

Examination and Study Regulations for the Bachelor Programme Environmental and Resource Management (ERM)

of 6th July, 2005

On the grounds of § 2 paragraph 1 sentence 2 in connection with §§ 9 paragraph 2 sentence 1, 13 paragraph 2 sentence 1, 74 paragraph 1 number 1 of the law on Higher Education in Brandenburg - Brandenburgisches Hochschulgesetz (BbgHG) of May 20, 1999 (GVBl. I S. 130) in the valid form – The Brandenburg University of Technology in Cottbus (BTU) sets itself the following statute:

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Preamble

Regarding the nature of its Bachelor and Master programmes, the BTU has come to an agreement on universally obligatory general regulations concerning the regulation of studies and examinations. They are components of every regulation and are complemented by subject-related regulations, which contain and regulate the specifications of the individual programme. The agreement on procedures that apply to the whole university in organizing and structuring modular programmes as well as in the implementation and management of performance verifications that accompany the studies is meant to achieve transparency on one hand and to minimize the administrative effort on the other. Furthermore, this strives to define and document the duties and rights of all involved in teaching and studying, which set the framework for successful and fruitful studies. The responsible and dedicated development of the content of a programme by students and faculty alike will be supported by this formal framework.

The development of the general regulations followed a university-wide discussion. Students, faculty and faculty-supportive staff work together on the implementation and continuing development of the regulation. All involved are responsible for adding their experiences of the application to the discussion on continuing development and thereby contribute to a continuous improvement of quality.

I. General Regulations

All general regulations of the Examination and Study Regulation for Bachelor Programmes (RahmenO-Ba) in its effective version are valid.

II. Subject-related Regulations

§ 28 Scope of Validity

¹These subject-related regulations regulate the order and structure of the Bachelor Programme Environmental and Resource Management (ERM) for the students. ²They are only valid in connection with the general regulations of the Bachelor Programme in Section I.

§ 29 Goal of the Programme

(1) ¹The Bachelor Programme ERM is oriented to a scholarly standard. ²It gives permission to transfer to the Master Programme.

(2) ¹The Bachelor Programme ERM pursues the aims of internationality and interdisciplinary. ²Interdisciplinarity follows from English as a teaching language (§ 32), the obligatory semester abroad (§ 32), and the subject matters offered (see module descriptions). ³Interdisciplinarity follows from the connection between science, technology and socio-economics forming an integrated curriculum.

(3) ¹Graduates of the Bachelor Programme will be able to conduct, evaluate and control technological, economic and infrastructural processes based on a concept of integrated protection of resources and the environment. ²They will be able to master the management of complex economic and technological processes taking likewise into consideration protective environmental protection, careful treatment and rational use of natural and economic resources. ³They will be able to decide upon sustainable economic and technological structures in production and material flow management.

(4) Besides specialized professional knowledge graduates will acquire good language proficiencies in at least three languages, skills on information acquisition and communication, individual problem solving competency, team skills, as well as consciousness for intercultural fields of conflict.

§ 30 Graduation and Degree

On successful completion of the Bachelor Programme ERM, the degree "Bachelor of Science" (B.Sc.) is awarded.

§ 31 Additional Admission Requirements

¹Applicants must be able to master the English language to the extent to be able to follow the classes without restrictions. ²Command of language has to be proved by adequate tests (TOEFL, at least 550 points, or 213 points computer-based; IELTS, at least band 6.0; Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency; or equivalent). ³Exempted from sentence 2 are applicants from countries, in which English is the official language.

§ 32 Structure and Form of the Programme

(1) The Bachelor Programme ERM comprises

- Mandatory modules as listed in Annex 1 including the exams covering 102 credits,
- Compulsory elective modules selected from the catalogue in Annex 1 including the exams covering 36 credits,
- Excursions covering 4 days (either identified within mandatory or compulsory elective modules or as complementary modules),
- A semester abroad, covering as a rule 30 credits (§§ 33 and 39),
- Complementary modules (§ 39), as well as
- The Bachelor thesis and the presentation covering 12 credits.

(2) ¹Disciplinary fundamentals are taught within the mandatory modules. ²As a rule, mandatory modules are to be studied before the semester abroad.

(3) ¹English is the teaching and examination language of all mandatory and compulsory elective modules at BTU Cottbus. ²For complementary modules (§ 39), the respective national languages are possible.

§ 33 Semester Abroad

(1) As a rule, the semester abroad is taken in the 5th semester.

(2) ¹For recognition of both, performance verifications produced abroad as well as the complete semester abroad the following requirements have to be met:

- Advance recognition of the study plan in the form of a Learning Agreement,
- Proof of a study according to the rules of at least 18, at the most 36 credits, at a partner university or any university selected by the student by means of an official certificate (Transcript of Records) within 6 months after the official end of the semester abroad.

²Any change of the study plan needs to be recognized by the examination board. ³In case of deviations between the Learning Agreement and the Transcript of Records, recognition of classes can be denied in the case of missing notification.

(3) ¹Credits not reached during the semester abroad can be compensated by compulsory elective modules according to annex 1 or by complementary modules. ²Recognition of mandatory modules studied abroad is possible.

(4) German students („Bildungsinländer“, students with German or equivalent higher entrance qualification) having already studied one or more semesters abroad, can have this recognized as a semester abroad.

(5) International students (students without higher entrance qualification acquired in Germany) having already studied one or more semesters at a recognized university abroad beyond their higher entrance qualification, can have this recognized as a semester abroad.

§ 34 Counselling

(1) ¹The ERM administration is responsible for students counselling. ²This is particularly relevant for giving advice and support as far as the semester abroad is concerned.

(2) For counselling of university entrants as far as organization-related and general questions are concerned a tutor system is operated.

§ 35 Retakes

(1) One exam of a mandatory or compulsory elective module that has been successfully passed within the regular study time can be repeated once for the purpose of performance improvement within one year (§ 13 paragraphs 2 to 5). ²If no performance improvement is reached, the grade that has been achieved in the first attempt remains valid.

(2) The Bachelor thesis as well as performance verifications which have been declared as invalid because of cheating or irregular behaviour of the candidate are excluded from performance improvement.

§ 36 Examination Board

In the group of the professors, the examination board is made up by 4 representatives, one of which must be of faculty 1.

§ 37 Requirements for examination admission, deadlines of the Bachelor thesis

(1) For admission to the Bachelor thesis, the semester abroad and at least 150 credits are required.

(2) As a rule, the Bachelor thesis is written accompanying to the studies during the 6th semester.

§ 38 Grading of the Bachelor's Thesis

The grade of the Bachelor's thesis is calculated at a ratio of 75 percent for the written thesis and 25 percent for the presentation thereof.

§ 39 Regulation of Complementary Modules

(1) Up to two compulsory elective modules (total 12 credits) can be replaced by complementary modules (see § 22).

(2) The following kinds of classes can be recognized as complementary modules: language classes of universal languages such as English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian as well as teaching languages at partner universities; study projects; excursions; offers of guest lecturers and guest professors at BTU; modules of the Master programme ERM (at the most 6 credits); as well as modules of other study programmes at BTU, which are offered in English.

(3) Complementary modules must not necessarily comprise 6 credits.

(4) All classes studied during the semester abroad are regarded as complementary modules.

(5) ¹Grades of complementary modules which have not been taken at BTU are not taken into account for the overall grade. ²They are listed separately on the certificate (Transcript of Records).

§ 40 Efficacy

(1) ¹Students who were at least in the 3rd semester at the time of efficacy of this regulation can perform the Bachelor examination including all repeat exams either according to this regulation or according to the Study and Examination Regulation for the Bachelor and Master Programme of July 7, 2000 (ABI. 02/2000), last change of April 5, 2004 (ABI. 04/2004) (right to select). ²This decision has to be forwarded to the examination office in written form in order to be put on record.

(2) Students who are at the most in their 2nd semester at the date of efficacy of this regulation have to finish their studies according to this regulation.

(3) ¹These regulations become effective on the day of publication. ²Both Examination and Study Regulation of July 7, 2000 (ABI. 02/2000), last change of April 5, 2004 (ABI. 04/2004), become ineffective with the restrictions following from paragraph 1.

Annex

Annex 1: Overview of modules and study performances of the Bachelor Programme ERM including amount of credits

Annex 2: Model curriculum of the Bachelor Programme ERMⁱ

Annex 1: Overview of modules and study performances of the Bachelor Programme ERM including amount of credits (M = mandatory, CE= compulsory elective)

Mandatory Modules

No.	Module title	Credits	Status	Type of Exam	Semester
B1	Introduction to ERM	6	M	Exam	1
B2	Mathematics for engineering 1	6	M	Exam	1
B3	Mathematics for engineering 2	6	M	Exam	2
B4	Statistics	6	M	Exam	3
B5	Basic natural sciences	6	M	Exam	1
B6	Sociology	6	M	Exam	1
B7	Economics	6	M	Exam	2
B8	Biology	6	M	Exam	2
B9	Ecology	6	M	Exam	3
B10	Water and waste	6	M	Exam	2
B11	Soil and atmosphere	6	M	Exam	3
B12	Geosciences and natural resources	6	M	Exam	4
B13	Economic and social instruments of ERM	6	M	Exam	2
B14	International environmental law	6	M	Exam	3
B15	Corporate environmental protection	6	M	Exam	3
B16	Integrated environmental planning	6	M	Exam	4
B17	Business administration	6	M	Exam	4
	Sum of mandatory modules	102			

Compulsory elective modules (at least 6 from catalogue)

No.	Module title	Credits	Status	Exam	Semester
B18	Chemistry 2	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B19	Biochemical aspects of ERM	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B20	Water resource management	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B21	Ecosystem and landscape management	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B22	Soil protection and management	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B23	Earth system analysis	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B24	Ecosystems analysis	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B25	Solid and liquid waste treatment	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B26	Renewable resources management	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B27	Philosophy of ecological sciences	6	CE	Exam	1, 4-6
B28	Philosophy of technology and nature	6	CE	Exam	1, 4-6
B29	Environmental social sciences	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B30	Intercultural competence	6	CE	Exam	1, 4-6
B31	Human ecology	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B32	Safety technology	6	CE	Exam	4-6
	Subtotal	138			

Semester abroad and Bachelor thesis

No.	Module title	Credits	Status	Type of exam	Semester
B32	Semester abroad (complementary subjects at universities abroad)	30 (18-36)	M	Study performance	5
B33	Bachelor thesis	12	M	Exam	6
	Total	180			

Annex 2: Model curriculum of the Bachelor Programme ERM (M = Mandatory, CE = Compulsory elective, Com = Complementary)

Sem.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Credits						
6	M Introduction to ERM	M Economics	M Economic and social instruments of ERM	M Business administra- tion	Semester abroad	CE Module
6	M Sociology	M International environ- mental law	M Corporate environ- mental pro- tection	M Integrated environ- mental plan- ning	Semester abroad	CE or Com Module
6	M Mathematics 1	M Mathematics 2	M Statistics	CE Module	Semester abroad	CE or Com Module
6	M Basic natural sciences	M Biology	M Ecology	M Geosciences and natural resources	Semester abroad (or CE Module)	Bachelor thesis
6	CE Module	M Water and waste	M Soil and atmosphere	CE Module	Semester abroad (or CE Module)	Bachelor thesis
	30	30	30	30	30	30

Approved and executed on the grounds of the decision of the Faculty Council Faculty Environmental Sciences and Process Engineering of March 10, 2005, the comment of the Senate of the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus of June 9, 2005, the approval by the President of the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus of July 6, 2005 and the advertisement to the Ministry of Science, Research and Culture of the State of Brandenburg with the writ of July 6, 2005.

The order was established on August 16, 2005 at the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus. The establishment was announced through posting on August 16, 2005 at the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus. Thereby August 16, 2005 is the date of announcement.

Cottbus, August 16, 2005

Prof. Dr.-Ing. M. Schmidt
Vice-President

ⁱⁱ The hours of presence are placed ahead of the catalogue of modules in the form of a schedule for a given course.