



# Announcement

**Academic year 2020/2021 – issued on 10 May 2021 – number 122**

Any designations of functions are neutral in gender.

## Curricula

### **122 Curriculum for the master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability**

At its meeting on 6 May 2021, the Senate approved the version of the Curriculum for the master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability stated below, which was resolved on 19 April 2021 by the Curriculum Committee, a body holding decision-making power, and established in accordance with section 25, para. 8, no. 3 and para. 10 of the 2002 Universities Act.

The legal basis is the 2002 Universities Act and the section of the Statutes of the University of Vienna governing university studies as amended from time to time.

#### § 1 Objectives and qualification profile

(1) The English-language master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability at the University of Vienna aims at educating graduates who are able to identify and analyse challenges, changes and complex problems in geography from a natural sciences and social sciences perspective, taking into account global change and the sustainability debate and are able to develop interdisciplinary possible solutions.

The degree programme addresses national and international perspectives on current theory-led geography research on the causes and consequences of global change, societal and environmental challenges in the context of sustainability, as well as relevant application techniques. Thereby, it aims at a balance between thematic specialisation and a wider, holistic context of global change and sustainability. For this purpose, graduates acquire extensive competences in relevant fields (specialisations: Migration and Population Dynamics, Socio-Economic Transformations, Earth Surface Dynamics and Management, Geoecology). The Curriculum has an international orientation and courses are held in English. Academic research and writing as well as methodological and subject-specific competences are developed in combination with working and analysis techniques across specialisations. These techniques reflect the discipline of geography and its scale-dependent and spatio-temporal explicit approaches to the dynamics of global change and sustainability.

(2) Graduates of the master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability at the University of Vienna are qualified, on a master's degree level, to analyse complex questions of the interaction

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Course types and their abbreviations: see § 8.

between humans and their social, physical-material and digital environment and to prepare solution strategies. Graduates have the necessary skills to deal with current societal challenges in an interdisciplinary way and to attribute complex spatial and temporal events to their underlying processes. They are able to reflect on theories, concepts and applications and consolidate them on site depending on the context. They are able to understand and co-design societal processes of negotiation with regard to future change and strategic agenda setting. They have acquired competences to be able to take evidence-based decisions as innovative stakeholders in society, the economy, politics and academia who are open to criticism and are intellectually open.

The complexity of the spatio-temporal investigation of global change, sustainability and transformation in geography is also reflected by the breadth of the professional fields for graduates. These range from research and development, administration and public service (on an international, a national, regional or local level), international development assistance and conservation area management to NGOs covering sustainability issues, engineering and planning agencies, private-sector site assessments and process modelling. Therefore, students can additionally and individually focus on applied and research-led approaches in courses of the Specialisation modules.

## § 2 Duration and scope

- (1) The workload for the master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability comprises 120 ECTS credits. This is equivalent to a degree programme duration of four semesters.
- (2) The programme is deemed completed if 55 ECTS credits as defined in the provisions on compulsory modules, 35 ECTS credits as defined in the provisions on alternative compulsory modules and/or elective modules, 25 ECTS credits as defined in the provisions on the master's thesis and 5 ECTS credits as defined in the provisions on the master's examination have been obtained.

## § 3 Entry requirements

- (1) To be admitted to the master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability students must have completed an eligible bachelor's programme or an eligible bachelor's programme at a university of applied sciences or an equivalent degree programme at a recognised Austrian or foreign post-secondary educational institution.
- (2) The bachelor's programme in Geography at the University of Vienna is certainly eligible.
- (3) If the qualification is basically equivalent and only certain supplementary qualifications are required to recognise equivalence, additional courses and examinations corresponding to no more than 30 ECTS credits may be prescribed for full equivalence, which must be taken during the course of the master's programme.
- (4) The language of instruction of the master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability is English. Students must have English language proficiency corresponding to level B2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).

## § 4 Academic degree

Graduates of the master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability are awarded the degree

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Course types and their abbreviations: see § 8.

"Master of Science", abbreviated as MSc. Where the academic degree is stated, this must be after the name.

## § 5 Structure – Modules with allocated ECTS credits

### (1) Overview

The master's programme in Geography: Global Change and Sustainability at the University of Vienna is structured as follows:

- Group of compulsory modules: Global Change and Sustainability (20 ECTS credits)
  - Fundamentals of Global Change and Sustainability from a Geographic Perspective (5 ECTS credits)
  - Pathways to Sustainability: Knowledge, Action and Policy Landscapes (5 ECTS credits)
  - Tackling Global Change and Sustainability as a Geographer (10 ECTS credits)
- Preparatory Module (5 ECTS credits)
- Group of compulsory modules: Specialisations (30 ECTS credits)
  - Migration and Population Dynamics (30 ECTS credits)
  - Socio-Economic Transformations (30 ECTS credits)
  - Earth Surface Dynamics and Management (30 ECTS credits)
  - Geoecology (30 ECTS credits)
- Open Mind modules I and II (10 ECTS credits)
- Mobility Module (25 ECTS credits)
- Master's Thesis (25 ECTS credits) and Public Defence (5 ECTS credits)

Students decide on their specialisation by choosing the relevant preparatory module. They can only change their specialisation by completing the relevant preparatory module of the new specialisation anew. The available places for every specialisation depend on the relevant course capacities.

In the courses of the specialisation modules, students can individually concentrate on a research focus or applied focus. Courses may also be assigned to two more or specialisations subject to the provision on no dual use (section 11, para. 5).

### (2) Module descriptions

Group of compulsory modules: Global Change and Sustainability

Group of compulsory modules: Global Change and Sustainability I / PF FUNDS	Fundamentals of Global Change and Sustainability from a Geographic Perspective (compulsory module)	5 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	

Module outcomes	Students know the most important scientific fundamentals of the topic of global change and sustainability. They are familiar with the drivers of global change and its manifold effects on different scales. Students are able to address sustainability-related issues from the perspectives of physical geography and human geography based on related theories and concepts.
Module structure	VO Fundamentals of Global Change and Sustainability from a Geographic Perspective (non-continuous assessment), 5 ETCS credits, 2 SSt.
Proof of performance	Passing of the course examination specified in the module (non-continuous assessment) (5 ECTS credits)
Language	English

Group of compulsory modules: Global Change and Sustainability II / PF PATHS	Pathways to Sustainability: Knowledge, Action and Policy Landscapes (compulsory module)	5 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	
Module outcomes	Students know solution strategies for sustainability challenges on different levels and are able to systematise these challenges. Students understand on which knowledge, assumptions and general perspectives solution strategies are based. They recognise the importance of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to sustainability problems as well as facilitating and hindering factors in the implementation of sustainability strategies.	
Module structure	VO Pathways to Sustainability: Knowledge, Action and Policy Landscapes (non-continuous assessment), 5 ETCS credits, 2 SSt.	
Proof of performance	Passing of the course examination specified in the module (non-continuous assessment) (5 ECTS credits)	
Language	English	

Group of compulsory modules: Global Change and Sustainability III / PF GEOCHANGE	Tackling Global Change and Sustainability as a Geographer (compulsory module)	10 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	

Module outcomes	<p>Students know different forms and strategies of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary collaboration. They are able to assess the potential contributions of geographers and analyse sustainability-related issues from the perspectives of physical geography and human geography based on related theories and concepts, and to develop solutions.</p> <p>Students can apply approaches and specific working methods (e.g. moderation, process design, project management and team work).</p> <p>Students know the professional fields of geographers in the area of global change and sustainability and are able to assess which competences are required for a successful career entry.</p>
Module structure	<p>SE Inter- and Transdisciplinary Approaches to Global Change and Sustainability (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.</p> <p>UE Understanding Global Change and Sustainability, 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.</p>
Proof of performance	Passing of all continuous assessment courses specified in the module (continuous assessment) (10 ECTS credits)
Language	English

Students must select one of the following four Preparatory Modules in the extent of 5 ECTS credits, which is the prerequisite for the group of compulsory modules Specialisation. The Preparatory Module serves the further acquisition or, if applicable, the further development of the competences required for the relevant specialisation.

Alternative compulsory module: Preparatory Module A / APF MIGBASICS	Mastering the Basics for the Specialisation in Global Change and Sustainability Research A (alternative compulsory module)	5 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	
Module outcomes	Upon successful completion of the module, students have acquired the basic competences regarding contents, methods and concepts required for the Specialisation in Migration and Population and are able to apply these competences.	
Module structure	SE or VU about Basics in Migration and Population Dynamics (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.	
Proof of performance	Passing of the continuous assessment course specified in the module (continuous assessment) (5 ECTS credits)	
Language	English	

Alternative compulsory module: Preparatory Module B / APF SOCOECBASICS	Mastering the Basics for the Specialisation in Global Change and Sustainability Research B (alternative compulsory module)	5 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	

Module outcomes	Upon successful completion of the module, students have acquired the basic competences regarding contents, methods and concepts required for the Specialisation in Socio-Economic Transformations and are able to apply these competences.
Module structure	SE or VU about Basics in Migration and Population Dynamics (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.
Proof of performance	Passing of the continuous assessment course specified in the module (continuous assessment) (5 ECTS credits)
Language	English

Alternative compulsory module: Preparatory Module C / APF SURFBASICS	Mastering the Basics for the Specialisation in Global Change and Sustainability Research C (alternative compulsory module)	5 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	
Module outcomes	Upon successful completion of the module, students have acquired the basic competences regarding contents, methods and concepts required for the Specialisation in Earth Surface Dynamics and Management and are able to apply these competences.	
Module structure	SE or VU about Basics in Earth Surface Dynamics and Management (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.	
Proof of performance	Passing of the continuous assessment course specified in the module (continuous assessment) (5 ECTS credits)	
Language	English	

Alternative compulsory module: Preparatory Module D / APF ECOLBASICS	Mastering the Basics for the Specialisation in Global Change and Sustainability Research D (alternative compulsory module)	5 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	
Module outcomes	Upon successful completion of the module, students have acquired the basic competences regarding contents, methods and concepts required for the Specialisation in Geoecology and are able to apply these competences.	
Module structure	SE or VU about Basics in Geoecology (5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.)	
Proof of performance	Passing of the continuous assessment course specified in the module (continuous assessment) (5 ECTS credits)	
Language	English	

Students must select one of the following specialisations corresponding to 30 ECTS credits:

#### A: Migration and Population Dynamics

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Course types and their abbreviations: see § 8.

- B: Socio-Economic Transformations
- C: Earth Surface Dynamics and Management
- D: Geoecology

The prerequisite for participating in the group of compulsory modules Specialisation is the passing of the relevant Preparatory Module. Students can concentrate individually on an applied focus or research focus in each course.

**A: Compulsory module: Specialisation: Migration and Population Dynamics (30 ECTS credits)**

Alternative group of compulsory modules: Specialisation Migration PF / APF MIGSPEC	Specialisation: Migration and Population Dynamics (alternative compulsory module)	30 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	Module: Mastering the Basics for the Specialisation in Global Change and Sustainability Research A	
Module outcomes	Students know the most important interactions between global change and migration, as well as the related population dynamics. Students are familiar with the contextualisation of these topics within global development and understand the specific situation of the Global South. Students are able to analyse relevant issues from the perspective of geography based on related theories and concepts. Upon completion of the module, students are familiar with methods and data sources in population geography. They are able to independently reconstruct analyses of the interactions between global change and migration and the related population dynamics. In addition, they are able to critically evaluate empirical studies.	
Module structure	2 SE about Migration and Population Dynamics in the Context of Global Change and Development I (continuous assessment), comprising 5 ETCS credits each, 2 SSt. 2 VU or UE about Key Methods in Analysing Migration and Population Dynamics in the Context of Global Change and Development (continuous assessment), comprising 5 ETCS credits each, 2 SSt. 2 SE project seminar or EX about Migration and Population Dynamics in the context of Global Change and Development: Research Design, Implementation and Analysis (continuous assessment), comprising 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt.	
Proof of performance	Passing of all continuous assessment courses specified in the module (continuous assessment) (30 ECTS credits)	
Language	English	

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**B: Compulsory module: Specialisation:  
Socio-Economic Transformations**

Compulsory module: Specialisation Socio- Economic Transformations / APF SOCOECSPEC	Specialisation: Socio-Economic Transformations (alternative compulsory module)	30 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	Module: Mastering the Basics for the Specialisation in Global Change and Sustainability Research B	

Module outcomes	Students understand development relationships on local and global levels and the development dynamics for sustainability innovations and transformations. They are able to analyse these by means of suitable concepts and methods. Students have profound knowledge of design principles, policy instrument and policy mixes on the regional level in the context of multi-level governance systems. They are able to devise regional and urban development strategies for socio-economic transformation processes (under specific consideration of stakeholder involvement and digitalisation). They understand spatial socio-economic dependency dynamics as well as development paths and alternatives.
Module structure	Students select <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 courses (SE or VU comprising 5 ECTS credits each, 2 SSt.) comprising 30 ECTS credits from the area of Geography of Innovation and Sustainability Transformations; Regional Innovation Policy and Governance; Globalisation and Sustainable Development</li> <li>• One course SE project seminar about Strategic Development and Governance (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.</li> <li>• One course SE project seminar about (Green) Socio-Economic Transformation in Space (continuous assessment), 10 ECTS credits, 4 SSt.</li> </ul>
Proof of performance	Passing of all continuous assessment courses specified in the module (continuous assessment) (30 ECTS credits)
Language	English

C: Compulsory module: Specialisation: Earth Surface Dynamics and Management

Alternative group of compulsory modules: Specialisation Earth Surface Dynamics and Management PF / APF SURFSPEC	Specialisation: Earth Surface Dynamics and Management (alternative compulsory module)	30 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	Module: Mastering the Basics for the Specialisation in Global Change and Sustainability Research C	
Module outcomes	Students acquire knowledge of spatio-temporally distinct surface processes, the forms of land surfaces and their constituent materials, and are able to describe and analyse them. They understand the human influence on geomorphological system in theory and practice. They know different natural hazards and their interrelations. Students can identify and analyse multiple hazards and risks as well as cascading effects and evaluate them by means of modelling and scenarios. They understand the fundamental interrelations between social systems and the changes on the earth's surface and the near-surface subsoil.	

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Module structure	<p>VU: Earth Surface Dynamics Lab (continuous assessment), 10 ECTS credits, 4 SSt.</p> <p>VU: Physical Geography: Human Impact on Geomorphological Systems (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.)</p> <p>VU: Earth Surface Dynamics: Landforms, Processes and Materials (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.</p> <p>SE: Natural Hazards and Risks Management and Governance (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.</p> <p>UE: Understanding, Analysing and Modelling Earth Surface Dynamics (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.</p>
Proof of performance	Passing of all continuous assessment courses specified in the module (continuous assessment) (30 ECTS credits)
Language	English

D: Compulsory module: Specialisation: Geoecology

Alternative group of compulsory modules: Specialisation: Geoecology / APF ECOLSPEC	Specialisation: Geoecology: Applied Soil Science, Wetlands, Landscape Analysis and Evaluation (alternative compulsory module)	30 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	Module: Mastering the Basics for the Specialisation in Global Change and Sustainability Research D	
Module outcomes	<p>Students learn about the embedding of soils in the landscape and can professionally map soils and document soil profiles. Based on detailed knowledge of soil properties and soil functions, they are able to examine and assess soils as technological substrates and to evaluate their role for society.</p> <p>Students know the diversity and functions of wetlands and can describe, measure and model their material cycles.</p> <p>They can analyse the vegetation cover of a landscape and its geoecological conditionality, and collect and assess landscape-related data in the field. They are able to prepare the complexity of landscapes for applications in the field of nature conservation and landscape management and can derive recommendations for sustainable use cases from these. Students are able to prepare research contents for different target groups and present them in controversial discussions.</p>	

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Module structure	PR Soil Mapping (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.  VU Soil Analysis (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. PR Wetland Analysis (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.  VU Wetland Biogeochemistry (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt. PR Landscape Analysis (continuous assessment), 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.  VU Landscape Evaluation (continuous assessment) 5 ECTS credits, 2 SSt.
Proof of performance	Passing of all continuous assessment courses specified in the module (continuous assessment) (30 ECTS credits)
Language	English

All students must complete the following compulsory modules.

Compulsory module: Open Mind I / PF OPEN I	Module: Open Mind (compulsory module)	5 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	
Module outcomes	The aim of this module is to provide students with knowledge of different perspectives and innovative formats to identify, understand and classify different dimensions of global change and sustainability in research and practice. The different formats in the courses are instructed, but should enable students' initiatives and promote their self-organisation. The module enables students to develop strategies and competences for independently addressing current geographical challenges. It further consolidates their skills in understanding controversial positions, discussing and presenting academic insights and findings and in making these accessible to a wider public. The lecturer provides an introduction to the topic in the course and supports students in apply the relevant format in the further course of the seminar.	
Module structure	SE about Open Minds for Global Change and Sustainability I (continuous assessment, 5 ECTS credits, 1 SSt.)	
Proof of performance	Passing of the continuous assessment course specified in the module (continuous assessment) (5 ECTS credits)	
Compulsory module: Open Mind II / PF OPEN II	Module: Open Mind II (compulsory module)	5 ECTS credits

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npi (nicht prüfungsimmanent): non-continuous assessment.

Course types and their abbreviations: see § 8.

Prerequisite for participation	none
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Module outcomes	The aim of this module is to provide students with knowledge of different perspectives and innovative formats to explore different dimensions of global change and sustainability in research and practice. The different formats in the courses are instructed, but should enable students' initiatives and their self-organisation. The module enables students to develop strategies and competences for independently addressing current geographical challenges. It further consolidates their skills in understanding controversial positions, discussing and presenting academic insights and findings and in making these accessible to a wider public. The lecturer provides an introduction to the topic in the course and supports students in applying the relevant format in the further course of the seminar.
Module structure	SE about Open Minds for Global Change and Sustainability II (continuous assessment, 5 ECTS credits, 1 SSt.)
Proof of performance	Passing of the continuous assessment course specified in the module (continuous assessment) (5 ECTS credits)

Compulsory module: Mobility / PF MOBIL	Module: Mobility (compulsory module)	25 ECTS credits
Prerequisite for participation	none	
Module outcomes	Students further develop their individual competences in the area of global change and sustainability through individual academic and/or practical consolidation. Students broaden their knowledge, acquire abilities and skills, build networks for their studies and their future professional career by participating in courses of other disciplines at the University of Vienna, other universities in Austria or abroad (e.g. ERASMUS), by completing internships in companies and organisations or by working in research projects.	

Module structure	<p>Students select in the extent of 25 ECTS credits in total:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual courses relevant to the topic of the degree programme from appropriate modules of other master's programmes at the University of Vienna and other universities or research institutions in Austria or abroad</li> <li>• Participation in research projects at the Department of Geography and Regional Research and other units of the University of Vienna</li> <li>• Internships clearly relevant to the research and application of the degree programme at companies, research institutions, organisations, etc. relevant to the topic of the degree programme; comprising no more than 10 ECTS credits.</li> </ul> <p>A confirmation for the hours worked serves as a proof of performance for the participation in research projects and for internships, whereas 1 ECTS credit corresponds to 25 working hours.</p> <p>The competent body responsible for study matters must approve the student's choice in advance.</p>
Proof of performance	<p>Passing of all course examinations (non-continuous assessment) and continuous assessment courses (pi) and/or the practical course specified in the module (25 ECTS credits in total)</p>

## § 6 Master's thesis

(1) The master's thesis serves to demonstrate the student's ability to achieve adequate standards of content and methodology when independently addressing and presenting academic topics. The assignment for the master's thesis must be so chosen that the participant can reasonably be expected to complete it within six months.

(2) The topic of the master's thesis must be taken from one of the Specialisation modules. If a different topic is selected or if there is uncertainty regarding allocation of the selected topic, the competent body responsible for study matters should decide on whether or not it is admissible.

(3) The master's thesis comprises 25 ECTS credits.

## § 7 Master's examination

(1) To be admitted to a master's examination the student must have successfully passed all required modules and examinations and the master's thesis must have been positively assessed.

(2) The master's examination is conducted before an examination committee in accordance with the

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section of the University's Statutes governing university studies. The master's examination is a public defence. This form of examination consists of a defence and an examination on the academic disciplines related to the master's thesis. Grading will be conducted as stipulated in the Statutes of the University of Vienna.

(3) The master's examination comprises 5 ECTS credits.

#### § 8 Mobility during the master's programme

In particular, a stay abroad can be completed as part of the Mobility Module.

The competent body responsible for study matters is responsible for the recognition of academic achievements completed abroad in this module.

#### § 9 Course classification

(1) All courses with non-continuous assessment (npi) have to be offered as one of the following types of courses:

Lectures (*Vorlesungen, VO*) are courses with non-continuous assessment of student performance and aim at giving an introduction to facts, methods and doctrines in different fields of geography and, in general, to the mindset in geography. Moreover, existing relevant knowledge and skills are consolidated. Furthermore, they present applications and relations to applications and inform about the use of diverse aids, especially of computers, including software. Lectures are talks with interactive elements. Lecturers answer comprehension questions. Students must consolidate the course contents beyond the classes through self-study. Instructions for self-study facilitate continuous and detailed learning. In a lecture, materials to prepare for the examination as well as mandatory reading and recommended reading are made available for preparation and revision. The proof of performance is a written or oral final examination.

(2) All courses with continuous assessment (pi) have to be offered as one of the following types of courses:

Exercises (*Übungen, UE*) are courses with continuous assessment that serve the application of already acquired knowledge and the consolidation of skills that are required for the methodological implementation of the course contents. This is based on specific tasks and assignments. During exercises, students work on tasks independently and create or use application programmes. Students are mainly supervised individually or in small groups. Lecturers are mainly tasked with guiding and monitoring students' work. The proof of performance is active participation in the course and the realisation and submission of independent tasks (if applicable, in a suitable presentation format), which students may have to complete also beyond the actual classes.

Combined lectures and exercises (*Vorlesungen und Übungen, VU*) are courses with continuous assessment that combine the acquisition of subject knowledge and/or methodological knowledge in the lecture part with their application in the exercise part. The lecture part and the exercise part must be completed simultaneously. The proof of performance is the implementation and submission of independent tasks as well as a written or oral final examination.



Seminars (*Seminare, SE*) are courses with continuous assessment and serve to induce academic debate and reflection. Seminars aim at giving students the ability to gain detailed knowledge of a selected sub-problem through the study of specialist literature and data sources. Students also learn to present their findings in an oral specialist presentation, including the use of didactic and linguistic means. Usually, participants have to submit a written report that conforms to the requirements of a full-fledged research paper regarding form and content and make an oral presentation. Lecturers supervise and support the process of writing a seminar paper from its conception and the formulation of a research question until its submission. Students may also write seminar papers in small groups. The proof of performance is active participation in the course and writing and presenting a seminar paper.

SE Project seminars (*Projektseminare*) serve the detailed introduction to research practice. Through participation in ongoing research projects and/or supervisor-guided own small research projects, students familiarise themselves with the different steps in academic research projects from the formulation of a hypothesis to the interpretation of results. Usually, participants document and present the results in an adequate form. These have to meet the principles of good academic practice.

Practical courses (PR, including field or practical laboratory courses) are courses complementing lectures, exercises and seminars and aim at consolidating practical skills and knowledge. Students independently work on small projects, individually or in small groups. These supervised projects require continuous effort over several weeks in the lecture hall, in the laboratory and/or in the field. The focus is on practical work and on carrying out experiments instructed and controlled by the lecturers. The proof of performance is active participation in the course, the completion of tasks and the submission of a/several work protocol(s) and/or a/several project report(s).

Field trips (*Exkursionen, EX*) allow students to acquire and deepen subject-specific knowledge in the field. Usually, participants have to submit a written assignment. Field trips should be held in periods when there are no classes, if possible.

#### § 10 Courses with a limited number of participants and registration procedure

(1) No more than 15 students can participate in the course with continuous assessment 'practical laboratory course' (LP). No more than 25 students can participate in the course with continuous assessment 'SE project seminar'.

No more than 25 students can participate in the courses with continuous assessment 'seminar' (SE) and 'practical course' (PR). No more than 30 students can participate in the course with continuous assessment 'field trip' (EX).

No more than 50 students can participate in the courses with continuous assessment 'exercise' (UE) and 'lecture plus exercise' (VU).

(2) Modalities concerning the registration for courses and examinations as well as the allocation of places in courses are governed by the stipulations of the Statutes of the University of Vienna.

#### § 11 Examination regulations

##### (1) Proof of performance in courses

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The lecturer of a course is responsible for making the necessary announcements according to the stipulations in the Statutes.

(2) Examination content

The examination content relevant to preparing and holding examinations must be in line with the required number of ECTS credits. This also applies to module examinations.

(3) Examination procedure

The examination procedure is subject to the stipulations of the Statutes of the University of Vienna.

(4) No double recognition and no dual use

Courses taken and examinations passed in the degree programme, which constitute entry requirements for the master's programme, cannot be recognised again in the master's programme. If courses taken in the degree programme, which constitute an entry requirement for the degree programme, are compulsory according to the curriculum, the competent body responsible for study matters can determine what courses must be attended in place of the others. Courses taken and examinations passed from another compulsory or elective module of the degree programme cannot be recognised within another module within the same degree programme. This also applies to recognition procedures.

(5) Examination results must be allocated to the relevant module by the stated ECTS figure and must not be allocated to different proofs of performance.

## § 12 Entry into force

This Curriculum will enter into force upon announcement in the University Gazette of the University of Vienna as of 1 October 2021.

## § 13 Transitional provisions

(1) This Curriculum applies to all students who commence their degree programme as of the winter semester of 2021.

(2) If, at a later stage of the degree programme, courses are no longer offered which were compulsory under the original curricula, the competent body responsible for study matters decides *ex officio* (equivalence regulation) or at the request of the student which courses and examinations have to be completed instead.

(3) Students who have started the master's programme in Geography before this date may voluntarily accept the provisions of this Curriculum by simple confirmation.

(4) Students who started the master's programme in Geography, which entered into force prior to this Curriculum (University Gazette of 22 June 2007, 31st edition, no. 166 as amended) are entitled to complete their degree programme by 30 November 2023.

(5) The competent body responsible for study matters specified in the organisational regulations is entitled to determine in general or on a case-by-case basis which of the courses taken and examinations passed will be recognised for this Curriculum.

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On behalf of the Senate:  
The Chair of the Curriculum Committee  
K r a m m e r

## Appendix

Recommended path through the master's programme:

### 1. Semester (30 ECTS credits)

- Group of compulsory modules: Global Change and Sustainability (20 ECTS credits)
- Alternative compulsory module – Preparatory Module (5 ECTS credits): students must select one of the four modules offered according to the desired specialisation.
- Open Mind Module I (5 ECTS credits)

### 2. Semester (30 ECTS credits)

- Group of compulsory modules: Specialisations (15 ECTS credits): students must select one of the 4 specialisations offered, while they can concentrate either on a research focus or applied focus within courses.
- Open Mind Module II (5 ECTS credits)
- Mobility Module (10 ECTS credits)

### 3. Semester (30 ECTS credits)

- Group of compulsory modules: Specialisations (15 ECTS credits): students continue their specialisation chosen in the second semester.
- Mobility Module (15 ECTS credits)

### 4. Semester (30 ECTS credits)

- Master's Thesis and Public Defence