

Appendix

To the Programme Regulations 2006 of the
Master's Degree Programme in Earth Sciences

31 August 2010 (Version: 1 November 2011)

Applies to students who commence the degree programme in Autumn Semester 2011 or later.

This is an English translation only. The original German version is the legally binding document.

This appendix sets out the prerequisites for and further details regarding admission to the Master's degree programme in Earth Sciences. It supplements the stipulations of the Admission Regulations of ETH Zurich and the Directive on Admission to Master's Degree Programmes.

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1 Profile of requirements

Policy

For admission to the Master's degree programme in Earth Sciences (subsequently 'the degree programme') all of the following prerequisites must be satisfied.

1.1 Degree qualifications

¹ For admission to the degree programme one of the following is required:

- a. a university Bachelor's degree in Earth Sciences comprising at least 180 ECTS¹ credits or an equivalent university degree in Earth Sciences
- b. a university Bachelor's degree comprising at least 180 ECTS credits or an equivalent university degree in a discipline whose content covers the academic prerequisites listed in 1.2.

² A Bachelor's degree qualifies its holder for admission to an ETH Master's degree programme only if it also qualifies said holder to enter, without additional requirements, the desired Master's degree programme within the university system where the Bachelor's degree was acquired. The Rector may also demand proof of this, determining whether such proof must come from the home university or from another university in the country where the Bachelor's degree was acquired.

1.2 Academic prerequisites

1.2.1 Knowledge and competences

¹ Attendance of the Master's degree programme in Earth Sciences presupposes basic knowledge and competences which must in content, scope and quality be equivalent to those covered in the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences (discipline requirements profile).

² The **discipline requirements profile** comprises **85 ECTS credits** in total and is based on knowledge and competences covered in the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences. This includes training in the relevant methodological scientific thinking.

³ The discipline requirements profile is structured in two parts, as follows. Details regarding the content of the corresponding course units are published in the course catalogue (www.vvz.ethz.ch).

¹ ECTS: European Credit Transfer System. Credits describe the average time expended to achieve a learning goal. One credit corresponds to 25-30 hours of work.

Part 1: Basic knowledge and competences*1a Fundamentals of Mathematics and the Natural Sciences*

Part 1a comprises 30 ECTS credits and covers basic knowledge and competences in the disciplines of Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and Biology. The substance of the following course units from the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences is required:

Mathematics (13 credits)

- Analysis I and II / Lineare Algebra und Systemanalyse [Linear Algebra and Systems Analysis] I and II / Statistik [Statistics]

Chemistry (6 credits)

- Chemie [Chemistry] I and II / Praktikum Chemie [Chemistry practical]

Physics (6 credits)

- Physik [Physics] I and II / Praktikum Physik [Physics practical] II

Biology

- Biologie [Biology] I / Biologie III

A total of at least 30 credits in these four disciplines must be acquired. The minimum number of credits each (given above) in the disciplines Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics must also be acquired.

1b Fundamentals of Earth Sciences

Part 1b comprises 20 ECTS credits and covers knowledge in general Earth Sciences subjects. The substance of the following course units from the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences is required:

- Dynamische Erde [Dynamic Earth] I with exercises, or Erd- und Produktionssysteme [Earth and Natural Production Systems] (6 credits)
- Dynamische Erde II (5 credits)
- Kartenpraktikum [Mapping course] and Geochemie [Geochemistry] and/or Geologie [Geology] and/or Geophysik [Geophysics] and/or Lithosphäre [Lithosphere] (5 credits)
- Field course in the area of Geology or field course in the area of Geophysics (2 credits)
- Excursions (2 credits)

Part 2: Subject-specific knowledge

Part 2 comprises 35 credits and covers knowledge which must be connected to the selected Master's degree programme specialisation. An obligatory component of Part 2 is independent written work or a Bachelor's thesis comprising at least 7 credits

1.2.2 Admission with additional requirements

¹ If the academic prerequisites listed in 1.2.1 are not completely satisfied, admission may be granted subject to the acquisition of the missing knowledge and competences in the form of additional credits (admission with additional requirements).

² The candidate must provide proof of the acquisition of the additional knowledge and competences required by passing the pertaining performance assessments by set deadlines (see 5).

³ If the candidate fails said performance assessments or does not respect the set deadlines he/she will be regarded as having failed the degree programme and will be excluded from it.

1.3 Language prerequisites

¹ The teaching language of the degree programme is English.

² For admission to the degree programme, proof of sufficient knowledge of English (level C1)² must be provided.

2 Specific stipulations for persons holding a Bachelor's degree in Earth Sciences

2.1 Bachelor's degree in Earth Sciences from ETH Zurich

Unconditional admission

¹ Holders of a Bachelor's degree in Earth Sciences from ETH Zurich are unconditionally admitted to the Master's degree programme.

Registration

² Students of the Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences already matriculated at ETH Zurich should enrol in the Master's degree programme directly via www.mystudies.ethz.ch. The admission procedure outlined in Section 4 is dispensed with.

Entering the Master's degree programme

³ For all Bachelor's degree students already matriculated at ETH Zurich who progress to the ETH Master's degree programme, the following applies:

- a. The normal ETH enrolment dates and deadlines apply.
- b. Admission is provisional until the Bachelor's degree is issued. Admission will be revoked if the Bachelor's degree is not or cannot be issued.

² The required language level is measured according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (EFR) scale: *The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*, p. 23f. www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/Source/Framework_EN.pdf

⁴ Students of the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences may enrol directly in the degree programme, as long as

- a. only 30 credits maximum from the Bachelor's degree programme are pending; and
- b. the full number of credits towards the Bachelor's degree in the basic subject categories I and II have been acquired.

2.2 Other Bachelor's degrees in Earth Sciences

2.2.1 General regulations

Application

¹ Interested parties holding a Bachelor's degree in Earth Sciences which was not issued by ETH Zurich should apply through the ETH Zurich Admissions Office for admission to the Master's degree programme and are subject to the admissions procedure set out in Section 4.

Entering the Master's degree programme

² Candidates who have been granted admission may enter the programme when they have completed the preceding Bachelor's degree programme.

2.2.2 Bachelor's degree in Earth Sciences from another Swiss university or from an IDEA-League partner university

Unconditional admission

¹ Unconditional admission to all specialisations of the degree programme is guaranteed for those holding a Bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification in Earth Sciences from

- a. another Swiss university
- b. an IDEA-League partner university

² Admission is subject to fulfilment of the language prerequisites listed in (1.3).

2.2.3 Bachelor's degree in Earth Sciences from other universities

Admission

¹ For admission to the degree programme all the prerequisites listed in Section 1 must be satisfied.

² Admission may be subject to additional requirements.

³ Admission is not possible if the number of additional credits required to satisfy the academic prerequisites exceeds 30.

3 Specific stipulations for persons holding Bachelor's degrees in other disciplines

3.1 General regulations

Application

Interested parties who hold a qualifying Bachelor's degree in a discipline other than Earth Sciences should apply for the Master's degree programme via the ETH Zurich Admissions Office, and are subject to the admissions procedure set out in Section 4.

3.2 Bachelor's degree in Geography from a Swiss university

Unconditional admission

¹ Holders of a Bachelor's degree in Geography from a Swiss university are granted unconditional admission to the Master's degree programme specialisation *Geoscience*.

Entering the Master's degree programme

² Candidates who have been granted admission can enter the degree programme when they have completed the preceding Bachelor's degree programme.

3.3 Other disciplines

3.3.1 General regulations

Admission

¹ For admission to the degree programme all the prerequisites listed in Section 1 must be satisfied.

² Admission may be subject to additional requirements.

³ Admission is not possible if the number of additional credits required to satisfy the academic prerequisites exceeds 30.

3.3.2 Bachelor's degree from ETH Zurich

Entering the Master's degree programme

¹ Students from an ETH Bachelor's degree programme who have been granted admission can enrol in the programme once they have acquired that number of credits which would qualify them to enrol in the Master's degree programme consecutive to their original subject.³

³ The permitted number of missing credits is set out in the Programme Regulations of the respective consecutive Master's degree programme (e.g., B.Sc. Physics > M.Sc. Physics).

² For all Bachelor's degree students who are already matriculated at ETH Zurich and who progress to an ETH Master's degree programme, the following applies:

- a. The normal ETH enrolment dates and deadlines apply.
- b. Admission is provisional until the Bachelor's degree is issued. Admission will be revoked if the Bachelor's degree is not or cannot be issued.

3.3.3 Bachelor's degree from another university

Entering the Master's degree programme

Candidates who have been granted admission can enter the programme when they have completed the preceding Bachelor's degree programme.

4 Application and admission procedure

¹ All interested parties – with the exception of matriculated ETH Zurich students from the Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences – must submit an application for admission to the degree programme. The specifications for application, in particular the documents required and the dates/deadlines for submission, are published on the website of the ETH Zurich Admissions Office (www.admission.ethz.ch).

² Application may be made even if the required preceding degree has not yet been issued.

³ The admissions committee of the degree programme determines how far the background of the candidate corresponds to the profile of requirements and submits an application for admission/rejection to the Director of Studies.

⁴ The Rector makes the final decision regarding admission without additional requirements, admission with additional requirements, or rejection.

⁵ The candidate receives a written admissions decision which includes relevant information concerning any additional admission requirements.

5 Fulfilling additional admission requirements

5.1 General regulations

¹ Candidates who are admitted subject to the fulfilment of additional requirements must acquire the required additional knowledge and competences before or during the Master's programme via self-study or by attending classes. The corresponding individual performance assessments must take place by set deadlines.

² If the candidate fails said performance assessments or does not respect the set deadlines he/she will be regarded as having failed the degree programme and will be excluded from it.

³ The deadlines and conditions for undergoing said performance assessments are set out in Section 5.2.

5.2 Performance assessment deadlines and conditions

¹ Candidates must undertake all of the performance assessments pertaining to the additional admission requirements by the end of the first year of the Master's programme at the latest. All additional requirements, including any assessment repetitions, must be fulfilled within 18 months of the start of the Master's programme at the latest.

² A pass grade in each individual performance assessment is required.

³ A failed performance assessment may be repeated once.