

## Guidelines for Student Exchange in the Study Programmes in Materials at ETH Zurich

(Status 08.12.2021)

These guidelines apply subject to the ETHZ guidelines on student exchange and bilateral agreements with partner universities. The deadlines published on the [official ETHZ websites](#) apply.

### Policies

Generally, student exchange can take place during both the Master's and the Bachelor's degree programme. The Department of Materials recommends student exchange during the Master's programme.

A maximum of one third of the required credit points for each degree, i.e. the Bachelor's degree and the Master's degree can be acquired through student exchange.

The individual study plan is determined by the D-MATL exchange coordinator in consultation with the Director of Studies before the application for exchange studies. Students are requested to contact the departmental exchange coordinator as early as possible.

### A. STUDENT EXCHANGE DURING THE 3<sup>rd</sup> YEAR OF THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup>

In the Bachelor's degree programme in Materials, the Bachelor's thesis can be written at another university or the 5<sup>th</sup> and/or 6<sup>th</sup> semester of the study programme can be completed at EPF Lausanne (EPFL).

*Requirements and timing for student exchange with attendance of lectures at EPFL:* The requirements for grade point average that are published on the website of the Student Exchange Office apply: students must have obtained a GPA of at least 4.5 in the first-year examinations at the time of application, and they must have successfully passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of studies at the start of the exchange studies. After the student exchange, the grades are converted by the D-MATL exchange coordinator.

*Bachelor's thesis:* Generally, the Bachelor's thesis can be carried out at another university. Students are responsible for organising a supervisor at the host university and a responsible professor at D-MATL. The Bachelor's thesis is graded by the D-MATL professor in consultation with the supervising person at the host university.

### B. STUDENT EXCHANGE DURING THE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME<sup>2</sup>

#### Students with a BSc degree from ETHZ/EPFL

*Requirements and timing for student exchange with attendance of lectures at a partner university:* A minimum grade point average of 4.5 in the Bachelor's degree is required for student exchange. Student exchange can be undertaken from the point at which a transfer to the consecutive Master's degree programme is possible. One semester can be spent at a partner university, during which students attend elective courses. Normally, this will be the first, second or third semester of the Master's degree programme. Core courses cannot be replaced by lectures attended during exchange studies. Please check the [websites of the different exchange programmes](#) for up-to-date information about the application. After the student exchange, the grades are converted by the D-MATL exchange coordinator.

*Master's projects and Master's thesis:* Master's projects and the Master's thesis can be carried out at another university. Students are responsible for organising a supervisor at the host university and a responsible professor at D-MATL. The Master's thesis is graded by the D-MATL professor in consultation with the supervising person at the host university.

#### Students without a BSc degree from ETHZ/EPFL

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<sup>1</sup> These guidelines apply to the 2020 regulations of the Bachelor's degree programme in Materials Science.

<sup>2</sup> These guidelines apply to the 2012 regulations of the Master's degree programme in Materials Science.

Students who did not obtain a BSc degree from ETHZ or EPFL can only do the Master's thesis at another university. This requires prior approval by the D-MATL Director of Studies. For students with a BSc degree from a university outside Switzerland, it is generally not possible to carry out the Master's thesis in the country in which the BSc degree was obtained. The Master's thesis is graded by the D-MATL professor in consultation with the supervising person at the host university.