



UNIVERSITY OF  
HOHENHEIM



CURRICULUM | AUGUST 2023

# Animal Science

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 Agricultural Sciences, major "Animal Science". It contains information on the program structure and summarizes the most important exam regulations (issued the 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2019, including all amendments that were introduced up to 15<sup>th</sup> of November 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 ([animalscience@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:animalscience@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](https://uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue). Time schedules and lecture halls for all courses are displayed in the Course Catalog 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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## Table of Contents

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<b>1</b>	<b>PROGRAM AND QUALIFICATION OBJECTIVES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>DEGREE AND CAREER PERSPECTIVES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>MODULES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1	WHAT IS A MODULE? .....	5
4.2	MODULES AND ASSOCIATED WORKLOAD .....	6
4.3	MODULES PER SEMESTER .....	6
4.4	BLOCKED AND UNBLOCKED MODULES .....	6
4.4.1	<i>Unblocked Modules.....</i>	<i>6</i>
4.4.2	<i>Blocked Modules.....</i>	<i>6</i>
4.5	MODULE CATEGORIES .....	6
4.5.1	<i>Compulsory Modules.....</i>	<i>6</i>
4.5.2	<i>Semi-elective Modules.....</i>	<i>6</i>
4.5.3	<i>Elective modules.....</i>	<i>6</i>
4.5.4	<i>Additional modules.....</i>	<i>7</i>
4.5.5	<i>Portfolio Module (3000-410).....</i>	<i>7</i>
4.5.6	<i>English for Scientific Purposes (3000-420).....</i>	<i>7</i>
4.6	CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FOR COURSES IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DATA SCIENCE IN HOHENHEIM (AIDAHO) .....	7
4.7	MODULES WITH LIMITED NUMBERS OF PARTICIPANTS.....	8
4.8	MODULE CODES .....	9
4.9	INDIVIDUAL TIMETABLE .....	9
4.10	EVALUATION OF MODULES .....	10
<b>5</b>	<b>EXAMINATIONS.....</b>	<b>10</b>
5.1	REGISTERING FOR EXAMINATIONS.....	10
5.2	EXAM REPETITION .....	11
<b>6</b>	<b>MARKS AND GRADES.....</b>	<b>11</b>
6.1	CREDIT POINT SYSTEM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOHENHEIM.....	11
<b>7</b>	<b>SEMESTER STRUCTURE .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>PROGRAM DESIGN.....</b>	<b>12</b>
8.1	COMPULSORY MODULES.....	13
8.2	SEMI-ELECTIVE MODULES .....	13
8.3	ELECTIVE MODULES .....	14
8.4	SUGGESTIONS FOR THEMATIC PROFILES IN ANIMAL SCIENCE .....	15
8.4.1	<i>Profile Nutrition and Feed.....</i>	<i>15</i>
8.4.2	<i>Profile Genomics and Breeding.....</i>	<i>16</i>
8.4.3	<i>Profile Health and Behavior.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<b>9</b>	<b>MASTER'S THESIS.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>TEACHING STAFF .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>ACADEMIC COUNSELLING.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>STUDY ABROAD.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>ANIMAL SCIENCE PROGRAM DIRECTOR.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>HEAD OF THE EXAMINATION AND ADMISSION COMMITTEE M.SC. AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>ANIMAL SCIENCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>BLOCKED MODULES AS OF WINTER SEMESTER 2022/23 .....</b>	<b>19</b>
	<b>BLOCKED MODULES AS OF SUMMER SEMESTER 2023.....</b>	<b>20</b>

# The Master's Program "Animal Science"

## 1 Program and Qualification Objectives

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Agriculture is a major driving force in the world economy. Especially as the earth's population grows and rising standards of living are sought across the globe, the production, trade, financing, processing, regulation, marketing, and consumption of agricultural food, feed, and fiber are crucial areas of research.

The Animal Science major in the Master's degree program in Agricultural Sciences focuses on breeding, husbandry, nutrition, and the health of farm animals, as well as the production of high-quality food. The range of courses is tailored to meet the requirements of the national and international labor market and is based on current research topics. This major is primarily managed by the Institute of Animal Science, which focuses on resource-efficient animal husbandry adapted to each species. Various methods are employed for genotypic and phenotypic characterization of the animals. One research focus is the microbiota of the digestive tract and its interaction with the animal and its environment.

The major is conducted in English, making it internationally oriented in terms of content and the target group of students. Program start and Admission to the program is granted each year for the respective winter semester (October). Nevertheless EU citizens are also eligible for admission in the summer semester. There is no admission limit for this major.

### Qualification objectives

The specific qualification objectives of the MSc. in Animal Science are:

#### Subject-area competences

Upon program completion, students will be able to:

- Describe the fundamental pillars of animal science (animal nutrition, animal hygiene, animal behavior, animal breeding, animal husbandry) and illustrate their relevance to animal science practices.
- Demonstrate specialized knowledge in anatomy and physiology, endocrinology, genetics, microbiology, feed science, and animal husbandry techniques.
- Survey and evaluate modern research methods in relation to current and future scientific issues in farm animals.
- Apply the acquired knowledge in their professional career as animal scientists.
- Formulate appropriate hypotheses for relevant questions within the field of animal science and test these hypotheses.
- Critically analyze published facts within the field of animal science.

#### Interdisciplinary cognitive competences

Upon program completion, students will be able to:

- Describe the foundational structures of agricultural sciences within a broader context, including the role of animals in agrarian systems.
- Recognize their own knowledge gaps and independently address them.
- Develop and critically question their own ideas.
- Organize and prepare experimental data and employ descriptive and basic inferential statistical methods for evaluation.
- Utilize commonly used software in the field of animal science to achieve specific objectives.
- Understand the social, economic, and environmental implications of agricultural sciences and act responsibly within society.

- Incorporate ethical and moral considerations responsibly.

### **Key competences**

Upon program completion, students will be able to:

- Work efficiently towards achieving a goal.
- Communicate confidently, both in scientific and general terms, both verbally and in writing.
- Independently familiarize themselves with new and advanced issues in agricultural science.
- Engage in societal discussions concerning the acceptability of agricultural practices and provide well-founded arguments.
- Conduct work based on hypotheses.

## **2 Admission Requirements**

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To be eligible for admission, students must have successfully completed a Bachelor's degree program in Agricultural Sciences or a related field (including Biology or Agricultural Biology). Please refer to the admission regulations for the Agricultural Sciences degree program for a list of acceptable Bachelor's degrees. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency at the level of 90 points on the "Internet Based TOEFL", as outlined in the admission regulations.

## **3 Degree and Career Perspectives**

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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 to continuing with a Ph.D./doctoral program if the total grade is above average.

Graduates of this program are well-suited for leadership positions in research, development, management, and marketing both domestically and internationally. Potential employers include:

- Biotechnology companies
- Agricultural operations
- Feed industry
- Ministries, environmental and agricultural agencies, expert journalism, and public relations work
- Food industry
- University and non-university research institutions
- Business consulting and sales
- Breeding and stable construction companies

## **4 Modules**

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### **4.1 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 workload 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>

## 4.2 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 workload 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).

## 4.3 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>.

## 4.4 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.

### 4.4.1 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.

### 4.4.2 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 and lesson follow-up may overlap significantly.

## 4.5 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.

### 4.5.1 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.

### 4.5.2 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 in Animal Science requires students to complete at least five semi-elective modules.

### 4.5.3 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.

#### 4.5.4 *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:

#### 4.5.5 *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.

#### 4.5.6 *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.

### **4.6 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.

#### *How to achieve the certificate*

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.

## 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 (no elective module, only additional for M.Sc.) <sup>*(AIDAHO-Basic)</sup>	1 Semester	6	Krupitzer/ Vogelgesang
2	4407-480	Introduction to Machine Learning with Python <sup>*(AIDAHO-Basic)</sup>	1 Semester	6	Stein
1/3	5107-410	Introduction to Applied Data Science <sup>*(AIDAHO-Basic)</sup>	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 <sup>\*(AIDAHO specialization)</sup> or application course <sup>\*(AIDAHO application)</sup> 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)

### 4.7 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://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.

#### 4.8 Module codes

Each module and each course has a specific code. Example: 4902-440 Economics and Environmental Policy.

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.

**4902-440** = institute number (490 Institute of Agricultural Sciences in the Tropics "Hans Ruthenberg Institute")

**0002-000** = department within the institute (2 corresponds to the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter in the alphabet: B -> department 490b International Agricultural Trade and Food Security)

**0000-440** = 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 4902-440 Economics and Environmental Policy consist of four courses:

- 4902-441 Basic Microeconomics
- 4902-442 Environmental Policy
- 4902-443 Exercises to Basic Microeconomics
- 4902-444 Exercises to Environmental Policy

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

#### 4.9 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").

## 4.10 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.

## 5 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.

### 5.1 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 a non-blocked 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!

## 5.2 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.

## 6 Marks and Grades

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### 6.1 Credit Point System at the University of Hohenheim

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.

## 7 Semester structure

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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.

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

## 8 Program Design

The two-year / 4-semester M.Sc. program "Animal Science" comprises 5 compulsory modules totaling 30 ECTS credits. Additionally, a minimum of 30 ECTS credits must be selected from a semi-elective catalog of 21 modules. Students can choose elective modules for further individual specialization, amounting to at least 30 credits, from the complete range of modules offered in the Master's degree programs of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. Furthermore, up to 15 credits can be chosen from the modules offered in the doctoral study programs of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. The Master's thesis carries 30 credits, and the third semester is designated as a mobility window.

The program follows a modular course structure. A typical semester consists of five modules. In the first semesters, students complete the five compulsory modules, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> semester 30 ECTS from semi-elective and 30 ECTS from elective modules. During the fourth semester they work on their thesis. Upon application, examinations taken at other universities can be recognized if the request is submitted within the first three months of the first semester in Hohenheim (deadlines: 31 December or 30 June).

This program structure ensures a solid education in Animal Sciences but also allows students to get trained according to their own career aspirations.

1st Semester	2nd Semester	3rd Semester	4th Semester
4605-440 Animal Health	Semi-elective Module	Elective Module	Master's Thesis
4603-460 Animal Microbiome		Elective Module	
4606-440 Behavioral Physiology and Animal Welfare	Semi-elective Module	Elective Module	
4607-450 Genomic Animal Breeding	Semi-elective Module	Elective Module	
4601-420 Nutritional Physiology	Semi-elective Module	Elective Module	

Note: 30 ECTS from semi-elective and 30 ECTS from elective modules can be mixed within the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> semester.

## 8.1 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.

The **compulsory modules** are:

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
1	4605-440	Animal Health	1 Semester	6	Hölzle
1	4603-460	Animal Microbiome	1 Semester	6	Seifert
1	4606-440	Behavioral Physiology and Animal Welfare	1 Semester	6	Stefanski
1	4607-450	Genomic Animal Breeding	1 Semester	6	Bennewitz
1	4601-420	Nutritional Physiology	1 Semester	6	Rodehutscord

## 8.2 Semi-elective modules

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

In the Animal Science program at least five modules have to be chosen of the following list of **semi-elective modules**:

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
2	4606-450	Animal Behavior	Block 1	7.5	Stefanski
2	4607-520	Animal Breeding Methods: From Theory to Practice	Block 2	7.5	Bennewitz
2	4605-470	Animal Hygiene and Welfare	Block 1	7.5	Hölzle
2	4601-430	Ruminant Nutrition	Block 4	7.5	Rodehutscord
2	4908-420	Promotion of Livestock Production in Tropical Environments	Block 4	7.5	Chagunda
2	4603-470	Feedstuff Microbiology	Block 1	7.5	Seifert
2	7301-430	Honeybee Research and Beekeeping Techniques	Block 3	7.5	Traynor
2	4606-460	Immunology and Infection Biology	Block 2	7.5	Stefanski
2	4604-430	Physiological Limitations of Animal Performance	Block 3	7.5	Huber
2	4601-490	Tracer-based Methods in Animal Nutrition	Block 2	7.5	Rodehutscord
2	4608-450	Molecular Evolution and Population Genetic	Block 3	7.5	Hasselmann
2	4603-440	Microbiome-Animal Interaction ( <i>English or German language possible!</i> )	Block 3	7.5	Seifert
3	4607-460	Molecular Animal Genetics	1 Semester	6	Bennewitz
3	4607-470	Quantitative Methods and Computing in Animal Science	1 Semester	6	Bennewitz
3	4613-410	Molecular Biology and Data Analysis in Microbiology	1 Semester	6	Camarinha da Silva

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
3	4605-420	Molecular Infectiology and Medical Microbiology	1 Semester	6	Hölzle
3	4601-500	Nonruminant Nutrition	1 Semester	6	Rodehutschord
3	4601-510	Feed Analysis and Technology	1 Semester	6	Rodehutschord
3	4608-440	Animal Evolutionary Genomics	1 Semester	6	Hasselmann
3	4908-440	Livestock Production Systems and Development	1 Semester	6	Chagunda
3	4605-430	Microbiological Safety within the Feed and Food Production Chain	1 Semester	6	Hölzle

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

### 8.3 Elective Modules

Further **elective modules** have to be chosen to complete the required 90 credits of course work. Elective modules can be chosen from the list below 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 also chosen from other programs of the University of Hohenheim or other universities.

#### Suggestions for elective modules:

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
1-4	3000-410	Portfolio Module	Not defined	1-7,5	Kruse, M.
1-4	3000-420	UNlcert III English for Scientific Purposes	2 Sem.	7,5	Kruse, M.
2	4908-480	Animal Breeding for Sustainable Development	1	7.5	Chagunda
2	4605-500	Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht ( <i>taught in German!</i> )	Block 4	7.5	Hölzle
2	4606-430	Integrative Immunbiologie bei Tieren ( <i>taught in German!</i> ) ( <i>primarily offered for the Master AB, can only be taken as an alternative to the module 4606-460 Immunology and Infection Biology</i> )	Block 3	7,5	Stefanski
2	4604-420	Seminar zu klin. Fallstudien der Speziellen Anatomie und Physiologie der Nutztiere ( <i>taught in German!</i> )	Block 4	7,5	steffl
2	4606-570	Research Methods and Scientific Developments in Behavioral Physiology / Forschungsmethoden und Fragestellungen der Verhaltensphysiologie ( <i>English or German language possible!</i> )	1	7,5	Stefanski
2	4301-460	Fit for Innovation Support – concepts, Methods and Skills	1 Sem.		Knierim
2	4407-470	Artificial Intelligence for Agriculture <sup>*AIDAHO-Application</sup>	1 Sem.	6	Stein

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
2	4407-480	Introduction to Machine Learning in Python ( <i>E-Learning Module für B.Sc + M.Sc.</i> ) * AIDAHO-BASIC	e-learning Block in August	7,5	Stein
2	4903-510	Innovations for Sustainable Agri-Food Systems	1 Sem.	6	Birner
2	5703-510	Entrepreneurship ( <i>English or German language possible!</i> )	1 Sem.	6	Kuckertz
2+3	4605-510	Research Questions of Environmental and Animal Hygiene (Laboratory or Project Work)/ Wissenschaftliche Fragestellungen der Umwelt und Tierhygiene ( <i>English or German language possible!</i> )	n.V geblockt	7,5	Hölzle
2+3	4606-520	Methoden des wissenschaftlichen Arbeitens in der Verhaltensphysiologie ( <i>taught in German!</i> )	n.V. 1 Sem.	7,5	Stefanski
3	3080-420	Tierhaltungstechnik ( <i>taught in German!</i> )	1 Sem.	6	Gallmann
3	4605-520	New Developments in Infectious Diseases		6	Marschang
3	4606-560	Research Methods and Scientific Developments in Behavioral Physiology / Forschungsmethoden und Fragestellungen der Verhaltensphysiologie ( <i>English or German language possible!</i> )	1	6	Stefanski
3	4611-410	Integrative Infektionsbiologie, Pathogene als Risiko für Produzenten, Umwelt und Konsumenten ( <i>taught in German!</i> )	1 Sem.	6	Kube
3	4611-420	The Bacterial Genome, from Culture to Functional Reconstruction	März-Block	6	Kube
3	4908-460	Hot Topics and Advanced Methods in Animal Genetics and Breeding	1 Sem.	6	Chagunda
3	4302-420	Ethical Reflection on Food and Agriculture ( <i>limited number of participants</i> )	1 Sem.	6	Bieling

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

For the complete module catalogue refer to: [uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue](http://uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue))

## 8.4 Suggestions for Thematic Profiles in Animal Science

The following lists of semi-elective modules should give some orientation for possible thematic profiles aiming at certain career goals for Animal Science graduates.

### 8.4.1 Profile Nutrition and Feed

- 4603-470 Feedstuff Microbiology
- 4601-430 Ruminant Nutrition
- 4601-490 Tracer-based Methods in Animal Nutrition
- 4601-510 Feed Analysis and Technology

- 4601-500 Nonruminant Nutrition

#### 8.4.2 *Profile Genomics and Breeding*

- 4608-450 Molecular Evolution and Population Genetics
- 4607-520 Animal Breeding Methods: From Theory to Practice
- 4608-440 Animal Evolutionary Genomics
- 4607-460 Molecular Animal Genetics
- 4607-470 Quantitative Methods and Computing in Animal Science

#### 8.4.3 *Profile Health and Behavior*

- 4606-460 Immunology and Infection Biology
- 4604-430 Physiological Limitations of Animal Performance
- 4605-470 Animal Hygiene and Welfare
- 4606-450 Animal Behavior
- 4605-420 Molecular Infectiology and Medical Microbiology

## 9 **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 "Animal Science" 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).

More information on the Master thesis can be found under the following website:

[https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/aw-msc-pa#jfmulticontent\\_c397829-5](https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/aw-msc-pa#jfmulticontent_c397829-5)

## 10 **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.

## 11 **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 Animal Science and their respective research focus:



- Prof. Dr. Jörn Bennewitz, [j.bennewitz@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:j.bennewitz@uni-hohenheim.de), Animal Genetics and Breeding
- Prof. Dr. Markus Rodehutschord, [markus.rodehutschord@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:markus.rodehutschord@uni-hohenheim.de), Animal Nutrition
- Prof. Dr. Martin Hasselmann, [martin.hasselmann@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:martin.hasselmann@uni-hohenheim.de), Livestock Population Genomics

## **12 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 this kind of international mobility. 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, 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. Students may also request to spend the semester at universities other than those mentioned above.

For more information consult the website of the Office of International Affairs (<https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/office-of-international-affairs>).

Coursework and examinations that have been completed during the program at a university abroad can be recognized as compulsory, semi-elective, or elective modules as part of this degree program. The examination regulations define the conditions of recognition. How you have to proceed for recognition is explained in detail on the pages of the examination office for this study program under the header "Recognition".

## **13 Animal Science Program Director**

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Prof. Dr. Jörn Bennewitz, [j.bennewitz@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:j.bennewitz@uni-hohenheim.de), Animal Genetics and Breeding

## **14 Head of the Examination and Admission Committee M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences**

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Prof. Dr. Amélia Camarinha da Silva, [amelia.silva@uni-hohenheim.de](mailto:amelia.silva@uni-hohenheim.de), Livestock Microbial Ecology

## **15 Animal Science Program Coordinator**

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Kerstin Hoffbauer, University of Hohenheim (300)  
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 70593 Stuttgart, Germany  
 Telephone +49 711 459 23328  
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 Web: [uni-hohenheim.de/animalscience](http://uni-hohenheim.de/animalscience)



Blockperiode / 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
Studiengang / Study Course	17.10. - 11.11.2022	14.11. - 09.12.2022	12.12. – 22.12.2022 + 09.01. – 20.01.2023	23.01. - 17.02.2023	i.d.R. 27.02.-22.03.2023
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften Pflanzen- und Tierwissensch.					○ 4611-440 (Kube) The Bacterial Genome, from Culture to Functional Reconstruction (7,5 credits) 27.2. - 17.3.2023
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften Tierwissenschaften					◐ 4601-480 (Rodehutschord) Futtermitteltechnologie und - analytik (6 credits) (06.3. - 31.3.2023)
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften Bodenwissenschaften					
M.Sc. Agrarbiologie (nur die Module der Fakultät A)					◐ 4611-440 (Kube) The Bacterial Genome, from Culture to Functional Reconstruction (7,5 credits) (27.2. - 17.3.2023)
M.Sc. EnviroFood					◐ 3003-410 (Schöne) Food Safety and Quality Chains (6 credits) (27.2. - 10.3.2023)
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) (06.3. - 16.3.2023)
					○ 4611-440 (Kube) The Bacterial Genome, from Culture to Functional Reconstruction (7,5 credits) (27.2. - 17.3.2023)
M.Sc. AgriTropics					○ 4909-430 (Focken) Experimental Aquaculture (27.2.-17.3.2023 in Bremerhaven) (6 credits)
					In 2022, 2024...: ○ 4907-490 (Asch) Excursion to the Tropics and Subtropics (2 weeks in Feb/March) (6 credits)

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	03.04. - 28.04.2023	02.05. - 26.05.2023	05.06. - 30.06.2023	03.07. - 28.07.2023	
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 vegetationskundliche Gelän- deübung / Field Course Soils + Vegetation	● 3101-430 (Herrmann) In- teгриertes bodenwissen- schaftliches. Projekt für Fortgeschrittene	● 3102-420 (Kandeler) Bodenwis- senschaftliches Experiment/Project in Soil Sciences (Engl.+ Ger.)
	● 3102-460 (Kandeler) Molekulare Bodenökologie				
	2023, 2025, 2027...: ● 3101-460 (Herrmann) Soils of the World - Formation, Clas- sification, and Land Evaluation	● 3201-620 (Schmieder) Vegetation and Soils of Centr. Eu- rope		2023, 2025... ○ 3201-430 (Schmieder) Ecology of Alpine Vegetation	
M.Sc. Agrarwissenschaften (und MSc. NawaRo)		○ 7301-400 (Ernst) Soziale Insekten (10 Plätze f. Fak. A	● 7301-410 (Ernst) Bienen	○ 4604-420 (Steffl) Seminar zu klinischen Fallstudien der Spez. Anatomie und Phys. d. Nutztiere	○ 4407-480 (Stein) Introduction to Machine Learning in Python (E-Learning) (unblocked)
				○ 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gen- technikrecht	○ 4408-480 (Kruse, A.) Der Business Design Prozess - Von der Idee zum Produkt (6 credits)
Tierwissenschaften: Profil Ernährung und Futter- mittel	● 4603-420 (Seifert) Futtermittelmikrobiologie			● 4601-450 (Rodehutschord.) Spezielle Ernährung der Wieder- käufer	
Tierwissenschaften: Profil Genomik und Züchtung		● 4607-510 (Bennewitz) Zucht- planung und Zuchtpraxis i. d. Nutztierwissenschaften	● 4608-420 (Hasselmann) Mole- kulare Evolution und Populations- genetik		
Tierwissenschaften: Profil Gesundheit und Verhalten	● 4606-490 (Stefanski) Verhaltensbiologie	● 4606-420 (Stefanski) Immunologie und Infektionsbiolo- gie	● 4604-410 (Huber) Leistungs- soziierte Stoffwechselstörungen bei landwirtschaftlichen Nutztieren		
	● 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) Ecophysio- logy 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-(23, 25...)	● 4606-430 (Stefanski) Integrative Immunbiologie bei Tieren	● 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht	
	● 3601-410 (Vögele) Molecular Phytopathology		● 4604-410 (Huber) Leistungs- soziierte Stoffwechselstörungen bei landwirtschaftlichen Nutztieren	● 3411-430 (Schmöckel) Von Gen- enen und Genregulation zu Trans- genen 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 se- mester)	○ 3601-410 (Vögele) Molecular Phytopathology	○ 4905-430 (Cadisch) 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 (Rasche) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources	○ 3501-480 (Würschum) Breeding of Tropical, Ornament, and Vegetable Plants	○ 4605-500 (Hölzle) Biologische Sicherheit und Gentechnikrecht	

<b>M.Sc. AgriTropics</b>	● 4907-440 (Asch) Interdiscipl. Practical Science Training	○ 4905-470 (Rasche) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources			
Livestock		○ 4908-480 (Chagunda) Animal Breeding for Sustainable Development		○ 4908-420 (Chagunda) Promotion of Livestock in Tropical Environments	
Crops		○ 4905-430 (Cadisch) Integrated Agricultural Production Systems	○ 4907-430 (Asch) Crop Production Affecting the Hydrological Cycle	○ 4907-420 (Asch) Ecophysiology of Crops in the Tropics and Subtropics	
			○ 3501-480 (Würschum) Breeding of Tropical, Ornamental, & Vegetable Plants		
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 (E-Learning) (unblocked)
<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	In 2022+2023, 2025: ○ 3201-430 (Schmieder) Ecology of Alpine Vegetation	
		● 4905-470 (Rasche) 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	
<b>M.Sc. EnvEuro Environmental Management</b>	● 3103-450 (Streck) Spatial Data Analysis with GIS	● 4905-430 (Cadisch) 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 (Rasche) 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 Central Europe	○ 4907-430 (Asch) Crop Production Affecting the Hydrological Cycle	2023, 2025... ○ 3201-430 (Schmieder) Ecology of Alpine Vegetation	● 3409-480 (Müller, T.) Fertilisation and Soil Fertility Management in the Tropics and Subtrop.
		● 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) Bodenwissenschaftl. Experiment/Project in Soil Sciences
					● 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, ... (8 Pl. UHOH)	
		● 4905-470 (Rasche) 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	
	● 3103-450 (Streck) Spatial Data Analysis with GIS	● 4905-470 (Rasche) Biodiversity and Genetic Resources	● 4403-470 (Müller, J.) Renewable Energy for Rural Areas		
	● 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
	2023, 2025, 2027...: ● 3101-460 (Herrmann) Soils of the World ...		● 4906-440 (Graß) Agroecology and Biotic Resource Conservation		





## Lecture Periods at UHOH

<b>WS 24/25</b>	<b>First day of un-blocked modules:</b>	(42. KW) Monday, 14 Oct 2024
	<b>First day of blocked modules:</b>	(42. KW) Monday, 14 Oct 2024
	<b>Last day of un-blocked modules:</b>	(5. KW) Saturday, 01 Feb 2025
	<b>Last day of blocked modules:</b>	not known at the time of publishing
<b>SS 25</b>	<b>First day of blocked modules:</b>	(14. KW) Monday, 1 April 2025
	<b>First day of un-blocked modules:</b>	(14. KW) Monday, 1 April 2025
	<b>Last day of un-blocked modules:</b>	(28. KW) Saturday, 12 July 2025
	<b>Last day of blocked modules:</b>	not known at the time of publishing

**No lectures:** All Saints' Day: Fri, 01 Nov 2024, Christmas holidays: Mon, 23 Dec 2024 – Mon 06 Jan 2025, Easter: Fri, 18 Apr – Mon, 21 Apr 2025, International Labor Day: Thurs, 01 May 2025, Ascension: Thurs, 29 May 2025, Pentecost: Tues, 10 June 2025 – Sat, 14 Jun 2025 (excursions might take place during that week!), Corpus Christi: Thurs, 19 June 2025.

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

**Examination periods for the winter semester 2024/25 and the summer semester 2025 were not known at the time of publishing this curriculum.**

Check the website of the Examinations Office for up-to-date information: <https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/examination>