

## N-MB-Brochure for Master's Thesis MSLS

### 1 Comprehensiveness

The Master's thesis comprises 40 ECTS credits in the following specialisations:

- Food and Beverage Innovation
- Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
- Chemistry for Life Sciences

as well as 30 ECTS credits in:

- Natural Resource Sciences
- Applied Computational Life Sciences

This is equivalent to approximately 900 to 1200 hours of study. The Master's thesis is an independent piece of work which must be completed individually and consists of a written and an oral part.

### 2 Correction

At least two correctors carry out the supervision and assessment of the Master's thesis. The first corrector is a member of the faculty (lecturer or research associate) of the School of Life Sciences and Facility Management. They are responsible for the definitive formulation of the topic and for regulating the guidelines of the thesis.

### 3 Choosing and defining topics

The topic of the Master's thesis should be directly related to the discipline being studied and should deal with industry or trade-related issues. The topics are determined by the institutes and are published on the Master's programme website. It is also possible to combine a Master's thesis with a research project at the institute offering the discipline being studied.

Candidates interested in a specific thesis topic should contact their supervising lecturer to discuss the topic, on the basis of which they agree on the topic and thesis deadline.

### 4 Structure and presentation

See 'Guidelines for writing project work, literature reviews, semester assignments, Bachelor's and Master's theses'.

### 5 Dates

Posting of the list of topics / Publication of topic proposals	Current proposals on <a href="http://www.lsfm.zhaw.ch/de/science/studium/master/life-sciences/inhalt.html">http://www.lsfm.zhaw.ch/de/science/studium/master/life-sciences/inhalt.html</a>
Submission of thesis to the Academic Office (signed by the internal corrector)	Within two weeks before the start of each (new) semester in which the Master's thesis is taken.  If the Individual Study Agreement (ISA) needs to be adjusted, this must be done by this time at the latest.

	The Master's thesis protocol (including deadline) must be signed by the student and the internal corrector.
Start of Master's thesis	The Master's thesis can commence at the beginning of the course. The individual schedule for the work is agreed with the first corrector and Head of Specialisation
Submission of Master's thesis to the Academic Office	Academic Office in Week 2 (Monday, 12 noon) or Week 27 (Friday, 12 noon) Grüental Campus
Oral examination	Between Week 2 and 4 or Week 27 and 30, in agreement with the first corrector

## 6 Delivery requirements

The following number of items must be submitted to the Academic Office:

- per corrector: one bound copy incl. poster and one labelled CD Rom (incl. poster in PDF);
- for the archive: one USB stick 2.0 or 3.0 (incl. poster in PDF). Please include your name and title of the thesis on the envelope:
- for the library: (for non-confidential works) one bound copy.

Should the Master's thesis be sent by post, the date and time of postmark will be recognised as valid. The postal address is as follows:

ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences  
Studiensekretariat Grüental  
Grüentalstrasse 14  
8820 Wädenswil

In addition to the written thesis, the following items must be provided:

**Poster:** The poster must be submitted in electronic form (PDF format or on CD Rom). As an alternative to the poster, a website could be created; however, this must be agreed in advance with the corrector(s) in writing. A paper could also be written for publication in a scientific journal or equivalent.

### Extension of deadline

In reasonable circumstances (e.g. technical issues, illness, military service), the deadline can be extended. A written request to change the deadline must be submitted at least 14 days before the previously agreed deadline.

Students must submit a written request to the Programme Director to extend the deadline. The application contains the reasons for the request and a proposal for the new submission date. Students then discuss the application with the first corrector. If they support the application, they will sign off on the request and forward it to the Programme Director for approval. If necessary, the Programme Director can consult the Head of Department of Studies.

The Programme Director's Office forwards the signed original to the Academic Office. The Academic Office will inform the student and corrector by e-mail regarding the new submission date and time.

Should a Master's thesis be submitted the following semester due to an approved extension, the costs incurred would result in a reduced semester fee.

## Delivery time/late delivery

The deadline for submission is 12 noon at the office of the Academic Office, Grüental. The delivery must be made on time. Late submission will only be accepted if a written explanation for the delay was lodged in advance. In the event of a justified minor delay, a mark deduction may apply. This decision lies with the first corrector and the Programme Director.

## 7 Oral examination

### Scope and format

The Master's thesis ends with an oral examination.

This can take the form of a public oral presentation of the thesis, in a colloquium or before a committee of the partners involved (e.g. the client). The correctors determine the format of the oral exam.

### Weighting, assessment

In all Master's programmes, the oral examination is not given a mark, but instead rated as 'fulfilled/not fulfilled'.

## 8 Amendment/repetition, final grade

A one-off amendment can be made should the overall assessment be between 3.50 and 3.99. A satisfactory amendment is awarded a grade of 4.0.

Should the Master's thesis be assessed with a grade of 3.49 or lower, or should the amended Master's thesis also be assessed as unsatisfactory, it must be repeated. Repetition is only possible once.

## 9 Plagiarism

Plagiarism violates basic regulations of scientific work. The definition of plagiarism and the consequences are noted on the document 'Merkblatt für Studierende zur Vermeidung von Plagiaten' (German only).

## 10 Public use of the Master thesis, disclosure to third parties

With regard to the possible transfer of the entire work(s) to third parties, or publication of the work(s) by third parties, we refer to the document 'Instructions for using the results'.

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Beschlussinstanz		Leiter/in Stab		Publikationsort	Public
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Version	Beschluss	Beschlussinstanz	Inkrafttreten	Beschreibung Änderung	
1.0.0	01.08.2018	Leiter/in Stabsbereich Studium	01.08.2018	Übersetzung (Original: N-MB-Merkblatt zur Masterarbeit MSLS Version 3.0)	
1.0.1	16.08.2018	Leiter/in Stabsbereich Studium	16.08.2018	Layout Anpassungen	