

Academic Regulations governing the International Bachelor's Degree Programme "Bachelor of Science in International Sustainable Tourism" (BSc IST) at the Lucerne School of Business

of 1 September 2024

The Dean of the Lucerne School of Business,

pursuant to article 1 paragraph 2 and article 6 paragraph 1 letter a of the Academic Ordinance Governing Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, FH Zentralschweiz, of 13 June 2014¹

hereby enacts the following:

I. General

Art. 1 *Principle*

The Academic Regulations governing the International Bachelor's Degree Programme at the Lucerne School of Business contain the rules pertaining to the academic ordinance governing degree programmes at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, FH Zentralschweiz for the following bachelor's programme: The Bachelor of Science Hochschule Luzern/FHZ in International Sustainable Tourism. This programme falls into the subject area of Business and Services.

II. Governing bodies

Art. 2 *Head of programme*

The head of bachelor's degree programme as defined by the academic ordinance is the head of a given programme. The head of programme is responsible for all matters relating to his or her degree programme. Specifically, he or she

- a. decides on admission to the programme,
- b. decides on the standard curricula for the programme,
- c. decides on the delivery of the individual modules,
- d. bears overall responsibility for the content of the curriculum,

¹ SRL No 521. No further references to this statutory ordinance shall be made.

- e. regulates withdrawals from modules, re-registrations for alternative modules, changes of module, early termination of modules as well as inability to attend assessed assignments and applications for retakes (including change of framework conditions).
- f. decides on the recognition of prior learning,
- g. decides whether the requirements for the award of the bachelor's degree are met,
- h. defines the requirements in respect to quality assurance and control,
- i. decides on the granting of compensation for disadvantages, and
- j. determines whether a module has been passed or failed.

Art. 3 *Subject specialists and major coordinators*

The subject specialists and – if applicable – major coordinators are responsible for subject- and content-related coordination and development within their respective areas of specialisation and majors as well as for the harmonisation of the subjects and contents with other areas of specialisation and majors, insofar as no other responsibilities are provided for. In particular, they

- a. implement quality assurance and control measures within their respective specialist areas or majors and
- b. arrange for the validation of assessed assignments and the results of assessed assignment in their respective subject or major.
- c. support the head of programme in developing the programme.

Art. 4 *Module coordinators*

The module coordinators are responsible for the formal planning, organisation and delivery of one or more modules, including the assessed assignments.

Art. 5 *Lecturers*

¹ The lecturers offer instruction in accordance with the didactic quality standards of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts. Their responsibilities include the provision of academic support for students outside the actual course-related events.

² They are responsible for the design, evaluation and grading of the assessed assignments or parts thereof.

Art. 6 *Experts*

External or internal experts may be appointed to assess the students' performance.

III. International Bachelor's degree programme

Art. 7 *Purpose*

The international bachelor's degree programme of the Lucerne School of Business is an education programme geared to employability that is practical and scientifically based. It qualifies students to transition to corresponding vocational areas or to proceed to study at master's degree level.

Art. 8 *Study track*

The international bachelor's degree programme is only offered as a full-time programme.

Art. 9 *Planning and duration of studies*

¹ Standard curricula are available for each degree programme at the Lucerne School of Business. They describe the scheduling and timing of the modules within a specific degree programme.

² The period of study according to the standard curriculum is six semesters until award of the bachelor's diploma. This corresponds to a student workload of 30 ECTS credits per semester on average.

³ Students failing to earn 15 ECTS credits or more during their first year of study must resit the first study year and are barred from enrolling for modules pertaining to more advanced years of study.

⁴ The total period of study must not exceed ten semesters. Students who exceed the maximum period of study will be automatically excluded from the degree programme. In exceptional and duly substantiated cases, the head of programme may grant an extension to the period of study.

Art. 10 *Programme structure*

¹ The programme is divided into an assessment phase and a main phase.

² The assessment phase comprises modules of no more than 60 ECTS credits. The modules of the assessment phase are outlined in the standard curricula.

³ The main phase comprises all modules that are not part of the assessment phase.

Art. 11 *Language requirements*

Language proficiency must be demonstrated for the main language of instruction. The head of programme decides how to demonstrate those skills.

Art. 12 *Recognition of prior learning*

¹ Upon request, documented prior learning from other degree programmes offered by the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts or at another recognised Swiss or international university-level institution, or other coursework completed in the framework of a tertiary-level degree or a recognised international specialist certificate can be credited, provided they are deemed equivalent. The decision regarding the recognition and equivalence of prior learning rests with the head of programme.

² Coursework completed with a diploma from a college of professional education in a relevant field may be credited with no more than 90 ECTS credits upon admission to the bachelor's degree programmes of the Lucerne School of Business.

³ Prior learning from a degree programme at a university-level institution other than the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts will be recognised and credited as if completed at the Lucerne School of Business, if

- a. a learning agreement approved by the head of programme was signed before the student started at the other university-level institution and
- b. a transcript of records documenting the coursework completed is issued by the other university-level institution.

⁴ To complete a bachelor's programme at the Lucerne School of business, at least 90 credits must have been earned at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

⁵ Typically, prior learning from other educational institutions only appears as having been "passed" in the student's transcript of records.

⁶ Institutional transfer contracts and cooperation agreements can regulate additional or alternative forms of recognising prior learning.

IV. Modules

Art. 13 *Modules*

¹ The module descriptions contain details on the scope, content, language of instruction, proportion of contact- and self-study, and the form and nature of the assessed assignments.

² Module descriptions are made available to the students. They can be revised and adapted until before classes (contact study) begin.

³ In order to attend modules, students must meet the entry requirements as outlined in the module descriptions. The head of programme may grant exceptions.

V. Assessed assignments and award of ECTS credits

Art. 14 *Assessed assignments*

Each module concludes with an assessed assignment. An assessed assignment can consist of several weighted parts. Assessed assignments provide evidence towards the required learning outcome.

Art. 15 *Grading of assessed assignments*

¹ The quality of a module's assessed assignment is either expressed in numerical grades or as "pass/fail" grades.

² Numerical grades have the following designations and are expressed as whole grades or with quarter steps between integer grades:

6 = very good

5 = good

4 = sufficient

3 = insufficient (fail)

2 = weak (fail)

1 = very weak (fail)

³ A module is deemed to have been passed if the grade is 4.0 or higher or if a "pass" grade has been attained.

⁴ A bachelor's thesis or preliminary study for the bachelor's thesis rated as insufficient can be improved once, provided the grade is not below 3.0. The decision regarding the date of the improvement rests with the head of programme. A successful improvement is awarded a grade of 4.0.

Art. 16 *Grades under the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)*

¹ ECTS grades are awarded as follows:

- a. The top 10% of the students who have obtained a pass grade are awarded an A, the next 25% a B, the following 30% a C, the following 25% a D and the final 10% an E. Those who have not achieved an outcome sufficient to allow a pass grade are awarded an FX (fail with makeup work or resit possible), or an F (definite fail, one module retake possible).
- b. In cases where less than 25 students achieve a pass grade, ECTS grades can be awarded on an even scale in parallel to the numerical grades.

² An insufficient overall module grade lower than 4 and derived from two or more assessed assignments yields an F under the ECTS system.

³ An overall module grade lower than 4 yields an FX under the ECTS if the numerical grade is equal to either 3.0, 3.25, 3.5 or 3.75. If a module is graded as FX, the student is granted the opportunity to improve their work once per module. A successful improvement is awarded a grade of 4.0.

⁴ The head of programme defines and decides on the nature, scope and date for such an improvement.

Art. 17 *Award of ECTS Credits*

ECTS credits are awarded for a module if it has been passed.

Art. 18 *Retakes of assessed assignments*

¹ Modules that have not been passed may be retaken once. If a student has already passed one or more parts of the module's assessed assignment, he or she may request to have the grades count towards the retake by the module coordinator.

² During the period of study, students may retake a module that they had retaken and not passed on the second attempt in no more than three modules. They forfeit this right if it has become impossible to achieve an overall «pass» grade at the time of the retake. In this case, the student will be excluded from the programme.

³ If a module from the required elective area must be retaken, a different module from the required elective area may be chosen instead. Completing this alternative required elective module counts as a retake of the required elective module originally taken.

⁴ For retakes, the conditions of the module description valid at the time of the retake apply.

⁵ The grading of the retake will replace the grading of the first attempt without exception.

Art. 19 *Time of the assessed assignments*

Assessed assignments must be completed in the semester in which the module has been attended. The head of programme may grant exceptions to this rule upon reasoned request.

Art. 20 *Admission to module assessments*

¹ Required learning for admission to one or several assignments or assessments in a module may be outlined in the module description.

² In order to be admitted to module assessments, a minimum class attendance of 80% is required.

Art. 21 *Resources*

Students will normally be informed about any resources permitted to be used for assessed assignments at the beginning of the semester. Ad-hoc changes to the list of permitted resources are allowed until two weeks before the assessed assignment, or parts thereof, take place or commence.

Art. 22 *Duty of information*

If in doubt, students are required to make every effort to obtain the relevant information on the objectives, contents and forms of assessed assignments.

Art. 23 *Transcript of records*

Each semester, students receive a transcript of records that relates to the assessed assignment completed in that semester. The transcript of records lists the modules completed with the corresponding grades and ECTS credits awarded.

Art. 24 *Inability to attend or withdrawal*

¹ Candidates prevented from attending an assessed assignment by compelling reason must inform the Bachelor's Programme Secretariat immediately and submit a written application to withdraw.

² In the event that such a situation arises immediately prior to or during assessed assignment, the candidate must notify the Bachelor's Programme Secretariat and the lecturer concerned immediately, if possible in writing. The application to withdraw or written notification must be submitted to the Bachelor's Programme Secretariat together with any relevant evidence.

³ The assertion of reasons applicable to an assessed assignment already completed is excluded in the event the candidate was aware of them before or during the assessed assignment.

⁴ If medical grounds are quoted, a doctor's note must be produced. Where doubt exists, the Lucerne School of Business may appoint an independent medical examiner.

⁵ The decision regarding the approval of a withdrawal from or curtailment of an assessed assignment rests with the head of programme. If, based on partial performances achieved before the withdrawal/curtailment, it is established that the assessed assignment has not been passed and will be awarded the grade of 1.0.

⁶ Candidates failing to complete an assessed assignment or discontinuing one that has already begun without approval or compelling reason will be deemed to have failed the assignment and will be awarded the grade of 1.0.

⁷ The head of programme can determine substitute assessed assignment and dates for missed assignments for which approval was given. Substitute assessed assignments may deviate from the module description. The modalities rest with the head of programme.

⁸ If no substitute assessed assignments are scheduled, missed assessed assignments for which approval exists can be retaken at the earliest during the next examination period.

VI. Offer and delivery of modules

Art. 25 *Delivery of modules*

¹ Modules are delivered in accordance with the standard curricula, if sufficient registrations have been received, and if this is compatible within the framework of delivering an orderly course of study.

² Students are not entitled to a place in a specific module or in a specific delivery of a module.

³ Decisions regarding the delivery of modules rest with the head of programme.

⁴ Students affected by the non-delivery of a module will be informed accordingly. They may register for other modules up to the deadline set by the head of programme. Late registrations will be taken into account as far as possible within the framework of delivering an orderly course.

Art. 26 *Deadlines and time limits*

¹ Deadlines and time limits in connection with the overall programme or parts thereof (including registering for and withdrawing from modules and assessed assignments) must be observed. Anyone unable to meet a deadline or time limit for compelling reasons (e.g., illness) must inform the person responsible for the deadline or time limit prior to the deadline or expiry of the time limit.

² Should deadlines or time limits be missed for no valid reason, the corresponding registrations or withdrawals are deemed as having not taken place.

Art. 27 *Leave of absence*

¹ Students may take leave of absence lasting no more than two semesters. In exceptional and duly substantiated cases, the head of programme may grant leave of more than two semesters.

² If leave of absence is granted when a semester has already started, it will still count as a full leave-of-absence semester.

³ Leaves of absence must be requested at the earliest opportunity.

⁴ During a leave of absence, students remain enrolled but do not pay study fees. However, if leave of absence is requested for a semester that has already begun, the full semester fee is due.

⁵ The time spent on the leave of absence does not count towards the period of study according to article 9.

⁶ An extension of the period of study due to the leave of absence must be accepted.

VII. Degree

Art. 28 *Bachelor's diploma*

¹ The bachelor's degree is awarded when the requirements outlined in these academic regulations have been met and all modules passed according to the relevant standard curricula.

² The diploma indicates the title in accordance with article 1.

Art. 29 *Calculation of the overall final grade*

¹ All the achievements awarded with a numeric grade during the entire programme are summarised in an overall assessment.

² ECTS credits earned in addition to the 180 ECTS credits required for the degree do not count towards the overall assessment. However, they will appear on the transcript of records.

VIII. Final provisions

Art. 30 *Right of appeal*

Appeals are subject to the provisions of the academic ordinance governing degree programmes at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, FH Zentralschweiz.

Art. 31 *Entry of force*

These academic regulations shall enter into force on 1 September 2024 subject to approval by the Governing Council².

Lucerne, 1 September 2024

Lucerne School of Business



Prof. Dr. Christine Böckelmann
Dean

² Approved by the Governing Council of the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts on 27 August 2024.