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Faculty of Forestry Sciences and Forest Ecology:

Following the resolution of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology on 18.04.2017, the Presidential Board of the University of Göttingen approved the second amendment of the examination and study regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme "Molecular Ecosystem Sciences" on 01.08.2017, in the version published on 13.10.2011 (Official Announcements I No. 11/2011 p. 847), last amended by decision of the Presidential Board on 10.03.2015 (Official Announcements I No. 17/2015 p. 235), (§ 44 section 1 sentence 2 NHG in the version published on 26.02.2007 (Nds. GVBl. p. 69), last amended by Article 4 of the Act dated 15.06.2017 (Nds. GVBl. p. 172); § 37 section 1 sentence 3 No. 5 b) NHG, § 44 section 1 sentence 3 NHG).

**Examination and study regulations
for the Bachelor's degree programme "Molecular Ecosystem Sciences"
at the University of Göttingen**

Table of Contents

- § 1 Scope, purpose of the academic programme, academic degree
- § 2 Structure of the academic programme; modules; instruction and examination language
- § 3 Study abroad
- § 4 Examination guidelines
- § 5 Examination registration and withdrawal deadlines
- § 6 Reassessment guidelines
- § 7 Bachelor's thesis
- § 8 Examination board
- § 9 Final failure of the bachelor's examination; distinction
- § 10 Entry into force; interim regulations
- Appendix 1: Module overview
- Appendix 2: Sample curriculum

§ 1 Scope, purpose of the academic programme, academic degree

(1) ¹For the Bachelor's degree programme "Molecular Ecosystem Sciences" at the Georg-August University Göttingen, the provisions of the "General examination regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes as well as other courses and degrees offered at the University of Göttingen" (APO) shall apply. ²The current regulations define the supplementary specific provisions for this degree programme.

(2) ¹The academic programme "Bachelor of Science" (abbreviated "B.Sc.") prepares the student for professional employment as a bio scientist, predominantly in the public and private environmental laboratories of administrative bodies, companies, research institutions and international organisations. ²The bachelor exam will determine whether the candidate has mastered the key scientific facts and methods, an understanding of contextual situations, the basics of practical experience, and the ability to apply that knowledge to solving practical tasks in the field of molecular biosciences and ecology.

§ 2 Structure of the academic programme; modules; instruction and examination language

(1) ¹The academic programme starts in the winter semester. ²The degree programme cannot be studied part-time. ³The instruction and examination language is English.

(2) The academic programme comprises 180 credits (ECTS credits; abbreviated as: C) that are awarded as follows:

- a) Specialised competency (subject-specific studies) 114 C,
- b) Area of professionalisation (including key competencies) 54 C,
- c) Bachelor's thesis 12 C.

(3) ¹The number, type and scope of the modules to be completed successfully are regulated by the module overview (appendix 1). ²A recommendation for the appropriate structure of the course of studies can be found in the attached sample curriculum (appendix 2). ³The catalogue of modules and the module handbook are published separately in a common electronic version (digital module index). They form part of this regulation insofar as the modules are listed in the module overview (appendix 1).

(4) ¹Both compulsory and elective modules must be completed as part of the examination components. ²The elective modules are intended to serve in the individual design of the course of studies. ³In the case of the elective modules, other modules (alternative modules) may be taken instead of the modules listed in the module overview, in accordance with the following provisions. ⁴Preconditions for the consideration of an alternative module are:

- a) a written application from the student, to be addressed to the Dean of the Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology before taking the alternative module;

b) approval by the Dean of Studies of the faculty or teaching body offering the alternative module.

⁵The decision on the approval of the application is made by the Dean of the Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology. ⁶Before making the decision on the advisability of the module replacement, he or she will seek an opinion from the course instructors. ⁷The application can be rejected without stating any reasons. A legal right of the applicant to object the decision does not exist.

(5) The conversion of a module successfully completed by a voluntary additional examination into a normally credited module and vice versa is only possible in the case of elective modules.

§ 3 Study abroad

¹Students can complete part of their studies abroad. ²The optimum conditions for this are in the 4th subject semester. ³Achievements acquired abroad are recognised within the framework of the regulations of the "General examination regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes as well as other courses and degrees offered at the University of Göttingen" (APO). ⁴It is strongly recommended that a learning agreement be entered into before starting the planned stay abroad. ⁵The "learning agreement" regulates which courses and examinations of the foreign university are to be completed and are credited after successful completion as part of this course of study. ⁶The "learning agreement" may only include those study and examination offers which:

- a) correspond in essence to the qualification standard of a bachelor programme,
- b) correspond to the qualification objectives of this bachelor programme, and
- c) do not form part of a module exam that has been or is yet to be completed as part of this degree programme before starting the study abroad.

⁷The decision on the learning agreement is made by the Dean.

§ 4 Examination guidelines

¹The duration of the tests depends on the scope of the underlying workload (measured according to the number of credits), whereby the following values should be adhered to:

For < 6 C	Written exam	$\frac{3}{4}$ - 1½ h
	Oral examination	15 min.
	Project work, paper [term paper]	Processing time: 2 weeks, scope: approx. 10 pages

	Oral presentation with written outline and written report [oral presentation with written outline/and written report]	approx. 10 min. (approx. 10 pages)
for 6-9 C	Written exam	1½ - 2 h
	Oral examination	15 - 30 min.
	Project work, paper [term paper]	Time: 2 - 4 weeks, length: 10 - 20 pages
	Oral presentation with written outline and written report [oral presentation with written outline/and written report]	10 - 20 min. (10 - 20 pages)
for > 9 C	Written exam	2 - 3 h
	Oral examination	15 - 45 min.
	Project work, paper [term paper]	Time: 3 - 6 weeks, length: 20 - 30 pages
	Oral presentation with written outline and written report [oral presentation with written outline/and written report]	20 - 30 min. (20 - 30 pages)

²The duration of the oral examinations as here specified may be shorter or longer, but not to an unreasonable extent.

§ 5 Examination registration and withdrawal deadlines

(1) ¹In each semester, the examination board defines an examination period that normally lasts for six weeks and follows the period of lectures. ²Examination dates can be fixed outside of the examination period under sentence 1; this is decided by the Dean of Studies upon application by the examinee.

(2) The dates of the module tests are specified by the examination office after hearing the examinee and should be announced in the electronic examination management system at the latest six weeks before the module test.

(3) ¹Registration for a module exam is carried out electronically up to seven days before the exam date. ²Students may withdraw from an examination without stating reasons no later than seven days beforehand. In the event of a written examination, students may withdraw up to one day beforehand.

§ 6 Reassessment guidelines

(1) ¹A passed module examination, which was taken at the latest at the semester specified in the curriculum (appendix 2), may be repeated once for the purpose of grade improvement. ²As a result of repeating the exam, there can be no deterioration in the grades. ³Repeating the exam for grade improvement is possible only at the next possible exam date of the corresponding module.

(2) For a failed module or partial module examination of a compulsory module, as many malus points are awarded as the credit points (ECTS credits) that can be acquired by the corresponding module or partial module.

(3) Reassessment is not permitted as soon as the event covered by § 9 section 1 applies.

§ 7 Bachelor's thesis

(1) By means of the written bachelor's thesis, the candidate should prove that he or she is able to use the standard methods of his or her subject area to work on a problem within the specified period of time, to develop an independent, scientifically reasoned judgement, to make scientifically sound statements, and to present the results in a linguistic and formal sense.

(2) ¹The preliminary work topic of the bachelor's thesis must be agreed upon with the supervisor to be proposed and submitted to the competent examination board with a confirmation from the second supervisor to be proposed. ²If the candidate does not find a supervisor, a supervisor and a topic will be determined by the relevant examination board. ³The candidate's opinions are to be taken into account in choosing the topic. ⁴The right to propose the topic does not constitute any legal right. ⁵The topic of the bachelor's thesis is set by the examination office. ⁶The time of issue must be recorded.

(3) ¹The processing time of the bachelor's thesis is 9 weeks. ²The examination board can, with the agreement of the supervisor, extend the processing time by a maximum of 4 weeks at the request of the candidate, if there is an important reason for doing so for which the candidate is not responsible.

(4) ¹The topic can be returned only once and only within the first 4 weeks of the processing time. ²A new topic must be agreed upon immediately, but no later than within 4 weeks. ³In the

case of the repetition of the bachelor's thesis, returning the topic is permitted only if the person to be examined did not make use of this option when completing the bachelor's thesis for the first time.

(5) ¹The bachelor's thesis has to be submitted to the examination office in due time in three identical copies bound with glue. ²The time of submission must be put on record. ³The bachelor's thesis should also be submitted in electronic form after further determination by the examination board. ⁴At the time of submission, the candidate has to confirm in writing that he or she wrote the thesis (and, in the case of group work, the correspondingly marked sections of the thesis) independently and did not use sources other than those indicated.

(6) ¹The examination office will assign the bachelor's thesis to the supervisor as well as to the second supervisor as reviewers/evaluators. ²Each evaluator awards a grade. ³The duration of the assessment process should not exceed 4 weeks.

§ 8 Examination board

¹The examination board consists of seven members with voting rights, including four members of the professorial group, one member of the staff group and two members of the student group. ²At the same time, a deputy is nominated for each member. ³If a member or a representative steps down prematurely, a substitute member will be nominated for the remaining tenure.

§ 9 Final failure of the bachelor's examination; distinction

(1) In addition to the cases mentioned in the APO, the examination claim definitely lapses if the number of malus points from module or partial module tests exceeds 60.

(2) The title "with distinction" is awarded for a grade point average up to and including 1.3 and noted on the certificate and the degree certificate.

§ 10 Entry into force; interim regulations

(1) These regulations shall enter into force after their publication in the Official Announcements of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen with retrospective effect from 01.10.2011.

(2) ¹Students who commenced their academic programme before an amendment to these examination and study regulations came into force and who have remained enrolled therein without interruption will be examined on the basis of the examination and study regulations in

place before the amendments came into force. ²In the case of pending examinations, this does not apply to module overviews and descriptions, unless the legal entitlements of a student calls for a different decision by the examination board. ³A different decision can be reached especially in cases where an examination can be repeated or a compulsory or elective module has changed significantly or been cancelled. ⁴The examination board can draw up general rules for this purpose. ⁵Examinations carried out after the entry into force of an amendment to the present examination and study regulations are taken for the last time in the sixth semester following the entry into force of the amendment. ⁶On application, students affected by sentence 1 shall be examined in general on the basis of the amended regulations.

Appendix 1

Module overview

Modules with a rating of 180 credits must be successfully completed.

a. Subject-specific studies (114 C)

The following 18 modules with a rating of 114 credits should be successfully completed:

B.MES.1101 Plant physiology	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1102 Chemical ecology	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1103 Ecological genetics	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1104 Biochemistry	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1106 Microbiology and molecular biology	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1107 Conservation of biodiversity	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1109 Plant ecology and diversity	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1111 Terrestrial biogeochemistry	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1112 Wood biology and wood chemistry	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1113 Methods in systems biology	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1114 Forest Pathology	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1116 Conservation and ecosystem management	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1117 Ecological climatology	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1118 Resource assessment in ecosystems	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1119 Ecological modelling	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1120 Current topics in molecular ecosystem science	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1121 Global change	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES.1122 Scientific methods and skills training	(12 C / 8 WLH)

b. Area of professionalisation (54 C)

Modules with a rating of 54 C should be successfully completed in accordance with the following provisions.

ba. Key competencies

The following four modules with a rating of 24 credits should be successfully completed.

B.MES-SK.1105 Laboratory techniques	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES-SK.1108 Computer sciences and mathematics	(6 C / 4 WLH)
B.MES-SK.1115 Biostatistics	(6 C / 4 WLH)
SK.FS.E-FF-C1-1 Scientific writing in English	(6 C / 4 WLH)

bb. Elective area

Modules with a rating of 30 credits should be successfully completed. The following indicated modules can be replaced by alternative modules within the sense of § 2 section 4 of the

examination and study regulations. A module may also be another key competency module offered by other departments of the university.

B.MES.1201 Special topics in plant methods and ecological applications I (6 C / 4 WLH)

B.MES.1202 Special topics in plant methods and ecological applications II (6 C / 4 WLH)

B.MES.1203 Semiochemical diversity (6 C / 4 WLH)

B.MES.1204 Protection of renewable resources (6 C / 4 WLH)

B.MES.1207 Research internship (6 C / 4 WLH)

B.MES.1208 Scientific project (12 C / 3 WLH)

B.MES.1209 Practical training in laboratory techniques (18 C / 4 WLH)

c. Bachelor's thesis (12 C)

12 C are awarded for successful completion of the bachelor's thesis.

Appendix 2 Sample curriculum

Sem. Σ C	Bachelor's degree programme "Molecular Ecosystem Sciences"				
	Module	Module	Module	Module	Module
1. Σ 30 C	B.MES.1101: Plant physiology 6 C	B.MES.1102: Chemical ecology 6 C	B.MES.1103: Ecological genetics 6 C	B.MES.1104: Biochemistry 6 C	B.MES-SK.1105: Laboratory techniques 6 C
2. Σ 30 C	B.MES.1106: Microbiology and molecular biology 6 C	B.MES.1107: Conservation biodiversity 6 C	B.MES.1109: Plant ecology and diversity 6 C	B.MES-SK.1108: Computer science and mathematics 6 C	SK.FS.E-FF-C1-1: Scientific writing 6 C
3. Σ 30 C	B.MES.1111: Terrestrial biogeochemistry 6 C	B.MES.1112: Wood biology and wood chemistry 6 C	B.MES.1113: Methods in system biology 6 C	B.MES.1114: Forest Pathology 6 C	B.MES-SK.1115: Biostatistics 6 C
4. Σ 30 C	Elective 6 C	Elective 6 C	Elective 6 C	Elective 6 C	Elective 6 C
5. Σ 30 C	B.MES.1116: Conservation and ecosystem management 6 C	B.MES.1117: Ecological climatology 6 C	B.MES.1118: Resource assessment in ecosystems 6 C	B.MES.1119: Ecological modelling 6 C	B.MES.1120: Current topics in MES 6 C
6. Σ 30 C	B.MES.1121: Global change 6 C	B.MES.1122: Scientific methods and skills training 12 C		Bachelor's thesis 12 C	
Σ 180 C	<i>Subject-specific studies (114 C)</i>	<i>Area of professionalisation: Key competencies (24 C)</i>		<i>Area of professionalisation: Elective area (30 C)</i>	<i>Bachelor's thesis (12 C)</i>