Curriculum MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security Start: Winter semester 2020/2021

UNIVERSITÄT BONN GEOGRAPHIE

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY
UNU-EHS

1st Semester

JM1: Theories & Concepts of Risk
Seminar
Written Exam
6 CP | 2 SWS

JM2: General Approaches to Risk & Human Security
2 Seminars
New Approaches to Development Geography
Earth System Science
Written Exam
12 CP | 4 SWS

JM3: Research Methods
Seminar
Assignments
6 CP | 2 SWS

JM4: Academic Writing & Intercultural Skills
Seminar
Assignments (non-graded)
4 CP | 2 SWS

2nd Semester

JM5: Advanced Debates on Risk & Human Security
2 Seminars
Presentation 30% & Essay 70% (in each)
12 CP | 4 SWS

JM6: Research Seminar
Research Seminar
Project Work
18 CP | 6 SWS

JM7: Academic Presentation & Communication Skills
Seminar
Assignments (non-graded)
2 CP | 1 SWS

3rd Semester

JM8: Risk Management in the Context of Climate Change
Seminar
Presentation 30% & Essay 70%
6 CP | 2 SWS

JM9: Disaster Management & Humanitarian Response
Seminar
Written Exam
6 CP | 2 SWS

JM10: Field Trips
min. 3 days
Report (non-graded)
4 CP | 1 SWS

JM11: Internship
Report (non-graded)
12 CP | 8 weeks

4th Semester

JM12: Master Colloquium
Seminar
Exposé (non-graded)
2 CP | 1 SWS

Master Thesis
Prerequisite: min. of 60 CP must have been achieved
Master thesis
30 CP | 6 months

Module Handbook

MSc in Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security

(Last update: 2020/06/03)

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Contents

Module:	**Page:**
JM1 Theories & Concepts of Risk	3
JM2 General Approaches to Risk & Human Security	4
JM3 Research Methods	6
JM4 Academic Writing & Intercultural Skills	7
JM5 Advanced Debates on Risk & Human Security	8
JM6 Research Seminar	10
JM7 Academic Presentation & Communication Skills	11
JM8 Risk Management in the Context of Climate Change	12
JM9 Disaster Management & Humanitarian Response	14
JM10 Field Trips	16
JM11 Internship	17
JM12 Masters Colloquium	18
8000 Masters Thesis	20

Module: Theories & Concepts of Risk Module Number: JM1	**JM1**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes

Content	• Introduction into key concepts and theories of vulnerability, risk, resilience, and adaptation • Paradigm shifts in understanding risk from "natural hazards" to "social vulnerability" perspectives • Discussion of the main drivers of vulnerability and risk from local to global scales and between structure and agency • Detailed discussion and analysis of selected case studies through applying key conceptual frameworks • Overview of key discourses and policy processes dealing with vulnerability, risk, resilience, and adaptation (e.g. IPCC, Sendai Framework, Paris Agreement)
Learning outcomes/key competencies	• Ability to understand, reproduce and apply key concepts and theories of vulnerability, risk, resilience and adaptation and to apply them in scientific discussions • Ability to transfer and link these concepts and the resulting paradigms of risk management to ongoing debates around policy frameworks for applied risk reduction and adaptation (e.g. Sendai Framework, SDGs) • Ability to derive a critical analysis and reflection on existing concepts regarding their potential, but also their weaknesses for risk assessments and policy guidance

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Seminar	Theories & Concepts of Risk	EN	24	2	180

3. Prerequisites for course participation

required	None
recommended	

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	1

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Active in-class discussion and participation, group-work and presentation	6
Examination and exams' Language	Written Exam (EN)	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☒	Winter and Summer term	☐	A total of 180 h, comprising 30 h of on-site learning/courses + 150 h of individual study	1 Semester
Summer term	☐				

Organisation of Module	
Lecturers	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (Uni Bonn) and UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Dr. M. Hagenlocher
Department	UNU-EHS
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).

Module: General Approaches to Risk & Human Security

Module Number: JM2

JM2

1. Contents and Learning outcomes

Content	**New Approaches to Development Geography** • The characteristics of development geography as a sub-discipline • Different theoretical approaches and paradigmatic shifts • New theoretical approaches and interdisciplinary links • Key themes in geographic research of development and risk **Earth System Science** • Concepts and fundamental processes in and between the atmosphere, pedosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and cryosphere • Characteristics of geosystems • Scales in Earth System Science • Indicators and impacts of global warming (e.g. cryosphere, hydrosphere) and global environmental change
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Knowledge about different theoretical approaches to society and development and major paradigmatic turns • Knowledge about fundamental concepts of Earth System Science • Understanding of relevant social theories and earth surface processes for the analysis of risk & human security in development contexts • Ability to differentiate and discuss key concepts in development geography • Ability to differentiate and discuss key concepts of Earth System Science

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Seminar	New Approaches to Development Geography	EN	24	2	180
	Seminar	Earth System Science	EN	24	2	180

3. Prerequisites for course participation

required	None
recommended	

4. Classification

Programme	Modus	Semester
MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	1

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		6. ECTS (CP)
Course assignments	• Active in-class discussion and participation, Assignments in both seminars. Both courses have to be passed.	12
Examination and exams' Language	Written Exam (EN) in one of the two seminars	

7. Term				8. Workload	9. Duration
Winter term	☒	Winter and Summer term	☐	A total of 360 h, comprising 60 h of on-site learning/courses + 300 h of individual study	1 Semester
Summer term	☐				

Organisation of Module

Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (Uni Bonn) and UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. J. Verne

Department	Geography, Uni Bonn
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).



Module: Research Methods Module Number: JM3	**JM3**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes

Content	• Epistemological considerations and theoretical background of selected methodologies • Potential and limits of selected research methods • Focus on e.g. qualitative methodologies, discourse analysis, ethnography, text analysis, visual methods, digital methods, project planning & evaluation, quantitative methods, GIS, remote sensing, inter- or transdisciplinary methods, as well as methods used in physical geography such as geomorphological approaches, dendroecology or hydrological modelling.
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Theoretical knowledge of selected research methodologies • Ability to design an empirical research project according to selected methodologies • Knowledge about appropriate methods for analysing empirical data/material • Ability to assess and critically argue for or against selected research methodologies in relation to theoretical perspectives and concrete research questions • Awareness of intercultural, postcolonial and ethical issues in research practice • Ability to handle empirical data/material, interpret/analyse and structure it • Ability to select and apply appropriate tools and methodologies for data generation in an interdisciplinary context

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Seminar	Research methods	EN	24	2	180

3. Prerequisites for course participation

required	None
recommended	

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	1

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Active in-class discussion and participation, group-work, moderation and exercises	6
Examination and exams' Language	Assignments English (exceptions in German possible)	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☒	Winter and Summer term	☐	A total of 180 h, comprising 30 h of on-site learning/courses + 150 h of individual study	1 Semester
Summer term	☐				

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. K. Greve
Department	Geography, Uni Bonn
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).

Module: Academic Writing & Intercultural Skills Module Number: JM4	**JM4**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes	
Content	• Literature search and identification of relevant journals and other scientific sources • Standard formats of academic writing, esp. essays and journal articles • Time management, revising and proof-reading of academic work • Intercultural Communication • Self- and buddy-evaluation of class work
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Knowledge of relevant search engines, journal databases etc. for academic literature research • High Familiarity with the writing and structuring of essays • High familiarity with academic argumentation in writing • Ability to communicate research outcomes in written format • Experience to give peer feedback and critical assess academic writing • Training intercultural awareness and communication • Increased intercultural sensitivity and capabilities • Ability to work and moderate in teams

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Seminar	Academic Writing & Intercultural Skills	EN	24	2	120

3. Prerequisites for course participation	
required	None
recommended	

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	1

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Active in-class discussion and participation, individual exercises and group-work	4
Examination and exams' Language	non-graded	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☒	Winter and Summer term	☐	A total of 120 h, comprising 30 h of on-site learning/courses + 90 h of individual study	1 Semester
Summer term	☐				

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Dr. Z. Sebesvari
Department	UNU-EHS
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).

Module: Advanced Debates on Risk & Human Security

Module Number: JM5

JM5

1. Contents and Learning outcomes

Content

Seminars offered in this module focus either on the environmental dimension or the human dimension of risks & human security, depending on their basis in physical or human geography. Some seminars will try to integrate both perspectives.

Environmental Dimension - possible topics include:

- The role of ecosystems for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Development and characteristics of different types of natural hazards, forecast and prediction
- Phenomenon of cascading effects of hazards

Human Dimension - possible topics include:

- Different concepts of human-nature relations, post-humanist approaches
- Knowledge and Ignorance, Living with Risks
- Global technologies in risk governance, policy mobilities

Combined Dimension

- Integrative concepts on natural hazards such as socio-ecology with focus e.g. on hydrology
- Flood risk and social justice
- Ecosystem services

Learning outcomes/ key competencies

- Practicing scientific discussion in the context of cutting-edge debates on particular dimensions of risk & human security (more than 50%)
- In-depth engagements with particular theoretical perspectives and key concepts in the natural and/or social sciences
- Ability to participate in academic discourse and situate oneself in more specialized discussions related to risk & human security
- Interdisciplinary reflection on risk and socio-ecological concepts

2. Course organisation

Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
Seminar	Human/environment/ integrative	EN	24	2	180
Seminar	Human/environment/ integrative	EN	24	2	180

3. Prerequisites for course participation

required	None
recommended	Successful completion of JM1 and JM2

4. Classification

Programme	Modus	Semester
MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	2

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		6. ECTS (CP)
Course assignments	Active in-class discussion and participation, group-work and moderation	12
Examination and exams' Language	In both seminars Presentation 30%, Essay 70%, in English Both parts have to be passed.	

7. Term				8. Workload	9. Duration
Winter term	☐	Winter and Summer term	☐	A total of 360 h, comprising 60 h of on-site learning/courses +	1 Semester
Summer term	☒				

		300 h of individual study	
Organisation of Module			
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS		
Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. M. Evers		
Department	Geography, Uni Bonn		
Others			
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).		



Module: Research Seminar Module Number: JM6	**JM6**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes	
Content	• Development and design of a research project on topics related to cutting-edge debates on risk & human security • Introduction to theoretical and methodological approaches that inform the research project and design • (Exploratory) empirical research in small groups • Analysis and discussion of empirical material • Presentation of research process and results
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Ability to identify and work on relevant research questions independently • Ability to design and undertake a research project in a small group • Ability to select appropriate methods to adequately address the research question • Ability to interpret or analyse empirical material in relation to theoretical debates • Ability to communicate the research process and outcomes verbally, visually and in written form • Ability to work and communicate research in teams • Critical reflection and creativity

2. Course organisation						
	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Seminar	Research Project	EN	24	6	540

3. Prerequisites for course participation	
required	None
recommended	

4. Classification			
	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	2

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Active in-class discussion and participation, group-work and moderation	18
Examination and exams' Language	Project Report, in English	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☐	Winter and		A total of 540 h, comprising 120 h of on-site learning/courses+ 420 h of individual (and group) study	1 Semester
Summer term	☒	Summer term	☐		

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. D. Müller-Mahn
Department	Geography, Uni Bonn
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).

Module: Academic Presentation & Communication Skills Module Number: JM7	**JM7**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes	
Content	• Basics and training of effective, target group-oriented communication of scientific contents • Analyses of exemplary presentations, self- & buddy-evaluation of class works • Principles & tools of visualization in relation to accessible media
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Ability to communicate research outcomes in different ways (visually, textually, orally) to a variety of audiences and moderate/mediate between them • Experience with target group-oriented communication and moderation • Increased interpersonal communication and networking skills • Familiarity with academic argumentation in oral presentation and communication

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Seminar	Presentation and Communication Skills	EN	24	1	60

3. Prerequisites for course participation	
Required	None
Recommended	

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	2

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Active in-class discussion and participation, individual exercises and group-work	2
Examination and exams' Language	Non-graded	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☐	Winter and Summer term	☐	A total of 60 h, comprising 15 h of on-site learning/courses + 45 h of individual study	1 Semester
Summer term	☒				

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Dr. Z. Sebesvari
Department	UNU-EHS
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).

Module: Risk Management in the Context of Climate Change

Module Number: JM8

JM8

1. Contents and Learning outcomes

Content	Applied debates on risk and climate change. Possible course foci include: • Risk management mechanisms of international organizations, NGO´s, private sector. • Introduction of important international policy making processes (UNFCCC, Sendai, SDGs, G7, G20) and how they address and deal with issues like climate risk management. • Concepts of hazard and exposure modelling and how to value benefits of adaptation measures based on the Economics of Climate Adaptation (ECA) method. • Loss & Damage as a result of climate change. • The triggers and impacts of Environmental Migration. • Climate Insurance.
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Familiarity with major policy fora (international / UN, regional, national) to promote risk management and govern environmental risks. • Gain real-world insight into and understanding of practical implementation of theoretical concepts of risk management and their application in the context of addressing climate change risks. • Ability to critically discuss competing concepts of environmental governance and climate risk management and their implementation. • Knowledge of international policy frameworks. • Ability to independently elaborate on a particular topic and distil a specific research question.

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Seminar	Risk Management in the Context of Climate Change	EN	24	2	180

3. Prerequisites for course participation

Required	None
recommended	

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	3

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		6. ECTS (CP)
Course assignments	Active in-class discussion and participation, group-work, moderation and presentation	6
Examination and exams' Language	Presentation 30%, Essay 70%, in English Both parts have to be passed.	

7. Term				8. Workload	9. Duration
Winter term	☒	Winter and Summer term	☐	A total of 180 h, comprising 30 h of on-site learning/courses + 150 h of individual study	1 Semester
Summer term	☐				

Organisation of Module

Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS

Module coordinator	S. Kreft
Department	UNU-EHS
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).



Module: Disaster Management & Humanitarian Response

Module Number: JM9

JM9

1. Contents and Learning outcomes

Content	Applied debates on disaster risk reduction and human security. Possible course foci include: • Basics in disaster management and humanitarian action (humanitarian principles) • Best practices in disaster management and humanitarian response from the local, national to international perspective • Structures and mechanisms of national civil protection, EU and UN, other international organizations, NGO´s, private sector • Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Code of Conduct, Sphere Project OSOCC, Virtual OSOCC, CERF, IASC Transformative Agenda • Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in humanitarian action and development assistance • The role of media in DRR and disaster relief
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Gain a profound understanding of how theoretical concepts are translated and adapted to practical concerns, economic considerations and humanitarian response mechanisms. • Understanding civil protection mechanisms and humanitarian response architecture from the national to the global level. • Comprehensive knowledge of structures, workflows, and practical challenges that international organizations, particularly UN organizations, are facing.

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Seminar	Disaster Management & Humanitarian Response	EN	24	2	180

3. Prerequisites for course participation

required	None
recommended	

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	3

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		6. ECTS (CP)
Course assignments	Active in-class discussion and participation, group-work, moderation and presentation	6
Examination and exams' Language	Written exam, in English	

7. Term				8. Workload	9. Duration
Winter term	☒	Winter and Summer term	☐	A total of 180 h, comprising 30 h of on-site learning/courses + 150 h of individual study	1 Semester
Summer term	☐				

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. J. Szarzynski
Department	UNU-EHS

Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	The required literature will be determined by the respective lecturer(s).



Module: Fieldtrips Module Number: JM10	**JM10**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes	
Content	Students have to take part in at least three days of fieldtrips. They will be organised to convey a deeper insight into topics relevant to the wider understanding of environmental risks & human security.
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Insights in institutions working in the field of environmental risks & human security • Learning from professionals actively engaged in the field of environmental risks & human security • Ability to lead and participate in expert interviews • Learning the principles of geographic observation • Ability to apply theoretical and methodological knowledge in specific settings and professional working environments

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Field Trips	Excursions (min 3 days)	EN	24	1	120

3. Prerequisites for course participation	
required	None
recommended	

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	3

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Preparatory reading and exercises, active discussion and participation, excursion report	4
Examination and exams' Language	non-graded	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☐	Winter and		A total of 120 h, comprising 30 h of on-site learning+ 90 h of individual study	min. of 3 days
Summer term	☒	Summer term	☐		

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	K. Hattenbach
Department	UNU-EHS
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	



Module: Internship Module Number: JM11	**JM11**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes	
Content	The internship may take place in any national / international institution or organisation working in thematic fields relevant to this programme. Students choose their own work placement in fields relevant to this Master Programme.
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Understanding structures and workflows within national / international key organizations related to the topics of this Master Programme • Professional experience within national / international organizations or collaborative networks • Successful application of knowledge and skills acquired during the Master Programme within a professional working environment

2. Course organisation						
	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Individual Internship	Related to Master subjects	EN		8 weeks min	360

3. Prerequisites for course participation	
required	None
recommended	

4. Classification			
	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	3

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Internship final report and assessments	12
Examination and exams' Language	non-graded	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☐	Winter and Summer term	☒	A total of 360 h, comprising 320 h of on-site learning/internship + 40 h of individual study	8 weeks minimum
Summer term	☐				

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	K. Hattenbach
Department	UNU-EHS
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	

Module: Masters Colloquium Module Number: JM12	**JM12**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes

Content	• Scientifically justified selection, presentation and discussion of a research topic chosen from a field related to the Master's subject • Development of a scientific research question, convincing argument, linkages to theories and concepts, justified selection and application of research methods, interpretation/analysis of data, conclusions • Independent development of a thesis proposal, including conceptual frameworks, relevant disciplinary theoretical debates, and methodological questions • Critical reflection of one's own scientific work in the context of current debates in the field of geographical research on environmental risks and human security as well as today's socio-political concerns • Discussion of research proposals and peer-feedback
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Strengthening the ability to conceptually frame and discuss one's research interests • Increased awareness of one's own perspective and position in the research process • Ability to search and select relevant literature and other information regarding the research topic to develop a clear argument/research question in the context of current theoretical and methodological debates • Competence in the planning and organization of a scientific project • Language and Communication skills (i.e. scientific argumentation, presentation of research process) • Ability to deal with and incorporate peer-feedback

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
	Colloquium	Master Colloquium	EN	10	1	60 h

3. Prerequisites for course participation

required	The participation in the Colloquium is recommend at the time when the student is actually working on the Master's Thesis.
recommended	

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	4

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Exposé	2
Examination and exams' Language	non-graded	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☐	Winter and Summer term	☒	A total of 60 h, comprising 20 h of on-site learning/courses + 40 h of individual study	**1 Semester**
Summer term	☐				

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Julia Verne
Department	Geography, Uni Bonn

Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	



Module: Masters Thesis Module Number: 8000	**8000**

1. Contents and Learning outcomes	
Content	Topics of the Master Thesis may be chosen from any relevant field of the Master Programme's curriculum with approval from the supervisor All theses should include the development of a research focus, its theoretical and methodological contextualisation, a thorough discussion of relevant literature or the analysis/interpretation of (original) empirical material and conclusive thoughts.
Learning outcomes/ key competencies	• Solve a well-defined, significant research problem under supervision, but in principle independently • Knowledge about theoretical, methodological and thematic context of the chosen research topic • Ability to argue convincingly according to scientific principles • Write a scientific documentation of considerable length according to established scientific principles of form and style, in particular reflecting solid knowledge about the state-of-the-art in the field • Time-management

2. Course organisation

	Format	Theme	Language	Group Size	Hours per week	Workload [h]
		Independent preparation and writing of Master's Thesis with individual supervision	EN		6 months	900 h

3. Prerequisites for course participation	
required	
recommended	Min. of 60 CP must have been achieved within the Master Programme.

4. Classification

	Programme	Modus	Semester
	MSc Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security	Compulsory	4

5. Prerequisites for the accreditation of ECTS Credits (CPs)		**6. ECTS (CP)**
Course assignments	Presentation of thesis proposal, active participation in academic discussion and peer feedback	30
Examination and exams' Language	Master Thesis, in English	

7. Term				**8. Workload**	**9. Duration**
Winter term	☐	Winter and		900 h of individual study	6 months
Summer term	☐	Summer term	☒		

Organisation of Module	
Lecturer(s)	Lecturers from the Department of Geography (University of Bonn) & UNU-EHS
Module coordinator	Prof. Dr. Julia Verne
Department	Geography, Uni Bonn
Others	
(i.e. Required readings)	