

**Please note: The aim of this document is to give information about the examination regulations. It is legally non-binding and is provided without guarantee. The only legally valid version of the regulations is the German version of September 14, 2012 - Brem.ABI. p.645**

**Specific examination regulations for the degree of Master of Science in  
*International Studies in Aquatic Tropical Ecology (ISATEC)***

**of the University of Bremen**  
dated 05 October 2011

The Board of the Faculty 2 [Fachbereichsrat 2] (Biology / Chemistry) has on October 05, 2011 in accordance with § 87 clause 1 number 2 of the Higher Education Act of the State of Bremen (BremHG) [Bremisches Hochschulgesetz] and § 62 BremHG of the version of the notice of May 9, 2007 (BremGBI p. 339), last amended by Article 8 of the law of June 22, 2010, approved the specific examination regulations for the course of studies for the degree of Master of Science in *International Studies in Aquatic Tropical Ecology (ISATEC)* in the following version:

These specific examination regulations are valid together with the general section of the examination regulations for the courses of studies for the degree of Master (AT MPO) of the University of Bremen dated January 27, 2010 in the respective applicable version.

**§ 1**

**Extent of studies and period in which studies are to be completed**

To achieve the goal of successfully completing the course of studies for the degree of Master of Science in *International Studies in Aquatic Tropical Ecology (ISATEC)* a total of 120 Credit Points according to the European Credit Point System have to be accumulated. This means studying full-time for a total of four semesters.

In combination with passing a final exam the degree Master of Science (M.Sc.) will be achieved.

**§ 2**

**Structure of studies, modules and credit points**

- (1) The full-time Master of Science in *International Studies in Aquatic Tropical Ecology (ISATEC)* program refers to § 4 clause 1 AT MPO.
- (2) The Appendix regulates the study process, compulsory modules, and exams.
- (3) The compulsory modules will be offered periodically and at least on a yearly basis.
- (4) Modules will be offered in English.
- (5) Courses to be studied within the respective modules are stated within the module description.
- (6) Modules are compulsory.
- (7) All courses refer to § 6 clause 1 AT MPO.
- (8) The study programme includes an obligatory term abroad with integrated project work in the scope of 27 CP in total.

### **§ 3 Examinations**

- (1) Examinations can be taken in different forms according to § 8 ff. AT MPO such as written or oral exams, project reports, study reports, laboratory reports, portfolio. In case of an individual application of an examiner the board of examiners can permit further forms of examination.
- (2) Failed examinations may be repeated in a different form than the original one.
- (3) Information about form, deadline and length of the exam is provided at the beginning of the module.
- (4) Examinations may be multiple choice exams or e-testing according to Appendix 2.

### **§ 4 Approval of academic records and examinations**

The recognition of academic records and examinations takes place according to § 22 AT MPO.

### **§ 5 Admission requirements for modules**

There are no admission requirements for the participation in modules.

### **§ 6 Master's thesis module (and colloquium)**

- (1) The Master's thesis module (30 CP) comprises the actual Master's thesis (27 CP) and an accompanying seminar (3 CP). The entire module is completed by the Master's thesis.
- (2) The requirement to register for the Master's thesis module is proof of a minimum of 70 credit points. The following performances have to be passed:
  - a) Completion of modules:
    - I. Aquatic Ecology,
    - II. Aquatic Flora & Fauna,
    - III. Resource Use and Assessment,
    - IV. Fundamentals of Scientific Work,
    - V. Scientific Communication
  - b) Term abroad.
- (3) For scholarship holders of the Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD) it is recommended to apply for the Master's thesis subsequent to the term abroad, until March 15 of the respective year latest.
- (4) The Master's thesis has to be completed within 20 weeks. The master examination board may allow a single extension of 4 weeks if this is indicated by a reasonable request.

- (5) The Master's thesis may be developed as an individual or teamwork (maximum of 2 people) effort. In a group effort the individual parts and achievements must be clearly distinguishable for review and grade.
- (6) The Master's thesis has to be written in English language.
- (7) The Master's thesis has to be presented in a public colloquium. The final grade of the Master's thesis module consists of the thesis and the colloquium grade. Written thesis represents 70 % and the oral presentation and defence the remaining 30 %.
- (8) The accompanying seminar is not graded. The module grade consists of the combined grade of the thesis and the colloquium

## **§ 7 Final grade**

The cumulative grade of Master's thesis module accounts for 40% of the final grade. The remaining 60% consist of the graded credit points of the other modules participated in.

## **§ 8 Area of application and commencement of liability**

- (1) These regulations become effective after the approval through the University of Bremen Rektor on October 1, 2011. They will be published in the Amtsblatt der Freien Hansestadt Bremen [Official Journal of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen]. They are mandatory for all students beginning their studies for the degree of Master of Science in *International Studies in Aquatic Tropical Ecology (ISATEC)* in the winter semester of 2011/12 or later.
- (2) These regulations invalidate the examination regulations from January 7, 2002. For students who did not complete their studies until September 30, 2013 the study regulations of October 5, 2011 become obligatory. The examinations board will decide on the acceptance of already passed modules.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Flow chart for the programme

Appendix 2: Execution of multiple choice exams and e-testing

**Appendix 1 to the Specific Examination Regulations for the Degree of Master of Science in *International Studies in Aquatic Tropical Ecology (ISATEC)* of the University of Bremen:  
Flow chart for the programme**

The flow chart for the programme describes the recommended course of studies. Students may study modules in a different sequence.

1. Year		2. Year	
1. Sem.	2. Sem.	3. Sem.	4. Sem.
Aquatic Ecology 6 CP/ C/ ME	The Abiotic Environment 9 CP/ C/ ME	Student Project (term abroad with integrated project work) 27 CP/ C/ ME*	Master Thesis & Colloquium 30 CP/ C/ ME
Aquatic Flora & Fauna 6 CP/ C/ ME	Computer Use and Modelling 9 CP/ C/ ME		
Resource Use and Assessment 9 CP/ C/ ME	Approaches for Coastal Planning and Management 9 CP/ C/ ME		
Fundamentals of Scientific Work 9 CP/ C/ ME	Scientific Essay 3 CP/ C/ ME		
Scientific Communication 3 CP/ C/ ME			

C: Compulsory, ME: Examination for whole module, \*: Module is completed with (ungraded) study performance

**Appendix 2: Execution of multiple choice exams and e-testing**

**§ 1**

**Execution of multiple choice exams**

- (1) A multiple choice exam is represented if the exam is passed through simply marking or choosing the right or wrong answer to a question. This kind of exam is only admissible if the content and methods of the module is testable through multiple choice questions. There must be no doubt that the student fully understood the topic of the module and can apply the imparted knowledge. The multiple choice test has to be prepared by the examiner according to § 27 AT BPO. The examiner chooses the topic, writes down the questions and defines the answers. Furthermore he defines the rating scale according to clause 4 and uses it. To subtract points within the examination questions is valid.
- (2) Test questions have to be doubtlessly understandable and the answers explicit. The tested knowledge must be fully covered through the multiple choice exam according to clause 1 sentence 2. The examiner is allowed to create a pool of equivalent questions and pick different sets of questions from the pool for the tests. The configuration of the sets is randomized. The equivalence of the questions has to be guaranteed. The test requirements to pass are defined in advance as well as the
  - set of questions
  - standard solutions
  - rating scale according to clause 4
- (3) The exam is passed if 50% of the overall score is reached. If the individual score is under 50% the exam is also passed if the individual score falls below the average score of all test participants by no more than 15%. A rating scale with an absolute pass and fail limit is not valid.

- (4) The test is graded according to the following scheme: If the participant has passed the minimum score which is needed to pass the test according to clause 3 and the total score above the minimum is more than

at least 75%	the grade is	“sehr gut” (very good),
at least 50% but less than 75%		“gut” (good),
at least 25% but less than 50%		“befriedigend” (satisfactory),
none or less than 25%		“ausreichend” (sufficient)

Different arrangements are possible on an individual basis.

- (5) If certain questions are answered wrongly by a noticeable amount of students the examiner has to review the questions and solutions according to clause 2 sentence 1 immediately. This has to be done before the grades are published. If the review indicates that these questions are incorrect or unclear they should be re-evaluated or not considered for the exam. On this account the number of relevant questions to pass the exam will decrease. This may not result in a disadvantage of the students. If the eliminated questions cover more than 20% of the possible total score the exam has to be repeated. Even if only one part of the exam was a multiple choice testing.
- (6) If the multiple choice testing represents only part of a written exam appendix 3 is binding except for clause 5 sentence 5 which is than only applicable for the multiple choice part.

## **§ 2**

### **Execution of e-testing**

- (1) E-testing is an exam which is prepared, executed and corrected (except open questions) computer based only. This kind of exam is only admissible if the content and methods of the module is suitable for computer based testing. An additional form of testing within the exam is acceptable if necessary.
- (2) A qualified person (Protokollführerin/Protokollführer) has to supervise the e-testing. The process of the exam has to be documented in a written protocol with at least the following information: Name of the supervising person, names of the examinees, beginning and end of the exam, and any special incident during the exam. It must be possible to clearly and permanently assign the electronic data to one examinee. The electronic data of the testing and the results are for perusal through the examinees according to § 24 cause 6 AT MPO. The assignment of tasks, standard solutions, rating scale and the results of the examination as well as the written protocol have to be archived according to the legal requirements.