

Regulations for the CAS program in One Health



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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

13 May 2024

The Vetsuisse Faculty of the University of Bern,

Having regard to Article 2 (1) (d) and Article 29a of the Act on the University of 5 September 1996 (Universities Act, UniG), Articles 4, 43 and 77 to 80 of the Statute of the University of Bern of 7 June 2011 (University Statute, UniSt) and having regard to the Regulations for Continuing Education at the University of Bern of 10 December 2013 (Continuing Education Regulations, WBR),

after consulting the Continuing Education Commission of the University of Bern,

Decides:

1. General

Object

Art. 1 These Regulations govern the CAS One Health degree programme (hereinafter referred to as the "Degree Programme"). The course is offered by the Veterinary Public Health Institute of the University of Bern and leads to the award of the "Certificate of Advanced Studies in One Health, University of Bern (CAS OH Unibe)".

Sponsorship

Art. 2 The degree programme is supported by the Veterinary Public Health Institute. The Institute appoints the Programme Board, which is responsible for all tasks that are not expressly reserved for the sponsoring body under these regulations. The Programme Board is responsible for the implementation of the course.

Cooperation

Art. 3 Cooperation with other educational institutions and other cooperation partners in Germany and abroad is possible. Cooperation agreements to be concluded by the Executive Board of the University are reserved.

2. Degree programme

Addressees

Art. 4 The degree programme is aimed at professionals and researchers working in One Health-relevant occupational fields, in particular in the areas of animal health, human health, plants and agriculture, landscape, nature and the environment.

Study Objectives

Art. 5 Participants

a understand the fundamentals and governance of the One Health approach,

- b* have a good understanding of key One Health methods and topics,
- c* acquire competencies in systems thinking,
- d* are able to assess and communicate the effectiveness and added value of the One Health approach,
- e* are able to implement the One Health approach in their professional activities and to collaborate across sectors.

Content

Art. 6 ¹ The following topics are covered in terms of content:

- a* terminology, theories, concepts and historical background of the One Health approach,
- b* complex systems and systemic thinking in relation to One Health,
- c* humanities and social sciences perspective on the One Health approach, ethics of One Health,
- d* approaches to inter- and transdisciplinary cooperation and their application,
- e* tools and basic methods for the implementation of One Health projects,
- f* preparedness and response to health risks, intersectoral data management,
- g* evaluation methods for the effectiveness of One Health, for the One Health added value and for addressee-oriented communication,
- h* One Health governance, political processes, regulations and standards,
- i* One Health core topics such as social and economic resilience, zoonoses, vector-borne diseases, antibiotic resistance, biosecurity,
- k* theories on sustainability, land use, climate change and biodiversity.

² The Programme Board may include other topics.

ECTS credits, scope and structure

Art. 7 ¹ Academic achievements are assessed according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

² One ECTS point corresponds to a workload of 25 to 30 hours.

³ ECTS credits are awarded on the basis of passing performance assessments. The awarding of ECTS credits on the basis of mere attendance is excluded.

⁴ The degree programme comprises 15 ECTS credits and is divided into modules that are coherent in terms of content and time.

⁵ The detailed structure of the degree programme and the ECTS credits of the individual modules are regulated in the curriculum.

Curriculum

Art. 8 The curriculum regulates the specific design of the degree programme. This is issued by the Programme Board and approved by the faculty.

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| Faculty | Art. 9 In addition to lecturers from the University of Bern, lecturers from other universities in Switzerland and abroad as well as non-university experts may be involved in the implementation of the degree programme. |
| Didactic principles | <p>Art. 10 ¹ The degree programme uses different teaching methods to optimally support the transfer of learning and knowledge and to ensure a lively learning culture.</p> <p>² In addition to imparting theoretical and practice-oriented knowledge and skills, the events offer space for reflection and discussion. The content and form of the events take into account the needs and wishes of the participants. Their technical knowledge and experience as professionals flow into the teaching and learning process.</p> |
| Quality assurance and reporting | Art. 11 The degree programme is accompanied by systematic feedback procedures and evaluations. The results of the evaluation are taken into account in the ongoing planning and development as well as in the commitment of the teaching staff. |

3. Admission

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| Admission requirements | <p>Art. 12 ¹ The prerequisite for admission to the degree programme is a completed university degree.</p> <p>² Exceptions to the admission requirements may be approved by the Programme Board "sur Dossier". In the case of persons without a university degree, it can impose further conditions for admission to ensure that they can successfully complete the degree programme.</p> <p>³ Interested parties who only want to participate in individual modules can be admitted, provided that free course places are available.</p> <p>⁴ Admission to the degree programme is decided by the Programme Board at the request of the Study Coordinator. There is no entitlement to admission.</p> |
| Status | Art. 13 Students enrolled in the degree programme are registered as CAS students. |

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| Number of participants | <p>Art. 14 ¹ The degree programme will be carried out if funding is guaranteed on the basis of the applications received.</p> <p>² The number of study places is limited.</p> |
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4. Requirements, Performance Assessments and Completion

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| Mandatory participation | <p>Art. 15 ¹ Participation in the courses according to the curriculum and the completion of the performance assessments are generally mandatory for all participants in the degree programme. Exceptions are decided by the Programme Board.</p> <p>² The courses of the degree programme must have been completed with an attendance time of at least 80%. Absences beyond this can be compensated for at your own expense in consultation with the Director of Studies.</p> |
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Performance assessments

³ Preparation and follow-up assignments are considered part of the course.

Art. 16 ¹ The performance assessments consist of the performance records for the modules and cross-module assignments.

² The performance assessments prove that the study objectives of the degree programme have been achieved in accordance with the curriculum.

³ Participants will be informed in writing by the Director of Studies or the examination administration system about the evaluation of their performance assessments.

⁴ The specific design of the performance assessments is regulated in the curriculum and in implementing regulations.

⁵ If the result of a performance assessment is influenced or attempted to be influenced by cheating, in particular by the use of unauthorised aids, the performance assessment is deemed to have been failed. The same applies if a piece of work is not written independently and sources other than those specified have been used. Further measures such as exclusion from the degree programme or withdrawal of the degree remain reserved.

⁶ Written works must contain the following dated and signed declaration of independence at the end: "I hereby declare that I have written this work independently and have not used any sources other than those stated. I have labelled all passages that have been taken verbatim or in spirit from sources as such. I am aware that otherwise the work will be assessed as failed and that the University Management / Senate is authorised to withdraw the degree awarded on the basis of this work. For the purposes of reviewing and verifying compliance with the declaration of independence and the regulations on plagiarism, I hereby grant the University of Bern the right to process the personal data required for this purpose and to carry out acts of utilisation, in particular, to reproduce the written work and store it permanently in a database and to use it to review the work of third parties or to make it available for this purpose."

⁷ The Programme Board may amend the Declaration of Independence referred to in paragraph 6 with regard to the use of Artificial Intelligence.

Prevention, interruption and unexcused absence from performance assessments

Art. 17 ¹ If a compelling, unforeseeable and unavoidable reason for impediment arises before the assessment is carried out, this must be reported to the Study Coordinator.

² If such a reason for impediment occurs immediately before or during the performance assessment, this must be reported to the Director of Studies or the person responsible for the performance assessment or the supervisor.

³ The subsequent assertion of reasons for impediment relating to a performance assessment that has already been completed is generally excluded.

⁴ In any case, a written request for deregistration must be submitted to the Director of Studies no later than five working days after the date of the performance assessment, together with the corresponding confirmations (e.g. medical certificate).

⁵ In the case of performance assessments that extend over a longer period of time (in particular written work), an application for an extension of the deadline may be submitted before the submission deadline expires.

⁶ The Director of Studies decides on the approval of the application. In cases of doubt, it can involve a medical officer. If the application is not approved, the performance assessment is deemed to have been failed.

⁷ If a participant is absent from an assessment without deregistering or if he or she submits an application late, the assessment is deemed to have been failed.

Performance Reviews

Art. 18 ¹ Performance assessments are graded as "passed" or "failed" on the basis of an assessment grid.

² The performance assessments are evaluated by members of the teaching staff of the degree programme or other persons designated by the Programme Board. The Programme Board is responsible for supervising performance reviews.

³ If the performance assessment has been evaluated as "failed", it can be repeated once. The repetition must take place no later than 6 months after the written notification of the participant. In the event of failure to pass a performance assessment twice, the student will be excluded from the degree programme.

Standard period of study and limitation of study period

Art. 19 The standard study period is one and a half years. The maximum period of study is three years. The Programme Board may grant exceptions upon justified request. Anyone who exceeds the maximum period of study without approval may be excluded from the degree programme.

Recognition of external academic achievements

Art. 20 Credits earned externally can be credited up to one third of the ETCS credits of the degree programme, provided that they were completed at a recognised higher education institution and correspond to individual study objectives and content of the degree programme. The Programme Board decides on credit transfer. The Programme Board issues implementing regulations. Recognition is limited to five years after completion of the programme. The date of the degree certificate is decisive.

Graduation

Art. 21 The Vetsuisse Faculty issues the "Certificate of Advanced Studies in One Health, University of Bern (CAS OH Unibe)" to successful graduates, which is signed by the Dean of the Vetsuisse Faculty.

² The degree will be granted if:

- a all courses of the degree programme have been attended to the specified extent,
- b the performance assessments have been passed, and
- c all financial obligations have been met.

³ A Diploma Supplement provides information on admission requirements, study objectives, content and scope of the degree programme.

⁴ The CAS degree alone does not entitle the holder to admission to ordinary studies or a doctorate at the University of Bern.

⁵ Participants who have not passed the programme will receive a certificate of attendance for the modules they have completed. ETCS points can only be certified if performance assessments have been passed.

⁶ Participation in individual modules is confirmed by a certificate. If the corresponding performance assessments have been completed and passed, the ECTS points will also be certified.

5. Financing and Course Fees

Financing

Art. 22 ¹ The course of study is financed by the course fees. In addition, there may be contributions from third parties.

² The income from the course fees is subject to the continuing education overhead levy of the University of Bern.

Determination and due date of course fees, cancellation of registration and costs

Art. 23 ¹ The Programme Board sets the course fees for the entire degree programme in the range of CHF 8'000 to CHF 12'000. The course fees cover costs and are in line with the market and include all registration fees and fees for the performance assessments. If a performance assessment has to be repeated, the corresponding fees will be charged additionally. The Programme Board decides on exceptions.

² The course fees will be invoiced after the registration deadline. The Programme Board determines whether the course fees are to be paid in full or in instalments. All financial obligations must be settled before the financial statements are issued.

³ Cancellation of registration for the degree programme before the registration deadline is possible without incurring any costs. In the event of cancellation after the registration deadline, the course fees for the entire course will be charged in full. If a replacement can be found for the person who has been deregistered, only processing costs of CHF 150 will be charged. If part or all of the study programme is not attended, there is no entitlement to a refund or waiver of the course fees. The conclusion of cancellation cost insurance is up to the individual participants.

⁴ In the case of an approved partial dispensation due to the recognition of academic achievements in accordance with Article 20, there is no entitlement to a reduction of the course fee.

6. Organization

Programme Board

Art. 24 ¹ The Programme Board is responsible for the scientific, financial and organisational management of the preparation, implementation, evaluation and further development of the degree programme.

² Specifically, the Programme Board is assigned the following tasks:

- a adoption of the curriculum, approval of the detailed programme and appointment of lecturers as well as decision on the further development of the degree programme,
- b adoption of the implementing provisions of these Regulations,
- c approval of the budget and determination of course fees,

- d* decision on admission to the degree programme,
- e* decision on the recognition of external academic achievements,
- f* supervision of performance assessments,
- g* checking whether all the requirements for the award of the degree are met,
- h* supervising quality assurance, in particular the evaluation of the degree programme,
- i* appointment of the Director of Studies.

³ The Programme Board consists of at least two members of the Vetsuisse faculty, at least four members from other faculties or organisational units of the University of Bern and a maximum of five external experts from the field of One Health. These members are entitled to vote. The Director of Studies participates in the meetings of the Programme Board in an advisory capacity and with the right to make proposals. The Programme Board may admit further members with an advisory function and the right to make proposals.

⁴ The Programme Board elects its Chairperson from among the Programme Board members of the Vetsuisse Faculty and otherwise constitutes itself. It has a quorum if at least half of its voting members are present and takes its decisions by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the chairperson has the casting vote. In principle, members of the Programme Board may be represented at meetings, and decisions may also be taken by correspondence.

Director of Studies

Art. 25 ¹ The Director of Studies shall be appointed by the Programme Board.

² The Director of Studies is responsible for the operational management of the programme with the following tasks:

- a* organisation and implementation of events and performance assessments,
- b* engagement of the lecturers for the individual courses and events,
- c* accounting, budget preparation and monitoring,
- d* advertising, public relations and relationship management,
- e* advising the participants,
- f* submitting applications to the Programme Board for admission to the course,
- g* quality assurance and reporting,
- h* compiling and forwarding the data for the correct collection of the continuing education overhead levy,
- i* other tasks defined by the Programme Board.

7. Administration of Justice

Judicature

Art. 26 ¹ The decisions of the Vetsuisse Faculty or its Dean issued on the basis of these Regulations and their implementing provisions may be appealed to the Appeals Commission of the University of Bern within 30 days of notification.

² In the case of decisions of the programme or study management that adversely affect the legal position of the participants, an appealable decision of the Dean of the Vetsuisse Faculty may be requested within 30 days of becoming aware of them.

³ An appeal against decisions of the University Appeals Commission may be lodged with the Administrative Court of the Canton of Bern.

8. Final Provisions

Coming into force

Art. 27 These Regulations shall enter into force on 1 November 2024.

Decided by the Vetsuisse Faculty:

Bern 13 May 2024

The Dean

Prof. Dr. David Spreng

Approved by the Senate:

Bern October 8, 2024

The Rector

Prof. Dr. Virginia Richter