



UNIVERSITÄT
HOHENHEIM

Winter semester 2025/26

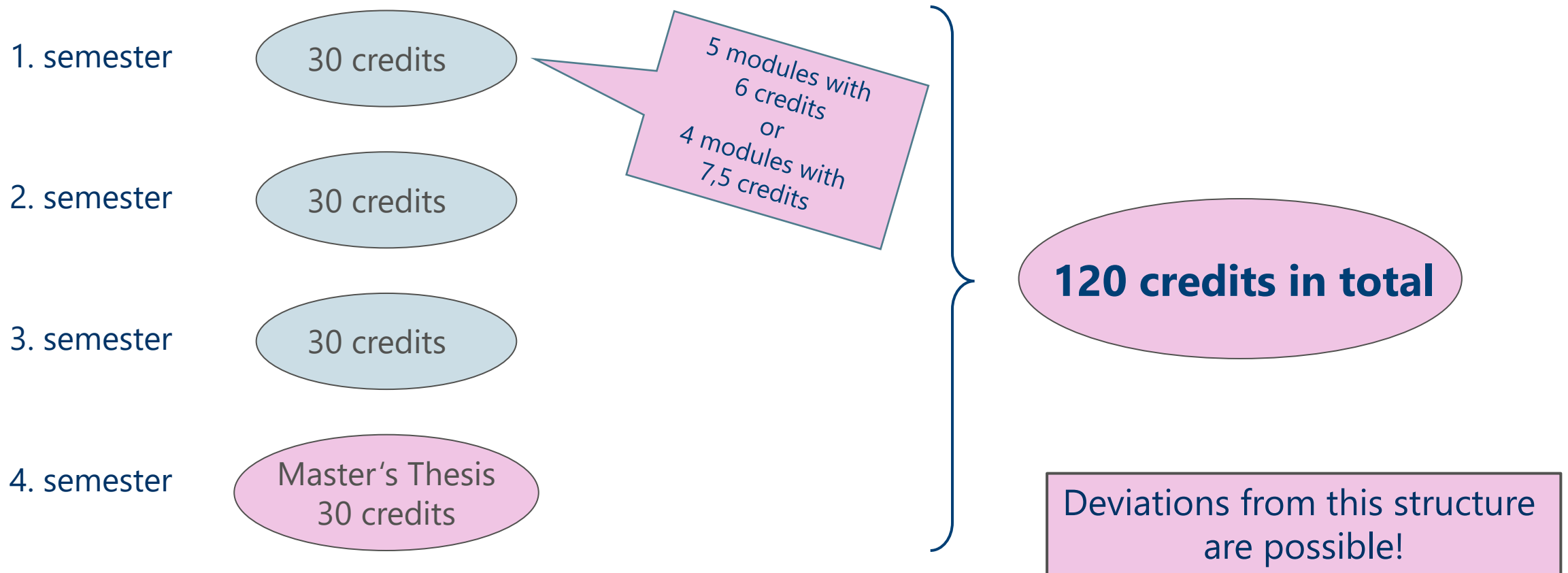
STRUCTURE AND REGULATIONS OF M.SC. PROGRAMS AT THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

katrin.winkler@uni-hohenheim.de

CONTENT

1. [Structure of Master's programs](#)
2. [Categories of Modules](#)
3. [Replacement of Modules](#)
4. [Portfolio Module](#)
5. [Deutsch als Fremdsprache](#)
6. [English for Scientific Purposes](#)
7. [Blocked / Unblocked Modules](#)
8. [Grading System](#)
9. [Registration for Modules](#)
10. [Examination Periods](#)
11. [Registration and de-registration for Exams](#)
12. [Sick on an Exam Date](#)
13. [Failing Exams](#)
14. [Maximum Duration of Studies](#)
15. [Failing the Thesis](#)
16. [Plagiarism](#)
17. [Your Coordinators](#)

GENERAL STRUCTURE OF THE M.SC. PROGRAMS



FOUR CATEGORIES OF MODULES

- **Compulsory (You have no choice)**
You have to do them (unless you have studied the content before)
- **Semi-elective (A certain degree of freedom)**
(not relevant for AgriTropics and Crop Sciences)
You can choose from a list of pre-selected modules, and you have to do a defined minimum number of them (the number differs from program to program!), but you are free to do more of them
- **Elective (A lot of freedom)**
You can choose any module on Master's level from our university or others
- **Additional (Total freedom)**
Listed in your transcript, but they don't count for your credits and your final average grade.
Can also be on Bachelor's level

EXAMPLE: SEMI-ELECTIVE MODULES IN AGECON

You have to choose
at least five of them!

You can select more than five, they
will then count as elective modules.

3.2 Semi-elective modules

These are modules covering a wider range of content related to the aim of the study program.

In the AgEcon program at least five modules must be chosen of the list of **semi-elective modules**:

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
1	4301-410	Knowledge and Innovation Management	1 semester	6	Knierim
1	4901-420	Poverty and Development Strategies	1 semester	6	Zeller
1	4904-430	Land Use Economics (can be combined with 4904-460 Farm System Modelling)	Second half of semester	6	Berger
1	3080-440	Agricultural Production and Residues**	1 semester	6	Gallmann
1	4903-520	Governance of Sustainable Agri-Food Systems	1 semester	6	Birner
2	4904-470	Farm System Modelling - Applications *	1 semester	6	Berger
2	4902-420	International Food and Agricultural Trade	1 semester	6	Boysen-Urban
2	4903-470	Qualitative Research Methods in Rural Development Studies	1 semester	6	Birner
2/3	4904-410	Agricultural Economics Seminar * (offered in summer and winter semester)	1 semester	6	Berger
2	4901-480	Monitoring and Evaluation of Rural Development Projects	1 semester	6	Zeller
2	4904-480	Farm Risk Analysis *(AIDAHO application)	1 semester	6	Berger
3	4204-420	Advanced Policy Analysis Modeling *(AIDAHO Methods)	1 semester	6	Feuerbacher
3	4902-430	Food and Nutrition Security	1 semester	6	Boysen-Urban
3	4903-500	Policy Processes in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management	1 semester	6	Birner
3	4901-470*	Quantitative Methods in Economics* *(AIDAHO Methods)	1 semester	6	Zeller

CHOOSING SEMI-ELECTIVE AND ELECTIVE MODULES

In most study programs you have to choose a few **elective** or **semi-elective** modules already in your first semester.

How to decide which modules to select?

- Check **your curriculum** for semi-elective or recommended elective modules offered in the first semester
- Check **other Master's program** in Hohenheim for interesting modules. Find information in the module catalog or curricula
- Read information about the modules in the **module catalog** and in the **course catalog** and note module name and module code, check timing
- Register for the selected modules in **ILIAS**

Important links:

[Curricula](#)

[Module Catalog](#)

[Course Catalog](#)

[ILIAS](#)



ADDITIONAL MODULES

Additional modules will be listed in your transcript of records with the grade, but the grade will not be counted for your overall grade (GPA) at the end of your studies.

It is possible to change the status of a module from „elective / semi-elective“ to „additional“ or vice versa by sending an informal application to the examinations office.

Such an application can be submitted only once during your entire study period (but for several modules at a time, if desired). So do it only at the end of your studies!

You can also drop additional modules entirely if you don't want them to be shown in your transcript.

=> Select your best grades at the end of your studies!



COMPULSORY MODULES – WHEN CAN YOU REPLACE THEM?

If you have studied the content before you can replace up to two compulsory modules with (semi-)elective modules.

Example EnviroFood:

You have a background in Agricultural Sciences / Agricultural Biology
-> you can replace the module „Agricultural Production and Residues“

Example AgEcon:

You have studied Microeconomics in your Bachelor's
-> you can replace the module „Microeconomics“

These are just examples; it can be applied to any compulsory module!

COMPULSORY MODULES – WHEN CAN YOU REPLACE THEM?

Procedure

Send the transcript of records and the syllabus of the module(s) you have studied before to the professor in charge of the module you want to replace.

Use the form you can find [here](#)

The professor has to confirm that you have studied the content of his/her module to at least 75% already.

Send the form with signature of the professor to the examinations office (pa-an@uni-hohenheim.de).

The form is titled 'Antrag auf Austausch eines Pflichtmoduls' (Application to replace a compulsory module) and is from the University of Hohenheim, Department of Studies and Teaching, Examinations Office. It includes fields for personal information (matriculation number, name, email, phone number) and academic details (master's degree program). The core of the form consists of two tables. The first table, 'Ich beantrage den Austausch dieses Pflichtmoduls' (I request the replacement of this compulsory module), has three columns: 'Pflichtmodul das ausgetauscht werden soll' (Compulsory module to be replaced), 'Modulcode' (Module code), 'Modulname' (Module name), and 'Bezeichnung der Leistung(en), durch die die erforderlichen Kenntnisse im Vorstudium erlangt wurden' (Designation of the achievement(s) through which the required knowledge was acquired in the preliminary studies). The second table, 'Das Pflichtmodul soll durch folgendes Wahlmodul ersetzt werden' (The compulsory module is to be replaced by the following elective module), has two columns: 'Modulcode' (Module code) and 'Modulname' (Module name). At the bottom, there are sections for the applicant's signature and date, and a section for the module responsible's confirmation, both with signature lines and date fields.

UNIVERSITÄT HOHENHEIM
Abteilung Studium und Lehre
Prüfungsamt
Stand: 09/2024

Antrag auf Austausch eines Pflichtmoduls
Application to replace a compulsory module

Matrikelnummer
Matriculation number

Nachname, Vorname
Last name, first name

E-Mail-Adresse
E-mail address

Telefonnummer
Phone number

Master-Studiengang der Fakultät Agrarwissenschaften
Master's degree program of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

@uni-hohenheim.de

Ich beantrage den Austausch dieses Pflichtmoduls:
I request the replacement of this compulsory module:

Pflichtmodul das ausgetauscht werden soll <i>Compulsory module to be replaced</i>	Modulcode <i>Module code</i>	Modulname <i>Name of the module</i>	Bezeichnung der Leistung(en), durch die die erforderlichen Kenntnisse im Vorstudium erlangt wurden. <i>Designation of the achievement(s) through which the required knowledge was acquired in the preliminary studies</i>

Das Pflichtmodul soll durch folgendes Wahlmodul ersetzt werden:
The compulsory module is to be replaced by the following elective module:

Modulcode <i>Module code</i>	Modulname <i>Name of the module</i>

Einen formlosen Antrag an den Prüfungsausschuss reiche ich als Ergänzung zu diesem Formular ein.
I am submitting an informal application to the assessment committee as a supplement to this form.

Datum
Date

Unterschrift
Signature

Bestätigung des/der Modulverantwortlichen
Ich bestätige, dass mit der im Vorstudium erbrachten Leistung, die erforderlichen Kenntnisse aus meinem Pflichtmodul in Inhalt und dem Umfang nachgewiesen wurden.

Datum
Date

Unterschrift Modulverantwortlicher

COMPULSORY MODULES – WHEN CAN YOU REPLACE THEM?

Procedure cont.

It is advisable to do this before the lectures start, so that you can follow the module you selected instead of the compulsory module from the beginning of the semester.

Prerequisite: You need to be enrolled and have a matriculation number!



**Think
about it
before the
lectures
start!**

RECOGNITION OF MODULES FROM PREVIOUS STUDIES

Recognition as semi-elective or elective modules

If you have already studied modules on **Master's level** (!) that are suited for your Master's program, you can apply for recognition of these modules, too.

- It is an informal application
- Send the application letter together with your transcript of records and the syllabus of the respective module(s) to the examinations office (pa-an@uni-hohenheim.de)
- The examination board will decide about your application
- Apply **within 3 months** after starting the study program (middle of December)

All information is given on the [website](#) of the examination office

3000-410 PORTFOLIO MODULE

You can gain **up to 7,5 credits (not graded)** for extra-curricular activities like

- Internships
- Seminars / Workshops
- Participation in conferences, trainings or summer schools
- Language courses (max. 3 credits)
- Writing research papers
- Courses on statistical programs
- ...or similar activities

These credits can replace an elective module.

Detailed explanation in the module catalog under module code [3000-410](#)

3000-560 DEUTSCH ALS FREMDSPRACHE UNICERT® II (B2)

- Consists of **2-4 German courses on B2 level** at the language center Hohenheim
- You can choose from several courses and workshops
- Can be stretched over several semesters
- After completing the courses/workshops you write an exam to obtain the UniCert II certificate
- Counts as an elective module with 6 credits

Detailed explanation in the module catalog under module code [3000-560](#)

3000-420 ENGLISH FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES UNICERT® III

- Consists of **4 English courses on C1 level** at the language center Hohenheim
- You can choose from several courses and workshops
- Can be stretched over several semesters
- After completing the 4 courses/workshops you write an exam to obtain the UniCert III certificate
- Counts as an elective module with 6 credits

Detailed explanation in the module catalog under module code [3000-420](#)

“BLOCKED” VERSUS “UNBLOCKED” MODULES

Blocked modules

are offered every day for 3 weeks, then you have one week for exam preparation and then you take the exam.

Blocked modules account for 7,5 credits.

Unblocked modules

usually take place once or twice a week for 4h/week and the exam is taken at the end of the lecture period.

Unblocked modules account for 6 credits.

In **winter semester** almost all modules are **unblocked**, in **summer semester** some programs have **blocked modules** (AgriTropics, Crop Sciences, EnviroFood, EnvEuro, Transformation Management).

Landscape Ecology is an exception: -> all modules in the first two semesters are blocked!

We cannot recommend mixing blocked and unblocked modules during a semester.
Please stick either to blocked or unblocked modules per semester.

“BLOCKED” VERSUS “UNBLOCKED” MODULES

Block plan

A good overview of all blocked modules is published on the website of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences under “Downloads” <https://agrar.uni-hohenheim.de/en/downloads-en>

Geblockte Module der Fakultät Agrarwissenschaften für das Sommersemester 2025 Blocked Modules in Summer Semester 2025					
25.07.2024					
● = Pflicht/Compulsory ◐ = Wahlpflicht/Semi-elective ○ = Wahl/Elective					
Blockperiode / Period	Block 1 (7.5 credits)	Block 2 (7.5 credits)	Block 3 (7.5 credits)	Block 4 (7.5 credits)	By arrangement (7.5 credits)
Studiengang / Study Course	01.04. - 25.04.2025	28.04. - 23.05.2025	26.05. - 06.06.2025+ 16.06. - 27.06.2025	30.06. - 25.07.2025	
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften Bodenwissenschaften	◐ 3103-460 (Streck) Spatial Data Analysis with GIS ◐ 3102-460 (Kandeler) Molekulare Bodenökologie ◐ 3101-460 (Herrmann) Soils of the World - Formation, Classification, and Land Evaluation (only offered in odd years)	◐ 3102-440 (Kandeler) Environmental Pollution and Soil Organisms ◐ 3201-620 (Schmieder) Vegetation and Soils of Centr. Europe	◐ 3101-570 (Herrmann) Boden- und veg. kundl. Geländeübung / Field Course Soils + Vegetation	● 3101-430 (Herrmann) Integriertes bodenwissenschaftliches. Projekt für Fortgeschrittene ○ 3201-430 (Schmieder) Ecology of Alpine Vegetation (only offered in odd years) ○ 3103-460 Env. Science Proj.	◐ 3102-420 (Kandeler) Bodenwissenschaftliches Experiment/Project in Soil Sciences (Engl.+Ger.) ○ 3101-420 (Herrmann) International Field Course Site Evaluation (Engl.+Ger.) (September 2025)
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften und MSc. NawaRo	○ 3602-410 (Gerhards) Integrierter Pflanzenschutz mit Übungen (Präsenz Ilinger Hof)	○ 7301-400 (Ernst) Soziale Insekten (10 Plätze f. Fak. A)	◐ 7301-430 (Traynor) Honey bee research and beekeeping techniques ○ 3602-460 (Gerhards) Information Technologies and Expert Systems in Plant Protection	○ 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht (taught in German!)	○ 4407-480 (Stein) Introduction to Machine Learning in Python (E-Learning) (unblocked) ○ 4408-480 (Kruse, A.) Der Business Design Prozess - Von der Idee zum Produkt (6 Credits)
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften Animal Science	◐ 4603-470 420 (Seifert) Feedstuff Microbiology ◐ 4606-450 490 (Stefanski) Animal Behavior ◐ 4605-470 480 (Hölzle) Animal Hygiene and Welfare	◐ 4601-490 (Rodehutschord) Tracer-based Methods in Animal Nutrition (not 2025) ◐ 4607-520 540 (Bennewitz) Animal Breeding Methods: From Theory to Practice ◐ 4606-460 420 (Stefanski) Immunology and Infection Biology	◐ 4603-440 (Seifert) Interaktionen Mikrobiom-Nutztier/ Microbiom-Animal Interaction (Engl.+Ger.) ◐ 4608-450 420 (Hasselmann) Molecular Evolution and Population Genetic ◐ 4604-430 440 (Huber) Physiological Limitations of Animal Performance	◐ 4601-430 460 (Rodehutschord) Ruminant Nutrition ◐ 4908-420 (N.N.) Promotion of Livestock in Trop. Environments ○ 4604-420 (Steff) Seminar zu klinischen Fallstudien der Spez. Anatomie und Phys. d. Nutztiere (taught in German!)	○ 4605-510 (Hölzle) Research Questions of Env. and Animal Hygiene (6 credits) (Engl.+Ger.) ○ 4606-570 (Stefanski) Research Methods and Questions in Behavioral Physiology (Engl.+Ger.)
M.Sc. Agrarbiologie (hier werden nur Module der Fakultät A genannt)	◐ 4603-470 420 (Seifert) Feedstuff Microbiology ◐ 4613-420 (Camarinha Silva) Microbiome in Animals and Humans ◐ 3601-410 (Vögele) Molecular Phytopathology ◐ 3102-460 (Kandeler) Molekulare Bodenökologie /Molecular Soil Ecology	◐ 4906-430 (Graß) Field Course Agroecology and Biodiversity	◐ 4603-440 (Seifert) Interaktionen Mikrobiom-Nutztier/ Microbiom-Animal Interaction (Engl.+Ger.) ◐ 4606-430 (Stefanski) Integrative Immunobiologie bei Tieren (not SS 2025) ◐ 4604-430 440 (Huber) Physiological Limitations of Animal Performance Leistungsassoziierte ... ◐ 4608-450 420 (Hasselmann) Molecular Evolution and Population Genetic Molekulare Evolution ◐ 3408-420 (Ludewig) Genet. und mol. Regul. d. pflanzl. Nährstoffe.	◐ 4907-420 (Asch) Ecophysiology of Crops in the T+S ◐ 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht ◐ 3411-430 (Schmückel) Von Genen und Genregulation zu Transgenen und editierten Genomen	
M.Sc. Crop Sciences (option for a blocked semester)	○ 3601-410 (Vögele) Molecular Phytopathology	○ 4905-430 (N.N.) Integr. Agricultural Production Systems ○ 4905-470 (N.N.) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources ○ 1509-510 (Schaum) Industry 4.0 Technologies	○ 4907-430 (Asch) Crop Prod. Affecting the Hydrological Cycle ○ 3504-470 (Nagel) Applied Seed Physiology ○ 3602-460 (Gerhards) Inform-Tech and Expert Sys.-i. Plant Protection*	○ 1916-400 (Mackenstedt) Pathogens, Parasites and their Hosts. ... (8 Pl. UHOH) ○ 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht ○ 4907-420 (Asch) Ecophysiology of Crops in the T+S	

GRADING SYSTEM

The grading system of the Master programs is based on the **ECTS** (European Credit Transfer System)

- Required credits from modules → 90 credits
- The **Master's thesis** has a value of → 30 credits
- your **total Master's degree** requires → **120 credits**

(it is possible to get more than 120 credits, but not less!)

WHAT DO YOU GET CREDITS FOR?

Credits are used to characterize the estimated **workload** that you need to successfully complete the module.

One credit corresponds to a **workload of ~30 hours**.

- One module with **6 credits requires a workload of ~180 hrs** (~ 56 hrs of lecture, rest is preparation on your own or in groups)
- This corresponds to ~1,5 hrs per day for each module
- 1,5 hrs for 5 modules per semester = 7,5 hrs per day
- **Studying is a fulltime job!**

GRADES

The result of your exam is assessed with **grades** in letters (A to D) and in figures (1 to 4).

A = 1,0

A- = 1,3

B+ = 1,7

B = 2,0

B- = 2,3

C+ = 2,7

C = 3,0

C- = 3,3

D+ = 3,7

D = 4,0

F = 5,0

GRADES

Your final overall grade is calculated by multiplying the number of credits with the grade.

Grade for a module :	2,0 * 6 credits	= 12 credit points
...etc for all modules	...	
Grade Thesis written part:	1,3 * 22,5 credits	= 29,25 credit points
<u>Grade Thesis defence:</u>	<u>1,0 * 7,5 credits</u>	<u>= 7,5 credit points</u>

Final grade: credit points / credits

HOW TO REGISTER FOR MODULES / COURSES?

Registration for **participation** in a module is done in **ILIAS**, not in HohCampus. (Can be done before being enrolled)

All learning material and the communication between students and teachers will be done via ILIAS.

Keep in mind that you still need to **register for the exam** of that module **in HohCampus** as well!

EXAMINATION PERIODS

For unblocked modules you can choose between two examination periods, one directly after the lectures end, and one before the lectures of the next semester start:

1st Examination period: 02. – 20.02.2026

2nd Examination period: 23.03. – 02.04.2026

- You can choose in which period you want to write your exams.
- You can distribute your exams over both periods.

EXAM REGISTRATION DEADLINES

Depending on the examination period you have different registration deadlines:

1st Examination period: registration period **17.11. – 17.12.2025**

2nd Examination period: registration period **17.11.25 until 7 days before the exam**

Registration for exams of **blocked modules** must be done latest **7 days before** the end of the block.

Attention for **Landscape Ecology and EnvEuro ASP2 (biodiversity specialization)!**

1st block ends on 07.11.2025.

-> registration deadline for 1st exam: 31.10.2025!

HOW TO DE-REGISTER FROM EXAMS?

You can de-register from exams in HohCampus **until 7 days before the exam date.**

In this case you are no longer registered for an exam in this module. If you wish to take it at a later time you have to register anew.

A **withdrawal at a later time** is only possible by submitting a form to the exams office and giving serious reasons (usually health reasons).

More information and the respective forms are available on the website of the examinations office: <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/examination>

WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM SICK?

In case of sickness, you must inform the examinations office as soon as possible.

You need to see a doctor and get a medical certificate on the very day of the exam (or earlier)! The certificate must be handed in to the examinations office together with the form „Application for withdrawal from an examination for health reasons“ until 7 days after the examination date at the latest!

(If you need to take care of a sick child, it will be considered as if you were sick yourself)

The required form is available on the website of the examinations office:
<https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/intranet-students/organizing-your-studies/examination/exam-forms>

HOW OFTEN CAN I FAIL?

Twice. **You have three attempts for each exam.**

After failing, you can decide if you want to repeat the exam. Compulsory modules have to be repeated, electives or semi-elective not necessarily.

If yes, you have to register again for the repetition of the exam. You can choose when you want to repeat the exam.

Not attending an exam without de-registration or health reasons **results in a „fail“! -> You have lost one attempt!**

CONTINUATION: HOW OFTEN CAN I FAIL?

If you fail the third attempt of an exam you will be expelled from the study program!

It does not matter if it was a compulsory, semi-elective or elective module!

If it's a semi-elective or elective module you can opt out and choose a different one, if you don't want to complete the module.

Make sure to seek help before it is too late!

Talk to your coordinator in case you fail an exam for a compulsory module for the second time.

We can only help you if we are informed in time. After the third fail there is nothing we could do to help you!

AFTER A WITHDRAWAL / FAIL...

- If you failed: Check your exam paper to find out what the problem was
- You can choose whether to take the exam again at a later date or you can select a different module instead, unless it is a compulsory module. Compulsory modules have to be completed.
- If you wish to repeat the exam it is up to you if you do it in the following examination period or later.
- You will not be registered for the repetition of the exam automatically.
- It will not show in your final transcript how many attempts you needed to pass an exam.

HOW MUCH TIME DO I HAVE TO FINISH MY STUDIES?

All modules (90 credits course work) have to be completed latest by the end of the **7th semester**.

You have to **register your Master's thesis** latest by the **beginning of the 7th semester**.

(If it hasn't been registered in due time, it will be graded with a „fail“)

WHAT HAPPENS IF I FAIL MY MASTER'S THESIS?

You get the chance to write a second thesis with a different topic.

Within six weeks after the „fail“ has been announced, you have to register the new topic with the examinations office.

A third attempt of the Master's thesis is not possible.

HOW COULD I POSSIBLY FAIL MY MASTER'S THESIS?

A „fail“ can be given for

- exceeding the registration or submission deadlines
- plagiarism
- falsification of results or
- poor quality of the scientific work

A FEW WORDS ON PLAGIARISM

If plagiarism is evidenced in a seminar paper, a poster, a thesis...

→ **“fail”**

- Guidelines on how to avoid plagiarism and software to check for unintentional plagiarism are available abundantly (search online for „plagiarism check“)
- Check our [academic writing material](#)

INFORMATION AND FORMS

You can find all relevant information and all necessary forms on the website of the examinations office:

<https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/examination>

Please bookmark it and read the information.

Ignorance is no excuse!

In case of doubt ask the examinations officers (pa-an@uni-hohenheim.de) or your program coordinator.

YOUR COORDINATORS ARE HERE FOR YOU

Katrin Winkler

- AgEcon, AgriTropics, EnvEuro, EnviroFood, LandEcol, Transformation Management
tel: 0711 459 23305
mail: katrin.winkler@uni-hohenheim.de

Ivan Guzman

- Crop Sciences
tel: 0711 459 23477
mail: ivan.guzman@uni-hohenheim.de

Kerstin Hoffbauer

- Advisory Services, Animal Science, Organic Agriculture
tel: 0711 459 23328
mail: kerstin.hoffbauer@uni-hohenheim.de



And now:



Don't let all these regulations scare you!



Enjoy your studies, choose interesting modules,
look left and right, make new experiences
and new friends...



...and have a great time!

