestion of the degree program advisor and, if applicable, in consultation with the person responsible for the module, recognizes or credits the examination and academic performance in accordance with § 12 of the General Regulations, the module is to be noted on the Master's examination certificate.
- (2) No marking according to clause 1 is required if the examination prerequisite has been recognized/credited and if the graded examination has been taken in this degree program.
- (3) In cases of incomparable grading systems, the module is to be credited without a grade as 'passed'. The module is not included in the calculation of the final grade of the Master's degree examination according to § 27 of the General Regulations.
- (4) Students participating in the Double Degree program are entitled to recognition of study and test performances completed by them at the respective partner university to the amount of 30 credits as ungraded performance for the 1st or 3rd semester and for the 4th semester as graded performance for the Master's thesis with 25 credits and the Master's colloquium with 5 credits.
- (5) If the study and test performance of the 1st semester are recognized by the partner university, the student will proceed to the 2nd semester at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences.

§ 7

Program-specific types of instruction

Part of the teaching content can be taught in the form of online courses in accordance with § 10 of the General Regulations.

§ 8

Registration for and admission to the Master's thesis, time of completion

- (1) The application for admission to the Master's thesis must be submitted to the partner university.
- (2) If the Master's thesis is taken at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences, according to § 4 (3), the application for admission to the Master's thesis must be submitted to the examination board. The admission shall be rejected when modules defined in Appendix 1 have not yet been completed. The Department of Agriculture, Ecotrophology, and Landscape Development will assign examiners to issue and supervise the topic of the Master's thesis in English along with the partner university. The student will be consulted before the assignment takes place. At least one examiner must be a member of Anhalt University of Applied Sciences and the second examiner must be a member of the partner university. The topic of the Master's thesis shall be chosen in such a way as to ensure the completion of the thesis within a period of 20 weeks.

§ 9

Certificate and diploma

- (1) After successfully completing all module examinations, the Master's thesis, and the corresponding colloquium, the Anhalt University of Applied Sciences or the partner university will issue a certificate in accordance with its regulations.
- (2) For this purpose, the final examination data is exchanged between the universities under the supervision of the Degree Program Advisor.

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§ 10
Comes into effect

- (1) These regulations come into effect following approval by the President of Anhalt University of Applied Sciences and on the day following their publication.
- (2) They apply to all students enrolled as of the winter semester 2024/25.
- (3) Issued on the basis of the resolution by the Department Executive Committee of the Department of Agriculture, Ecotrophology and Landscape Development dated 7 February 2023 and the Senate of Anhalt University of Applied Sciences dated 05 July 2023 and approved by the President of Anhalt University of Applied Sciences dated 01 August 2023.
- (4) Published in *Amtliches Mitteilungsblatt der Hochschule Anhalt* (Official Bulletin of Anhalt University of Applied Sciences) No. 93/2023 as well as on Anhalt University's website.

Köthen, August 1, 2023

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jörg Bagdahn
President of Anhalt University of
Applied Sciences

Syllabus and examination schedule for the Master's Program "Sustainable Land Management and Conservation"

The curriculum specifies the number and allocation of the modules for each individual semester within the normal program length and the number of credits required. Parts of the Master's degree examination entail both compulsory and elective module examinations, the Master's thesis and the Master's thesis colloquium. Requirements for admission to examinations are the prerequisites set out in this appendix. All modules can be partially or fully supported by multimedia.

Syllabus and examination schedule 1st and 2nd semester at Anhalt University, enrollment for winter

| Semester | Hours per week per semester | | | Examination prerequisite | Type of examination | Length of examination | Credits |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| | Lecture | Seminar/Exercise | Internship | | | | |
| 1st Semester | | | | | | | |
| Compulsory modules at Anhalt University | | | | | | | |
| Biogeography and Ecosystems Analysis | | 4 | | | K | 90 min | 5 |
| Landscape Ecology and Agroecology | | 4 | | LNW | B | | 5 |
| Applied Statistics | | 4 | | | B | | 5 |
| Project Planning and Implementation | | 2 | | | PRO | | 10 |
| Elective modules: 1 module must be selected | 4 | | | | | | 5 |
| Total 1st Semester | 20 | | | | | | 30 |
| 2nd Semester | | | | | | | |
| Compulsory modules at Anhalt University | | | | | | | |
| Global Environmental Problems and International Nature Conservation | | 4 | | | K | 90 min | 5 |
| Sustainable Land Management | | 2 | 2 | | B | | 5 |
| Advisory in (Agro-)Ecological Management | | 2 | 2 | | M | 30 min | 5 |
| Project Sampling and Data Processing | | 1 | 1 | | PRO | | 10 |
| Elective modules: 1 module must be selected | 4 | | | | | | 5 |
| Total 2nd Semester | 20 | | | | | | 30 |
| 3rd Semester | | | | | | | |
| This semester is completed by the students at the foreign partner university. Achievements amounting to 30 credits according to § 6 (4) are recognized. | | | | | | | |
| Total 3rd Semester | | | | | | | 30 |
| 4th Semester | | | | | | | |
| This semester is completed by the students at the foreign partner university (recognition according to § 6 (4)) or in exceptional cases according to § 4 (3) at Anhalt University. | | | | | | | |
| Compulsory modules | | | | | | | |
| Master's Thesis | | | | §30 | H | | 25 |
| Master's colloquium | | | | §33 | C/P | min. 20 min | 5 |
| Total 4th Semester | | | | | | | 30 |
| Degree program total | | | | | | | |
| semester | | | | | | | |
| 120 | | | | | | | |

semester

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Syllabus and examination schedule 2nd and 3rd semester at Anhalt University, enrollment for summer semester

| Semester | Hours per week per semester | | | Examination prerequisite | Type of examination | Length of examination | Credits |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| | Lecture | Seminar/Exercise | Internship | | | | |
| 1st Semester | | | | | | | |
| This semester is completed by the students at the foreign partner university (recognition according to § 6 (4)). | | | | | | | |
| Total 1st Semester | | | | | | | 30 |
| 2nd Semester | | | | | | | |
| Compulsory modules at Anhalt University | | | | | | | |
| Global Environmental Problems and International Nature Conservation | | 4 | | | K | 90 min | 5 |
| Sustainable Land Management | | 2 | 2 | | B | | 5 |
| Advisory in (Agro-)Ecological Management | | 2 | 2 | | M | 30 min | 5 |
| Project Sampling and Data Processing | | 1 | 1 | | PRO | | 10 |
| Elective modules: 1 module must be selected | 4 | | | | | | 5 |
| Total 2nd Semester | 20 | | | | | | 30 |
| 3rd Semester | | | | | | | |
| Compulsory modules at Anhalt University | | | | | | | |
| Biogeography and Ecosystems Analysis | | 4 | | | K | 90 min | 5 |
| Landscape Ecology and Agroecology | | 4 | | LNW | B | | 5 |
| Applied Statistics | | 4 | | | B | | 5 |
| Project Planning and Implementation | | 2 | | | PRO | | 10 |
| Elective modules: 1 module must be selected | 4 | | | | | | 5 |
| Total 3rd Semester | 20 | | | | | | 30 |
| 4th Semester | | | | | | | |
| This semester is completed by the students at the foreign partner university (recognition according to § 6 (4)) or in exceptional cases according to § 4 (3) at Anhalt University. | | | | | | | |
| Compulsory modules | | | | | | | |
| Master's Thesis | | | | §30 | H | | 25 |
| Master's colloquium | | | | §33 | C/P | min. 20 min | 5 |
| Total 4th Semester | | | | | | | 30 |
| Degree program total | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 120 |

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Catalog of elective modules

| Elective modules | Hours per week per semester | | | Examination prerequisites | Examination type | Length of examination | Credits |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| | Lecture | Seminar/ Exercise | Internship | | | | |
| Specific Geoinformatics and Remote Sensing | | 2 | 2 | LNW | H | | 5 |
| Ecological Modeling | | 2 | 2 | | B | | 5 |
| Ecological Restoration | | 2 | 2 | | B | | 5 |
| Molecular Biological Methods in Nature Conservation | | 2 | 2 | | B | | 5 |
| Feeding Ecology, Wildlife and Livestock Management | | 4 | | LNW | K | 90 min | 5 |

Module completion:

| | |
|-----|--|
| K | Written examination (<i>Klausur</i>) |
| M | Oral examination |
| PRO | Project |
| H | Term paper (<i>Hausarbeit</i>) |
| B | Paper |
| P | Presentation |
| C | Colloquium |

Examination prerequisite:

| | |
|-----|--|
| LNW | Ungraded Assessment (<i>Leistungsnachweis</i>) |
|-----|--|

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Appendix 2

Standard program sequence in the Double Degree program for the Master's degree "Sustainable Land Management and Conservation"

1st and 2nd semester at Anhalt University, enrollment for winter semester

| | | |
|--------------|--|------------|
| 1st semester | 15 weeks - seminars, practical courses, internships | 30 credits |
| 2nd semester | 15 weeks - seminars, practical courses, internships | 30 credits |
| 3rd semester | Course of study at the foreign partner university | 30 credits |
| 4th semester | Course of study at the foreign partner university in exceptional cases at Anhalt University Master's thesis / colloquium | 30 credits |

2nd and 3rd semester at Anhalt University, enrollment for summer semester

| | | |
|--------------|---|------------|
| 1st semester | Course of study at the foreign partner university | 30 credits |
| 2nd semester | 15 weeks - seminars, practical courses, internships | 30 credits |
| 3rd semester | 15 weeks - seminars, practical courses, internships | 30 credits |
| 4th semester | Course of study at the foreign partner university, in exceptional cases at Anhalt University Master's thesis / colloquium | 30 credits |

The module examinations should, preferably, take place during the designated examination period, optionally during the course of study.