

# **Discipline-Specific Admission Regulations for the Master's Program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation at the University of Potsdam**

**Dated February 13,  
2019**

The Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science of the University of Potsdam has approved, in accordance with Section 9 subsection 5 sentence 2 in combination with Section 12 subsection 2 sentence 2 and Section 72 subsection 2 no. 1 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act (BbgHG) of April 28, 2014 (Law and Ordinance Gazette [GVBl.] I/14, [no. 18]), last amended by Section 2 of the Law of September 20, 2018 (GVBl. I/18, [no. 21], p. 2) in combination with the Brandenburg University Admissions Act (BbgHZG) of July 1, 2015 (GVBl. I/15, [no. 18]), last amended by Section 1 of the Law of September 20, 2018 (GVBl. I/18, [no. 21], p. 21), in combination with the University Admissions Act (HZV) (GVBl. II/16, [no. 6]), last amended by Section 7 of the Law of September 20, 2018 (GVBl. I/18, [no. 21], p. 6) and under Section 21 subsection 2 no. 1 of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam of December 17, 2009 (Official Notices of the University of Potsdam no. 4/2010 p. 60) as amended in the Fifth Statute to Amend the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of February 21, 2017 (Official Notices of the University of Potsdam no. 11/2018 p. 634) and the General Admission Regulations for Master's Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam Not Related to Teacher Education (Zulassungsordnung, ZuLO) of February 24, 2016 (Official Notices of the University of Potsdam no. 3/2016, p. 76), on February 13, 2016, the following ordinance:

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## **§ 1 Applicability**

These admission regulations, combined with the General Admission Regulations for Master's Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam Not Related to Teacher Education (Zulassungsordnung, ZuLO), govern the admission requirements and the university selection process for the non-teaching-oriented Master's program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation at the University of Potsdam. Otherwise, the admission regulations (ZuLO) apply.

## **§ 2 Assignment of Tasks in the Procedure**

While conducting the admission and selection procedure, the Examining Board can assign specific tasks of a purely administrative nature to qualified employees of the program who are not members of the Examining Board.

## **§ 3 Admission Requirements**

(1) The following special admission requirements apply to the Master's program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation:

(a) An undergraduate academic degree in mathematics, biology or another natural science, or a scientifically oriented degree in environmental science, agricultural science, forestry, or earth sciences, comprising at least 180 credit points (CPs), of which at least 20 CPs are from modules focused on ecology or evolutionary biology.

b) Evidence of English language proficiency that corresponds at least to the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The required English-language proficiency is to be evidenced by one of the documents listed in Section 4 subsection 2 of the Admission Regulations (ZuLO). The Examining Board issues decisions regarding credentials on a case-by-case basis.

(2) Applicants whose native language is not German must demonstrate sufficient German language proficiency corresponding to Level A2 of the European Framework for Languages.

## **§ 4 Application Materials and Deadlines**

(1) The application for the Master's program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation, when matriculating as of the first or a later semester, can begin in either the winter or summer semester.

(2) The ZuLO specifies application deadlines, as long as the course of study does not have restricted admissions. If the course of study does have restricted admissions, then, in accordance with

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<sup>1</sup>Approved by the President of the University of Potsdam on March 26, 2019.

Section 6 subsection 3 of the ZulO, the application deadline for the winter semester is June 1 and for the summer semester December 1.

(3) In addition to the application materials listed in Section 5 subsection 3 letters a) through d) and f) of the ZulO, the following application materials must be submitted: Evidence of required language proficiency under Section 3 subsection 1 letter (b) and subsection (2).

(4) The special admission requirements under Section 3, comprising the content of the mandatory curriculum of the degree underlying the application, may be demonstrated by the deadline for final enrollment.

(5) If the degree program has restricted admissions, then, in addition to the documents listed in Section 5 subsection 4 of the ZulO, the following documents must be submitted:

(a) Any evidence under Section 6 subsection 2 letter (b) of any research internships, occupational experience, or other qualifications directly connected to the Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Master's program pursued outside of institutions of higher education.

(b) Any evidence of special discipline-related achievements under Section 6 subsection 2 letter (c).

## **§ 5 Quota of International Applicants**

At variance with the quota specified under Section 19 subsection 1 no. 1 of the HZV, a quota of 20% is reserved for international applicants and for stateless applicants who are not accorded rights equal to Germans.

## **§ 6 University Selection Process**

(1) If the Master's program has restricted admissions, an admissions selection process is carried out under Section 9 of the ZulO with the objective of ranking the applicants as part of the admission allocation procedure under Section 8 of the ZulO.

(2) To establish the ranking, a total point value is calculated under Section 9 of the ZulO. In calculating the total point value under Section 9 of the ZulO, the following criteria are weighted as follows:

- (a) Average grade or current average grade: 85%
- (b) Occupational experience directly connected to the Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Master's program: 5%
- (c) Evidence of research internships or other qualifications directly connected to the Ecology,

Evolution, and Conservation Master's program pursued outside of institutions of higher education: 5%

(d) Evidence of special discipline-related achievements such as scholarships, academic publications, awards, or other distinctions with a connection to the Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Master's program: 5%

(3) The criteria 2 (b) and (c) have the following options: "present/satisfied" or "absent/not satisfied." If materials to prove this selection criterion are missing at the application deadline listed in Section 4 subsection 3, the criterion is included towards the total point value as "absent/not satisfied."

## **§ 7 Validity**

(1) The regulations take effect on the day of their publication in the Official Public Notices of the University of Potsdam.

(2) These regulations first apply to all admissions processes for the Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Master's program conducted in the winter semester of 2019–20.