

# Unofficial Translation of the Examination and Study Regulation for the Bachelor's Programme Environmental and Re- source Management (ERM)

of 14<sup>th</sup> August 2015

On the grounds of § 5 paragraph 1 sentence 2 in connection with §§ 19 paragraph 2 sentence 1, §§ 22 paragraph 2 sentence 1, §§ 72 paragraph 2 number 1 of the law on revision of the Higher Education in Brandenburg – Brandenburgisches Hochschulgesetz (BbgHG) of 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014 (GVBl. I/14, No. 18) – the Brandenburg University of Technology in Cottbus - Senftenberg (BTU) sets for itself the following statute:

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## Preamble

<sup>1</sup>Regarding the nature of its Bachelor's and Master's programmes, the BTU has come to an agreement on universally obligatory general regulations concerning the regulation of studies and examinations. <sup>2</sup>They are components of every regulation and are complemented by subject-related regulations, which contain and regulate the specifications of the individual programme. <sup>3</sup>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 minimise the administrative effort on the other. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>The responsible and dedicated development of the content of a programme by students and faculty alike will be supported by this formal framework. <sup>6</sup>The development of the general regulations followed a university-wide discussion. <sup>7</sup>Students, faculty and faculty-supportive staff work together on the implementation and continuing development of the regulation. <sup>8</sup>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 General Examination and Study Regulations for Bachelor's programmes (RahmenO-Ba) in its effective version are valid (§§ 1 to 27).

## II. Subject-related Regulations

### § 28 Scope of Validity

<sup>1</sup>These subject-related regulations regulate the order and structure of the Bachelor's programme Environmental and Resource Management (ERM) for the students. <sup>2</sup>They are only valid in connection

with the general regulations of the Bachelor's programme in Section I.

## § 29 Goal of the Programme

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Bachelor's programme ERM is oriented to a scholarly standard. <sup>2</sup>It gives permission to transfer to the Master's programme.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Bachelor's programme ERM pursues the aims of internationality and interdisciplinary. <sup>2</sup>Interdisciplinarity follows from English as a teaching language (§ 32), the obligatory semester abroad (§ 32), and the subject matters offered (see module descriptions). <sup>3</sup>Interdisciplinarity follows from the connection between science, technology and socioeconomics forming an integrated curriculum.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Graduates of the Bachelor's 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. <sup>2</sup>They 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. <sup>3</sup>They will be able to decide upon sustainable economic and technological structures in production and material flow management.

(4) Besides specialised 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's programme ERM, the degree "Bachelor of Science" (B.Sc.) is awarded.

## § 31 Further Admission Requirements

<sup>1</sup>Applicants must be able to master the English language to the extent to be able to follow the classes without restrictions.

<sup>2</sup>Command 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).

<sup>3</sup>Exempted from sentence 2 are applicants from countries, in which English is the official language.

## § 32 Structure and Form of the Programme

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Bachelor's programme ERM has a standard duration of 3 years (180 credit points). <sup>2</sup>It comprises:

- Mandatory modules as listed in Annex 1 including the exams covering 114 credits
- Compulsory elective modules selected from the catalogue in Annex 1 including the exams covering 24 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 colloquium covering 12 credits.

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

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

## § 33 Semester Abroad

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

(2) <sup>1</sup>For 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.

<sup>2</sup>Any change of the study plan needs to be recognised by the examination board. <sup>3</sup>In 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) <sup>1</sup>Credits not reached during the semester abroad can be compensated by compulsory elective modules according to annex 1 or by complementary modules. <sup>2</sup>Recognition of mandatory modules studied abroad is possible.

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

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

### § 34 Mentoring

(1) <sup>1</sup>To every student a mentor is assigned within the meaning of § 19 paragraph 2 BbgHG.

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

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

### § 35 Retakes

(1) <sup>1</sup>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). <sup>2</sup>If 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 Bachelor Thesis Registration, Deadlines

(1) For admission to the Bachelor thesis, the successfully completed semester abroad and mandatory modules as well as at least 150 credits are required.

### § 38 Grading of the Bachelor Thesis

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

### § 39 Regulations 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 recognised 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 lectur-

ers and guest professors at BTU; modules of the Master's 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 need not necessarily comprise 6 credits.

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

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

## **§ 40 Transitional Regulations; Validation; Invalidation**

(1) This regulation becomes effective to the winter semester 2015/2016, latest on the day after publication.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Students who have been registered in the Bachelor's programme Environmental and Resource Management on or after the winter semester 2014/2015 are transferred into the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment of the study and examination regulation. These students will attend the module B19 "Sustainable Waste Management" in either fourth or sixth semester, instead of attending the module B10 "Water and Waste" in the second semester. This is an exception to the study plan shown in Annex 2.

(3) <sup>1</sup>In case of individual problems that may arise with the configuration of the study course in regards to students matriculated before winter semester 2014/2015, such cases will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the examinations board. <sup>2</sup>The principle to ensure the regular study duration of 6 semesters must also be taken into account.

### Annex

Annex 1: Overview of Modules and Study Performances of the ERM Bachelor's Programme with Information on Credit Points

Annex 2: Model Curriculum ERM Bachelor's Programme

## Annex

### Annex 1: Overview of Modules and Study Performances of the Bachelor's Programme ERM

#### Mandatory Modules

No.	Module title	Credits	Status	Type Exam	Semester
B1	Introduction to Environmental and Resource Management	6	M	Exam	1
B2	Mathematics for Engineering I	6	M	Exam	1
B3	Mathematics for Engineering II	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	2
B10	Freshwater Conservation and Water Resource Management	6	M	Exam	3
B11	Basic Soil Science	6	M	Exam	3
B12	Geosciences and Natural Resources	6	M	Exam	4
B13	Economic and Social Instruments of Environmental and Resource Management	6	M	Exam	2
B14	International Environmental Law	6	M	Exam	3
B15	Corporate Environmental Protection	6	M	Exam	4
B16	Integrated Environmental Planning	6	M	Exam	4
B17	Business Administration	6	M	Exam	4
B19	Sustainable Waste Management	6	M	Exam	2
B20	Atmosphere	6	M	Exam	4

#### Compulsory elective modules (at least 4 from catalogue)

No.	Module title	Credits	Status	Exam	Semester
B18	Instrumental Analysis and Physical Chemistry	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	Environmental Biotechnologies	6	CE	Exam	4-6
B26	Renewable Resources Management	6	CE	Exam	1-3
B27	Philosophy of Ecological Sciences	6	CE	Exam	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	4-6
B32	Safety Technology	6	CE	Exam	4-6

#### Semester abroad and Bachelor thesis

No.	Module title	Credits	Status	Exam	Semester
B33	Semester Abroad (complementary modules at universities abroad)	30 (18-36)	M	Study performance	5
B34	Bachelor Thesis	12	M	Exam	6

The list of compulsory elective modules can be adapted and modified by the head of the study programme.

(M = mandatory, CE= compulsory elective)

**Annex 2: Model Curriculum ERM Bachelor's Programme ERM**

Sem.	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Credits</b>						
<b>6</b>	M Introduction to ERM	M Economics	M Economic and Social Instru- ments of ERM	M Business Administration	Semester Abroad	CE Module
<b>6</b>	M Sociology	M Ecology	M Freshwater Conservation and Water Resource Management	M Integrated Environmental Planning		CE or Com Module
<b>6</b>	M Mathematics of Engineering I	M Mathematics of Engineering II	M Statistics	M Corporate Environmental Protection		CE or Com Module
<b>6</b>	M Basic Natural Sciences	M Biology	M International Environmental Law	M Geosciences and Natural Resources	Semester Abroad (or CE Mod- ule)	Bachelor The- sis
<b>6</b>	CE Module	M Sustainable Waste Man- agement	M Basic Soil Science	M Atmosphere	Semester Abroad (or CE Mod- ule)	
	30	30	30	30	30	30

(M = Mandatory, CE = Compulsory elective, Com = Complementary)