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Examination Regulations (Rules) of the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (CAU) for Students of AgriGenomics, leading to a Master of Science Degree (M.Sc.)

of 22 July 2011

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§ 1

Scope of application

These Examination Regulations (in conjunction with the Examination Procedure Regulations (Rules) of Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (PVO)) apply to the teaching and assessment of the Master's degree programme AgriGenomics. Admission to modules offered by other faculties or other institutes of the same faculty and assessment of AgriGenomics students are subject to the examination regulations of the respective faculties or institutes.

§ 2

Objective of the degree programme

The Master's degree programme aims to equip the student with in-depth professional qualifications. The degree programme will qualify the candidate to apply findings and methods of genome analysis in agricultural research and to optimise procedures and improve products used in agriculture.

§ 3

Academic title

The student is awarded the degree of Master of Science (M.Sc.) by the Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences if he or she has obtained at least an overall grade of "sufficient".

§ 4

Admission to the Master's degree programme

- (1) In order to be admitted to the Master's degree programme the student must have completed a Bachelor's degree programme (B.Sc.) in agricultural sciences with a standard period of study of at least three years and with a total of at least 180 ECTS credits at an institution of higher education in the Federal Republic of Germany or an equivalent institution of higher education abroad. Admission to the Master's degree programme with a Bachelor's degree in a related programme or an equivalent degree in agricultural sciences or a related programme is possible, if the qualification does not differ substantially from the Bachelor's qualification in agricultural sciences at CAU in terms of content, scope and scientific requirements, and the remaining conditions of Clause 1 are satisfied.
- (2) Students are also expected to provide evidence of a sufficient command of English. Such evidence may be completion of a degree programme taught in English or an IELTS/TOEFL test or comparable level of achievement. More details can be found in the study qualification rules (*Studienqualifikationssatzung*).
- (3) Admission to optional modules that are part of the study programme may be contingent upon fulfilling certain prerequisites which must be laid down in the module descriptions, as published. The Examination Board may set individual regulations when relevant.

§ 5

Structure of curriculum

The standard period of study is two years. The degree programme includes modules for an in-depth scientific programme lasting one and a half years with 90 ECTS credits and altogether 60 "Semesterwochenstunden" (= weekly 45-minute teaching units for the duration of one semester of about 12 teaching weeks) approximately, followed by six months for the final thesis (Master's thesis, 27 ECTS credits) and the Master's thesis seminar module (3 ECTS credits).

The Master's degree programme requires the completion of the following modules:

- Nine compulsory modules (Appendix 1)
- Seven optional modules (42 ECTS credits)

The seven optional modules are to be selected from the list of available modules for the AgriGenomics degree programme. The Faculty Convention determines the list of available modules in the previous semester and publishes this list in an appropriate location.

Subject to the approval of the Examination Board, up to two optional modules may be selected from other modules offered by the Faculty or other faculties, provided that they correspond to the modules in the AgriGenomics degree programme in terms of scope and requirements.

§ 6

Academic year

The academic year applies to this degree programme. Registrations for odd-numbered semesters are only possible in the winter semester and for even-numbered semesters only in the summer semester.

§ 7

Restriction of admission to compulsory or optional courses

- (1) The number of places available for the individual compulsory or optional courses will be determined by the Faculty Convention at the request of the module coordinators. If more students initially register for the seminars and practical exercises than there are places available, the responsible committee will determine whether the remaining students can be accommodated through existing or additional courses.
- (2) If it is not possible to accommodate the remaining students, the person responsible for the course will select the students among those who are registered for a degree programme in which the course is envisaged as part of the curriculum, who have registered in due time before the deadline set by the responsible person and who satisfy the conditions for participation. Preference is to be given to students, whose number of semesters would be increased by non-admission. Equally ranked students will be selected by drawing lots. In order to avoid cases of hardship, the module coordinator may deviate from this procedure upon request.

§ 8

Requirements for admission to module examinations

- (1) Admission requirements for individual module examinations are indicated in the module descriptions, for each case and following approval by the Examination Board. These are published in an appropriate location.
- (2) If a module contains internships, seminars, practical exercises or field trips, admission to the examination assumes regular participation in these courses. A maximum of one course date may be missed without giving reasons for the non-attendance. If students are absent from additional course dates (up to a maximum of 20% of all dates, however) due to illness or other reasons for which the student cannot be held responsible, the module coordinator can determine a substitute for those parts of the course which were missed, if this is necessary with regards to fulfilling the learning objectives.

§ 9

Teaching and examination language

Courses will be offered in English. Examinations will be held in English.

§ 10

Examination Board

Contrary to the provisions of the PVO, the Examination Board consists of four members who are university professors, one member of the scientific personnel and two students. The Faculty representative for teaching, study and examinations is a member of the Examination Board in an advisory capacity.

§ 11

Module examinations and module grades

- (1) The type and number of module examinations required as part of the modules can be found in Appendix 1 (programme schedule).
- (2) Oral examinations (M) and presentations of seminar papers (R) are admitted as methods of oral examination. The duration of an oral examination must be at least 15 minutes per candidate, but must not exceed 45 minutes.

- (3) Written examinations include written tests (K), assignments (H) and reports (P). The duration of a written test must be at least 30 minutes and no longer than 90 minutes.
- (4) If a module examination consists of several examinations, the module grade will be calculated using the weighting of the individual examinations indicated in the Annex.

§ 12

Master's thesis

- (1) When applying for admission to the Master's thesis, the candidate is to propose a topic to the examiner. This does not automatically entitle the proposal to be considered.
- (2) In exceptional cases and with the consent of the Examination Board the Master's thesis may be prepared at an institution outside the University, provided that appropriate supervision of the candidate is available there. Supervision may also be provided by people working at the supervising facility, who are qualified in accordance with § 4 PVO. In cases of doubt the Examination Board will decide.
- (3) Any candidate who has passed at least five module examinations may be admitted to the Master's thesis.
- (4) The topic of the Master's thesis may be handed back only once and only within six weeks of the topic being issued.
- (5) The Master's thesis will be written in English.
- (6) The period from when the topic is issued until the Master's thesis is submitted to the Examinations Office is 26 weeks.
- (7) Three hard copies of the Master's thesis and additionally one digital copy on CD are to be submitted to the responsible Examinations Office in the form prescribed.
- (8) The Master's thesis will be assessed within six weeks of submission.

§ 13

Passing the Master's examination and final grade

- (1) The Master's examination has been passed if all the necessary compulsory module examinations indicated in Appendix 1 (programme schedule) have been passed and a sufficient number of ECTS credits has been earned through passing examinations in the optional modules and the Masters thesis.
- (2) The calculation of the final grade includes:
 1. the module grades for the compulsory modules weighted with the ECTS credits allocated to the respective modules,
 2. the grade of the Master's thesis with 27 ECTS credits,
 3. the section grade of the optional section weighted with 42 ECTS credits. The section grade is calculated from the grades of the modules completed in the optional section weighted with the ECTS credits allocated to the respective modules.
 4. The best grades of those modules assigned to the section will be taken into account for the calculation, whose total ECTS credits correspond at least to the number of ECTS credits required for the optional section.

§ 14

Entry into force

These Examination Regulations enter into force on the date they are published.

The University Board at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel granted its approval in accordance with Section 52 (1) Clause 1 of the Schleswig-Holstein Higher Education Act in its letter dated 21 July 2011.

Kiel, 22 July 2011

Prof. Dr. Karin Schwarz
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**Annex 1:
Programme schedule for the AgriGenomics Master's degree programme**

	Module Code	Module	Module No.	Compulsory	Graded Examination	ECTS Credits	
						Semester	Year
1. Semester	AEF-agrig001	Introduction to Molecular Biology	MM1	x	M 75% P 25%	6	
	AEF-agrig002	Organization and Analysis of Eukaryotic Genomes	MM2	x	M 100%	6	
	AEF-agrig003	Biochemistry and Proteomics	MM3	x	M 100%	6	
	AEF-agrig004	Introduction to Crop and Animal Breeding	MM4	x	M 100%	6	
	biol 258	Computational and Comparative Genomics	MM10	x	K=100%	6	
						Σ 30	
2. Semester	AEF-agrig006	Applied Genome and Proteome Research	MM6	x		6	
	AEF-agrig007	Applications of Genomics in Agriculture	MM7	x	M 50% M 50%	6	
		Optional Module			x	6	
		Optional Module			x	6	
		Optional Module			x	6	
						Σ 30	Σ 60
3. Semester	AEF-agrig005	Genomics in Research and Industry	MM5	x	R 50% H 50%	6	
		Optional Module			x	6	
		Optional Module			x	6	
		Optional Module			x	6	
		Optional Module			x	6	
						Σ 30	
4. Semester	AEF-agrig008	Research Seminar	MM8	x	R 100	3	
		Master's thesis		x		27	
						Σ 30	Σ 60