

**Non-official translation of the
Subject-specific regulations for the Master programme
“Behaviour: From Neural Mechanisms to Evolution”
of 15 April 2013 in connection with the amendments of 17 November 2014 (2011 study model)**

1. Master Degree (Article 3 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme)

The Faculty of Biology offers the Master programme “Behaviour: From Neural Mechanisms to Evolution” with the degree “Master of Science” (M.Sc.).

2. Further access requirements (Article 4 subparagraphs 1-3 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme)

- (1) Access to the master programme will be granted to those having successfully completed a bachelor degree course in biosciences or any related subject (such as computer science, cybernetics, psychology). The successful completion of any other first vocationally qualifying university study programme with a standard period of study of at least three years and a share of at least 60 credit points (CP) in the subject of biology or any other related subjects will also give access to the further selection procedure.
- (2) The access will additionally require that the applicant has proven English language skills. Evidence shall be deemed as produced if the applicant has acquired her or his study qualification or her or his vocationally qualifying final degree at an English-speaking institution or if she or he has a language certificate generally accepted by German universities (in particular, TOEFL, telc, IELTS, UNiCert, Cambridge Certificate), at least proving language skills of the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (GER), or any other similar certificate.
- (3) German language skills may be advantageous for the daily life in Germany, however, for the enrolment no specific evidence will be required.
- (4) Moreover, another access criterion shall be the successful participation in an application procedure assessing the qualification for the Master programme.
- (5) The application documents shall be submitted to the registrar’s office at Bielefeld University on schedule. They shall contain the following:
 - a) An English exposé of not more than 1,500 words, giving some indication of the motivation as well as scientific qualification for the Master programme. It shall contain comments with regard to study interests, target areas of studies as well as any objectives pursued with regard to such final degree. Moreover, any previous science-oriented knowledge speaking in favour of the qualification for this programme shall also be part of such exposé.
 - b) The degree certificate of the university education qualifying for this Master programme as well as the related document (transcript, transcript of records, diploma supplement, etc.), providing information on the individual order of study, courses and modules attended, achievements performed during the course of studies as well as their evaluation and on the individual subject-specific profile of the course of studies completed. In case the university at which the applicant has acquired the final degree qualifying for this Master programme does not issue any transcript, she or he shall submit the performance records instead.
 - c) The summary (in English language) of the thesis of the university education qualifying for the Master programme. If no final paper was written in this specific course of studies, the applicant shall submit the summary of any comparable seminar paper or project work as work sample instead.
- (6) Whilst taking the following criteria into account, the documents submitted will be assessed according to the following point system (any foreign qualifying higher education degrees will be assessed by the International Office at Bielefeld University):

Criteria	Number of points
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 1.0-1.2 (German Bachelor degree)	18
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 1.3-1.5 (German Bachelor degree)	17
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 1.6-1.8 (German Bachelor degree)	16
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 1.9-2.1 (German Bachelor degree)	15
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 2.2-2.4 (German Bachelor degree)	14
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 2.5-2.7 (German Bachelor degree)	13
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 2.8-3.0 (German Bachelor degree)	12
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 3.1-3.3 (German Bachelor degree)	11
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 3.4-3.6 (German Bachelor degree)	10
Final grade of the qualifying higher education degree 3.7-4.0 (German Bachelor degree)	9

In case of a final grade of the qualifying higher education degree not being available yet, any interim certificate showing a provisional final grade may be accepted in place of it. The decision on that matter shall be made by the competent body pursuant to Article 22 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme. Such body shall also control the further procedure in this matter.

- (7) For the exposé pursuant to subparagraph 5a, any additional qualifications of the applicant and/or the summary of the thesis pursuant to subparagraph 5c a total of up to further 8 points may be awarded.
- (8) Applicants getting at least 20 points in accordance with the criteria pursuant to subparagraphs 6 and 7 shall be deemed to be “fully qualified” and will get access to the final selection procedure.
- (9) Applicants who according to such criteria get points between 15 and less than 20 shall be deemed to be “partly qualified”. They may be granted access to the final selection procedure if a specific number of points to be determined will be reached. Such determination shall be made with due regard to the qualification of the entire group of applicants.
- (10) Applicants getting less than 15 points shall be deemed to be “not qualified” and will not be granted access to the final selection procedure.
- (11) The access may be conditional upon the successful completion of any alignment studies within the scope of 30 credit points at the maximum. Based on the course contents of the initial university degree, the nature and extent of such studies shall be determined. Alignment studies shall be done during the first two semesters of the Master programme. For the completion of such alignment studies the study and examination regulations for the Bachelor degree programme at Bielefeld University shall apply as amended from time to time.
- (12) The admission committee for this degree course appointed by the dean of the faculty and consisting of five persons involved in this degree course, including at least three members of the group of professors, will decide on the fulfilment of the access requirements as well as the determination of the number of points pursuant to subparagraph 9.
- (13) The deadlines as well as any further details of the procedure will be determined by the dean of the faculty.

3. Admission procedure (Article 4 subparagraph 4 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme)

- (1) Should the number of applicants getting access to the final selection procedure pursuant to clause 2 exceed the number of places to study available, the places to study shall be allocated in the order of the total score reached within the application procedure pursuant to clause 2, subparagraphs 6 and 7. In case of any applicants of equal rank, the average grade of the qualifying higher education degree considered shall decide. If no clear ranking can be reached on this basis, the final ranking shall be determined by random.
- (2) The registrar’s office will grant admission on the basis of the ranking pursuant to subparagraph 1. In case of a succession procedure subparagraph 1 shall apply accordingly.
- (3) A rejection of an application for admission will not exclude any re-application at a later point of time.

4. Starting the course of studies prior to fulfilment of the access requirements (Article 4 subparagraph 4 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme)

Students from Bielefeld University may already apply for taking up the Master degree course prior to completion of their Bachelor degree course, provided that they have been granted access to the Master degree course as a result of a participation in the ordinary application procedure. Every student shall be allowed to file such application with the Faculty of Biology one time only and just for one specialized Master degree course. The application shall be filed after consultation with the study course coordinator and the faculty’s academic counselling office until 20 November. On approval of the application by the study course coordinator studies may be taken up for a period of one semester at the maximum. A maximum of 30 credit points may be acquired within such scope.

5. Beginning of studies (Article 5 subparagraph 1 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme)

The studies within the Master programme may be taken up in the winter semester.

6. Curriculum (Article 7 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme)

All modules are offered in English language.

Abbreviation	Module title	Recommended semester, commencement	Credits	Required qualifications
20-BHV-A	Probing Behaviour – Data Acquisition, Analysis and Presentation	1	10	
20-BHV-B	Neural Mechanisms of Behaviour	1	10	
20-BHV-C	Control of Behaviour	1	10	
20-BHV-D	Perception and Action	2	10	
20-BHV-E	Evolution of Behaviour	2	10	
20-BHV-F	Function of Behaviour	2	10	
20-BHV-RM-A	Research Module A	3	10	
20-BHV-RM-B	Research Module B	3	10	
20-BHV-Suppl-A	Supplementary Module	3	10	
20-BHV-MT	Master Thesis	4	30	
Total			120	

Any further information with regard to the modules is shown in the module structure chart under 7 as well as in the module manual.

7. Module structure chart

Abbreviation	Title	Credits	Required qualifications	Number of study achievements	Number of marked (sub-) module examinations	Weighting of sub-module examinations	Number of unmarked (sub-) module examinations
20-BHV-A	Probing Behaviour – Data Acquisition, Analysis and Presentation	10		1	1		1
20-BHV-B	Neural Mechanisms of Behaviour	10		1	1		1
20-BHV-C	Control of Behaviour	10		1	1		1
20-BHV-D	Perception and Action	10		1	1		1
20-BHV-E	Evolution of Behaviour	10		1	1		1
20-BHV-F	Function of Behaviour	10		1	1		1
20-BHV-MT	Master Thesis	30		1	1		
20-BHV-RM-A	Research Module A	10					1
20-BHV-RM-B	Research Module B	10					1
20-BHV-Suppl-A	Supplementary Module	10					1

8. Further details with regard to the module examinations, sub-module examinations and study achievements as well as the master thesis (Articles 10, 11, 13 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme)

(1) Module examinations or sub-module examinations shall be taken in one of the following forms:

- Oral presentation with a written script: Medial presentation (approx. 30 minutes) and discussion (approx. 30 minutes) of a current research topic, including a written script of 15-30 pages as a general rule.
- Project with a written script: Written project report of 15-30 pages as a general rule.
- Presentation: The results achieved shall be presented in a medial form (Duration: 10-20 minutes or 20-30 minutes).
- Protocol: The results achieved shall be documented in writing (Scope: 5-20 pages as a general rule).
- Written examination of 1.5 hours.
- Oral examination of 20 minutes.
- In the supplementary module one or more courses or modules shall be attended. If complete modules are selected, they shall respectively be concluded pursuant to the relevant regulations of the modules. If individual courses are selected, they shall be concluded by way of a portfolio. The specific structure of the portfolio shall depend on the courses selected:

Any achievements reached in a course-related way and examined by the tutor(s) shall be included in the portfolio. For any remaining courses a written report of a total volume of 1 – 3

pages shall be considered. This report shall outline how the individual profiling and specializing targets pursued have been achieved by way of the corresponding courses.

Any further forms may be possible, in particular those proving any interdisciplinary competencies, including media competence. The workload as well as the qualification requirements shall be comparable. Any further details will be available in the module manual.

- (2) Study achievements within the master programme "Behaviour: From Neural Mechanisms to Evolution" shall serve to document any practical skills and results achieved in a consolidated way as well as to represent and discuss any own and foreign results. A seminar lecture of 10-20 minutes or 20-30 minutes shall come into consideration as a study achievement.

Any other forms may be possible. When selecting any other forms, the target of the study achievement as well as the given scope shall be considered. Further details are shown in the module manuals.

- (3) The master thesis shall conform to a scientific publication as to its form and content. It shall be written in English language. The scope of the thesis shall arise from the content question and shall be coordinated with the competent primary supervisor. The thesis shall be filed with the faculty's examination office in advance; the allowed time period shall be 6 months. Prior to the expiry of the deadline the master thesis shall be submitted to the examination office in triplicate and bound. No group work will be permissible.

9. Coming into force and scope of application

- (1) These subject-specific regulations will enter into force as from 1 October 2012. They shall apply to students enrolling for the Master Programme "Behaviour: From Neural Mechanisms to Evolution" as of the winter semester 2012/13.
- (2) Students enrolled for the Master Programme "Systems Biology of Brain and Behaviour" at Bielefeld University prior to the winter semester 2012/2013 may complete their studies on the basis of the annexure to Article 1 subparagraph 2 of the Examination and Study Regulations for the specialized Master programme: Subject-specific regulations for the subject Systems Biology of Brain and Behaviour of 3 August 2009 (Bielefeld University Gazette – Bulletin – Vol. 38 no. 16 p. 289) by the end of the winter semester 2014/15. As of the beginning of the summer semester 2015 these subject-related regulations will even become effective for those students mentioned in clause 1. The dean of the Faculty of Biology will decide on the transfer of any credit points accumulated up to that point of time.
- (3) On the student's request these subject-related regulations shall also apply to students as per subparagraph 2. Such request shall be irrevocable.