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TRANSLATION OF

GAZETTE

Administrative Bulletin of the Public Sector and the Foundation

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— Subject-specific Annex 5.15c Sustainability Science: Governance and Law to the Framework Examination Regulations (FER) for the Master's Programs at the Leuphana Graduate School of the Leuphana University of Lüneburg

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Subject-specific Annex 5.15a Sustainability Science: Governance and Law to the Framework Examination Regulations for the Master's Programs at the Leuphana Graduate School of the Leuphana University of Lüneburg

Based on § 41 para. 1 sentence 1 of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (NHG) in the version of February 26, 2007 (Nds. GVBl. p. 69), last amended by Art. 7 of the Act of March 23, 2022 (Nds. GVBl. p. 218), the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Sustainability on November 08. 2023 adopted the following Subject-Specific Annex 5.15c to the Framework Examination Regulations for the Master's Programs at the Graduate School of Leuphana University of Lüneburg of September 17, 2008 (Leuphana Gazette No. 15/08 of October 06, 2008), last amended on April 19, 2023 (Leuphana Gazette No. 49/23 of June 16, 2023). The Presidential Board approved the subject-specific annex in accordance with § 44 para. 1 sentence 3 and § 37 para. 1 sentence 3 no. 5b) NHG on December 13, 2023.

Section I

To §2 FER, Aim of the study programme, purpose of the examination

Professional competences

Successful graduates of the Master

- have a critical understanding of the most important theories, methods and discourses in sustainability science.
- have in-depth knowledge of current concepts, methods and research approaches of sustainability governance in political-legal application contexts from the municipal to the international level.
- have a critical understanding of principles of sustainability governance.
- are able to analyze questions and problems, particularly in the public sector (administration, politics, international organizations), in civil society as well as in consulting firms, and to structure and advance their solution processes with the participation of relevant actors.
- are familiar with methods and concepts of inter- and transdisciplinary research, can apply these in international and national working contexts and identify, process and solve sustainability-relevant issues with experts from different disciplines as well as practitioners.

Personal competences

Successful graduates of the master's program are able to

- to work responsibly in teams of experts and to introduce current findings in sustainability science into the work process.
- systematically analyze complex problem situations, develop participatory approaches to solutions and successfully accompany their implementation by applying their acquired knowledge of sustainability science with a focus on political-legal governance for a societal transformation towards sustainability.

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- to deal with problems in a team in a forward-looking manner and to lead and take responsibility for processes in heterogenic groups.
- represent complex sustainability-related problems and solutions argumentatively to experts in a transdisciplinary dialogue and develop them further with them.

TO § 3 FER, Modularisation, study structure and scope, standard period of study

The standard period of study is two years. The scope of study is 120 credit points.

Module overview Master Sustainability Science: Governance and Law

(cf. Also the subject-specific Annex 8 Complementary Studies)

Masterforum 5 CP	Master thesis 25 CP				
Elective 5 CP	European & National Environmental & En- ergy law 5 CP	Global Sustainability Politics and Sustaina- ble Statehood 5 CP	International Sustain- ability Law 5 CP	Elective 5 CP	Complementary Stud- ies 5 CP
Transdisciplinary Research Project 10 CP		Introduction to Law and Sustainability Transformation 5 CP	Governing Transfor- mation to Sustainability 5 CP	Elective 5 CP	Complementary Stud- ies 5 CP
Sustainability Sci- ence 5 CP	Transdisciplinary Re- search Design 5 CP	Methods 5 CP	Introduction to Sus- tainability Governance 5 CP	Elective 5 CP	Complementary Stud- ies 5 CP

	Profile Modules
	Integration
	Electives
	Complementary Studies

In the first semester the following modules must be taken:

- Sustainability Science (MA-NaWi-3, 5 CP)
- Transdisciplinary Research Design (MA-Sust-2a, 5 CP)
- Methods (MA-Sust-3, 5 CP)
- Introduction to Sustainability Governance (MA-GL-1, 5 CP)

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as well as one module of the following electives:

- Introduction to Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functions (MA-EBS-1, 5 CP)
- Introduction I: Organisational Sustainability Transformation Management & Entrepreneurship (MA-EAL-1, 5 CP)
- Introduction to Psychology and Sustainability (MA-P&S-2, 5 CP)
- Accountability and Participation in the Global South (MA-PAD-1b, 5 CP)

In the second semester the following modules must be taken:

- Transdisciplinary Research Project (MA-NaWi-6, 10 CP)
- Introduction to Law and Sustainability Transformation (MA-GL-2, 5 CP)
- Governing Transformation to Sustainability (MA-GL-3, 5 CP)

as well as one module of the following electives:

- Research Methods: Multivariate Approaches (MA-P&S-1, 5 CP)
- Sustainability Psychology: Research & Application (MA-P&S-7, 5 CP)
- Current topics of Sustainability Science I (MA-Sust-4, 5 CP)
- Qualitative Methods (MA-PAD-2a, 5 CP)
- Experimental Methods (MA-PAE-2a, 5 CP)
- Environmental Economics (MA-PAE-2c, 5 CP)

In the third semester the following modules must be taken:

- European and National Environmental and Energy Law (MA-GL-4, 5 CP)
- Global Sustainability Politics and Sustainable Statehood (MA-GL-5, 5 CP)
- International Sustainability Law (MA-GL-6, 5 CP)

as well as two modules of the following electives:

- Renewable Resources (MA-RMC-6, 5 CP)
- Communication of Scientific Results (MA-NaWi-11b, 5 CP)
- Sustainable Energies (MA-Sust-7, 5 CP)
- Current Topics of Sustainability Science II (MA-Sust-5, 5 CP)
- Psychology and the Society: Political Negotiations and Sustainability (MA-P&S-5)
- Climate Governance in the Global South (MA-PAD-3c, 5 CP)

To § 5 FER, Academic degrees

Master of Arts (M. A.)

To § 6 para. 10 FER

The language of teaching and examination is exclusively english.

To § 8 para. 1, Master's thesis

The processing time for the Master's thesis is 5 months.

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To § 8 para. 8, Oral examination

There will be an oral examination complementary to the Master's thesis. The grade for the oral examination is be included in the overall grade of the Master's thesis with a proportion of one fifth.

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Modules Master Sustainability Science: Governance and Law

Compulsory Modules

Modul	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
1st semester					
Sustainability Science (MA-NaWi-3)	Beginning with an overview of the existing theoretical foundations of sustainability science and research, the seminar deals with the historical development, current challenges and future potential of this research field. Key aspects include an examination of coupled human-environment systems, sustainable development, and global change. The interaction of disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research in sustainability science and the fundamentals of a problem- and solution-oriented research field are also discussed.	1 Seminar (1 CH) 1 lecture (1 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English
Transdisciplinary Research Design (MA-Sust-2a)	This module provides the theoretical and epistemological fundamentals of transdisciplinary sustainability research. It introduces integrative approaches to socially-relevant problems, transformative methods of sustainability research, collaboration skills, and team roles. In parallel to the lecture, students begin to familiarize themselves with the strand-specific case (i.e., context, structures and processes, historical development), and explore possible joint research objects.	1 Lecture (2 CH) 1 Seminar (1 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English
Methods (MA-Sust-3)	Within the module students will gain an overview of the wide array of research methods that are applied in sustainability science. The module will also teach the students to obtain information on how to learn more about methods, and how to learn new methods and apply these in their specific work. The course is designed to enable students to develop methodological designs with a mixed methods approach. Building on a broad and diverse conceptual basis the students will work in smaller groups, thereby learning the collaborative skills necessary to utilise the diverse knowledge of the participants.	1 Lecture (3 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English
Introduction into Sustainability Governance (MA-GL-1)	This module offers a comprehensive and advanced introduction to environmental and sustainability governance. It aims to provide a thorough understanding of key concepts and theoretical approaches in this field and their application to real-world cases. The module explores the functioning of governance systems in the development and implementation of public policies that address pressing environmental and sustainability issues at local, national, and international levels. The module focuses on both the structural and procedural aspects of governance.	Lecture (2 CH)	<i>Written examination under supervision</i>	5	English

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Modul	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
2nd semester					
Transdisciplinary Research Project (MA-NaWi-6)	In this module, students implement the research plan that they developed in the module 'TD Research Design', and autonomously apply methods of transdisciplinary research. In cooperation with practice partners, they work with different strategies and proposals on the co-production of knowledge and solutions for sustainable development. With the help of regular coaching and input from the lecturers, the students work independently to solve the previously identified case-specific problem, in order to close the identified knowledge gaps in both a scientific and practical manner. At the end of the project re-integration products are finalized and final products publicly presented and discussed.	1 Project (4 CH)	<i>Combined assessment</i>	10	English
Introduction to Law and Sustainability Transformation (MA-GL-2)	This course provides an introduction to the concept of law, legal methodology and the role of law in sustainability transformation. It offers a critical understanding of the structure and functioning of international, European and national law both as an important tool to steer societies towards sustainability and, importantly, as a constraint to such efforts. A particular focus of the course is on the interrelationship between the different levels of law as well as key differences between them with respect to actors, law-making, instruments, implementation and enforcement from a global, regional and domestic level.	1 lecture (2 CH)	Written examination under supervision	5	English
Governing transformation to sustainability (MA-GL-3)	Sustainability transitions (transformations) is a comparatively young field of research that studies how fundamental societal or socio-technical change occurs and how such change for sustainability can be instigated and maintained, focusing on the role of governance. Students will work with cutting-edge academic literature and investigate promising (and failed) examples of sustainability transition in different sectors and world regions.	1 seminar (2 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English

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Modul	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
3rd semester					
European & national Environmental & Energy law (MA-GL-4)	The European and German environmental and energy law are explained, with EU primary and secondary law and national regulations, e.g. on renewable energy law, emission control-, nature conservation-, circular economy- and planning law.	<i>1 Seminar (4 CH)</i>	<i>Combined assessment</i>	5	English
Global Sustainability Politics and Sustainable Statehood (MA-GL-5)	In September 2015, 193 member states of the United Nations agreed on the 2030 Transformation Agenda and, within it, on global sustainability goals (SDGs). Since the Agenda is not binding under international law, the question arises, which significance the Agenda plays for the nation states and to what extent they actually move forward on the path to sustainable development. The seminar will use literature, empirical information and country studies to examine the status and potential of sustainable statehood in the context of inter- and transnational political, social and economic contextual conditions and dynamics.	1 seminar (2 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English
International Sustainability Law (MA-GL-6)	This course focuses on the international regulatory approaches and intersections among the three pillars of sustainable development: economic, environmental and social (human rights). Having developed in different contexts and by different institutions, Human Rights Law, International Environmental Law and International Economic Law each have unique structures, narratives and enforcement mechanisms. In line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, which envisage an integrative framework for sustainable development, the course will also explore mechanisms and tools for the systemic integration of the three pillars and recent developments in treaty lawmaking as an essential basis for a sustainable world. Students will gain knowledge of the main international legal agreements relevant for achieving the SDGs such as environmental and climate protection or gender equality and learn to identify conflicts and synergies among the different legal frameworks.	1 lecture (2 CH)	Written examination under supervision or combined assessment	5	English

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Modul	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
4th semester					
Master Forum (MA-GL-7)	Supervision and assistance in the conception, organization and implementation of individual Master's theses; development, presentation, discussion and reflection of questions, concepts and exposés for Master's theses	Colloquium (2 CH)	Combined Assessment	5	English
Master Thesis (MA-GL-8)	Writing of a Master Thesis	None	1 Master Thesis and 1 oral examination	25	

Electives

Modul	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
Electives					
Introduction to Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functions (MA-EBS-1)	Biodiversity has several components, including species diversity, functional diversity, and phylogenetic diversity, all of which are essential for understanding ecosystem-level consequences of ongoing global biodiversity loss. This course focuses on biodiversity-ecosystem functioning (BEF) research as well as the larger implications of social-ecological systems for biodiversity and ecosystem functioning. It examines how global environmental change drives impacts on biodiversity but also ecosystem functioning, ecosystem services, and nature's contributions to people.	1 Lecture (1 CH) 1 Seminar (1 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English
Introduction I: Organisational Sustainability Transformation Management and Entrepreneurship (MA-EAL-1)	This course introduces sustainability transformation management and entrepreneurship for organisations. Sustainability transformation management aims to change an existing company fundamentally towards being both sustainable at the organisational level and to contributing effectively to a sustainable market, society and natural environment beyond organisational boundaries. Sustainable entrepreneurship initiates and establishes sustainability transformations at the meso-level of markets, regions, associations, etc. and the macro-level of societies and planetary ecosystems by founding and scaling new business units or independent organisations, which may be profit- or non-profit oriented or hybrid organisations. By discussing processes, actors and methods of sustainability transformation this course offers an overview of approaches, opportunities and limitations to foster sustainable development for and with organisations.	1 lecture (2 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English

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Modul	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
Electives					
Introduction to Psychology and Sustainability (MA-P&S-2)	The course addresses fundamental sustainability problems and questions regarding the ecological, social, and economic dimensions of sustainable behavior. In an interdisciplinary fashion, key concepts of sustainability science are introduced and linked to human behavior. Vice versa, the psychological perspective is established and linked to fundamental sustainability challenges. The course offers an overview of psychological theorizing and empirical findings that aim to understand, explain, predict, and change human behavior in the context of sustainability. Psychological barriers towards sustainable behavior are explored and behavior change interventions are demonstrated to present important levers. The course addresses individual, joint, and collective behavior. The module aims at enabling students to reflect on theoretical, empirical, as well as applied interventions towards sustainable behavior.	1 lecture (2 CH) or 1 seminar (2 CH)	Written examination under supervision or Combined assessment	5	English
Sustainability psychology: research & Application (MA-P&S-7)	In this course, students learn to identify real world sustainability challenges on basis of current debates in the media and society. They develop research questions and identify corresponding research gaps in the existing literature. They advance their understanding of scientific literature reviews and research synthesis. To synthesize the literature, students will be provided with insights into the challenges and scientific standards (e.g., PRISMA, MARS). They will reflect upon conclusions that can be drawn from different synthesis approaches based on recent or particularly influential examples.	1 Seminar (2 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English
Research Methods: Multivariate Approaches (MA-P&S-1)	In this course students will be provided with an overview of current data analysis techniques suitable for the analysis of multidimensional data, and data with a time component. Selected techniques of multivariate analyses will be discussed in detail. The mathematical foundations of these techniques will be introduced, and the techniques will be applied to data sets from psychology and sustainability science. Student will learn how to integrate data from different sources to model relationships between different variables of interest and draw causal inferences in the field of sustainability psychology.	1 seminar (2 CH) or 1 lecture (2 CH)	<i>Written Examination under supervision or Combined assessment</i>	5	English
Current Topics of Sustainability Science I (MA-Sust-4)	The module deepens the knowledge in current research fields of sustainability science. Social-ecological systems are considered in a scientifically sound and interdisciplinary manner and are processed against the background of the respective disciplinary foundations and related to current challenges, whereby the problem-solving contribution and the potential of the research field become clear.	1 lecture (1 CH) and 1 seminar (2 CH)	<i>Written examination without supervision or written examination under supervision</i>	5	English

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Modul	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
Electives					
Communication of Scientific Results (MA-Sust-6)	The subject of the module is the communication of scientific findings, theses and research results. The focus is on addressee- and context-related approaches and strategies in preparation and publication for scientific and non-scientific target groups as well as possibilities and limits of inter- and transdisciplinary communication.	1 seminar (2 CH) or 1 lecture (2 CH)	Combined Assessment or written examination without supervision	5	english
Renewable Resources (MA-RMC-6)	This module will provide a thorough overview of the concept of renewables in the context of green and sustainable chemistry. Contents related to chemical structure, reactivity, processing (e.g., methods related to the extraction, transformation, including its characterization) as well as the applications of renewable biomass will be addressed (case studies).	1 lecture (2 CH)	Combined scientific work	5	English
Sustainable Energies (MA-Sust-7)	The seminar focusses on the analysis of sustainable energies in regards of sustainability aspects showing up current research and development examples as well as the analysis of the application of systems.	1 seminar (4 CH)	Written examination without supervision	5	English
Psychology and the Society: Political Negotiations and Sustainability (MA-P&S-5)	The course deals with social interactions and joint decision-making processes on the level of society. The course integrates social, cultural, economic, political, or ecological factors affecting present and future generations well-being. Focusing on the sustainable development of societies, the course will particularly deal with policy decision making, social conflicts, and their resolution via political negotiations. Linking psychological research to the field of sustainability science, decision-making and negotiation processes will be examined in the context of intragenerational and intergenerational conflicts. Studies on noncommunicative (i.e., action-response-interaction) and communicative social interaction (e.g., proposal-counterproposal interaction) will be discussed. Different theoretical accounts and empirical studies from the field of socialpsychological action research will be linked to the topics of sustainability science.	1 Seminar (2 CH)	Combined assessment	5	English
Current Topics of Sustainability Science II (MA-Sust-5)	The module deepens the knowledge in current research fields of sustainability science. Social-ecological systems are considered in a scientifically sound and interdisciplinary manner and are processed against the background of the respective disciplinary foundations and related to current challenges, whereby the problem-solving contribution and the potential of the research field become clear.	1 seminar (2 CH) or 1 lecture (2 CH)	<i>Written examination without supervision or written examination under supervision</i>	5	English
Accountability and Participation in the Global South (MA-PAD-1b)	This module provides an overview of theories and empirical research on the variety of forms and means of political accountability and political participation in the Global South. It will also introduce students to different regime types and broad trends of democratization and autocratization since the early 1990s.	1 Seminar (2 CH)	1 oral examination or 1 written scientific work without supervision	5	

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Modul	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
Electives					
Qualitative Methods (MA-PAD-2a)	This module familiarises students with the following qualitative methods: individual and comparative case studies, (Bayesian) process analysis, ethnography and participant observation, content and discourse analysis as well as interviews. In addition to methodological basics, the focus is on the application of selected methods. The module also deals with questions of research ethics and transparency.	1 Lecture (1 CH) 1 Seminar (1 CH)	1 combined scientific work oder 1 practical examination	5	
Experimental Methods (MA-PAE-2a)	The module provides an introduction to experimental research methods (e.g., laboratory experiments, field experiments). Topics include the role of the experimental method for research in economics and political science, methodological foundations, the design of experiments, and their statistical analysis.	1 Seminar (2 CH) or 1 Lecture (2CH)	1 Combined scientific work or 1 written scientific work under supervision	5	
Environmental Economics (MA-PAE-2c)	Fundamental treatment of environmental economic problems based on environmental economic modeling and practical examples.	1 Lecture (2 CH)	1 written scientific work under supervision or 1 combined scientific work	5	
Climate Governance in the Global South (MA-PAD-3c)	This module covers the linkages between global and national climate policy and different aspects of democratic governance. On the one hand, it is about the significance of the "Global South" for international climate negotiations, but also about case studies and comparisons of national policies as well as different attempts of cross-border cooperation to combat climate change.	1 Seminar (2 CH)	1 oral examination or 1 combined scientific work	5	

Section II

Entry into force

This subject-specific annex comes into force in the winter semester 2024/25.

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