



# Curriculum for Master of Science in Technology in Environmental Science

Aalborg University  
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**Preface:**

Pursuant to Act 261 of March 18, 2015 on Universities (the University Act) with subsequent changes, the following curriculum for the Master's program, Master of Science (MSc) in Technology in Environmental Science is stipulated. The program also follows the Joint programme regulations and the Examination Policies and Procedures for the Faculty of Engineering and Science.

Aalborg University, 2016

Niels T. Eriksen  
Chairman of Study Board

Approved by the Dean 2016

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## **Chapter 1. Legal Basis of the Curriculum, etc.**

### **1.1 Basis in ministerial orders**

The Master's program, Master of Science (MSc) in Technology in Environmental Science is organized in accordance with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation's Ministerial Order no. 1520 of December 16, 2013 on Bachelor's and Master's Programs at Universities (the Ministerial Order of the Study Programs) and Ministerial Order no. 670 of June 19, 2014 on University Examinations (the Examination Order) with subsequent changes. Further reference is made to Ministerial Order no. 257 of March 18, 2015 (the Admission Order) and Ministerial Order no. 114 of February 3, 2015 (the Grading Scale Order) with subsequent changes.

### **1.2 Faculty affiliation**

The Master's programme falls under the Faculty of Engineering and Science.

### **1.3 Board of Studies affiliation**

The Master's program falls under the Board of Studies for Biotechnology, Chemical and Environmental Engineering.

### **1.4 Board of External Examiners**

The programme falls under the external evaluator corps: ingeniøruddannelernes censorkorps – Chemistry

## **Chapter 2. Admission, Degree Designation, Program Duration and Competence Profile**

### **2.1 Admission**

There are no Bachelors from Aalborg University with legal claim (retskrav) to admission.

#### Applicants without legal claim (retskrav) to admission:

- Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Environmental Science), Aalborg University
- Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Environmental Engineering), Aalborg University
- Bachelor of Science in Biology, Aalborg University

Students with another Bachelor degree may, upon application to the Board of Studies, be admitted following a specific academic assessment if the applicant is considered as having comparable educational prerequisites. The University can stipulate requirements concerning conducting additional exams prior to the start of study.

### **2.2 Degree designation in Danish and English**

The Master's program entitles the graduate to the designation cand. tech. (candidatus/candidata technologiae) i miljøvidenskab. The English designation is: Master of Science (MSc) in Technology (Environmental Science).

### **2.3 The program's specification in ECTS credits**

The Master's program is a 2-year, research-based, full-time study program. The program is set to 120 ECTS credits.

## 2.4 Competence profile on the diploma

The following competence profile will appear on the diploma:

A graduate of the Master's program has competencies acquired through an educational program that has taken place in a research environment.

The graduate of the Master's program can perform highly qualified functions on the labor market on the basis of the educational program. Moreover, the graduate has prerequisites for research (a Ph.D. program). Compared to the Bachelor's degree, the graduate of the Master's program has developed her/his academic knowledge and independence, so that the graduate can independently apply scientific theory and method in both an academic and occupational/professional context.

## 2.5 Competence profile of the program:

The graduate of the Master's program:

Knowledge	<p>has knowledge within environmental science that in selected areas such ecosystem engineering, ecosystem services, soil science, pollution and remediation of ecosystems, and environmental management is based on the highest international research.</p> <p>is able, on a scientific basis, to understand and reflect over the knowledge in the above-mentioned areas and to identify scientific problems</p>
Skills	<p>masters the scientific methods and tools of the above-mentioned areas and master the general skills that are tied to work within environmental science and technology.</p> <p>can evaluate and select among the scientific theories, methods, tools and general skills of environmental science and technology and environmental management, and set up, on a scientific basis, new analysis and solution models</p> <p>can communicate research-based knowledge and discuss professional and scientific problems with both peers and non-specialists.</p>
Competencies	<p>is able to develop methods and models for environmental management issues, and evaluate and solve assignments concerning environmental and management issues in private and public enterprises.</p> <p>manages work and development situations that are complex, unpredictable and require new solutions.</p> <p>can independently initiate and implement discipline-specific and interdisciplinary cooperation and assume professional responsibility.</p> <p>can independently take responsibility for own professional development and specialization</p>

## Content and Organisation of the Program

The program is structured in modules and organised as a problem-based study. A module is a program element or a group of program elements, which aims to give students a set of professional skills within a fixed time frame specified in ECTS credits, and concluding with one or more examinations within specific exam periods. Examinations are defined in the curriculum.

The program is based on a combination of academic, problem-oriented and interdisciplinary approaches and organized based on the following work and evaluation methods that combine skills and reflection:

- Lectures
- Project work
- Exercises (individually and in groups)
- Teacher feedback
- Scientific reflection

### Overview of the program:

All modules are assessed through individual grading according to the 7-point scale or Pass/Fail. All modules are assessed by external examination (external grading) or internal examination (internal grading or by assessment by the supervisor only).

Semester	Module	ECTS	Assessment	Exam
1st	Human Impact on the Environment	15	7-point scale	External
	Global Change Biology	5	7-point scale	Internal
	Environmental Soil Science and Geostatistics	5	Pass/fail	Internal
	Experimental Hydrology	5	7-point scale	Internal
2nd	Ecosystem Analysis	15	7-point scale	External
	Conservation Biology	5	7-point scale	Internal
	Marine Pollution	5	7-point scale	Internal
	Elective course			
	• Hydrodynamics and Time Series Analysis of Environmental Flows	5	Pass/fail	Internal
	• Fundamental Wastewater Treatment	5	Pass/fail	Internal
	• Danish Biotopes	5	Pass/fail	Internal
3rd	Electives			
	• Project Work in an External Organisation	30	Pass/fail	Internal
4th	• Master's Thesis in Environmental Science	30	7-point scale	External
3rd-4th	• Master's Thesis in Environmental Science	60	7-point scale	External
Total		120		

Danish Biotopes is part also of the MSc programme in Biology and taught in Danish

The study board can cancel modules if the number of enrolled students is low.

A compulsory course in Problem based learning (PBL) and student responsibility is offered as an integrated part of all project modules to students not acquainted with PBL at Aalborg University.

### 3.1 1<sup>st</sup> semester - Human impact on the environment

#### 3.1.1 Human impact on the environment

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<i>English title</i>	<i>Human Impact on the Environment</i>
<i>Danish title</i>	<i>Menneskeskabte miljøpåvirkninger</i>
Placement	Fall, 1st semester
Aim	to qualify the student to understand, measure and model the effect of e.g. land use change or increased load of chemicals on natural and artificial ecosystems.
Learning outcomes	After completion of the course the student should be able to Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• explain how land use may affect natural ecosystems</li><li>• explain how chemical loads may affect the ecosystem structure and how the effects can be mediated.</li><li>• explain what administrative structures, including legislation can be used to handle these environmental problems</li></ul> Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use ecological models to describe impact of chemicals on natural ecosystems</li><li>• Apply selected methods to measure load, degradation and fate of selected chemicals in ecosystems.</li></ul> Competences <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• use environmental management tools to solve and prevent environmental perturbations</li><li>• disseminate a complete project</li></ul>
Content	The project focuses on how land-use change and increased load of chemicals may affect selected ecosystems and suggest actions relating to remediation technologies and management to prevent and alleviate the ecosystem distresses caused by e.g. land-use change or chemicals. The project could be comparison of organic vs. conventional farming. The effect of household chemicals and pesticides on urban recreational areas.
Duration	15 ECTS
Language	English or Danish
Assessment	Oral examination based on a written report
Grading	7-point scale
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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### 3.1.2 Global Change Biology

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<b>English title</b>	<b>Global Change Biology</b>
<b>Danish title</b>	<b>Klimapåvirkning af biologiske systemer</b>
Placement	Fall, 1st semester
Aim	To qualify the student to understand how global changes affect biological systems
Learning outcomes	<p>After completion of the course the student should be able to</p> <p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• explain the how greenhouse gas emission is linked to climate change, and how climate changes affect greenhouse gas emissions</li><li>• explain how climate changes can influence populations and community dynamics</li><li>• explain how climate changes can influence populations and community dynamics</li><li>• explain how a changing climate impact on agriculture and horticulture</li><li>• describe for how climate historically has changed and impacted on life on earth explain how populations adapt to changing thermal conditions through plastic and evolutionary responses</li><li>• explain the role of evolution and phenotypic plasticity in relation to climate change</li><li>• account for the factors that constraints evolutionary processes</li></ul> <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• apply predictive ecosystem models to estimate how ecosystems are affected by global changes and land use</li><li>• discriminate between species invasion from gradual migration due to climate changes and random species invasion</li></ul> <p>Competences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• describe and use strategies that can mitigate greenhouse emission</li></ul>
Content	Lectures, supplemented with project work, workshops, presentation seminars, laboratory tests
Duration	5 ECTS
Language	English
Assessment	Written or oral examination
Grading	7-point scale
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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### 3.1.4 Environmental Soil Science and Geostatistics

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<b>English title</b>	<b><i>Environmental Soil Science and Geostatistics</i></b>
<b>Danish title</b>	<b><i>Jordmiljø og geostatistik</i></b>
Placement	Fall, 1st semester
Aim	To give the students fundamental knowledge of water and contaminant transport, sorption and degradation in soil, and the use of geostatistical methods in contaminated soil studies. The student should understand the links between the physical, chemical and biological processes in soil. The student should know the principles behind and how to apply relevant laboratory and field methods for measurement of water and solute transport in soil, know the principles behind and the applicability of relevant physical- and biological-based remediation methods for contaminated soil sites, and be able to calculate one-dimensional water and solute transport in the soil vadose zone (from soil surface to capillary water table).
Learning outcomes	After completion of the course the student should be able to Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• account for fundamental soil physics</li><li>• describe soil texture and structure, physical and chemical phase distribution (solids, water, air), pore-size distribution, water retention, hydraulic conductivity, soil-water sorptivity, unsaturated zone water transport, gas diffusion and chemical transport, sorption and biodegradation</li><li>• On the basic principle of 1D analytical and numerical water and contaminant transport modeling</li><li>• On evaluating the uncertainty of measured data and model results</li></ul> Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to measure soil hydraulic properties in the laboratory</li><li>• apply parameter models for water retention, hydraulic conductivity, gas diffusion, and chemical dispersion to measured data or as predictive tools</li><li>• to program and apply analytical and simple numerical water and solute transport models to measured data or in risk assessment.</li><li>• to apply relevant geostatistical methods to measured data in the soil and groundwater zones</li></ul> Competences <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• perform preliminary risk assessment and evaluate the conditions for on-site or in-situ clean-up methods for contaminated soil sites.</li><li>• so structure and produce technical documentation of complex problems, methods and results•</li><li>• To communicate problems, findings and solutions graphical as well as oral to the relevant target audience</li></ul>
Duration	5 ECTS
Language	English
Assessment	Written report
Grading	Passed/failed
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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### 3.1.3 Experimental hydrogeology

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<i>English title</i>	<i>Experimental Hydrology</i>
<i>Danish title</i>	<i>Eksperientel hydrologi</i>
Placement	Fall, 1st semester
Aim	To qualify the student to understand and estimate hydro-geological parameters by in-situ and laboratory experiments in relation to a specific site and/or transport phenomenon. This includes the planning of a measuring programme based on suitable measuring methods and positions, setting up a time schedule and a data processing procedure. To give especially students without experiences in problem and project based learning hands-on experiences with this leaning method.
Learning outcomes	After completion of the course the student should be able to Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• account for the groundwater system and its essential properties and parameters</li><li>• account for experimental methods for property and parameter estimation of the ground water zone</li><li>• account for uncertainties and limitations of the applied methods</li></ul> Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• select, design and conduct suitable in-situ test for estimating saturated hydraulic properties.</li><li>• select, design and conduct suitable laboratory test for estimating hydraulic saturated hydraulic properties.</li><li>• analyze and evaluate test results and methods regarding suitability and reliability.</li><li>• organize documentation and presentation of measured data.</li></ul> Competences <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• describe, analyze, and evaluate a specific part of the groundwater system, regarding its composition and its properties through a planned investigation of the system</li><li>• structure and plan the project and the work in a group</li><li>• produce technical documentation of complex problems, methods and results in group cooperation.</li><li>• communicate findings and solutions graphically as well as orally to a relevant target audience.</li></ul>
Content	Project
Duration	5 ECTS
Language	English
Assessment	Oral examination based on a written report
Grading	7-point scale
Assessment criteria	As stated in the joint programme regulations

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## 3.2 2nd semester – Ecosystem analysis

### 3.2.1. Ecosystem analysis

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<b>English title</b>	<b><i>Ecosystem Analysis</i></b>
<b>Danish title</b>	<b><i>Økosystemanalyse</i></b>
Placement	Fall, 1st semester
Aim	to provide the student the tools to analyze environmental impacts and evaluate how the most important environmental impacts affect surrounding environments, on local as well as on global scales.
Learning outcomes	After completion of the course the student should be able to Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Account for the dominating factors that show important environmental impacts</li><li>• Explain the differences between different management strategies based on differences in organizational structures, the emergence of international organizations and interaction with the market.</li></ul> Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• make load balances for chemical compounds and analyze the impact of these compounds on e.g. water or food resources</li><li>• evaluate local and global effects of green-house gas emissions</li></ul> Competences <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• function as environmental scientist or administrator in eras of changing climate and environments</li></ul>
Content	The project will focus on a natural environment where management aspects of the natural resources are an integral part of the ecosystem function.
Duration	15 ECTS
Language	English or Danish
Assessment	Oral examination based on a written report
Grading	7-point scale
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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### 3.2.2 Conservation biology

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<b>English title</b>	<b>Conservation Biology</b>
<b>Danish title</b>	<b>Bevaringsbiologi</b>
Placement	Spring, 2nd semester
Aim	To give the student a basic introduction to the discipline of conservation biology with a focus on current problems and potential solutions.
Learning outcomes	<p>After completion of the course the student should be able to</p> <p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• describe human-induced and environmental factors that influence species, populations, habitats and biodiversity including genetic variation</li><li>• describe how ecosystems and food chains are connected, and how their conservation may be affected by the loss or decline of a population or habitat</li><li>• explain how invasive alien species can influence local ecosystems and, over time, have profound implications for conservation</li></ul> <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• identify and describe the conservational value of different species and populations</li><li>• identify “Keystone species”, where some species have an ecosystem role larger and more important than that suggested by their size and biomass</li><li>• identify “Umbrella species”, where preservation of habitats and populations of sufficient size will contribute to conservation of many other species</li><li>• use important tools for data collection and analyses concerning populations at risk, such as non-invasive genetic materials</li><li>• assess potential solutions for conservation of species, populations and habitats at risk</li><li>• use appropriate tools to collect data on species and populations in reference state as well as communities under environmental stress</li><li>• use appropriate multivariate statistical analyses to assess biological communities and the environmental stressors affecting them</li></ul>
Content	The course will comprise lectures and exercises on the above-mentioned themes. For each theme the students will have the possibility to identify examples of threatened species and/or habitats and possible solutions to reduce, and in some cases eliminate, current threats to their conservation. These exercises will permit interested students to focus on issues of special importance to Denmark, and they will allow all students to present their findings to the rest of the group.
Duration	5 ECTS
Language	English
Assessment	Written or oral examination
Grading	7-point scale
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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### 3.2.2 Marine pollution

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<b>English title</b>	<b>Marine Pollution</b>
<b>Danish title</b>	<b>Forurening i marine områder</b>
Placement	Spring, 2nd semester
Aim	To provide fundamental insight into coastal marine waters including effects and prevention of natural and anthropogenic pollution.
Learning outcomes	After completion of the course the student should be able to Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• explain physical, chemical and microbial processes in marine systems</li><li>• account for the most common types of marine pollution</li><li>• account for the exchange of matter between aquatic and terrestrial environments</li><li>• account for the processes: primary production, respiration and re-oxidation</li><li>• describe important organic and inorganic pollutants and pollution effects in coastal marine waters</li></ul> Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• analyze microbial loops, food webs, and turnover of C, N, and S in aquatic environments and in sediments</li><li>• distinguish between pollution impacts on individuals, populations, and communities</li><li>• assess recreational and bathing water quality, and tools for fecal pollution source tracking</li></ul> Competences <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• evaluate the occurrence of inorganic nutrients, man-made pollutants, disease-causing microorganisms, and metal pollution in marine waters</li><li>• evaluate methods to prevent and alleviate antropogenic pollution in coastal marine waters</li></ul>
Type of instruction	Lectures, supplemented with theoretical exercises, workshops, presentation seminars
Duration	5 ECTS
Language	English
Assessment	Written or oral examination
Grading	7-point scale
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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### 3.2.3 Hydrodynamics and time series analysis of environmental flows

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<b>English title</b>	<b><i>Hydrodynamics and Time Series Analysis of Environmental Flows</i></b>
<b>Danish title</b>	<b><i>Hydrodynamik og tidsserieanalyse for miljøhydrauliske forhold</i></b>
Placement	Spring, 2nd semester
Aim	The aim of the course is to give the student a fundamental knowledge of water flow in marine Environments. Based on the gained knowledge the student shall be able to analyse time series of environmental data and set up numerical models for a given aquatic Environment.
Learning outcomes	After completion of the course the student should be able to Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• explain advanced hydrodynamics</li><li>• explain numerical modelling of turbulent flows</li><li>• explain modelling of transport and mixing</li><li>• account for environmental flow in coastal zone and estuaries</li><li>• explain basic time series analysis</li></ul> Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• perform a systematic analysis of the physics in the coastal zone and estuaries</li><li>• perform non-stationary time simulations using advanced hydrodynamic models</li><li>• analyse time series for persistence and harmonic elements</li><li>• analyse geophysical flows in the ocean and coastal zone</li></ul> Competences <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• evaluate and handle data that forms the basis of hydrodynamic and water quality modelling</li><li>• structure and produce technical documentation of complex problems, methods and results</li><li>• communicate problems, findings and results graphically as well as orally to the relevant target audience</li></ul>
Type of instruction	Lectures, etc. supplemented with project work, workshops, presentation seminars, lab tests
Duration	5 ECTS
Language	English
Assessment	Written or oral examination
Grading	Pass/failed
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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### 3.2.4 Fundamental Wastewater Treatment

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<b>English title</b>	<b>Fundamental Wastewater Treatment</b>
<b>Danish title</b>	<b>Grundlæggende spildevandsbehandling</b>

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Placement	Spring, 2nd semester
Aim	To gain knowledge on the composition and characterization of wastewater and to the processes used to treat urban wastewater.
Learning outcomes	<p>After completion of the course the student should be able to</p> <p>Knowlegde</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• account for advanced waste water treatment</li><li>• account for physical, chemical and microbial treatment and separation processes</li><li>• explain the treatment for nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus)</li><li>• describe the anaerobic processes in activated sludge</li><li>• account for the physical separation processes</li><li>• account for the biological mineralization of carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus</li></ul> <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• quantify the important biological, chemical and physical processes which is used for a process based wastewater treatment plant design</li><li>• characterise of wastewater</li><li>• operate and optimise wastewater treatment systems</li><li>• design of plants for mechanical and chemical treatment of wastewater</li><li>• design of activated sludge and biofilm treatment plant for removal of carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus</li><li>• model biological mineralization of carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus in suspension and biofilms</li></ul> <p>Competences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• plan and design new treatment plants</li><li>• analyze the function of existing treatment plants</li><li>• structure and produce technical documentation of complex problems, methods and results.</li><li>• communicate problems, findings and results graphically as well as orally to the relevant target audience</li></ul>
Type of instruction	Lectures, etc. supplemented with project work, workshops, presentation seminars, lab tests
Duration	5 ECTS
Language	English
Assessment	Written or oral examination
Grading	Pass/fail
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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### 3.2.6 Danish Biotopes

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<i>Danish title</i>	<i>Danske naturtyper</i>
<i>English title</i>	<i>Danish Biotopes</i>
Placering	Forår (2. semester)
Formål	Formålet med kurset er at give studerende kendskab til et bredt udsnit af danske naturtyper og naturområder, og hvilke særlige kendetegn, herunder dyr, planter samt geologiske og geografiske forhold, som er karakteristiske for de enkelte naturtyper, danske dyr og planter, samt naturbeskyttelse i Danmark og EU.
Læringsmål	Studerende der gennemfører modulet  Viden <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• skal have et overordnet kendskab til Danmarks geologi og forskelle i naturtyper, jordbunds- og klimatiske forhold i de forskellige landsdele</li><li>• skal kende nogle af de mest karakteristiske naturtyper og interessante natur-lokaliteter i Danmark</li><li>• skal kende et bredt udsnit af Danmarks planter, og kunne bestemme planter vha. nøgler og have kendskab til deres krav til miljøet hvor de gror</li><li>• skal kende Danmarks almindelige pattedyr, fugle, krybdyr og padder og have kendskab til deres udbredelse og levevis</li><li>• skal have kendskab til et udvalg af insekter, krebsdyr, bløddyr og andre invertebrater i Danmark</li><li>• skal have kendskab til faunistisk og floristisk succession</li><li>• skal kende Naturbeskyttelsesloven og andre love, bestemmelser, regulativer og offentlige planer, som vedrører beskyttelsen af naturen, og have kendskab til offentlig naturforvaltning</li><li>• skal kende til væsentlige problemstillinger på natur- og miljø-området (eutrofiering, fragmentering af naturområder, biodiversitet m.v.) samt væsentlige interessekonflikter på miljøområdet (opdyrkning, byudvikling, landinvinding, jagt og fiskeri m.v.)</li></ul> Færdigheder <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• skal kunne karakteriserer naturtyper på baggrund af en lokalitets vegetation, dyreliv og geologi</li></ul> skal kunne vurdere hvilke lov- og regulativ-mæssige beskyttelseskrav, som omfatter en given lokalitet
Indhold	Kurset vil omfatte et bredt udvalg af danske naturtyper og beskrive hvilke forskelligheder der har betydning for et områdes flora og fauna. Der vil afholdes ekskursioner til forskellige danske naturtyper, f.eks. højmose, hede, klithede, overdrev, eng, strand-overdrev og -eng, marsk, skov og vådområder, samt besøg i nogle Danmarks mest interessante natur-lokaliteter, f.eks. Lille Vildmose, Vejlerne, Hanstedreservatet eller Råbjerg Mile, og naturgenopretnings-projekter, f.eks. Vilsted Sø eller Skjern Ådal. På de enkelte lokaliteter udføres feltarbejde i form af bestemmelse af karakteristiske planter, insekter og andre dyr og evt. jordbundsanalyser. Ekskursionerne suppleres med forelæsninger og gruppearbejde, og der udfærdiges en rapport med en kort karakterisering af hver enkelt lokalitet, som den studerende senere kan bruge som sit eget opslagsværk.
Omfang	5 ECTS
Sprog	Dansk
Prøveform	Aktiv deltagelse
Bedømmelse	Bestået/ikke bestået

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### 3.3 3rd-4th semester. Master's thesis

#### 3.3.1 Project Work in an External Organisation

**Title:**

**Project Work in an External Organisation**

Projektarbejde i en ekstern organisation

**Objective:**

Students who complete the module must be able to:

Knowledge

- explain the scientific basis of the work carried out by the external organisation

Skills

- master the scientific methods and general skills related to the project work in the external organisation
- write a report following the standards of the field of study, use the correct terminology and document extensive use of relevant and original scientific literature, and communicate and discuss the project's foundation, problem and results in writing, graphically and verbally in a coherent way
- critically assess and select relevant original scientific literature and current scientific methods, models and other tools used in the project and assess and discuss the problem of the project and results in relevant scientific contexts and social conditions
- evaluate the potential of the project for further development, assessing and incorporating relevant economic, ethical, environmental and other socially relevant factors

Competencies

- participate in development, innovation, and research and use scientific methods to solve complex tasks
- take professional responsibility to implement independent assignments and interdisciplinary collaborations
- independently take responsibility for own professional development and specialization

**Type of instruction**

Project work, supervised by an external supervisor in collaboration with an internal supervisor at Aalborg University  
Project work in an external organisation must be in areas of relevance to the competence profile of the program

**Exam format:**

Oral examination based on a written report.

**Evaluation criteria:**

As stated in the Joint Programme Regulations

### 3.3.2 Master's thesis in environmental science

**Title:** Master's thesis in environmental science

Kandidatspeciale i miljøvidenskab

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**Objective:** Students who complete the module must be able to:

#### Knowledge

- explain the scientific basis and scientific issues in environmental science
- explain the highest international research within the thesis subject area

#### Skills

- master the scientific methods and general skills related to the thesis subject area
- write a project report following the standards of the field of study, use the correct terminology and document extensive use of relevant and original scientific literature, and communicate and discuss the project's research-based foundation, problem and results in writing, graphically and verbally in a coherent way
- critically assess and select relevant original scientific literature and current scientific methods, models and other tools used in the project and assess and discuss the problem of the project and results in relevant scientific contexts and social conditions
- evaluate the potential of the project for further development, assessing and incorporating relevant economic, ethical, environmental and other socially relevant factors

#### Competencies

- participate in and independently implement technological and scientific development and research, develop and implement experimental work and solve complex tasks using scientific methods
- handle the planning, implementation and management of complex and unpredictable research and/or developmental tasks and take professional responsibility to implement independent academic assignments and interdisciplinary collaborations
- independently take responsibility for own professional development and specialization

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**Type of instruction** Project work  
A long Master's thesis of more than 30 ECTS must include work of experimental nature to an extent that corresponds to the thesis ECTS load

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**Exam format:** Oral examination based on a written report.

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**Evaluation criteria:** As stated in the Joint Programme Regulations

### 3.3.3 Problem-based Learning (PBL) and Student Responsibility at Aalborg University

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<b>English title</b>	<b><i>Problem-based Learning (PBL) and Student Responsibility at Aalborg University</i></b>
<b>Danish title</b>	<b><i>Problembaseret læring og studerendes ansvar for læring på Aalborg University</i></b>
Placement	Spring, 2nd semester
Prerequisites	None, but the course is compulsory for students not acquainted with the Aalborg PBL model
Aim	To introduce the students majoring in chemistry or engineering a broad knowledge of polymer chemistry, such as principles of polymerization, polymer morphologies, polymer properties and so on. Meanwhile, some basic experimental techniques will be included in the lab course.
Learning outcomes	<p>After completion of the course the student should</p> <p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• know about the organization at Aalborg University and where to ask for help in different matters</li><li>• know about how to communicate both in the project groups and during courses</li><li>• know how a semester is structured and for the different examination forms used at Aalborg University</li><li>• know how project work and laboratory work are carried out at Aalborg University including safety issues in the laboratories</li><li>• know about issues concerning plagiarism and its consequences</li><li>• know about the software which is used during the study</li><li>• know about the IT systems used and how to get started</li><li>• know about the specialist student counselors and how they may provide assistance</li></ul> <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• be able to use problem-based learning and group work in project and courses at Aalborg University</li><li>• be able to use Moodle to find lecture plans, timetables, and other relevant information</li></ul> <p>Competences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• be able to apply the concepts, theories and methods for problem-based learning and group work</li><li>• be able to account for the considerations involved in the process of formulating project reports in practice.</li></ul>
Content	Lectures, discussions and group work. The course will take place during two Wednesday afternoons.
Language	English
Assessment	Internal assessment during the course/class participation according to the rules in the Examination Policies and Procedures, Addendum to the Framework Provision of the Faculty of Engineering and Science, Aalborg University. In this case the assessment is primarily based on the oral performance during the course. This means that the student has to be active during the course time and participate in discussions. The course is an integrated part of the project and a precondition for participation in the project examination for those who are not acquainted with the Aalborg PBL model. Consequently, no diploma will be issued for the course nor will it appear on the academic transcripts.
Grading	Passed/failed
Assessment criteria	As stated in the Joint programme regulations

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## **Chapter 3. Entry into Force, Interim Provisions and Revision**

The study regulations are adopted by the Study Board of Biotechnology, Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, approved by the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Science and take effect from 1st September, 2017.

Students in the cand.scient.tech. program in Environmental Engineering who wish to complete their studies under the former study regulations from 2016 must conclude their education by the summer examination period 2018 at the latest, since examinations under the former study regulations are not offered after this time.

## **Chapter 4. Other Provisions**

### **5.1 Rules concerning written work, including the Master's thesis**

In the assessment of all written work, regardless of the language it is written in, weight is also given to the student's spelling and formulation ability, in addition to the academic content. Orthographic and grammatical correctness as well as stylistic proficiency are taken as a basis for the evaluation of language performance. Language performance must always be included as an independent dimension of the total evaluation. However, no examination can be assessed as 'Pass' on the basis of good language performance alone; similarly, an examination normally cannot be assessed as 'Fail' on the basis of poor language performance alone.

The Board of Studies can grant exemption from this in special cases (e.g., dyslexia or a native language other than Danish).

The Master's thesis must include an English summary.<sup>1</sup> If the project is written in English, the summary must be in Danish.<sup>2</sup> The summary must be at least 1 page and not more than 2 pages. The summary is included in the evaluation of the project as a whole.

### **5.2 Rules concerning credit transfer (*merit*), including the possibility for choice of modules that are part of another program at a university in Denmark or abroad**

In the individual case, the Board of Studies can approve successfully completed (passed) program elements from other Master's programs in lieu of program elements in this program (credit transfer). The Board of Studies can also approve successfully completed (passed) program elements from another Danish program or a program outside of Denmark at the same level in lieu of program elements within this curriculum. Decisions on credit transfer are made by the Board of Studies based on an academic assessment. See the Joint programme regulations for the rules on credit transfer.

### **5.3 Rules for examinations**

The rules for examinations are stated in the Examination Policies and Procedures published by the Faculties of Engineering, Science and Medicine on their website.

### **5.4 Exemption**

In exceptional circumstances, the Board of Studies study can grant exemption from those parts of the curriculum that are not stipulated by law or ministerial order. Exemption regarding an examination applies to the immediate examination.

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<sup>1</sup> Or another foreign language (upon approval from the Board of Studies).

<sup>2</sup> The Board of Studies can grant exemption from this.

### **5.5 Rules and requirements concerning the reading of texts in foreign languages and a statement of the foreign language knowledge this assumes**

It is assumed that the student can read academic texts in modern Danish, Norwegian, Swedish and English and use reference works, etc., in German.

### **5.6 Additional information**

The current version of the curriculum is published on the Board of Studies' website, including more detailed information about the program, including exams.