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Faculty for Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology:

Following the resolution of the Faculty Council of the Faculty for Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology on 15.02.2022 and 06.05.2022 and the opinion of the Senate on 22.06.2022, the Presidential Board of Georg-August-Universität Göttingen approved the examination and study regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme on 19.07.2022 (§ 44 section 1 sentence 2 NHG in the version of the announcement dated 26.02.2007 (Nds. GVBl. p. 69), last amended by Article 7 of the Act dated 23.03.2022 (Nds. GVBl. p. 218); § 41 section 2 sentence 2 NHG; § 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 „Ecosystem Sciences“
of the University of Göttingen**

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§ 1 Scope, aim of study, academic degree

(1) ¹The provisions of the "General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes as well as other degree programmes at the University of Göttingen" (APO), as amended, apply to the Bachelor's degree programme "Ecosystem Sciences" at the

University of Göttingen. ²These regulations govern the supplementary specific regulations for this degree programme.

(2) ¹The study programme leading to the degree of "Bachelor of Science" (abbreviated as "B.Sc.") prepares students for jobs in the field of ecosystem and environmental sciences, with a focus on public and private institutions, in administrations, in companies, in research institutions and in international organisations. ²In addition to in-depth scientific knowledge, the programme imparts interdisciplinary, career-oriented competencies in the subject-specific area of professionalisation. ³An additional choice of university-wide key competence modules in the areas of methodological, linguistic, personal and social competences promotes personal development and commitment to civil society tasks, and facilitates a successful course of study and career entry. ⁴The international orientation of the programme introduces students to complex global issues in ecosystem research and their local manifestations and creates opportunities for the development or deepening of intercultural competencies on a cognitive, affective and behavioral level. ⁵The bachelor's examination determines whether the candidate has learned the most important scientific facts and methods, an understanding of contexts, the basics of practical empirical knowledge and the ability to apply this knowledge to solving practical tasks at the local level as well as in relation to global contexts in order to be able to work in the fields of ecosystem and environmental sciences.

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

(1) ¹The study programme begins in the winter semester. ²The degree programme cannot be studied part-time.

(2) The language of instruction and examination is English.

(3) The study programme comprises 180 credits (ECTS credits; abbreviated: C), which are distributed as follows:

(a) Scientific competence (specialised studies) 126 C,

b) Professionalisation area (incl. key competencies) 42 C,

c) Bachelor's thesis 12 C.

(4) ¹The module directory, which also contains the module overview within the meaning of § 4 section 1 sentence 1 APO, is published separately; it is an integral part of these examination and study regulations. ²A recommendation for the structure of the study programme can be found in the attached sample curriculum (appendix).

(5) ¹The examinations are to be taken in compulsory and elective modules. ²The elective modules serve the individual structuring of the studies. ³In the elective area, other modules (alternative modules) may be taken instead of the modules listed in the module overview in

accordance with the following provisions. ⁴Prerequisites for the consideration of an alternative module are:

- a) a written application by the student to the Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology before taking the alternative module;
- b) the approval of the Dean of Studies of the faculty or teaching unit offering the alternative module.

⁵The decision on the approval of the application is made by the Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology. ⁶Before making the decision, the dean will obtain an opinion on the appropriateness of the module substitution from lecturers of the study programme. ⁷The application can be rejected without giving reasons; the student making the application has no legal claim.

(5) The conversion of a module successfully completed by an optional additional examination into a normal credited module and vice versa is only possible in the elective area.

§ 3 Study abroad

¹Students can complete part of their studies abroad. ²The 5th semester offers the best conditions for this. ³Achievements acquired abroad will be recognized within the framework of the regulations of the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes as well as other degree programmes at the University of Göttingen (APO). ⁴It is strongly recommended to conclude a learning agreement before starting the planned stay abroad. ⁵The "learning agreement" regulates which courses of study and examinations of the foreign university are to be completed and, after successful completion, are to be credited within the framework of this study programme. ⁶The learning agreement may only contain study and examination courses which:

- a) essentially correspond to the requirement level of a bachelor's degree programme,
- b) correspond to the educational objectives of this Bachelor's degree programme, and
- c) are not already the subject of a module examination which has already been taken or which is still to be taken within the framework of this degree programme prior to commencement of the planned stay abroad.

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

§ 4 Scope of examinations

¹The duration of the examinations is based on the scope of the underlying workload (measured by the number of credits), whereby the following values should be adhered to:

for < 6 C	Klausur [written exam]	¾ to 1½ hour
	Mündliche Prüfung [oral]	approx. 15 min.

	Projektarbeit, Hausarbeit [term paper]	Processing time: 2 weeks, scope: approx. 10 p.
	Referat (mit schriftl. Ausarbeitung)	approx. 10 min. (approx. 10 pages)
	[oral presentation with written outline/and written report]	
for 6-9 C	Klausur [written exam]	1½ to 2 hrs.
	Mündliche Prüfung [oral]	15 to 30 min.
	Projektarbeit, Hausarbeit [term paper]	Time: 2 to 4 weeks, scope: 10 to 20 p.
	Referat (mit schriftl. Ausarbeitung)	10 to 20 min. (10 to 20 p.)
	[oral presentation with written outline/and written report]	
for > 9 C	Klausur [written exam]	2 to 3 hours
	Mündliche Prüfung [oral]	15 to 45 min.
	Projektarbeit, Hausarbeit [term paper]	Time: 3 to 6 weeks, scope: 20 to 30 p.
	Referat (mit schriftl. Ausarbeitung)	20 to 30 min. (20 to 30 p.)
	[oral presentation with written outline/and written report]	

²The specified duration of an oral examination may be exceeded or fallen short of to a reasonable extent.

§ 5 Registration and deregistration deadlines for examinations

(1) ¹The examination board shall set an examination period each semester, which as a rule comprises six weeks and begins after the end of the lecture period. ²Examination dates may be set outside the examination period according to sentence 1; the Dean of Studies shall decide on this upon application by the examiner.

(2) The dates of the module examinations are set by the Examination Office after hearing the examiners and should be announced in the electronic examination management system at least six weeks before the module examination.

(3) ¹Registration for a module examination takes place electronically up to seven days before the examination date. ²Resignation without giving reasons (deregistration) is possible up to

seven days before the examination date, for written examinations up to one day before the examination date.

§ 6 Repeatability of examinations

(1) For a failed module or partial module examination of a compulsory module, as many malus points are awarded as the number of credits (ECTS credits) that can be acquired through the corresponding module or submodule.

(2) A repetition is excluded as soon as the case of § 9 section 1 occurs.

§ 7 Bachelor's thesis

(1) By means of the written Bachelor's thesis, the candidate shall prove that he or she is able to work on a problem using the standard methods of the subject within the specified period of time, to develop an independent, scientifically founded judgment, to arrive at scientifically founded statements and to present the results appropriately in terms of language and form.

(2) ¹The preliminary topic of the Bachelor's thesis must be agreed upon with the proposed supervisor and submitted to the responsible examination board with confirmation from the proposed second supervisor. ²If the candidate does not find a supervisor, a supervisor and a topic shall be determined by the responsible examination board. ³The candidate shall be heard on the choice of topic. ⁴The right to propose a topic does not constitute a legal claim. ⁵The topic of the Bachelor's thesis shall be issued by the examination office. ⁶The date of issue shall be recorded in the files.

(3) ¹The processing time for the Bachelor's thesis is 3 months. ²Upon application by the candidate, the examination board may extend the processing time by a maximum of 4 weeks in agreement with the supervisor if there is an important reason that cannot be attributed to the candidate.

(4) ¹The topic can only be returned once and only within the first 4 weeks of the processing period. ²A new topic must be agreed upon immediately, at the latest, however, within 4 weeks. ³In the case of a repetition of the Bachelor's thesis, the return of the topic is only permissible if the person to be examined had not made use of this possibility when first preparing the Bachelor's thesis.

(5) ¹The Bachelor's thesis must be submitted to the responsible examination office in due time and exclusively in PDF format (unprotected). The submission is usually made by upload via the examination administration system. ²The submission date is to be recorded in the files. ³When submitting the Bachelor's thesis, the candidate must certify in writing that he or she has written the thesis independently and has not used any sources or aids other than those specified.

(6) ¹The examination office forwards the Bachelor's thesis to the supervisor and the second supervisor as reviewers. ²Each reviewer assigns a grade. ³The duration of the evaluation procedure should not exceed 4 weeks.

§ 8 Examination board

¹The examination board consists of seven voting members, including four members of the university teacher's group, one member of the staff group and two members of the students' group. ²A deputy shall also be appointed for each member. ³If a member or an alternate member retires prematurely, a substitute member shall be appointed for the remaining term of office.

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

(1) ¹In addition to the cases specified in the APO, the right to take examinations is definitively extinguished if

- (a) the number of malus points from module or partial module examinations exceeds 60,
- (b) by the beginning of the lecture period of the third semester at least 30 C have not been successfully completed,
- (c) the Bachelor's thesis has not been passed at the second attempt or is deemed to have been failed.

²Exceeding the above-mentioned deadlines is permissible if the student is not responsible for the exceeding of the deadline. ³The examination board shall decide on this upon application by the student, who must provide evidence of an important reason.

(2) The grade "with distinction" is awarded for an overall result up to and including 1.3 and is noted on the transcript of records and the certificate.

§ 10 Entry into force; transitional provisions

(1) These regulations shall enter into force on 01.10.2022 after their publication in the Official Announcements I of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen.

(2) At the same time, the Examination and Study Regulations for the Bachelor's Programme "Molecular Ecosystem Sciences" as published on 13.10.2011 (Official Announcements I No. 11/2011 p. 847), last amended by resolution of the Presidential Board on 01.08.2017 (Official Notices I No. 35/2017 p. 817), shall cease to be in force.

(3) ¹Students who began their studies prior to the entry into force of an amendment to these Examination and Study Regulations and who were continuously enrolled in this degree programme shall be examined in accordance with the Examination and Study Regulations as

defined in section 2. ²In the case of examinations still to be taken, this shall not apply to the module overview and module descriptions, unless the protection of a student's legitimate expectations requires a different decision by the examination board. ³A deviating decision is possible in particular in cases in which an examination performance can be repeated or a compulsory or required elective compulsory module has been substantially changed or cancelled. ⁴The examination board may make general regulations in this regard. ⁵Examinations in accordance with the examination and study regulations as defined in section 2 shall be taken for the last time in the winter semester 2023/24. ⁶Upon application, students in accordance with sentence 1 shall be examined as a whole in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.

Ecosystem Sciences

1 WS	Forest botany and tree physiology 6 C	Biochemistry 6 C	Ecological genetics 6 C	Chemistry /Physics 6 C	Data analysis and statistics 6 C
2 SuSe	Microbiology and molecular biology 6 C	Plant diversity 6 C	Plant and animal ecology 6 C	Terrestrial biogeochemistry 6 C	Computer science and mathematics 6 C
3 WS	Forest pathology 6 C	Current topics in ecosystem sciences 6 C	Ecosystem management and conservation 6 C	Ecological climatology 6 C	Ecological modelling 6 C
4 SuSe	Chemical and microbiological methods 6 C	Physiological and genetic methods 6 C	Soil science and bioclimatology methods 6 C	Field methods in forest ecology, silviculture and vegetation science 6 C	Scientific writing 6 C
5 WS	Elective courses 30 C (abroad or lab internship)				
6 SuSe	Scientific methods and project design 12 C	Global change 6 C	B.Sc. Thesis 12 C		