

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
Experimental Geosciences (M.Sc.)
at the University of Bayreuth
dated 10 May 2017
as amended on 09 January 2023**

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.

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§ 1

Purpose of the master's examination

¹Using research-based training, the master's programme Experimental Geosciences seeks to train its graduates in such a way that they can, to a large extent, independently address and work on issues in research and appropriately identify methods. ²The master's examination at the end of the master's programme Experimental Geosciences determines whether the candidate has acquired specialist knowledge in the experimental geosciences and a minor subject and has an overview of specialist and interdisciplinary interrelationships to such an extent that he or she is capable of carrying out further independent scientific work. ³Upon the candidate's passing of the examination, the University of Bayreuth, by way of the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences, awards the academic degree "Master of Science" (abbreviated as M.Sc.). ⁴The programme of study is held in the English language.

§ 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 "good" (2,5) in a bachelor's programme in the natural sciences at the University of Bayreuth or a comparable degree from a domestic or foreign higher education institution.
 2. Proof of academic achievements or equivalent achievements as follows:
 - Physics or geophysics, at least 8 credits.
 - Chemistry or geochemistry, at least 8 credits.Applicants who do not meet these requirements will be enrolled on the condition that they submit proof of the required achievements within the first two semesters; the required credit points are to be included within the scope of a maximum of 12 credit points as specified in para 2 sentence 1.
 3. evidence of having passed the aptitude assessment process described in Annex 2.
 4. a strong command of English. Applicants who did not gain their higher education entrance qualification or initial degree in the English language can demonstrate their English language skills by way of a thesis in a university programme taught in English at a higher education institution, or by way of a B2-level language certificate according to the Common European Framework. Applicants who do not meet this requirement will be enrolled on the condition that they submit the proof of the required language proficiency by the end of their second semester of study at latest. Notwithstanding § 6 para 1 No. 15 of the Enrolment Statutes, a basic knowledge of German is recommended.

- (2) ¹If previous study is not found to be equivalent in content and scope to a bachelor's programme in the natural sciences at the University of Bayreuth, the applicant may be accepted on the condition that he or she is to complete up to 12 credits from a bachelor's programme in the natural sciences within one year in addition to the master's programme requirements; otherwise, the requirements for admission are not to be considered as fulfilled. ²In such cases, the examination and study regulations for the bachelor's programme in the natural sciences (as amended) shall apply. ³Art. 86 BayHIG applies to determining the eligibility of domestic and foreign degrees.
- (3) Decisions such as those described in paragraph 2 are to be made by the board of examiners established under the terms of § 4.
- (4) ¹If the bachelor's certificate or equivalent diploma has not yet been issued, a confirmation of all individual grades and examinations for courses completed up to the date of registration must be submitted. ²Such coursework must amount to at least 150 credits and correspond to a final grade of "gut" (2,5) or better. ³Applicants who fulfil the requirements of sentence 2 are to be enrolled on the condition that they submit the relevant degree certificate with a grade of "gut" ["good"] or better by the end of the second semester of study.

§ 3

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

- (1) ¹Study within the master's programme Experimental Geosciences is divided into modules in the areas of Experimental Methods, Research Techniques, core elective modules, and master's thesis. ²All modules are included in the calculation of the final grade for the master's degree. ³All modules are given in the overview in Annex 1.
- (2) ¹The master's programme Experimental Geosciences is a full-time programme. ²The duration of study is four semesters including the master's thesis (standard period of study).
- (3) A total of 120 credit points must be earned in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).
- (4) New students may begin the programme in the winter semester or the summer semester.

§ 4

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 consists of at least three professors from among the professors (Art. 57 para 1 BayHIG) of the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry and Earth Sciences and one research associate and generally has no more than seven members.⁴The members of the board of examiners and their substitutes are elected for a period of two years by the faculty council for Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences on the recommendation of the Department of Earth Sciences.⁵Re-election is permissible.⁶The board of examiners shall elect a chair and deputy chair from among the professors.

- (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 may delegate tasks to the members of the board of examiners.
- (4) The board of examiners shall regularly report to the faculty council of the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences 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.

§ 5

Examiners and co-examiners

- (1) ¹Any person who is authorized to administer examinations at institutions of higher education according to 85 BayHIG or 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 instructor 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.

§ 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 51 para 2 BayHIG.
- (2) The non-disclosure obligation that holds for members of the board of examiners, as well as examiners, co-examiners, and anyone else involved in the examination process is governed by Article 26 para 2 of BayHIG.

§ 7

Admission to the examinations

Students who are enrolled in the master's programme Experimental Geosciences are considered ipso facto to be admitted to the examinations.

§ 8

Credit transfer and recognition

- (1) The recognition and crediting of competencies shall be determined in accordance with Art. 86 BayHIG.
- (2) ¹If credits are recognized for competencies, the grades are to be carried over and included when calculating the final grade, as long as the grading systems are analogous. 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:

$$x = 1 + 3 * (N_{\max} - N_d) / (N_{\max} - N_{\min})$$

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 completing the examination proceedings in the relevant module.
- (4) Paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the crediting of competencies, subject to the maximum limit pursuant to Art. 86 para 2 Sentence 2 BayHIG.

§ 9

Times for holding examinations; announcing examination times and examiners

- (1) ¹The examinations in the programme are held promptly following the conclusion of the modules. ²The type of examination, as well as the time and duration is to be announced university-wide prior to the start of the course, and no later than four weeks prior to the examination. ³An additional examination time may be scheduled for the beginning of the following semester.
- (2) ¹If not listed in the annex, the examination times and the form and duration of examinations shall be determined by the relevant examiner and announced university-wide at the start of the semester. ²A 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.

§ 11

Form of examinations

- (1) ¹The examinations shall take the form of written examinations, oral examinations, presentations and research reports. ²The possible forms of examination in the modules are given in Annex 1. ³All examinations are held in English.
- (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) 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.
- (4) 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.
- (5) 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. ⁶Written examinations are generally graded by the relevant examiner. ⁷The relevant examiners are to determine the grades for the individual examinations under the terms of § 16. ⁸An assessment of each written examination shall be provided no later than four weeks after the examination. ⁹If an examinee receives the grade "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"] on a written examination, a second examiner shall also provide an assessment. ¹⁰The board of examiners may decide to appoint an additional examiner. ¹¹The graded written examination shall remain in the examination records.
- (6) ¹Oral examinations are to be held over a period of 30 to 45 minutes, depending on the requirements of the particular course. ²Oral examinations are conducted in English, and are administered by two examiners or one examiner and one co-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 (grade); the names of the two examiners or of the examiner and the co-examiner; the 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.

- (7) ¹Oral presentations are held during the courses on which they are based. ²The deadline, scope, and duration of the presentation are to be determined by the relevant examiner when assigning the topic. ³The presentation (oral presentation) must be given as part of the associated course. ⁴A record sheet is to be filled out for each graded presentation including the candidate's name, the names of the examiner and co-examiner, the place, time, duration, subject matter, grade, and any noteworthy incidents during the presentation. ⁶The record sheet is to be signed by the examiner. ⁷The examiner(s) shall determine the grades for performance in the graded presentation under the terms of § 16. ⁸Assessment of the presentation should be carried out within four weeks of the end of the course.
- (8) ¹A research report is an extended written elaboration on one's own laboratory work. ²They are written in the style of a scientific publication during or directly following the laboratory training course. ³The research report is assigned by an examiner via the chair of examiners at the beginning of each semester. ⁴The length of a research report should not exceed 30 pages. ⁵The period for working on it ends at the end of the semester of the laboratory training course. ⁶The chair of examiners may extend this deadline by up to two weeks at the request of the candidate and after having heard the supervisor in case of reasons beyond the candidate's control. ⁷If the candidate demonstrates via a medical certificate that he or she was unable to work on the research report due to illness, the deadline is to be extended accordingly.
- (9) ¹Assessment of research reports is generally carried out by two examiners appointed by the chair of examiners. ²Assessment by a second examiner may be omitted if none is available or if his or her participation would lead to unreasonable delays in the grading process. ³If an examinee receives the grade "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"] for the research report, a second examiner shall also provide an assessment. ⁴The relevant examiners are to determine the grades for the individual examinations under the terms of § 16. ⁵If 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. ⁶An assessment shall be provided no later than four weeks after the research report. ⁷In special cases, the board of examiners may call upon an additional examiner, especially if the grades assigned vary by more than one point. ⁸If the research report is not submitted in due time for reasons for which the student is responsible, the examination performance shall be graded as "unsatisfactory". ⁹Grades for the research report will be announced at the latest four weeks after they have been determined by sending an individual notification to the candidate.

§ 12

Master's thesis

- (1) The master's thesis of the candidate should demonstrate that he or she is able to utilize relevant resources and adequately address and write about current issues in the field using scientific methods.
- (2) ¹The chair of examiners is to determine an examiner to act as supervisor and first assessor and an additional examiner to serve as second assessor, if possible in consideration of the candidate's wishes. ²The topic of the master's thesis is generally to be assigned by an examiner (§ 5 para 1) from the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences who is active in the appropriate field. ³Record is to be made of the date on which the topic was assigned. ⁴It is recommended that the master's thesis be completed in the fourth semester. ⁵The prerequisite for receiving a topic of the master's thesis is the completion of modules with a minimum of 80 credit points and the successful completion of modules 5 and 7 to 9.
- (3) ¹The master's thesis is integrated into the programme of study and corresponds to a workload of 780 hours. ²The master's thesis is to be submitted no later than five 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 six 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 "unsatisfactory".
- (4) ¹The master's thesis is to be submitted in the English language. ²In addition to the actual body text, the thesis must also include an abstract, a table of contents, and a bibliography. ³The 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) ¹The thesis must contain a table of contents and bibliography. ²Up to two copies of the Master's thesis in typescript, bound and paginated, must also be submitted to the examiners at the request of the first examiner.
- (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 reviewers appointed. ²The reviews shall be made available no later four weeks after submission of the thesis. ³Each reviewer shall provide a recommendation as to whether the thesis is to be accepted or rejected and assign a grade in accordance with § 16. ⁴In special cases, the board of examiners may call upon an additional assessor, especially if the grades assigned vary by more than one point.
- (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).
- (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.
- (12) ¹An oral final examination on the topic of the master's thesis and the underlying contents of the master's programme is administered by two examiners as part of the examination for the master's thesis module (see Annex 1). by two examiners. ²The final oral examination is to be carried out within four weeks after submission of the master's thesis. ³The date is determined by the chair of examiners, if possible taking into account the candidate's wishes. ⁴If the final oral examination is assessed as "unsatisfactory", the master's thesis module is deemed to have been failed.
- (13) ¹With the consent of the candidate, students of the degree programme may be admitted as listeners. ²The evaluation is to be disclosed to the candidate following the examination. ³Discussion and announcement of the examination results (grade) shall not be conducted in public.
- (14) ¹The module grade in the master's thesis module is calculated from a weighted average of the grade for the master's thesis (weighting 2/3) and the grade for the final examination (weighting 1/3). ²In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded).

§ 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 protective provisions

- (1) ¹The utilization of protection periods of the Maternity Protection Act shall be guaranteed. ²Upon request, the claiming of parental leave in accordance with the Federal Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz), as well as periods for the care of a close relative within the meaning of § 7 para 3 of the Nursing Care Act who is in need of care within the meaning of § 14 and § 15 of the Eleventh Book of the Social Code (Sozialgesetzbuch), shall be guaranteed. 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 special needs of students with disabilities or chronic illness and in special life circumstances

- (1) ¹For the sake of ensuring equal opportunities, the particular needs of examinees with disabilities or chronic illnesses under the terms of the Bavarian Equal Opportunities for Disabled Persons Act are to be appropriately accommodated. ²Upon written request, the board of examiners shall determine on the basis of the degree of disability or chronic illness in what form the examination is to be taken; alternatively, an extension or other reasonable accommodations may be granted. 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.
- (2) ¹Students in special circumstances may apply to the board of examiners for reasonable accommodations in examinations in accordance with paragraph 1. ²The board of examiners shall decide on the existence of a special life situation and the extent of reasonable accommodations.

§ 16

Grading of examinations

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

"sehr gut" (excellent)	= 1,0 or 1,3
"gut" (considerably better than average)	= 1,7 or 2,0 or 2,3
"befriedigend" (average)	= 2,7 or 3,0 or 3,3
"ausreichend" (fulfils the minimum requirements despite deficiencies)	= 3,7 or 4,0
"nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory due to considerable deficiencies)	= 5,0

- (2) 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 as given in Annex 1. 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
an average of 4,1 up to and including 5,0	= nicht ausreichend.

§ 17

Final grade

- (1) ¹The overall grade for the examination is calculated as the arithmetic mean of points 1 and 2. ²In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded).

1. The average grade of modules 1 to 10 and 12. This grade is calculated as the arithmetic mean of all individual grades of the examination elements of modules 1 to 10 and 12, weighted with the credit points (see Annex 1). Only the graded partial examinations are included in the calculation of the overall examination grade. If more than the required number of examination elements as given in the present examination regulations are taken in one area, only the best examination elements are included in the calculation. In this calculation the result is truncated (not rounded) to one decimal digit.

2. The grade for the master's thesis module (module 11).
- (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) ¹The calculation of the final grade for the master's examination is carried out by the chair of examiners. ²The 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 eight 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" ["sufficient"] or better or "bestanden" ["passed"] for the master's thesis and each module; in addition, all 120 credit points must be earned and all requirements mentioned in § 2 para 2 must be fulfilled.
- (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. ²Module examinations that were taken on time and for which the candidate received a passing grade need not be repeated.
- (3) ¹If the missing module 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. 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 § 4 para 5 in conjunction with Article 41 BayVwVfG as amended. ⁴The board of examiners may grant the student an extension of the deadline for circumstances beyond his or her control if the student submits a request prior to the deadline described in sentence 1.

§ 19

Repeating individual examinations

- (1) ¹Any module examination that was failed on the first attempt can be repeated once. ²In case of modules with multiple examination elements, only those elements are to be repeated for which the grade "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"] was assigned.
- (2) ¹Repeating an examination for a second time is only permitted for up to three module examinations. ²Students who fail the second repetition of a module examination are to be considered as having failed the master's examination on the final attempt. ³The second resitting of an examination can be carried out in oral form, even if the previous examinations were in written form, as determined by the examiner.
- (3) 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.
- (4) ¹If the final oral examination for the master's thesis is not passed, it is possible to repeat the final oral examination. ² A second retake of the final oral examination is not permitted. ³If the master's thesis is repeated with a new topic in accordance with para 3 sentence 1, there is again the possibility of repeating the component final oral examination once.
- (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.
- (6) Voluntarily repeating examinations that were already passed or the master's thesis is not permitted.

§ 20

Notice of failing the 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 the examinations process, the candidate may upon request be granted access to his or her graded examination documents including the assessor's report as well as the record sheets for the examination.
- (2) ¹Such requests are to be made no later than one month 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 of the Bavarian Administrative Process Act (Bayerisches Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetz) 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 in general, prior to notice being given of the examination results.
- (3) Claims under the terms of paragraph 1 must be made within six months of the examination's conclusion.

§ 23

Absence, withdrawal, cheating & policy violation

- (1) ¹Candidates who have registered for an examination may withdraw without providing a rationale by submitting a written statement of withdrawal 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) ¹Research reports and the master's thesis present the results solely of the student's own work. ²Thoughts, records, and illustrations of third parties must be properly cited in research reports and the master's thesis; otherwise, it is a case of plagiarism. ³If a candidate plagiarizes, the relevant examination is to be graded as "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"]. ⁴The board of examiners is to decide in such cases whether repetition is permissible.

§ 24

Invalidating the master's examination

- (1) If a candidate cheats or plagiarizes 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 according to para 1.
- (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) ¹A 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. ²The diploma is to include the title of the programme of study. ³It is to be signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences and stamped with the seal of the University. ⁴Upon issuance of the diploma, the graduate is given the right to bear the title "Master of Science". ⁵This title is to be abbreviated "M.Sc." and placed behind the surname.
- (2) ¹The certificate is to include the title of the programme of study, the final grade for the master's examinations, all completed modules and the titles of the relevant courses, grades and credit points, 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 paragraph 4.
- (3) Revoking the degree "Master of Science" is to be carried out in accordance with the legal regulations (Article 101 BayHIG).

§ 26

Academic advising

- (1) General student advising is offered by the University of Bayreuth's Student Advising Office.
- (2) The programme advisor for the master's programme Experimental Geosciences 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 coordinator shall offer advising for all students enrolled in the master's programme. ²Programme-specific advising 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. those about to choose their core elective modules or the topic of their master's theses.

§ 27

Entry into effect and termination

- (1) ¹The present regulations go into effect on 11 May 2017. ²They shall be valid for those students enrolling in this programme for the first time in the winter semester of 2017/2018 or later. ³Those students who were enrolled in the master's programme Experimental Geosciences at the University of Bayreuth prior the effective date of the present regulations are to carry out their studies under the terms of the previous examination regulations for the master's programme Experimental Geosciences at the University of Bayreuth dated 01 August 2007 (AB UBT 2007/137), last amended on 22 September 2016 (AB UBT 2016/061).

- (2) The examination regulations for the master's programme Experimental Geosciences at the University of Bayreuth, published on 01 August 2007 (AB UBT 2007/137), last amended on 22 September 2016 (AB UBT 2016/061), shall expire subject to the provisions of paragraph 1 sentence 3.*)

*) The set of amendments dated 09 January 2023 contains the following provisions with regard to the effective date:

These examination regulations shall take effect on 2 January 2023.

Annex 1: Modules, Credit Points, and Examinations

¹Module examinations are as described in § 11 para 1, meaning written examinations (abbreviated "WE"), oral examinations (OE), presentations (P), and research reports (F). ²A diagonal slash in the "examination" column indicates a choice; the module is only assessed using one of the forms of examination given.

SWS = semester hours, CP = credit points

Teaching form: V = Vorlesung (lecture), Ü = Übung (tutorial); P = Praktikum (lab/internship).

Module group	Semester hours	Credit points	Examination
Module			
Module Group A: Experimental Methods			
Module 1: Diffraction Methods	3	5	WE
Module 2: Spectroscopic Methods	3	5	WE
Module 3: High Pressure Experimental Techniques	3	5	WE
Module 4: Geochemical Thermodynamics	3	5	WE
Module Group B: Research Techniques			
Module 5: Literature Research I	4	6	P
Module 6: Literature Research II	4	6	P
Module 7: Research Practice I	20	15	F
Module 8: Research Practice II	20	15	F
Module 9: Research Practice III	20	15	F
Module Group C: Core Elective Modules	8 - 10	11	WE/OE
Module Group D: Master's thesis			
Module 11: Master's thesis with oral examination	-	26	Thesis + OE
Module 12: Scientific Seminar	4	6	P

For Module Group C: Core Elective Modules (min. 11 CP):

Modules should be selected with a view to the intended specialization area. Core elective modules should be taken in the first three semesters of study.

The following modules are offered specifically for the master's programme The programme Experimental Geosciences is offered by lecturers from the Bavarian Research Institute of Experimental Geochemistry & Geophysics.

Module	Semester hours	Credit points	Examination
Geophysics and Geodynamics (V+Ü)	4 + 1	5	WE/OE
Basic Physics for Experimental Geosciences (V+Ü)	2 + 2	5	WE/OE
Crystal Chemistry of Geophysical Materials (V)	4	5	WE/OE
Geodynamical Modelling (V+Ü)	1 + 2	3	WE/OE
Finite Difference Methods (V+Ü)	1 + 2	3	WE/OE
Planetary Sciences (V)	4	5	WE/OE
Polarization Microscopy (V+Ü)	1 + 2	3	WE/OE
Electron Microscopy (V+Ü)	1 + 2	3	WE/OE

It is also possible to take modules from other degree programmes at the University of Bayreuth. For examinations in these modules, the regulations of the relevant degree programme apply.

Module	Semester hours	Credit points	Responsible degree programme
Experimental Physics C (V+Ü)	8 + 4	16	B.Sc. Physics
Introduction to Astronomy and Astrophysics I (V)	2	3	M.Sc. Physics
Computational Chemistry (V+P)	2 + 8	9	M.Sc. Materials Chemistry & Catalysis (MuK)
Solid Inorganic Materials (V+P)	2 + 8	9	M.Sc. MuK
Programming concepts (V+Ü)	4 + 4	8	B.Sc. Computer Science
Computer Architecture and Computer Networks (V+Ü)	4 + 4	8	B.Sc. Computer Science
Operating Systems (V+Ü)	2 + 1	5	B.Sc. Computer Science
Crystallography in Solid State Physics (V+Ü)	4	6	M.Sc. Physics
Hydrosphere (V+Ü)	4 + 1	6	B.Sc. Geo-Ecology
Aquatic Geochemistry (V+Ü)	2 + 2	5	M.Sc. Environmental Chemistry

With the agreement of the chair of examiners, other modules or courses may be taken depending on the area of specialization.

Annex 2: Aptitude assessment process

1. Purpose of aptitude assessment process

¹The applicant's aptitude for studying in the master's programme Experimental Geosciences (M.Sc.) at the University of Bayreuth is determined on the basis of the process under the terms of Article 90 para 1 sentence 2 BayHIG in accordance with § 2 para 1 number 3 of the present regulations. ²Aptitude parameters are as follows:

1. A sound command of specialist knowledge from the first degree in a natural science subject or related disciplines that is relevant to the understanding and analysis of issues in the field of experimental geosciences.
2. A keen interest in issues of geochemistry, geophysics, petrology, or mineralogy, as well as the ability to reflect and abstract in order to understand a research-related programme of study.
3. the ability to delve deeply into the subject area, passively and actively, in the English language.

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 § 4.

3. Process for determining aptitude

3.1 ¹The aptitude assessment process is administered twice a year. ²Applications for admission to the aptitude assessment process must be submitted to the Bavarian Research Institute of Experimental Geochemistry & Geophysics at the University of Bayreuth by 15 June for the start of the winter semester and by 15 December for the start of the summer semester (deadlines) using the forms published by the University of Bayreuth. ³If the final documentation given in number 3.2.2 is not yet available, provisional certificates can be submitted with the application for admission to the aptitude assessment process.

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

3.2.1 ¹A written justification of a maximum of two A4 pages in English for the choice of the master's degree programme in Experimental Geosciences, in which the applicant explains which specific talents and interests he or she considers particularly suitable for the desired degree programme.

- 3.2.2 ¹The bachelor's certificate with an examination grade of "gut" (2,5) or better in addition to a confirmation with individual grades for the coursework and examinations completed during the applicant's studies ²If the bachelor's certificate is not yet available, confirmation containing the individual grades for all examinations and courses up registration deadline must be submitted. ³Such coursework must amount to at least 150 ECTS points and correspond to a final grade of "gut" (2,5) or better. ⁴The bachelor's certificate is to be submitted by the end of the first semester of study.
- 3.2.3 a list of modules from the applicant's bachelor's studies for which evidence of completion cannot yet be submitted
- 3.2.4 a Curriculum Vitae in the English language (up to two pages) as supplementary information.
- 3.2.5 evidence of a strong command of English as described in § 2 para 1 number 4 of the present regulations
- 3.2.6 If available, evidence of special qualifications relevant to the degree programme, e.g. vocational training, awards such as scholarships or prizes, internships or stays abroad.
- 3.2.7 if applicable, a request for compensation for disadvantages as described in § 15 of the present regulations.

4. Admission to the aptitude assessment process

- 4.1 Admission to the process requires that the documents described in number 3.2 - or provisional certificates as described in number 3.1 sentence 3 - be submitted in the proper form and by the stated deadline.
- 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 6.1 applies mutatis mutandis.

5. Overview of the aptitude assessment process

- 5.1 ¹On 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 Experimental Geosciences in view of his or her qualification and the specific talents and abilities he or she described. ²The evaluation is given as a grade with one digit after the decimal point. ³The overall grade of the assessment is the arithmetic average of the individual grades in 5.1.1

and 5.1.2. ⁴In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded). ⁵Points are awarded according to the following criteria:

5.1.1 Written rationale (as described in 3.2.1) and special qualification (as described in number 3.2.7 item a)

¹The written justification with the special qualification is evaluated from a weighted average according to points 1 to 3. ²The points are to be awarded by two committee members of the board, independently of one another. ³The final grade of the written rationale is the average of the two individual grades.

1. Linguistic fluency (weighting 20%): The applicant is able to express himself/herself precisely and comprehensibly in the English language.
2. Interest (weighting 70 %): The connection between personal interests, educational background and the research-related character and content of the degree programme can be presented in a structured way.
3. Special qualifications (weighting 10 %): The applicant has qualifications relevant to the programme of study according to number 3.2.7.

5.1.2 Academic achievement (according to No. 3.2.2)

¹The coursework and examinations from the bachelor's programme or an equivalent programme of study are applied as long as the grading systems are comparable. ²Otherwise, grades are converted in accordance with § 8.

5.1.3 Candidates who obtain an average grade of 1.5 or better for numbers 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 will receive a certificate confirming their successful completion of the aptitude assessment process, to be signed by the chair of examiners.

5.1.4 ¹Candidates who receive a grade of 2.2 or lower for numbers 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 will not be admitted to the next stage of the procedure. ²They shall be sent a notice of denial with a rationale and information concerning legal remedies available; Nr. 6.1 applies *mutatis mutandis*.

5.2 ¹The remaining candidates with average grades of between 1.6 and 2.1 for numbers 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 will be admitted to the next stage of the procedure. ²The further assessment process includes a written aptitude test and a personal interview. ³The examinations are held in the English language. ⁴The dates for the written aptitude test and the interview will be announced at least one week in advance. ⁵The applicant is to comply with the scheduled dates and times. ⁶Anyone who fails to appear on the date and time announced will be denied admission. ⁷If a reason beyond the applicant's control prevents him or her from attending the written aptitude test or the interview, a new appointment is to be scheduled no later than two weeks prior to the start of lectures upon justified request.

- 5.2.1 ¹Proof of subject-specific knowledge must be provided in the written aptitude test. ²Basic knowledge of geosciences, physics, and chemistry is tested, as well as the ability to critically analyse texts in the field are examined. ³The written aptitude test will be graded according to the grading system of § 16.
- 5.2.2 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. ³The interview should corroborate the impression that he or she is suited for the programme of study. ⁴The interview is to be conducted by two members of the committee. ⁵The aptitude interview is assessed with a weighted average of the individual grades of the grading system of § 16 according to the following two criteria:
1. Linguistic fluency (weighting 20%): The applicant is able to express himself/herself orally in a precise and comprehensible manner in the English language.
 2. Subject-specific aptitude (weighting 80 %): The applicant is able to analyse and address fundamental issues in the Earth Sciences sciences in an appropriate manner.
- ⁶The grades are to be assigned by two members of the board of examiners, independently of one another. ⁷The final grade for the interview is the average of the two individual grades.
- 5.2.3 ¹A written record shall be made of the interview, indicating the date, time, duration, location, name of committee members involved, 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. ³The reasons and topics may be listed in note form. ⁴The record sheet is to be signed by the committee members who were involved.
- 5.2.4 ¹The final grade for the aptitude assessment process is the average of the 1x weighted grade of the written aptitude test (number 5.2.1) and the interview (number 5.2.2) as well as the 2x weighted coursework and examinations from the bachelor's programme (number 5.1.2). ²Candidates who achieve a final grade of 2.0 or better will be considered suitable.
- 5.2.5 ¹Applicants who have achieved a final grade of 2.1 or worse are not suitable for the master's programme in Experimental Geosciences. ²They shall be sent a notice of denial with a rationale and information on how to appeal; Nr. 6.1 applies mutatis mutandis.

6. Notification of the outcome

- 6.1 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 examiners. 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 30 para 3 sentence 1 BayHIG, the chair of the selection committee, on behalf of the University Governing Board, shall check a random sample of 10 % of denials of admission.
- 6.2 Admission based on the aptitude assessment process for the master's programme Experimental Geosciences 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 process

- 7.1 Applicants who did not provide evidence of aptitude for the master's programme Experimental Geosciences 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 recognized as 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 at described in number 5.1.3 final grade of at least 2.0 as described in 5.2.2 for the aptitude assessment process and an overall examination grade of "gut" (grade: 2,5) or better as described in § 2 para 1 number 1.