

Explanation Guide for Environmental and Resource Management (ERM) Master

Explanation on

Specific ERM Programme Study and Examination

Regulations

(ExR 2017) (StPO 2017)

and

BTU Master General Examinations and Study Regulations

(GExR 2016) (RahmenO. 2016)

October 2017

Introduction

The ERM Master programme is a 4 semester study programme. To complete it you have to achieve 120 ECTS credits, 30 each semester, whereat the last semester is considered for the Master thesis, giving 30 credits.

Modules

The Master programme consists of different types of modules

- mandatory modules
- compulsory elective modules
- complementary modules

Modules have 6 credits, except for the modules Master Thesis (30 credits) and Study Project (12 credits). In order to finish a module successfully you need to pass all exams described in the assessment mode of the module description. Each module takes one semester, generally.

Mandatory modules (§ 6 & Appendix 1 ExR)

1. *Introduction to Environmental and Resource Management II* (6 credits), offered every winter semester. It should be taken in the 1st semester. The module gives you a global overview of the study programme and also gives you specific knowledge of scientific working and publishing.
2. *Study Project* (12 credits), considered for the 3rd semester. You are working on a scientific interdisciplinary topic within a team of other students. Communication, scientific knowledge, project management and problem-solving skills are required in order to develop the project goal by using your skills and social competence.
3. *Master Thesis* (30 credits), in the 4th semester. The thesis has to be written supervised by a chair of BTU and a second supervisor. After handing in the thesis to the examination office you have to defend it.

Compulsory elective modules (§ 6 & Appendix 1 ExR)

Compulsory elective modules (6 credits) have to be chosen from the catalogue below (Figure 1), collecting a total sum of 72 credits.

The compulsory elective modules are divided into three scientific fields:

Environmental Sciences

M1: General and Applied Ecology

M14: Applied Geology

M2: Soil Protection and Ecotoxicology

M23: Philosophy of Ecological Sciences

M5: Freshwater Restoration Ecology

M34: Parasites

M6: Environmental Modelling

Environmental Management

M8: Strategic Environmental Assessment and
Environmental Impact Assessment

M17: Renewable Raw Materials

M11: Cost-Benefit Analysis in Environmental
Evaluation

M30: Advances Studies in International
Environmental Law

M15: Municipal Solid Waste Management

M33: Measuring Sustainability

M16: Methods of Water Resources Management

M32: Economics of Land Use and Biodiversity
Conservation

Environmental Engineering

M13: Natural Resource Investigation

M31: Hydrology and Hydraulics

M18: Wastewater and Sludge Treatment

M36: Numerical Simulation: Free Surface and
Groundwater Modelling

M20: Power System Economics I

M37: Modelling Processes in Hydro-engineering
Systems

M21: Safety- and Risk-Analysis for Process Plants

M38: Information Management in
Hydroinformatics Systems

M39: Renewable Energy Technologies for Power
Supply

Note: A detailed description can be found in the [Information Portal: Teaching](#) and also on our ERM M.Sc website under "Module Description"

Complementary modules (§ 9 (1) ExR)

Complementary modules may substitute 5 compulsory elective modules (30 credits). They need to be approved in advance by the head of the study programme and the head of the examination board. Complementary modules listed on the official timetable are already approved.

Complementary modules can be taken at BTU or at a foreign university (e.g. as part of a semester abroad). If the modules are taken at a foreign university, the grades will not be incorporated into your overall grade.

Credits counting (§ 6 ExR)

Modules	Credits
Compulsory elective modules in total (of which 5 (30 credits) can be replaced by complementary modules)	72
Introduction to ERM II (mandatory)	6
Study Project (mandatory)	12
Master Thesis (mandatory)	30
Sum	120

Proceedings

Planning your curriculum (Appendix 2 ExR)

You can choose freely from a catalogue of compulsory elective modules. In order to specialise and prepare for your Master Thesis you should select modules based on your professional interests.

The mentor assigned shall guide you while setting your personal timetable. A list of mentors is available in the beginning of the winter semester. The study plan for the whole programme should be approved by the mentor.

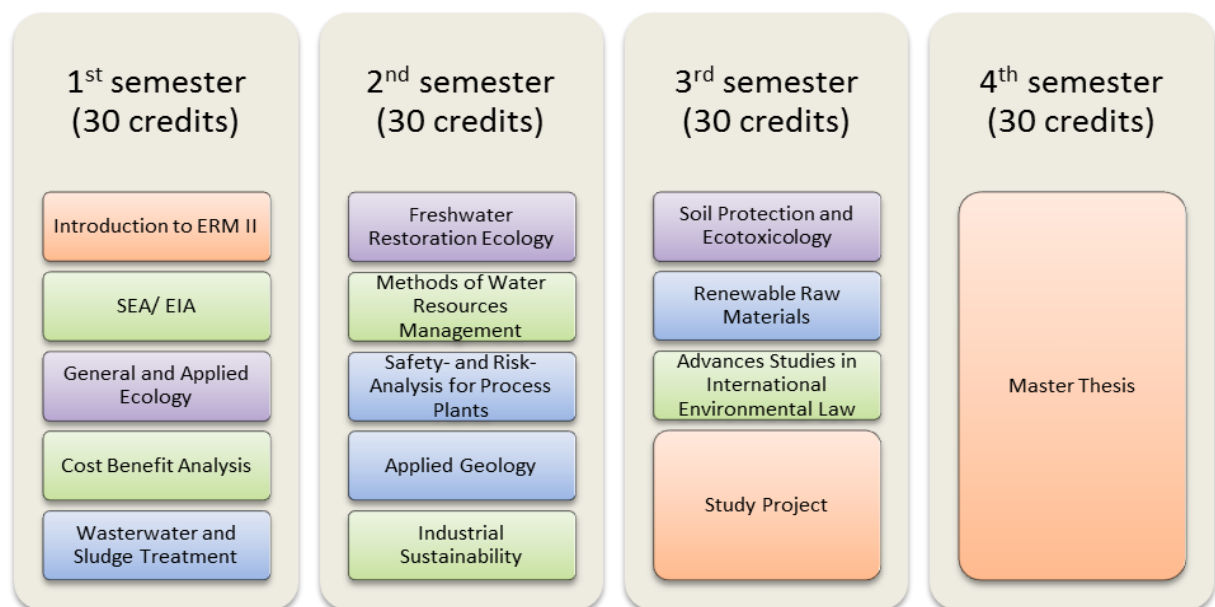


Figure 1: Example for a study curriculum

Registering for a module examination (§13 GExR)

Registration of a module examination in the online-portal implicates its examination. Students have to register for all modules within the registration period. According to the module examination (fixed in each module description), there are two different types of modules (table 1).

REGISTRATION OF MODULE EXAMINATIONS*		
types of module examinations	Continuous assessment (<i>MCA</i>)	Final Module Examination (<i>MAP</i>) Exception: Prerequisite to take the Final Module Examination (Prerequisite + MAP)**
start of registration	beginning of the lecture period modules with limited number of participants (TB): registration within two weeks before start of lectures	
end of registration	three weeks after start of lecture period	
end of deregistration	End of the third week of lecture period every semester	one week before beginning of examination period in which the examination is offered for the first time
examination intervals	during semester	1. end of lecture period (one week preparation, two weeks examination) 2. two weeks before start of next lecture period

Table 1: Registration of modules

* Other rules apply to »Graduate Thesis/External Practical Trainings/Excursion«. Please consult the General Examination and Study Regulations.

** Prerequisite to take the Final Module Examination (Prerequisite + MAP): Participation in an oral or written final module examination may be bound to the successful completion of prerequisites. Failure to acquire the prerequisites leads to automatic deregistration from the final module examination.

You can also find more information on examinations on the website of the Admissions and Registrar's Office (including repetition of failed exams or for the improvement of grades and retakes, irrevocable failing grade, illness and incapability, etc.).

There will be an introductory meeting about online registration in the beginning of the winter semester.

Repetition of module examinations (§§16,17 GExR)

REPETITION OF MODULE EXAMINATIONS		
	Continuous assessment (MCA)	Final Module Examination (MAP) Prerequisite to take the Final Module Examination (Prerequisite + MAP)
Repetition after failure, absence or retake	repetition of the whole module	repetition of the final exam prerequisites already acquired remain valid
Repetition When?	within the cycle of offer	each semester
	1. for 1 st repetition: within two semesters 2. for 2 nd repetition: latest two semesters after first repetition	
Registration for repetition Where?	at the Registrar's ad Admissions Office	
Registration for repetition When?	three weeks after start of lecture period	one week prior to examination period in which the examination date is offered
Improvement attempt (for grade improvement)	- if the first attempt was taken within the regular study time - the better grade out of two counts	
Free attempt (a failed module examination counts as not done)	- if first attempt was taken within the regular study time - if first repeat examination was completed within the following two semesters - registration before registering for the second repeat examination	
Registration for improvement and free attempt Where?	at the Registrar's ad Admissions Office	
Improvement attempts and free attempts may be used in total up to 2 times		
A failed Master Thesis can only be repeated once		

Table 2: Repetition of module examinations

Semester abroad (§ 9 (6) & (7) ExR)

A semester abroad is a voluntary but a recommended part, considered for the 3rd semester. You can choose one of our partner universities or a suitable university of your own choice. Keep in mind

- to get the advance approval of the examination board for your learning agreement, indicating all subjects planned to take during semester abroad
- to attest your studies taken abroad with an official transcript of records
- maximum of 30 credits can be collected during semester abroad. The credits count as well to the possible substitutions of the 5 compulsory elective modules
- all classes from semester abroad will be counted as complementary modules, their grades will not count for the final grade

Registering for the Master Thesis (§ 8 ExR)

The Master Thesis is considered for the fourth semester and shall be finished within six months. You have to apply for the thesis at the examination board proving that you have successfully passed the mandatory modules and collected at least 78 credits in total.

The written thesis has to be submitted to the Admission & Registrar's Office (not the primary examiner).

After your formal passing of the Master Thesis and thus the whole study programme you will be exmatriculated automatically at the end of the semester.

Grade Evaluation (§ 22 GExR)

- 1.0/1.3: very good - an excellent performance
1.7/2.3: good - a performance that lies above average requirements
2.7/3.0/3.3: satisfactory - a performance that meets average requirements
3.7/4.0: sufficient - a performance that meets the average requirements, though lacking
5.0: fail - a performance that lacks severely and therefore does not meet the average requirements

Single performance verification is passed if it receives at least 4.0 ("adequate")

The grade calculation

Every examination, evaluated and graded, makes up part of the final grade, except for complementary modules; which have not been taken at the BTU.

The grade of Master Thesis consists of the grade for the written thesis (75%) and for the presentation/defence (25%). It is part of the final grade, which is a credit-weighted average of all modules.

Note:

Please consider that these explanations just refer to specific parts of the Examination regulation (ExR) and the General Examination and Study Regulations (GExR) of the BTU, which needed some further annotations and explanations.

These explanations do not relieve you of the duty to read the [General Examination and Study Regulations](#) and the ERM Master [Examination and Study Regulations](#) carefully.

We do not take responsibility for any mistakes in the explanations offered.