# Examination and Study Regulations

# for the Master's Programme

# Philosophy & Computer Science

# at the University of Bayreuth

# dated 1 March 2024

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

**Contents**

## § 1
## Purpose of the master's examination

[1]The master's examination at the end of the academic degree program in Philosophy & Computer Science determines whether the student has acquired relevant subject-specific knowledge in the fields of philosophy and computer science, as well as the ability to integrate this knowledge and apply it to current social issues. [2]The master's programme Philosophy & Computer Science, including all examinations, is held in English, although modules may be taken in German. [3]At the same time it determines whether the student possesses the requisite understanding of subject-related and interdisciplinary connections to pursue further independent academic research. [4]Upon passing the master's examination, the University, by way of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences, awards the academic degree "Master of Arts" (abbreviated as M.A.) or "Master of Science" (abbreviated as: M.Sc.).

## § 2
## Admission to the programme; qualification

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

1.     a university degree in a bachelor's programme with at least 180 credit points; this must include the following academic achievements or equivalent achievements:

a)    for the "Philosopher's Track" a total of at least 60 credit points in the field of philosophy - including one course in theoretical philosophy, one course in practical philosophy and one philosophical methods course (e.g. logic, argumentation theory) - or

b)    for the "Computer Scientist's Track" a total of at least 60 credit points in the field of computer science - including one course in theoretical computer science, one programming course and one application course (e.g. human-machine interaction) - or

c)    for the "Mixed Track", a total of at least 60 credit points in the fields of philosophy and computer science - including a total of three courses on different topics from the fields of theoretical philosophy, practical philosophy, and philosophical methodology (e.g. logic, argumentation theory), theoretical computer science, programming, and application of computer science (e.g. human-machine interaction) - or

d)    for the "Development Track" a total of at least 60 credit points in the fields of philosophy and computer science - including one course in theoretical philosophy, one course in practical philosophy and one philosophical methods course (e.g.

logic, argumentation theory), one course in theoretical computer science, one programming course, and one application course (e.g. human-machine interaction) -

and

2.    proof of English skills at level B2 or better of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages for applicants who neither earned their higher education entrance qualification nor their initial degree in the English language.

and

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 an initial degree in the German language; 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.

and

4.    the subject-specific aptitude assessment process for the degree programme in accordance with Annex 2.

(2)    [1]In the review of degree equivalence, the qualifications may not differ substantially in terms of the earned competences from the qualifications referred to in para 1 number 1. [2]Art. 86 BayHSchG applies to determining the eligibility of domestic and foreign degrees. [3]Decisions regarding degree equivalence are to be made by the board of examiners established under the terms of § 5.

(3)    [1]If the relevant initial degree certificate is not yet available, confirmation containing the individual grades for all examinations and courses up to the registration deadline must be submitted. [2]Such credit for examinations and coursework must amount to a total of at least 150 ECTS points. [3]Applicants who fulfil the requirements of sentence 2 are to be enrolled on the condition that they submit the relevant initial degree certificate by the end of the second semester of study.

(4)    Students who are enrolled in the master's programme Philosophy & Computer Science are considered *ipso facto* to be admitted to the examinations.

### § 3
### Structure of full-time and part-time study; standard period of study

(1)     [1]The master's programme Philosophy & Computer Science can be completed as a full-time or part-time student. [2]Upon enrolment, the applicant must decide whether he or she wants to complete the programme of study as a full-time or part-time student. [3]Changing from full-time to part-time study or from part-time to full-time study is possible within the enrolment period of each new semester. [4]The programme comprises four semesters of full-time study including the master's thesis (standard period of study). [5]The programme comprises eight semesters of part-time study including the master's thesis (standard period of study). [6]Unless special provisions are made in the present regulations, the deadlines specified for full-time study also apply to part-time study.

(2)     Optional internships are integrated into the degree programme and should be completed within the 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 can begin the programme in the winter semester.

### § 4
### Components of the programme of study

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

- Track-Specific Foundations:
  a) Computer Scientists' Track
  b) Philosophers' Track
  b) Mixed Track
  d) Development Track
  Depending on the various entry requirements, different foundations are taught here.

- Shared Foundations
  This teaches common foundations.

- Advanced Topics
  In the module area, advanced modules are taken in the fields of philosophy and computer science.

- Specialization
  Individual specializations are offered in various subject areas.

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- Master's Thesis.

(2)    [1]An internship, lasting between two and 12 weeks in total, in a professionally relevant area outside the university or during the course of studies at the university may be completed as an optional component of the degree programme. [2]Students who would like to carry out internships over a longer time period on a voluntary basis and beyond the terms of the examination regulations are expressly encouraged to do so and shall be given support. [3]The timing of the internship depends on the requirements of the internship provider and is organized independently by the students. [4]The relevant hosting institution is to provide certification of the type of internship and its duration. [5]During the internship, a journal must be kept in which the student describes and reflects on the activities carried out on at least one A4 page per week; at the end of the internship, an internship report of four to six pages must be submitted.

## § 5
## 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]It shall consist of three members, each having one substitute representative. [4]The members of the board of examiners and their substitute representatives are elected by the faculty council of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences from among the professors of the University of Bayreuth (Art. 19 para 1 sentences 1 and 3 BayHIG) for a period of two years. [5]At least one member of the board of examiners should be a member of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences. [6]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 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.


## § 6
### Examiners and co-examiners

(1)    [1]Any person who is authorized to administer examinations at institutions of higher education according to 85 BayHIG, as amended, may serve as examiner. [2]Any member of the University of Bayreuth who is a graduate of an equivalent or comparable programme of study may serve as co-examiner.

(2)    [1]If a member of the University of Bayreuth who is an authorized examiner leaves the University, he or she may remain an examiner for a reasonable period. [2]Authorization to administer examinations shall generally remain valid for up to three years.

(3)    [1]Unless otherwise decided by the chair of examiners, the relevant supervisor shall also serve as examiner. [2]If that instructor is not authorized to administer examinations as laid out in sentence 1, the chair of examiners shall appoint an examiner at the beginning of the semester in which the examination is to be held.


## § 7
### Disqualification due to personal involvement; confidentiality

(1)    Disqualification from consultation and voting on the board of examiners as well as other activities relating to examinations on the basis of personal involvement is governed by Article 51 para 2 BayHIG.

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

## § 8
## Credit transfer

(1)     The recognition and crediting of competencies shall be determined in accordance with Art. 86 BayHIG.

(2)     [1]If credits are recognized for competencies, the grades are to be carried over and included when calculating the final grade, as long as the grading systems are analogous. [2]If the grading system for the competencies to be transferred does not correspond to the grading system given in § 16, the grades received at the other higher education institution are to be converted using the Modified Bavarian Formula:

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

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. [3]If a conversion according to sentence 2 is not possible, the board of examiners shall determine a corresponding key for the grade conversion. [4]If a grade is not available and cannot be determined, the remark "passed" will be entered; in this case, it will not be included in the calculation of the final grade. [5]The board of examiners in consultation with the relevant representative from the subject area shall decide whether the requirements have been met for credit transfer. [6]If credit transfer is denied, the person concerned can appeal the decision by submitting a request for the University Governing Board to review the decision within four weeks of notification of denial. [7]The University Governing Board shall provide the board of examiners with a recommendation on how to proceed with the request.

(3)     Credit transfer/recognition requests are to be submitted to the board of examiners as soon as possible following enrolment and in any event prior to the start of the initial registration for 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 held promptly following the conclusion of the modules.

(2)     [1]If not listed in Annex 1, the form of examination in addition to examination times and the duration of examinations shall be determined by the relevant examiner and generally announced university-wide at the start of the semester. [2]An additional examination time may

be scheduled for the beginning of the following semester. [3]A change of examiner on short notice shall only take place if there are urgent grounds for doing so.

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


# § 10
## Elements of the examination

(1)     The master's examination comprises the module examinations listed in Annex 1 and the master's thesis.

(2)     The examinations serve to prove that the student has achieved the respective competence goals of the individual modules.


# § 11
## Forms of examination

(1)     [1]Examinations take the form of written exams, oral exams, term papers, scientific papers, semester tasks, and presentations (seminar presentations/scientific talks/scientific posters). [2]The possible forms of examination in the modules are given in Annex 1.

(2)     [1]Assessment of examinations is carried out according to the process announced by the board of examiners. [2]Notifications will not be sent individually. [3]Students are required to familiarize themselves independently with the terms of the present regulations pertaining to repeating examinations; they are responsible for informing themselves of examination results.

(3)     [1]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. [2]In the case described in para 7, sentence 1 does not apply. [3]If a written examination is assessed as "failed" or "unsatisfactory", it must be assessed by a second examiner.

(4)     [1]Written examinations are to 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. [2]The relevant examiner shall decide which resources may be used during the examination. [3]A written record of the examination is to be made. [4]The invigilator shall confirm the accuracy of the record by providing his or her signature. [5]The examination record sheet is to include all aspects of the examination that are relevant to determining the grade.

(5)     [1]If a student arrives to the examination late, he or she shall not be given additional time to finish the examination. [2]Candidates may leave the room during an examination if permission is granted by proctor. [3]The time and duration of absence are to be noted on the question paper.

(6)     [1]Written examinations are generally graded by the examiner who was appointed by the chair of examiners. [2]The relevant examiner determines the grades for the written examinations under the terms of § 16. [3]An assessment of each written examination shall be provided no later than six weeks after the examination. [4]The graded copy of the written examination shall remain in the examination records.

(7)     [1]Written examinations may be conducted fully or in part using multiple choice testing. [2]If written examinations are conducted only in part using multiple choice testing, the terms of paragraphs 4 and 6 sentences 1 and 2 apply for the portion that is not multiple choice. [3]The questions in the multiple choice section are to be written by the two examiners. [4]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. [5]If the written examination is conducted only in part by using multiple choice testing, weighting for the individual parts must also be stipulated. [6]Grading of examinations may be carried out with the help of an optical mark sense reader.

(8)     [1]A multiple choice examination is considered passed if the student achieves a certain absolute number of correct answers (at least 50% of the total points) or on a relative basis. [2]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%. [3]The relative cut-off grade is only to be taken into account if it is below the absolute cut-off grade. [4]Cut-off grades that are not whole number values shall be rounded in favour of the student. [5]An examination is considered passed if a grade of "ausreichend" [sufficient] (4,0) or better is achieved. [6]If an examination is conducted using multiple choice testing and the lowest passing grade (the relative cut-off grade if it is below the absolute cut-off grade, otherwise the latter) or better is achieved, the grades shall be as follows:
-   1,0 ("sehr gut"/ very good), for 90% or better
-   1,3 ("sehr gut"/ very good), for at least 80% or better but less than 90%
-   1,7 ("gut"/ good), for 70% or better but less than 80%
-   2,0 ("gut"/ good), for 60% or better but less than 70%
-   2,3 ("gut"/ good), for 50% or better but less than 60%
-   2,7 ("befriedigend"/ satisfactory), for 40% or better but less than 50%
-   3,0 ("befriedigend"/ satisfactory), for 30% or better but less than 40%
-   3,3 ("befriedigend"/ satisfactory), for 20% or better but less than 30%
-   3,7 ("ausreichend"/ sufficient), for 10% or better but less than 20%
-   4,0 ("ausreichend"/ sufficient), if the pass mark is reached but less than 10%

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

[7]Cut-off grades that are not whole number values shall be rounded in favour of the student. [8]If the lowest passing grade (cut-off grade) is not reached, a grade of 5,0 ("nicht ausreichend"/ "unsatisfactory") is assigned. [9]If an examination is conducted using multiple choice testing, the following details are to be included when determining the results:

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

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

(9) [1]Oral examinations are be held over a period of 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the requirements of the particular course. [2]Oral examinations are administered by two examiners or one examiner and one co-examiner. [3]The examination can be conducted in groups of no more than six students. [4]If an examination is conducted in groups, it shall be held over a period of no longer than 90 minutes for the whole group. [5]One examiner or the co-examiner shall complete an examination record sheet for the oral examination that includes the following: location, start time, and duration of the examination, examination subject-matter and results, names of the examiner and co-examiner, name of the student, and any noteworthy incidents. [6]The record sheet is to be signed by the two examiners or by the examiner and co-examiner. [7]Oral examinations are to be graded on a pass/fail basis (alternative 1) or according to § 16 (alternative 2). [8]If alternative 1 of sentence 7 applies, the examination result shall not factor into the final grade. [9]In case of a failing grade for an oral examination, the regulations for repeating examinations in § 19 shall apply.

(10) [1]In the case of an oral examination, students who intend to take the same examination within the next two semesters are given preference as listeners, within the limits of the space available. [2]The examination can be conducted without an audience if so requested by the student. [3]Discussion and announcement of the examination results (grade) shall not be conducted in public.

(11) [1]Assignments during the semester (e.g. working on exercise sheets, tests, short essays, short presentations, programming projects) are assigned and completed during the module. [2]The individual examination components may be written, oral and/or practical examinations, which are completed during or at the end of the semester and together form the module examination for the module in question. [3]The form, scope, and assessment criteria must be announced to the students by the examiner at the beginning of the relevant course. [4]Para 9 sentences 7 to 9 mutatis mutandis.

(12)    [1]Term papers of approx. 5,000 words are written following the underlying course. [2]The topic is to be assigned by the relevant examiner in consideration of the student's request. [3]The time limit for term papers shall be six weeks. [4]The topic of the paper is to be such that it can be completed within this time limit. [5]The chair of examiners may extend this deadline by up to one weeks at the request of the student and after having heard the examiner in case of reasons beyond the student's control. [6]If the student demonstrates via a medical certificate that he or she was unable to work on the paper, the deadline is to be extended accordingly. [7]The term paper must be submitted in electronic form as a PDF, subject to sentences 5 and 6, by the deadline set by the examiner at the latest. [8]Papers that are not submitted by the stated deadline are graded as "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"]. [9]The examiner shall determine the grade under the terms of § 16. [10]The graded copy of the paper shall remain in the examination records.

(13)    [1]For presentations, the topic, type of written work involved, duration, and scope shall be clarified with the relevant examiner. [2]Presentations can last between 15 and 30 minutes, depending on the workload. [3]For graded presentations, the written paper forms the basis of the grade. Para 9 sentences 7 to 9 apply mutatis mutandis.

(14)    [1]Essays comprise a maximum of 10,000 words. [2]The assignment of the topic and supervision are to be applied to this. [3]The time limit from the topic to submission is to be decided by the supervisor when assigning the topic. [4]Para 12 sentences 4, 5, 6 and 8 apply mutatis mutandis. [5]The examiner shall determine the grade under the terms of § 16.

## § 12
## Master's thesis

(1)    [1]The master's thesis of the student should demonstrate that he or she is able to independently utilize relevant resources and adequately address and write about current issues in the field using scientific methods. [2]The topic may include interdisciplinary issues.

(2)    [1]The chair or examiners shall appoint a reviewer (according to § 6), if possible, taking into account the student's wishes. [2]The topic of the master's thesis and the proposal of the degree to be obtained are issued by the reviewer of the relevant subject area via the chair of examiners. [3]Record is to be made of the date on which the topic was assigned. [4]It is recommended that the master's thesis be completed in the fourth semester (full-time study) or after the sixth semester (part-time study).

(3)    [1]The master's thesis is integrated into the programme of study and corresponds to a workload of 900 hours. [2]The master's thesis is to be submitted no later than six months after the topic was assigned in the case of full-time study or 12 months in the case of part-time study. [3]The chair of examiners may extend this deadline by up to four weeks for full-time students or eight

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weeks for part-time students at the request of the student and after having heard the first reviewer if there are reasons beyond the student's control; the request is to be submitted before the submission deadline for the master's thesis. [4]If the student demonstrates via a medical certificate that he or she was unable to work on the paper, the deadline is to be extended accordingly. [5]Theses that are not submitted by the stated deadline are graded as "unsatisfactory".

(4)    [1]The master's thesis may be written in German or English. [2]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 and it shall also be confirmed that the thesis had never before been submitted toward fulfilment of an academic degree. [3]A synopsis in the German language is to be included if the master's thesis was written in English.

(5)    [1]The master's thesis must be submitted in electronic form (printable PDF document) by the deadline. [2]Submission is carried out by uploading the document via the form server. [3]The Examinations Office will make a note of the date on which the thesis was submitted.

(6)    The thesis must contain a table of contents and bibliography.

(7)    [1]The student may return the topic to the board of examiners once within the first two weeks. [2]Paragraphs 1 to 6 also apply when assigning and working on a new topic.

(8)    [1]The Examinations Office shall forward the thesis to the relevant reviewer. [2]If the thesis is assessed as "unsatisfactory", it must be assessed by a further reviewer from among the examiners in accordance with § 6. [3]The assessments/grades should be available no later than two months after receipt of the thesis. [4]Each reviewer shall provide a recommendation as to whether the thesis is to be accepted or rejected and assign a grade in accordance with § 16. [5]The appointment of the additional reviewer shall be made by the chair of examiners. [6]The first assessor should be the person who has assigned the topic of the thesis.

(9)    [1]If different grades are assigned, the grade for the master's thesis shall be the arithmetic mean of the assessments. [2]In this calculation, the grade shall only be given to one decimal place; the remaining digits are to be truncated (not rounded). [3]§ 11 para 2 applies mutatis mutandis.

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

## § 13
## Credit point system

(1)    [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. [2]The credit

points that appear on the transcript are identical with credit points as stipulated in the European Credit Transfer System. [3]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)     [1]The utilization of protection periods of the Maternity Protection Act (MuSchG) shall be guaranteed. [2]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. [3]The appropriate evidence must be furnished; any changes in status are to be reported immediately.

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

## § 15
## Consideration of special needs of students with disabilities or chronic illness and in special life circumstances

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

(2)     [1]Students in special circumstances may apply to the board of examiners for reasonable accommodations in examinations in accordance with paragraph 1. [2]The board of examiners shall decide on the existence of a special life situation and the extent of reasonable accommodations.

## § 16

## Grading of examinations

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

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

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

| | |
|---|---|
| an average of 1,5 or better | = sehr gut |
| an average of 1,6 up to and including 2,5 | = gut |
| an average of 2,6 up to and including 3,5 | = befriedigend |
| an average of 3,6 up to and including 4,0 | = ausreichend. |

## § 17

## Final grade

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

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

(3)     The certificate or an attached document shall indicate how the final grade was calculated.

(4)     [1]In addition to the degree certificate, an ECTS grading table will be issued as stipulated in the ECTS guidelines in the version dated 6 February 2009. [2]This table displays what percentage of programme graduates in a given time frame received the same final grade as described in

para 2. [3]Those programme graduates who were awarded their diplomas in the previous four semesters shall serve as the reference group as long as it includes at least 30 persons. [4]The date of the last examination shall be decisive in assigning graduates to a particular semester. [5]If the minimum number of graduates is not reached, the number of previous semesters is to be extended until the minimum number is reached. [6]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. [7]For degrees awarded before the minimum number is reached, an ECTS grading table will be issued at a later date upon request once the minimum number has been reached. [8]The graduate's own graduating class is also to be included in the reference group. [9]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" or better or "bestanden" for the master's thesis and each module; in addition, all 120 credit points must be earned.

(2)    [1]If the student 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 student shall be considered as having failed the master's examination on the first attempt. [2]Examinations that were taken on time and for which the candidate received a passing grade need not be repeated.

(3)    [1]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. [2]The deadline shall not take into account periods of leave and periods during which the candidate withdrew from study. [3]Notice shall be sent to inform the candidate that he or she has failed the examination on the final attempt in accordance with § 5 para 5 in conjunction with Article 41 BayVwVfG as amended. [4]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)    Each failed examination may be repeated multiple times within the period specified in § 18.

(2)    Voluntarily repeating examinations that were already passed or the master's thesis that was already passed is not permitted.

(3)    The repetition of an examination may be held as a different form of examination in accordance with § 11; this is determined by the examiner.

(4)    [1]The master's thesis can be repeated with a new topic if the student receives a failing grade for the thesis. [2]Repeating the master's thesis for a second time is not permitted.

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

## § 20
### Notice of failing the master's examination

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

## § 21
### Access to examination documents

(1)    Following the conclusion of the examinations process, the student may be granted access to his or her graded examination documents including the reviewer's report as well as the record sheets for the examination.

(2)    [1]Such requests are to be made within six months after the degree certificate is awarded. [2]If the student was prevented from meeting the deadline in sentence 1 due to reasons beyond his or her control, Article 32 BayVwVfG shall apply.

## § 22
### Defects in the examination proceedings

(1)    If it is shown that there were defects in the examination proceedings which influenced the examination results, the student or the board on its own initiative shall request that the relevant examinations be repeated.

(2)    Any defects in the examination proceedings are to be reported to the examiner or the chair of examiners without delay, and in general, prior to notice being given of the examination results.

(3)     Claims under the terms of paragraph 1 must be made within six months of the examination's conclusion.


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

(1)     [1]Students 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. [2]If the student 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)     [1]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. [2]The same applies to inability to take the examination due to circumstances arising during the examination. [3]Inability to take the examination due to illness must be documented with a medical certificate. [4]If the board of examiners accepts the reasons given, a new examination time is to be offered under the terms of § 9 within six months.

(3)     If withdrawal or failure to appear is caused by reasons beyond the candidate's control, examinations elements completed up to that point are to be recognized.

(4)     [1]If the student 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"]. [2]Any student 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)     [1]If cheating in the form of plagiarism is detected, the examination will be graded as "nicht ausreichend" ["unsatisfactory"]. [2]The accusation of plagiarism is justified if the student has attempted to influence the result of the examination in a way that is favourable to him or her by failing to specifically mark passages taken verbatim from other authors and also explanations of his or her work that are closely based on the thought processes of other authors. [3]The determination shall be made by the relevant examiner or invigilator and shall be recorded in the files. [4]In serious cases or in the case of repetition, the entire module examination can be declared failed and, in particularly serious cases, the right to repeat the examination can also be withdrawn and the entire module examination can be declared failed on the final attempt. [5]The decision on this is taken by the board of examiners. [6]In deciding on the imposition of the sanction, both the quantity of the plagiarism and its significance for the work must be assessed in each individual case.

## § 24
## Invalidating the master's examination

(1)     If a student 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)     [1]If the registration requirements for the examinations were not met by the student 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 student's passing of the master's examination. [2]If the student 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 student 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)     [1]Upon the student's request, a diploma and a degree certificate for successful completion of the master's examination are to be issued within four weeks of demonstrating completion of the required module credits. [2]The diploma is to include the title of the programme of study. [3]It is to be signed by the dean and stamped with the seal of the University. [4]With the award of the certificate, the graduate receives the right to use the academic degree of Master of Arts or Master of Science as decided by the board of examiners. [5]This is signified using the abbreviation M.A. or M.Sc. after the surname.

(2)     [1]The certificate is to include the title of the programme of study, the relevant track, 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. [2]The certificate is to be signed by the chair of examiners. [3]The date to be used is the day of the last examination or the date on which the last graded assignment was submitted. [4]An English translation of the diploma and a Diploma Supplement shall be issued in addition; the Diploma Supplement shall be signed by the chair of examiners. [5]In addition to the certificate, an ECTS grading table is to be issued under the terms of § 17 para 4.

(3)     Withdrawal of the Master of Arts or Master of Science degree is governed by Art. 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 Philosophy & Computer Science is to be responsible for questions relating to the master's programme Computer Science (i.e. structure of the programme, organization of studies, course selection, and questions concerning examinations).

(3)　[1]In the course of the semester, the programme advisor shall offer advising for all students enrolled in the master's programme. [2]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,

## § 27
### Effective date

[1]These regulations go into effect on 02 March 2024. [2]They shall be valid for students enrolling in this programme in Winter Semester 2024/25 or later.

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

wE =  written exam
oE =  oral exam TP = term paper
SP =  essay/ scientific paper
sT =  semester tasks
P =  presentation (seminar presentation/scientific talk/ scientific poster)
R =  internship report / = marks alternative forms of examination

The following provides an overview of the modules and corresponding examinations.

| Area / Modules | Credit points | Examination |
|---|---|---|
| **Track-Specific Foundations** | **15** | |
| **a) Computer Scientists' (CS) Track:** | | |
| Analytical Thinking | 5 | sT / oE / TP |
| Theoretical Philosophy | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| Practical Philosophy | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| **b) Philosophers' (Phil) Track:** | | |
| Computational Thinking | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| Theoretical Computer Science | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| Applied Computer Science | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| **c) Mixed Track:** | | |
| Modules from a) and b) | | see above |
| **d) Development Track:** | | |
| Modules from Specialization | | see below |
| **Shared Foundations** | **25** | |
| Minds and Machines | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| Mathematical Thinking | 10 | wE / oE / sT |
| Machine Ethics | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| Data Modeling & Analysis | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| **Advanced Topics** | **10** | |
| Advanced Philosophy | 5 | sT / |

| Area / Modules | Credit points | Examination |
|---|---|---|
| | | oE / TP |
| Advanced Computer Science | 5 | wE / oE / sT |
| **Specialization**<br>max. 25 credits from internship | **35** | |
| Specialization 1- 7: | 5-35 | wE / oE / sT / TP |
| Independent Study 1-5 | 5-25 | SP / P / sT |
| Internship (min. 12 weeks + report) | 25 | R |
| Internship (min. 8 weeks + report) | 15 | R |
| Internship (min. 5 weeks + report) | 10 | R |
| Internship (min. 2 weeks + report) | 5 | R |
| **Master's Thesis** | **35** | |
| Thesis Seminar | 5 | P (ungraded) |
| Master's Thesis | 30 | Master's thesis |
| **Total:** | **120** | |

**Annex 2: Aptitude assessment process**

**1.  Purpose of aptitude assessment process**

[1]The applicant's aptitude for studying in the master's programme Philosophy & Computer Science at the University of Bayreuth should be determined on the basis of the process under the terms of Article 90 para 1 BayHIG in accordance with § 2 para 1 number 4. [2]The interdisciplinary nature of the degree programme requires subject-specific and methodological knowledge in the subjects of philosophy and computer science as well as the ability to integrate different subject-specific perspectives. [3]The aim of the aptitude assessment process is to assess whether the applicant meets the necessary prerequisites to succeed in the highly demanding master's programme and whether he or she is able to achieve an advanced understanding of the fields mentioned in Annex I to carry out independent academic work.

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

[1]The board of examiners is responsible for preparing and conducting the aptitude assessment process in accordance with § 5 para 1. [2]Up to three members of the full-time academic staff may sit on the committee in an advisory capacity.

**3.  Process for determining aptitude**

3.1      [1]The aptitude assessment process is carried out once a year in the summer semester for the start of studies in the following winter semester. [2]The application for admission to the aptitude assessment process must be submitted online to the University of Bayreuth. [3]The online application for admission is made available on the university's website. [4]The online application for admission must be received electronically by the University of Bayreuth by 15 July for the following winter semester (cut-off deadline). [5]Documents as described in number 3.2.1 sentence 4 and 3.2.3 can be submitted up to 15 August.

3.2      The application must include:

3.2.1   [1]A written rationale, in English, of a maximum of 500 words (approx. 1 page) for the choice of the master's programme in Philosophy & Computer Science, in which the applicant explains which specific skills he or she considers particularly suitable for the desired degree programme and how and why he or she wishes to expand these skills via the master's programme in Philosophy & Computer Science. [2]The academic quality of the argumentation can be demonstrated, for example, by reference to concrete topical social issues and coherent argumentation. [3]In addition to a convincing argumentation, the clear presentation of the respective competencies for the justification of the choice of the course of study can also be made, among other things, by referring to special relevant qualifications (e.g. internships, stays abroad or the voluntary participation in courses that went beyond the compulsory courses). [4]The relevant evidence (if applicable) is to be enclosed.

3.2.2   A statement that the cover letter containing the applicant's motivation for choosing the programme of study was written independently, without the help of others, and that any thoughts taken from other sources were identified as such.

3.2.3   [1]The certificate of the relevant initial degree according to § 2 as well as a confirmation with individual grades of the examinations and coursework completed during the programme of study. [2]If the relevant initial degree certificate is not yet available, confirmation containing the individual grades for all examinations and courses up to the registration deadline must be submitted. [3]These achievements must comprise a total of at least 150 credit points. [4]A list of the modules of the relevant first degree programme for which certificates of achievement cannot yet be submitted must be included, stating the expected examination dates.

3.2.4   A CV as supplementary information to serve as a basis for the interview (see 5.3).

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

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

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

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

4.3    Applicants who are not admitted are to be sent a notice of denial with a rationale and information concerning their right to appeal; number 6.2 sentence 2 applies mutatis mutandis.

**5.    Overview of the aptitude assessment process**

5.1    [1]On the basis of the application documents submitted, the committee shall determine whether the applicant is suited for studies in the master's programme Philosophy & Computer Science in view of his or her qualification and the specific competencies for which he or she provided evidence. [2]Two members of the committee shall examine the submitted documents independently of each other. [3]The evaluation is made by the committee members according to the following criteria:

5.1.1   [1]The competencies that are presented in the applicant's written statement are to be assessed on a scale of 0 to 4.0 points. [2]The content of the written statement is to be assessed in view of the maximum points given in parentheses on the basis of the following criteria:
- linguistic expression, logical structure, clear structure (1 point)
- scientific quality of the argumentation, references to concrete questions in the overlapping area between philosophy and computer science (1 point)

- justification for choice of programme, clear statement of relevant competencies, and evidence of any relevant special qualifications (2 points).

5.1.2 [1]The subject-specific study and examination achievements of the relevant initial degree are assessed with a maximum of 4.0 points. [2]Assessment components in the fields of theoretical philosophy, practical philosophy, philosophical methodology (logic, argumentation theory, etc.), theoretical computer science, programming, applied computer science are considered subject-specific. [3]Non-subject-specific work may be considered if it contributes to proven competencies for reaching the goals of the programme of study. [4]The evaluation criteria are specified in No. 9. [5]Specific conversion factors may be applied for foreign applicants.

5.1.3 [1]The number of points for the applicant is determined by taking the arithmetic mean of the individual assessments (number 5.1.1 and 5.1.2) of the committee members. [2]The score is to be rounded to one decimal place behind the comma.

5.2 Applicants who received 5.5 points or more shall be sent a notice of having passed the aptitude assessment process.

5.3 [1]Applicants with a score of less than 3.0 points will no longer be involved in the further procedure in accordance with no. 5.5. [2]They shall be sent a notice of denial with a rationale and information concerning how to appeal; Nr. 6.2 applies mutatis mutandis.

5.4 [1]The remaining applicants with less than 5.5 but at least 3.0 points will be invited to an aptitude interview. [2]The date and time of the interview are to be announced at least one week in advance. [3]Anyone who fails to appear on the date and time announced will be denied admission. [4]If a reason beyond the applicant's control prevents him or her from participating in the interview, a new appointment is to be scheduled no later than two weeks prior to the start of lectures upon justified request.

5.5 [1]The interview is to be conducted individually in the English language for each applicant. [2]The interview is to last between 15 and 30 minutes for each applicant, is held in the English language and should demonstrate whether it is to be expected that the aim of the programme of study can be achieved given the applicant's skills and abilities. [3]In the interview, the scientific-theoretical aptitude in the subject of philosophy or computer science is reviewed with regard to the requirements of the degree programme. [4]The applicant should provide evidence in English that he or she can
- has basic knowledge in the field of philosophy and/or computer science (1 point)
- is able to systematically analyze complex contexts in the fields of philosophy and/or computer science (recognize and define problem context), (1 point)
- is able to reflect on complex contexts in the fields of philosophy and/or computer science (identify descriptive and normative elements) (1 point), and

- is able to discuss complex contexts in the fields of philosophy and/or computer science (weigh and balance positions, formulate own opinion) (1 point).

5.6    [1]The interview is to conducted by two members of the admission committee. [2]Each member is to assign a grade for the interview on a scale of 0 to 4.0 points. [3]The outcome of the aptitude interview is assessed according to the criteria in No. 5.5 sentences 3 and 4. [4]The number of points for the applicant is determined by taking the arithmetic mean of the individual assessments of the committee members. [5]The score is to be rounded to one decimal place behind the comma.

5.7    [1]The overall assessment of the aptitude assessment process is made up of the score for the interview and the previous examinations and coursework as described in number 5.1.2. [2]Applicants who have achieved at least 5.5 points in the second stage of the aptitude assessment process will receive confirmation that they have passed the aptitude assessment process.[3]Applicants with less than 5.5 points are not suitable for the master's programme in Philosophy & Computer Science; no. 6.2 applies mutatis mutandis.

5.8    [1]A written record shall be made of the interview, indicating the date, duration, location, name of committee members involved, the name of the applicant, the topics discussed, the assessment of the board members, and the overall outcome as well as any essential reasons for the assessment. [2]The essential reasons and topics may be listed in note form. [3]The record sheet is to be signed by the committee members who were present.

**6. Determining and announcing results**

6.1 The course of the aptitude assessment process must be documented; in particular, the decisions of the committee in accordance with the present regulations and the overall outcome must be evident.

6.2 [1]The outcome of the aptitude assessment process is to be sent to the applicant in writing. [2]Notices of denial containing a rationale and information concerning the right to appeal are to be signed by the chair of the committee.

6.3 Admission based on the aptitude assessment process for the master's programme Philosophy & Computer Science 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**

Applicants who did not provide evidence of aptitude for the master's programme Philosophy & Computer Science may register for the aptitude assessment process one more time.

**8. Aptitude assessment process for higher semesters**

For applicants who wish to enter advanced semesters (university transfer, career changers), nos. 3 to 7 apply accordingly.

**9. Assessment key**

The subject-specific study and examination achievements of the relevant first degree (No. 5.1.2) are included in the assessment according to the following table:

| POINTS | ASSESSMENT |
|---|---|
| 4.0 – 3.5 points | outstanding achievements in the fields of philosophy and/or computer science (average grade of at least 1.5) |
| 3.4 – 2.4 points | Achievements in the fields of philosophy and/or computer science that are significantly above the average requirements |
| 2.3 – 1.3 points | average performance in the fields of philosophy and/or computer science |
| 1.2 – 0.6 points | Achievements in the fields of philosophy and/or computer science that still meet the requirements despite their deficiencies |

Issued on the basis of the circular procedure of the University of Bayreuth's Governing Board in February 2024, the decision of the Senate of the University of Bayreuth dated 13 December 2023, and the approval of the President of the University of Bayreuth of 29 February 2024, Ref. No. A 3388/6 - I/ 1.

Bayreuth, 01 March 2024                                          UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH, THE PRESIDENT
                                   [seal]                                [signature]
                                                           Professor Dr. Stefan Leible

These regulations were enacted at the university on 01 March 2024.

This was announced on 01 March 2024 by posting a notice at the university.

The date of the announcement is 01 March 2024.