



**Examination and Study Regulations for  
the Master's Programme  
Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre)  
at the University of Bayreuth  
dated 1 August 2023**

Article 9 sentence 1 in conjunction with Article 80 para 1 sentence 1 and Article 84 para 2 sentence 1 BayHIG forms the framework for the following study and examination regulations issued by the University of Bayreuth.

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## § 1

### **Purpose of the master's examination**

<sup>1</sup>The master's examination as the conclusion of the university studies in the master's degree programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) determines whether the candidate possesses substantive, theoretical and methodological competences in the field of economics and has acquired the subject knowledge provided for in the present regulations. <sup>2</sup>The master's programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) is taught in English. <sup>3</sup>The University of Bayreuth, by way of the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics awards the academic degree "Master of Science" (abbreviated as M.Sc.).

## § 2

### **Admission to the programme; qualification**

- (1) Prerequisites for admission to the master's programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) are:
1. a university degree (or completed studies) with at least the examination grade "good" (2.5) in the bachelor's programmes Economics, International Economics and Development, Business Administration, Philosophy and Economics, or Health Economics at the University of Bayreuth, or a degree equivalent thereto.
  2. evidence of English language skills at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages or higher for applicants who have neither acquired their higher education entrance qualification nor their initial degree in English; the required command of English can also be proved by a final thesis in English in a degree programme.
  3. evidence of German language skills at level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages or higher for applicants who have neither acquired their higher education entrance qualification nor their initial degree in German; the required command of German can also be proved by a final thesis in German in a degree programme. Applicants who do not meet this requirement will be enrolled on the condition that they submit the proof of the required language proficiency by the end of their second semester of study at latest.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>In cases where the study and examination achievements in sub-areas are not equivalent in content and scope to the achievements required in the bachelor's programmes Economics, International Economics and Development, Business Administration, Philosophy and Economics or Health Economics at the University of Bayreuth, applicants may be admitted with the condition, in addition to the achievements required in the master's programme, to complete a maximum of 30 credit points (reduced by the credit points of all courses credited according to § 8) from the respective bachelor's programme by the end of the second semester at the latest; otherwise, the requirements for admission to the degree programme shall be deemed not to have been fulfilled. <sup>2</sup>In such cases, the relevant examination and study regulations for the bachelor's programmes at the University of Bayreuth given in sentence 1 (as amended) shall apply. <sup>3</sup>Art. 86 BayHSchG applies to determining the eligibility of domestic and foreign degrees. <sup>5</sup>Such decisions as described in sentence 1 to 4 are to be made by the board of examiners established according to § 5.
- (3) The determination of equivalence and the decisions in the cases of Paragraph 2 shall be made by the board of examiners established in accordance with § 4.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>If the relevant initial degree certificate is not yet available, confirmation containing the individual grades for all examinations and courses up to the registration deadline must be submitted. <sup>2</sup>Such coursework must amount to at least 150 ECTS points and correspond to a final grade of "gut" (2,5) or better. <sup>3</sup>Applicants who fulfil the requirements of sentence 2 are to be enrolled on the condition that they submit the initial degree certificate with a grade of "gut" ["good"] (2,5) or better by the end of the first semester of study.
- (5) Students who are enrolled in the master's programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) are considered ipso facto to be admitted to the examinations.

### § 3

#### **Structure of full-time and part-time study; standard period of study**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The master's programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) can be completed as a full-time or part-time student. <sup>2</sup>Upon enrolment, the applicant must decide whether he or she wants to complete the programme of study as a full-time or part-time student. <sup>3</sup>Changing from full-time to part-time study or from part-time to full-time study is possible within the enrolment period of each new semester. <sup>4</sup>The programme comprises four semesters of full-time study including the master's thesis (standard period of study). <sup>5</sup>The programme comprises eight semesters of part-time study including the master's thesis (standard period of study). <sup>6</sup>Unless special provisions are made in the present regulations, the deadlines specified for full-time study also apply to part-time study.
- (2) A total of 120 credit points must be earned in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

- (3) New students may begin the programme in the winter semester or the summer semester.

#### **§ 4**

##### **Components of the programme of study**

- (1) The master's programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) is structured in modules and consists of the following sub-areas:

Module area "Foundations"

Module area "Specialization in Economics"

Module area "Individual focus" (language, internship and/or supplementary courses)

Module area "Master's thesis"

#### **§ 5**

##### **Board of examiners**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>A board of examiners shall be formed to make the necessary decisions with regard to the admission to the master's programme and the organizational execution of the master's examination. <sup>2</sup>The board of examiners shall administer the examination proceedings in accordance with the present regulations and make all decisions with the exception of the examinations and the assessment thereof. <sup>3</sup>It shall consist of three members, each having one substitute representative. <sup>4</sup>The members of the board of examiners and their substitute representatives shall be elected by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics from among the professors (Art. 57 para. 1 BayHIG) of the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics for a period of five years. <sup>5</sup>The board of examiners shall elect a chair and deputy chair from among its members.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The board of examiners constitutes a quorum if the majority of members are present and entitled to vote after an invitation had been sent to all members at least three days prior to the meeting. <sup>2</sup>The decisions taken by the board of examiners in its meetings are to be made on the basis of majority vote. <sup>3</sup>Vote abstention, secret voting, and proxy voting are prohibited. <sup>4</sup>If votes are equally divided among its members, the chair's vote shall be decisive.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The chair of examiners shall ensure that the provisions of these regulations are followed. <sup>2</sup>He or she shall convene the meetings of the board of examiners and shall act as chair of its proceedings and decisions. <sup>3</sup>With regard to matters that cannot be postponed, he or she is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the board of examiners. <sup>4</sup>He or she must promptly inform the other members of any such decision - at the next meeting at latest. <sup>5</sup>In addition, unless otherwise provided

by the present regulations, the board of examiners can transfer (until revoked) the right to perform other duties of the board to the chair.<sup>6</sup>The chair can delegate tasks to members of the board of examiners.

- (4) The board of examiners shall regularly report to the faculty council concerning updates to examination schedules and study periods and may make suggestions for reforming the present regulations.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>Any notices the board of examiners issues under the terms of the present regulations are to be published together with a rationale and information concerning how to appeal. <sup>2</sup>Notices of appeal shall be issued by the president in consultation with the board of examiners.

## **§ 6**

### **Examiners and co-examiners**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Any person who is authorized to administer examinations at institutions of higher education according to 85 BayHIG or HSchPrüferV, as amended, may serve as examiner. <sup>2</sup>Any member of the University of Bayreuth who is a graduate of an equivalent or comparable programme of study may serve as co-examiner.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If a member of the University of Bayreuth who is an authorized examiner leaves the University, he or she may remain an examiner for a reasonable period. <sup>2</sup>Authorization to administer examinations shall generally remain valid for up to three years.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>Unless otherwise decided by the chair of examiners, the relevant supervisor shall also serve as examiner. <sup>2</sup>If that instructor is not authorized to administer examinations as laid out in sentence 1, the chair of examiners shall appoint an examiner at the beginning of the semester in which the examination is to be held.

## **§ 7**

### **Disqualification due to personal involvement; confidentiality**

- (1) Disqualification from consultation and voting on the board of examiners as well as other activities relating to examinations on the basis of personal involvement is governed by Article 51 para 2 BayHIG.
- (2) The non-disclosure obligation that holds for members of the board of examiners, as well as examiners, co-examiners, and anyone else involved in the examination process is governed by Article 26 para 2 BayHIG.

## § 8

### Credit transfer

- (1) The recognition and crediting of competencies shall be determined in accordance with Art. 86 BayHIG.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If credits are recognized for competencies, the grades are to be carried over and included when calculating the final grade, as long as the grading systems are analogous. <sup>2</sup>If the grading system for the competencies to be transferred does not correspond to the grading system given in § 16, the grades received at the other higher education institution are to be converted using the Modified Bavarian Formula:  
$$x = 1 + 3 \cdot (N_{\max} - N_d) / (N_{\max} - N_{\min})$$
where x is the grade to be calculated,  $N_{\max}$  is the highest possible grade,  $N_{\min}$  is the highest passing grade, and  $N_d$  is the actual grade; in this calculation, the grade to be calculated is only given to one decimal place and is not adjusted to fit the grading scale given in § 16. <sup>3</sup>If a conversion according to sentence 2 is not possible, the board of examiners shall determine a corresponding key for the grade conversion. <sup>4</sup>If a grade is not available and cannot be determined, the remark "passed" will be entered; in this case, it will not be included in the calculation of the final grade. <sup>5</sup>The board of examiners in consultation with the relevant representative from the subject area shall decide whether the requirements have been met for credit transfer. <sup>6</sup>If credit transfer is denied, the person concerned can appeal the decision by submitting a request for the University Governing Board to review the decision within four weeks of notification of denial. <sup>7</sup>The University Governing Board shall provide the board of examiners with a recommendation on how to proceed with the request.
- (3) Requests for recognition of credit requests are to be submitted to the board of examiners as soon as possible following enrolment and in any event prior to the commencement of the examination proceedings in the relevant module.
- (4) Paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the crediting of competencies, subject to the maximum limit pursuant to Art. 86 para 2 Sentence 2 BayHIG.

## § 9

### Times for holding examinations; announcing examination times and examiners

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Written and oral examinations are held once a semester. <sup>2</sup>The examination period is generally from the last week of lectures through the first four weeks of semester break. <sup>3</sup>An additional examination time may be scheduled for the beginning of the following semester.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If not listed in the annex, examination times and the duration of examinations shall be determined by the relevant examiner and announced university-wide, generally at the start of the

course. <sup>2</sup>A change of examiner on short notice shall only take place if there are urgent grounds for doing so.

- (3) Students are to register for examinations by the published deadline, according to the process determined by the board of examiners.

## **§ 10**

### **Elements of the examination**

- (1) The master's examination comprises the module examinations listed in the annex and the master's thesis.
- (2) The examinations serve to demonstrate that the examinee has satisfied the desired learning outcomes of the individual modules.

## **§ 11**

### **Forms of examination**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Examinations are taken in the form of written examinations, oral examinations, essays, presentations and/or written homework assignments. <sup>2</sup>The possible forms of examination in the modules are given in the annex.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Assessment of examinations is carried out according to the process announced by the board of examiners. <sup>2</sup>Notifications will not be sent individually. <sup>3</sup>Students are required to familiarize themselves independently with the terms of the present regulations pertaining to repeating examinations; they are responsible for informing themselves of examination results.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>If an examination is assessed by more than one examiner, the grade shall be determined by taking the average of the grades assigned and truncating (not rounding) the number to one decimal digit. <sup>2</sup>In the case described in para 7, sentence 1 does not apply. <sup>3</sup>If a written examination is assessed as "failed" or "unsatisfactory", it must be assessed by a second examiner.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>Written examinations are to be held over a period of at least one hour and no longer than two hours; the duration of the examination should be appropriate to the requirements of the corresponding course. <sup>2</sup>The relevant examiner shall decide which resources may be used during the examination. <sup>3</sup>The examinations can be written in English or, in consultation with the supervisor, in German. <sup>4</sup>A written record of the examination is to be made. <sup>5</sup>The invigilator shall confirm the accuracy of the record by providing his or her signature. <sup>6</sup>The examination record sheet is to include all aspects of the examination that are relevant to determining the grade. <sup>7</sup>Written examinations may also be conducted as written exams on the PC. <sup>8</sup>Parts of the examination may consist of programming.

- (5) <sup>1</sup>If a candidate arrives to the examination late, he or she shall not be given additional time to finish the examination. <sup>2</sup>Candidates may leave the room during an examination if permission is granted by the invigilator. <sup>3</sup>The time and duration of absence are to be noted on the question paper.
- (6) <sup>1</sup>Written examinations are generally graded by the examiner who was appointed by the chair of examiners. <sup>2</sup>The relevant examiner determines the grades for the written examinations under the terms of § 16. <sup>3</sup>An assessment of each written examination shall be provided no later than six weeks after the examination. <sup>4</sup>The board of examiners may decide to appoint an additional examiner. <sup>5</sup>The graded copy of the written examination shall remain in the examination records.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>Written examinations may be conducted fully or in part using multiple choice testing. <sup>2</sup>If written examinations are conducted only in part using multiple choice testing, the terms of paragraphs 4 and 6 sentences 1 and 2 apply for the portion that is not multiple choice. <sup>3</sup>The questions in the multiple choice section are to be written by the two examiners. <sup>4</sup>Prior to the examination time, the examiner shall decide which answers are correct and how many points are to be awarded for each correct answer, i.e. how to weight correct answers in relation to the total points. <sup>5</sup>If the written examination is conducted only in part by using multiple choice testing, weighting for the individual parts must also be stipulated. <sup>6</sup>Grading of examinations may be carried out with the help of an optical mark sense reader.
- (8) <sup>1</sup>A multiple choice examination is considered passed, if the examinee achieves a certain absolute number of correct answers (at least 50% of the total points) or on a relative basis. <sup>2</sup>The relative cut-off grade is to be determined by taking the average of the points achieved by those examinees taking the examination for the first time, less 10%. <sup>3</sup>The relative cut-off grade is only to be taken into account if it is below the absolute cut-off grade. <sup>4</sup>Cut-off grades that are not whole number values shall be rounded in favour of the student. <sup>5</sup>An examination is considered passed if a grade of "ausreichend" [sufficient] (4,0) or better is achieved. <sup>6</sup>If an examination is conducted using multiple choice testing and the lowest passing grade (the relative cut-off grade if it is below the absolute cut-off grade, otherwise the latter) or better is achieved, the grades shall be as follows:
- 1,0 ("sehr gut"/ very good), for 90% or better
  - 1,3 ("sehr gut"/ very good), for at least 80% or better but less than 90%
  - 1,7 ("gut"/ good), for 70% or better but less than 80%
  - 2,0 ("gut"/ good), for 60% or better but less than 70%
  - 2,3 ("gut"/ good), for 50% or better but less than 60%
  - 2,7 ("befriedigend"/ satisfactory), for 40% or better but less than 50%
  - 3,0 ("befriedigend"/ satisfactory), for 30% or better but less than 40%
  - 3,3 ("befriedigend"/ satisfactory), for 20% or better but less than 30%

- 3,7 ("ausreichend"/ sufficient), for 10% or better but less than 20%
- 4,0 ("ausreichend"/ sufficient), if the pass mark is reached but less than 10%

of the possible points exceeding the minimum score have been achieved.

<sup>7</sup>Cut-off grades that are not whole number values shall be rounded in favour of the student.

<sup>8</sup>If the lowest passing grade (cut-off grade) is not reached, a grade of

- 5,0 ("nicht ausreichend"/ unsatisfactory") is assigned.

<sup>9</sup>If an examination is conducted using multiple choice testing, the following details are to be included when determining the results:

- cut-off grades,
- grade achieved,
- percentage of the number of points exceeding the lowest passing grade or percentage of the number of points.

<sup>10</sup>If the examination is only carried out in part via multiple choice testing, grades shall be assigned for the individual parts. <sup>11</sup>The details above also apply to the multiple choice portion.

- (9) <sup>1</sup>Oral examinations are to be held over a period of 20 to 60 minutes, depending on the requirements of the particular course. <sup>2</sup>The oral examination is conducted by two examiners or by one examiner with the assistance of a co-examiner in English or, in consultation with the examiner, in German. <sup>3</sup>One examiner or the co-examiner shall complete an examination record sheet for the oral examination that includes the following: location, start time, and duration of the examination; examination subject-matter and results; names of the examiner and co-examiner; name of the candidate; and any noteworthy incidents. <sup>4</sup>The record sheet is to be signed by the two examiners or by the examiner and co-examiner. <sup>5</sup>The examiners are to determine the grades for performance in the oral examinations under the terms of § 16.
- (10) <sup>1</sup>In the case of an oral examination, students who intend to take the same examination within the next two semesters are given preference as listeners, within the limits of the space available. <sup>2</sup>The examination can be conducted without an audience if so requested by the candidate. <sup>3</sup>Discussion and announcement of the examination results (grade) shall not be conducted in public.
- (11) <sup>1</sup>Term papers and essays can be submitted in English or, in consultation with the supervisor, in German. <sup>2</sup>The topic is assigned by the responsible examiner. <sup>3</sup>The processing time for the written term paper is a maximum of six weeks; for essays, the processing time is usually significantly shorter (one to two weeks). <sup>4</sup>The topic of the work is to be such that it can be completed within this time limit. <sup>5</sup>The chair of examiners may extend this deadline by up to one week at the request of the candidate and after having heard the supervisor in case of reasons beyond the candidate's control. <sup>6</sup>If the candidate demonstrates via a medical certificate that he or she was unable to work on the paper, the deadline is to be extended accordingly. <sup>7</sup>Term papers that are not submitted by

the stated deadline are to be graded as "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"].<sup>8</sup>The examiner shall determine the grade under the terms of § 16.<sup>9</sup>The corrected copy of the respective written term paper remains with the examination file, the same applies to the essays.

- (12) <sup>1</sup>Presentations are to be held as part of the advanced courses on which they are based.<sup>2</sup>The topic of the presentation is assigned by the instructor of the respective course.<sup>3</sup>They have a duration of 20-40 minutes.<sup>4</sup>The examiner shall determine the grade under the terms of § 16.

## § 12

### Master's thesis

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis of the candidate should demonstrate that he or she is able to utilize relevant resources and adequately address and write about current issues in the field using scientific methods.<sup>2</sup>The topic may include interdisciplinary issues.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The topic of the master's thesis is assigned by the reviewer (§ 5 para 1) of the corresponding subject from the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics, if possible taking into account the candidate's wishes via the Examinations Office.<sup>2</sup>Record shall be made of the topic and day of assignment.<sup>3</sup>It is recommended that the master's thesis be completed in the fourth semester (full-time study) or the sixth semester (part-time study).
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis is integrated into the programme of study and corresponds to a maximum workload of 720 hours.<sup>2</sup>The master's thesis is to be submitted no later than five months after the topic was assigned in the case of full-time study or ten months in the case of part-time study.<sup>3</sup>The chair of examiners may extend this deadline by up to six weeks in the case of full-time study or 12 weeks in the case of part-time study at the request of the first reviewer and after having heard the supervisor if there are reasons beyond the candidate's control.<sup>4</sup>If the candidate demonstrates via a medical certificate that he or she was unable to work on the thesis, the deadline is to be extended accordingly.<sup>5</sup>Theses that are not submitted by the stated deadline are graded as "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"].
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis may be written in German or English.<sup>2</sup>The master's thesis shall contain a statement at the end in which the author confirms that he or she wrote the thesis independent and did not make use of any sources or materials that are not cited in the thesis; It shall also be confirmed that the thesis had never before been submitted toward fulfilment of an academic degree.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis must be submitted in electronic form (printable PDF document) by the deadline.<sup>2</sup>Submission is carried out by uploading the document via the form server.<sup>3</sup>The Examinations Office will make a note of the date on which the thesis was submitted.

- (6) <sup>1</sup>The thesis must contain a table of contents, an abstract and a list of sources. <sup>2</sup>One copy of the master's thesis is to be submitted to the reviewer in typescript, bound and paginated form by the deadline.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>The candidate may return the topic to the board of examiners once within the first two weeks. <sup>2</sup>Paragraphs 1 to 6 also apply when assigning and working on a new topic.
- (8) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Office shall forward the thesis to the relevant reviewer <sup>2</sup>If the thesis is assessed as "unsatisfactory", it shall be assessed by a further reviewer from the group of examiners in accordance with § 5. <sup>3</sup>The grades shall be made available no later than two months after submission of the thesis. <sup>4</sup>Each reviewer shall provide a recommendation as to whether the thesis is to be accepted or rejected and assign a grade in accordance with § 16. <sup>5</sup>The appointment of the reviewers shall be made by the chair of examiners. <sup>6</sup>The instructor who assigns the topic is to act as first reviewer.
- (9) <sup>1</sup>If different grades are assigned, the grade for the master's thesis shall be the arithmetic mean of the assessments. <sup>2</sup>In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded). <sup>3</sup>§ 11 para 2 applies mutatis mutandis.
- (10) If the master's thesis is deemed "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"], the chair of examiners or his or her deputy shall inform the candidate of the decision.
- (11) One copy of the master's thesis is to remain on record.

### **§ 13**

#### **Credit point system**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>A record of credit points for completed module examinations is to be kept by the University of Bayreuth's Examinations Office for each student who is enrolled in the programme of study. <sup>2</sup>The credit points that appear on the transcript are identical with credit points as stipulated in the European Credit Transfer System (see annex). <sup>3</sup>One credit point corresponds to a workload of 30 hours.
- (2) The credit points for the modules are given in the annex.

### **§ 14**

#### **Consideration of protective provisions**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The utilization of protection periods of the Maternity Protection Act (MuSchG) shall be guaranteed. <sup>2</sup>Upon request, the claiming of parental leave in accordance with the Federal Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz), as well as periods for

the care of a close relative within the meaning of § 7 para 3 of the Nursing Care Act who is in need of care within the meaning of § 14 and § 15 of the Eleventh Book of the Social Code (Sozialgesetzbuch), shall be guaranteed. <sup>3</sup>The appropriate evidence must be furnished; any changes in status are to be reported immediately.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>If duly requested, periods during which study was impossible or only possible to a limited extent for reasons beyond the student's control shall not be taken into account with regard to the examination schedule. <sup>2</sup>Corresponding evidence must be furnished; medical certificates must be presented in the case of illness. <sup>3</sup>Any changes in status are to be reported immediately.

## § 15

### **Consideration of special needs of students with disabilities or chronic illness and in special life circumstances**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>For the sake of ensuring equal opportunities, the particular needs of examinees with disabilities or chronic illnesses under the terms of the Bavarian Equal Opportunities for Disabled Persons Act are to be appropriately accommodated. <sup>2</sup>Upon written request, the board of examiners shall determine on the basis of the degree of disability or chronic illness in what form the examination is to be taken; alternatively, an extension or other reasonable accommodations may be granted. <sup>3</sup>Proof of the examination disability or chronic illness must be furnished in the form of a medical certificate stating that, due to a long-term or permanent disability or chronic illness, the examination cannot be taken in whole or in part in the intended form. <sup>4</sup>The request is to be submitted together with the examination registration. <sup>5</sup>If the request is submitted later, it shall only be valid for subsequent examinations.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Students in special circumstances may apply to the board of examiners for reasonable accommodations in examinations in accordance with paragraph 1. <sup>2</sup>The board of examiners shall decide on the existence of a special life situation and the extent of reasonable accommodations.

## § 16

### **Grading of examinations**

- (1) The following grading scale will be used in the assessment of the individual assignments and examinations; the digit to the right of the comma enables a more differentiated assessment between the whole-number values.

"sehr gut" (excellent)	= 1,0 or 1,3
"gut" (considerably better than average)	= 1,7 or 2,0 or 2,3
"befriedigend" (average)	= 2,7 or 3,0 or 3,3

"ausreichend" (fulfils the minimum requirements despite deficiencies) = 3,7 or 4,0

"nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory due to considerable deficiencies) = 5,0

- (2) <sup>1</sup>If a greater module examination is made up of multiple examinations, the grade for the module shall be established by calculating the arithmetic mean after weighting the components based on credit points. <sup>2</sup>In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded). <sup>3</sup>Module grades are as follows:

an average of 1,5 or better = sehr gut

an average of 1,6 up to and including 2,5 = gut

an average of 2,6 up to and including 3,5 = befriedigend

an average of 3,6 up to and including 4,0 = ausreichend.

## § 17

### Final grade

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The overall grade for the master's examination is calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of the module grades (and the grade for the master's thesis), weighted according to the credit points awarded for each module. <sup>2</sup>In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded).
- (2) Candidates who pass the examination are to receive a final grade as follows: an average grade of 1,2 or better is "ausgezeichnet", up to 1,5 is "sehr gut", up to 2,5 is "gut", up to 3,5 is "befriedigend", up to 4,0 "ausreichend".
- (3) Calculation of the final grade is to be carried out by the chair of examiners; the certificate or an attached document shall indicate how the final grade was calculated.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>In addition to the degree certificate, an ECTS grading table will be issued as stipulated in the ECTS guidelines in the version dated 6 February 2009. <sup>2</sup>This table displays what percentage of programme graduates in a given time frame received the same final grade as described in paragraph 3. <sup>3</sup>Those programme graduates who were awarded their diplomas in the previous eight semesters shall serve as the reference group as long as it includes at least 30 persons. <sup>4</sup>The date of the last examination shall be decisive in assigning graduates to a particular semester. <sup>5</sup>If the minimum number of graduates is not reached, the number of previous semesters is to be extended until the minimum number is reached. <sup>6</sup>If the programme of study does not yet have as many graduates as the minimum number required of the reference group, an ECTS grading table will be issued as soon as the minimum number is reached. <sup>7</sup>For degrees awarded before the minimum number is reached, an ECTS grading table will be issued at a later date upon request once

the minimum number has been reached.<sup>8</sup>The graduate's own graduating class is also to be included in the reference group.<sup>9</sup>The size of the reference group and the time frame is to be included.

## § 18

### Passing the master's examination

- (1) Passing the master's examination requires a grade of "ausreichend"/"sufficient" or better for the master's thesis and each module examination; in addition, all 120 credit points (including the master's thesis) must be earned and any requirement in connection with § 2 para 2 must be fulfilled.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If the candidate has not fulfilled the requirements given in paragraph 1 by the end of his or her sixth semester in full-time study or twelfth semester in part-time study due to reasons under his or her control, then the candidate shall be considered as having failed the master's examination on the first attempt. <sup>2</sup>Examinations that were taken on time and for which the candidate received a passing grade need not be repeated.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>If the missing examinations are not passed by the student within a year of the deadline given in para 2 sentence 1 for reasons under his or her control, or if all possibilities to repeat the examinations have been exhausted, then the candidate shall be considered as having failed the master's examination on the final attempt. <sup>2</sup>The deadline shall not take into account periods of leave and periods during which the candidate withdrew from study. <sup>3</sup>Notice shall be sent to inform the candidate that he or she has failed an examination on the final attempt in accordance with § 5 para 5 in conjunction with Article 41 BayVwVfG as amended. <sup>4</sup>The board of examiners may grant the student an extension of the deadline for circumstances beyond his or her control if the student submits a request prior to the deadline described in sentence 1.

## § 19

### Repeating examinations

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Any examination that was failed on the first attempt can be repeated once.
- (2) The voluntary repetition of a passed examination is only permitted in two cases; the voluntary repetition of a passed master's thesis is not permitted.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>Repeating an examination for a second time is only permitted for up to three examinations. <sup>2</sup>Students who fail the second repetition of an examination are to be considered as having failed the master's examination on the final attempt.

- (4) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis can be repeated with a new topic if the student receives a failing grade for the thesis. <sup>2</sup>Repeating the master's thesis for a second time is not permitted.
- (5) Administrative measures shall be taken to ensure that it is possible to repeat the failed examinations or a failed master's thesis within six months.

## **§ 20**

### **Notice of failing the master's examination**

Notice shall be sent to inform the candidate that he or she has failed the master's examination on the final attempt in accordance with § 5 para 5 in conjunction with Article 41 BayVwVfG as amended.

## **§ 21**

### **Access to examination documents**

- (1) Following the conclusion of the examinations process, the candidate may be granted access to his or her graded examination documents including the reviewer's report as well as the record sheets for the examination.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Such requests are to be made six months after the degree certificate is awarded. <sup>2</sup>If the candidate was prevented from meeting the deadline in sentence 1 due to reasons beyond his or her control, Article 32 BayVwVfG shall apply.

## **§ 22**

### **Defects in the examination proceedings**

- (1) If it is shown that there were defects in the examination proceedings which influenced the examination results, the candidate or the board on its own initiative shall request that the relevant examinations be repeated.
- (2) Any defects in the examination proceedings are to be reported to the examiner or the chair of examiners without delay, and in general, prior to notice being given of the examination results.
- (3) Claims under the terms of paragraph 1 must be made within six months of the examination's conclusion.

## § 23

### **Non-appearance, withdrawal from examinations, cheating, and policy violations**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Candidates who have registered for an examination may withdraw without providing a rationale by withdrawing by the deadline announced by the board of examiners. <sup>2</sup>If the candidate fails to appear for an examination for which he or she was registered for reasons under his or her control or withdraws subsequent to the deadline stated in sentence 1, he or she will be considered to have failed the examination.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The grounds for failing to appear - or as long as paragraph 1 sentence 1 does not apply, for withdrawal must be submitted to the board of examiners without delay and substantiated by prima facie evidence. <sup>2</sup>The same applies to inability to take the examination due to circumstances arising during the examination. <sup>3</sup>Inability to take the examination due to illness must be documented with a medical certificate. <sup>4</sup>If the board of examiners accepts the reasons given, a new examination time is to be offered under the terms of § 9 within six months.
- (3) If withdrawal or failure to appear is caused by reasons beyond the candidate's control, examinations elements completed up to that point are to be recognized.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>If the candidate attempts to influence the result on an examination by cheating or making use of materials that are not permitted, he or she shall be given the grade "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"]. <sup>2</sup>Any candidate who causes considerable disruption to the course of an examination may be removed by the invigilator and barred from continuing the examination. In this case, he or she shall be given the grade "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"].
- (5) <sup>1</sup>If cheating in the form of plagiarism is detected, the examination will be graded as "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"]. <sup>2</sup>The accusation of plagiarism is justified if the examinee has attempted to influence the result of the examination in a way that is favourable to him or her by failing to specifically mark passages taken verbatim from other authors and also explanations of his or her work that are closely based on the thought processes of other authors. <sup>3</sup>The determination shall be made by the relevant examiner or invigilator and shall be recorded in the files. <sup>4</sup>In serious cases or in the case of repetition, the entire module examination can be declared failed and, in particularly serious cases, the right to repeat the examination can also be withdrawn and the entire module examination can be declared failed on the final attempt. <sup>5</sup>The decision on this is taken by the board of examiners. <sup>6</sup>In deciding on the imposition of the sanction, both the quantity of the plagiarism and its significance for the work must be assessed in each individual case.

## § 24

### Invalidating the master's examination

- (1) If a candidate cheats during an examination and this fact does not come to light until after the degree certificate is issued, the board of examiners may retroactively change the relevant grades accordingly and declare the master's examination to be failed either in part or entirely.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If the registration requirements for the examinations were not met by the candidate without this having involved any cheating on the part of the candidate, and if this fact does not come to light until after the degree is issued, then this fault shall be considered rectified via the candidate's passing of the master's examination. <sup>2</sup>If the candidate registered by intentionally providing false information, the board of examiners shall decide whether to revoke any unlawful administrative acts on the basis of the general principles of administrative law.
- (3) The candidate shall be permitted to make a statement prior to the decision.
- (4) The inaccurate degree certificate is to be taken away and, if applicable, replaced with a new one.

## § 25

### Awarding the master's degree; degree certificate

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Upon the student's request, a diploma and a degree certificate for successful completion of the master's examination are to be issued within four weeks of demonstrating completion of the required module credits. <sup>2</sup>The diploma is to include the title of the programme of study. <sup>3</sup>It is signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics and bears the seal of the university. <sup>4</sup>Upon issuance of the diploma, the graduate is given the right to bear the title "Master of Science". <sup>5</sup>This title is to be abbreviated "M.Sc." and placed behind the surname.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The certificate is to include the title of the programme of study, the final grade, all completed modules, all module examinations undertaken (including credit points and grades achieved), as well as the topic of the master's thesis and the grade received for the thesis. <sup>2</sup>The certificate is to be signed by the chair of examiners. <sup>3</sup>The date to be used is the day of the last examination or the date on which the last graded assignment was submitted. <sup>4</sup>An English translation of the diploma and a Diploma Supplement shall be issued in addition; the Diploma Supplement shall be signed by the chair of examiners. <sup>5</sup>In addition to the certificate, an ECTS grading table is to be issued under the terms of § 17 para 4.
- (3) Revoking the degree "Master of Science" is to be carried out in accordance with the legal regulations (Article 101 BayHIG).

## § 26

### Academic advising

- (1) General student advising is offered by the University of Bayreuth's Student Advising Office.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The programme coordinator for the master's programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) is to be responsible for questions relating to the master's programme (i.e. structure of the programme, organization of studies, course selection, and questions concerning examinations).
- (3) <sup>1</sup>In the course of the semester, the programme coordinator shall offer advising for all students enrolled in the master's programme. <sup>2</sup>Programme-specific advising is recommended especially for the following persons:
  - new students,
  - after unsuccessful attempts to pass individual exams or achieve admission requirements,
  - students who recently failed an examination,
  - students who have considerably less than 30 credit points per semester in full-time study or 15 credit points per semester in part-time study,
  - students transferring from a different degree programme or university,
  - those changing from full-time study to part-time study or from part-time study to full-time study.

## § 27

### Entry into effect and termination

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The present regulations go into effect on 02 August 2023. <sup>2</sup>They shall be valid for all students enrolling in this programme for the first time in the winter semester of 2023/24 or later. <sup>3</sup>The remaining students organize their studies according to the previous examination and study regulations for the master's programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) at the University of Bayreuth dated 10 June 2010 (AB UBT 2010/028), which was last amended by statute dated 9 January 2023 (AB UBT 2023/002); upon application, they may organize their studies according to these regulations.
- (2) The Examination and Study Regulations for the Master's Programme Economics (Volkswirtschaftslehre) at the University of Bayreuth dated 10 June 2010 (AB UBT 2010/028), as last amended by statute dated 9 January 2023 (AB UBT 2023/002), shall cease to be in effect subject to the provision in para 1 sentence 3.

## Annex: Modules, Credit Points, and Examinations

### Overview

The following provides an overview of total credit points by module area:

Module area	Credit points per area
Foundations	30 credit points
Economics specialization	36 credit points
Individual focus	30 credit points
Master's thesis	24 credit points
<b>Total</b>	<b>120 credit points</b>

The following overview lists the modules and the associated examinations and assessment components:

Modules and Credit Points:

Module areas/ modules	Credit points	Form of examination*
<b>Foundations</b>		
Mathematical specializations for economists	6	K/M/P/E
Microeconomics for advanced students	8	K
Macroeconomics for advanced students	8	K
Empirical economic research for advanced students	8	K/M/P
<b>Total module area Foundations</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>Economics specialization</b>		
Economics specialization I	6	K/M/P/E
Economics specialization II	6	K/M/P/E
Economics specialization III	6	K/M/P/E
Economics specialization IV	6	K/M/P/E
Economics specialization V - Advanced seminar	6	P/E

Module areas/ modules	Credit points	Form of examination*
Economics specialization VI - Advanced seminar	6	P/E
<b>Total module area Specialization</b>	<b>36</b>	
<b>Individual focus**</b> (language, internship, supplementary courses)	30	Exam depending on focus
<b>Total module area Individual focus</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>Master's thesis</b>	<b>24</b>	Thesis
<b>Total:</b>	<b>120</b>	

\* K means "written exam", M "oral exam", P "presentation", and E "essay" or "term paper". If several possible types of examinations are listed, the examiner responsible for the course in question will announce the types that apply to them at the beginning of the semester. As a rule, oral presentations and written assignments are components of the examination in seminar courses, while written examinations or oral examinations (and an essay, if applicable) are part of the examination in lectures.

\*\* This module area includes three parts to choose from: Internship (further information is available from Internship Services), language courses (a maximum of 16 credit points can be credited for one language or two languages) as well as supplementary, subject-related courses (economics courses not yet completed or from the related master's programs "Philosophy & Economics", "History & Economics", "Health Economics" and "Business Administration" or subject-related master's modules completed during a semester abroad. Students may choose a combination of the three parts. In any case, the areas or courses must be chosen in such a way that at least 30 credit points are achieved. 12 credit points may be awarded for the internship.

Issued on the basis of a decision made by the University of Bayreuth's Senate on 19 July 2023 and approved by the President of the University of Bayreuth on 27 July 2023, Ref. No. A 3395/2 - I/ 1.

Bayreuth, 01 August 2023

[seal]

UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH THE PRESIDENT

[signature]

Professor Dr. Stefan Leible

These regulations were enacted at the university on 01 August 2023.

This was announced on 01 August 2023 by posting a notice at the university.

The date of the announcement is 01 August 2023.