

## **Subject-specific admission regulations for the Master's program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability at the University of Potsdam**

**From 10 February 2021**

The Faculty Council of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Potsdam has, in accordance with § 9 para. 5 clause 2 in conjunction with § 12 para. § 12 Abs. 2 Satz 2 in conjunction with. § Section 72 (2) no. 1 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act (BbgHG) of April 28, 2014 (GVBl.I/14, [No. 18], last amended by Act of September 23, 2020 (GVBl.I/20, [No. 26]), in conjunction with. Brandenburg Higher Education Admissions Act (BbgHZG) of July 1, 2015 (GVBl.I/15, [No. 18]) last amended by Article 3 of the Act of June 19, 2019 (GVBl.I/19, [No. 35], p.10) in conjunction with the Higher Education Admissions Ordinance (HZV) of 17 February 2016 [GVBl.II/16, [No. 6]], last amended by Ordinance of 12 August 2020 (GVBl.II/20, [No. 69]), and pursuant to Art. 21 para. 2 no. 1 of the Basic Regulations of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of December 17, 2009 (AmBek. UP No. 4/2010, p. 60) in the version of the Fifth Statute Amending the Basic Regulations of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of February 21, 2018 (AmBek. UP No. 11/2018 p. 634) as well as the General Admission Regulations for the non-teaching Master's programs at the University of Potsdam (Admission Regulations - ZulO) of February 24, 2016 (AmBek. UP No. 3/2016 p. 76), last amended by the Statutes of May 13, 2020 (AmBek. UP No. 8/2020 p. 306), adopted the following Statutes on February 10, 2021:<sup>1</sup>

### **Overview**

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### **§1 Scope of application**

These admission regulations supplement the general admission regulations for non-teaching Master's programs at the University of Potsdam (Zulassungsordnung - ZulO) and regulate the admission requirements and the university selection process for the non-teaching Master's program Climate, Earth, Water,

Sustainability at the University of Potsdam. In all other respects, the ZulO applies.

### **§ 2 Transfer of tasks in the procedure**

In order to carry out the admission and selection process, the Examination Committee may delegate tasks of a purely administrative nature to qualified employees of the study program who are not members of the Examination Committee.

### **§ 3 Access requirements**

(1) The following special admission requirements apply to the master's degree program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability:

- a) a first professional degree in geoecology or physics of at least 180 LP,
- b) a first university degree in the natural sciences with proof of successfully completed modules of at least 12 LP each in physics, earth and environmental sciences and mathematics, as well as at least another 12 LP in the natural sciences. The responsible examination board decides on the recognition, as well as on the equivalency of the achievements there, if the proof originates from a system without achievement points.

(2) Language skills in English corresponding to at least level B2 of the European Framework of Reference for Languages. The required language skills are proven by presenting one of the certificates mentioned in § 4 para. 1 ZulO.

(3) In deviation from § 4 para. 5 ZulO, knowledge of the German language is not required.

### **§ 4 Application deadlines and documents**

(1) The application for the Master's program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability for the first semester is possible in the winter semester. The application for the Master's program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability for the higher semester is possible for the winter and summer semester.

(2) The application deadlines are regulated in § 6 ZulO.

<sup>1</sup> Approved by the President of the University of Potsdam on March 23, 2021.

(3) If the course of study is subject to admission restrictions, the following documents must be submitted in addition to the documents specified in § 5 (3) and (4) Admission Regulations:

- Proof of further qualifications according to § 6 para. 2 b),
- Letter of motivation according to § 6 para. 2c).

## **§ 5 Quota for foreign applicants**

In deviation from the quota pursuant to Section 19 (1) no. 1 HZV, a preliminary quota of 25% is set for foreign and stateless applicants who are not treated as German nationals.

## **§ 6 University selection procedure**

(1) In the case of an admission restriction for the study program, a university selection procedure is carried out in accordance with § 9 Admission Regulations within the framework of the allocation procedure according to § 8 Admission Regulations with the aim of determining a ranking of the applicants.

(2) For the formation of the ranking, an overall point value is determined according to § 9 ZulO. The following criteria with the following weighting are used to determine the overall point value according to § 9 ZulO:

- a) Average grade or current average grade with 55% weighting,
- b) Study and research stays in a foreign country of at least one month with a weighting of 15%,
- c) Relevant professional training and work experience with 15% weighting,
- d) A one-page letter of motivation outlining the reasons and goals for choosing the desired Master's program and Potsdam as a university location. In this letter, the applicant should emphasize the specific skills that particularly qualify him or her for the chosen Master's program with a weighting of 15%.

(3) The criterion paragraph 2 d) is included in the formation of the total score with a mark (1.0 - 5.0).

The grade is formed as follows:

- very convincing letter of motivation: 1,0
- good letter of motivation: 2,0
- average letter of motivation: 3,0
- weak letter of motivation: 4,0
- unconvincing or missing letter of motivation: 5,0

The degree of conviction of the motivational cry shall be based on the criteria set forth in paragraph 2(d).

(4) The criteria mentioned in letters 2 b) and c) are possible with the following characteristics: "present/fulfilled" or "not present/not fulfilled". If documents to prove the selection criteria are missing within the application deadline after § 4 (2), the criterion is considered to be "not present".

## **§ 7 Entry into force**

(1) The regulations come into effect on the day after publication in the official announcements of the University of Potsdam.

(2) These regulations apply for the first time to all admission procedures for the master's degree program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability, which will be carried out in the winter semester 2021/2022.