



Regulations for the Doctoral Program Ecology

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I. General Information

1. The doctoral program in Ecology at the University of Zurich (UZH) and ETH Zurich (ETHZ) fosters the research expertise of its doctoral students in Ecology and promotes their acquiring transferable skills for careers within and outside academia.
2. PhD students at UZH/ETHZ usually complete their doctorate in Ecology in 3 to 4 years. A doctoral degree will be attested for with a certificate.
3. Any additional information and documents may be found on the homepage of the doctoral program in Ecology at www.phd-ecology.uzh.ch.

II. Admission

1. Admission to the PhD program in Ecology depends on an admissions interview. Candidates can apply for interview dates at the beginning of February (week 6) or September (week 36) directly over the Life Science Zurich Graduate School's homepage (www.lszgs.ch) (Track 1 candidates). Other interview dates are possible and should be arranged directly with the program coordinator (Track 2 candidates).
2. The admissions interview consists of a presentation by the candidate, followed by questions to ascertain his or her abilities in the subject. At least three representatives of the executive committee must be present. A transcript of the interview should be written and signed by all those involved.
3. Admission depends on the following requirements:
 - A Master of Science (MSc) or an equivalent degree from a University
 - An educational background in Ecology/Environmental Sciences (equivalent to 10 ECTS Credits) and in Mathematics (including Statistics)/Physics (jointly equivalent to 6 ECTS Credits).
4. Language requirements
In their interview, candidates must demonstrate proficiency in English.

III. Structure of the Doctoral Program

1. Curricular portion
The curricular portion required for a doctorate in Ecology is worth 12 ECTS Credits and is divided into four categories (see below). PhD students must attend courses belonging to the program in all four categories. These can be booked over the UZH module booking. The course offering and the corresponding ECTS Credits are listed in the course catalogue. In addition, students may select external courses with the understanding of the doctoral committee. In case of doubt, the doctoral committee decides about the accrediting of a course. One ECTS Credit corresponds to 30 hours of work.

Module/Course	ECTS Credits
Module containing subject specific lectures	3
Methodological module	3
Transferable skills	3
Research seminar	2
Individual selection	1
Total	min. 12

2. Teaching Assistance

Teaching contributions are determined by the doctoral committee together with the PhD student and recorded in the doctoral agreement. The realization of the required teaching load should be communicated to the Studies Coordination in Biology and Geosciences. The teaching assistance involves assisting in courses for bachelor and master’s students, monitoring and grading exams, supervising master’s theses, etc. Time spent teaching at the Science Education Center (in Life Science, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Geography and Biology) will also be counted. At least 40% the total hours should be spent in direct contact with students.

IV. Doctoral Degree

When applying for their PhD defense at the Student Affairs Office, students should also hand in any data used for their dissertation (raw data including meta-information, if need be condensed data and analysis scripts) on a storage medium to the Coordination Office for the Ecology PhD program.