

Note: The only legally binding version of the directives and regulations of the Technische Universität Wien is the German version published in the University Gazette of TU Wien. The English version provided here is intended as a service (guide) for our international staff members and doesn't replace the German version.

Curriculum of the postgraduate program
Renewable Energy in Central & Eastern Europe (MSc)
at Technische Universität Wien

as amended from the Senate of TU Wien on June 25, 2012
valid from August 01, 2012

Interdisciplinary, in-service postgraduate program of TU Wien in cooperation with Energiepark Bruck/Leitha and Central & Eastern European organizations and universities.

Preamble

TU Wien intends to offer continuing education for its graduates of programs in technical and natural sciences that follows on from their initial education and opens up new occupational fields and career prospects for them.

The postgraduate program was developed as part of the EU Community Initiative INTERREG IIIA with financial support from the European Union, the Federal Ministry of Economy and Labor (BMWA), the Province of Lower Austria and the municipality of Bruck/Leitha.

This program concept (curriculum, financing and organization) is based on extensive studies on the demand and need for a postgraduate program like this and on surveys of the catchment areas of possible participants in the program. Using these studies, a postgraduate program was established that represents a market-oriented education.

1) Objective of the postgraduate program

1.1) The objective of this postgraduate program is to teach:

- decision-making competency, to plan the use of renewable energy in Central & Eastern Europe and beyond;
- the knowledge to operate facilities for using renewable energy in a manner that is economically and technically sustainable, and
- the knowledge to assess the technical and economic possibilities of using renewable energy.

1.2) In line with the objective, the target group is primarily people in companies, organizations and public authorities that focus on

- the planning
- the financing and efficiency
- funding measures
- the legal authorization
- the operation of facilities for using renewable energy, as well as
- environmental issues in connection with renewable energy.

2) Duration and Structure of the postgraduate program

2.1) Duration of the postgraduate program

The postgraduate program comprises 90 ECTS credit points (40 semester hours) and lasts four semesters.

2.2) Structure

The program does not have a formal structure with separate stages. In terms of content, the program is divided into modules (see section 4).

3) Admission Requirements

3.1) Admission to the program requires a subject-related, internationally recognized academic degree (all academic degrees in Austria, a master's or bachelor's degree of an Austrian or foreign university, or a degree of an Austrian or foreign university of applied sciences) and at least two years' professional experience. Any degree or professional activity in technical or natural sciences, economic sciences or law shall qualify as a subject-related degree.

3.2) Depending on the number of available study places, persons who do not fulfill the requirements listed in 3.1) may also be admitted in duly justified exceptional cases, provided that such persons hold an equivalent, subject-related qualification on the basis of their professional activity, experience and performance.

If applicants do not hold a subject-related qualification within the meaning of 3.1), the Academic Director, in consultation with the Dean of Studies for Continuing Education of TU Wien, may prescribe additional subjects to be completed at appropriate institutions.

3.4) Applicants must provide proof of adequate knowledge of the language(s) of instruction pursuant to item 6) (German and/or English) as part of the application procedure.

3.5) Application to a postgraduate program shall not confer a right to actual participation in the program. Admission to the program requires the successful completion of the selection procedure, which is carried out by the Academic Director. The Academic Director reviews whether the admission requirements pursuant to the curriculum have been fulfilled, on the basis of the documents submitted. The Academic Director shall also reserve the right to carry out interviews, if required, to assess the applicants' suitability and motivation. The Academic Director shall also be entitled to reject applicants.

3.6) The number of study places per cohort (class) shall be determined by the Academic Director from the point of view of teaching and organization as well as according to the business plan. As a result of the limited number of study places, the selection of participants takes place by means of a ranking procedure. In individual cases, the Academic Director shall, however, reserve the right to take into consideration applications ranked lower or received late.

3.7) If the number of applicants who fulfill the admission requirements is higher than the number of available study places, the following criteria, in particular, shall be taken into consideration in the selection process: previous education, type and duration of work experience and a balanced composition of the group participating in the program with regard to the internationality and diversity of the work areas and the participants' previous education. A balance between the gender ratios shall also be taken into account.

3.8) The Vice Rector for Academic Affairs of TU Wien shall decide on the admission on a proposal from the Dean of Studies for Continuing Education of TU Wien and the Academic Director.

3.9) After successful admission, the participant and the responsible governing body of TU Wien shall sign a participation agreement that determines the mutual rights and obligations, particularly from an organizational point of view.

4) Curriculum

	SSt.	ECTS
MODULE 1:		
Introduction on Renewable Energy	3,0	3,0
MODULE 2:		
Biomass, Biofuels, and Biogas	6,0	15,0
MODULE 3:		
Solar Energy – Solar Heating and Photovoltaics	4,0	10,0
MODULE 4:		
Geothermal Energy, Wind Power, and Small Hydro Power	6,0	15,0
MODULE 5:		
Efficient Energy Use and Thermal Building Optimization	4,0	8,0
MODULE 6:		
General Legal and Economical Frameworks	4,0	8,0
MODULE 7:		
Integration of Renewable Energy Sources into the Energy System	7,0	9,0
MODULE 8:		
Management and Soft Skills	4,0	4,0
MODULE 9:		
Perspectives on the Use of Renewable Energy	2,0	3,0
MODULE 10:		
<u>Master's Thesis</u>	<u>0,0</u>	<u>15,0</u>
Sum	40,0	90,0

The content of the program is taught in modules. During the first year of the program, the participants are provided with basic knowledge to achieve a uniform level of knowledge of renewable energy.

The Dean of Studies for Continuing Education may establish parts of the curriculum as distance learning units or e-teaching units, on a proposal from the Academic Director.

5) Examination Regulations

5.1) The lecturer shall be responsible for determining performance in examinations. The examination procedure must be announced by the lecturer before the course begins. Examination procedures shall include written and/or oral examinations, home assignments, continual assessment of participation, etc. Group work shall be permitted after consultation with the Academic Director if it is possible to assess the performance of individual group members. The modules listed in the curriculum may be subdivided into courses by the Academic Director.

5.2) Individual examinations may be retaken twice. A third and final retake shall be possible as an examination before a committee. For this purpose, a committee shall be appointed by the Dean of Studies for Continuing Education of TU Wien. The time frame for retakes shall not exceed twice the duration of study.

5.3) For courses with continual assessment, the students' performance shall not only be assessed at the end of the course. There shall be the same possibilities for retakes as described in 5.2), whereby the third retake shall not take place before a committee.

5.4) The examination performance in a module shall be determined using the grades weighted with the ECTS credit points. Any decimal results shall be rounded down, including ...,5. For a positive assessment of the module, all courses must be completed successfully. This shall apply analogously for divided courses.

5.5) The Dean of Studies for Continuing Education of TU Wien shall decide on the recognition of study programs and parts of study programs, individual courses, etc. on a proposal from the Academic Director. Performances at non-university institutions may be recognized.

5.6) For the recognition of study programs, the replaced course or the replaced module shall be included in the calculation of the recognition grade.

5.7) The respective lecturer shall be responsible for organizing the examinations in coordination with the Academic Director.

5.8) The Academic Director shall be notified of and shall confirm the supervisors of the Master's Thesis.

5.9) The postgraduate program is concluded by completing all the module subjects successfully and by attaining a positive assessment of the Master's Thesis.

6) Language of Instruction

The courses shall be held in English (or, if necessary, in German).

7) Academic Director

The Dean of Studies for Continuing Education shall appoint the Academic Director. A relevant habilitation or equivalent suitability shall be required for the Academic Director

8) Faculty

The Dean of Studies for Continuing Education shall nominate the faculty of the postgraduate program on a proposal from the Academic Director.

9) Academic Degree

Graduates of this postgraduate study program are awarded the university degree of

Master of Science (MSc)

by TU Wien.

10) Quality Management

10.1) For purposes of quality assurance, regular feedback sessions – after completion of the first year of the program, at least – shall be provided by the Academic Director.

10.2) After every course, students shall have the possibility of making an anonymous assessment by means of a questionnaire.

10.3) The Academic Director shall report back to the Dean of Studies for Continuing Education on the results at regular intervals and, if necessary, make proposals for optimizing the quality of the program.

11) Locations

The program shall be held in a decentralized manner at several locations: Vienna, Bruck/Leitha and at various selected Central & Eastern European locations.

12) Tuition Fee

12.1) Information on the tuition fee can be found in the applicable publications and on the website of the Continuing Education Center.

12.2) Any crediting of study programs or parts of study programs, individual courses, etc. shall not reduce the tuition fee to be paid.

12.3) If students leave the program owing to exceptional circumstances, the Dean of Studies for Continuing Education may refund parts of the tuition fee on a proposal from the Academic Director. There shall be no legal claim to reimbursement.

13) Miscellaneous

In general, subject to amendments to the curriculum and changes to the composition of lecturers and Academic Directors.

14) Legal Validity and Transitional Provisions

This curriculum shall come into effect on the first day of the month following the announcement in the University Gazette of TU Wien. Any students who have already begun the postgraduate program on the basis of an earlier decree by the Senate of TU Wien shall be entitled to complete this program according to the previously applicable provisions.