



Care was taken to ensure the text of these regulations is accurate and up-to-date; the present version may nevertheless contain errors. The official, legally binding version can be viewed in the Examinations Office, the Student Advising Office, or online at <https://www.amtliche-bekanntmachungen.uni-bayreuth.de/de/>.

Please note the effective dates of the amendments.

***Examination and Study Regulations
for the Master's Programme
Philosophy & Economics
at the University of Bayreuth
dated 15 February 2022,
as amended on 15 September 2022***

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.

Contents

§ 1	Purpose of the master's examination.....	3
§ 2	Admission to the programme; qualification.....	3
§ 3	Structure of studies; standard period of study.....	4
§ 4	Components of the programme of study.....	5
§ 5	Board of examiners	5
§ 6	Examiners and co-examiners.....	6
§ 7	Disqualification due to personal involvement; confidentiality.....	6
§ 8	Credit transfer	6
§ 9	Times for holding examinations; announcing examination times and examiners.....	7
§ 10	Elements of the examination.....	7
§ 11	Forms of examination	8
§ 12	Master's thesis	11
§ 13	Credit point system.....	12
§ 14	Consideration of extenuating life circumstances	12
§ 15	Consideration of the special needs of persons with disabilities or chronic illnesses.....	13
§ 16	Grading of examinations.....	13
§ 17	Final grade.....	13
§ 18	Passing the master's examination	14
§ 19	Repeating examinations	15
§ 20	Notice of failing the master's examination.....	15
§ 21	Access to examination documents	15
§ 22	Defects in the examination proceedings.....	16
§ 23	Non-appearance, withdrawal from examinations, cheating, and policy violations.....	16
§ 24	Invalidating the master's examination.....	17
§ 25	Awarding the master's degree; degree certificate.....	17
§ 26	Academic advising	18
§ 27	Entry into effect and termination	18
	Annex 1: Modules Credit points and examinations.....	19
	Annex 2: Aptitude assessment process.....	20
	Annex to the aptitude assessment process:.....	23

§ 1 Purpose of the master's examination

¹The master's examination as the conclusion of the scientific university studies of the master's programme Philosophy and Economics determines whether the candidate has mastered the philosophical evaluation of economic concepts and the application of microeconomic and macroeconomic methods and has acquired the expertise in economic procedures and philosophical methods provided for in the present regulations. ²The master's programme Philosophy & Economics, including all examinations, is conducted in English. ³At the same time it determines whether the candidate possesses the requisite understanding of subject-related and interdisciplinary connections to pursue further independent academic research. ⁴The 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 university degree with at least the examination grade "2.0" in the bachelor's degree programme Philosophy and Economics, Economics or International Economics and Development at the University of Bayreuth or a degree equivalent thereto and
 2. Evidence of English language skills at level B2 (or higher) 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; the required command of English can also be proved by a final thesis written in English in a degree programme at a higher education institution.
 3. Evidence of German language skills at level A1 (or higher) of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Applicants who have neither acquired their higher education entrance qualification nor the first degree opening access to the programme in the German language may also prove the required proficiency in German by submitting a term paper or thesis written in German in a degree programme at a higher education institution. Applicants who do not meet this requirement will be enrolled on the condition that they submit the proof of German language proficiency by the end of their second semester of study.
 4. Determination of the suitability for the specific programme of study in a process according to Annex 2, insofar as the average grade is between "2.1" and "2.3" in the case of a degree according to No. 1 or in the case of para 3 sentence 1.
- (2) ¹In the review of degree equivalence, the qualifications may not differ substantially in terms of the earned competences (learning outcomes) from the qualifications referred to in para 1 number

1. ²Decisions regarding degree equivalence are to be made by the board of examiners established under the terms of § 4.
- (3) ¹If 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. ²These credits must comprise a total of at least 150 credit points and, according to the overall grade calculation, must correspond to at least the grade "2.0" or, in the case of participation in the aptitude assessment process according to para 1 number 4, to at least the grade "2.3". ³Applicants who fulfil the requirements of sentence 2 are to be enrolled on the condition that they submit the certificate of the relevant degree certificate with a grade of "2.0" ["good"] or better by the end of the first semester of study; in case of a positive decision in the aptitude assessment process, a grade of "2,3" or better is required. ⁴Applicants who submit partial evidence as described in sentence 2 item 1 and who may not succeed in achieving the required average grade for their degree given in para 1 number 1 are to undergo the aptitude assessment process as given in Annex 2.
- (4) Students who are enrolled in the master's programme Philosophy & Economics are considered *ipso facto* to be admitted to the examinations.

§ 3 Structure of studies; standard period of study

- (1) The standard period of study is four semesters, including the examination periods and the master's thesis.
- (2) A total of 120 credit points must be earned in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).
- (3) New students can begin the programme in the winter semester.

§ 4 Components of the programme of study

The master's degree in Philosophy and Economics is divided into modules and consists of the following module areas, which are listed in more detail in Annex 1:

- A – "Foundations"
- B – "Integration"
- C – "Specialization"
- D – "Master Thesis".

§ 5 Board of examiners

- (1) ¹A 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. ²The 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. ³It shall consist of four members, each having one substitute representative. ⁴The members shall be equally drawn from the fields of philosophy and economics. ⁵Two members each and/or their substitute representatives from the board of examiners shall be elected by the faculty council of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences and by the faculty council of the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics from among the professors (Art. 2 para 1 sentence 1 number 1 Bavarian Higher Education Personnel Act) of the relevant faculty for a period of five years. ⁶The board of examiners shall elect a chair and deputy chair from among its members.
- (2) ¹The 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. ²The decisions taken by the board of examiners in its meetings are to be made on the basis of majority vote. ³Vote abstention, secret voting, and proxy voting are prohibited. ⁴If votes are equally divided among its members, the chair's vote shall be decisive.
- (3) ¹The chair of examiners shall ensure that the provisions of these regulations are followed. ²He or she shall convene the meetings of the board of examiners and shall act as chair of its proceedings and decisions. ³With regard to matters that cannot be postponed, he or she is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the board of examiners. ⁴He or she must promptly inform the other members of any such decision - at the next meeting at latest. ⁵In 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. ⁶The 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) ¹Any 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. ²Notices of appeal shall be issued by the president in consultation with the board of examiners.

§ 6 Examiners and co-examiners

- (1) ¹Any person who is authorized to administer examinations at institutions of higher education according to BayHSchG and HSchPrüferV, as amended, may serve as examiner. ²Any member of the University of Bayreuth who is a graduate of an equivalent or comparable programme of study may serve as co-examiner.
- (2) ¹If 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. ²Authorization to administer examinations shall generally remain valid for up to three years.
- (3) ¹Unless otherwise decided by the chair of examiners, the relevant supervisor shall also serve as examiner. ²If 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 41 para 2 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 2 BayHSchG.

§ 8 Credit transfer

- (1) Awarding credit for competencies (learning outcomes) is governed by Article 63 para 1 and 2 BayHSchG.
- (2) ¹If 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. ²If 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 a conversion according to sentence 2 is not possible, the board of examiners shall determine a corresponding key for the grade conversion. ⁴If 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. ⁵The board of examiners in consultation with the relevant representative from the subject area shall decide whether the requirements have been met for credit transfer. ⁶If 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. ⁷The 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 the commencement of the examination proceedings in the relevant module.

§ 9 Times for holding examinations; announcing examination times and examiners

- (1) Examinations will be held once per semester. ²The examination period is generally from the last week of lectures through the first four weeks of semester break.
- (2) ¹If not listed in the annex, examination times and the duration of examinations shall be determined by the relevant examiner and announced university-wide at the start of the course. ²An additional examination time may be scheduled for the beginning of the following semester. ³A 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 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 Forms of examination

- (1) ¹Examinations are carried out in the form of written examinations, oral examinations, presentations, written term papers, and essays. ²The possible forms of examination in the modules are given in Annex 1.
- (2) ¹Assessment of examinations at the University of Bayreuth is to be carried out according to the process announced by the board of examiners. ²Notifications will not be sent individually. ³Students 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) ¹If 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. ²In the case described in para 7, sentence 1 does not apply. ³If a written examination is assessed as "failed" or "unsatisfactory", it must be assessed by a second examiner.
- (4) ¹Written 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. ²The relevant examiner shall decide which resources may be used during the examination. ³A written record of the examination is to be made. ⁴The invigilator shall confirm the accuracy of the record by providing his or her signature. ⁵The examination record sheet is to include all aspects of the examination that are relevant to determining the grade.

- (5) ¹If a candidate arrives to the examination late, he or she shall not be given additional time to finish the examination. ²Candidates may leave the room during an examination if permission is granted by the invigilator. ³The time and duration of absence are to be noted on the question paper.
- (6) ¹Written examinations are generally graded by the relevant examiner. ²The relevant examiner determines the grades for the examinations under the terms of § 16. ³An assessment of each written examination shall be provided no later than six weeks after the examination. ⁴One graded copy of the written examination shall remain in the records.
- (7) ¹Written examinations may be conducted fully or in part using multiple choice testing. ²If 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. ³Prior 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. ⁴If the written examination is conducted only in part by using multiple choice testing, weighting for the individual parts must also be stipulated. ⁵Grading of examinations may be carried out with the help of an optical mark sense reader.
- (8) ¹A 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. ²The 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%. ³The relative cut-off grade is only to be taken into account if it is below the absolute cut-off grade. ⁴Cut-off grades that are not whole number values shall be rounded in favour of the student. ⁵An examination is considered passed if a grade of "ausreichend" [sufficient] (4,0) or better is achieved. ⁶If 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.

⁷Cut-off grades that are not whole number values shall be rounded in favour of the student. ⁸If the lowest passing grade (cut-off grade) is not reached, a grade of 5,0 ("nicht ausreichend"/ "unsatisfactory") is assigned. ⁹If 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.

¹⁰If the examination is only carried out in part via multiple choice testing, grades shall be assigned for the individual parts. ¹¹In this connection, § 16 para 2 applies accordingly. ¹²The details above also apply to the multiple choice portion.

- (9) ¹Oral examinations are to be held over a period of 20 to 45 minutes, depending on the requirements of the particular taught session. ²The oral examination shall be conducted by two examiners or one examiner with the assistance of a co-examiner in English or, if technically necessary, in German; the announcement shall be made by the examiner. ³One 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. ⁴The record sheet is to be signed by the two examiners or by the examiner and co-examiner. ⁵The examiners are to determine the grades for performance in the oral examinations under the terms of § 16.
- (10) ¹If 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. ²The examination can be conducted without an audience if so requested by the candidate. ³Discussion and announcement of the examination results (grade) shall not be conducted in public.
- (11) ¹Term papers of approximately 5,000 words and essays of approximately 1,500 to 2,000 words are written following the underlying seminar. ²The topic is to be assigned by the relevant examiner in consideration of the candidate's request. ³The processing time for term papers is usually a maximum of eight weeks and for essays usually a maximum of two weeks. ⁴The topic of the work is to be such that it can be completed within this time limit. ⁵The chair of examiners may extend the relevant deadline by up to one week at the request of the candidate and after having heard the supervisor in justified, exceptional cases. ⁶If 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. ⁷Term papers that are not submitted by the stated deadline are to be graded as "*nicht ausreichend*" ["unsatisfactory"]. ⁸The examiner shall determine the grade under the terms of § 16. ⁹One graded copy of the term paper shall remain in the records.

- (12) ¹For presentations, the topic, type of written work involved, duration, and scope shall be clarified with the relevant instructor. ²Presentations can last between 15 and 45 minutes, depending on the workload. ³For graded presentations, the written paper forms the basis of the grade. ⁴Assignments are to be graded on a pass/fail basis (alternative 1) or according to § 16 (alternative 2). ⁵If alternative 1 of sentence 4 applies, the examination result shall not factor into the final grade. ⁶In case of a failing grade, the regulations for repeating examinations in § 19 shall apply.

§ 12 Master's thesis

- (1) ¹The 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. ²The topic may include interdisciplinary issues.
- (2) ¹If possible, the chair of examiners is to determine an examiner to act as supervisor and assessor in consideration of the candidate's wishes. ²The topic of the master's thesis is assigned by an examiner (§ 6 para 1) of the corresponding subject from the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics or the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences via the chair of examiners. ³Upon written request by the candidate, the board of examiners may also authorize examiners (§ 6 para 1) from other faculties to assign topics, provided that there is sufficient subject relevance. ⁴Record is to be made of the date on which the topic was assigned. ⁵It is recommended that the master's thesis be completed in the fourth semester.
- (3) ¹The master's thesis is integrated into the course of study and comprises a workload of 840 hours for the time of writing the master's thesis and 60 hours for participation in a flanking colloquium (Thesis Seminar) offered by the chair or the deputy chair of examiners. ²The master's thesis is to be submitted no later than six months after the topic was assigned. ³In cases in which the candidate was not at fault for missing a deadline, at the request of the candidate, the chair of examiners may, after having heard the supervisor, extend the deadline by up to 12 weeks. ⁴If 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. ⁵Theses that are not submitted by the stated deadline are graded as "*nicht ausreichend*" ["unsatisfactory"].
- (4) ¹The master's thesis is to be written in the English language or, in agreement with the supervisor, in the German language. ²The 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.
- (5) ¹The master's thesis must be submitted in electronic form (printable PDF document) by the deadline. ²Submission is carried out by uploading the document via the form server. ³The Examinations Office will make a note of the date on which the thesis was submitted.

- (6) The thesis must contain a table of contents and bibliography.
- (7) ¹The candidate may return the topic to the board of examiners once within the first two weeks. ²Paragraphs 1 to 6 also apply when assigning and working on a new topic.
- (8) ¹The Examinations Office shall forward the thesis to the relevant assessor. ²If the thesis is assessed as "unsatisfactory", it shall be assessed by a further assessor from the group of examiners in accordance with § 6. ³The grades shall be made available no later than two months after submission of the thesis. ⁴Each assessor shall provide a recommendation as to whether the thesis is to be accepted or rejected and assign a grade in accordance with § 16. ⁵The appointment of the additional reviewer shall be made by the chair of examiners.
- (9) ¹If different grades are assigned, the grade for the master's thesis shall be the arithmetic mean of the assessments. ²In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded). ³§ 11 para 2 applies *mutatis mutandis*.
- (10) One copy of the master's thesis is to remain on record.

§ 13 Credit point system

- (1) ¹A 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. ²The credit points that appear on the transcript are identical with credit points as stipulated in the European Credit Transfer System (see Annex 1). ³One credit point corresponds to a workload of 30 hours.
- (2) The credit points for the modules are given in Annex 1.

§ 14 Consideration of extenuating life circumstances

- (1) ¹The utilization of protection periods of the Maternity Protection Act (MuSchG) shall be guaranteed. ²Upon request, the claiming of parental leave in accordance with the Federal Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz, BEEG) as well as periods for the care of a close relative within the meaning of § 7 para 3 of the Nursing Care Act (PflegerZG) who is in need of care within the meaning of § 14 and § 15 of the Eleventh Book of the Social Code (Sozialgesetzbuch, SGB XI) shall be guaranteed. ³The appropriate evidence must be furnished; any changes in status are to be reported immediately.
- (2) ¹If 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. ²Corresponding evidence must be furnished; medical certificates must be presented in the case of illness. ³Any changes in status are to be reported immediately.

§ 15 Consideration of the special needs of persons with disabilities or chronic illnesses

¹For the sake of ensuring equal opportunities, the particular needs of examinees with disabilities or chronic illnesses are to be appropriately accommodated. ²Upon written request, the board of examiners shall determine on the basis of the degree of disability in what form the examination is to be taken; alternatively, an extension or other reasonable accommodations may be granted. ³Proof 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. ⁴The request is to be submitted together with the examination registration. ⁵If the request is submitted later, it shall only be valid for subsequent examinations.

§ 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) ¹If 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. ²In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded). ³Module 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) ¹The overall grade for the master's examination is calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of the module grades (including the grade for the master's thesis), weighted according to the credit points awarded for each module. ²In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal

place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded). ³If more modules than the five required by the present regulations are taken in a Area C - Specialization, only the five best grades shall be used in the calculation of the final grade. ⁴Additional modules that were completed are not taken into account when calculating the overall 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) The certificate or an attached document shall indicate how the final grade was calculated.
- (4) ¹In 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. ²This table displays what percentage of programme graduates in a given time frame received the same final grade as described in para 2. ³Those 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. ⁴The date of the last examination shall be decisive in assigning graduates to a particular semester. ⁵If the minimum number of graduates is not reached, the number of previous semesters is to be extended until the minimum number is reached. ⁶If 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. ⁷For 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. ⁸The graduate's own graduating class is also to be included in the reference group. ⁹The 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" or better or "bestanden" for the master's thesis and each module; in addition, all 120 credit points must be earned.
- (2) ¹If the candidate has not fulfilled the requirements given in para 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. ²Examinations that were taken on time and for which the candidate received a passing grade need not be repeated.
- (3) ¹If 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. ²The deadline shall not take into account periods of leave and periods during which the candidate withdrew from study. ³Notice 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. ⁴The board of examiners may grant the student an extension of the deadline stated for circumstances beyond his or her control.

- (4) ¹There is no obligation to repeat failed examinations taken for the purpose of earning additional credits. ²The additional credits shall be included on the certificate as long as the student does not submit a request to the contrary.

§ 19 Repeating examinations

- (1) ¹Any examination that was failed on the first attempt can be repeated once. ²Repeating an examination for a second time is only permitted for up to three examinations. ²Students who fail the second repetition of an examination are to be considered as having failed the master's examination on the final attempt.
- (2) Up to two examinations may be repeated voluntarily for the purpose of improving one's grade. ²Repeating the master's thesis voluntarily is not permitted.
- (3) The repetition may be held as a different form of examination in accordance with § 11; this is determined by the examiner.
- (4) ¹The master's thesis can be repeated with a new topic if the student receives a failing grade for the thesis. ²Repeating 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) ¹Such requests are to be made six months after the degree certificate is awarded. ²If 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 para 1 must be made within six months of the examination's conclusion.

§ 23 Non-appearance, withdrawal from examinations, cheating, and policy violations

- (1) ¹Candidates who have registered for an examination may withdraw without providing a rationale by withdrawing by the deadline announced by the board of examiners. ²If 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) ¹The 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. ²The same applies to inability to take the examination due to circumstances arising during the examination. ³Inability to take the examination due to illness must be documented with a medical certificate. ⁴If 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) ¹If 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"]. ²Any 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) ¹If cheating in the form of plagiarism is detected, the examination will be graded as "*nicht ausreichend*" ["unsatisfactory"]. ²The 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. ³The determination shall be made by the relevant examiner or invigilator and shall be recorded in the files. ⁴In

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.⁵The decision on this is taken by the board of examiners.⁶In 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) ¹If 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. ²If 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) ¹Upon 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. ²The diploma is to include the title of the programme of study. ³It is signed by the Deans of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences and the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics and bears the seal of the university. ⁴Upon issuance of the diploma, the graduate is given the right to bear the title "Master of Arts". ⁵This title is to be abbreviated "'M.A." and placed behind the surname.
- (2) ¹The 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. ²The certificate is to be signed by the chair of examiners. ³The date to be used is the day of the last examination or the date on which the last graded assignment was submitted. ⁴An 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. ⁵In 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 Arts" is to be carried out in accordance with the legal regulations (Article 69 BayHSchG).

§ 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 and 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) ¹In the course of the semester, the programme advisor shall offer advising for all students enrolled in the master's programme. ²Advising is recommended especially for the following persons
 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 subject, degree programme, or university,
 5. as needed before choosing specializations.

§ 27 Entry into effect and termination

- (1) ¹The present regulations go into effect on 16 February 2022. ²They shall be valid for students enrolling in this programme in Winter Semester 2022/2023 or later. All other students are to carry out their studies under the terms of the previous examination regulations for the master's programme Philosophy & Economics at the University of Bayreuth, dated 05 December 2012 (AB 2012/070) and last amended on 1 September 2017 (AB UBT 2017/059).
- (2) The Examination and Study Regulations for the Master's Programme Philosophy and Economics at the University of Bayreuth dated 05 December 2012 (AB UBT 2012/070), last amended on 01 September 2017 (AB UBT 2017/059), shall cease to apply subject to the provision in para 1 sentence 3.*)

*) The set of amendments dated 15 September 2022 contains the following provisions with regard to the effective date:

- (1) The present regulations shall take effect on 1 October 2022 and shall apply to all final theses assigned on or after 1 October 2022.
- (2) The changes mentioned in § 1 apply accordingly to all students enrolled in a degree programme mentioned in § 1, provided that the topic of the bachelor's or master's thesis has not yet been assigned.

Annex 1: Modules Credit points and examinations

Module areas/ modules	Credit points	Examination*
A – Foundations		
Philosophy		
A1 Ethics	8	E, K
A2 Political Philosophy	8	E, K
A3 Philosophy of the Social Sciences	8	E, K
Economics		
A4 Advanced Microeconomics I	8	K
A5 Advanced Macroeconomics I	8	K
A6 Advanced Empirical Economics Research I	8	K
Total Module Area A - Foundations	48	
B – Integration		
B1 Philosophy-&Economics (Integrative) Seminar	8	E, P
B2 Research Seminar**	4	P
Total Module Area B - Integration	12	
C – Specialization		
C1 Philosophy Electives (see Module Handbook)	6 each (up to 30)	K/M/P/E
C2 Economics Electives (see Module Handbook)	6 each (up to 30)	K/M/P/E
C3 Electives from related fields***	6 each (up to 30)	K/M/P/E
Total Module Area C - Specialization	30	
D – Master Thesis		
D1 Master Thesis	28	Thesis
D2 Thesis Seminar****	2	P
Total Module Area D - Master Thesis	30	
Total:	120	

* K means "written exam", M "oral exam", P "presentation", and E "essay" or "term paper".

** Attendance at this module is intended for the second and third semesters of study. The performance review will be given after attending 20 individual lectures from the research seminars of the Philosophy Department or the Economics Department by giving a presentation on one of the lectures. The module remains ungraded.

*** This module area includes supplementary, subject-related courses, e.g. from the related master's programmes in Health Economics, Business Administration, History and Economics or subject-related master's modules completed within a semester abroad. Recognition of content is carried out by the board of examiners.

**** This seminar remains ungraded (see Module Handbook).

Annex 2: Aptitude assessment process

1. Purpose of aptitude test

¹The procedure specified in Art. 43 para 5 sentence 2 BayHSchG is intended to determine the suitability of applicants for the master's programme in Philosophy & Economics at the University of Bayreuth in accordance with § 2 para 1 number 4.

2. Board responsible for the aptitude assessment process

The board of examiners is responsible for preparing and conducting the aptitude assessment process in accordance with § 5.

3. Process for determining aptitude

3.1 ¹The aptitude assessment process is administered once every year, in the summer semester. ²Applications for admission to the aptitude assessment process via the forms published by the University of Bayreuth are to be submitted to the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences by 15 September of that year (application deadline; admission in winter semester).

3.2 The following are to be enclosed with the completed application as described in number 3.1 sentence 2:

3.2.1 ¹ The relevant initial degree (e.g. bachelor's degree certificate) with an examination grade between "2.1" and "2.3" in addition to a confirmation with individual grades for the coursework and examinations completed during the applicant's studies. ²If 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. ³Such coursework must amount to at least 150 ECTS points and correspond to a final grade between "2.1" and "2.3". ⁴The relevant initial degree certificate is to be submitted by the end of the first semester of study.

3.2.2 If the certificate of the relevant initial degree is not yet available, a list of the modules for which assessment components cannot yet be given.

3.2.3 As supplemental information, a cover letter briefly explaining the rationale for the application.

3.2.4 If applicable, a request for reasonable accommodations as described in § 15.

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.
- 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 notice of denial with a rationale and information concerning legal remedies available; number 6.2 applies *mutatis mutandis*.

5. Overview of the aptitude assessment process

- 5.1 ¹On the basis of the application documents submitted, the committee shall determine whether the applicant is suited for studies in the master's programme Philosophy and Economics in view of his or her qualification and the specific competencies he or she described. ³The evaluation process is to be conducted on the basis of the following criterion. ⁴The subject-specific coursework and examinations of the relevant initial degree in Economics (Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Empirical Economic Research) and Philosophy (Business Ethics, Foundations of Philosophy, Foundations of Decision-Making) are assessed with a maximum of 4.0 points. ⁵The relevant individual criteria are laid down in the annex describing the aptitude assessment process.
- 5.2 Applicants who received 3.5 points or more shall be sent a confirmation - signed by the chair of the admission committee - of having passed the aptitude assessment.
- 5.3 ¹The remaining applicants with less than 3.5 points are to be invited to an interview. ²The date and time of the interview are to be announced at least one week in advance. ³ Anyone who fails to appear on the date and time announced will be denied admission. ⁴If 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 ¹The interview is to be conducted individually in the English language for each applicant. ²The 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 will be able to master the philosophical evaluation of economic concepts and the application of microeconomic and macroeconomic methods. ³With the applicant's consent, a student representative may be admitted as a listener. ⁴The interview is to be conducted by at least two members of the committee. ⁵Each member is to assign a grade for the interview on a scale of 1 to 5. ⁶The arithmetic mean of the individual grades is to be calculated and rounded to one decimal place. ⁷Applicants

who receive a grade of "good" (2.3) or better are to be considered eligible. ⁸The remaining applicants have not passed the aptitude assessment process and will be sent a notice of denial with a rationale and information on their right to appeal; number 6.2 sentence 3 applies *mutatis mutandis*.

- 5.5 ¹ A written record shall be made of the interview, indicating the date, duration, location, name of the committee members, the name of the applicant, the assessment of the committee members, and the overall outcome. ²The record must show the topics of the interview with the applicant and the rationale for the assessment. ³ The reasons and topics may be listed in note form. ⁴The record sheet is to be signed by the committee members.

6. Determination and notification of the outcome

- 6.1 The course of the aptitude assessment process must be documented; in particular, the decisions of the committee in accordance with the present regulations and the overall outcome must be evident.
- 6.2 ¹The outcome of the aptitude assessment process is to be sent to the applicant in writing. ²The notice is to be signed by the chair of the selection committee. ³A notice of denial containing a rationale and information concerning legal remedies available is to be signed by the chair of the board. ⁴As part of its supervisory duties in accordance with Article 20 para 3 sentence 1 *BayHSchG*, the chair of the selection committee, on behalf of the University Governing Board, shall check a random sample of 10% of denials of admission.
- 6.3 Admission based on the aptitude assessment process for the master's programme Philosophy and 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. Repetition and conditional enrolment

- 7.1 Applicants who did not provide evidence of aptitude for the master's programme Philosophy and Economics may register for the aptitude assessment process one more time.
- 7.2 Applicants who are not yet able to submit a bachelor's certificate or a degree certificate that has been deemed to be equivalent and who do not pass the aptitude assessment process may enrol for one semester if it is possible for them to submit the degree certificate by the end of the first semester and to earn an overall examination grade of "gut" (grade: 2.0) or better as described in § 2 para 1 number 1.

Annex to the aptitude assessment process:

The subject-specific coursework and examinations from the candidate's bachelor's studies (number 5.1 sentence 4) are assessed according to the following table:

POINTS	ASSESSMENT	Average grade in the areas from No. 5.1 sentence 4
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	sufficient despite deficiencies	2.6 - 3.0