UNIVERSITY OF HOHENHEIM

Curriculum

October 2022

Organic Agriculture and Food Systems

Master of Science

www.uni-hohenheim.de/eur-organic

Preamble

This curriculum provides applicants and students, as well as teaching and administrative staff with comprehensive information about the M.Sc. program “Organic Agriculture and Food Systems”. It contains information on the program structure and summarizes the most important exam regulations (issued the 12th of February 2019, including all amendments that were introduced up to 6th of July 2022).

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

If in doubt, please contact the coordinator of the program to obtain up-to-date information. For up-to-date module descriptions please refer to the website at https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue#Master . 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 .

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The Master's Program Organic Agriculture and Food Systems *(EUR-Organic)*

1. Program Objectives

Consumers are increasingly interested in the quality of their food and the manner in which it is produced. Organic farming offers consumers insight and influence over these aspects of their food, and is therefore increasing in the share of food consumed and produced.

The production standards of Organic farming ensure high product quality, sound use of natural and human resources, the maintenance of biodiversity, and the implementation of sustainable production systems without synthetic pesticides and fertilizers.

Organic farming is based on a holistic approach. The processing and marketing of organically grown food requires special skills and knowledge. As the market for organic products is a growing sector on a worldwide scale, there is a matching, growing need for experts to provide knowledge of the organic food chain, including primary food production, food processing, and quality control. To meet these demands, the University of Hohenheim has developed the M.Sc. Program "Organic Agriculture and Food Systems". This program will prepare students for these challenging tasks and offer them competitive, state-of-the-art training.

Hohenheim is the first university in Europe offering a master's program with an emphasis on the management of food systems in the organic sector.

The University of Hohenheim (UHOH) fosters contacts and partnerships with more than 50 universities worldwide as well as many renowned national and international institutions and companies. Students enrolled at Hohenheim are encouraged to take full advantage of this existing network, which opens doors to future opportunities.

Students can choose to follow a single degree or a double degree with one of our partner universities.

2. Modules

2.1. What is a Module?

A module is a teaching unit and can consist of several courses (lecture, seminar, excursion, practical exercises…). Modules 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.
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 = 25 – 30 h workload). A module of 6 credits corresponds to a workload of 4 SWS (4 weekly / 56 total contact hours). A module of 7.5 credits corresponds to a workload of 5 SWS (5 weekly / 70 total contact hours). In addition, each credit requires preparation time, summing up to a total work load of about 160 hours for one module of 6 credits and 200 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. 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.

2.3.1. 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. Unblocked modules are the standard for the Master's program in Organic Agriculture and Food Systems. All compulsory modules of this study program are unblocked

2.3.2. 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 therefor worth 7,5 credits. According to their individual focuses of interest, Organic students may choose blocked elective modules in their 3rd semester (summer semester). However, mixing blocked and unblocked modules in one semester it is not recommended, as lectures may overlap significantly.

2.4. 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

2.5. 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 number of modules out of a pool of semi-elective modules have to be chosen and completed. The Master's program in Organic Agriculture and Food Systems does not have semi-elective modules.

2.5.3. Elective modules

…are modules chosen by the individual student, 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.

There are two special cases of elective modules:

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.

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

2.5.4. 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, they can be shown on your final transcript.

2.5.5. 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). 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.

2.6. Module codes

Each module and each course has a specific code. 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.

3100-000 = institute number (31 – 49 in the Faculty of Agriculture)
00**01**-000 = department within the institute (01 - 99 possible)
0000-**01**0 = module designation:
01 - 20 basic modules for Bachelor's students
21 - 40 specialization study modules for Bachelor's students
41 - 80 modules for Master's students
81 - 90 modules for doctoral candidates
0000-01**1** = course 1 of a module (1 - 9 courses possible)

For example: 3090-440 Organic Food Systems and Concepts
3090: Number of the institute (309: Zentrum for Organic Farming)
440: The 4 indicates that it is a module on Master's level (lower numbers indicate Bachelor's level.)
0 indicates that it is the module name. 1, 2 or 3 as last digit indicate that it is a teaching sub-unit within a module (tutorial, exercises, lectures, etc.)

2.7. Individual Timetable

The master 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: www.uni-hohenheim.de. 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. 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").

2.8. 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 and evaluated by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and 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.

3. Examinations

Each module is completed with an examination. 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. 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.

It is possible to change the designation of completed elective and additional modules, i.e. replacing an elective module with a completed additional module, or a set of elective modules with a set of of completed additional modules. This exchange is only available on request, and only once during your studies. Therefore, students usually request the change shortly before finishing their degree, when they have the most information and can make the best choices of their available completed modules.

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 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!

3.2. Exam Repetition

If an exam is failed, the Examinations Office will inform the student via post. Students are responsible for checking with the responsible professor or the Examinations Office 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

4.1. Credit Point System

With each completed module, the 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.

4.2. Transfer of grades from the partner universities

The double degree structure of the EurOrganic program requires that students change to one of the four partner universities (host universities) in the second year of their studies. Once the remaining courses and the Master's thesis have been completed at the host university the students have to send the transcript of records of the host university to the examinations office at the University of Hohenheim. The grades of the host university will be included in the transcript of records of Hohenheim. The transfer of the grades from the partner universities is calculated as follows:

UHOH			AU	ISARA	WULS	BOKU
	grades	grade-points				
very good	A	1	12	>16,00-15,61	5	1
	A-	1,3	*	15,60-14,81	*	*
good	B+	1,7	10	14,80-14,21	4,5	*
	B	2	*	14,20-13,61	*	2
	B-	2,3	7	13,60-12,81	4	*
medium	C+	2,7	*	12,80-12,21	*	*
	C	3	*	12,20-11,61	*	3
	C-	3,3	4	11,60-10,81	3,5	*
pass	D+	3,7	*	10,80-10,21	*	*
	D	4	2	10,20-10,00	3	4
fail	F	5	<2	<10	2	5

UHOH: = University of Hohenheim, Germany
AU = Aarhus University, Denmark
ISARA = Agro School for Life, Lyon, France
WULS = Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Polen
BOKU = University of Natural Resources and Life Science, Austria

5. Teaching Staff

Most modules are organized and taught by professors of the University of Hohenheim who 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 from research, development, and policy institutions cover additional topics, enriching the curriculum with special fields of expertise.

6. Semester

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). A 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.

7. Program Design

To tackle problems in quality control and processing, knowledge of all aspects of the organic food chain is necessary. Therefore, the M.Sc. program follows a general approach including primary production as well as processing and marketing. Modern teaching methods such as discussion sessions, research seminars, case studies, and excursions to organic farms and processing firms are an integral part of the curriculum. The problem-based interdisciplinary module 'Project in Organic Agriculture and Food Systems' constitutes a major focus of the study program.

The two-year M.Sc. program "Organic Agriculture and Food Systems" comprises four semesters, during which thematic modules and the Master's thesis have to be completed. Grades are based on the Euro-

pean Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which facilitates international applicability and mobility. The language of instruction is English. Students can decide to study the program as a Double- or Single-Degree Program. The program starts in September (Double Degree) or October (Single Degree) of each year. A maximum of 30 students can be admitted to the program each year.

	1st Semester (at UHOH)	**2nd Semester** (at UHOH)	**3rd Semester** (UHOH, BOKU, AU, or WULS)	**4th Semester** (UHOH, BOKU, AU, or WULS)
6 Credits	**3090-440** (Zikeli) Organic Food Systems and Concepts OR **3090-460** (Zikeli) Principles of Organic Food Systems	**3090-430** (Zikeli) Processing and Quality of Organic Food	Elective module	**Master Thesis** (30 credits)
6 Credits	**4902-440** (Brockmeier) Economics and Environmental Policy	**4203-460** (Weinrich) Sustainability Marketing & Marketing Consulting	Elective module	
6 Credits	**4302-460** (Bieling) Global Agri-food Systems: Conventional, Organic, and Beyond	**3401-460** (Claupein) Organic Plant Production	Elective module	
6 Credits	**4908-480** (Chagunda) Organic Livestock Farming and Products	Elective module	Elective module	
6 Credits	**3090-450** (Zikeli) Project in Organic Agriculture and Food Systems *(12 credits)*		Elective module	

7.1. Single degree

Students who intend to study the entire program in Hohenheim will receive a Single Degree. Their first compulsory module to be followed will be “Organic Food Systems and Concepts.

During the first year at Hohenheim, the compulsory modules cover all aspects of Organic Agriculture and Food Systems from plant and animal production to food processing, socio-economic and socio-cultural aspects. One elective module can be chosen from the list of all master’s modules offered by the Faculty of Agriculture.

In the third and fourth semester, students choose additional five modules at Hohenheim and work on their thesis. It is expected that a thesis will pursue empirical or theoretical questions relating to ongoing research projects. However, suggestions and ideas from students in this matter are actively encouraged. It is also possible to carry out the master’s thesis at one of the various partner universities or research institutions abroad.

7.2. Double Degree

Students who follow a double degree with Hohenheim as their “home university” will spend their first two semesters at the University of Hohenhem and move over to their chosen partner university for their second year of studying.

The Double Degree M.Sc. program EUR-Organic offers a comprehensive and integrative education in all areas of organic farming, as well as the processing and commercialization of organic food. The core of EUR-Organic is comprised of specialization areas that enable the students to profit from the different foci of organic agriculture teaching and research of the partner universities.

None of the partner universities alone can offer such a wide range of elective and compulsory modules on organic agriculture and food systems. Together the partners create an added value for the students in teaching and research, e.g. in the wide range of topics for the Master’s thesis. Students are challenged by different thematic approaches throughout the course of their studies: while the University of Hohenheim (UHOH) focuses primarily on the food chain.

In order to benefit from this complementary expertise and to get the most out of the program, students are required to spend one year at their chosen home university and one year at their chosen host university.

7.3. Partner Universities

To obtain a double degree in cooperation with BOKU, ISARA, WULS, or AU, double degree students have to study abroad in the third and fourth semester at one of these partner universities.

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria, (BOKU) emphasizes the systematic approach of organic farming. At Aarhus University (AU), Denmark, students can focus on either animal health and welfare or plant nutrition and health. Warsaw University of Life Sciences (WULS), Poland, offers a specialized study profile on "Organic Food Processing and Marketing" from the outset and ISARA, Lyon, France, (ISARA) is specialized in Agroecology. Details of the specializations at all these universities are described at: https://www.eur-organic.eu/en.

Single degree students may also request to spend the semester at universities within the UHOH’s network of partner universities, especially at the other ELLS partners (LIFE, University of Kopenhagen, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Sweden; Wageningen University, Netherlands; Czech University of Life Sciences (CZU), Czech Republic, or other universities worldwide.

7.4. Compulsory modules (Semester 1+2)

According to following a single or double degree, you follow one of the two following compulsory modules:

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
1	3090-440	**Organic Food Systems and Concepts** *(single degree)*	1 Semester	6	Zikeli
1	3090-460	**Principles of Organic Food Systems** *(double degree)*	1 Semester	6	Zikeli

1	4902-440	**Economics and Environmental Policy**	1 Semester	6	Brockmeier/Boysen-Urban
1	4302-460	**Global Agri-food Systems: Conventional, Organic, and Beyond**	1 Semester	6	Bieling
1	4908-450	**Organic Livestock Farming and Products**	1 Semester	6	Chagunda
1+2	3090-450	**Project in Organic Agriculture and Food Systems**	2 Semester	12	Zikeli
2	3090-430	**Processing and Quality of Organic Food**	1 Semester	6	Zikeli
2	4203-460	**Sustainability Marketing & Marketing Consulting**	1 Semester	6	Weinrich
2	3401-460	**Organic Plant Production**	1 Semester	6	Graeff-Hönninger

A maximum of three compulsory modules may be replaced with the corresponding number of electives if knowledge corresponding to content and scope of the modules to be replaced can be proven from the previous study program which forms the admission requirement for the degree program Organic Agriculture and Food Systems. Permission shall be granted by the examination committee upon request by the student and upon the mentor's recommendation.

7.5. Potential elective modules (recommendation for Summer and Winter Semester)

At Hohenheim, the six elective modules can be chosen from the complete module catalogue of the Faculty of Agriculture's Master's programs, including many disciplinary and interdisciplinary subjects.

Sugestions for **elective modules**:

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
1-4	**3000-410**	Portfolio-Module (Master) *(not graded)(for Details see HohCampus)*	Not defined	1 – 7.5	Kruse, M.
2	**3090-420**	Problems and Perspectives of Organic Farming	1 Semester	6	Zikeli
2	**3603-420**	Crop Protection in Organic Farming	1 Semester	6	Petschenka
2	4301-460	Fit for Innovation Support – Concepts, Methods and Skills	1 Semester	6	Knierim

Sem	Code	Name of Module	Duration	Credits	Professor
2	4902-420	International Food and Agricultural Trade	1 Semester	6	Brockmeier /Boysen-Urban
2	4903-470	Qualitative Research Methods in Rural Development Studies	1 Semester	6	Birner
3	3003-410	Food Safety and Quality Chains	Blocked in March	6	Schöne
3	3409-440	Soil Fertility and Fertilisation in Organic Farming	1 Semester	6	Müller, T.
3	3402-420	Quantitative Methods in Biosciences	1 Semester	6	Piepho
3	3090-410	Organic Farming in the Tropics and Subtropics	1 Semester	6	Zikeli
3	4301-410	Knowledge and Innovation Management	1 Semester	6	Knierim
3	4301-420	Inter- and Transdisciplinary Research Approaches in Bioeconomics	1 Semester	6	Knierim
3	4301-470	Agricultural Knowledge Systems and Advisory Services	1 Semester	6	Knierim
3	4302-420*	Ethical Reflection on Food and Agriculture	1 Semester	6	Bieling
3	4901-470*	Quantitative Methods in Economics	Second half of semester	6	Zeller
3	4903-500	Policy Processes in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management	1 Semester	6	Birner
3	4906-410*	Ecology and Agroecosystems	1 Semester	6	Graß
3	4908-460	Hot Topics and Advanced Methods in Animal Genetics and Breeding	1 Semester	6	Chagunda

* Number of places is limited. Please register for participation on ILIAS

For the complete catalog, refer to https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue#Master.

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 of the University of Hohenheim or other universities. With compulsory and elective modules together, at least 90 credits have to be reached.

7.6. Module Descriptions and Registration

The module titles and identification numbers are listed above. For details about contents, lecturers, and methods of instruction, refer to https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/module-catalogue#Master. Please register online on the e-learning platform ILIAS (https://ilias.uni-hohenheim.de/) for each module, you would like to participate in. The individual ILIAS link of each course is found in the module description.

8. Profiles and specialisations for incoming double degree students

The modules of these profiles are suggestions. The specialisations are meant to help incoming double degree students to find the profile that most closely matches their interests and provide a starting point for selecting courses at the University of Hohenheim. All modules of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences are available at https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/course-catalog

8.1. Socioeconomics and Organic Agriculture

Suggested Modules:
Winter term:

Sem	Code	Modules	Duration	Credits	Professor
3	3409-440	Soil Fertility and Fertilisation in Organic Farming	1 Semester	6	Müller,T.
3	3090-410	Organic Farming in the Tropics and Subtropics	1 Semester	6	Zikeli
3	4902-440	Economics and Environmental Policy	1 Semester	6	Brockmeier/Boysen-Urban
3	4301-410	Knowledge and Innovation Management	1 Semester	6	Knierim
3	4302-460	Global Agri-food Systems: Conventional, Organic, and Beyond	1 Semester	6	Bieling

Summer term:

Sem	Code	Modules	Duration	Credits	Professor
2	4101-410	Environmental and Resource Economics	1 Semester	6	Lippert
2	4201-410	Agricultural and Food Policy	1 Semester	6	Wieck
2	4203-460	Sustainability Marketing & Marketing Consulting	1 Semester	6	Weinrich
2	4903-470	Qualitative Research Methods in Rural Development Studies	1 Semester	6	Birner
2	4903-450	Innovations in Agriculture	1 Semester	6	Birner

8.2. Organic Farming in the Trop. and Subtrop

Suggested Modules:
Winter term

Sem	Code	Modules	Duration	Credits	Professor
3	3409-440	Soil Fertility and Fertilisation in Organic Farming	1 Semester	6	Müller, T.
3	3409-480	Fertilisation and Soil Fertility Mangement in the Tropics and Subtropics	1 semester e-learning	6	Müller, T.
3	3090-410	Organic Farming in the Tropics and Subtropics	1 Semester	6	Zikeli

Sem	Code	Modules	Duration	Credits	Professor
3	4301-410	Knowledge and Innovation Management	1 Semester	6	Knierim
3	4302-460	Global Agri-food Systems: Conventional, Organic, and Beyond	1 Semester	6	Bieling
3	4905-420	Crop Production Systems	1 Semester	6	Cadisch
3	4906-410*	Ecology and Agroecosystems	1 Semester	6	Graß
3	4908-440	Livestock Production Systems and Development	1 Semester	6	Chagunda

Summer Term

Sem	Code	Modules	Duration	Credits	Professor
2	4403-550	Post-Harvest Technology of Food and Bio-Based Products	SS, Block 2	7.5	Müller, J.
2	4403-470	Renewable Energy for Rural Areas	SS, Block 3	7.5	Müller, J.
2	4905-430	Integrated Agricultural Production Systems	SS, Block 2	7.5	Cadisch
2	4905-470	Biodiversity and Genetic Resources	SS, Block 2	7.5	Rasche
2	4907-420	Ecophysiology of Crops in the Trop. and Subtrop.	SS, Block 2	7.5	Asch
2	4908-420	Promotion of Livestock in Tropical Environments	SS, Block 4	7.5	Chagunda

8.3. Organic Crop Production

Suggested Modules**:**
Winter Term

Sem	Code	Modules	Duration	Credits	Professor
3	3409-440	Soil Fertility and Fertilisation in Organic Farming	1 Semester	6	Müller, T.
3	3409-480	Fertilisation and Soil Fertility Mangement in the Tropics and Subtropics	1 semester e-learning	6	Müller, T.
3	3408-460	Plant Quality	1 Semester	6	Ludewig
3	3402-420	Quantitative Methods in Biosciences	1 Semester	6	Piepho
3	3504-460*	Seed Testing	1 Semester	6	Kruse
3	3603-480	Entomology	1 Semester	6	Petschenka
3	4906-410*	Ecology and Agroecosystems	1 Semester	6	Graß

Summer Term:

Sem	Code	Modules	Duration	Credits	Professor
2	3401-460	Organic Plant Production	1 Semester	6	Claupein
2	3090-420	Problems and Perspectives of Organic Farming	1 Semester	6	Zikeli
2	3501-450	Breeding Methodology	1 Semester	6	Würschum
2	3603-420	Crop Protection in Organic Farming	1 Semester	6	Petschenka

9. Master thesis

The Master's thesis is intended to show that the candidate is able to work independently on a problem in the field of "Organic Agriculture and Food Systems" within a fixed period of time by applying scientific methods. The exam consists of a written (thesis) and an oral (defense) part. The candidate has to defend the essential arguments, results, and methods of the thesis in a colloquium of 30-45 minutes. The written part of the Master's thesis has to be completed within a period of six months. It is usually written during the fourth semester. Depending on the chosen topic, there might be cases where the third semester is more appropriate. Thesis work includes a literature review, new and original data derived from field work, a period of writing-up, and, finally, a presentation. This work can be carried out either at University of Hohenheim or at one of the 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.

It is recommended that you register the Master's thesis at the beginning of the fourth semester, but this is not a requirement, there is some flexibility. However, the thesis must be registered by the beginning of the seventh semester at the very latest. Otherwise, it is graded "fail" (F; score 5.0) and the degree cannot be completed.

10. Degree

After successful completion of all modules, as well as the thesis, the student is awarded the degree "Master of Science" (M.Sc.) in Organic Agriculture and Food Systems either as a single or as a double degree. This degree entitles the student to continue with a Ph.D./doctoral program if the total grade is above average.

11. Academic Counselling

Academic counsellors are assigned to advise on appropriate profiles and to support smooth and focused study progress. Elective modules that are suitable for the individual profile can be discussed with them. 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 course coordinator beforehand.

Academic counsellors are:

Dr. Zikeli, head of program and Center for Organic Farming

Prof. Lippert, Institute for Production Theory and Resource Economics

Prof. T. Müller, Institute of Fertilization and Soil Matter Dynamics

Dr. Reiber, Institute of Animal Breeding and Husbandry in the Tropics and Subtropics

12. Additional Offers for Students

12.1. Student Groups

Beside its academic offerings, the University of Hohenheim has an active student life with a great variety of student groups. They range from cultural integration, lived faith in religious groups & diverse world views, ecological, economic, social groups, to political work.
Participation in these groups contributes to the Campus life in Hohenheim and enables a variety of extra offers and activities like:

- Student excursions
- Specific Presentations and lectures
- Workshops
- Diskussion rounds
- Social meetings
- Intercultural exchange
- *and many more*.

An overview of the different student groups at the University and their descriptions and activities can be found at: https://vs.uni-hohenheim.de/student-gruppen .

12.2. Language center

The language center offers students the opportunity to acquire additional qualifications in ten different languages. Besides classical language courses the offer includes workshops and language exames to acquire certificates. These programms are offered during the lecture times. German courses are also offered as intensive courses during the lecture free periode. More information can be found at: https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/en/language-center.

12.3. Career Consultation offers at the University of Hohenheim

The “Career Center Hohenheim “(CCH) offers advice and mediation at the transition between studies and career as well as between students and companies. A comprehensive range of services is available to students of the University of Hohenheim free of charge:

Orientation counselling:
- Career orientation test: What are my strengths, abilities, and interests?
- Which occupation and field of activity suits me?
- How do I develop a professional profile during my studies?

Application counselling:
- Where can I find suitable positions for internships and career entry?
- How do I create professional application documents?
- How does an interview work?

Finding internships and jobs:
- Life Science" company contact fair on campus for agricultural and natural scientists
- Campus meets Company: Well-known companies introduce themselves
- Job database for Hohenheim students

Further information can be found under: www.uni-hohenheim.de/career

12.4. Career Opportunities

Organic agriculture is a growing market requiring experts with well-founded knowledge in the production of organic food as well as processing and quality control. A Masters degree in “Organic Agriculture and Food Systems” qualifies the graduates for national and international jobs in the Agricultural and Food Sector. Possible career fields are:

- Organic food and cosmetic companies
- Trade
- Quality management
- Certification
- Agricultural consulting
- Non-governmental organizations and associations
- Universities and research institutions
- Agricultural management

The Master´s degree also qualifies its graduates for starting a doctorate.

Examples of possible careers after the graduation can be foud at the EurOrganic alumni website: https://www.uni-hohenheim.de/eurorganic-alumni

13. Contact

Responsible Scientist
Dr. Sabine Zikeli,
Executive Director of the Center for Organic Farming at the University of Hohenheim

Contact
Program Coordinator Organic Agriculture and Food Systems,
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www.uni-hohenheim.de/eur-organic

Blocked Modules in Winter Semester 2022/23

● = Pflicht/Compulsory ◖ = Wahlpflicht/Semi-elective ○ = Wahl/Elective

Blockperiode / Period **Studiengang / Study Course**	**Block 1** *(7.5 credits!)* **17.10. - 11.11.2022**	**Block 2** *(7.5 credits!)* **14.11. - 09.12.2022**	**Block 3** *(7.5 credits!)* **12.12. – 22.12.2022 + 09.01. – 20.01.2023**	**Block 4** *(7.5 credits!)* **23.01. - 17.02.2023**	**März-Block/ March Block** **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** (Rodehutscord) 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 at Bremerhaven) (6 credits)*
					In 2023, 2025…: ○ **4907-490** (Asch) Excursion to the Tropics and Subtropics (*2 weeks in Feb/March) (6 credits)*

Check HohCampus for how to register for participation: View module handbooks

Blocked Modules in Summer Semester 2023

● = Pflicht/Compulsory ◖ = Wahlpflicht/Semi-elective ○ = Wahl/Elective

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 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				
	2023, 2025, 2027…: ◖ **3101-460** (Herrmann) Soils of the World - Formation, Classification, and Land Evaluation	◖ **3201-620** (Schmieder) Vegetation and Soils of Centr. Europe		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 Gentechnikrecht	◖ **4408-480** (Kruse, A.) Der Business Design Prozess - Von der Idee zum Produkt (*6 Credits*)
Tierwissenschaften: Profil Ernährung und Futtermittel	◖ **4603-420** (Seifert) Futtermittelmikrobiologie			◖ **4601-450** (Rodehutscord.) Spezielle Ernährung der Wiederkäuer	
Tierwissenschaften: Profil Genomik und Züchtung		◖ **4607-510** (Bennewitz) Zuchtplanung und Zuchtpraxis i. d. Nutztierwissenschaften	◖ **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) Leistungsassoziierte 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) Ecophysiology of Crops in the T+S	
	◖ **4613-420** (Camarinha Silva) Microbiome in animals and humans	◖ **4611-430** (Kube) Infektionserkrankungen, 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) Leistungsassoziierte 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** (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	

Check HohCampus for how to register for participation: View module handbooks

M.Sc. AgriTropics	● **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)*
M.Sc. EnviroFood	● **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	
M.Sc. EnvEuro Environmental Management	● **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
M.Sc. Landscape Ecology	◖ **3201-590** (Schurr) Combining Ecological Modells 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

WS 22/23	**First day of un-blocked modules:**	(42. KW) Monday, 17 Oct 2022
	First day of blocked modules:	(42. KW) Monday, 17 Oct 2022
	Last day of un-blocked modules:	(5. KW) Saturday, 04 Feb 2023
	Last day of blocked modules:	(7. KW) Friday, 17 Feb 2023
SS 23	**First day of blocked modules:**	(14. KW) Monday, 3 April 2023
	First day of un-blocked modules:	(14. KW) Monday, 3 April 2023
	Last day of un-blocked modules:	(28. KW) Saturday, 15 July 2023
	Last day of blocked modules:	(30. KW) Friday, 28 July 2023

No lectures: All Saints' Day: Thurs, 01 Nov 2022, Christmas holidays: Fri, 23 Dec 2022 – Sat 07 Jan 2023, Easter: Fri, 7 Apr – Mon, 10 Apr 2023, International Labor Day: Sun, 01 May 2023, Ascension: Thurs, 18 May 2023, Pentecost: Mon, 29 May 2023 – Sat, 3 Jun 2023 (excursions might take place during that week!), Corpus Christi: Thurs, 8 June 2023.

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

Examination periods for the winter semester 2022/23 and the summer semester 2023 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