

Appendix

To the Programme Regulations 2006 of the
Master's degree programme in Atmospheric and Climate Science (AC)

31 August 2010 (Version: 1 October 2024)

Applies to students who commence the degree programme in Autumn Semester 2025 or later.

For those entering the programme before are subject to previous stipulations.¹

This is an English translation only. The original German version is the legally binding document.

This appendix sets out the prerequisites for and further details regarding admission to the Master's degree programme in Atmospheric and Climate Science (AC). It supplements the stipulations of the Admission Regulations of ETH Zurich and the Directive on Admission to Master's Degree Programmes.

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¹ For admissions for Autumn Semester 2024 and earlier, the stipulations of the Appendix 31 August 2010 (Version 1 September 2019) apply.

1 Profile of requirements

Policy

For admission to the Master's degree programme in AC (subsequently 'the degree programme') all of the following prerequisites must be satisfied.

1.1 Degree qualifications

¹ For admission to the degree programme one of the following is required:

- a. a university Bachelor's degree comprising at least 180 ECTS⁽²⁾ credits or an equivalent university degree
- b. a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences comprising at least 180 ECTS³ credits

in a discipline in the context of which the following academic and performance prerequisites have been satisfied. Said disciplines include, in particular:

- Earth Sciences
- Environmental Sciences
- Agricultural Sciences
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Interdisciplinary Natural Sciences

² A Bachelor's degree qualifies its holder for admission to an ETH Master's degree programme only if it also qualifies said holder to enter, without additional requirements, the desired Master's degree programme within the university system where the Bachelor's degree was acquired. The Rector may also demand proof of this, determining whether such proof must come from the home university or from another university in the country where the Bachelor's degree was acquired.

1.2 Academic prerequisites

1.2.1 Knowledge and competences

¹ Attendance of the Master's degree programme in AC presupposes basic knowledge and competences in the disciplines Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and System-Oriented Natural Sciences which must in content, scope and quality be equivalent to those covered in the ETH Bachelor's degree programmes in Earth Sciences or Environmental Sciences (discipline requirements profile).

² ECTS: European Credit Transfer System. Credits describe the average time expended to achieve a learning goal. One credit corresponds to 25-30 hours of work.

³ A Diploma from a Swiss university of applied sciences is considered equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in the same discipline. A Bachelor's degree from a German or Austrian university of applied sciences is considered equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences.

² The **discipline requirements profile** comprises **69 ECTS credits** in total and is based on knowledge and competences covered in the ETH Bachelor's degree programmes in Earth Sciences or Environmental Sciences. This includes training in the relevant methodological scientific thinking.

³ The discipline requirements profile is structured in the following three parts. Details regarding the content of the corresponding course units are published in the course catalogue (www.vvz.ethz.ch).

Part 1: Basics

Part 1 comprises 55 credits and covers basics essential to the Master's degree programme from Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and System-Oriented Natural Sciences. The substance of the following course units from the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences is required:

1a *Mathematics* (at least 15 credits)

- Mathematik [Mathematics] I-V (Analysis, Lineare Algebra [Linear Algebra], Systemanalyse [Systems Analysis], Statistik [Statistics], Anwendungsorientierte Vertiefung von Mathematik [Application-Oriented Mathematics Concentration] 1-3)

1b *Chemistry and Physics* (at least 20 credits)

- Chemie [Chemistry] 1 and 2 / Praktikum Chemie [Chemistry practical]
- Physik [Physics] 1 and 2 / Praktikum Physik [Physics practical]

1c *Fundamentals of the Natural Sciences, Earth Systems* (at least 20 credits)

- Additional input from the areas Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and/or Earth Systems

Part 2: System-oriented subjects

Part 2 comprises 9 credits and covers subject-specific knowledge and competences from system-oriented subjects.

The substance of at least three of the following course units from the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in Earth Sciences (core subjects of the major in Climate and Water) and Environmental Sciences (core subjects of the major in Atmosphere and Climate), comprising a total of at least 9 credits, is required:

- Atmosphärenphysik [Atmospheric Physics]
- Atmosphärenchemie [Atmospheric Chemistry]
- Wettersysteme [Weather Systems]
- Klimasysteme [Climate Systems]
- Numerische Methoden der Umweltphysik [Numerical Methods of Environmental Physics]

Part 3: Independent work

Part 3 involves independent written work and/or a Bachelor's thesis and comprises at least 5 credits.

1.2.2 Admission with additional requirements

¹ If the academic prerequisites listed in 1.2.1, Part 1, are not completely satisfied, admission may be granted subject to the acquisition of the missing knowledge and competences in the form of additional credits (admission with additional requirements).

² The candidate must provide proof of the acquisition of the additional knowledge and competences required by passing the pertaining performance assessments by set deadlines (see Section 4).

³ If the candidate fails said performance assessments or does not respect the set deadlines he/she will be regarded as having failed the programme and will be excluded from it.

1.2.3 Admission with specific Master's degree programme subject selection requirements

If the academic prerequisites listed in 1.2.1, Part 2, are not completely satisfied, admission may be granted on condition that the student includes specified course units in his/her individual Master's degree programme curriculum.

1.3 Language prerequisites

¹ The teaching language of the degree programme is English.

² For admission to the programme, proof of sufficient knowledge of English (level C1)⁴ must be provided.

³ Applicants to the programme who hold a Bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences must, according to the pertaining additional requirements (see Section 2.4, Subsection 2), also supply proof of sufficient knowledge of German (level C1).

⁴ The required language certificates must be submitted by the application deadline. The ETH Zurich publishes a list of the language certificates accepted.

1.4 Performance prerequisites

Admission to the degree programme requires very good academic performance in the previous study programme.

⁴ The required language level is measured according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) scale

2 Specific stipulations for admission and entry into the degree programme

2.1 General regulations

Application

¹ All interested parties should apply through the ETH Zurich Admissions Office for admission to the programme and are subject to the admissions procedure set out in Section 3.

Admission

² For admission to the degree programme all of the prerequisites set out in Section 1 must be satisfied.

³ Admission may be subject to additional requirements.

⁴ Admission is not possible if, to satisfy the academic prerequisites,

- More than 15 credits from Part 1 of said academic prerequisites must be acquired, or
- more than 30 credits in total from said academic prerequisites must be acquired.

2.2 Application with a Bachelor's degree from ETH Zurich

Entering the Master's degree programme

¹ Students from an ETH Bachelor's degree programme who have been granted admission can enrol in the programme once they have acquired that number of credits which would qualify them to enrol in the Master's degree programme consecutive to their original subject.⁵

² For all Bachelor's degree students who are already matriculated at ETH Zurich and who progress to the ETH Master's degree programme, the following applies:

- a. The normal ETH enrolment dates and deadlines apply.
- b. Admission is provisional until the Bachelor's degree is issued. Admission will be revoked if the Bachelor's degree is not or cannot be issued.

2.3 Application with a Bachelor's degree from another university

Entering the Master's degree programme

Candidates who have been granted admission can enter the programme when they have completed the preceding Bachelor's degree programme.

⁵ The permitted number of missing credits is set out in the Programme Regulations of the respective consecutive Master's degree programme (e.g., B.Sc. Physics > M.Sc. Physics).

2.4 Application with a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences

Admission

¹ For admission to the degree programme all the prerequisites set out in Section 1 must be satisfied. Very good performance in the preceding course of studies is also required.

² Admission is always subject to the acquisition of the missing academic and methodological knowledge and competences in the form of additional studies comprising at least 40 credits from Parts 1 and 2 of the academic prerequisites (see Section 1.2.1).

³ Admission is not possible if more than 60 additional credits must be acquired in order to satisfy the academic prerequisites.

Entering the Master's degree programme

⁴ Candidates who have been granted admission can enter the programme when they have completed the preceding Bachelor's degree programme.

3 Application and admission procedure

¹ All interested parties must submit an application for admission to the degree programme. The specifications for application, in particular the documents required and the dates/deadlines for submission, are published on the website of the ETH Zurich Admissions Office (www.admission.ethz.ch).

² Application may be made even if the required preceding degree has not yet been issued.

³ The admissions committee of the degree programme determines how far the background of the candidate corresponds to the requirements profile and submits an application for admission/rejection to the Director of Studies.

⁴ The Rector makes the final decision regarding admission without additional requirements, admission with additional requirements, or rejection.

⁵ The candidate receives a written admissions decision which includes relevant information concerning any additional admission requirements.

4 Fulfilling additional admission requirements

4.1 General regulations

¹ Candidates who are admitted subject to the fulfilment of additional requirements must acquire the required additional knowledge and competences before or during the Master's programme via self-study or by attending classes. The corresponding individual performance assessments must take place by set deadlines.

² If the candidate fails said performance assessments or does not respect the set deadlines he/she will be regarded as having failed the programme and will be excluded from it.

³ The deadlines and conditions for undergoing said performance assessments depend upon the background of the candidate (see Sections 4.2 and 4.3).

4.2 Candidates with a university Bachelor's degree

¹ Candidates holding a university Bachelor's degree must undertake all of the performance assessments pertaining to the additional admission requirements by the end of the first year of the Master's programme at the latest. All additional requirements, including any assessment repetitions, must be fulfilled within 18 months of the start of the Master's programme at the latest.

² A pass grade in each individual performance assessment is required.

³ A failed performance assessment may be repeated once.

4.3 Candidates with a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences

¹ Candidates holding a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences must undertake all of the performance assessments pertaining to the additional admission requirements by the end of the first year of the Master's programme at the latest. All additional requirements, including any assessment repetitions, must be fulfilled within two years of the start of the Master's programme at the latest.

² The performance assessments may be undertaken as examination blocks. A pass grade in the examination block is achieved if the average of the individual grades is at least a 4.

³ A failed performance assessment or a failed examination block may be repeated once. Repeating an examination block entails repeating all of the performance assessments belonging to it.