

## QUALITY ASSURANCE AND HONOURABLE MENTION

**infernum** was accredited by AQAS in 2003 and re-accredited in 2009 and 2015. In 2015, the independent reviewers declared:



„A highly flexible curriculum as well as the opportunity for individual specialization for employed persons give the distance learning study program a very high appeal.“

In 2014, **infernum** was awarded with the title „Place of Progress“ by the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Research of the State of North-Rhine Westphalia. This honorary title recognizes the innovative contributions of pioneers for sustainability. Science minister Svenja Schulze declared:

„We can only improve the state of the environment sustainably, if we start thinking and acting in an interdisciplinary way. This is where the concept of **infernum** comes in: Professionals from all kinds of backgrounds have the opportunity to learn how to develop holistic solutions for the sake of humanity and the environment - solutions that are economically, ecologically and socially sustainable.“

After having been lauded several times as a project of the UN-Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, in 2016, **infernum** was selected by the German UNESCO-Commission and the German Ministry of Education and Research as „Official Network of the UNESCO World Action Programme Education for Sustainable Development“.



## INNOVATIVE COOPERATION

**infernum** is an innovative program that offers further academical training in the fields of environmental science and sustainability. The program is a joint cooperation between the FernUniversität in Hagen and the Fraunhofer Institute for Environmental, Safety and Energy Technology UMSICHT in Oberhausen. **infernum** also cooperates, with regards to its course contents, with the Centre for Sustainability Management (CSM) of the Leuphana University in Lüneburg as well as with the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment, Energy GmbH. Furthermore, **infernum** is part of the Fraunhofer Academy ([www.academy.fraunhofer.de](http://www.academy.fraunhofer.de)).

## TUITION FEES\*

Per Module:	600 €
Supervised Essay:	600 €
Supervised Master's Thesis:	1.650 €

### Overall costs of the Master's program:

M.Sc. 60 Credits	7.050 €
M.Sc. 90 Credits	8.250 €
M.Sc. 120 Credits	10.050 €

plus a fee of 165 € for each study semester

The tuition fees can be claimed as tax deductible expenses in your income tax return.

\* Version of December 1, 2016

## CONTACT [WWW.UMWELTWISSENSCHAFTEN.DE](http://WWW.UMWELTWISSENSCHAFTEN.DE)



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### Fraunhofer

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## infernum

Interdisziplinäres Fernstudium  
Umweltwissenschaften

## INTERDISCIPLINARY DISTANCE STUDIES IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



## TARGET GROUP

Interdisciplinary Distance Studies of Environmental Sciences (**infernum**) are primarily directed at persons of all disciplines employed in the fields of economy, science, organisations and administration, who would like to acquire or deepen environmental-related skills beyond their primary qualification.

Furthermore, **infernum** offers the chance to undergo further academic training while balancing family and work responsibilities. Potential degree students can enrol for the course at any time during the academic year regardless of the term scheduling.

## GOALS

The degree course **infernum**

- imparts conceptual and methodical fundamentals as well as up-to-date environmental knowledge from the fields of natural sciences, technical sciences, social sciences, economics and law,
- enables the recognition and analysis of relevant environmental issues as well as the development and implementation of sustainable solutions,
- creates a comprehensive basis of terms and insights and
- prepares participants for working in interdisciplinary teams.

## COURSE CONTENTS

**infernum** offers multi- and interdisciplinary course contents from a wide variety of fields, for example:

- sustainability management
- environmental economics
- environmental political science
- environmental psychology
- environmental law
- power engineering
- ecology and environmental chemistry
- sustainable mobility
- water resources management
- land use and environment
- sustainable site development



## INTERDISCIPLINARITY

Finding scientifically sound and successful solutions to complex issues within the fields of environmental sciences and sustainability requires an interdisciplinary approach. **infernum** imparts the required (interdisciplinary) knowledge and enables its graduates to work within different scientific disciplines.

## DISTANCE LEARNING

As a distance learning course, **infernum** encourages its participants to acquire knowledge in a well-structured and self-reliant manner. By drawing on the methods of “blended learning”, **infernum** offers different forms of teaching and learning. This leads to optimal learning outcomes while at the same time allowing for maximum flexibility in terms of time and space.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The complexity of global, regional and local environmental problems requires the coordinated use of societal and technical actions. Against this background, **infernum** interconnects the specific strategies of a variety of disciplines from the branch of environmental sciences and develops a future-orientated range of courses within the field of sustainable development.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Course contents are conveyed utilizing written as well as digital teaching material. The online learning environment **Moodle** provides supplementary information and facilitates the exchange of knowledge between students and lecturers.

Recurrent weekend and online seminars cover up-to-date topics related to environmental science and play an important part in acquiring in-depth knowledge. The workload for each module amounts to 150 hours. Correspondingly, 5 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) Points will be awarded for successfully completing a module.

## STRUCTURE

Enrolment for **infernum** requires a university degree and at least one year of postgraduate professional experience. Graduates receive the internationally recognised „Master of Science“ degree. Students who do not have a first higher education degree or lack the required postgraduate professional experience can enrol for the certificate program. In this program, the following certificates can be obtained:

- University certificate as environmental manager
- University certificate of environmental sciences
- Certificate for successfully completing a module

		Access with		
		Diploma/ Master's degree, State Examination (240 Credits)	Bachelor's degree (210 Credits)	Bachelor's degree (180 Credits)
Master		<b>M.Sc. 60 Credits</b> 8 Modules + Essay + Master's Thesis	<b>M.Sc. 90 Credits</b> 9 Modules + Hands-On Module + Essay + Extended Master's Thesis	<b>M.Sc. 120 Credits</b> 12 Modules + Hands-On Module + Soft Skills + Extended Essay + Extended Master's Thesis
	↑	Switchover to Master possible with first degree in higher education + professional experience		
Single / Combined Certificates	↑	University Certificate as Environmental Manager <b>6 Modules (30 Credits)</b>		
	↑	University Certificate Environmental Sciences <b>3 Modules (15 Credits)</b>		
	↑	Certificate of Completion <b>1 Module (5 Credits)</b>		