



Master in Life Sciences

A cooperation between
BFH, FHNW, HES-SO, ZFH

Module Title	Agricultural and Forest Production in Mountain Areas
Module Code	MCLs175
Module	AF-51
ECTS Credits	5
Workload	150 h: Contact 50 - 70 h; Exercises, excursions 20 h; Self-study 60-80 h
Module Coordinator	Name Dr. Karin Zbinden Gysin Phone +41 31 910 21 59 Email karin.zbinden@bfh.ch Address Bern University of Applied Sciences, School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences, Laenggasse 85, 3052 Zollikofen
Lecturers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Bruno Durgiai• David Raemy• Jean-Jacques Thormann• Dr. Karin Zbinden Gysin
Entry Requirements	Literature for preparation will be provided
Learning Outcomes and Competencies	After completing the module, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• apply methods of analysis and assess their respective usefulness and limitations;• describe and assess different methods of enterprise evaluation;• identify and develop strategies of farms and forest enterprises as well as processing units;• assess challenges, potentials and risks of novel ideas and integrate them in planning and implementation;• communicate with others with respect, self-reflection and productively.
Module Content	In the module, concepts and methods will be developed that integrate agricultural and forest production systems. Based on case studies explored during excursions, economic methods for diagnosis and planning will be introduced and applied (analysis of value chains, investment evaluation, etc.). The regional dimension of agricultural and forest production will be addressed in a seminar. In a synthesis, students compile values, strategies and concepts of natural resource-based enterprises.
Teaching and Learning Methods	Based on jointly elaborated case studies, methods for analysis will be discussed and applied, in groups and individually. Emphasis will be on seminars and discussions focusing on interdisciplinary and cross-cultural exchange. Problem-based learning sequences require students to involve themselves in discussions and facilitation of group processes. During self-study, students deepen their subject matter knowledge and methodological skills, supported by individual coaching. Social science aspects will be integrated with topical blocks as required (e.g. role models, rules for communication, gender issues, change of perspectives, inclusion of experience, values and attitudes).

Assessment of Learning Outcomes	1) Written report (50%) 2) Oral exam in small groups (carrousel, 50%), closed book
Bibliography	<p>Bätzing W, 2003. Die Alpen. Geschichte und Zukunft einer europäischen Kulturlandschaft. C.H. Beck Verlag (Kapitel 1.6, 1.7 und 2.2), München, 254 S.</p> <p>Bätzing W, 2015. Zwischen Wildnis und Freizeitpark. Eine Streitschrift zur Zukunft der Alpen. Rotpunktverlag, 184 S.</p> <p>Kobelt H, Schulte P, 2006. Finanzmathematik: Methoden, betriebswirtschaftliche Anwendungen und Aufgaben mit Lösungen. 8. Auflage, NWB Verlag, Herne, 300 S.</p> <p>Lauber S, Herzog F, Seidl I, Böni, Bürgi, Gmür P, Hofer G., Mann S, Raafaub M, Schick, Schneider M K., Wunderli R (Hrsg.) 2013. Die Zukunft der Schweizer Alpwirtschaft. Fakten, Analysen und Denkanstösse aus dem Forschungsprogramm AlpFUTUR. Eidg. Forschungsanstalt WSL, Forschungsanstalt Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon ART, Birmensdorf, Zürich Reckenholz, 198 S.</p> <p>Mathieu J, 2015. Die Alpen. Raum – Kultur – Geschichte. Reclam Verlag, Ditzingen, 254 S.</p> <p>Pflaumer P, 2009. Grundwissen Investitionsrechnung. epublic, Berlin, 82 S.</p> <p>Christen O, Hövelmann L, Hülsbergen K-J, 2009. Nachhaltige landwirtschaftliche Produktion in der Wertschöpfungskette Lebensmittel. Erich Schmidt Verlag, Berlin, 187 S.</p> <p>Rudaz G, und Debarbieux B, 2014. Schweizerische Berggebiete in der Politik. vdf Verlag, Zürich, 134 S.</p>
Language	German and English (students must be able to interact in German with local stakeholders)
Comments	The following sequences are compulsory for students: the three study weeks (2 weeks end of September / beginning of October; third weekend of January / beginning of February), the sessions with problem-based learning (steps 1-5 and step 7) and the lobby day with guest lecturers. For details on compulsory sequences, please refer to the detailed schedule of the module, which will be uploaded on Moodle 4 weeks before the start of the module.
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