

**Examination and Study Regulations**  
**for the Master's Programme**  
**Food Quality & Safety**  
**at the University of Bayreuth**  
**dated 25 September 2024**

Article 9 sentence 1 in conjunction with Article 80 para 1 sentence 1 and Article 84 para 2 sentence 1 BayHIG forms the framework for the following regulations issued by the University of Bayreuth.

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## § 1

### General Examination & Study Regulations

<sup>1</sup>The master's programme Food Quality & Safety is governed by the General Examination and Study Regulations for the Bachelor's and Master's Programmes at the University of Bayreuth (APSO). <sup>2</sup>Supplementary and deviating regulations for the master's programme Food Quality & Safety are listed in the present document.

## § 2

### Aim and structure of the degree programme

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The Master's programme in Food Quality & Safety provides students with the following skills:
- an in-depth subject-specific and methodological understanding of the natural sciences, economics, and law;
  - the ability to use this knowledge to solve complex interdisciplinary problems in the field of food quality and safety using an integrative, interdisciplinary approach;
  - the ability to carry out further independent academic work.

<sup>2</sup>The master's programme Food Quality and Safety, including all examinations, is conducted in English. <sup>3</sup>On the basis of the successful completion of the master's examination, the Faculty of Life Sciences awards the academic degree Master of Science (abbr: M.Sc.).

- (2) <sup>1</sup>The completion of an internship totalling nine weeks in a professionally relevant area, usually outside the university, is a compulsory part of the degree programme; if the internship is completed part-time, the duration is extended accordingly. <sup>2</sup>The timing of the internship, if possible during the lecture-free period, depends on the requirements of the internship provider and is organized independently by the students. <sup>3</sup>The relevant hosting institution is to provide certification of the type of internship and its duration. <sup>4</sup>An internship report of 5-10 pages must be prepared on the internship activities. <sup>5</sup>The internship report is ungraded and is assessed by the examiner according to the "pass" or "fail" system.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The master's programme must be completed as a full-time degree programme. <sup>2</sup>The degree programme can be started in the winter semester.

## § 3

### Admission to the programme

- (1) Admission prerequisites for the master's programme are as follows.

1. a university degree with a minimum examination grade of "good" (2.5) in the bachelor's programmes in Biology or Biochemistry at the University of Bayreuth or an equivalent degree.
  2. proof of German language skills at level A1 or better of the Common European Framework of Reference for applicants who neither earned their higher education entrance qualification nor an initial degree in the German language; Applicants who do not meet this requirement will be enrolled on the condition that they submit the proof of the required German language proficiency by the end of their second semester of study at latest.
  3. proof of English skills at level C1 or better of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages for applicants who neither earned their higher education entrance qualification nor their initial degree in the English language.
  4. the subject-specific aptitude assessment process for the degree programme in accordance with Annex 2.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The qualifications may not differ substantially in terms of the earned competences from the qualifications referred to in para 1 number 1. <sup>2</sup>If there are substantial compensable differences, applicants may be admitted subject to the proviso that, in addition to the assessment components to be completed in the master's programme, they also successfully complete coursework and examinations in the amount of up to 15 credit points in the bachelor's program in studies by the end of the second semester of study at latest; otherwise, the prerequisites for admission to the programme are deemed not to have been fulfilled. <sup>3</sup>The regulations of the respective (subject) examination and study regulations of the bachelor's programmes at the University of Bayreuth mentioned in para 1 No. 1 shall apply as amended. <sup>4</sup>Art. 86 BayHSchG applies to determining the eligibility of domestic and foreign degrees. <sup>5</sup>Decisions in the cases of paragraph 2 shall be made by the board of examiners.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>If the certificate of the relevant first degree is not yet available, a confirmation with individual grades must be submitted for all examinations and coursework completed up to the registration deadline. <sup>2</sup>These achievements must comprise a total of at least 135 credit points and correspond to at least the grade "good" (2.5) according to the overall grade calculation. <sup>3</sup>Applicants who fulfil the requirements of sentence 2 are to be enrolled on the condition that they submit the certificate of the relevant degree certificate with a grade of "gut" ["good"] or better by the end of the first semester of study.

## § 4

### Additions and deviations

- (1) <sup>1</sup>In addition to § 6 APSO, it is possible to take further examinations in the core elective areas beyond the required scope; Paragraph 2 of the present regulations and § 14 para 1 APSO must be

observed. <sup>2</sup>There is no obligation to repeat failed examinations taken for the purpose of earning additional credits. <sup>3</sup>The additional credits shall be included on the certificate as long as the student does not submit a request to the contrary.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>In addition to § 14 para 1 APSO, only the highest graded modules will be used in the overall grade calculation, taking into account the required credit points, if more credit points are earned in the core elective areas than are required. <sup>2</sup>Non-graded modules are only counted after the graded modules for the purpose of obtaining the required credit points. <sup>3</sup>If the last module still to be taken into account exceeds the credit points of the module area, the assessment of this module will only be included in the calculation of the final grade on a pro rata basis with the credit points still required. <sup>4</sup>Other examinations taken in the core elective areas are not included in the final grade calculation.
- (3) In addition to § 31 para 5 APSO, up to two copies of the master's thesis must be submitted to the reviewer in typescript, bound and paginated at the request of the reviewer.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>In addition to § 32 APSO, the master's examination is failed on the final attempt if a student has not achieved at least 30 credit points from fully completed modules by the end of the third semester for reasons for which he or she is responsible. <sup>2</sup>A notification of having failed the final attempt will be issued in accordance with § 2 para 5 in conjunction with Article 41 of the Bavarian Administrative Procedure Act.

## § 5

### Effective date

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The present regulations go into effect on 26 September 2024. <sup>2</sup>They shall be valid for students enrolling in this programme in Winter Semester 2024/2025 or later. <sup>3</sup>The remaining students structure their studies in accordance with the previous subject examination and study regulations for the master's programme in Food Quality & Safety at the University of Bayreuth dated 5 June 2020 (AB UBT2020/037), which were last amended by the regulations dated 9 January 2023 (AB UBT 2023/002).
- (2) When these regulations come into force, the Examination and Study Regulations for the Master's Programme Food Quality & Safety at the University of Bayreuth dated 5 June 2020 (AB UBT 2020/037), which were last amended by the regulations dated 9 January 2023 (AB UBT 2023/002), shall cease to apply, subject to the provision in para 1 sentence 3.

## Annex 1: Modules, Credit Points, and Examinations

The module areas, the respective modules, credit points (CP) and the corresponding examinations are listed below.

Additions to § 9 APSO:

- In addition to paragraph 6, the oral examination may be conducted in groups of no more than four students. In the case of a group examination, the total examination time for the whole group must not exceed 60 minutes.
- In addition to paragraph 8, the written version of the term paper and an electronic version must be submitted to the examiner by the beginning of the lecture period of the following semester at the latest. Papers that are not submitted by the stated deadline are to be graded as "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"].

### Abbreviations:

	Vertical lines between examination forms indicate possible alternatives.
+	plus signs define several examinations to be taken.
x/y	fractions indicate the weighting with which the respective examination performance is included in the module grade.
()	Round brackets group related examination components. They can be used to define alternative examination forms for an examination or to divide an examination into several examinations.
*	Examinations marked with "*" are not included in the calculation of the module grade or overall grade.
K	written examination
mP	oral examination
H	term paper
P	presentation
E	essay
B	Contribution
semA	assignments during the semester

<b>Module area</b> Modules	<b>Credit points</b>	<b>Examination</b>
<b>Module area A: Biology, Biochemistry and Chemistry of Food</b>		
Food Microbiology	5	Portfolio assessment: <b>K</b> 7/10 + <b>semA</b> 3/10
Crop Plant and Animal Biology	5	Portfolio assessment: <b>K</b> 7/10 + <b>semA</b> 3/10
Nutritional Biochemistry, Physiology and Immunology	5	Portfolio assessment: <b>K</b> 7/10 + <b>semA</b> 3/10
Chemical Food Analysis	5	Portfolio assessment: <b>K</b> 7/10 + <b>semA</b> 3/10
Food Metabolome and Toxicology	5	Portfolio assessment: <b>(K   mP)</b> 7/10 + <b>semA</b> 3/10
<b>Total: module area A</b>	<b>25</b>	
<b>Module area B: Data Science/ Information Technology/ Statistics</b>		
Data Analysis and Statistics	5	<b>K</b>
<b>Total: module area B</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Module area C: Law and Management</b>		
Introduction to Law and Food Law	5	<b>K</b>
Food Safety and Risk Management Law	5	<b>K</b>
Food Quality and Food Authenticity Law	5	<b>K</b>
Food Quality Management	5	Portfolio assessment: <b>K</b> 3/5 + <b>semA</b> 2/5
Food Supply Chain Management	5	Portfolio assessment: <b>K</b> 3/5 + <b>semA</b> 2/5
<b>Total: module area C</b>	<b>25</b>	
<b>Module area D: Multidisciplinary Training</b>		

<b>Module area</b> Modules	<b>Credit points</b>	<b>Examination</b>
Research Seminar	3	<b>semA</b>
Interdisciplinary Topics in Food Quality and Safety	5	<b>semA</b>
<b>Total: module area D</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>Module area E:</b>		
<b>Specialization and Skills (supplementary module area)</b>		
In the supplementary module area E, modules totaling 15 CP must be selected. In addition to the listed modules, further modules may be selected by decision of the board of examiners, which are listed in the module handbook and correspond to the learning objectives of the modules to be replaced and equally ensure the achievement of the qualification objectives of the degree programme.		
Food Trade Law	5	<b>H</b>
Science Communication	3	<b>E</b>
Research and Study Skills	5	<b>semA</b>
Impact Entrepreneurship - Developing Social and Ecological Innovations	6	<b>semA</b>
Advanced Plant Breeding and Sustainable Food Production	5	Portfolio assessment: <b>(K   mP) 3/5 +(E   P) 2/5</b>
<b>Total: module area E</b>	<b>15</b>	
Mandatory Internship	12	<b>Internship report*</b>
Master's thesis	30	<b>Master's thesis</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>120</b>	

## **Annex 2: Aptitude assessment process**

Legal basis: Art. 90 para 1 sentence 2 BayHSchG

### **1. Purpose of aptitude assessment process**

<sup>1</sup>The purpose of this procedure is to determine whether, in addition to the knowledge proven by earning his or her initial degree, the applicant demonstrates a particular suitability for the highly interdisciplinary master's programme Food Quality and Safety. <sup>2</sup>Aptitude parameters are as follows:

- a) A firm understanding of scientific topics from the initial degree programme in biology, biochemistry (and comparable subjects) relevant to understanding and analysing food quality and safety problems.
- b) the distinct ability to acquire knowledge that is foreign from the perspective of the initial degree programme yet essential for food quality and safety.

### **2. Board responsible for the aptitude assessment process**

<sup>1</sup>A committee is responsible for preparing and conducting the aptitude assessment process. <sup>2</sup>The committee consists of the examination board in accordance with § 2 APSO and up to four members from among the university lecturers (Art. 19 para 1 sentences 1 and 3 BayHIG) and other members of the full-time academic staff with examination authorization who are involved in this degree programme. <sup>3</sup>The representatives are appointed by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition and Health for a term of three years; re-election is possible.

### **3. Process for determining aptitude**

3.1 <sup>1</sup>The aptitude assessment process is administered once every year, in Winter Semester. <sup>2</sup>The application for admission to the aptitude assessment process must be submitted online to the University of Bayreuth. <sup>3</sup>The online application for admission must be received electronically by the University of Bayreuth by 15 June of the academic year for the following winter semester (cut-off deadline). <sup>4</sup>Documents as described in number 3.2.2 can be submitted up to 15 July.

3.2 The following are to be enclosed with the completed application as described in number 3.1 sentence 2:

3.2.1 <sup>1</sup>A written rationale of up to two pages in the English language explaining the applicant's choice of the master's programme Food Quality & Safety in which the applicant explains the specific talents that make him or her particularly suitable for the



programme of study. <sup>2</sup>For example, the specific motivation may be borne out by participation in professional training relating to the programme of study, internships, stays abroad, or subject-related supplementary courses taken during one's bachelor's studies beyond the required courses. <sup>3</sup>If applicable, evidence is to be provided.

3.2.2 <sup>1</sup>The certificate of the relevant initial degree (e.g. bachelor's degree certificate) as well as a confirmation with individual grades of the examinations and coursework completed during the programme of study. <sup>2</sup>If the relevant initial degree certificate or equivalent degree certificate has not yet been issued, confirmation of all individual grades and examinations for courses completed up to the date of late submission must be presented. <sup>3</sup>Such credit for examinations and coursework must amount to a total of at least 135 ECTS points. <sup>4</sup>The relevant degree certificate is to be submitted by the end of the first semester of study. <sup>5</sup>Upon request, the board of examiners can extend the submission deadline for the relevant degree certificates to up to the end of the second semester, as long as the reasons for the extension are beyond the student's control. <sup>6</sup>This holds, in particular, if the student has already completed all examinations but the grades have not yet been disclosed or the certificate not yet issued.

3.2.3 a list of modules from the applicant's initial degree programme for which evidence of completion cannot yet be submitted

3.2.4 a CV as supplementary information to serve as a basis for the interview (see 5.2).

3.2.5 if available evidence of the following:

- a) special qualifications (e.g. awards such as scholarships or prizes, vocational training relevant to the programme of study, internships, visits abroad) or
- b) interdisciplinary study skills

3.2.6 if applicable, a request for reasonable accommodations in accordance with § 12 of the APSO.

#### **4. Admission to the aptitude assessment process**

4.1 Admission to the assessment process requires that the documents listed in number 3.2 be submitted on time and in the required form.

4.2 The aptitude assessment process (number 5) is to be administered to those applicants who fulfil the requirements.

4.3 Applicants who are not admitted are to be sent a notice of denial with a rationale and information concerning legal remedies available; number 6.1 applies mutatis mutandis.

## 5. Overview of the aptitude assessment process

5.1 <sup>1</sup>On the basis of the application documents submitted, the committee examines whether the applicant is suitable for the master's programme Food Quality and Safety with respect to his or her proven qualifications and the specific talents and abilities described (first stage of the aptitude assessment process). <sup>2</sup>The assessment is carried out on a scale of 0 to 75, where 0 is the worst score and 75 is the best score. <sup>3</sup>The points are assigned by the committee on the basis of the following criteria:

5.1.1 Written statement of reasons (according to No. 3.2.1) and special qualifications and interdisciplinary study skills (according to No. 3.2.5)

<sup>1</sup>The applicant's written statement of reasons will be evaluated by two commission members on a scale of 0 to 25 points. <sup>2</sup>The members of the committee will evaluate the following three criteria independently of one another and will score them. <sup>3</sup>The number of points is calculated as the sum of the individual assessments divided by two and rounded to the nearest whole number value. <sup>4</sup>The content of the written justification is assessed according to the following criteria:

- a) verbal fluency (20 %)
- b) ability to demonstrate special aptitude and interdisciplinary study skills (40 %):  
The applicant convincingly justifies his or her particular suitability for the interdisciplinary course of studies on the basis of arguments as well as previous qualifications and study skills.
- c) existence of special qualifications (40 %):  
The applicant has relevant qualifications that go beyond the skills and qualifications earned over the course of the initial degree programme, e.g. accolades such as scholarships or prizes, internships, stays abroad (cf. 3.2.5 item a).

5.1.2 The subject-specific academic achievements of the relevant first degree or the achievements attained so far (according to No. 3.2.2 and No. 3.2.3)

<sup>1</sup>The curricular analysis is not carried out by schematic matching of modules, but on the basis of competencies. <sup>2</sup>It is based on the following elementary subject groups:

- scientific foundations in mathematics and data analysis, Experimental physics and chemistry (general chemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, analytical chemistry),
- human biology, animal physiology, plant physiology, genetics, cell biology, microbiology, ecology, biochemistry, bioinformatics.

<sup>3</sup>The examinations and coursework relevant for the master's programme Food Quality and Safety from the initial degree programme or the assessment components completed to date as per § 3 shall be included in the evaluation with up to 50 points.

<sup>4</sup>Assessment of competences shall be based on the relevance to the above-mentioned curricular contents of the corresponding bachelor's degree programmes at the University of Bayreuth and the academic performance, taking into account the recognisable range of achievements.

5.1.3 The total number of points awarded to the candidate for the first stage of the aptitude assessment process is the sum of the individual assessments made under 5.1.1 and 5.1.2.

5.1.4 Applicants who received 50 points or more in the first stage of the aptitude assessment process are classified as "suitable" and shall be sent confirmation of having passed the aptitude assessment process.

5.1.5 Applicants who have scored less than 40 points in the first stage of the aptitude assessment process will not proceed to the next stage of the process according to no. 5.2. <sup>2</sup>They shall be sent a notice of denial with a rationale and information concerning legal remedies available; 6.1 applies mutatis mutandis.

5.2 <sup>1</sup>The remaining applicants with scores of at least 40 up to 49 points will be invited to an interview (second stage of the aptitude assessment process). <sup>2</sup>In the second stage of the aptitude assessment process, the qualification acquired in the initial degree programme and the result of the interview are evaluated. <sup>3</sup>The date and time of the interview are to be announced at least one week in advance.

5.2.1 <sup>1</sup>The selection interview must be conducted individually for each applicant. <sup>2</sup>The interview is to last between 10 and 20 minutes for each applicant and should demonstrate whether it is to be expected that the aim of the programme of study can be achieved given the applicant's previous education. <sup>3</sup>During the interview, the student's scientific understanding and interest in learning about content from other relevant subject areas will be examined with regard to the requirements of the degree programme. <sup>4</sup>The content of the interview covers the following main topics:

- a) Particular willingness to perform, which suggests that the performance level of the previous degree will be significantly exceeded in general or in relation to the chosen specialization (40 %):
- Is there evidence of rapid, determined progress in the applicant's studies?
  - Is there a specific aptitude for a subject that can be studied in the degree programme, documented by additional modules or non activities activities (e.g. membership or activity in relevant organizations) in this field?
  - Does the CV demonstrate a particular determination (e.g. relevant additional internships, relationship between previous employment and the programme of study)?

- b) Ability to appropriately analyse fundamental questions of law and economics related to food quality and safety (40 %).
- c) Personal impression of suitability (after the interview) (20 %):  
For example, this may be based on the applicant's ability to convincingly provide statements by means of arguments and meaningful examples and his or her ability to answer questions appropriately.

<sup>5</sup>The interview shall be conducted by at least two members of the committee who come from different subject areas relevant to the programme of study and are thus able to assess the applicant's interdisciplinary skills. <sup>6</sup>Each member is to assign a grade for the interview on a scale of 0 to 25. <sup>7</sup>The total score of the interview is the sum of the two partial results, where 0 is the worst and 50 the best score possible.

5.2.2 <sup>1</sup>The overall assessment of the second stage of the aptitude assessment process is made up of the score for the interview and the previous studies as described in 5.1.2.

<sup>2</sup>Applicants who received 60 points or more in the second stage of the aptitude assessment process shall be sent a confirmation of having passed the aptitude assessment process. <sup>3</sup>Applicants below 60 points are not suitable for the master's programme Food Quality and Safety.

5.2.3 <sup>1</sup>A written record shall be made of the interview by a minute taker, indicating the date, duration, location, name of committee members involved, the name of the applicant, the assessment of the committee members involved, and the overall outcome. <sup>2</sup>The record must show the topics of the interview with the applicant and the rationale for the assessment. <sup>3</sup> The reasons and topics may be listed in note form.

<sup>4</sup>The record sheet is to be signed by the committee members.

## 6. Notification of the outcome

6.1 <sup>1</sup>The applicant will be informed of the outcome of the aptitude assessment process. <sup>2</sup>A notice of denial must be accompanied by a rationale and information on the applicant's right to appeal.

6.2 Admission based on the aptitude assessment process for the master's programme Food Quality and Safety shall remain valid for future applications to this programme of study as long as the content and goals of the programme do not change so significantly that aptitude for this programme can no longer be demonstrated by having undergone the aptitude assessment process at an earlier date.

## **7. Repeating the process**

Applicants who did not provide evidence of aptitude for the master's programme Food Quality and Safety may register for the aptitude assessment process one more time.

## **8. Aptitude assessment process for higher semesters**

For applicants who wish to enter advanced semesters (university transfer, career changers), nos. 3 to 7 apply accordingly.

Issued on the basis of a decision made by the University of Bayreuth's Senate on 17 July 2024 and approved by the President of the University of Bayreuth on 16 September 2024, Ref. No. A 3770.50 - I/1.

Bayreuth, 25 September 2024

UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH  
THE PRESIDENT  
[seal][signature]

Professor Dr. Stefan Leible

These regulations were enacted at the university on 25 September 2024.

This was announced on 25 September 2024 by posting a notice at the university.

The date of the announcement is 25 September 2024.