Marine Geosciences
Master
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Description of the Study Program
The international postgraduate study program in Marine Geosciences is designed to research-related topics, with a particular accentuation placed on the specialities of the Bremen department. The program comprises skills and methods enabling graduates to critically evaluate scientific results, and it provides a solid professional qualification for tasks in science and its applications. The interdisciplinary character of marine geosciences is reflected in a topic-oriented course structure. In addition to traditional lectures, classroom teaching, laboratories and applied field practice in marine geosciences, the program strongly emphasizes the understanding and modelling of processes and dynamics in natural systems.

Admission Criteria and Requirements
The master's program is subject to a selection procedure: The admission regulations specify the admission requirements and selection criteria of the master's program. The information provided below is an excerpt of the admission regulations from the “Aufnahmeordnung” (only available in German; version January 22th, 2014) and refers to winter semester 2019/20. Please re-check the current requirements as they are subject to change:
www.uni-bremen.de/en/master

The master's program is restricted in places. All applications, which have successfully passed the selection procedure are ranked by the final gpa, the study related specifications and the professional training experience. Only the upper 50 applicants on the ranked list will receive an admission offer.

To be considered applicants need to provide:

- A proof of a **bachelor's (or master’s) degree** or its equivalent in a **geoscientific field** of study (a qualification in marine sciences will be assessed regarding specialization) worth 180 credit points (CP) according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) (or equivalent). Students whose degree is pending may apply nonetheless if they have completed a large part of their studies (corresponding to at least 132 CP).

- At least **30 ECTS** credit points or an equivalent amount of courses of the curriculum in **maths, physics, chemistry and/or biology**
• **At least 60 ECTS** credit points or an equivalent amount of courses of the curriculum in **geosciences**.

• **A proof of proficiency in English at the level of C1** (according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages CEF) or higher unless the last academic degree was obtained from a university in which the primary language of instruction was English. Information on language certificates accepted as proof of C1-Level can be found at www.fremdsprachenzentrum-bremen.de/EngZert.

• **A letter of motivation.** (The examining board evaluates the letter of motivation with respect to reference to the course, a clear description of the candidate’s qualifications and future aims as well as their accordance with the focus of the course.)

Eligibility of applicants is evaluated based on their previous training (including field of study, grade point average, experience, etc.).

Admission of applicants whose degree is pending at the time of application is conditional on their providing the completed, final transcript no later than two weeks after the courses have started as well as the bachelor’s certificate by 31 December of the same year.

Information on the required application documents (official certification, translation, health insurance, language certificates etc.) can be found at: www.uni-bremen.de/en/master/faq/

**Expected Interests and Qualifications**

• Explicit interest in marine geosciences

• Capacity to work both independently and as part of a team

• Intercultural competence (there will be students from all over the world!)

• Willingness to participate in partly strenuous field courses

• Capacity to think in four dimensions

• Computer literacy

**Occupational Fields and Career Opportunities**

With their technical and vocational skills, graduates are excellently prepared for a variety of jobs:
Marine Geosciences Master

- Marine geoscientific research (both basic and applied) at universities, research centres or authorities
- Consulting on engineering projects (e.g. off-shore wind power farms, harbour)
- Exploration and exploitation of resources (oil, gas, ore) off shore or at sea
- Coastal management (water management, monitoring of sediment movements, coastal protection, etc.)
- Public relations, scientific writing
- Science management

Curriculum and Contents of Program

Curriculum

<table>
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<th>Core Subject A</th>
<th>Core Subject B</th>
<th>Core Subject C</th>
<th>Conf.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Core S. A</td>
<td>Core S. B</td>
<td>Core S. C</td>
<td>Marine Field and Lab Practice</td>
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<td>Geoscientific Project</td>
<td>Research Seminar</td>
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<td>Master Thesis</td>
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Mandatory and elective modules

The first year is addressed to teaching; lectures, seminars and projects are dedicated to so-called core subjects. Choosing 3 out of 6 core subjects (see syllabus), students can develop an individual profile. A conference on geoscientific topics with relevance to society and a combination of laboratory and field courses in 'Marine Field and Lab Practice' are mandatory.

The 2nd year geoscientific project can either be a marine survey, a geo-media project or an external/international project in marine geosciences. The research seminar is about the development and presentation of research projects and prepares the students for their master thesis. The fourth semester is dedicated to the master thesis. A colloquium completes the course.
Major fields of study
The six topic-centred core subjects are the following:

- Climate change
- Marine environmental archives
- Biogeochemical processes
- Marine resources and geotechnology
- Sedimentary structures and processes
- Physics and petrology of the ocean crust

Research in marine geosciences has a long tradition in Bremen and constitutes the main focus at the Department of Geosciences. All aspects of marine geosciences are covered, from sedimentology to petrology, from geophysics to biogeochemistry, from basic research to applied technology.

Typical Learning formats
Teaching units are scheduled mainly as weekly assignments throughout an academic semester. However, field excursions, laboratories or special projects may be scheduled as blocks assigned to a few weeks within a semester break.

Language of Instruction
English

Semester Abroad
Optional

(Research) Cooperations
Research projects at the Department of Geosciences are mostly embedded in international programs, resulting in frequent contacts with foreign scientists. The scientists at the department are also collaborating closely with colleagues from well-known research institutions in Germany, among them the MARUM, the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar- und Marine Research (Bremerhaven), the Max-Planck-Institute for Marine Microbiology (Bremen), the Senckenberg am Meer Institute (Wilhelmshaven), and the Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (Bremen).
Such collaborations open up various options for students in terms of chances to gain special research experience through participation in research projects, through the formulation and accomplishment of a master thesis, among others.

The multidisciplinary nature of marine geoscientific research and the application of up-to-date scientific instruments play an important role in teaching methods and topics.

**Start of the Study Program**

Lecture period summer semester 2020:
April 14–July 17, 2020

Lecture period winter semester 2020/21:
October 19–February 5, 2021

Holidays: December 23–January 5, 2021

Lecture period summer semester 2021:
April 12–July 16, 2021

**Duration of Study**

The master program is a two year course, composed of four semesters and includes 120 CP/ECTS (European Credit Transfer System).

**Degree**

Master of Science (M.Sc.)

**Faculty**

Full-time professors at the department: 21; additional professors: 13; other scientific teaching staff: approx. 45.

**Number of Students in the First Semester**

Female: 14, male: 28 (as of winter term 2018/19)
Fees and Accommodation
The semester fee will be approximately 380 Euro per semester. It includes the use of public transportation in Bremen and the region around. For current information see www.uni-bremen.de/semester-contribution

After fourteen semesters of study in an EU- or EEA-country or after reaching the age of 55, students have to pay an additional fee of 500 Euro. Information about the long-term tuition fees can be found at www.uni-bremen.de/tuition-fee

For field trips and project exercises some additional costs are raising up to 1200 € a year per student.

General information about the city of Bremen and rental accommodation can be found at www.bremen.de and www.uni-bremen.de/accommodation. Students moving to Bremen receive 150 Euro as a welcome gift.

For information on study finance and jobs see www.uni-bremen.de/student-finances

Information for international students concerning visa, health insurance and finances can be found at www.uni-bremen.de/studentstatus
Admission and Application

Application closing dates (first semester and advanced)

Winter semester: **April 30**

Applications for the first semester are only possible for the winter semester. Advanced students can apply both for the winter as well as for summer semester.

Application closing date (only advanced)

Summer semester January 15.

If your previous bachelor’s degree course has not been completed by the application deadline April 30, it is possible to apply as an undergraduate student, provided you have earned at least 132 ECTS credit points (out of a total of 180 credit points or an equivalent amount of study points are gained by that date. For preliminary admission, all other requirements with exception of the language proof should be fulfilled. If your application is successful, you will have to provide evidence of having obtained your *bachelor’s degree and the required language certificates two weeks after the beginning of the master’s program* at the latest.

Applying as advanced student

Advanced Master students have either already graduated from undergraduate studies, or are currently in the final stages of their Bachelor studies and can show by means of an official Transcript of Studies that they only need another 15 ECTS before obtaining their bachelor’s degree. In addition to this, advanced Master students have to account for at least 10 ECTS that are transferrable to the Master’s program in question. To be transferrable, credits awarded in undergraduate studies must have been in the same subject as the respective Master’s program or obtained in another accordant Master’s program. For Master’s programs subject to restricted admission (Z) the required evidence of at least **10 transferrable ECTS credit points** must be submitted by the end of the deadline.
Any additional deadlines or closing dates for submitting required documents will be notified together with confirmation of admission/registration.

**Applications are to be submitted online at:**
www.uni-bremen.de/en/master

Applications are to be submitted online via the Master Portal of the Admission Office under www.uni-bremen.de/en/master. The online application form is activated about 8 weeks before the application deadline. You will be notified of all required documents for enrollment together with the confirmation of admission/registration.

**Student Office**
Contact point for all formalities regarding admission and enrollment, re-registration, leave of absence, change of address.
Visiting address: Bibliothekstraße 1, Verwaltungsgebäude (VWG),
Ground floor
Postal address: Universität Bremen
Sekretariat für Studierende
Postfach 33 04 40
28334 Bremen
phone: +49 421 218 61002
master@uni-bremen.de
www.uni-bremen.de/master

Visiting hours: Mo, Tue & Thu 9–12 a.m., Wed 14–16 p.m.
(no advanced notification necessary)
Contact and Advisory Services

Internet address of the study program
www.geo.uni-bremen.de/mscmarine

Consultancy for study affairs and career perspectives
Helpdesk regarding course-information, program-coordination, time scheduling, study abroad, general studies, quality management as well as career perspectives.

Academic counseling
In questions focusing on study design, core subject- and regulation regarding aspects
Dr. Ulrike Wolf-Brozio
Dr. Barbara Ventura
GEO-building, room no. 1330/1300
+49 421 218 65004/-65005
msc.marin@uni-bremen.de

Administration and Academic Office (Examination issues)
Susanne Steinfeld
GEO-building, room no. 1350
+49 421 218 65012
steinfeld@uni-bremen.de

University services
www.uni-bremen.de/consultation

Service and information for international students
(accommodation, jobs, finances, language learning)
www.uni-bremen.de/offers-international-students/

Information and advice on visa matters and social security
www.inneremission-bremen.de/beratungen/internationale_studierende/
www.uni-bremen.de/bsu/ (see menu: Ausländerangelegenheiten)
Student representatives for the faculty
StugA Geowissenschaften
GEO-building, room no. 1320
stuga@geo.uni-bremen.de
www.geo.uni-bremen.de/page.php?pageid=116
www.instagram.com/geo.stuga.bremen/

Student representatives for the whole university
General Students' Committee (AStA)
Services include: Advice on BAföG student grants, social counseling, and childcare
AStA-Etage, Studentenhaus (StH)
www.asta.uni-bremen.de/asta-services
Central Student Advisory Service

Visiting address:
Bibliothekstr. 1, Verwaltungsgebäude
Ground floor

Postal address:
Universität Bremen
Zentrale Studienberatung
Postfach 33 04 40
28334 Bremen
Germany

+49 421 218-61160
zsb@uni-bremen.de
www.zsb.uni-bremen.de

Advisory hours (no advanced notification necessary):
Mo, Tue & Thur 9–12 a.m.
Wed 14–16 p.m.
Additional appointments by agreement