

**Examination and Study Regulation**  
**for the Master's Programme**  
***Philosophy & Economics***  
**at the University of Bayreuth**  
**dated 5 December 2012**  
**as amended on 1 September 2017**

Article 13 para 1 sentence 2 in conjunction with Article 58 para 1 sentence 1 and Article 61 para 2 sentence 1 of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (*BayHSchG*) forms the framework for the following Examination Regulations issued by the University of Bayreuth. <sup>\*)</sup>

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<sup>\*)</sup> Any gender-specific language used in these regulations applies to both men and women. Changes will not be made to the wording of the individual provisions.

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## § 1

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

<sup>1</sup>The master's examination, accomplished over the course of the master's programme Philosophy & Economics, is used to determine whether the candidate has mastered the philosophical evaluation of economic concepts and the application of the methods of micro-economics and macro-economics, and has acquired expertise in economic processes and philosophical methods as stipulated in the present regulations. <sup>2</sup>The master's programme Philosophy & Economics and all examinations in the programme are held in the English language. <sup>3</sup>Upon passing the master's examination, the University of Bayreuth, by way of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences and the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics, awards the academic degree "Master of Arts" (abbreviated as M.A.).

## § 2

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

- (1) Admission prerequisites for the master's programme are as follows.
1. a higher education degree (or completed studies) with at least the examination grade "2.0" in the bachelor's programme Philosophy & Economics, Economics, or International Economics and Development at the University of Bayreuth or an equivalent degree, and
  2. Proof of knowledge of the English language at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages for applicants who have neither acquired their higher education entrance qualification nor their initial degree in English that qualifies them to study; the required proficiency in English can also be proven by means of a term paper or thesis in English in a degree programme, and

3. Proof of basic knowledge of the German language at level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Applicants who have neither acquired their higher education entrance qualification nor a university degree in German can also prove the required knowledge in German by means of a German term paper or thesis in a degree programme at a higher education institution. Applicants who do not fulfill this requirement will be enrolled on the condition that they submit proof of their German language skills by the end of the second semester of study, and
  4. If a degree as per para 1 or an applicant as per para 2 has a grade average of less than "2,0" and up to "2,3" or an applicant falls under para 2 sentence 4, a further admission requirement is the determination of the study-specific aptitude in a procedure as per annex 2.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If the bachelor's degree or a comparable degree certificate is not yet available, a confirmation with individual grades of all examination and study credits completed by the registration date must be submitted. <sup>2</sup>These credits must comprise a total of at least 150 ECTS points and must correspond to at least a grade of 2,0 according to the overall grade calculation or at least a grade of 2,3 in the case of participation in the aptitude assessment process as per para 1 no. 4. <sup>3</sup>For final enrollment, the relevant degree certificate must be submitted by the end of the first semester of study with a grade of 2,0 or better or, if the decision in the aptitude assessment process is positive, with a grade of 2,3 or better. <sup>4</sup>Students who present partial credits as per sentence 2, clause 1, and for whom it is mathematically possible that their degree as per para 1, no. 1 will not have the required average grade, shall undergo the aptitude assessment process as per Annex 2.

### § 3

#### **Structure of the programme and the master's examination; standard period of study**

- (1) The master's programme Philosophy & Economics is divided into modules as follows.  
Module area "Foundations" with two components:  
"Economics"  
"Philosophy"  
Module area "Integration"  
Module area "Specialization" (including master's thesis).
- (2) The standard period of study is four semesters, including the examination periods and the master's thesis.

- (3) A total of 120 credit points must be earned in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).
- (4) New students can enter the programme in the winter semester.

#### **§ 4**

##### **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 is to be made up of one member as chair and three additional members. <sup>4</sup>The members are to equally represent the areas of philosophy and economics. <sup>5</sup>The chair and additional members shall each have one substitute. <sup>6</sup>Two members of the board of examiners and their substitutes shall each be elected by the faculty councils of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences and the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics from among the professors in the Faculty (Article 2 para 1 sentence 1 number 1 of the *Bayerisches Hochschulpersonalgesetz*) to serve a three-year term.

- <sup>7</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 shall ensure that the requirements of these regulations are fulfilled. <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 may delegate tasks.
- (4) The board of examiners shall regularly report to the faculty councils 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 legal remedies available. <sup>2</sup>Notices of appeal shall be issued by the president after having heard the board of examiners.

## § 5

### Examiners and co-examiners

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Any person who is authorized to administer examinations at institutions of higher education according to the Bavarian Higher Education Act (*BayHSchG*) and the *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

if his or her request is approved by the board of examiners. <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 instructor 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.

## § 6

### 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 41 para 2 of the *BayHSchG*.
- (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 18 para 3 of the *BayHSchG*.

## § 7

### Admission to the examinations

Students who are enrolled in the master's programme Philosophy & Economics are considered *ipso facto* to be admitted to the examinations.

## § 8

### Credit transfer

- (1) Awarding credit for competencies (learning outcomes) is governed by Article 63 para 1 and 2 of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (*BayHSchG*).
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If credits are awarded 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. 3If the grading systems are not analogous, the remark "*bestanden*" ["passed"] shall appear in place of a grade; in this case, the course shall not be taken into account when calculating the final grade. 4The board of examiners in consultation with the relevant representative from the subject area shall decide whether the requirements for credit transfer have been met. 5If credit transfer is denied, the person concerned can request a review of the decision by submitting a request to the University Governing Board within four weeks of notification of denial. 6The University Governing Board shall provide the board of examiners with a recommendation on how to proceed with the request.

- (3) Credit transfer requests are to be submitted to the board of examiners as soon as possible following enrolment and in any event prior to completing the examination proceedings in the relevant module.



<sup>3</sup>Transferred credits may be identified as such on the certificate. <sup>4</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.

## **§ 9**

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

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Written and oral examinations are to be held once a semester. <sup>2</sup>The examinations are generally held from the last week of lectures to the end of the fourth week of semester break. The board of examiners shall publish examination schedules university-wide. <sup>3</sup>An additional examination time may be scheduled for the beginning of the following semester.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The course-related examination dates and precise form of examination – if not given in Annex 1 – are to be determined by the examiner at the start of the course and generally published university-wide. <sup>2</sup>A change of examiner on short notice shall only take place if there are urgent grounds for doing so.
- (3) Students must 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 Annex 1 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**

### **Form of examinations**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Examinations are carried out in the form of written examinations, oral examinations, presentations, written homework assignments, essays, and in-class presentations.  
<sup>2</sup>The possible forms of examination in the modules are given in Annex 1.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>Assessment of examinations at the University of Bayreuth is to be 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>Sentence 1 does not apply in the case described in para 7.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>Written examinations are to be between one and two hours in duration. <sup>2</sup>The examiner shall announce the precise duration of the examination at the beginning of the course. <sup>3</sup>The relevant examiner shall decide which resources may be used during the examination. <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.
- (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 relevant examiner. <sup>2</sup>If an examinee receives the grade "unsatisfactory" [*nicht ausreichend*] on a written examination, a second examiner shall also provide an assessment. <sup>3</sup>The relevant examiners are to determine the grades for performance in the individual examinations under the terms of § 16. <sup>4</sup>An assessment of each written examination shall be provided no later than six weeks after the examination. <sup>5</sup>The board of examiners may decide to appoint an additional examiner. <sup>6</sup>The graded 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>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>3</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>4</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 grade that is above the absolute cut-off grade (at least 50% of the total points)

or the relative cut-off grade. <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"/ excellent), for 90% or better
- 1,3 ("sehr gut"/ excellent), for 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 ("befriedigend"/ satisfactory), 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 cut-off grade has been achieved, but less than 10% of the possible points beyond the lowest passing grade were 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 cut-off grade is not reached, the grade is as follows: 5,0 (*nicht ausreichend*) <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 45 minutes, depending on the requirements of the particular taught session. <sup>2</sup>Oral examinations are to be carried out in the English language or in German (with the examiner's approval) and are to be administered by two examiners or one examiner and one co-examiner.

<sup>3</sup>One examiner or the co-examiner shall draw up a record of the oral examination that includes the following: location, start time, and duration of the examination; examination subject-matter and results (grade); names of the two examiners or of the examiner and co-examiner; 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>If the audience for an oral examination must be limited due to room capacity, those students who wish to take the same examination within the next two semesters are to be given preference. <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 of around 5,000 words and essays of around 1,500-2,000 words are to be completed following the seminar in which they were assigned. <sup>2</sup>The topic is to be chosen by the relevant examiner in consideration of the candidate's request. <sup>3</sup>The time limit for written term papers shall be up to eight weeks and for essays up two weeks. <sup>4</sup>The topics for term papers are to be such that they can be completed within this time limit. <sup>5</sup>The chair of the board of examiners may extend the deadline by up to one week at the request of the supervisor if there are exceptional grounds for doing so. <sup>6</sup>If the candidate demonstrates via a medical certificate that he or she was unable to work on the thesis, the deadline will be extended according to the time of illness determined by the doctor. <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. If a grade of "*nicht ausreichend*" ["unsatisfactory"] is assigned, the paper is to be assessed by a second examiner. <sup>10</sup>One graded copy of the term paper shall remain in the records.
- (12) <sup>1</sup>Presentations/ in-class presentations that are ca. 20-45 minutes in duration are to be held in the framework of the advanced seminar in which they were assigned. <sup>2</sup>The topic of the presentation is to be assigned by the instructor responsible for the course. <sup>3</sup>The examiner(s) shall determine the grades under the terms of § 16.

## § 12

### Master's thesis

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The candidate's master's thesis should demonstrate that he or she is able to utilize relevant resources and adequately address and write about issues in the field using scientific methods. <sup>2</sup>The topic may include interdisciplinary issues.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>In consideration of the candidate's request (if possible), the chair of examiners shall appoint one examiner as supervisor and assessor. <sup>2</sup>The topic of the master's thesis is to be assigned by an examiner (§ 5 paragraph 1) from the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics or the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences who is active in the appropriate field, via the chair of examiners. <sup>3</sup>Record is to be made of the date on which the topic was assigned. <sup>4</sup>It is recommended that the master's thesis be completed in the fourth semester of study.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis is to be integrated into the programme of study and shall correspond to a workload of no more than 900 hours. <sup>2</sup>The master's thesis is to be submitted no later than six months after the topic was assigned. <sup>3</sup>The chair of examiners may extend this deadline by up to twelve weeks at the request of the supervisor if there are exceptional grounds for doing so. <sup>4</sup>If the candidate demonstrates via a medical certificate that he or she was unable to work on the thesis, the deadline may be extended accordingly. <sup>5</sup>Theses that are not submitted by the stated deadline are to be graded as "*nicht ausreichend*" ["unsatisfactory"].
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis is generally to be written in the English language, or in consultation with the supervisor, in the German language. <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 independently 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. <sup>3</sup>A summary in German should also be provided if the thesis was written in English.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>The thesis is to be submitted to the Examinations Office by the deadline given. <sup>2</sup>Record is to be made of the date on which the thesis was submitted.
- (6) <sup>1</sup>Three typewritten, paginated, and bound copies of the master's thesis are to be submitted. <sup>2</sup>One copy is to be submitted electronically.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>The candidate may return a topic to the board of examiners once within two weeks of having been assigned the topic. <sup>2</sup>The supervisor shall submit a statement. <sup>3</sup>Paragraphs 1 to 6 also apply when assigning and working on a new topic.
- (8) <sup>1</sup>The thesis is generally to be graded by two assessors, unless there is no second assessor available in the particular field of the thesis or if his or her participation would lead to unreasonable delays in the examination process. <sup>2</sup>Theses deemed "*nicht ausreichend*" ["unsatisfactory"] are to be graded by a second assessor from among the examiners mentioned in § 5 paragraph 1.

<sup>3</sup>Appointment of the assessors is to be carried out by the chair of examiners. <sup>4</sup> The instructor who assigns the topic is to act as first assessor. <sup>5</sup>The grades shall be made available no later than two months after submission of the thesis.

- (9) <sup>1</sup>If an examination is assessed by more than one examiner, the grade shall be determined by taking 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).
- (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 modules 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 to credit points as stipulated in the European Credit Transfer System (see Annex 1). <sup>3</sup>One credit point is based on a workload of 30 hours.
- (2) The credit points for the modules are given in Annex 1.

### § 14 Consideration of extenuating life circumstances

- (1) <sup>1</sup>If duly requested, the following are to be observed: periods set aside by law for working mothers (§§ 3, 4, and 8 of Working Mothers Protection Act, *MuSchG*, dated 20 July 2002, BGBl p. 2318 - as amended), periods set aside under the laws concerning parental leave (*BEEG*, dated 5 December 2006, BGBl p. 2748 - as amended), and periods reserved for care of a family member (as stipulated in *PflegeZG*, dated 28 May 2008, BGBl pp. 874, 896 - as amended) who requires care as described in §§ 14 and 15 of SGB XI, dated 26 May 1994 (BGBl pp. 1014 and 1015), as amended.

<sup>2</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; in case of illness, medical certificates must be presented. <sup>3</sup>Any changes in status are to be reported immediately.

### § 15

#### Consideration of the special needs of disabled persons

<sup>1</sup>For the sake of ensuring equal opportunities, the particular needs of disabled examinees 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 in what form a disabled examinee is to take the examination; alternatively, some other compensation for disadvantages may be granted. <sup>3</sup>Evidence of disability is to be provided by way of a medical certificate, which confirms that the candidate is unable (entirely or in part) to take the examination in its usual form due to a lasting or permanent disability. <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.

### § 16

#### Examination grades

- (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 performance) = 2,7 or 3,0 or 3,3

"*ausreichend*" (performance that meets the minimum requirements despite deficiencies) = 3,7 or 4,0

"*nicht ausreichend*" (insufficient 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 average grade 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:

average grade of 1,5 or better = "*sehr gut*"

for an average grade of 1,6 up to and including 2,5 = "*gut*"

for an average grade of 2,6 to 3,5 = "*befriedigend*"

for 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 grades received for the modules completed successfully (including the master's thesis), weighted according to the credit points awarded. <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>If more than the five modules required by the present Regulations are taken in Module Area C - Specialization, only the five modules with the best grades are included in the calculation of the overall grade. <sup>4</sup>Additional modules that have been completed will not be taken into account in the calculation of the final grade.
- (2) Candidates who pass the master's 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 para 2. <sup>3</sup>Those programme graduates who were awarded their diplomas in the previous four 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 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; in addition, all 120 credit points must be earned.
- (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 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>Minor breaches of the set deadline that arise due to the course of the examination proceedings are permissible. <sup>3</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 paragraph 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>A notice of having failed on the final attempt will be sent under the terms of § 4 para 5 in conjunction with Article 41 BayVwVfG (as amended).
- (4) <sup>1</sup>There is no obligation to repeat additional examinations that were not passed. <sup>2</sup>Unless the student requests otherwise, the additional examinations will appear in the transcript.

### § 19

#### Repeating examinations at the University of Bayreuth

- (1) Any examination that was failed on the first attempt can be repeated once.
- (2) <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. <sup>3</sup>The second repetition of an examination can be conducted as an oral examination, even if both of the previous examinations were written examinations; this is to be decided by the examiner.
- (3) Voluntary repetition of an examination that was already passed is only permitted for up to two examinations; voluntary repetition of the master's thesis is not permissible.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis can be repeated with a new topic if the student did not pass 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 master's examination**

If a candidate has failed the master's examination on the final attempt, then a written notice shall be sent to him or her within two weeks upon request; the notice shall include a list of the individual examination grades as well as the missing examination elements.

## § 21

### **Access to examination documents**

- (1) Following the conclusion of an examination element, the candidate may - upon request and within the means available - be granted access to his or her graded examination documents including relevant comments made by the examiners as well as the record sheets for the examination.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Such requests are to be made no later than one month after the degree certificate is awarded. <sup>2</sup>If the candidate was prevented through no fault of his/her own from meeting the deadline in sentence 1, Art. 32 Bavarian Administrative Procedure Act 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 or circumstances preventing the candidate from completing the examination are to be reported to the examiner or the chair of examiners without delay and generally 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 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 to the extent that 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 of 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"].

## § 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; diploma

- (1) <sup>1</sup>A diploma and a 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 to be signed by the deans of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences and the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics and stamped with 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 Arts". <sup>5</sup>This title is to be abbreviated "M.A." 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 assessment component. <sup>4</sup>An English translation of the certificate and a Diploma Supplement will also be issued; the Diploma Supplement will be signed by the chair of examiners. <sup>5</sup>In addition to the certificate, an ECTS grading table as per § 17 para 4 will be issued.
- (3) Any revocation of the degree "Master of Arts" is to be carried out in accordance with Article 69 of the Bavarian Higher Education Act.

## § 26

### Academic advising

- (1) General student advising is offered by the University of Bayreuth's Student Advising Office.
- (2) The programme coordinator for the master's programme Philosophy & Economics 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:
1. new students,
  2. students who recently failed an examination,
  3. students who have considerably less than 30 credit points per semester,
  4. students transferring from a different degree programme or university,
  5. prior to selecting specializations (if needed).

### **§ 27**

#### **Effective date**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>These regulations shall take effect on the day following their publication. <sup>2</sup>They shall be valid for all students enrolling in this programme for the first time in Winter Semester of 2011/12 or later. <sup>3</sup>Notwithstanding sentence 2, § 2 number 3 and Annex 2 of the present regulations shall first apply for the process starting in Summer Semester 2012. <sup>4</sup>The Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme Philosophy & Economics at the University of Bayreuth dated 10 November 2003 and last amended on 27 September 2007 (AB UBT 2007/149) shall apply for students who enter the master's programme Philosophy & Economics prior to Winter Semester 2011/2012.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of para 1 sentence 4, the Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme Philosophy & Economics at the University of Bayreuth dated 10 November 2003 and last amended on 27 September 2007 (AB UBT 2007/149) shall cease to apply.

**Annex 1: Modules, Credit Points, and Examinations**

| <b>Area / Modules</b>                                     | <b>CP</b>      | <b>Examinations</b>         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>A - Foundations</b>                                    |                |                             |
| A1 Ethics                                                 | 8              | W/ O/ I/ E                  |
| A2 Political Philosophy                                   | 8              | W/ O/ I/ E                  |
| A3 Philosophy of the Social Sciences                      | 8              | W/ O/ I/ E                  |
| A4 Advanced Microeconomics I                              | 8              | W/ O/ P/ E                  |
| A5 Advanced Macroeconomics I                              | 8              | W/ O/ P/ E                  |
| A6 Advanced Empirical Economics Research I                | 8              | W/ O/ P/ E                  |
| <b>Total for Area "Foundations"</b>                       | <b>48</b>      |                             |
| <b>B - Integration</b>                                    |                |                             |
| B1 Philosophy & Economics Seminar                         | 8              | P/ E                        |
| B2 Research Seminar                                       | 4              | Contributions to discussion |
| <b>Total for Area "Integration"</b>                       | <b>12</b>      |                             |
| <b>C - Specialization (5 electives from these fields)</b> |                |                             |
| C1 Philosophy (see module handbook)                       | à 6 (up to 30) | W/O/ I/ E                   |
| C2 Economics (see module handbook)                        | à 6 (up to 30) | W/ O/ I/ E                  |
| C3 Methods (see module handbook)                          | à 6 (up to 12) | W/ O/ I/ E                  |
| <b>Total for Area C</b>                                   | <b>30</b>      |                             |
|                                                           |                |                             |
| Master's Thesis                                           | 30             | Thesis                      |
|                                                           |                |                             |
| <b>Total</b>                                              | <b>120</b>     |                             |

**Legend:**

W = Written Examination

O = Oral Examination

I = In-Class Presentation

E = Essay

P = Presentation

## **Annex 2: Aptitude assessment process**

### **1. Purpose of aptitude test**

The applicant's aptitude for studying in the master's programme Philosophy & Economics at the University of Bayreuth is determined on the basis of the process under the terms of Article 43 para 5 *BayHSchG* in accordance with § 2 para 1 number 4 of the Examination and Study Regulations.

### **2. Board responsible for the aptitude assessment process**

The board of examiners is responsible for preparing and conducting the aptitude assessment process under the terms of § 4.

### **3. Process for determining aptitude**

3.1 <sup>1</sup>The aptitude assessment process is to be administered once a year, in the summer semester. <sup>2</sup>Applications to take part in the aptitude assessment process can be made by submitting the forms published by the University of Bayreuth to the dean of the Faculty for Humanities & Social Sciences.

3.2 The application (completed in full) as given in 3.1 item 2 must include:

3.2.1 <sup>1</sup>The bachelor's certificate with at least the examination grade "2,3" as well as a confirmation with individual grades about the examination and study credits earned during the programme. <sup>2</sup>If the bachelor's degree certificate is not yet available, a confirmation with individual grades of all examination and study credits earned by the registration date must be submitted. <sup>3</sup>These credits must comprise at least 150 ECTS points and, based on the overall grade calculation, must correspond to at least the grade "2,3". <sup>4</sup>The bachelor's certificate must be submitted by the end of the first semester of study.

3.2.2 If the bachelor's certificate is not yet available, a list of the modules for which evidence of completion cannot yet be submitted.

3.2.3 as additional information, cover letter describing the reasons behind (motivation for) applying,

3.2.4 if applicable, a request for special consideration due to a disability.

### **4. Admission to the aptitude assessment process**

4.1 Admission to the assessment process requires that the documents listed in number 3.2 be submitted on time and in the required form.

4.2 The aptitude assessment process (number 5) is to be administered to those applicants who fulfil the requirements.

4.3 Applicants who are not admitted are to be sent a letter of denial containing the reasons for denial and information concerning legal remedies available; number 6.1 applies



*mutatis mutandis.*

## 5. Overview of the aptitude assessment process

5.1 On the basis of the application documents submitted, the board of examiners shall determine whether the applicant is suited for studies in the master's programme Philosophy & Economics in view of his or her qualification and the specific talents and abilities he or she described. <sup>3</sup>The committee's assessment is to be carried out on the basis of the following criteria:

5.1.1 <sup>1</sup>The subject-specific coursework and examinations from the bachelor's programme in the areas of economics (macroeconomics, microeconomics, empirical economic research) and philosophy (business ethics, foundations of philosophy, foundations of decision theory) or an equivalent programme of study are to be grade according to § 2 with up to 4.0 points. <sup>2</sup>The relevant individual criteria are set forth in the annex concerning the aptitude assessment process. <sup>3</sup>Specific conversion factors can be applied in the case of foreign applicants.

5.2 Applicants who receive 3.5 points or more are to receive confirmation of having passed the aptitude assessment process from the programme advisor or the chair of examiners.

5.3 <sup>1</sup>The remaining applicants with less than 3.5 points are to be invited to an interview. <sup>2</sup>The date and time of the interview are to be announced at least one week in advance. <sup>3</sup>Periods set aside for the any interviews that need to be carried out are to be scheduled prior to the application deadline. <sup>4</sup>The applicant is to comply with the date and time of the interview. <sup>5</sup> Anyone who fails to appear on the date and time announced will be denied admission.

<sup>6</sup>If a reason beyond the applicant's control prevents him or her from participating in the interview, a new appointment is to be scheduled no later than two weeks prior to the start of lectures upon justified request.

5.4 <sup>1</sup>An individual interview is to be conducted with each applicant. <sup>2</sup>The interview is to last between 20 and 30 minutes for each applicant and should demonstrate whether it is to be expected that the aim of the programme of study can be achieved given the applicant's previous education and whether he or she is able to philosophically assess economic concepts and master the application of methods from micro- and macro-economics. <sup>3</sup>With the candidate's approval, one student representative may be permitted to attend. <sup>4</sup>The interview is to be administered by at least two members of the committee. <sup>5</sup>Each member is to provide a grade of 1 to 5 for the interview. <sup>6</sup>The arithmetic mean of the individual assessments is to be calculated and truncated to one decimal place. <sup>7</sup>Applicants who receive a grade of at least "gut" ("2,3") shall be considered eligible.

5.5 <sup>1</sup>A record sheet is to be kept for the aptitude assessment process; it is to include the  
***The University of Bayreuth is not liable for inaccuracies or mistakes in this English translation.  
 In case of doubt, the German originals are to be used in a court of law.***

date, duration, location of assessment, names of the committee members, name of the applicant, the committee members' assessment, and the result of the assessment. <sup>2</sup> The record must show the topics of the interview with the applicant and the rationale for the assessment. <sup>3</sup> The reasons and topics may be listed in note form. <sup>4</sup> The record sheet is to be signed by the committee members.

## **6. Notification of the outcome**

- 6.1 <sup>1</sup>The result of the aptitude assessment process is to be sent to the applicant in writing. <sup>2</sup>The notice is to be signed by the chair of the selection committee. <sup>3</sup> A notice of denial containing a rationale and information concerning legal remedies available is to be signed by the chair of the committee. <sup>4</sup> As part of its supervisory duties in accordance with Article 20 para 3 sentence 1 of *BayHSchG*, the chair of examiners, on behalf of the University Governing Board, shall check a random sample of 10% of denials of admission.
- 6.2 Admission based on the aptitude assessment process for the master's programme Philosophy & Economics shall remain valid for future applications to this programme of study as long as the content and goals of the programme do not change so significantly that aptitude for this programme can no longer be demonstrated by having undergone the aptitude assessment process at an earlier date.

## **7. Repeating the aptitude assessment process**

- 7.1 Applicants who are denied admission to the master's programme Philosophy & Economics can register to attempt the aptitude assessment process a second time.
- 7.2 Applicants who are not yet able to present a bachelor's degree or equivalent degree and who have not passed the aptitude assessment process can be enrolled for one semester if there is a possibility that they can still achieve the examination grade "2,0" according to § 2 para 1 number 1 of the present regulations by the end of the first semester of study after presenting the relevant degree certificate.

**Annex to the aptitude assessment process:**

Subject-specific coursework and examinations from the applicant's bachelor's studies (number 5.1.1) are to be assessed according to the following grading scale:

| <b>Points</b>                    | <b>Description</b>         | <b>Average grade in the areas given in 5.1.1</b> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 4.0 – 3.5 points                 | excellent                  | 1,0 – 1,5                                        |
| 3.4 – 2.8 points                 | considerably above average | 1,6 – 2,0                                        |
| 2.7 – 2.0 points                 | average                    | 2,1 – 2,5                                        |
| 1.9 – 1.5 points<br>shortcomings | sufficient despite         | 2,6 – 3,0                                        |

Issued on the basis of a decision made by the University of Bayreuth's Senate on 8 February 2012 and approved by the Bavarian State Ministry of Education, Science and the Arts on 27 May 2012, and approved by the President of the University of Bayreuth on 3 December 2012, Reference No. A 3385 - I/1

Bayreuth, 5 December 2012

PRESIDENT OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
BAYREUTH

Professor Dr. Rüdiger Bormann

These regulations were issued on 5 December 2012 at the university. This was announced by posting a notice at the university. The date of the announcement is 5 December 2012.

Bayreuth, 5 December 2012

PRESIDENT OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
BAYREUTH

Professor Dr. Rüdiger Bormann