



UNIL | Université de Lausanne

Faculté de biologie
et de médecine

School of Biology

Programme Regulations

***Maîtrise universitaire ès Sciences en sciences moléculaires
du vivant***

Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences

2017

**Approved by the Board of the School of Biology on
16.03.2017**

Approved by the Faculty Deanship on 22.03.2017

Approved by the Faculty Board on 04.04.2017

Passed by the Rectorate on 15.05.2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section I	General provisions	
	Chapter 1 : General structure of the programme	p. 3 - 4
	Chapter 2 : Degree	p. 4
	Chapter 3 : Awarding the Master's degree	p. 4 - 5
	Chapter 4 : Admission conditions and equivalences	
	4.1 Admission to the Master's degree programme	p. 5 - 6
	4.2 Equivalences	p. 6 - 7
	Chapter 5 : General organisation of the programme	
	5.1 Programme plans and regulations	p. 7
	5.2 Enrolling on courses	p. 7
	5.3 Organisation of optional courses	p. 8
	5.4 Duration of the programme	p. 8
	5.5 Leave applications	p. 8
	5.6 Mobility	p. 8
	Chapter 6 : Extra-curricular courses	p. 9
Section II	Organisation of assessments	
	Chapter 1 : General provisions	p. 9 - 12
	Chapter 2 : Assessment procedures	p. 12 - 13
	Chapter 3 : Master's thesis	
	3.1 Enrolling for the Master's thesis	p. 13 - 14
	3.2 Master's dissertation defence	p. 14 - 15
	Chapter 4 : Conditions of final failure of the Master's	p. 15
Section III	Final provisions	p. 15 - 16
Annexes	Programme plans and assessment schedules	

In this document the masculine form is used on a purely generic basis, all titles and positions should be interpreted as referring to males and females.

The degrees are indicated by their shortened name of "Bachelor's" and "Master's".

SECTION I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

The website of the School of Biology offers access to all the regulations, enrolment forms, programme plans, schedules and other necessary information about the programme.

The School of Biology's official means of communication for students is via email. Students are therefore expected to check their email regularly.

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

Article 1

Purpose of the course At the end of the Maîtrise universitaire ès Sciences en sciences moléculaires du vivant / Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences (hereinafter Master's), students will be capable of:

- 1) Mobilising and implementing the knowledge acquired while showing evidence of creativity in solving scientific problems in molecular genetics, genomics, cell and developmental biology, microbiology and bioinformatics.
- 2) Answering a biology question by experimentation in the laboratory and/or computational analysis.
- 3) Having observation and learning abilities, both theoretical and experimental, and being able to adapt according to new information to take into account.
- 4) Analysing various types of data, whether from literature, acquired experimentally or in the field, integrating them and summarising them.
- 5) Managing bibliographical resources (databases, scientific journals, etc.) and analysing then summarising the scientific literature relating to the area concerned when developing and delivering a scientific project.
- 6) Making a critical analysis of findings or of a scientific approach.
- 7) Reacting promptly and pertinently during discussions and problem-solving.
- 8) Organising their work and individual and/or team projects, taking the required initiatives and making the contacts needed for their successful completion.
- 9) Communicating their findings verbally and in writing through various channels (verbal account, presentation based on a poster, drafting a written report and scientific article).
- 10) Defending a project in front of experts and explaining it to stakeholders in the economic and political world.
- 11) Mastering written and spoken scientific English for reading scientific texts, writing articles and communicating with experts.

The specific course goals for each specialisation are described in the programme plan.

Article 2

The Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences (hereinafter "Master's") is divided into 4 modules:

- M1 : the theoretical courses in semester 1 focus on the acquisition of knowledge and key skills (compulsory and optional) (16 ECTS credits).
- M2 : the practical courses in semester 1 constitute an introduction to research work in the laboratory and/or in the field (practical introduction to research or "first step project") (14 ECTS credits).

- M3 : the theoretical courses in semester 2 (compulsory and optional): 15 ECTS credits.
- M4 : the Master's project which began in semester 2 and finished in semester 3 (45 ECTS credits) consisting of a research project, writing a dissertation and an oral defence.

CHAPTER 2 DEGREE

Article 3

Degree awarded

On the proposal of the School of Biology in the Faculty of Biology and Medicine, the University of Lausanne grants the following degree:

- ❖ Maîtrise universitaire ès Sciences en sciences moléculaires du vivant / Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences.

The Maîtrise universitaire ès Sciences en sciences moléculaires du vivant (Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences) may be obtained without a specialisation or with a specialisation in one of the following subject areas: bioinformatique / bioinformatics, microbiologie / microbiology, biologie intégrative / integrative biology.

CHAPTER 3 AWARDING THE MASTER'S DEGREE

Article 4

General conditions for obtaining a Master's degree

To obtain the Master's degree mentioned in Article 3, the students must:

- Take the courses in modules 1 to 3 in the Master's programme plan and pass the corresponding assessments to earn 45 ECTS credits.
- Successfully defend their Master's dissertation (Module 4) to earn 45 ECTS credits (Module 4).

The conditions for obtaining the specialisation in the Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences for one of the specialisations set out in Article 3 are described in Article 4bis of these Programme Regulations.

Article 4 bis

Conditions for award of the title of Master with specialisation

According to Article 3 of the Programme Regulations, the Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences may be obtained without a specialisation or with one of the three specialisations.

The programme plan provides a complete list of courses specific to each specialisation, indicating whether they are compulsory or optional.

- 1) Any student wishing to obtain the specialisation in bioinformatics must obtain a minimum of 18 ECTS credits from optional courses of which 9 ECTS credits from recognised courses in the subject area according to the semester 1 (Module 1) programme plan and 9 ECTS course credits according to the semester 2 (Module 3) programme plan, including ECTS credits acquired by equivalence at the time of admission and/or in the context of a mobility programme.

He must also have passed Module 2 (semester 1 practical courses) in the bioinformatics subject area.

- 2) Any student wishing to obtain a specialisation in microbiology must acquire 18 ECTS credits from optional courses of which 12 ECTS credits recognised in the subject area, including ECTS credits acquired by equivalence at the time of admission and/or in the context of a mobility programme.

For the "bioinformatics" and "microbiology" specialisations, the student must also choose and successfully complete their Master's thesis in the field of specialisation.

- 3) Any student wishing to obtain a specialisation in integrative biology must acquire 18 ECTS credits from optional courses recognised in the subject area, including ECTS credits acquired by equivalence at the time of admission and/or in the context of a mobility programme. The student must also choose and successfully complete their Master's thesis in the field of specialisation.

Any student wishing to obtain recognition of the credits acquired on a mobility programme in the context of one of the Master's specialisations must have the written agreement of the Management of the School of Biology (see Article 17), with advance notice given by the teacher in charge of the specialisation, as well as the written agreement of the head of the Master's.

Any student aiming to obtain the Master's with a specialisation must indicate their choice to the School of Biology by the time of enrolment for the Master's thesis at the latest (see Article 38), specifying the list of planned ECTS credits in the field of specialisation.

The Management of the School of Biology submits the request to the head of the Master's for notice. The latter checks that the conditions concerning the acquisition of the ECTS credits obtained in the field of specialisation and the dissertation subject area have been properly filled in.

La Direction de l'Ecole de biologie informe l'étudiant de la décision et assure le suivi de l'établissement du grade. The Management of the School of Biology informs the student of the decision and provides follow-up for the establishment of the degree.

Article 5

Procedure for printing degrees

After having checked that the regulatory requirements have been met, the Management of the School of Biology sends the Rectorate of the University, via the Deanship, favourable notice from the Faculty of Biology and Medicine to print the degree awarded by the University of Lausanne

CHAPTER 4

ADMISSION CONDITIONS AND EQUIVALENCES

4.1

Admissions to the Master's degree programme

Article 6

General conditions for admission to the Master's degree

- 1) Subject to Articles 70 and following of the Implementing Regulations of 18 December 2013 of the Law on the University of Lausanne (hereinafter RLUL), persons admitted to enrol at the University of Lausanne who have a Baccalauréat universitaire ès Sciences en biologie / Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Biology from the University of Lausanne are unconditionally admitted to the Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences offered by the School of Biology.
- 2) Subject to Articles 70 and following of the RLUL, persons admitted to enrol at the University of Lausanne who have a Bachelor of Science (BSc) (Baccalauréat universitaire ès Sciences) attached to the swissuniversities "biology" branch of study at a Swiss university or another qualification deemed equivalent are unconditionally admitted to the Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences offered by the School of Biology.
- 3) Subject to Articles 70 and following of the RLUL, persons admitted to enrol at the University of Lausanne who have a Bachelor of Science (BSc) / Baccalauréat

universitaire ès Sciences in a field of biology awarded by another university institution recognised by UNIL, are admitted to the Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences offered by the School of Biology if they agree to the conditions of acquiring ECTS credits which will be determined by the Admissions Committee for Master's degrees. These credits can be acquired during the course of the Master's if they do not exceed 10 ECTS credits (integrated upgrade). From 11 to 60 ECTS, the credits must be acquired before the start of the Master's (prior upgrade).

- 4) Subject to Articles 70 and following of the RLUL, persons admitted to enrol at the University of Lausanne who have a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in a field other than biology awarded by a university institution recognised by UNIL, are admitted to the Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences offered by the School of Biology if they agree to the conditions of acquiring ECTS credits which will be determined by the Admissions Committee for Master's degrees. These credits can be acquired during the course of the Master's if they do not exceed 10 ECTS credits (integrated upgrade). From 11 to 60 ECTS, the credits must be acquired before the start of the Master's (prior upgrade).
- 5) Subject to Articles 70 and following of the RLUL, candidates with another qualification can be allowed on the basis of a qualification equivalence request. If necessary, they will have to agree to the conditions for acquiring ECTS credits, which will be determined by the Admissions Committee for Master's degrees. These credits can be acquired during the course of the Master's if they do not exceed 10 ECTS credits (integrated upgrade). From 11 to 60 ECTS, the credits must be acquired before the start of the Master's (prior upgrade).
- 6) Subject to Articles 70 and following of the RLUL, if the Admissions Committee for Master's degrees proposes the admission of the candidate subject to passing a prior upgrade course, this course must not exceed 60 ECTS credits.

Article 7

Admission following a final failure

A student who experiences a final failure in the Bachelor of Science in Biology from the School of Biology can be admitted to a Master's degree according to the conditions in Article 6 if he obtains a Bachelor of Science in Biology from another higher education institution.

Article 8

Admission following a failure

Admission to a second Master's degree at the School of Biology is possible after a single failure at a first Master's degree.

Any student who experiences a final failure in one of the Master's degrees in biology is excluded from the Master's degree in biology programmes, subject to the provisions of the RLUL, Art. 77 Para. 3.

4.2

Equivalences

Article 9

Conditions for granting equivalences

The Management of the School of Biology grants valid equivalences only for the course programme for which the request has been submitted.

A request can only be submitted if a year of study has been successfully completed or if a qualification has been obtained.

A written request must be made by the end of the 2nd week of courses in the first semester of study at the School of Biology.

By analogy with Article 7 of the General Programme Regulations relating to the Bachelor's (Baccalauréat universitaire) and Master's (Maîtrise universitaire) courses (GPR), a student can obtain a maximum of 30 ECTS credits in the form of equivalences.

The course assessments for which equivalence is required must have been passed. □

A course validated by equivalence only entitles the students to ECTS credits; the grades shall not be taken into account when calculating the results.

Article 10

Conditions for applying equivalences

The student benefiting from equivalences must acquire at least 60 ECTS credits on the Master's degree course of the School of Biology to obtain the corresponding degree issued by the Faculty of Biology and Medicine.

CHAPTER 5 GENERAL ORGANISATION OF THE PROGRAMME

5.1 Programme plans and regulations

Article 11

Programme plans

The programme plans and assessment schedules are presented alongside the Programme Regulations only upon the first submission of the Regulations to UNIL Management or if any changes made to them entail a change in the Programme Regulations.

The student must take the compulsory and optional courses set out in the programme plan to acquire 45 ECTS credits. He must also complete a Master's thesis worth 45 ECTS credits.

The programme plan specifies the way in which the courses are taught, their number, whether they are compulsory or optional, on an individual basis or as part of a set, their frequency, the distribution of the ECTS credits which are linked to them and the assessment procedures.

The student can acquire 30 ECTS credits within the framework of a mobility programme (see Article 17).

Article 12

Approval of the Master's Programme Regulations

The Master's Programme Regulations for the School of Biology are prepared by the Management of the School of Biology together with the head of the Master's degree, approved by the School Board, submitted for notice to the Deanship, approved by the Faculty Board and adopted by the Rectorate.

5.2 Enrolling on courses

Article 13

Enrolling on courses

Enrolment on courses is compulsory in order to be eligible for the assessments. This enrolment is done electronically at the start of the semester, according to the deadlines and the procedures set by the School of Biology, within the periods set out by the Rectorate of UNIL.

5.3 Organisation of optional courses

Article 14

Minimum number of students

Starting from a minimum number of 4 students, an optional course must be provided by the teacher. Below this number, the organisation of the course is up to the teacher.

5.4 Duration of the programme

Article 15

Duration of the programme

The Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences corresponds to a volume of work of 90 ECTS credits.

The normal expected duration in the programme plan for obtaining a Master's degree is three semesters. The maximum duration of the programme for obtaining a Master's degree is five semesters.

The maximum duration of the programme can be proportionally reduced for students who benefit from equivalences.

5.5 Leave applications

Article 16

Reasons for granting and impacts on the duration of the programme

Leave applications can be made in respect of Articles 92 and following of the RLUL.

In all cases, applications must be suitably substantiated and justified by adequate documents.

The total number of semesters of leave cannot exceed 2 semesters.

5.6 Mobility

Article 17

Mobility

Subject to the prior consent of the Management of the School of Biology, a student enrolled on the Master's degree programme can carry out part of his studies at another university institution for a maximum of 30 ECTS credits, while remaining enrolled at the University of Lausanne.

The host institution must be a partner with which UNIL or the School of Biology has signed a national or international cooperation agreement, or at least be an institution recognised by the University of Lausanne.

The student must meet the conditions of passing the semester prior to the exchange in order to continue his course at a host institution.

Article 18

Reconnaitssances et équivalences

The study programme, a fixed agreement between the student, the School of Biology and the host institution, is recognised by organised assessments and, if necessary, marked according to the criteria of the host institution. The credits and grades acquired at the host institution shall be recognised and validated by the Faculty of Biology and Medicine in accordance with the study agreement.

CHAPTER 6 EXTRA-CURRICULAR COURSES

Article 19

Enseignements hors cursus

Students have the chance to acquire additional ECTS credits in relation to the Master's degree programme in the field of biology. The courses related to these ECTS credits should be taken during the Master's programme at the University of Lausanne. They can be offered by the School of Biology, by another school of the Faculty of Biology and Medicine, another Faculty of UNIL or by any other Swiss higher education institution.

The student must be able to present a certificate or a document from the authority responsible for the course taken, certifying that the ECTS credits have been duly acquired by the student.

Additional courses and ECTS credits acquired are listed under the "Extra-curricular courses" heading in the diploma supplement awarded if the Master's is successfully passed.

SECTION II ORGANISATION OF ASSESSMENTS

The meaning of the terms in relation to the organisation of assessments, such as examinations and validations, is defined in chapters V and VI of the GPR.

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 20

Types of assessment Acquiring the ECTS credits corresponding to a course or a module is subject to an assessment, which can be carried out in one or more of the following ways:

- ❖ A written or oral examination during the examination sessions.
- ❖ A validation process taking place during the course, such as:
 - an individual piece of written work
 - an oral presentation
 - practical work (laboratory, placement, etc.)
 - continuous assessment

Written examinations are assessed by at least two examiners, one of whom is the teacher in charge of the course. Marking of the MCQs remains confidential.

The oral examinations are assessed by at least one teacher, who is in charge of the course, and an expert. At the student's request, the Management of the School of Biology can accept the presence of third parties.

At the time of enrolment, the student can ask to sit a written examination of at least two hours instead of an oral examination, if he has already failed this assessment.

Practical work, oral presentations during the course of the semester, individual work and continuous assessments are appraised by the teacher(s) in charge of the course which is the subject of the assessment.

The type of assessment is set out in the assessment process (which is a detailed version of the programme plan). Students are notified of the detailed terms (durations, conditions for obtaining validations) at the beginning of the year (or at the beginning of each semester) by email and they are also available on the School of Biology's website.

Article 21

Marking

The examinations are assessed with grades from 1.0 to 6.0. Only points, half-points and quarter-points are used.

A grade or an average higher than or equal to 4.0 results in a pass. Averages are expressed to a tenth of a point.

A grade of 0 (zero) is given in the event of unjustified absence, fraud, attempted fraud or plagiarism. It results in a fail for this assessment and the module of which the assessment is part. The student is subject without restriction to the University of Lausanne's *Code of conduct for borrowing, quoting and use of miscellaneous sources* (Rectorate Directive 0.3) and Directive 3.15 Treatment of cases of plagiarism in the context of the course.

Article 22

Number of attempts

For each assessment, the number of attempts is limited to two, subject to Article 23. □

Article 23

Sole attempt after admission following a final failure

Subject to Articles 70 and following of the RLUL, a student who has experienced a final failure at another faculty, university or school in a subject not taught at the School of Biology only has the right to one attempt at the set of assessments at the end of the first semester of studies at the School of Biology. A failure excludes the student from the programme regardless of any equivalences that have been granted, subject to the provisions of the RLUL, Art. 77 Para. 3.

Article 24

Assessment subjects

All the assessments cover the subjects taught in the programme plan for the current year.

Article 25

Examination sessions

The written examinations and the oral examinations are organised by the managers of the Master's degree working closely with the Management of the School of Biology. They take place during the following sessions:

- ❖ After the end of the semester 1 courses (winter session).
- ❖ After the end of the semester 2 courses (summer session).
- ❖ Before the start of the semester 3 courses (autumn session).

Article 26

Enrolment for assessments

To be able to enrol for the assessments, the student must be duly enrolled on the corresponding courses.

Enrolment for the assessments is done electronically according to the deadlines and procedures set out by the School of Biology, within the periods set out by the Rectorate of UNIL.

In exchange for a charge of CHF 200.00, the student can still enrol at the academic secretariat during a further 2 weeks after the deadline. After this final deadline, failure to enrol shall result in the student failing the assessment.

Article 27

Withdrawal before the examination and absence during the examination

A student who is forced to withdraw or does not attend a session due to extenuating circumstances must inform the Management of the School of Biology immediately and in writing, and provide justification as soon as possible, within a maximum of 3 days following the cessation of the extenuating circumstances. If the withdrawal is accepted, the grades for the completed assessments are acquired and the assessments that were not attended must be taken as soon as possible, as agreed by the teacher and the Management of the School of Biology, for a validation, and at the following examination session for an examination.

No backdated justification will be taken into account for one or more assessments already taken. □

Any withdrawal not validly justified shall be treated as an abandonment and result in a grade of zero (0) for the assessment concerned; the additional provisions of Art. 21 Para. 3 remain applicable. □

Article 28

Notification of results

Students are notified of the results of the assessments electronically or by post. Decisions on final failures of the course are communicated by registered post.

Article 29

Appeal deadlines and conditions

The examination results can be appealed, to the Management of the School of Biology in the first instance. Students should find out their results in the three days which follow the date of official notification. The appeal deadline of 30 days thus starts from the fourth day.

This appeal, duly justified, must be made in writing within the stated deadline. □

To be accepted, the appeal must be based on precise and admissible reasons, such as non-compliance with the regulations, a procedural fault or an arbitrariness complaint. The appeal must be written by the student or be accompanied by proof of power of attorney granted by the student if it is written by a third person.

In the event of an obviously unfounded appeal, the Management of the School of Biology shall decide without consultation and reject the appeal.

If it is based on at least one admissible reason and submitted within the stated deadline, the appeal shall be processed by the Appeals Committee no later than two months after being lodged.

Article 30

Consequences of lodging an appeal for the continuation of studies

Lodging an appeal against an assessment result decision does not suspend the result. As a consequence, the student cannot continue with the current course until the verdict of the Appeals Committee has been pronounced.

Article 31

Appeals Committee decisions

The Appeals Committee cannot change a grade that has been awarded, unless a marking error has been identified.

If the appeal is accepted, on the other hand, the Appeals Committee may cancel the disputed assessment. In this case, the School of Biology shall organise a new assessment as soon as possible for a validation, and at the next examination session for an examination.

Article 32

Notification of decisions Decisions are notified by the Management of the School of Biology. If the appeal is rejected, the student shall be notified of the procedures for higher level appeals.

CHAPTER 2 ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

Article 33

Assessment procedures Semesters 1 (Modules 1 and 2) and 2 (Module 3) are each the subject of a separate examination session. □

The assessment schedule and procedures are sent to the students by email at the beginning of each semester.

Article 34

Obligation to attend Modules 1 to 3 are examined either by continuous assessment, or during the session which immediately follows the courses. The autumn session is a re-sit session.

Except for duly justified cases, the student is obliged to attend the first attempt at his examinations during the session which immediately follows the semester. Failure to do so shall result in failing the assessment.

Article 35

Conditions for passing Modules 1 and 2 The final result of the theoretical course assessments (Module 1) is the average, weighted by coefficients, of the grades for the compulsory and optional courses.

The final result of the practical course assessments (Module 2) is the arithmetic average of the grades for the practical assessments.

Modules 1 and 2 have been passed and the corresponding ECTS credits are awarded if the following two conditions are met:

- a final result for the Module 1 assessment higher than or equal to 4.0 and no more than one grade under 4.0 in the compulsory and optional course assessments.
- a final result for the Module 2 assessment higher than or equal to 4.0 and no more than one grade under 4.0 in the assessments.

In the event of failure, the following re-sit conditions apply: □

- 1) If the student only passes Module 1, he is allowed to continue in the programme for Module 3 "Semester 2 theoretical courses". The failed assessments for Module 2 must be taken again under the re-sit conditions defined in collaboration with the head of the Master's and the Management of the School of Biology.

If the student agrees to attend the failed validations in the month following the signing of the re-sit conditions, the student is allowed to begin the Master's thesis after passing Module 2. A second failure at Module 2 is eliminatory.

If the failed validations cannot be attended within a month, or if the student refuses to meet this deadline, the Module 2 re-sit shall take place in the autumn semester of the following year. In this case, if the student passes Module 2, the Master's thesis shall begin in the next spring semester.

- 2) If the student only passes Module 2, he is allowed to continue in the programme (Module 3 "Semester 2 theoretical courses" and Module 4 "Master's Thesis"). In this case, the student is entitled to a second attempt at the Module 1 assessment set. He must attend the failed assessment(s) under the same conditions as the 1st attempt — subject to Para. 4 of Article 20 — in accordance with the provisions of the assessment schedule.
- 3) The student is not allowed to continue in the programme if he has failed both Module 1 and Module 2. The 2nd attempt, for all the Module 1 and 2 assessments, shall be repeated the following year, at the winter examination session.

Article 36

Conditions for passing Module 3

The Module 3 course assessments are passed and the corresponding ECTS credits granted if: the arithmetic average of the grades for the compulsory course assessments is higher than or equal to 4.0 and if the student has obtained a minimum of 9 ECTS credits from the optional courses.

If a student fails a second attempt at an optional course assessment, he can choose another optional course and this opportunity is available to him twice, providing that he does not exceed the maximum duration of the programme.

CHAPTER 3

MASTER'S THESIS

3.1

Enrolling for the Master's thesis

Article 37

Annnonce du travail de Master

The Master's thesis, of a maximum duration of 2 semesters, is a personal research activity placed under the responsibility of a supervisor (UNIL faculty member or, with the permission of the School of Biology, any person holding a doctorate involved in teaching). Except in cases duly agreed by the School of Biology, the topic of the Master's thesis must be different from that of the semester 1 project and must take place under the supervision of another supervisor.

With the agreement of the School of Biology, the thesis may take place at another higher education or university institution. In this case, it must be supervised jointly by a UNIL co-supervisor and an external supervisor. The external supervisor must hold the rank of doctor as a minimum. The UNIL co-supervisor ensures that the UNIL requirements are met.

The Master's thesis culminates in the production of a written dissertation, which is the subject of an oral defence in the language in which the Master's degree is taught, i.e. English. A French summary must be incorporated into the dissertation.

Article 38

Enrolment procedures

Right from the start of the Master's degree and before 30 November, the student is responsible for finding a teacher who agrees to supervise his Master's thesis. He enrolls according to the procedures and timetable indicated by the Management of the School of Biology. If this approach is unsuccessful, the School of Biology shall assign a supervisor to him.

If the Master's thesis is planned to take place at another higher education establishment or other institution, the agreement of the Board of the School of Biology is required. The enrolment deadlines are then moved forward to 1 November. Enrolment must be accompanied by a short description of the project, as well as the curriculum vitae of the external thesis supervisor.

3.2 Master's dissertation defence

Article 39

Special conditions

To be allowed to defend his Master's dissertation, the student must have passed the assessments for Modules 1, 2 and 3 and have submitted his dissertation to his supervisor (respectively his co-supervisors) by the deadlines set.

Article 40

Dissertation submission and assessment procedure

- 1) The student sends 1 copy of his dissertation to each member of the panel, no later than 5 weeks before the courses of the next semester start.
- 2) Upon receipt of the dissertation, the supervisor (respectively the UNIL co-supervisor if the thesis is taking place outside of UNIL) immediately informs the secretariat of the School of Biology and also notifies it of:
 - a) The date of the defence, which must take place no later than 2 weeks before the courses for the next semester start.
 - b) The composition of the panel, which must include at least the supervisor (respectively the UNIL co-supervisor if the thesis is taking place outside of UNIL) and an external expert with a doctorate. The external expert must be external to and independent of the research group of the student and his supervisor (respectively his co-supervisors), but it is not necessary for the expert to be recruited outside of UNIL or the host institution. If necessary, the external supervisor can either attend the defence, or communicate his evaluation based on a written report. The entire panel must be present at the defence of the Master's dissertation. If a justified request is made to the Management of the School of Biology, a jury member may exceptionally be permitted to use video-conferencing.
- 3) The secretariat of the School of Biology shall forward to the supervisor (respectively to the UNIL co-supervisor) the assessment protocol by which the panel will award 3 grades: one for the research project, one for the dissertation and one for the defence. If necessary, any changes to be made to the dissertation shall be also noted in the assessment protocol.
- 4) The original assessment protocol is returned as soon as possible after the examination to the secretariat of the School of Biology by the supervisor (respectively the UNIL co-supervisor).
- 5) The student has 2 weeks to correct the dissertation and to submit the final version to the supervisor (respectively the UNIL co-supervisor). This submission must thus take place by the start of the next semester's courses at the latest. The supervisor (respectively the UNIL co-supervisor) gives his consent for this final version. If the thesis is taking place outside of UNIL, the external supervisor must also give his final consent. The supervisor (respectively the UNIL co-supervisor) sends the final version in electronic format to the secretariat of the School of Biology, accompanied by the assessment protocol.

Article 41

Conditions for passing the Master's thesis

The Master's thesis is recognised by 3 assessments relating to the written dissertation, the oral defence and the practical research project. A grade is awarded for each one of these assessments.

The Master's thesis is passed if the arithmetic average of the 3 grades is higher than or equal to 4.0 out of 6.0.

Submission of the dissertation after the deadline constitutes a failure.

The second attempt must take place by the end of the next semester at the latest. Exceptions apply for extenuating circumstances.

CHAPTER 4

CONDITIONS OF FINAL FAILURE OF THE MASTER'S

Article 42

Final failure of the Master's

A student will definitively fail the Master's if he:

- fails at his second attempt at the Module 1 and 2 course assessments,
- definitively fails the assessment for the 3 Module 3 courses,
- fails at his second attempt at defending his Master's dissertation (Module 4),
- has exceeded the maximum duration of the programme.

The consequence of final failure is exclusion from the programme, subject to the provisions of the RLUL, Art. 77 Para. 3.

SECTION III

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 43

Changes to the School of Biology Programme Regulations

Any change to the Programme Regulations must be regularly added to the agenda of the School Board. It must be debated and approved by a vote, then be submitted for the approval of the Faculty Board and passed by Management.

Article 44

Applicable texts

The Law on the University of Lausanne, its Implementing Regulations and the Faculty of Biology and Medicine Regulations are applicable to any issues not dealt with in these regulations.

Article 45

Entry into force

These regulations come into force on 19 September 2017 and apply to all students commencing a year of studies for the Master of Science (MSc) in Molecular Life Sciences in September 2017, subject to the transitional provisions of Article 46.

Article 46

Transitional provisions

Students who have begun a Master's in the field of biology before the academic year starting on 19 September 2017 and only need to defend their dissertation remain bound by the regulations passed by Management on 16 July 2012, 18 August 2014 and 18 April 2016 subject to the provision on the appeal period to which Article 29 of these Regulations applies. The provision in Article 3 and 4 bis of these regulations on the degree awarded applies to all students receiving a degree from 1 January 2017 onwards. Marking to a quarter-point applies to all students from the autumn 2017 semester and the 2018 winter session onwards.

Approved by the School of Biology
16 March 2017

Approved by the Faculty Board
4 April 2017

Director of the School of Biology
Prof. Nicolas Mermod

Dean of the Faculty of Biology and Medicine
Prof. Jean-Daniel Tissot

Approved by the University Rectorate
15 May 2017

Rector of the University of Lausanne
Prof. Nouria Hernandez