

**For information purposes only, the German original is binding.**

**Examination Regulations (Rules) of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (CAU) for the Discipline “Sustainability, Society and the Environment”, leading to a Master of Science Degree (M.Sc.)**

**of 13 June 2013**

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Based on Section 52 (1) of the Schleswig-Holstein Higher Education Act (HSG) of 28 February 2007 (GVObI. Schleswig-Holstein, page 184), most recently amended by Article 1 of the Act of 4 February 2011 (GVObI. Schleswig-Holstein, page 34, corrected GVObI. Schleswig-Holstein, page 67), after a resolution was passed by the Convention of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of 18 January 2012 and 29 May 2013 the following Rules were issued:

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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 for students of Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree Programmes (PVO) apply to the teaching and assessment of the Master’s degree programme “Sustainability, Society and the Environment”.

Admission to modules offered by other faculties or other institutes of the same faculty and the respective module examinations are subject to the examination regulations of the respective faculties or institutes.

**§ 2 Objective of the degree programme**

The Master’s degree programme “Sustainability, Society and the Environment” facilitates to obtain a degree qualifying for a professional career. The final examination ascertains whether the candidate has obtained an advanced scientific-methodological qualification in the analysis of human-environmental interactions with the objective of sustainable development as well as planning and communicating measures and projects for sustainable development.

**§ 3 Academic title**

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

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**§ 4 Admission to the Master's degree programme**

Prerequisites for admission to the Master's degree programme are:

- (1) An initial degree qualifying for a professional career which combines parts of study programmes in the fields of environmental, natural, business, economic and social sciences. Degrees in Geography, Environmental Sciences, Business, Economics and Social Sciences as well as comparable disciplines will be preferential.
- (2) A passed Bachelor's examination or a comparable university degree with a minimum of 180 ECTS credits
- (3) A standard period of study of at least three years at a recognised German or foreign institution of higher education, or a comparable final examination in a related degree programme resulting in a minimum grade of 2.5.
- (4) Admission by the Examination Board following a successful subject-specific entrance test.
- (5) Students are expected to provide evidence of a sufficient command of English in the form of an IELTS/TOEFL test or a comparable examination. More details can be found in the study qualification rules (*Studienqualifikationssatzung*).

**§ 5 Structure of curriculum**

The standard period of study for the Master's degree programme is 4 semesters and comprises 120 ECTS credits (ECTS).

The type and number of examinations for the modules are listed in Appendix 1.

In order to acquire the academic grade in accordance with § 3, a minimum of 30 ECTS credits must be obtained at the CAU.

The degree programme is divided into the following sections:

Semester	Compulsory	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional
<b>1</b>	<u>Section A:</u> Core Module (6 ECTS)	<u>Section B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6 ECTS)	<u>Section B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6 ECTS)	<u>Section C:</u> Communication & Empowerment (6 ECTS)	<u>Section D:</u> Complementary Methods (6 ECTS)
<b>2</b>	<u>Section A:</u> Project 1 (6 ECTS)	<u>Section B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6 ECTS)	<u>Section B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6 ECTS)	<u>Section C:</u> Communication & Empowerment (6 ECTS)	<u>Section E:</u> Open Studies (6 ECTS)
<b>3</b>	<u>Section A:</u> Project 2 (6 ECTS)	<u>Section B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6 ECTS)	<u>Section B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6 ECTS)	<u>Section E:</u> Open Studies (6 ECTS)	<u>Section E:</u> Open Studies (6 ECTS)
<b>4</b>	Section F – Master Project (30 ECTS)				

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The following specifications apply to the sections of the degree programme:

<b>Section</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
<b>Section A: Core Modules (Compulsory)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Module "Concepts of Sustainable Development and Environmental Management" (6 ECTS)</li><li>• Project 1 (6 ECTS)</li><li>• Project 2 (6 ECTS)</li></ul>	18
<b>Section B: Knowledge and Analysis (Optional)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In Section B, 36 ECTS credits must be obtained from the following specialised fields:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Society, Development and Governance</li><li>○ Sustainability Economics</li><li>○ Environmental Management</li><li>○ Coastal Systems</li></ul></li><li>• Each student should normally select two specialised fields in each of which he/she will obtain 18 ECTS credits.</li></ul>	36
<b>Section C: Communication and Empowerment (Optional)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12 ECTS credits must be obtained in Section C.</li></ul>	12
<b>Section D: Complementary Methods (Optional)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6 ECTS credits must be obtained in Section D.</li></ul>	6
<b>Section E: Open Studies (Optional)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 18 ECTS credits must be obtained in Section E. Of these, a minimum of 6 ECTS credits must be graded.</li><li>• The ECTS credits can be obtained in the following sections:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Modules from Sections B, C and D, which were not previously taken.</li><li>b. All other modules from the School of Sustainability which have available spaces.</li><li>c. Modules which have been passed abroad or at other German institutions of higher education.</li><li>d. Languages, key skills.</li><li>e. Service Learning (volunteer work) or a work placement (maximum 12 ECTS)</li><li>f. Modules from the CAU's entire range of modules.</li></ul></li><li>• The selection and recognition of modules in Sections (c), (d), (e) and (f) must be approved by the Examination Board.</li></ul>	18
<b>Section F: Master's thesis</b>	30

The Examination Board determines any changes to the range of modules.

### **§ 6 Academic year**

- (1) The degree programme governed by these degree-specific examination regulations is structured by academic year, beginning with the winter semester. As a general rule, a course will be offered once annually. Courses which, according to the curriculum are planned for an odd-numbered semester, are generally offered in the winter semester. Courses which, according to the curriculum are planned for an even-numbered semester, are generally offered in the summer semester.
- (2) Registrations for odd-numbered semesters are only possible in the winter semester and for even-numbered semesters only in the summer semester.

### **§ 7 Teaching and examination language**

Lectures and examinations will be held in English.

### **§ 8 Module examinations and module grades**

- (1) Examinations may consist in particular of assignments, projects, written examinations, reports, seminar papers, presentations and oral examinations.
- (2) If a module examination consists of several examinations, the module grade will be calculated using the weighting of the individual grades indicated in the module description.
- (3) The duration of an oral examination must be at least 15 minutes, but must not exceed 45 minutes. The duration of a written test must be at least 30 minutes and no longer than 120 minutes.

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- (4) In exceptional cases, particularly if a swift resit is not possible and would result in a disproportionate extension to the degree programme, written examinations may be replaced by an oral examination.

#### **§ 9 Restriction of admission to compulsory or optional courses**

- (1) The number of places available for the individual courses will be determined by the Faculty Convention at the request of the module coordinators. If more students initially register for a course than there are places available, the Examination Board 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.

#### **§ 10 Master's thesis**

- (1) When applying for admission to the Master's thesis at the CAU, the candidate is to propose a topic to the examiner. This does not automatically give rise to the claim for 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) The first examiner must be either a professor or a person qualified to teach at professorial level (*Habilitierte/r*) who regularly holds lectures and who, as a rule, should belong to the Kiel School of Sustainability. A suitably specialised professor is normally chosen to be the second examiner for the Master's thesis. His or her opinion is of equal importance to that of the first examiner. The Examination Board determines exceptions at written request.
- (4) The examination candidate may be required to report on the progress made concerning the thesis after four weeks within the framework of a colloquium open to the university public with the participation of students and teachers from the degree programme.
- (5) Any candidate who can provide evidence of at least 80 ECTS credits may be admitted to the Master's thesis.
- (6) The topic of the Master's thesis may be handed back only once and only within six weeks of the topic being issued.
- (7) The Master's thesis will be written in English.
- (8) The period from when the topic is issued until the Master's thesis is submitted to the Examination Office is 26 weeks.
- (9) Three hard copies of the Master's thesis and additionally one digital copy are to be submitted to the responsible Examination Office in the form prescribed.
- (10) The Master's thesis will be assessed within six weeks of submission.

#### **§ 11 Calculation of the final grade**

The final grade for the Master's degree programme consists of the following section grades:

- 15% based on the average of the modules in Section A weighted by ECTS credits.
- 30% based on the average of the modules in Section B weighted by ECTS credits.
- 10% based on the average of the modules in Section C weighted by ECTS credits.
- 5% based on the average of the modules in Section D weighted by ECTS credits.
- 5% based on the average of the modules in Section E weighted by ECTS credits.
- 35% for Section F (Master's thesis).

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**§ 12 Degree Certificate**

If the examination candidate has passed the Master's examination, a degree certificate is issued in accordance with the Examination Procedure Regulations at the latest four weeks after the determination of the final grade.

**§ 13 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) 1 of the Schleswig-Holstein Higher Education Act in its letter dated 12 June 2013.

Kiel, 13 June 2013

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Duschl  
Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences  
at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel

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**Appendix 1: Programme Schedule**

Sem.	Module description	SWS	C/O	Requirements	Type of examination	ECTS
1	Core Module - Concepts of Sustainable Development and Environmental Management	4	C	None	Assignment	6
	Module from Section B Knowledge and Analysis	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section B Knowledge and Analysis	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section C Communication and Empowerment	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section D Complementary Methods	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
2	Project 1	4	C	None	Project	6
	Module from Section B Knowledge and Analysis	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section B Knowledge and Analysis	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section C Communication and Empowerment	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section E Open Studies	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
3	Project 2	4	C	None	Project	6
	Module from Section B Knowledge and Analysis	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section B Knowledge and Analysis	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section E Open Studies	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
	Module from Section E Open Studies	4	O	See module description	See module description	6
4	Master Project		C	Minimum 80 ECTS		30

**Abbreviations:**

- SWS: "Semesterwochenstunden" (=weekly 45 minute teaching units for the duration of one semester of about 12 teaching weeks)
- C/O: Status of the course (compulsory/optional)
- Requirement: Admission requirements for the course
- ECTS: ECTS credits

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**Annex 1: Information on programme structure and selection of modules**  
(not part of the Rules)

Date: 13.10.2017

The degree programme is divided into the following sections in accordance with § 5:

Semester	Pflicht	Wahlpflicht	Wahlpflicht	Wahlpflicht	Wahlpflicht
<b>1</b>	<u>Bereich A:</u> Core Module (6 LP)	<u>Bereich B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6LP)	<u>Bereich B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6LP)	<u>Bereich C:</u> Communication & Empowerment (6LP)	<u>Bereich D:</u> Complementary Methods (6 LP)
<b>2</b>	<u>Bereich A:</u> Project 1 (6LP)	<u>Bereich B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6LP)	<u>Bereich B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6LP)	<u>Bereich C:</u> Communication & Empowerment (6LP)	<u>Bereich E:</u> Open Studies (6 LP)
<b>3</b>	<u>Bereich A:</u> Project 2 (6LP)	<u>Bereich B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6LP)	<u>Bereich B:</u> Knowledge and Analysis (6LP)	<u>Bereich E:</u> Open Studies (6 LP)	<u>Bereich E:</u> Open Studies (6 LP)
<b>4</b>	Bereich F - Master Project (30 LP)				

The following overview shows which modules can be recognised on each of the respective sections of the degree programme.

**Bereich A - Core Modules**

- MNF-Geogr.-201: Concepts of sustainable development and environmental management
- MNF-Geogr.-207: Project 1 (scientific project or change project)
- MNF-Geogr.-208: Project 2 (scientific project or change project)

**Bereich B - Knowledge and Analysis**

In Section B, 36 ECTS credits must be obtained from the following specialised fields:

- B1 - Society, Development and Governance
- B2 - Sustainability Economics
- B3 - Environmental Management
- B4 - Coastal Systems

Each student should normally select two specialised fields in each of which he/she will obtain 18 ECTS credits.

**B1 - Society, Development and Governance**

- MNF-Geogr.-141: Urban development and governance
- MNF-Geogr.-142: Political ecology
- MNF-Geogr.-105: Economic geography and sustainability
- MNF-Geogr.-211: Human Geography of Climate Change
- MNF-Geogr.-212: Socio-environmental conflicts and local approaches for sustainability
- VWL-MiFi-PED: Poverty, equity and development
- FE-PO-CS: Corporate Sustainability
- FE-PO-IS: Issues of Sustainability
- PHF-phil-sust1: Theories of Human Relationship to Nature
- MNF-Geogr.-215: Energy System Transformation

**B2 - Sustainability Economics**

- VWL-MiFi-SuEc: Sustainability economics
- VWL-EnRe-ReEc: Resource economics
- VWL-Res-Sem: Seminar in Resource Economics
- VWL-EnRe-EnVa: Environmental valuation
- VWL-EnvVal-Sem: Seminar in Environmental Valuation
- VWL-EnRe-EnEc: Environmental economics

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VWL-EnvEcon-Sem: Seminar in Environmental Economics  
VWL-EnRe-DiJu: Theories of distributive justice and sustainability  
VWL-Jus-Sem: Seminar in Theories of Distributive Justice and Sustainability  
VWL-EnRe-CliEn: Climate and Energy Policy  
VWL-Clim-Sem: Seminar in Climate and Energy Policy  
BWL-SocEntre-SSE: Social entrepreneurship

### **B3 - Environmental Management**

AEF-EM009: Principles of environmental economics & environmental planning  
MNF-Geogr.-307: Integrated environmental management  
MNF-Eco-110: Terrestrial ecosystems - field studies  
AEF-EM013: Digital spatial analysis - practical exercises  
MNF-Geogr.-332: Remote sensing and environmental modeling  
AEF-Agr078: Integrated management of rural & woodland regions  
MNF-Geogr.-333: Remote sensing applications  
AEF-EM011: Principles of ecosystem analysis  
AEF-EM022: Ecological indicators  
AEF-EM019: Advanced ecosystem analysis in Environmental Management  
AEF-EM033: Ecosystem development and ecosystem protection  
AEF-agr076: Integrated management of river basins  
AEF-EM018: Integrated management of wetlands  
AEF-EM001: Principles in ecology for environmental sciences  
AEF-EM006: Principles of ecosystem protection & -management  
AEF-EM031: Ecosystem Modelling  
MNF-eco-101: Geo-Ecological Regional Processes  
MNF-eco-107: Terrestrial Ecozones and Ecosystems  
MNF-eco-115: Planning and Construction of a Wind Farm

### **B4 - Coastal systems**

MNF-Geogr.-341: Coastal zone dynamics  
MNF-Geogr.-342: GIS and remote sensing applications in coastal zones  
AEF-EM012: Coastal and marine ecosystems - field studies  
MNF-ftz-geo-S125: Abiotic and biotic interactions in the Wadden Sea  
AEF-EM032: Integrated coastal zone management  
MNF-ftz-geo-S129: Wind energy - Technological challenges and environmental impacts  
Ftz-geo-S174 Decision Support Systems for the Governance of Coastal Ecosystems

### **Section C - Communication and Empowerment**

12 ECTS credits must be obtained in Section C.  
MNF-Geogr.-202: Changemakers and social entrepreneurs  
MNF-Geogr.-271: Change project  
MNF-Geogr.-203: Sustainability communication and marketing  
MNF-Geogr.-204: Introduction to video production  
MNF-Geogr.-270: Environmental and sustainability education  
MNF-Geogr.-209: International Development Cooperation Practice  
MNF-Geogr-214: Planning Research Projects  
AEF-EM029: Planning & managing science projects  
MNF-Geogr-216: ChangeBox

### **Section D - Complementary Methods**

6 ECTS credits must be obtained in Section D.  
MNF-Geogr.-205: Spatial data handling  
AEF-EM030: Statistical & mathematical tools  
MNF-Geogr.-206: Social research methods

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## **Section E - Open Studies**

18 ECTS credits must be obtained in Section E. Of these, a minimum of 6 ECTS credits must be graded.

The ECTS credits can be obtained in the following sections:

- a. Modules from Sections B, C and D, which were not previously taken.
- b. All other modules from the School of Sustainability which have available spaces.
- c. Modules which have been passed abroad or at other German institutions of higher education.
- d. Languages, key skills.
- e. Service Learning (volunteer work) or a work placement (Modul MNF-Geogr.-272: Internship, maximum 12 ECTS)
- f. Modules from the CAU's entire range of modules.

The selection and recognition of modules in Sections (c), (d), (e) and (f) must be approved by the Examination Board.