



Admissions statutes of Ulm University for the consecutive English-taught master's programme in "Biophysics" of 28 February 2018

Based on §§ 63 (2), 60 (2) no.2, 59 (1) LHG (*Landeshochschulgesetz* - federal state higher education act Baden-Württemberg) in the version of article 1 of the third law on changes to higher education regulations (*Drittes Hochschulrechtsänderungsgesetz*- 3. HRÄG) of 1 April 2014 (law gazette no. 6, p 99ff) last amended by article 2 of the law of 7 November 2017 (law gazette no. 22, p. 584ff), the Senate of Ulm University adopted the following statutes on 21 February 2018.

Preliminary remark on language use

According to Article 3 (2) Basic Law, men and women have equal rights; all male designations of persons and positions used in these regulations apply equally to men and women.

§ 1 Scope of application

Ulm University allocates the first-semester places in its master's programme in "Biophysics" according to the following provisions.

§ 2 Deadline and form

- (1) Students are admitted once per year to the respective winter semester. Ulm University must receive the application for admission to the winter semester by 15 March of the respective year. The provisions related to admission procedures in general as stated in the admissions and enrolment statutes of Ulm University remain unaffected and are applied.
- (2) To apply for admission an online application form must be filled in and transferred electronically to Ulm University by the deadline indicated in paragraph 1 above unless an electronic application would impose hardship on the applicant. Hardship is given where the applicant can credibly demonstrate that they were not able to or limited in their ability to use electronic data transfer for reasons beyond their control.
- (3) Ulm University must have received the signed online form and all documents listed on the form by the deadline indicated in paragraph 1 above.
- (4) The following documents must be submitted together with the application as single copies:
 - a) proof of compliance with the requirements listed in § 3,
 - b) statement declaring whether the applicant has lost their right to examination in the master's programme in Biophysics or any other study programme with essentially the same content at any German university. The subject-specific study and examination regulations indicate which study programmes have essentially the same content and are thus

deemed to be related.

- c) A written report in English in which applicants state their personal and subject-related reasons for applying for the chosen study programme and in which they explain their choice of programme (letter of motivation).
- d) Copies of certificates and other documents demonstrating of the applicant's previous career. This may be proof of vocational training and/or practical work as well as any previous studies allowing conclusions about the applicant's aptitude for this programme.

(5) Where such proof is not in German or English, a certified translation into German or English is required.

§ 3 Entrance requirements

(1) Entrance is subject to the following requirements:

- a) proof of a bachelor's degree in physics, physics and management, chemistry, biochemistry, molecular medicine, biology or biotechnology at any university in Germany or abroad or any other study programme with essentially the same content awarded after completion of a minimum three years of study with a final grade of 2.5 or better;
- b) proof of basic competencies in the fields of mathematics, experimental physics, physical chemistry and cell biology (Annex 1), Such competencies can be demonstrated through corresponding modules and courses from bachelor's or equivalent studies. If such competencies cannot be demonstrated through bachelor's or equivalent studies, successful completion of the preparatory course (*Propädeutikum*) for the English-taught master's programmes at Ulm University serves as proof.

The preparatory course is deemed to have been passed if the final examination on completion of the preparatory course was passed. Admission to the final examination of the preparatory course is subject to a minimum of 80 % attendance during the practical part of the preparatory course. In exceptional cases, a methods assessment may replace attendance during the practical part. Admission to the final examination of the preparatory course is subject to successful completion of the practical part of the preparatory course or passing the methods assessment. If neither the practical part of the preparatory course nor the methods assessment is proven to have been passed, the admissions committee may, in exceptional cases, admit the applicant subject to further conditions. Methods assessment and final examination may each be repeated once.

Admission to the master's programme is conditional on the successful completion of the preparatory course. If this proof is not submitted, admission to the master's programme becomes invalid. Alternatively, proof of successful completion of the preparatory course can also be provided by fulfilling the conditions tied to admission to the master's programme. For this, a new letter of admission must be issued.

- c) a meaningful letter of motivation pursuant to § 2 (4c) comprising not more than two pages and considering the following aspects:
 - reasons for the interest in the master's programme in Biophysics
 - reasons for the choice of Ulm University as place of study
 - explanation of expectations for personal and professional future

d) proof of an adequate command of English at level C 1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEF). This proof may be

- 7.0 points or more in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS); if both IELTS score and Common European Framework (CEF) level are indicated, the higher language level is considered,
- First Certificate in English (A), Certificate in Advanced English (A-C) or Certificate of Proficiency in English (A-C) in Cambridge exam,
- 490 (listening), 455 (reading), 200 (speaking) and 200 (writing) points or more in the Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC),
- 95 points or more in the Test of English as a Foreign Language internet-based (TOEFL iBT),
- level III or level IV of the UNICert®,
- level CEF C 1 or higher as shown on, e.g., the higher education entrance qualification. Any level of language proficiency which is in parts on and in parts lower than level CEF C1 is not recognised, or
- any examination achievement passed at a higher education institution from the field of English language teaching with C1 explicitly shown as the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CER) level, if this is indicated in the transcript of records.

§ 3 (1d) does not apply to applicants who are native speakers of English.

Moreover, the admissions committee may decide on exemptions in justified exceptional cases in agreement with the head of the language centre. The statutes on language skills required for studies at Ulm University apply as amended.

(2) For the selection of applicants the following is considered:

- a) Overall grade of the bachelor's degree or any equivalent degree or, if no degree has yet been completed, examination results showing an average grade of 2.5 or better achieved by the date of application. The examination results must be documented in a current transcript of records;
- b) Individual grades and scope of education in mathematics, physics, biochemistry and any comparable subjects;
- c) The content of the letter of motivation pursuant to §3 (1c);
- d) Copies of certificates and other documents demonstrating the applicant's previous career. This may be proof of vocational training and/or practical work as well as any special training allowing conclusions about the applicant's aptitude for this programme;

(3) The criteria under § 3 (2) are assessed by the admissions committee according to an evaluation scale previously agreed by it.

§ 4 Admission procedure

(1) Admission is decided by the Board (*Präsidium*) at the proposal of the admissions committee.

(2) The application must be rejected if

- a) the requirements stated in § 2 and § 3 above are not fulfilled, or
- b) the admissions committee does not establish the aptitude of the applicant pursuant to

§3 sentences (2) and (3)

c) the applicant has lost their right to examination in the desired master's programme in Biophysics or any other study programme with essentially the same content at any German university.

(3) In all other respects, the provisions related to admission procedures in general as stated in the admissions and enrolment statutes of Ulm University remain unaffected.

§ 5 Admissions committee

(1) The faculty board of the Faculty of Natural Sciences appoints an admissions committee. The admissions committee consists of two or more persons and their deputies. The members' term in office is three years. Reappointment is possible. At the request of the student members of the Faculty Council, a further student may join the committee in an advisory capacity.

(2) The admissions committee determines the equivalence of previous education and academic degrees. The recognition of foreign degrees must comply with the recommendations of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs and the agreements made as part of university partnerships. In cases of doubt, the Central Office for Foreign Education (*ZAB*) must be heard.

§ 6 Effective date

(1) These statutes come into effect on the day after their publication in the Official Information Bulletin (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen*) of Ulm University. They first apply to winter semester 2018/19 admissions.

(2) At the same time, the admissions statutes of Ulm University for the English-taught master's programme in "Biophysics" of 9 January 2017 (official information bulletin of Ulm University No. 2 of 12 January /2017, p. 20-23) cease to have effect.

Ulm, 28 February 2018

signed

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Michael Weber
President

Annex 1 to § 3 (1b) of the admissions statutes of Ulm University for the master's programme in Biophysics of 28 February 2018

For admission, the following basic competencies in the fields of mathematics, experimental physics, physical chemistry and cell biology are required;

The applicant

- is able to apply the most important mathematical methods of differential and integral calculus including the Fourier transform to solving simple physical problems.
- is able to set up and solve differential equations for simple physical problems.
- is capable of analysing experimental measuring results using different statistical methods.
- is able to work in a modern physical laboratory while observing the safety standards applicable in Germany.
- is familiar with the basic principles of experimentation and able to use modern physical measurement methods.
- is capable of evaluating laboratory experiments, correctly assessing the validity of the results and adequately presenting the results in a report.
- masters important procedures in error calculation and estimation
- has understood the basic principles of physical chemistry and cell biology.