Examination and Study Regulations
for the Master's Programme
Development Studies
at the University of Bayreuth
dated 10 August 2016, 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 regulations issued by the University of Bayreuth.
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§ 1

Purpose of the master's examination

1The bilingual (German/English) Master's program in Development Studies deals with the causes, framework conditions and effects of social, political and economic development, transition and globalization processes in selected regions (Latin America, Asia or Africa), predominantly developing and transition countries (the so-called "Global South"). 2By combining the subjects of development sociology/-politics, geography and economics, students are taught comprehensive methodological, scientific and practical professional skills in the field of development research. 3Students are taught the ability to analyze social, political and economic development problems and processes of change and to discuss them with recourse to social science and economic theories. 4The master's examination, as the culmination of the master's programme Development Studies, is designed to assess whether the candidate possesses the requisite understanding of subject-related and interdisciplinary connections to pursue further academic research. 5On the basis of passing the Master's examination, the University awards students of the Master of Development Studies with a major in Development Sociology/Politics and a major in International Business the academic degree of Master of Arts by the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences and students of the Master of Development Studies with a major in Geography the academic degree of Master of Arts by the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences.

§ 2

Admission to the programme; qualification

(1) 1Admission prerequisites for the master's programme are as follows.

1. a completed course of study with at least an examination grade of "2.5" in the Bachelor's program Applied African Studies, Culture and Society of Africa or International Business and Development or Geographical Development Studies of Africa or Philosophy & Economics or the B.Sc. Geography or Culture and Society with the subject Sociology at the University of Bayreuth or an equivalent degree and

2. Evidence of English language skills at level C1 (or higher) of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

3. proof of German language skills at level A1 or better of the Common European Framework of Reference for applicants who neither earned their higher education entrance qualification nor their initial degree in the German language; Applicants who are unable to provide proof of German skills will be enrolled on the condition that they submit the proof by the end of the second semester of study at the latest and

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In case of doubt, the German originals are to be used in a court of law.
4. Proof of a relevant work-related internship with a minimum duration of four weeks or professional experience in the field of qualified practice, in particular of organizations and institutions of development cooperation and internationally active business enterprises and -associations.

In addition, subject-specific knowledge of the countries of the Global South and/or professionally relevant experience in the countries of the Global South is recommended. New students should already have a basic knowledge of either social, economic, or geosciences development studies and be able to discuss and evaluate the various approaches. Strongly recommended is also knowledge of another scientific language relevant to a developing region (e.g., Spanish, French, Portuguese).

(2) The qualifications may not differ substantially in terms of the qualification from the qualifications referred to in para 1 number 1. If there are substantial compensable differences, applicants may be admitted subject to the proviso that, in addition to the assessment components to be completed in the master's programme, they also successfully complete additional coursework and examinations in the amount of up to 30 credit points in the relevant bachelor's program within one year; otherwise, the prerequisites for admission to the programme are deemed not to have been fulfilled. In such cases, the examination and study regulations for the relevant bachelor's programme (as amended) shall apply. Art. 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) If 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. Such coursework must amount to at least 150 ECTS points and correspond to a final grade of 2,5 or better. Applicants 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 "2.5" ["good"] or better by the end of their second semester of study.

§ 3

Structure of full-time and part-time study and the master's examination; standard period of study

(1) The master's programme Development Studies is divided into modules, with credit point requirements as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Foundations (compulsory)</th>
<th>Credit Points (CP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B - D Core Electives (individual focus):</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Sociology/Politics (B) or Geography (C) or International Economics (D)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Project-Focused Unit (compulsory)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s thesis</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

²One of the three concentrations “Sociology of Development/Politics” (B), “Geography” (C), or “International Economics” (D) must be chosen. ³A change of focus is possible once up to six weeks after the beginning of the second semester by application to the chair of examiners. ⁴Failed examination attempts that are no longer relevant due to the change of concentration need not be repeated. ⁵It is possible to take additional examinations in the other concentrations. ⁶There is no obligation to repeat failed examinations taken for the purpose of earning additional credits. ⁷Passing grades from other concentrations will be shown on the transcript unless the student requests otherwise; the grades earned will not be included in the calculation of the final grade.

(2) ¹The master’s programme Development Studies can be completed as a full-time or part-time student. ²Upon enrolment, the applicant must decide whether he or she wants to complete the programme of study as a full-time or part-time student. ³Changing from full-time to part-time study or from part-time to full-time study is possible within the enrolment period of each new semester. ⁴The programme comprises four semesters of full-time study including the master’s thesis (standard period of study). ⁵The programme comprises eight semesters of part-time study including the master’s thesis. ⁶Unless special provisions are made in the present regulations, the deadlines specified for full-time study also apply to part-time study. ⁷Details concerning the course of instruction are based on the curriculum guide.

(3) A total of 120 credit points must be earned in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

(4) ¹New students can begin the programme in the winter semester. ²Departing from sentence 1, a start of studies is possible for the summer semester 2021.
§ 4

Board of examiners

(1) 1 A board of examiners shall be formed to make the necessary decisions with regard to the admission to the master's programme and the organizational execution of the master's examination. 2 The board of examiners shall administer the examination proceedings in accordance with the present regulations and make all decisions with the exception of the examinations and the assessment thereof. 3 The board is made up of a chair and two additional members; the chair and the additional members shall each have one substitute. 4 The members of the board of examiners and their substitutes shall be elected by the faculty council of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences from the professors (Article 57 paragraph 1 of the BayHIG) from the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences (Chair of Development Sociology / Junior Professor of Developmental Politics and Politics in Africa), the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences (Department of Earth Sciences), or the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics (Business Administration/VWL IV; EO) to serve a two-year term. 5 The board of examiners shall elect a chair and deputy chair from among its members.

(2) 1 The board of examiners constitutes a quorum if the majority of members are present and entitled to vote after an invitation had been sent to all members at least three days prior to the meeting. 2 The decisions taken by the board of examiners in its meetings are to be made on the basis of majority vote. 3 Vote abstention, secret voting, and proxy voting are prohibited. 4 If votes are equally divided among its members, the chair’s vote shall be decisive.

(3) 1 The chair of examiners shall ensure that the provisions of these regulations are followed. 2 He or she shall convene the meetings of the board of examiners and shall act as chair of its proceedings and decisions. 3 With regard to matters that cannot be postponed, he or she is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the board of examiners. 4 He or she must promptly inform the other members of any such decision - at the next meeting at latest. 5 In addition, unless otherwise provided by the present regulations, the board of examiners can transfer (until revoked) the right to perform other duties of the board to the chair. 6 The chair can delegate tasks to members of the board of examiners.

(4) The board of examiners shall regularly report to the faculty council of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences concerning updates to examination schedules and study periods and may make suggestions for reforming the present regulations.

(5) 1 Any notices the board of examiners issues under the terms of the present regulations are to be published together with a rationale and information concerning how to appeal. 2 Notices 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. ²Instructors from foreign universities may serve as examiners, as long as they fulfil the qualification requirements in sentence 1. ³Any 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 two 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 Development Studies 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:

\[ x = 1 + 3 \frac{(N_{\text{max}} - N_d)}{(N_{\text{max}} - N_{\text{min}})} \]

where \( x \) is the grade to be calculated, \( N_{\text{max}} \) is the highest possible grade, \( N_{\text{min}} \) 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) recognition of credit requests are to be submitted to the board of examiners as soon as possible following enrolment and in any event prior to the commencement of the examination proceedings in the relevant module.

(4) Paragraphs 2 and 3 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the crediting of competencies, subject to the maximum limit pursuant to Art. 86 para 2 Sentence 2 BayHIG.

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

(1) The module examinations are to be carried out shortly after the conclusion of the module, and the examination schedule and time line for submitting graded assignments is to be published university-wide by the examiner prior to the start of the course.

(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 published university-wide, generally 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 of the individual modules.

§ 11
Forms of examination

(1) ¹Examinations are taken in the form of presentations, written examinations, oral examinations, assignments, reports, and essays. ²The possible forms of examination in the modules are given the annex.

(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 paragraph 8, sentence 1 does not apply.

(4) ¹Written examinations are to be held over a period of at least one hour and at most two hours. 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) Written examinations are generally graded by the relevant examiner. The relevant examiners are to determine the grades for the individual examinations under the terms of § 16. The assessment is to be available at latest by the beginning of the following semester. If an examinee receives the grade “nicht ausreichend” [“unsatisfactory”] for a written examination, a second examiner shall also provide an assessment. The graded written examination shall remain in the examination records.

(7) Written examinations may be conducted fully or in part using multiple choice testing. If written examinations are conducted only in part using multiple choice testing, the terms of paragraphs 4 and 6 sentences 1, 2, and 4 apply for the portion that is not multiple choice. The questions in the multiple choice section are to be written by the first and second examiners. Prior to the examination time, the examiner shall decide which answers are correct and how many points are to be awarded for each correct answer, i.e. how to weight correct answers in relation to the total points. If the written examination is conducted only in part by using multiple choice testing, weighting for the individual parts must also be stipulated. Grading of examinations may be carried out with the help of an optical mark sense reader.

(8) A multiple choice examination is considered passed, if the examinee achieves a certain absolute number of correct answers (at least 50% of the total points) or on a relative basis. The relative cut-off grade is to be determined by taking the average of the points achieved by those examinees taking the examination for the first time, less 10%. The relative cut-off grade is only to be taken into account if it is below the absolute cut-off grade. Cut-off grades that are not whole number values shall be rounded in favour of the student. An examination is considered passed if a grade of “ausreichend” [sufficient] (4,0) or better is achieved. In an answer-choice examination in which the minimum passing score (relative passing score, if lower, or absolute passing score) has been earned, the grade is
- 1.0 (very good), if at least 90 percent
- 1.3 (very good), if at least 80 percent but less than 90 percent
- 1.7 (good), if at least 70 but less than 80 percent
- 2.0 (good), if at least 60 but less than 70 percent
- 2.3 (good), if at least 50, but less than 60 percent
- 2.7 (satisfactory), if at least 40 but less than 50 percent
- 3.0 (satisfactory), if at least 30 but less than 40 percent
- 3.3 (satisfactory), if at least 20 but less than 30 percent
- 3.7 (sufficient), if at least 10 but less than 20 percent
- 4.0 (sufficient), if the passing grade has been achieved but less than 10 percent of the possible points above the passing grade have been earned. Cut-off grades that are not whole number values shall be rounded in favour of the student.

If the lowest passing grade (cut-off grade) is not reached, a grade of 5.0 (“nicht ausreichend”/insufficient”) is assigned. If an examination is conducted using multiple choice testing, the following details are to be included when determining the results:
- cut-off grades,
- points 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 be held over a period 20 to 30 minutes, depending on the requirements of the particular course. 2Oral examinations are to be conducted in German or English, and are to be 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: the location, start time, and duration of the examination; examination subject-matter and results (grade); names of the two examiners or of the examiner and co-examiner; and any noteworthy incidents. 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. 6Discussion and announcement of the examination results (grade) shall not be conducted in public.

(10) 1Presentations are to be held part of the courses on which they are based. 2The topic, scope, and duration of the presentation is to be chosen together with the instructor responsible for the course. 3Presentations can last between 20 and 90 minutes, depending on the workload. 4The examiner shall determine the grade under the terms of § 16.

(11) 1Assignments and Essays are to be completed during or following the relevant course. 2The aim of a term paper is to address a relevant question using the techniques of scientific work. 3In the essay, on the other hand, the emphasis is on the subjective point of view and a coherent argument, so that critical evaluation and the weighing of positions in a larger overall context are more essential than the complete presentation of a topic. 4The topic is to be assigned by the relevant examiner in consideration of the candidate’s wish. 5The processing time for assignments and essays is three weeks. 6A term paper is a special form of assignment. 7It clearly exceeds the requirements in terms of scope and demand of a normal assignment. 8The processing time for a term paper is six weeks accordingly. 9The topics for assignments or essays are to be such that they can be completed within this time limit. 10The chair of examiners may extend this deadline by up to one weeks at the request of the candidate and after having heard the supervisor in case of reasons beyond the candidate’s control. 11If 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. 12Theses that are not submitted by the stated deadline are graded as “nicht ausreichend” [“unsatisfactory”]. 13The examiner shall determine the grade under the terms of § 16. 14If an assignment is graded as “nicht ausreichend” [“unsatisfactory”], a second examiner shall provide an assessment. 15One graded copy of the term paper shall remain in the records.
(12) Reports are completed during or following the interactive modules (project-focused unit or conference participation). The report documents the contents of the module. A report thus summarizes essential information, structures and processes and establishes references to the study. Depending on the workload of the module, the report can be between 2 and 10 pages in length.

§ 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. The topic may include interdisciplinary issues.

(2) The chair of examiners is to determine an examiner to act as supervisor and assessor if possible in consideration of the candidate's wishes. The topic of the master's thesis is to be assigned by an examiner (§ 5 paragraph 1) from the Faculty Humanities & Social Sciences (Sociology and Politics), the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences (Earth Sciences), or the Faculty of Law, Business & Economics (Economics IV; E) who is active in the appropriate field, via the chair of examiners. Record is to be made of the date on which the topic was assigned. It is recommended that the master's thesis be completed in the fourth semester (full-time study) or the sixth semester (part-time study).

(3) The master's thesis is integrated into the programme of study and corresponds to a workload of 600 hours. The master's thesis is to be submitted no later than five months after the topic was assigned in the case of full-time study or ten months in the case of part-time study. The chair of examiners may extend this deadline by up to twelve weeks in the case of full-time study or 24 weeks in the case of part-time study at the request of the candidate and after having heard the supervisor if there are reasons beyond the candidate's control. If the candidate demonstrates via a medical certificate that he or she was unable to work on the thesis, the deadline is to be extended accordingly. Theses that are not submitted by the stated deadline are graded as "nicht ausreichend" ("unsatisfactory").

(4) The master's thesis may be written in German or English. The master's thesis shall contain a statement at the end in which the author confirms that he or she wrote the thesis independently and did not make use of any sources or materials that are not cited in the thesis. It shall also be confirmed that the thesis had never before been submitted toward fulfilment of an academic degree.

(5) The master's thesis must be submitted in electronic form (printable PDF document) by the deadline. Submission is carried out by uploading the document via the form server. The Examinations Office will make a note of the date on which the thesis was submitted.

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(6) The thesis must contain a table of contents and bibliography. The master's thesis should not exceed 120,000 characters (not including annexes, bibliography, and the statement described in para 4 sentence 2).

(7) The candidate may return the topic to the board of examiners once within the first two weeks. Paragraphs 1 to 6 also apply when assigning and working on a new topic.

(8) The chair of examiners shall forward the thesis to the appointed assessor (supervisor) and shall appoint an additional assessor from among the examiners described in § 5. The grades shall be made available no later than two months after submission of the thesis. Each assessor shall provide a recommendation as to whether the thesis is to be accepted or rejected and assign a grade in accordance with § 16. In special cases, the board of examiners may call upon an additional assessor, especially if the grades assigned vary by more than one point.

(9) If different grades are assigned, the grade for the master's thesis shall be the arithmetic mean of the assessments. In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded).

(10) If the master's thesis is deemed "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"], the chair of examiners or his or her deputy shall inform the candidate of the decision.

(11) One copy of the master's thesis is to remain on record.

§ 13
Credit point system

(1) A record of credit points for completed modules is to be kept by the University of Bayreuth's Examinations Office for each student who is enrolled in the programme of study. The credit points that appear on the transcript are identical with credit points as stipulated in the European Credit Transfer System (see Annex 1). One 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) The utilization of protection periods of the Maternity Protection Act shall be guaranteed. Upon request, the claiming of parental leave in accordance with the Federal Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz), as well as periods for the care of a close relative within the meaning of § 7 para 3 of the Nursing Care Act who is in need of care within the meaning of § 14 and § 15 of the Eleventh Book of the Social Code (Sozialgesetzbuch),
shall be guaranteed. The 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) 1In order to maintain their equal opportunities, the special needs of students with disabilities or chronic illnesses within the meaning of the Bavarian Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities Act shall be taken into account in an appropriate manner. 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 compensation for disadvantages 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 the compensation for disadvantages.

§ 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 of the Master's examination is calculated from the average of the five best module grades from A (A1-8) at 35%, the average of the module grades from the chosen area (area B: B1, B2, B3 or Area C: C1, C2, C4 or Area D: D1, D2, and D3 or D4) at 30% and the grade of the master's thesis at 35%. 2In the average of sections A to D and in calculating the final grade, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded).

(2) Candidates who pass the master's examination are to receive a final grade as follows: an average grade of 1,2 or better is "ausgezeichnet", up to 1,5 is "sehr gut", up to 2,5 is "gut", up to 3,5 is "befriedigend", up to 4,0 "ausreichend".

(3) Calculation of the final grade is to be carried out by the chair of examiners; the certificate or an attached document shall indicate how the final grade was calculated.

(4) 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. If the programme of study does not yet have as many graduates as the minimum number required of the reference group, an ECTS grading table will be issued as soon as the minimum number is reached. If 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. The graduate's own graduating class is also to be included in the reference group. The size of the reference group and the time frame is to be included.

§ 18
Passing the master's examination

(1) Passing the master's examination requires a grade of "ausreichend" ("sufficient") or better for the master's thesis and each module; in addition, all 120 credit points must be earned and all requirements mentioned in § 2 para 2 must be fulfilled.

(2) If the candidate has not fulfilled the requirements given in paragraph 1 by the end of his or her sixth semester in full-time study or twelfth semester in part-time study due to reasons under his or her control, then the candidate shall be considered as having failed the master's examination on the first attempt. Examinations that were taken on time and for which the candidate received a passing grade need not be repeated.

(3) If the missing examinations are not passed by the student within a year of the deadline given in para 2 sentence 1 for reasons under his or her control, or if all possibilities to repeat the examinations have been exhausted, then the candidate shall be considered as having failed the master's examination on the final attempt. The deadline shall not take into account periods of leave and periods during which the candidate withdrew from study. Notice shall be sent to inform the candidate that he or she has failed the examination on the final attempt in accordance with § 4 para 5 in conjunction with Article 41 BayVwVfG as amended. The board of examiners may grant the student an extension of the deadline stated in sentence 1 for circumstances beyond his or her control.

§ 19
Repeating examinations

(1) Any examination that was failed on the first attempt can be repeated once.

(2) In order to improve grades in module areas B, C and D, the grade of an already passed module examination can be replaced by the grade of an equivalent performance from an additionally attended course upon application to the chair of examiners. The substituted component is then
treated as an additional service without assignment to the modules. In addition, a voluntary repetition of a passed examination is not possible. Repeating the master’s thesis voluntarily is not permitted.

(3) Repeating an examination for a second time is only permitted for up to three examinations. Students who fail the second repetition of an examination are to be considered as having failed the master’s examination on the final attempt. The 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.

(4) The master's thesis can be repeated with a new topic if the student receives a failing grade for the thesis. Repeating the master’s thesis for a second time is not permitted.

(5) Administrative measures shall be taken to ensure that it is possible to repeat the failed examinations or a failed master’s thesis within six months.

§ 20
Notice of failing the master’s examination

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) Such requests are to be made no later than one month after the degree certificate is awarded. If 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 para 1 must be made within six months of the examination's conclusion.

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

(1) Candidates who have registered for an examination may withdraw without providing a rationale by withdrawing by the deadline announced by the board of examiners. If the candidate fails to appear for an examination for which he or she was registered for reasons under his or her control or withdraws subsequent to the deadline stated in sentence 1, he or she will be considered to have failed the examination.

(2) The grounds for failing to appear - or as long as paragraph 1 sentence 1 does not apply, for withdrawal - must be submitted to the board of examiners without delay and substantiated by prima facie evidence. The same applies to inability to take the examination due to circumstances arising during the examination. Inability to take the examination due to illness must be documented with a medical certificate.

(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) If the candidate attempts to influence the result on an examination by cheating or making use of materials that are not permitted, he or she shall be given the grade "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"]. Any candidate who causes considerable disruption to the course of an examination may be removed by shall be given invigilator and barred from continuing the examination. In this case, he or she shall be given the grade "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"].
§ 24
Invalidating the master's examination

(1) If a candidate cheats during an examination and this fact does not come to light until after the degree certificate is issued, the board of examiners may retroactively change the relevant grades accordingly and declare the master's examination to be failed either in part or entirely.

(2) 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) 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 and the selected focus. 3They are to be signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences for master's students of Development Studies with a focus on Development Sociology/Politics or International Economy and by the Dean of the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry & Earth Sciences for master's students of Development Studies with a focus on Geography, and they are to include 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 focus selected, 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.
§ 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 Development Studies 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) In the course of the semester, the programme advisor shall offer advising for all students enrolled in the master's programme. 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 in full-time study or 15 credit points per semester in part-time study,
   4. students transferring from a different subject, degree programme, or university,
   5. those changing from full-time study to part-time study or from part-time study to full-time study,
   6. those choosing their focus or the courses in their core elective module.

§ 27

Effective date

These regulations go into effect on 10 August 2016. They shall be valid for all students enrolling in this programme for the first time in the winter semester of 2016/2017 or later.

*) The set of amendments dated 9 January 2023 contains the following provisions with regard to the effective date:

These examination regulations shall take effect on 2 January 2023.

The University of Bayreuth is not liable for inaccuracies or mistakes in this English translation.
In case of doubt, the German originals are to be used in a court of law.
Annex: Modules, Credit Points, and Examinations

The following provides an overview of the modules and corresponding examinations. The programme is made up of the following compulsory and core elective areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Department Responsible for the Module</th>
<th>Form of Examination</th>
<th>ECTS points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Foundations (mandatory)</td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Development Studies between Concepts and Practice: An Interdisciplinary Perspective</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; written exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Regional Geography: Africa / Asia / Latin America</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3</td>
<td>Geographies of Environment and Development</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4</td>
<td>Development Theories</td>
<td>Development Sociology / Politics</td>
<td>Oral exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5</td>
<td>Social and Political Processes in Africa and Beyond I</td>
<td>Development Sociology / Politics</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; assignment (term paper)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A6</td>
<td>Economics, Governance and Development</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; written exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A7</td>
<td>Macroeconomics</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Written exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A8</td>
<td>Development Anthropology</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Presentation and essay</td>
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</table>

Elective Courses (individual focus):
Advanced Development Sociology/Politics (B) or Advanced Geography (C) or Advanced International Economy (D)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Department Responsible for the Module</th>
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<th>ECTS points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Advanced Development Sociology/Politics (B)</td>
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<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Actors in Development Politics</td>
<td>Development Sociology / Politics</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Development Policies: Selected Issues</td>
<td>Development Sociology / Politics</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3</td>
<td>Social and Political Processes in Africa and Beyond II</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; oral exam</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>Deepening or Catching up: Technical or methodological in-depth knowledge within development sociology or policy</td>
<td>according to deepening or catching-up course requirements</td>
<td>5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Department Responsible for the Module</th>
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<th>ECTS points</th>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Advanced Geography (C)</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Socio-economic Development Processes</td>
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<td>Presentation &amp; assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>Development Cooperation/Development Planning</td>
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<td>Presentation &amp; report</td>
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<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>Attendance of a Conference of Experts</td>
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<td>Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>Political Ecology of Global Environmental Change</td>
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<td>Presentation &amp; assignment</td>
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<th>ECTS points</th>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Advanced International Economy (D)¹</td>
<td>Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>D1</td>
<td>Economic Progress and Institutional Change</td>
<td>Written exam</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>D2</td>
<td>Corporate Governance: Theoretical Aspects of Corporate Governance</td>
<td>Written or oral exam</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>D3</td>
<td>Topics in Economics and Governance</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; written exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>D4</td>
<td>Development Economics</td>
<td>Presentation &amp; assignment</td>
<td>2/6</td>
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<th>Department Responsible for the Module</th>
<th>Form of Examination</th>
<th>ECTS points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Project-focussed units (mandatory)</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1</td>
<td>Project preparation</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary</td>
<td>Presentation or essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E2</td>
<td>Research project or internship</td>
<td></td>
<td>Report</td>
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<th>Department Responsible for the Module</th>
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<th>ECTS points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Master’s Thesis</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1</td>
<td>Master’s Colloquium</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2</td>
<td>Master’s Thesis</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

¹ Students take an exam in three modules, including modules D1 and D2 and either D3 or D4 (3x 6 ECTS).
² In the remaining module (D3 or D4) active participation (1x 2 ECTS) is sufficient to achieve a total of 20 ECTS.