



UNIVERSITY OF  
HOHENHEIM



CURRICULUM | AUGUST 2023

# Landscape Ecology

Master of Science

## **Preamble**

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This curriculum provides applicants and students as well as teaching and administrative staff with comprehensive information about the M.Sc. program "Landscape Ecology". It contains information about the program structure and summarizes the most important exam regulations (issued the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2018, including all amendments that were introduced up to 11<sup>th</sup> of May 2023).

The information presented reflects the current situation. Titles and contents of compulsory and optional modules are sometimes subject to change. For administrative reasons, such changes can only be included in printed materials with a delay. For this reason, we do not accept liability for the correctness of the information provided.

If in doubt, please contact the coordinator of the program ([landecol@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:landecol@uni-hohenheim.de)) to obtain up-to-date information. For up-to-date module descriptions please refer to the website at [uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue](http://uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue). Time schedules and lecture halls for all courses are displayed in the Course Catalogue of the University of Hohenheim, available at the beginning of each semester online on the university's homepage: <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/course-catalog>

## **Imprint**

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# The Master's Program *Landscape Ecology*

## 1 Program Objectives

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Climate, soils, human land use, and other aspects of the environment vary over space and time. Landscape ecology studies how organisms respond to such environmental variation, how their interactions in variable environments determine community dynamics, and how these dynamics affect ecosystem processes. These fundamental topics of ecology and biodiversity research are also crucial for answering pressing questions posed by global environmental change:

- How can we conserve biodiversity under changing global conditions?
- How can we maintain ecosystem services important for society?
- How can natural resources be used sustainably in a changing environment?

In this program, students acquire the ecological understanding, the quantitative skills, and the practical experience necessary to study ecological dynamics in changing environments. This enables them to assess environmental change effects on biodiversity and ecosystems, and to develop concepts for the sustainable use of natural resources.

The full program is composed of 4 semesters each with 30 ECTS credits. The language of instruction is English and the program can be started in October (winter semester) each year.

## 2 Modules

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### 2.1 What is a Module?

A module is a teaching unit and can consist of several courses (lecture, seminar, excursion, practical exercises...). Modules at the University of Hohenheim correspond to 6 ECTS credits (unblocked modules) or 7,5 ECTS credits (blocked modules). A few modules with higher work load correspond to 12 or even 15 credits. (See also chapter 2.4)

A detailed description on the content and structure of each module is found in the Module catalogue <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/modulkatalog#Master>

### 2.2 Modules and associated workload

Students earn ECTS credits for the workload associated with each module (1 ECTS credit = 30 h workload). A module of 6 credits corresponds to a workload of 4 SWS (4 weekly semester hours / 56 total contact hours). A module of 7.5 credits corresponds to a workload of 5 SWS (5 weekly semester hours / 70 total contact hours). In addition, each credit requires preparation time, summing up to a total work load of about 180 hours for one module of 6 credits and 225 hours for one module of 7,5 credits.

The M.Sc. program has a requirement of 120 credits in total (90 credits from course work, 30 credits for the Master's thesis).

### 2.3 Modules per semester

A typical semester consists of 30 credits, and is either composed of 5 unblocked modules, (6 credits each) or 4 blocked modules (7,5 credits each). Typically, the modules are completed in the first three semesters, followed by the Master's thesis in the fourth semester. However, the examinations regulations allow a certain degree of flexibility. For details, refer to <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/examination>.

## **2.4 Blocked and unblocked modules**

The University of Hohenheim offers two different types of modules: unblocked modules and blocked modules. Unblocked modules correspond to a workload of 6 credits and blocked modules to a workload of 7.5 credits.

### *2.4.1 Unblocked Modules*

Unblocked modules are based on 4 contact hours per week for the whole semester period. They end with an exam at the end of the semester.

### *2.4.2 Blocked Modules*

Blocked Modules are composed of 3 weeks of daily instruction (usually 5 hours per day) followed by one week of individual preparation, ending with a final exam at the end of the 4th week. Blocked modules correspond to a higher workload than unblocked modules, and are therefore worth 7,5 credits. However, mixing blocked and unblocked modules in one semester it is not recommended, as lectures may and lesson follow-up overlap significantly.

The first two semesters of the Landscape Ecology program are taught in blocked modules, the third semester is unblocked.

## **2.5 Module Categories**

Each Master's program consists of compulsory and elective modules; some study programs also include semi-elective modules. The credits of each module correspond to the workload and not to the category, i.e. an elective module with 6 credits has the equal weight as a compulsory module with regard to the final average grade.

### *2.5.1 Compulsory Modules*

... are the modules providing the core knowledge of the study program. Those modules have to be completed to obtain the M.Sc. degree.

### *2.5.2 Semi-elective Modules*

...are modules covering a wider range of content related to the aim of the study program. In some programs, a defined minimum number of modules out of a pool of semi-elective modules have to be chosen and completed. The Master's program Landscape Ecology requires the completion of three semi-elective modules.

### *2.5.3 Elective modules*

...are modules chosen by the individual students, according to their interests. They are the modules outside of a program's compulsory modules, which contribute to the final total of 90 ECTS credits required for the achievement of an M.Sc. degree. They can be chosen from all Master's modules offered by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the University of Hohenheim. On request, subject-related Master's modules offered from other faculties or other universities can also be chosen. Note: Bachelor's modules cannot be chosen as elective modules.



### 2.5.4 Additional modules

...are modules taken out of individual interest beyond the 90 ECTS coursework credits required for the completion of the degree. Credits from additional modules will not be included in the calculation for your final average grade. But, on request to the examinations office, they can be shown on your final transcript.

There are two special cases of elective modules, which are worth highlighting:

### 2.6 Portfolio Module (3000-410)

You can gain up to 7,5 credits (not graded) for extra-curricular activities like internships, 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. The detailed explanation is found in the [module catalog](#) under module code 3000-410.

### 2.7 English for Scientific Purposes (3000-420)

This module consists of four English courses of C1 level at the language center Hohenheim. You can choose from several courses and workshops and they can stretch over several semesters.

After completing the four courses/workshops you have to write an exam to obtain the UniCert III certificate. This module counts as an elective module and is the only way language courses can be recognized for your studies apart from the portfolio module. The detailed explanation is found in the [module catalog](#) under module code 3000-420

### 2.8 Certificate program for courses in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science in Hohenheim (AIDAHO)

The program is designed for students of all faculties: <https://aidaho.uni-hohenheim.de/en/home>. The aim of AIDAHO is to increase the expertise of its participants in the fields of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data Science and Scientific Computing. Students can enroll in the certificate in addition to their main course of study. The AIDAHO courses can be taken in any order.

#### 2.8.1 How to achieve the certificate

To successfully complete the program, students have to pass at least five AIDAHO modules (30 ECTS).

- There are **three mandatory basic modules** that all participants have to complete. The courses of these modules teach basic programming skills and statistic methods.
- In the **two semi-elective specialization modules** students can either deepen their methodological skills or choose to work on data projects in application seminars.

The following sections cover additional information about the basic and specialization modules. A complete list of all courses of all faculties in the AIDAHO program can be found here: <https://aidaho.uni-hohenheim.de/en/courses>

The basic modules contain three courses which all participants of the AIDAHO program have to pass:

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
1 or 2	5000-300 (B.Sc.-level!)	Tools for AI & Data Science <i>(no elective module, only additional for M.Sc.)</i> *(AIDAHO-Basic)	1 Semester	6	Krupitzer/ Vogelgesang
2	4407-480	Introduction to Machine Learning with Python*(AIDAHO-Basic)	1 Semester	6	Stein
1/3	5107-410	Introduction to Applied Data Science*(AIDAHO-Basic)	1 Semester	6	Dimpf

In the specializing part students enroll in two modules. At least one of them has to be an application course. Modules of this curriculum that apply to the AIDAHO certificate as a specialization module \*(AIDAHO specialization) or application course \*(AIDAHO application) are marked. All these modules can be integrated into the Master's degree at the same time in accordance with the program-specific regulations.

Passed project works, seminar papers or theses, in which a substantial part was the quantitative data analysis or working with machine learning/artificial intelligence, can be credited as an "application course".

Questions about the AIDAHO certificate should be directed to [aidaho@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:aidaho@uni-hohenheim.de)

## 2.9 Modules with limited numbers of participants

Some modules can accept only a limited number of participants due to space constraints or supervision regulations. It is necessary to register for such modules in advance. See also: <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/registration-for-modules>.

If the number of participants is limited, this will be stated under the "comments" ("Anmerkungen") section of the module description. Please check before lectures start, whether the modules you have chosen have a limited number of participants or not. ([uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue](https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue)). Each module is set up as a course on the e-learning platform ILIAS (<https://ilias.uni-hohenheim.de/>). You have to register there and see how the spots for each course are allocated. Further instructions and information, e.g. how to contact the relevant lecturer or to join the waiting list are also available there. Generally, students for whom the respective module is compulsory or the last module that needs to be completed to finish a degree program will always be admitted. If you have not yet enrolled by the end of the registration period and do not yet have access to ILIAS, please contact the responsible lecturer by e-mail and ask for registration.

For blocked modules with a limited number of participants in block period 1, the registration starts at least two weeks before the start of the lecture period and ends eight days before the lecture period. For all other modules with a limited number of participants, the registration period starts at least one week before the start of the lecture period and ends at the end of the first week after the start of the lecture period.

## 2.10 Module codes

Each module and each course has a specific code. Example: 3202-460 Plant Ecology of Cultural Landscapes.

The first four digits represent the respective institute and the department or study field (i.e. of the responsible person / course instructor). The next three digits correspond to the type of module and the term, as well as the course.

**3202** - 460 = institute number (320 Institute of Landscape and Plant Ecology)

0002 - 000 = department within the institute (2 corresponds to the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter in the alphabet: B  
-> 320b Department of Plant Ecology)

0000 - **460** = module designation:

01 - 40 modules for Bachelor's students

**41 - 80 modules for Master's students**

81 - 90 modules for doctoral candidates

0000-011 = course 1 of a module (1 - 9 courses possible)

0 at the end of the code indicates that it is the module name. 1, 2 or 3 as last digit indicate that it is a course (sub-unit) within a module (tutorial, exercises, lectures, etc.)

The module 3202-460 Plant Ecology of Cultural Landscapes consists of three courses:

- 3202-461 Fundamentals of Plant Ecology in Cultural Landscapes (lecture)
- 3202-462 Ecological Perspectives on Global Cultural Landscapes (seminar)
- 3202-463 Ecological Exercises in Selected Cultural Landscapes (field practical)

Note: It is important to check for the times and venues of all courses that belong to a module!

## 2.11 Individual Timetable

The Master's programs at the University of Hohenheim offer a high variety of different modules that can be chosen as elective modules. This allows for a personalized study profile with different specializations as well as for the creation of individual timetables depending on the choice of courses.

The Course Catalog of the University of Hohenheim contains information on times, lecturers, and lecture rooms of all courses, and is available at the beginning of each semester online on the University's homepage: <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/course-catalog>. It is linked to the modules listed in the HohCampus Study Planner. A tool to compose a virtual individual timetable is also available on HohCampus [<https://hohcampus.uni-hohenheim.de/en/hohcampus-help-schedule>]. Please note: many modules consist of more than one course e.g. a lecture and a seminar (see above, module code explanation).

The lectures usually begin 15 minutes after the defined start time indicated in the course catalogue (c.t.=lat.: cum tempore = "with time"). Therefore, a lecture with a defined start time at 9 c.t. starts at 9:15. If a lecture starts on time at 9:00, there will be an indication 9 s.t. (lat.: sine tempore = "without time").

## 2.12 Evaluation of Modules

The quality of courses and modules is evaluated every year by the students of all study programs. The evaluation sheets are distributed on paper or sent as online links by email and evaluated by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. The results are sent back to the lecturers in an anonymous format. The lecturers are asked to discuss the results with the students at the end of their courses. This feedback is important for the Faculty to be able to continuously improve the study experience for our students.



### 3 Examinations

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Each module is completed with an examination. To be eligible for an exam, students must register for it on HohCampus during the designated registration periods. These periods are published on the examinations office website and in HohCampus. During the registration process, students have the option to choose whether the module should be categorized as semi-elective, elective, or additional (refer to chapter 2.5 Module Categories for more details). It is important to note that students are allowed to change the designation of modules (e.g., from additional to elective or vice-versa) only once throughout their entire study period. Consequently, most students opt to request this change shortly before completing their degree, as they will have access to the most information and can make better-informed decisions based on their completed modules.

In every semester there are two designated examination periods, and students can choose in which period they want to write the exam. The examinations of the blocked modules are held at the end of the respective block period; those for the unblocked modules are held in the two examination periods that follow the lectures. The first examination period starts directly after the end of the lecture period, the second examination period takes place shortly before the lecture period of the next semester starts.

Withdrawal from a registered module examination is possible until 7 days before the examination date. The right to be admitted to an examination expires if:

- the examination of any module has been failed for the third time
- not all module examinations have been passed by the end of the seventh semester at the latest.
- the Master's thesis has not been registered by the beginning of the seventh semester at the latest.

The right to be admitted to an examination does not expire if the candidate cannot be held responsible for the failure to comply with the deadline. The students are responsible for complying with these examination deadlines as well as all other regulations given in the examination regulations. The examination regulations are distributed by the Examinations Office.

Please note that plagiarism —copying text or phrases in a written examination (even as part of a partial performance) without quoting them accordingly—will be marked as a cheating attempt and the respective examination performance is to be graded "fail" (F; mark 5.0). A declaration (available at: <https://agrar.uni-hohenheim.de/en/plagiats>) has to be attached to homeworks, presentations, and to the Master's thesis.

#### 3.1 Registering for Examinations

Students have to register for the examinations of each semester at the examination office using HohCampus. The registration must take place during the time period announced at the examination office. When you have to register for an examination depends on whether it is a blocked or an unblocked module. More information on examination periods and dates, deadlines for registration, withdrawal, and resits is given at the homepage of the examination office (<https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/examination>). Please note: the ILIAS registration is only for participation in the module and is NOT a registration for the examination!

### 3.2 Exam Repetition

If an exam is failed, the Examinations Office will inform the student via post. Students are responsible for checking in HohCampus or with the responsible professor about dates for resit exams and registration deadlines. Resit exams for blocked modules will usually be scheduled by the responsible professor within the same semester. Resit exams in unblocked modules will usually be scheduled for the next examination period. Students are not obliged to take a re-exam in the next possible examination period but can choose to take it in one of the later examination periods, if they wish.

## 4 Marks and Grades

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With each completed module, students earn credits for the workload associated with each module. The M.Sc. program has a requirement of 120 credits in total. The credit point system used in the M.Sc. program is fully compatible with the European Credit Transfer System, ECTS.

The examination result is expressed in grades and marks. The highest score is 1.0 [grade A]. A score of 4.0 [grade D] is required for passing.

	Marks and Grades		
	grades	score	
excellent performance	very good	A	1.0
		A-	1.3
performance considerably exceeding the above average standard	good	B+	1.7
		B	2.0
		B-	2.3
performance meeting the average standard	medium	C+	2.7
		C	3.0
		C-	3.3
performance meeting minimum criteria	pass	D+	3.7
		D	4.0
performance not meeting minimum criteria	fail	F	5.0

The final score is calculated as an average score weighted according to the credits achieved in all modules and the thesis.

The final, weighted average of received scores results in a final grade for the Master's degree according to the table below:

between 1,0 and 1,5 = very good (A)

between 1,6 and 2,5 = good (B)

between 2,6 and 3,5 = medium (C)

between 3,6 and 4,0 = pass (D)

Additional and non-graded modules will not be included in the calculation of the final average grade.

## 5 Semester structure

The academic year at the University of Hohenheim is structured into two semesters, a winter semester (October until March) and a summer semester (April until September). The lecture period of each semester usually lasts 14 weeks (winter as well as summer semester).

Winter semester (WS) courses usually begin in the middle of October and end in February of the following year. Summer semester (SS) courses begin the first Monday in April and by end of July / beginning of August. For unblocked modules, the lecture period of each semester is followed by an examination period of three weeks. The last block period of each semester overlaps with this examination period for the unblocked modules.

The first two semesters of the Landscape Ecology program are taught in blocked modules (compulsory and semi-elective modules), the third semester is unblocked (elective modules).

(See here <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/semester-dates> and also back side of this brochure for important semester dates)

## 6 Program Design

The two-year M.Sc. program consists of 13 modules totaling 90 credits and one research semester (30 credits), during which a Master's thesis has to be done.

The program follows a modular course structure. In the first two semesters, students complete five compulsory and three semi-elective modules. In the third semester, they choose five elective modules from a broad list of subjects, and in the fourth semester, they work on their thesis. This program structure ensures a solid landscape ecology education but also allows students to get trained according to their own career aspirations.

	<b>1st Semester (blocked)</b>	<b>2nd Semester (blocked)</b>		<b>3rd Semester (unblocked)</b>	<b>4th Semester</b>
<b>7.5 Credits</b>	<b>3201-560</b> (Schurr) Landscape Ecology	Semi-elective module	<b>6 Credits</b>	Elective module	<b>Master Thesis (30 credits)</b>
<b>7.5 Credit</b>	<b>3201-570</b> (Schurr) Community and Evolutionary Ecology	Semi-elective module	<b>6 Credits</b>	Elective module	
<b>7.5 Credit</b>	<b>3201-580</b> (Dieterich) Conservation Biology	Semi-elective module	<b>6 Credits</b>	Elective module	
<b>7.5 Credit</b>	<b>3202-440</b> (Schweiger) Plant Ecology	<b>3201-600</b> (Schurr) Intensive Course Landscape Ecology	<b>6 Credits</b>	Elective module	
			<b>6 Credits</b>	Elective module	

## 6.1 Compulsory Modules

These are the modules providing the core knowledge of the study program. Those modules have to be completed to obtain the M.Sc. degree.

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
1	3201-560	<b>Landscape Ecology</b>	Block 1, WS	7.5	Schurr
1	3201-570	<b>Community &amp; Evolutionary Ecology</b>	Block 2, WS	7.5	Schurr
1	3201-580	<b>Conservation Biology</b>	Block 3, WS	7.5	Dieterich
1	3202-440	<b>Plant Ecology</b>	Block 4, WS	7.5	Schweiger
2	3201-600	<b>Intensive Course Landscape Ecology</b>	Block 4, SS	7.5	Schurr

(WS) = Offered in each winter semester

(SS) = Offered in each summer semester

## 6.2 Semi-elective Modules

Of the following list of **semi-elective modules**, three modules (22.5 credits) have to be chosen:

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
2	3201-590	Combining Ecological Models and Data *(AIDAHO application)	Block 1, SS	7.5	Schurr
2	3103-450	Spatial Data Analysis with GIS * *(AIDAHO application)	Block 1, SS	7.5	Streck
2	3101-460	Soils of the World World - Formation, Classification, and ... (in 2025, 2027...)*	Block 1, SS	7.5	Herrmann
2	3102-460	Molekulare Bodenökologie / Molecular Soil Ecology *	Block 1, SS	7,5	Kandeler
2	4906-430	Field Course Agroecology and Biodiversity *	Block 2, SS	7,5	Graß
2	4905-470	Biodiversity and Genetic Resources	Block 2, SS	7.5	Rasche
2	3201-620	Vegetation and Soils of Central Europe (= <i>Vegetation und Böden Mitteleuropas</i> ) *	Block 2, SS	7.5	Schmieder
2	4906-440	Agroecology and Biotic Resource Conservation *	Block 3, SS	7,5	Graß
2	3101-570	Field Course Soils and Vegetation (= <i>Boden- und vegetationskundliche Geländeübungen</i> ) *	Block 3, SS	7.5	Herrmann
2	4403-470	Renewable Energy for Rural Areas	Block 3, SS	7.5	Müller, J.
2	4302-470	Landscape Change, Resilience, and Ecosystem Services *	Block 3, SS	7.5	Bieling
2	3202-460	Plant Ecology of Cultural Landscapes *	2 weeks in August	7,5	Schweiger

(SS) = Offered in each summer semester

\* Limited number of participants. Please register for participation on ILIAS

## 6.3 Recommended elective Modules

At least 30 credits in **elective modules** have to be chosen from the following list or from the modules of other Master's programs offered by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Hohenheim. On request to the examination board and with the approval of an academic counsellor or the program coordinator, modules can be chosen from other programs or other universities.

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
1-4	3000-410	Portfolio-Modul (Master)	open	1 – 7.5	Kruse, M.
2	3101-420	International Field Course Site Evaluation (in 2024, 2026, ...) *	blocked in September	7.5	Herrmann
2	3102-440	Environmental Pollution and Soil Organisms *	SS block 2	7,5	Kandeler
2	4907-430	Crop Production Affecting the Hydrological Cycle	SS block 3	7.5	Asch
3	4906-410	Ecology and Agroecosystems *	1 Semester	6	Graß
3	3103-510	Environmental Modeling * *(AIDAHO specialization)	1 Semester	6	Streck
3	3201-610	Project in Landscape Ecology *	1 Semester	6	Schurr
3	3202-420	Global Change Issues *	1 Semester	6	Schweiger
3	3402-480	Environmental and Ecological Statistics	1 Semester	6	Piepho
3	3502-450	Population and Quantitative Genetics *(AIDAHO specialization)	1 Semester	6	Schmid
3	3603-480	Entomology	1 Semester	6	Petschenka
3	3403-460	Nachhaltigkeit und Produktionsökologie von rohstoffliefernden Pflanzen	1 Semester	6	Le- wandowski
3	3404-430	Graslandwissenschaften	1 Semester	6	Thumm
3	4302-420	Ethical Reflection on Food and Agriculture *	1 Semester	6	Bieling
3	4605-430	Microbiological Safety within the Feed and Food Production Chain	1 Semester	6	Hölzle
3	4905-410	Weltwirtschaftspflanzen und Weidewirtschaft in den Trop. und Subtrop.	1 Semester	6	Cadisch
3	1201-410	MOOC on Climate Change, Risks and Chal- lenges **	1 semester	6	Wulfmeyer
3	3201-420	Methods in Landscape and Plant Ecology * *(AIDAHO application)	4 weeks in March	7.5	Schurr
4	3103-460	Environmental Science Project	Block 4, SS	7,5	Streck

\* Limited number of participants. Please register for participation on ILIAS

\*\* Please register for participation four weeks before the lecture period starts.

Based on a cooperation contract with the *University of Tübingen*, Hohenheim students can also join modules related to Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in Tübingen. These modules are taught in German and require previous knowledge in GIS! Students who are interested in joining these modules should contact Dr. Andreas Braun, Tel. +49-7071 29-78 940, [an.braun@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:an.braun@uni-tuebingen.de)

More information is available at <http://www.geographie.uni-tuebingen.de/>

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
3	6501-410	GEO-76: Angewandte Geoinformatik	1 semester	6	Uni Tübingen
3	6501-430	GEO-77: Geomorphologie und Bodenland- schaftsmodellierung	1 semester	6	Uni Tübingen
3	6501-420	GEO 88 Angewandte Fernerkundung	1 semester	6	Uni Tübingen

## **6.4 Suggestions for thematic foci in Landscape Ecology**

The following lists of semi-elective (SE) and elective (E) modules should give some orientation for possible thematic profiles within the Landscape Ecology program.

### *6.4.1 Profile Vegetation & Soil Ecology*

- 3202-460 Plant Ecology of Cultural Landscapes (SE)
- 3201-620 Vegetation & Soils of Central Europe (SE)
- 3101-570 Field Course Soils & Vegetation (SE)
- 3102-460 Molecular Soil Ecology (SE)
- 3102-440 Environmental Pollution and Soil Organisms (E)

### *6.4.2 Profile Animal Ecology & Agroecology*

- 4906-430 Field Course Agroecology and Biodiversity (SE)
- 4906-440 Agroecology and Biotic Resource Conservation (SE)
- 4906-410 Ecology and Agroecosystems (E)
- 3603-480 Entomology (E)

### *6.4.3 Profile Ecology & Society*

- 4302-470 Landscape Change, Resilience & Ecosystem services (SE)
- 3202-460 Plant Ecology of Cultural Landscapes (SE)
- 4302-420 Ethical Reflection on Food & Agricult. (E)

### *6.4.4 Profile Quantitative Ecology*

- 3201-590 Combining Ecological Models & Data (SE)
- 3103-450 Spatial Data Analysis with GIS (SE)
- 3103-510 Environmental Modelling (E)
- 3502-450 Population & Quantitative Genetics (E)
- 6501-410 GEO-76: Angewandte Geoinformatik (E)
- 6501-430 GEO-77: Geomorphologie und Bodenlandschaftsmodellierung (E)

### *6.4.5 Profile Global Change*

- 3202-420 Global Change Issues (E)
- 1201-410 Climate Change, Risks and Challenges (E)

### *6.4.6 Profile Molecular Ecology & Evolution*

- 3102-460 Molecular Soil Ecology (SE)
- 1902-510 Ecological Genomics (E)
- 3502-450 Population & Quantitative Genetics (E)



## **7 Master's Thesis**

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The Master's thesis shows that the candidate is able to work independently on a problem in the field of "Landscape Ecology" within a fixed period of time by applying scientific methods. The exam consists of a written (thesis) and an oral (defense) part. The written part of the Master's thesis has to be completed within a period of six months and accounts for 30 credits. It is usually written during the fourth semester. Thesis work includes a literature review, new and original data derived from field work, a period of writing-up and, finally, a presentation. The candidate has to defend the essential arguments, results, and methods of the thesis in a colloquium of 30-45 minutes. The thesis can be carried out either at the University of Hohenheim or at one of the various partner universities.

There are several possibilities for finding the right reviewer and the right topic. Sometimes you can find them from the homepage of the department or institute, or you can talk directly to a professor.

The Master's thesis has to be registered at the latest at the start of the seventh semester. Otherwise it is graded "fail" (F; mark 5.0).

## **8 Teaching Staff**

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The professors of the University of Hohenheim have broad experience in international research. Students also benefit from Hohenheim's network with academic partners worldwide. Guest speakers from partner universities as well as research, development, and policy institutions cover additional topics, enriching the curriculum with special fields of expertise.

## **9 Academic Counselling**

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Academic counsellors advise students on their choice of modules to design their individual study profile and to support smooth and focused study progress. If a student wants to select modules offered by a faculty other than the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, they have to be approved by the academic counsellor or the program coordinator beforehand. Students can contact these counsellors at any time and ask for an appointment.

Academic counsellors for Landscape Ecology and their respective research focus:

- Prof. Dr. Frank Schurr, Landscape Ecology and Vegetation Science, [frank.schurr@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:frank.schurr@uni-hohenheim.de)
- Prof. Dr. Ingo Graß, Ecology of Tropical Agricultural Systems, [ingo.grass@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:ingo.grass@uni-hohenheim.de)
- Prof. Dr. Andreas Schweiger, Plant Ecology, [andreas.schweiger@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:andreas.schweiger@uni-hohenheim.de)
- Prof. Dr. Claudia Bieling, Environmental Management, [claudia.bieling@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:claudia.bieling@uni-hohenheim.de)

## **10 Study Abroad**

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Students are encouraged to spend one semester in the second year at a partner university abroad to gain additional experience and further strengthen their individual profile. Our credit point system is intended to facilitate the mutual acceptance of courses attended at different universities. Assessment is based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which facilitates such kind of international mobility. German students are strongly advised to spend a semester abroad. Particularly the third semester is suitable for integrated study abroad. Students will preferably spend this time at one of the partner universities of the Euro League for Life Sciences: Universität für Bodenkultur Wien (BOKU), Austria; Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL), Denmark; Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Sweden; Wageningen University, Netherlands; Czech University of Life Sciences (CZU), Czech Republic, or Warsaw Agricultural University (SGGW), Poland. On the basis of an agreement on quality standards the members of the Euro League for Life Sciences have agreed to mutually recognize study achievements. Quantitative parity of study achievements is based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Students may also request to spend the semester at universities other than those mentioned above.

## **11 Degree**

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After successful completion of all modules as well as the thesis, the student is awarded the degree "Master of Science" (M.Sc.). This degree entitles the student to continuing with a Ph.D./doctoral program if the total grade is above average.

## **12 Career Perspectives**

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Graduates of this program are qualified for professions requiring ecological understanding, quantitative knowledge, analytical thinking, and the ability to work independently.

Possible career fields include:

- Research on ecology and biodiversity
- Agencies and organizations dealing with nature and environmental protection at the regional, national, or international levels
- Companies and organizations that work on the sustainable use of resources, geographical analysis, and landscape planning
- Research communication and environmental education

Examples of LandEcol graduates can be found here: <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/landecol-alumni>

## **13 Landscape Ecology Program Director**

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Prof. Dr. Frank Schurr, University of Hohenheim  
Department of Landscape Ecology and Vegetation Science (320a)

E-Mail: [frank.schurr@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:frank.schurr@uni-hohenheim.de)

Web: <https://ecology.uni-hohenheim.de/en/schurr>

## **14 Landscape Ecology Program Coordinator**

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70593 Stuttgart, Germany

Telephone +49-711-459-23305

E-Mail: [landecol@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:landecol@uni-hohenheim.de)

Web: [www.uni-hohenheim.de/landecol](http://www.uni-hohenheim.de/landecol)

<https://agrar.uni-hohenheim.de/student-support>

## 15 Blocked Modules of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences in Winter Semester 2023/24

● = Compulsory   ◐ = Semi-elective   ○ = Elective

Block Period	Block 1 (7.5 credits!)	Block 2 (7.5 credits!)	Block 3 (7.5 credits!)	Block 4 (7.5 credits!)	März-Block/ March Block
Study Course	16.10. - 10.11.2023	13.11. - 08.12.2023	11.12. – 22.12.2023 + 08.01. – 19.01.2024	22.01. - 16.02.2024	i.d.R. 26.02.-20.03.2024
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften Pflanzen- und Tierwissensch.			○ 7301-420 (Ernst) Aktuelle Themen zur Biologie der Honigbienen (hybride Lehre)		○ 4611-440 (Kube) The Bacterial Genome, from Culture to Functional Reconstruction (7,5 credits) 26.2. - 15.3.2024)
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften Tierwissenschaften					◐ 4601-480 (Rodehutschord) Futtermitteltechnologie und -analytik (6 credits) (Präsenz: 04.03. - 22.03.2024) ○ 4605-510 (Hölzle) Wissensch. Fragestellungen d. Umwelt- und Tierhygiene (6 credits) (n.V.)
M.Sc. Agrarbiologie (nur die Module der Fakultät A)					◐ 4611-440 (Kube) The Bacterial Genome, from Culture to Functional Reconstruction (7,5 credits) (26.2. - 15.3.2024)
M.Sc. Landscape Ecology	● 3201-560 (Schurr) Landscape Ecology	● 3201-570 (Schurr) Community and Evolutionary Ecology	● 3201-580 (Dieterich) Conservation Biology	● 3202-440 (Schweiger) Plant Ecology	○ 3201-420 (Schurr) Methods in Landscape and Plant Ecology (7.5 credits!) (time schedule individually arrangeable)
M.Sc. EnvEuro Ecosystems and Biodiversity (Alternative 2)	◐ 3201-560 (Schurr) Landscape Ecology	◐ 3201-570 (Schurr) Community and Evolutionary Ecology	◐ 3201-580 (Dieterich) Conservation Biology	◐ 3202-440 (Schweiger) Plant Ecology	◐ 3201-420 (Schurr) Methods in Landscape and Plant Ecology (7.5 credits!) (time schedule individually arrangeable)
M.Sc. Crop Sciences					○ 3103-410 (Priesack) Plant and Crop Modeling (6 credits) (in presence: 04.03. - 14.03.2024)
					○ 4611-440 (Kube) The Bacterial Genome, from Culture to Functional Reconstruction (7,5 credits) (26.2. - 15.3.2024)
M.Sc. AgriTropics					○ 4909-430 (Focken) Experimental Aquaculture 26.02.-01.03. (self-study) 04.3.-15.03.24 (in presence at Bremerhaven) (6 credits)
					again in 2024/25, 26/27, ...: ○ 4907-490 (Asch) Excursion to the Tropics and Subtropics (2 weeks in Feb/March) (6 credits)

## 16 Blocked Modules of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences in Summer Semester 2024

● = Compulsory   ◐ = Semi-elective   ○ = Elective

Study Course	Block 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)
		02.04. - 26.04.2024	29.04. - 17.05.2024 + 27.05. - 31.05.2024	03.06. - 28.06.2023	01.07. - 26.07.2024	
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften Bodenwissenschaften		◐ 3103-450 (Streck) Spatial Data Analysis with GIS	◐ 3102-440 (Kandeler) Environmental Pollution and Soil Organisms	◐ 3101-570 (Herrmann) Boden- und veg.kundl. Geländeübung / Field Course Soils + Vegetation	● 3101-430 (Herrmann) Integriertes bodenwissenschaftliches Projekt für Fortgeschrittene	◐ 3102-420 (Kandeler) Bodenwissenschaftliches Experiment/Project in Soil Sciences (Engl.+ Ger.)
		◐ 3102-460 (Kandeler) Molekulare Bodenökologie				
		again in 2025, 2027...: ◐ 3101-460 (Herrmann) Soils of the World – Formation, Classification, and Land Evaluation	◐ 3201-620 (Schmieder) Vegetation and Soils of Centr. Europe		again in 2025, 2027...: ◐ 3201-430 (Schmieder) Ecology of Alpine Vegetation ○ 3103-460 Env. Science Proj.	○ 3101-420 (Herrmann) Internationale standortkundliche Geländeübung (Engl.+Ger.) (September 2024, 2026, ...)
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften und MSc. NawaRo		○ 3602-410 (Gerhards) Integrierter Pflanzenschutz mit Übungen (evtl. wieder geblockt)	○ 7301-400 (Ernst) Soziale Insekten (10 Plätze f. Fak. A)	◐ 7301-430 (Traynor) Honey bee research and beekeeping techniques	○ 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht	○ 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)
Tierwissenschaften: Profil Ernährung und Futtermittel		◐ 4603-420 (Seifert) Futtermittelmikrobiologie	◐ 4601-470 (Rodehutschord) Tracerbasierte Methoden in der Tierernährung		◐ 4601-450 (Rodehutschord) Spezielle Ernährung der Wiederkäuer	
Tierwissenschaften: Profil Genomik und Züchtung			◐ 4607-510 (Bennewitz) Zuchtplanung und Zuchtpraxis i. d. Nutztierwissenschaften (nicht SS 2024)	◐ 4608-420 (Hasselmann) Molekulare Evolution und Populationsgenetik		
Tierwissenschaften: Profil Gesundheit und Verhalten		◐ 4606-490 (Stefanski) Verhaltensbiologie	◐ 4606-420 (Stefanski) Immunologie und Infektionsbiologie	◐ 4604-410 (Huber) Leistungs- assoziierte Stoffwechselstörungen bei landwirtschaftlichen Nutztieren	○ 4604-420 (Steffl) Seminar zu klinischen Fallstudien der Spez. Anatomie und Phys. d. Nutztiere	○ 4605-510 (Hölzle) Wissensch. Fragestellungen d. Umwelt- und Tierhygiene (6 credits)
		◐ 4605-480 (Hölzle) Spezielle Tierhygiene und Tierschutz				
M.Sc. Agrarbiologie (nur die Module der Fakultät A)		◐ 4603-420 (Seifert) Futtermittelmikrobiologie	◐ 4906-430 (Graß) Field Course Agroecology and Biodiversity	◐ 4603-440 (Seifert) Interaktionen Mikrobiom-Nutztier	◐ 4907-420 (Asch) Ecophysiology of Crops in the T+S	
		◐ 4613-420 (Camarinha Silva) Microbiome in Animals and Humans	◐ 4611-430 (Kube) Infektions- erkrankungen, akt. Herausford. bei Nutzpfl. und Nutztier	◐ 4606-430 (Stefanski) Integrative Immunbiologie bei Tieren	◐ 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht	
		◐ 3601-410 (Vögele) Molecular Phytopathology		◐ 4604-410 (Huber) Leistungs- assoziierte Stoffwechselstörungen bei landwirtschaftlichen Nutztieren	◐ 3411-430 (Schmöckel) Von Genen und Genregulation zu Transgenen und editierten Genomen	
	◐ 3102-460 (Kandeler) Molekulare Bodenökologie /Molecular Soil Ecology	◐ 3102-440 (Kandeler) Environmental Pollution and Soil Organisms	◐ 4608-420 (Hasselmann) Molekulare Evolution und Populationsgenetik	◐ 3408-420 (Ludewig) Genetische und molekulare Regulation der pflanzlichen Nährstoffaufnahme		
M.Sc. Crop Sciences (option for a blocked semester)		○ 3601-410 (Vögele) Molecular Phytopathology	○ 4905-430 (N.N.) Integr. Agricultural Production Systems	○ 4907-430 (Asch) Crop Prod. Affecting the Hydrological Cycle	○ 1916-400 (Mackenstedt) Pathogens, Parasites and their Hosts, ... (8 Pl. UHOH)	
			○ 4905-470 (N.N.) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources		○ 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht	
					○ 4907-420 (Asch) Ecophysiology of Crops in the T+S	

<b>M.Sc. AgriTropics</b>	● 4907-440 (Asch) Interdiscipl. Practical Science Training	○ 4905-470 (N.N.) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources			
Livestock		○ 4908-480 (Chagunda) Animal Breeding for Sustainable Development		○ 4908-420 (Chagunda) Promotion of Livestock in Trop. Environments	
Crops		○ 4905-430 (N.N.) Integrated Agricultural Production Systems	○ 4907-430 (Asch) Crop Production Affecting the Hydrological Cycle	○ 4907-420 (Asch) Ecophysiology of Crops in the Tropics and Subtropics	
Engineering		○ 4403-550 (Müller, J.) Postharvest Technology of Food and Bio-Based Products	○ 4403-470 (Müller, J.) Renewable Energy for Rural Areas	○ 4403-410 (Müller, J.) Irrigation and Drainage Technology	○ 4407-480 (Stein) Introduction to Machine Learning in Python ( <i>E-Learning</i> ) ( <i>unblocked</i> )
<b>M.Sc. EnviroFood</b>	● 3103-450 (Streck) Spatial Data Analysis with GIS	● 3102-440 (Kandeler) Environmental Pollution and Soil Organisms	● 4302-470 (Bieling) Landscape Change, Resilience, and Ecosystem Services	again in 2025, 2027, ...: ○ <del>3201-430 (Schmieder) Ecology of Alpine Vegetation</del>	
		● 4905-470 (N.N.) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources		● 3201-600 (Schurr) Intensive Course Landscape Ecology	
		● 4403-550 (Müller, J.) Postharvest Technology of Food and Bio-Based Products	● 4403-470 (Müller, J.) Renewable Energy for Rural Areas	● 4403-410 (Müller, J.) Irrigation and Drainage Technology ○ 3103-460 Env. Science Proj.	
<b>M.Sc. EnvEuro Environmental Management</b>	● 3103-450 (Streck) Spatial Data Analysis with GIS	● 4905-430 (N.N.) Integrated Agricultural Production Systems	● 4403-470 (Müller, J.) Renewable Energy for Rural Areas	○ 3201-600 (Schurr) Intensive Course Landscape Ecology	● 3409-480 (Müller, T.) Fertilisation and Soil Fertility Management in the T. and S.
		● 4905-470 (N.N.) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources	● 4302-470 (Bieling) Landscape Change, Resilience, and Ecosystem Services	● 4403-410 (Müller, J.) Irrigation and Drainage Technology	
Soil Resources and Land Use	● 3103-450 (Streck) Spatial Data Analysis with GIS	● 3201-620 (Schmieder) Vegetation and Soils of Centr. Europe	○ 4907-430 (Asch) Crop Production Affecting the Hydrological Cycle	again in 2025, 2027, ...: ○ <del>3201-430 (Schmieder) Ecology of Alpine Vegetation</del>	● 3409-480 (Müller, T.) Fertilisation and Soil Fertility Management in the T. and S.
		● 3102-440 (Kandeler) Environmental Pollution and Soil Organisms	● 3101-570 (Herrmann) Field Course Soils and Vegetation	● 4403-410 (Müller, J.) Irrigation and Drainage Technology	● 3102-420 (Kandeler) Bodenkundl. Experiment/ Project in Soil Sciences (Engl.+Ger.)
				○ 3103-460 (Streck) Environmental Science Project	● 3202-460 (Schweiger) Plant Ecology of Cultural Landscapes
Ecosystems and Biodiversity	● 3201-590 (Schurr) Combining Ecological Models and Data	● 3201-620 (Schmieder) Vegetation and Soils of Centr. Europe	● 3101-570 (Herrmann) Field Course Soils and Vegetation	○ 1916-400 (Mackenstedt) Pathogens, Parasites and their Hosts, Ecology, Molec. Interactions a. Evolution ( <i>8 Pl. UHOH</i> )	○ 3101-420 (Herrmann) International Field Course Site Evaluation (Engl.+Ger.) (September 2024, 2026, ...)
		● 4905-470 (N.N.) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources	● 4302-470 (Bieling) Landscape Change, Resilience, and Ecosystem Services	● 3201-600 (Schurr) Intensive Course Landscape Ecology	● 3202-460 (Schweiger) Plant Ecology of Cultural Landscapes
<b>M.Sc. Landscape Ecology</b>	● 3201-590 (Schurr) Combining Ecological Models and Data	● 3201-620 (Schmieder) Vegetation and Soils of Centr. Europe	● 3101-570 (Herrmann) Field Course Soils and Vegetation	● 3201-600 (Schurr) Intensive Course Landscape Ecology	○ 3101-420 (Herrmann) International Field Course Site Evaluation (Engl.+Ger.) (September 2024, 2026, ...)
	● 3103-450 (Streck) Spatial Data Analysis with GIS	● 4905-470 (N.N.) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources	● 4403-470 (Müller, J.) Renewable Energy for Rural Areas	○ 3103-460 (Streck) Environmental Science Project	
	● 3102-460 (Kandeler) Molekulare Bodenökologie / Molecular Soil Ecology	● 4906-430 (Graß) Field Course Agroecology and Biodiversity	● 4302-470 (Bieling) Landscape Change, Resilience, and Ecosystem Services		● 3202-460 (Schweiger) Plant Ecology of Cultural Landscapes
	again in 2025, 2027, ...: ● 3101-460 (Herrmann) Soils of the World - Formation, Classification, and Land Evaluation		● 4906-440 (Graß) Agroecology and Biotic Resource Conservation		

Check HohCampus for how to register for participation: [View module handbooks](#)

## Lecture Periods at UHOH

<b>WS 23/24</b>	<b>First day of <u>un</u>-blocked modules:</b>	(42. KW) Monday, 16 Oct 2023
	<b>First day of blocked modules:</b>	(42. KW) Monday, 16 Oct 2023
	<b>Last day of un-blocked modules:</b>	(5. KW) Saturday, 03 Feb 2024
	<b>Last day of blocked modules:</b>	(7. KW) Friday, 16 Feb 2024
<b>SS 24</b>	<b>First day of blocked modules:</b>	(14. KW) Monday, 2 April 2024
	<b>First day of un-blocked modules:</b>	(14. KW) Monday, 2 April 2024
	<b>Last day of un-blocked modules:</b>	(28. KW) Saturday, 13 July 2024
	<b>Last day of blocked modules:</b>	(30. KW) Friday, 27 July 2024

**No lectures:** All Saints' Day: Thurs, 01 Nov 2023, Christmas holidays: Sat, 23 Dec 2023 – Sat 06 Jan 2024, Easter: Fri, 29 Mar – Mon, 1 Apr 2024, International Labor Day: Wed, 01 May 2024, Ascension: Thurs, 9 May 2024, Pentecost: Mon, 20 May 2024 – Sat, 26 Jun 2024 (excursions might take place during that week!), Corpus Christi: Thurs, 30 May 2024.

### **Examination periods for the winter semester 2023/24:**

1<sup>st</sup> examination period: Mo. 05.02. - Fr. 23.02.2024

2<sup>nd</sup> examination period: Mo. 18.03. - Do. 28.03.2024

### **Examination periods for the summer semester 2024:**

1<sup>st</sup> examination period: Mo. 15.07 - Fr. 02.08.2024

2<sup>nd</sup> examination period: Mo. 16.09 - Fr. 04.10.2024

**See also:** <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/semester-dates>