

**General Degree Program and Examination Regulations for
Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programs at the
Faculty of Sciences of
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)
– ABMPO/NatFak –
Dated August 22, 2023**

Based on Section 9 (1)(2) in conjunction with the currently valid versions of Section 80 (1)(2), section 84 (2)(1), Section 86 (3)(4), Section 88 (9), Section 90 (1)(2) and Section 96 (3)(1) Bavarian Higher Education Innovation Act dated August 5, 2022 (**BayHIG**), Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg enacts the following degree program and examination regulations:

Contents:

Part I: General provisions	2
Section 1 Scope, Purpose of the Bachelor's and Master's Examination	2
Section 2 Degrees	2
Section 3 Structure of the Bachelor's Degree Program, Standard Duration of Study,.....	3
Teaching and Examination Language, Start of Degree Program	3
Section 4 Structure of the Master's Degree Program, Standard Duration of Study,.....	3
Teaching and Examination Language, Start of Degree Program	3
Section 5 ECTS Credits.....	4
Section 6 Modules and Credits,.....	4
Voluntary Intermediate Examinations, Safety Briefing	4
Section 7 Compulsory Attendance	5
Section 8 Examination Deadlines, Failure to Observe Deadlines	6
Section 9 Examinations Committee	7
Section 10 Examiners, Observers, Exclusion Due to.....	8
Personal Involvement, Obligation to Confidentiality	8
Section 11 Announcement of Examination Dates and Examiners,.....	9
Registration, Withdrawal.....	9
Section 12 Admissions Committee for the Master's Degree Program	9
Section 13 Recognition and Accreditation of Skills	10
Section 14 Consequences of Delayed Withdrawal, Breach of Regulations, Fraud,	11
Exclusion from Further Participation	11
Section 15 Revocation of Degrees	11
Section 16 Faults in the Examination Process	11
Section 17 Written Examination, Multiple Choice Examinations	11
Section 18 Oral Examination	13
Section 19 Talks and Presentations	14
Section 20 Practical Achievements	14
Section 21 On-Campus Electronic Examinations.....	14
Section 22 Evaluation of Examinations, Grades, Final Grade	14
Section 23 Invalidity of Examinations	16
Section 24 Inspection of Examination Records	16
Section 25 Final Academic Record, Transcript of Records, Diploma Supplement,	16
Grade Distribution Table and Degree Certificate	16
Section 26 Notification of Failed Examinations	17
Section 27 Adjustments to Examination Arrangements	17
Part II: Bachelor's Examination	18
Section 28 Admission Requirements for Examinations	18
Section 29 Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP)	18
Section 30 Bachelor's Examination	18
Section 31 Bachelor's Thesis	18
Section 32 Resit Examinations.....	20
Section 33 Key Qualifications.....	21
Section 34 Additional Modules	21

Part III: Master's Examination	21
Section 35 Qualification for a Master's Degree Program	21
Section 36 Admission to Examinations	22
Section 37 Master's Examination	22
Section 38 Master's Thesis	23
Section 39 Resitting Examinations, Additional Modules	24
Part IV: Final provisions	25
Section 40 Legal Validity, Transitory Provisions	25
Appendix.....	26

Part I: General provisions

Section 1 Scope, Purpose of the Bachelor's and Master's Examination

(1) ¹These degree program and examination regulations govern examinations in the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU leading to a Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science or Master of Arts degree, with the exception of

- the Elite Master's degree program in Integrated Immunology (ilmmune),
- the degree programs at the Department of Mathematics and Data Science
- the degree programs at the Department of Physics.

²They are supplemented by the respective **degree program and examination regulations**.

(2) ¹The Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts is an undergraduate degree that qualifies graduates for professional work. ²The purpose of the Bachelor's examination is to assess whether students:

- have acquired fundamental knowledge as well as methodological understanding of the examined subjects
- have the ability to employ scientific methods and knowledge independently
- are prepared for the transition to professional practice.

(3) ¹The Master of Science or Master of Arts is a second university degree that qualifies graduates for further research as well as professional work. ²The Master's examination serves to determine whether students:

- have acquired in-depth knowledge of fundamental concepts and research findings in the subjects of their Master's degree program
- are capable of working independently according to scientific methods and of developing these further
- are prepared for professional practice.

Section 2 Degrees

(1) Passing the examinations results in the following degrees, depending on the type of degree program:

1. The degree of Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts (abbreviation: BSc or BA) for passing the Bachelor's examination
2. The degree of Master of Science or Master of Arts (abbreviation: MSc or MA) for passing the Master's examination.

(2) The degrees may also be used with the addition "(FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)".

Section 3 Structure of the Bachelor's Degree Program, Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Start of Degree Program

(1) ¹Bachelor's degree programs lay the academic foundations, provide methodological skills and lead to qualifications related to the professional field. ²Students shall pass a Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (**GOP**) covering the foundations of the Bachelor's degree program by the end of the second semester. ³The subsequent part of the Bachelor's degree program includes the examinations until the end of the standard duration of study. ⁴To complete the Bachelor's degree program successfully, students shall achieve 180 ECTS credits pursuant to these general degree program and examination regulations in conjunction with the **degree program and examination regulations** for the specific subject, including all module examinations and the Bachelor's thesis.

(2) The standard duration of a Bachelor's degree program including all examinations is six semesters.

(3) ¹The teaching and examination language in the Bachelor's degree program is German. ²Unless stipulated otherwise in the respective **degree program and examination regulations**, individual modules may be taken and examined in English. ³Further details are stipulated in the **degree program and examination regulations** and the module handbook. ⁴In any case of uncertainty, the examination language shall be the same as the teaching language. ⁵The **degree program and examination regulations** can stipulate provisions deviating from sentences 1 and 2 and allow for other teaching and examination languages.

(4) The Bachelor's degree program may only be started in the winter semester.

Section 4 Structure of the Master's Degree Program, Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Start of Degree Program

(1) The Master's degree program builds on the contents of the Bachelor's program; it is more research-oriented.

(2) ¹The Master's degree program shall have a duration of three semesters plus one semester for working on the Master's thesis. ²To complete the degree program successfully, students shall achieve 120 ECTS credits pursuant to these general degree program and examination regulations in conjunction with the **degree program and examination regulations** for the specific subject, including all module examinations and the Master's thesis.

(3) The standard duration of the Master's degree program, within which all examinations should be taken, is four semesters.

(4) ¹The teaching and examination language in the Master's degree programs is German or English; further details are stipulated in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**. ²Individual modules may be taught and assessed in either German or English. ³Further details are stipulated in the **degree program and examination regulations** and the module handbook. ⁴In any case of uncertainty, the examination language shall be the same as the teaching language. ⁵The **degree program and examination regulations** can stipulate provisions deviating from sentences 1 and 2 and allow for other teaching and examination languages.

(5) The Master's degree program may be started in the winter semester or in the summer semester, unless stipulated otherwise in the applicable **degree program and examinations regulations**.

Section 5 ECTS Credits

(1) ¹The degree programs and examinations are based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). ²30 ECTS credits are allocated per semester. ³One ECTS credit corresponds to 30 hours of work.

(2) ¹ECTS credits serve as a system to categorize, calculate and confirm the amount of work a student has invested. ²They are a quantitative indicator of a student's workload.

Section 6 Modules and Credits, Voluntary Intermediate Examinations, Safety Briefing

(1) ¹The degree program consists of modules for which students are awarded ECTS credits. ²One module is a chronologically connected and self-contained teaching and learning unit, the content of which can be tested in an examination.

(2) ¹The modules shall be completed with a module examination. ²This examination shall as a rule consist of one examination achievement or one course achievement. ³In exceptional cases, this examination can also consist of several partial examinations or parts of examinations or a combination of examination and/or course achievements if the subject warrants it. ⁴Ungraded course achievements consisting of several parts and/or course achievements which can be repeated an unlimited number of times shall not count as examinations consisting of several parts as defined in sentence 3. ⁵ECTS credits shall only be awarded for successful participation in modules that can be verified in an individual, separately identifiable performance in a module examination. ⁶Module examinations are conducted during the lecture period or following the last lecture/seminar of a module before the start of the next semester's lecture period.

(3) ¹Examinations (examination achievements and course achievements) measure the student's performance. ²They may be in writing, oral, electronic or in a different form specific to the subject (e. g. tutorial achievements, practical achievements, seminar achievements, excursion achievements). ³In the event of invigilated remote electronic examinations, the Bavarian regulation for testing remote examinations (**BayFEV**) and the FAU regulations on remote examinations on the basis of the Bavarian regulations for testing remote examinations (**BayFEV**) – **EFernPO** – shall be complied with. ⁴Examination achievements are graded. ⁴The assessment of course achievements may be limited to determining whether the student has passed ("bestanden") or failed ("nicht bestanden").

(4) ¹Tutorial achievements (TA) generally involve independently solving exercises each week (e. g. exercises in programming or calculations, or e-learning units, which are assessed on the basis of an exercise log, compilation or electronic record). ²Practical achievements (PA) generally involve completing practical tasks, documenting them in a series of reports and completing oral or written tests on the practical task at hand. ³Furthermore, students may be required to submit seminar achievements (SA) (usually a presentation and written report) and excursion achievements (ExA) (usually a review, contribution to a discussion or reports). ⁴The specific form and scope of the examinations stated in sentences 1 to 3 depend on the specific manner in which the respective module or teaching unit is taught. Details are

stipulated in paragraph (5) of the applicable **degree program and examination regulations** and/or the module handbook.

(5) ¹The scope of a seminar achievement pursuant to (4)(3) depends on the specific topic which has been allocated and shall be agreed with the module coordinator.

²Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**, the presentation shall generally last approximately 30 minutes and the handout shall be approximately 10 pages long.

(6) ¹In addition to the module examinations, voluntary intermediate examinations (e. g. paper and computer exercises, presentations) may be offered during courses as a way of measuring the standard of performance. ²More detailed information, including the number, type and scope of these examinations, is given in the module handbook. ³If a student chooses to use the option detailed in sentence 1, these results shall be taken into account when determining the grade for the module. ⁴Intermediate examination achievements may improve the grade for a module examination or partial examination by a maximum of 0.7; a grade may not be made worse.

(7) ¹Tests to verify that students have mastered the safety skills required for practical exercises or experiments in the laboratory do not count as examinations as defined in the paragraphs above, as they do not serve to determine whether or not students have mastered the skills which must be acquired in a module. ²Checking these basic safety-related skills is not comparable to an examination as defined above and simply constitutes a basic entry requirement which must be met before students can take part in practical exercises or experiments in the laboratory in order to ensure the safety of everyone participating in the teaching unit and to protect the facilities. ³Modules for which an entry requirement such as this must be met shall be labeled accordingly in the module description.

(8) Enrollment in the relevant degree program at FAU is a requirement for participation in module examinations according to paragraph (2)(1).

Section 7 Compulsory Attendance

(1) ¹For teaching units, which are marked accordingly in the respective module description, in which the qualification goal can only be achieved by regular attendance, compulsory attendance can be made a requirement for admission to the module examination or for obtaining the course achievement. ²If attendance of the individual student is required for all participants to obtain the subject-specific skills, if the individual student obtaining such skills depends on the attendance of the other participants, or if subject-specific skills can only be obtained by being present at a particular place, or if participation is required for safety reasons, it is permissible to introduce an obligation to attend.

(2) ¹Regular attendance is defined as missing no more than 15% of instruction time in any given teaching unit. ²If between 15% and 30% of instruction time has been missed, the lecturer can offer the student the option to obtain a substitute achievement fulfilling the requirement of regular attendance. If no such substitute achievements are offered or the substitute achievements offered are not obtained by the student, attendance is not considered to have been regular. ³If more than 30% of all instruction time has been missed, the teaching unit must be taken again. ⁴Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of instruction time missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(3) ¹In deviation from paragraph 2, in the context of excursions, practical courses, laboratory courses and block seminars, attendance is only considered to have been regular if all teaching units have been attended. ²Appropriate substitute achievements fulfilling the requirement of regular attendance shall be offered in the case of credibly shown periods of absence due to reasons beyond the student's control of up to and including 15% of instruction time. ³If more than 15% of instruction time has been missed, the teaching unit must be taken again. ⁴Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of instruction time missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(4) ¹Attendance is checked in the individual teaching units, provided these are held face to face, by means of an attendance list in which students must enter their name and signature. ²If teaching units are held online, teaching staff shall record attendance by taking a register of the names of all those attending. ³Teaching staff shall compare the names on the registration list to see whether they correspond with the names used by the students attending the teaching unit. ⁴If students use a pseudonym during an online teaching unit with compulsory attendance, they must inform the member of teaching staff of their real name in order to allow a comparison to be made.

Section 8 Examination Deadlines, Failure to Observe Deadlines

(1) ¹Examinations shall be sat in such a timely manner as to allow the student to obtain the ECTS credits specified in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations** for the **GOP** and the Bachelor's or Master's examination by the scheduled deadline. ²Deadlines shall be the second semester of the Bachelor's degree program for the **GOP** and the last semester of the respective standard duration of study for the Bachelor's or Master's examination. ³The deadlines according to sentence 2 may be exceeded by the following periods (extended deadline):

1. **GOP** – by one semester
2. Bachelor's examination – by two semesters
3. Master's examination – by one semester.

⁴An examination shall be considered to have been sat and failed at the final attempt if the required number of ECTS credits stipulated in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations** was not obtained within the extended deadline according to Sentence 3, unless the reasons for this are beyond the student's control.

(2) The deadline set forth in paragraph (1) shall be extended by claiming the legal periods of protection stipulated in the law protecting mothers at work, in education and whilst studying, the Maternity Protection Act (Mutterschutzgesetz – **MuSchG**) in the version published on May 23, 2017 (BGBl I S. 1228 [German Federal Law Gazette I p.2318]), according to the periods set forth in the current version of the Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz – **BEEG**) of December 5, 2006 (BGBl I S. 2748 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 2748]), and according to periods of time spent providing care in the sense of Section 7 (3) of the current version of the Caregiver Leave Act (Pflegezeitgesetz - **PflegeZG**) of 28 May 2008 (BGBl I S. 874, 896 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 874, 896]) for a close family member who requires care in the sense of the current version of SGB XI (German Social Security Code XI) of 26 May 1994 (BGBl I S. 1014, 1015 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 1014, 1015]).

(3)¹The reasons according to (1)(4) and (2) shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the Examinations Committee responsible pursuant to Section 8 without delay. ²If the reasons are acknowledged, the examination shall be sat at the soonest possible time; previous examination and course achievements shall be accredited. ³Section 11 (3) sentences 2 to 4 shall apply.

Section 9 Examinations Committee

(1) ¹The Faculty Council of the Faculty of Sciences shall enlist the help of Examinations Committees responsible for a combination of degree programs to organize examinations. ²One Examinations Committee shall be responsible for each of the following combinations:

1. Bachelor's degree program in Biology (BSc) and Master's degree program in Cell and Molecular Biology (MSc)
2. Bachelor's degree program in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (BSc) and Master's degree program in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (MSc)
3. Bachelor's degree program in Biology (BSc) and Master's degree program in Cell and Molecular Biology (MSc)
4. Master's degree program in GeoThermics/GeoEnergy (MSc)
5. Bachelor's degree program in Physical Geography (BSc) and the Master's degree program in Physical Geography (MSc) Climate & Environmental Sciences (MSc) and the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs in Cultural Geography (BA and MA respectively),
6. Bachelor's degree programs in Chemistry (BSc) and Molecular Science (BSc) and Master's degree programs in Chemistry (MSc) and Molecular Science (MSc).

(2) The composition of each Examinations Committee is governed by the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹The term of office of the members shall be three years. ²Re-election shall be permitted.

(4) The chairpersons may transfer tasks within their responsibility to another member of the relevant Examinations Committee.

(5) ¹The Examinations Committee responsible shall be tasked with carrying out examination procedures, especially the planning and organization of examinations. ²It shall ensure that the provisions of these general degree program and examination regulations are complied with in conjunction with the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**. ³With the exception of the examinations themselves and their assessment, which the examiners are responsible for, all decisions shall be taken by the Examinations Committee. ⁴The Examinations Committee shall check delegated decisions if requested to do so and shall verify that examinations have been legitimately assessed. ⁵It shall regularly report to the Faculty Council on the development of examinations and study periods. ⁶The members of the Examinations Committee shall have the right to be present during examinations. ⁷The Examinations Committee shall have recourse to the Examinations Office when carrying out its tasks. ⁸The affairs of the committee shall be governed by the Constitution of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (**GrO**).

(6) ¹The Examinations Committee shall have a quorum when all members are summoned in writing or electronically, observing a notice period of at least one week, and the majority of members are present and eligible to vote. ²Decisions shall be taken with the majority of votes cast in meetings. ³Abstentions, ballot votes and delegation of votes shall not be permitted. ⁴In case of a tie of votes, the vote of the chairperson shall be decisive.

(7) ¹The chairperson shall call the meetings of the Examinations Committee. ²The chairperson shall be entitled to take decisions that cannot be delayed on behalf of the Examinations Committee. ³The Examinations Committee shall be informed of such cases without delay. ⁴Furthermore, unless these degree program and examination regulations state otherwise, the respective Examinations Committees shall have the right to transfer individual tasks to the chairperson as well as revoke these.

(8) ¹Official notifications in legal matters pertaining to examinations shall be made in writing; reasons shall be given and information on legal remedies available to the person shall be included. ²Students shall be given the opportunity to make a statement before negative decisions are finalized. ³The Examinations Committee shall have the right to rule that notifications may be sent out in electronic form to individual students. ⁴Any notification of objection in questions of examination legislation shall be issued on behalf of the President following consultation with the Examinations Committee and after hearing the examiners.

Section 10 Examiners, Observers, Exclusion Due to Personal Involvement, Obligation to Confidentiality

(1) ¹The Examinations Committee responsible shall appoint the examiners. ²All persons eligible to administer examinations according to the current version of **BayHIG** and the **Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act** shall be eligible for appointment, provided they are members of FAU. ³If an eligible examiner leaves the University, they shall usually remain eligible to act as an examiner for up to one year. ⁴Eligible examiners who only have a temporary contract shall only remain eligible to act as an examiner for the contractually agreed duration of employment. ⁵The relevant Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend this period upon request.

(2) External examiners may be appointed if they are part-time or full-time university lecturers pursuant to Section 19 (1) **BayHIG** or are eligible to administer examinations according to the **Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act** and there is a valid reason for appointing them; however, at least one examiner must be a full-time or part-time lecturer pursuant to Section 19 (1) **BayHIG** at FAU's Faculty of Sciences as their main occupation pursuant to Section 53(4) **BayHIG**.

(3) Provisions deviating from the provisions stipulated in (1) and (2) may apply for the Master's degree program in GeoThermics/GeoEnergy.

(4) A change of examiners shortly before the start of an examination shall be permissible on urgent grounds.

(5) Persons who have completed the degree program in question or an equivalent degree program shall be eligible for appointment as observers.

(6) Exclusion from the deliberation and voting process of the Examinations Committee as well as from the positions of examiner and observer due to personal involvement shall be governed by Section 51 (2) **BayHIG** in conjunction with Sections 20 and 21 **BayVwVfG**.

(7) The obligation to confidentiality of the Examinations Committee responsible and other persons involved in matters pertaining to examinations shall be governed by Section 26 (2) sentences 2 and 3 **BayHIG**.

Section 11 Announcement of Examination Dates and Examiners, Registration, Withdrawal

(1) The dates of the examinations and the names of the examiners shall be announced by the Examinations Office in good time and according to local practice.

(2) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**, students shall register for examinations after the lecture period has started. ²The registration dates and formalities shall be announced according to local practice four weeks in advance. ³In order to sit the examination, students must register correctly on the provided platform.

(3) ¹Notwithstanding the deadlines set forth in Sections 8 and 32, withdrawal from first attempts at examinations for which students have registered pursuant to (2) shall be permitted without stating reasons up until the end of the third working day before the examination date; withdrawals are to be submitted to the examiner. The days between and including Monday and Friday shall be considered working days. ²In cases where the student is unable to sit an examination due to illness, a certificate from an official medical examiner (vertrauensärztliches Attest) may be required by the Examinations Committee responsible. ³The doctor's certificate or certificate from an official medical examiner must include a description of the student's ailment and state how this affects the student's ability to perform to their full potential during the examination, especially due to a reduction in their physical or mental capacity. ⁴In case of withdrawal from an examination due to illness after the examination has started (termination of an examination), the student must submit a certificate from an official medical examiner to the Examinations Office without delay. ⁵Once a student has declared that they wish to withdraw they may not revoke this declaration; registration to the examination on this date shall be canceled once the declaration is submitted and the student shall no longer be entitled to take the examination. ⁶Students shall only be able to register for and sit the examination in a later semester. ⁷The consequences of a delayed or invalid withdrawal shall be governed by Section 14 (1).

Section 12 Admissions Committee for the Master's Degree Program

(1) An admissions committee is appointed for each of the Master's degree programs to evaluate whether applicants meet the qualification and admission requirements.

(2) The composition of each admissions committee is governed by the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**.

(3) Section 9 paragraphs (3), (4) and (6) to (8) shall apply accordingly.

Section 13 Recognition and Accreditation of Skills

(1) ¹Study periods, and course and examination achievements achieved in degree programs or by successfully taking part in a distance learning unit as part of a degree program at FAU or at other public or state-approved universities in the Federal Republic of Germany, or in degree programs at public or state approved universities in countries other than Germany shall be recognized according to these examination regulations unless there are significant differences in the skills acquired and required.

²The same shall apply to course and examination achievements obtained at a public or state approved university in Bavaria within the context of a module program or additional studies, at the Virtual University of Bavaria (vhb), or within the context of an early entrance program or university studies started while still at school. ³Recognition enables students to continue their studies, to take examinations, to start a further degree program or to be admitted to a doctoral degree.

(2) ¹Skills acquired outside the university sector or within the context of degree programs for professional development or for acquiring further qualifications may be accredited if they are equivalent. ²Skills acquired outside the university sector shall replace no more than half of the required skills of which students must provide proof.

(3) ¹The grades achieved in recognized or accredited modules, examinations and course achievements shall be transferred if they were awarded according to Section 22. ²If the grading system applied in the examinations sat at the university or equivalent institution of higher education and accredited or recognized by FAU is not identical to the grading system set forth in Section 22, the grades achieved at other universities shall usually be converted according to the following formula:

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

x = converted grade

N_{\max} = best grade attainable

N_{\min} = lowest grade for passing

N_d = grade attained.

³Only one decimal place is shown for the grades thus calculated. ⁴If conversion is not possible, the Examinations Committee responsible usually determines a system by which to calculate the grades.

(4) ¹If 30 or more ECTS credits are recognized or accredited, the student shall be permitted to enter at a higher semester. ²Students shall move up one semester for every 30 ECTS credits that are accredited. ³Sentences 1 and 2 shall apply to part-time studies with the proviso that students move up one semester after half of the credits stated in sentences 1 and 2 are accredited or recognized.

(5) ¹Students must file an application for recognition and accreditation. ²The documents needed for this accreditation shall be submitted to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee. ³Subject to the provisions in sentence 4, the student shall have a legal claim to accreditation or recognition if the conditions stipulated in (1) and (2) are met. ³Accreditation or recognition is only possible if the student has not already lost the right to be examined in that subject at FAU by passing or failing to pass the relevant examination at the final attempt. ⁴The decision shall rest with the chairperson of the Examinations Committee after consultation with the department representative appointed by the department in question; the decision shall be issued in writing.

Section 14 Consequences of Delayed Withdrawal, Breach of Regulations, Fraud, Exclusion from Further Participation

(1) ¹An examination shall be graded as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) if the student fails to attend an examination on the examination date without good reasons or if the student withdraws from the examination after the withdrawal deadline (Section 11 (3)) without good reasons; Section 8 (3) shall remain unaffected. ²The reasons for withdrawal or absence according to sentence 1 shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the Examinations Office without delay. Section 11 (3) sentences 2 to 4 shall apply accordingly. ³If the Examinations Committee accepts the reasons, the examination must be sat on the next possible date.

(2) ¹In case of plagiarism or an attempt to commit fraud or to influence the result of an examination through the use of unauthorized aids, the examination in question shall be graded "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory, 5.0). ²Unauthorized aids for completing examination or course achievements pursuant to sentence 1 include in particular the use of chatbots or other artificial intelligence that is capable of replacing the student's own performance, unless this is expressly permitted by the examiner.

(3) Persons who disturb the orderly examination process may be excluded from continuing the examination in question by the authorized examiner or the supervising person; in this case the examination achievement in question shall be considered to be "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory; 5.0).

(4) In the case of repeated or severe breaches as stipulated in (2) or (3), the Examinations Committee may exclude students from participating in the examination, resulting in the student losing the right of examination in the relevant module (failed at the final attempt).

Section 15 Revocation of Degrees

The revocation of Bachelor's and Master's degrees shall be governed by Section 101 **BayHIG**.

Section 16 Faults in the Examination Process

(1) Should it turn out that the examination process was faulty in a manner that influenced the result of the examination, it shall be ordered upon a student's request that a certain student or all students shall resit the examination or parts of the same.

(2) Faults in the examination process shall be reported to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee or the examiner without delay.

(3) Six months after completion of the examination, resit examinations may no longer be ordered as stipulated in paragraph (1).

Section 17 Written Examination, Multiple Choice Examinations

(1) ¹In written examinations students are required to prove that they are capable of identifying a problem within a limited period and with limited materials, using the conventional methods employed in their field, and to find a solution to this problem. ²This applies in particular to invigilated written examinations (*Klausur*). ³With the exception of a traditional written examination (*Klausur*), written examinations may also be held as open book examinations during which students have to complete one or several tasks in a certain time without supervision using either a wide range of aids or

whichever aids they like, but without the assistance of third parties. Further details are stipulated in the module description. ⁴In the case of examinations as defined in sentence 3, tasks shall as far as possible be tailored to test higher-level skills such as understanding, analysis, transfer and application.

(2) ¹Changing the examination form from an (electronic) written examination to an oral examination may be possible in exceptional circumstances after the semester has started if the respective **degree program and examination regulations** allow for both forms of examinations and the teaching concept of a module has been changed accordingly at short notice. ²The decision shall be taken by the module coordinator. ³They shall inform students at the latest two weeks after lectures begin if the examination is to be an oral examination instead of an (electronic) written examination. ⁴The form of the resit examination in semesters in which the teaching unit is not held shall follow the form taken by the examination in the semester in which the teaching unit was last held. ⁵Resit examinations in semesters in which the teaching unit is held shall follow the examination form chosen for the semester in question.

(2) The duration of the written examination shall be governed by the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹Written examinations shall be graded by the author of the examination questions unless stipulated otherwise in the **degree program and examination regulations**. ²If a written examination achievement is graded as "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory) it shall be presented to a second examiner for evaluation. ³The examiner's evaluation must be documented in writing and reasons for the final grade must be made clear.

(4) ¹Written examinations may take the form of multiple-choice examinations (with one or more possible correct answers), either in full or in part. ²Detailed information on the modules with multiple choice examinations is given in the module handbook. ³The examinee shall state which of the answers to the questions they deem to be correct. ⁴Examination questions must allow for reliable examination results. ⁵When drawing up the examination questions, it shall be specified which of the answers shall be accepted as correct. ⁶If the question does not allow multiple answers, multiple answers shall be inadmissible and disregarded. ⁷Before the evaluation of the examination results, at least two of the authors of the examination shall assess whether the examination questions meet the requirement set out in sentence 4. ⁸Should they determine that individual examination questions are faulty, these shall not be taken into account in the evaluation of the examination result; the number of examination questions shall be considered to have been reduced. ⁹This reduction of the number of examination questions must not result in disadvantages for any of the examinees. ¹⁰No minus points may be awarded outside of individual examination questions.

(5) ¹The authors of the examination pursuant to (5)(7) shall determine when the examinations have been passed pursuant to (5)(1) and shall set a relative pass limit (sentence 2 (2)). ²Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant degree program and examination regulations, examinations pursuant to (4) sentence 1 shall be deemed to have been passed if

1. the examinee answered at least 50 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 50 percent of the attainable points, or
2. the examinee answered at least 40 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 40 percent of the attainable points and the number of

correct answers/points obtained is no more than 17 percent below the average number of correct answers/points obtained by all examinees sitting the examination for the first time.

³The reference group of examinees sitting the examination for the first time pursuant to sentence 2(2) must consist of at least 50 people, otherwise the relative pass limit shall not be applicable. ²If sentence 2(2) is applied, the Dean of Studies shall be notified.

(6) In case of written examinations that are not entirely composed of multiple choice questions, paragraphs (4) and (5) shall only apply to the respective part.

Section 18 Oral Examination

(1) ¹In oral examinations students must demonstrate both general and specific knowledge of the subject being tested. ²Unless stipulated otherwise, the oral examinations shall be held as individual examinations. ³Oral examinations taken by just one authorized examiner shall be conducted in the presence of an observer appointed by the examiner.

(2) The duration of oral examinations shall be governed by the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹Changing the examination form from an oral examination to an (electronic) written examination may be possible in exceptional circumstances after the semester has started if the respective **degree program and examination regulations** allow for both forms of examinations and the teaching concept of a module has been changed accordingly at short notice. ²The decision shall be taken by the module coordinator. ³They shall inform students at the latest two weeks after lectures begin if the examination is to be an (electronic) written examination instead of an oral examination. ⁴The form of the resit examination in semesters in which the teaching unit is not held shall follow the form taken by the examination in the semester in which the teaching unit was last held. ⁵Resit examinations in semesters in which the teaching unit is held shall follow the examination form chosen for the semester in question.

(4) In oral examinations in the presence of several authorized examiners, each examiner shall determine the grade according to Section 22.

(5) ¹A record shall be kept of the oral examination; this shall include the following: Place, date and duration of the examination; name of the module to which the examination belongs and number of ECTS credits allocated to the module; subject and result of the examination; the names of the examiners, the observer and the student; and any special occurrences. ²The record shall be signed by the authorized examiners and the observer. ³It shall not be necessary to record the questions asked in the examination or the answers given. ⁴The record shall be stored for at least two years.

(6) ¹Students planning to undergo the same examination during a subsequent examination period shall be permitted to be present as listeners during oral examinations upon request, within the bounds of feasibility with regard to the examination's location and at the examiner's discretion; listeners shall be excluded at the examinee's request. ²Students granted permission to attend the oral examination shall not be permitted to be present during the deliberation process and the announcement of the examination result.

Section 19 Talks and Presentations

(1) ¹In presentations and talks, students should prove that they are capable of working independently on a scientific topic, presenting it clearly for a particular audience and defending their point of view in expert discussions. ²Presentations and talks are assessed on the basis of content, verbal presentation, conduct during the discussion and, if applicable, performance during the preparation of the presentation. ³The person who assigns the topic of the presentation should generally be appointed an examiner, subject to the provisions in Section 10. ⁴If several authorized examiners pursuant to Section 10 (1) attend a presentation/talk, there shall be no need to include an observer.

(2) Section 18 (2) and (3) shall apply accordingly.

(3) Presentations may be declared as public in the **degree program and examination regulations** or in the module handbook; in this case listeners shall be permitted without the restriction stipulated in Section 18 (6).

Section 20 Practical Achievements

¹The type and scope of the examinations in the practical modules depend on the specific manner in which the respective module is taught; see module handbook for details. ²As a rule, the examination consists of conducting various experiments and documenting the experiments in a series of reports or lab book. ³It is possible for the documentation of individual experiments to be submitted in advance for an interim assessment.

Section 21 On-Campus Electronic Examinations

¹Examinations may be administered in electronic form on campus. ²Detailed information on the modules in which examinations are held in electronic form on campus is given in the module handbook. ³Electronic examinations (e-examinations) are examinations which are administered and evaluated via computer or using digital technology. ⁴The authenticity and integrity of the examination results shall be verified. ⁵Automatically calculated evaluations of examination achievements shall be verified by one examiner at the request of the examinee or two examiners in case of a failed examination.

Section 22 Evaluation of Examinations, Grades, Final Grade

(1) ¹The evaluation of individual examinations shall be expressed by the examiners with the following grades:

Grade (in words)	Grade	Explanation
sehr gut (very good)	= (1.0 or 1.3)	an outstanding achievement
gut (good)	= (1.7 or 2.0 or 2.3)	an achievement that exceeds the average requirements considerably
befriedigend (satisfactory)	= (2.7 or 3.0 or 3.3)	an achievement that fulfills average requirements;
ausreichend (sufficient)	= (3.7 or 4.0)	an achievement that fulfills the requirements despite flaws
nicht ausreichend (unsatisfactory)	= (4.3 or 4.7 or 5.0)	an achievement that no longer fulfills requirements due to considerable flaws.

²An examination (Section 6 (2)) has been passed if it has received at least the grade "ausreichend" (sufficient). ³For ungraded examinations (Section 6 (3)(4)) the result shall be either "bestanden" (pass) or "nicht bestanden" (fail). ⁴Except when otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**, a module

examination shall have been passed when all parts of the examination or partial achievements (Section 6 (2)(3)) have been passed. ⁵If an examination has several examiners or consists of several parts or partial achievements, the total grade is calculated from the weighted average of the individual grades; the grading system described in sentence 1 shall not be used. ²Sentence 5 can also be applied to examinations that are not an examination consisting of several parts as defined in Section 6 (2)(3) but still consist of several different components (for example a written examination with a combination of multiple choice questions and open-ended questions). Details of how to grade such examinations shall be stipulated in the **degree program and examination regulations**. ⁷One decimal place shall count towards the module grade; further decimal places shall be omitted without being rounded.

(2) ¹The authors of the examination shall set the assessment criteria for multiple choice examination achievements pursuant to Section 17 (4)(7). ²If no assessment criteria are set, the examinations shall be graded as follows:³Students who answer the required minimum of examination questions according to Section 17 (5)(1) correctly shall receive the grade

- very good (sehr gut) if at least 75 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved,
- good (gut) if at least 50 percent but less than 75 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved,
- satisfactory (befriedigend) if at least 25 percent but less than 50 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved,
- sufficient (ausreichend) if 0 or less than 25 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved.

of the remaining examination questions were answered correctly.

⁴The grade scale set forth at (1)(1) shall apply; the grades 0.7, 4.3 and 4.7 shall not be awarded. ⁵Students who do not achieve the required minimum shall receive the grade 5.0. ⁶Notwithstanding Sentence 4, in addition to the grade 5.0, the grades 4.3 and 4.7 may also be awarded in cases in which examinations according to Section 17 (6) partly take the form of a multiple choice examination.

(3) The Grundlagen und Orientierungsprüfung (**GOP**) shall have been passed if the requirements stipulated in Section 29 of these examination regulations and in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations** have been fulfilled.

(4) ¹The overall grade of the Bachelor's examination, the Master's examination and the modules shall be as follows:

- at an average of up to 1.5 = sehr gut (very good)
- at an average of over 1.5 and up to 2.5 = gut (good)
- at an average of over 2.5 and up to 3.5 = befriedigend (satisfactory)
- at an average of over 3.5 and up to 4.0 = ausreichend (sufficient)
- at an average of over 4.0 = nicht ausreichend (unsatisfactory).

²The applicable **degree program and examination regulations** may stipulate that students who pass their Bachelor's or Master's examination with a total grade better than 1.2 may receive a degree "with distinction".

(5) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**, the module grades shall be calculated from the average of the individual grades achieved in the examinations within the meaning of Section 6 (2)(3); the grading system described in (1) shall not apply. ²Only one decimal place shall count towards

the module grade; further decimal places shall be omitted without being rounded. ³If the Bachelor's and Master's thesis modules consist of a thesis and an oral part, the relevant **degree program and examination regulations** may stipulate that the Bachelor's and Master's thesis as well as the rest of the module shall be weighted according to their number of ECTS credits when calculating the module grade. ⁴If there is only one graded examination in a module, this grade shall be the grade for the module. ⁵If the examination is not graded, the successfully completed module shall have the result "bestanden" (pass).

(6) ¹Unless otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**, all module grades of the Bachelor's or Master's degree program shall be included in the calculation of the final grade of the Bachelor's or Master's examination, weighted according to their ECTS credits. ² Paragraph 1 sentence 5 (2) and sentence 7 shall apply accordingly.

Section 23 Invalidity of Examinations

(1) If fraudulent methods were used during the examination and if this only becomes known after the certificate has been awarded, the Examinations Committee responsible may correct the grade retrospectively and declare the examination as having been failed in part or in full.

(2) If the requirements for admission to the examination were not fulfilled while no fraudulent acts were committed willfully, these circumstances shall be considered remedied by the passing of the examination.

(3) Students shall be given the opportunity to make a statement before a decision is taken.

(4) ¹The incorrect certificates shall be withdrawn; new certificates shall be issued if applicable. ²A decision according to paragraph (1) shall be excluded after a period of five years starting with the certificate's date of issue.

Section 24 Inspection of Examination Records

(1) After the completion of the individual examination procedures, students shall on request be entitled to inspect their written examination papers, the corresponding reviews by the examiners, and the examination records.

(2) ¹Students shall submit the request to the examination body responsible within one month of being notified of their grades. ²Unless the Examinations Office is responsible, the examiner shall allow the inspection; further details shall be decided by the Examinations Committee. ³Students prevented from observing the deadline according to (1) through no fault of their own shall be granted full restitution according to Section 32 of the **Bavarian Administrative Procedures Act (BayVwVfG)**.

Section 25 Final Academic Record, Transcript of Records, Diploma Supplement, Grade Distribution Table and Degree Certificate

(1) ¹Students who have successfully completed a degree program pursuant to these degree program and examination regulations shall receive a final academic record, a transcript of records, a diploma supplement, a grade distribution table and a degree certificate, generally within four weeks. ²The certificate shall be signed by the chairperson of the relevant Examinations Committee.

(2) ¹The final academic record shall contain the modules and module grades and the final grade of the Bachelor's or Master's examination; it shall also cite the topic of the Bachelor's or Master's thesis. ²The transcript of records lists all modules attended; the final academic record and the transcript of records may be combined into one document. ³The transcript of records and the diploma supplement shall be issued in English and German. ⁴Information not yet available to the Examinations Office must be submitted together with the required proof by the time of the degree program's completion at the latest; otherwise this information may no longer be taken into consideration for the documents listed in paragraph (1).

(3) The **degree program and examination regulations** for the Master's degree program GeoThermics/GeoEnergy offered in cooperation with the TUM may stipulate other provisions.

Section 26 Notification of Failed Examinations

¹Students who fail the Bachelor's or Master's examination at the final attempt shall receive notification that the examination has been failed at the final attempt, including information on legal remedies available. ²Students can also print off an overview of their grades achieved in the individual modules in the examination administration system.

Section 27 Adjustments to Examination Arrangements

(1) ¹The examination procedure shall be adjusted to take into account the nature and extent of a student's disability. ²Students with a doctor's certificate showing credibly that they are either partially or fully incapable of sitting the examination in the intended manner due to long-term or permanent disabilities which do not affect the performance which is being tested shall be entitled to be granted permission by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee to have this disadvantage offset by working time being extended accordingly or the examination process being structured differently. However, care must be taken to ensure that the examination is still suitable to provide evidence of skills which are being assessed by the examination. ³Sentences 1 and 2 shall apply accordingly to students in special circumstances, the effects of which on the student's ability to sit the examination are similar to a longer illness or disability as stated above in sentence 2.

(2) Adjustments to examination arrangements may be made for pregnant students, if the student submits a medical certificate confirming that she will be at least 30 weeks pregnant by the examination date to the Examinations Committee responsible at the latest four weeks before the examination date.

(3) ¹Decisions pursuant to (1) and (2) shall only be taken by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee upon written request and after consulting with the Disability Liaison Officer. ²The student may be required to submit an official certificate from a medical examiner (vertrauensärztliches Attest) proving the fulfillment of the conditions in paragraph (1) or other proof confirming the student's special circumstances. ³Applications for adjustments to examination arrangements should be made to the Examinations Committee responsible no later than four weeks before the examination.

Part II: Bachelor's Examination

Section 28 Admission Requirements for Examinations

(1) ¹Students enrolled in a Bachelor's degree program shall be deemed as admitted to the Bachelor's examination and the module examinations of which the Bachelor's examination consists, unless admission is to be refused. ²Admission shall be refused if:

1. Requirements are not met or certificates are not submitted at all or not in due time as stipulated in the special provisions of these examination regulations (Sections 29-31) and in the **degree program and examination regulations**
2. The applicant has failed the **GOP**, the Bachelor's examination, the Diplom intermediary examination or the Diplom examination, the intermediary examination or the Magister examination in the same subject or in an equivalent subject pursuant to the **degree program and examination regulations** at the final attempt.
3. It has been ordered that the student is to be de-registered, resulting in the revocation of the student's right to sit the examination.

³The cases in sentence 2 also constitute an obstacle to enrollment.

(2) If admission to the examinations is to be refused, the decision shall be taken without delay, furnished with reasons and information on legal remedies available, and announced to the student.

Section 29 Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP)

(1) In the GOP, students should prove that they:

- can fulfill the requirements of an academic course of study in the chosen subjects
- have acquired the methodological skills required to continue their studies successfully.

(2) ¹The GOP shall have been passed when the modules designated as part of the GOP in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations** have been passed and all requirements stipulated in the **degree program and examination regulations** have been fulfilled. ²The relevant **degree program and examination regulations** shall specify the subject, type and scope of the GOP.

Section 30 Bachelor's Examination

¹The **degree program and examination regulations** shall specify the subjects, type and scope of the Bachelor's examination. ²The Bachelor's examination shall have been passed if all subject modules required according to the relevant **degree program and examination regulations** have been passed achieving 180 ECTS credits.

Section 31 Bachelor's Thesis

(1) ¹The Bachelor's thesis is intended to show that the student is capable of dealing with a problem from the subject area covered by the degree program independently according to academic methods within a set period and can present the results in an appropriate form. ²As a rule, the Bachelor's thesis module is worth 10 to 15 ECTS; further details are stipulated in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**.

(2) ¹The relevant **degree program and examination regulations** govern who is eligible to assign Bachelor's theses (act as a supervisor). ²The Examinations Committee responsible shall have the right to grant exceptions. ³The Examinations Committee responsible may permit students to write their Bachelor's thesis at an institution outside the University if supervision there is ensured.

(3) ¹Students shall ensure that they are allocated a subject for their Bachelor's thesis in time to observe the deadlines set forth in Section 8, usually at the start of the last semester in the regular duration of studies. ²The Examinations Office shall be notified of the subject and the date of allocation. ³Should a student not be allocated a subject despite a genuine effort to that end, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee responsible shall, in consultation with a representative of the student's department, allocate a subject and a supervisor to the student. ⁴The **degree program and examination regulations** may stipulate conditions for allocating a Bachelor's thesis deviating from those stipulated in sentence 1.

(4) ¹Depending on the **degree program and examination regulations**, the period between assigning the topic and submitting the Bachelor's thesis shall range between eight and twelve weeks. ²The scope of the subject must be such that it can be completed within the standard thesis work period. ³The Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend the period for the thesis by a maximum of four weeks upon receiving a justified request; the **degree program and examination regulations** can stipulate other extension periods. ⁴If a student submits a doctor's certificate proving that they are incapable of working on the thesis due to illness, the period for thesis work shall be suspended temporarily. ⁵If the period for working on the thesis is suspended for a considerable period of time as defined in sentence 4 (3 months minimum), the Examinations Committee responsible shall check whether the period for working on the thesis ought to be terminated due to ill health, in which case the Bachelor's thesis shall be registered with a new topic once the student is well again. ⁶Sentences 4 and 5 shall apply accordingly in cases in which the student is prevented from working on the Bachelor's thesis due to serious reasons beyond their control and outside their sphere of risk.

(5) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the **degree program and examination regulations**, the subject of the Bachelor's thesis cannot be returned. ²If the subject is returned where it is not admissible, the Bachelor's thesis shall be graded "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory; 5.0); it shall be regarded as rejected. ³Sentence 2 shall apply accordingly if the Bachelor's thesis is not submitted by the deadline.

(6) ¹Unless otherwise stipulated in the **degree program and examination regulations**, the thesis shall be written in German, or in English with the permission of the supervisor. ²If the supervisor agrees, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee responsible may permit students to write the thesis in a different language upon request.

(7) ¹The Bachelor's thesis shall generally be evaluated by the supervisor and another examiner appointed by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee. ²Any provisions to the contrary shall be stipulated in the **degree program and examination regulations**. ³The chairperson of the Examinations Committee responsible shall arrange for the thesis to be graded within one month as far as possible.

(8) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**, and depending on the number of evaluations pursuant to (7), one hard copy (one evaluation) or two hard copies (two evaluations) shall be submitted to the Examinations Office together with three copies in a machine-readable, electronic version (pdf document on a CD-ROM). ²The thesis may be left in the letterbox of the Examinations Office, personally handed in to the Examinations Office during office hours, or posted to the Examinations Office. ³In the first two cases, the thesis must have been submitted by the last day of the period allocated for working on the thesis. If the thesis is sent by post, the date of the postmark is decisive. ⁴The bound copies and the electronic copy shall be forwarded to the supervisor, who shall forward one copy and the electronic copy to the second supervisor. ⁵The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by the Examinations Committee responsible. ⁵The Bachelor's thesis shall include a declaration by the student confirming that the thesis is an original work and that no other sources or materials than the ones listed were used; Section 14 (2)(2) shall apply.

(9) ¹The Bachelor's thesis shall be accepted if it receives at least the grade "ausreichend" (sufficient) from all examiners. ²It shall be rejected if it receives the grade "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory) from all examiners. ³If two evaluations are submitted and one examiner grades the thesis as "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory) and the other examiner grades it as at least "ausreichend" (sufficient), a third examiner shall be appointed. ⁴If this examiner grades the thesis as "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory) it shall be rejected; otherwise the thesis shall be given the grade which is the arithmetic average of the grades of all three evaluations; Section 22 (1) sentences 5 and 7 shall apply.

(10) ¹If the Bachelor's thesis has been accepted according to (9)(1) and if examiners give the thesis a different grade in those cases where two evaluations are required, the final grade of the Bachelor's thesis shall be the arithmetic average of the grades from the two examiners; the grading system pursuant to Section 22 (1)(1) shall not apply and only one decimal place shall be shown in the final thesis grade. ²If there is a discrepancy of two or more entire grades between the evaluations of the two examiners (= "very good", "good"...), (9) sentences 3 and 4 shall apply accordingly.

(11) ¹If a Bachelor's thesis is rejected, it may be repeated only once; a second repetition or revision shall not be permitted. ²The student shall ensure that they receive a new subject for the repetition of the Bachelor's thesis within two months following the announcement of the rejection; otherwise the Bachelor's thesis shall be regarded as having been failed at the final attempt; paragraph 3 (3) and (4) shall apply accordingly. ³ Paragraphs 1 and 2, paragraph 3 sentences 3 and 4 and paragraphs 4 to 10 shall apply accordingly in the case of a repetition.

Section 32 Resit Examinations

(1) ¹With the exception of the **GOP** and the Bachelor's thesis module, every failed module examination or partial examination may be resat twice. ²The resit examination shall be limited to the failed examination or course achievement. ³Section 31 (11) shall apply to the repetition of the Bachelor's thesis module. ⁴The resit examination must be sat on the next possible date, which shall generally be in the semester following the first examination. ⁵The student shall be considered as registered for the next resit examination. ⁶Students shall be obliged to check the status of their registration in the examination administration system regularly and inform the Examinations Office

immediately of any discrepancies. ⁷The resit period shall not be interrupted by de-registration or leave of absence. ⁸If a student misses the resit examination or the resit period is not observed, the examination shall be deemed to have been failed unless the Examinations Committee responsible grants the student a respite due to special reasons beyond the student's control. The standard deadlines according to Section 8 (1) shall continue to apply. ⁹The provisions regarding maternity protection, parental leave and caregiver leave (Section 8(2)) shall apply.

(2) Voluntarily resitting a passed examination of the same module shall not be permitted.

Section 33 Key Qualifications

(1) Students in Bachelor's and Master's degree programs must successfully complete modules worth a maximum of 20 ECTS credits in the key qualifications area.

(2) The degree program and examination regulations may limit the selection in the core skills area or make certain modules compulsory.

Section 34 Additional Modules

(1) ¹Additional modules are modules included in the degree program (e. g. elective modules, key qualifications) that are attended within the examination periods as stipulated in Section 8 in addition to successfully completed modules. ²If a student completes additional modules of the degree program at FAU, the student shall decide which of the modules shall go into the calculation of the final grade. ³Students shall notify the Examinations Office of their decision at the latest eight weeks before the degree certificate is issued. ⁴This decision is binding. ⁵If no choice is made and if there are different modules from which to choose, the Examinations Office shall use the module with the better grade for the calculation.

(2) ¹Modules from other degree programs offered as partial qualifications for this degree program are also classed as additional modules. ²Examination procedures for such modules are governed by the regulations stipulated in the **degree program and examination regulations** for the degree program containing the additional module. ³Additional modules pursuant to (2) are not included in the final grade, but are shown in a separate section of the transcript of records. ⁴If the student files a request with the Examinations Office at the latest eight weeks before certificates are issued, individual additional modules may be omitted from the final certificate.

(3) The **degree program and examination regulations** may contain provisions deviating from (1) and (2).

Part III: Master's Examination

Section 35 Qualification for a Master's Degree Program

(1) ¹In order to qualify for admission to a Master's degree program, students must have:

1. An undergraduate degree from a university that is subject-specific, subject-related or relevant to the specific Master's degree program or another equivalent German or non-German qualification with equivalent content.
2. Passing the qualification assessment process according to the **Appendix**.

²The relevant **degree program and examination regulations** for the Master's degree program stipulate which qualifications are considered subject-specific, subject-related or equivalent pursuant to sentence 1 item 1.

(2) ¹Degrees according to (1)(1)(1) and (1)(2) must be equivalent to the subject-specific Bachelor's examination according to these examination regulations and the **relevant degree program and examination regulations** with regard to the knowledge gained. ²If there are significant differences which can be compensated for, the Admissions Committee may grant admission under the condition that proof of further achievements worth up to a maximum of 20 ECTS credits and to be determined by the Admissions Committee be submitted within one year of taking up studies for a Master's degree program. ³Admission in this case shall be granted conditionally.

(3) ¹Notwithstanding (1)(1)(1), students who are enrolled in a Bachelor's degree program may be admitted to a Master's degree program if they have achieved a minimum number of ECTS credits according to the provisions stipulated in the relevant degree program and examination regulations; the minimum number of ECTS credits shall be no less than 135. ²Proof of the successfully completed Bachelor's degree must be submitted at the latest within one year of taking up the Master's degree program; completing the Bachelor's degree program is a prerequisite for formally starting the Master's degree program. ³Admission to the Master's degree program shall be granted conditionally.

Section 36 Admission to Examinations

¹Students enrolled in the Master's degree program shall be considered admitted to the Master's examination and the module examinations of which the Master's examination consists, unless admission is to be refused. ²Admission shall be refused if:

1. Requirements are not met or certificates are not submitted at all or not in due time as stipulated in the special provisions of these examination regulations (Sections 37-39) and in the **degree program and examination regulations**
2. The student has failed the Diplom, Magister or Master's examination in a degree program classed according to the **degree program and examination regulations** as being in the same or a comparable subject at the final attempt
3. It has been ordered that the student is to be de-registered, resulting in the revocation of the student's right to sit the examination.

³The cases in sentence 2 also constitute an obstacle to enrollment. ⁴Section 28 (2) shall apply accordingly.

Section 37 Master's Examination

(1) ¹The Master's examination shall consist of all module examinations throughout the degree program including the Master's thesis module. ²The relevant **degree program and examination regulations** may stipulate that the Master's thesis is to be complemented by a final oral examination in the same module (Master's colloquium). ³To complete the Master's degree, students must pass all required module examinations including the Master's thesis module and oral examination, if applicable. ⁴Modules which have already been the subject of a Bachelor's examination cannot usually be accredited as part of the Master's examination due to the specific subject skills that must be gained as part of the qualification goals of the consecutive Master's degree program; the Examinations Committee responsible can allow exceptions.

(2) The relevant **degree program and examination regulations** shall specify the subjects, type and scope of the Master's examination.

Section 38 Master's Thesis

(1) ¹The Master's thesis is a graded written assignment that concludes the Master's degree. ²It is intended to show that the student is capable of dealing with a problem from their field independently and according to scientific methods within a set period. ³In order to avoid plagiarism, the Master's thesis may not to any significant degree be identical to a previously submitted Diplom, Bachelor's or Master's thesis or dissertation or an extended written assignment (Zulassungsarbeit) in a teaching degree program (Lehramt); Section 15 shall remain unaffected. ⁴According to the provisions set forth in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**, 25 or 30 ECTS credits are awarded for the Master's thesis module.

(2) ¹Students shall ensure that they are allocated a subject for their Master's thesis in time to observe the deadlines set forth in Section 8, usually at the start of the last semester in the regular duration of studies. ²The subject and the date of its allocation shall be confirmed by the supervisor and presented to the Examinations Office. ³Should a student not be allocated a subject, despite a genuine effort to that end, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall, in consultation with a representative of the student's department, allocate a subject and a supervisor to the student. ⁴The **degree program and examination regulations** may stipulate conditions for allocating a Master's thesis deviating from sentence 1.

(3) ¹The relevant **degree program and examination regulations** govern who is eligible to assign Master's theses (act as a supervisor). ²Section 31 (2) sentences 2 and 3 and (7) shall apply accordingly.

(4) ¹The time between the selection of a subject and the submission of the Master's thesis shall be six months; the scope of the subject must be such that it can be dealt with within this period. ²If the **degree program and examination regulations** do not stipulate otherwise, the Examinations Committee responsible can extend the period for working on the thesis up to twice by six weeks at a time. ³If a student submits a doctor's certificate proving that they are incapable of working on the Master's thesis, the period for thesis work shall be suspended temporarily. ⁴If the period for working on the thesis is suspended for a considerable period of time as defined in sentence 4 (6 months minimum), the Examinations Committee responsible shall check whether the period for working on the thesis ought to be terminated due to ill health, in which case the Master's thesis shall be registered with a new topic once the student is well again. ⁵Sentences 3 and 4 shall apply accordingly in cases in which the student is prevented from working on the Master's thesis due to serious reasons beyond their control and outside their sphere of risk.

(5) ¹The subject may only be returned once with good reason and with the approval of the chairperson of the Examinations Committee within the first third of the period for thesis work. ²Otherwise the Master's thesis shall be graded "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory; 5.0) if the subject is returned; it shall be regarded as rejected.

(6) ¹The relevant degree program and examination regulations govern the language in which the Master's thesis is to be written. ²The Master's thesis shall contain a summary of results at the end. ³The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by

the Examinations Committee responsible. ⁴The Master's thesis shall include a declaration by the student confirming that the thesis is an original work and that no other sources or materials than the ones listed were used; Section 14 (2)(2) shall apply. ⁵Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**, two hard copies of the Master's thesis and two machine-readable, electronic copies (PDF document on CD-ROM or another storage device approved by the Examinations Office) shall be submitted to the Examinations Office; the date of submission shall be recorded in writing. ⁶The thesis may be left in the letterbox of the Examinations Office, personally handed in to the Examinations Office during office hours, or posted to the Examinations Office. ⁷In the first two cases, the thesis must have been submitted by the last day of the period allocated for working on the thesis. If the thesis is sent by post, the date of the postmark is decisive. ⁸If the Master's thesis is not submitted in time, it shall be graded "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory; 5.0); it shall be regarded as rejected.

(7) Section 31 (7) and (9) shall apply accordingly.

(8) ¹If the Master's thesis has been accepted according to (7) in conjunction with Section 31 (9) (1) and if in the case of evaluation by two examiners the evaluations of the two examiners are no more than two grade levels apart, the grade of the Master's thesis shall be the arithmetic average of the grades from the two examiners; the grading system pursuant to Section 22 (1)(1) shall not apply and only one decimal place shall be shown in the final thesis grade. ²If the evaluations from the two examiners differ by more than two grade levels, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee responsible shall appoint a third examiner. ³The average of the three grades shall be calculated. The grade scale set forth in Section 22 (1)(1) shall not apply and only one decimal place shall be shown in the final thesis grade.

(9) ¹If the Master's thesis is rejected or if it is regarded as rejected, it may be repeated once; a second repetition shall not be permitted. ²The student shall ensure that they receive a new subject for the repetition of the Master's thesis within the semester following the announcement of the rejection at the latest. ³Otherwise the Master's thesis shall be regarded as having been failed at the final attempt; (2)(3) shall apply accordingly. ⁴Paragraphs 1 and 2 sentences 2 to 4 and paragraphs 3 to 8 shall apply accordingly for the repetition of the Master's thesis; returning the subject shall not be permitted. ⁵The chairperson of the Examinations Committee may permit the student to submit a revised version of the Master's thesis within two months of the announcement of its rejection provided the student agrees and this has not been ruled out after the review. Revision shall not be permitted if the Master's thesis was rejected on grounds of fraud or plagiarism. ⁶Sentence 4 shall apply accordingly if a student is permitted to submit a revised version of the thesis.

Section 39 Resitting Examinations, Additional Modules

Unless stipulated otherwise in the **degree program and examination regulations** Sections 32 and 34 shall apply accordingly to resitting examinations and taking additional modules.

Part IV: Final provisions

Section 40 Legal Validity, Transitory Provisions

(1) ¹These examination regulations shall come into effect on October 1, 2023. ²They shall apply to all students studying in accordance with the General Degree Program and Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programs at the Faculty of Sciences at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU) – **ABMPO/NatFak** – dated October 28, 2019, last amended by statute of August 27, 2020, at the time the regulations come into effect and those students who start to study as of winter semester 2023/2024. ³Notwithstanding sentences 1 and 2, the amendments in **Appendix 1** shall apply to students applying for a Master's degree program as of summer semester 2024; until that time, the provisions stipulated in the regulations stated in paragraph (2) shall continue to apply.

(2) ¹Once these regulations come into effect, the General Degree Program and Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programs at the Faculty of Sciences at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU) – **ABMPO/NatFak** – dated October 28, 2019, last amended by the statute dated August 20, 2020 shall become invalid, notwithstanding the provisions in (1)(3). ²The **degree program and examination regulations** supplementing the regulations mentioned in sentence 1 are subject to these examination regulations as of the date of validity.

Appendix

Qualification assessment process for Master's degree programs pursuant to Section 1 (1)(1)

(1) The qualification assessment process for the relevant Master's degree program shall be carried out once before the start of the lecture period of the semester preceding the regular start of a degree program.

(2) ¹Applications for the qualification assessment process must be submitted via the FAU application portal during a time period published on the degree program's website pursuant to sentences 2 and 3. ²Provided the Master's degree program allows for applications for the summer semester, applications can be submitted either between September 15 and November 30 of each year or from October 15 of one year until January 15 of the following year. ³Applications for the winter semester can be submitted between February 15 and May 31 each year or from April 15 until July 15 each year. ⁴The start and end dates for the application period specified in sentences 2 and 3 may also be combined in other ways; different start and end dates may only be selected within the scope of sentence 5. ⁵In justified exceptional cases, the **degree program and examination regulations** of each Master's degree program can specify deadlines that deviate from those in sentences 2 and 3. ⁶The application shall include:

1. A certificate proving that the applicant holds a university degree according to Section 35 (1)(1)(1) (final academic record, transcript of records, diploma supplement or comparable documents),
2. If the Bachelor's degree certificate is not yet available, a transcript of records containing the minimum number of ECTS credits required pursuant to the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**,
3. Where applicable, further documents as proof of fulfillment of the requirements set forth in the relevant **degree program and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹In accordance with Section 12, qualification assessment shall be the responsibility of the admissions committee of the Master's degree program in question. ²The admissions committee may transfer the task of coordinating and carrying out the process to individual members unless otherwise stated. ³The Admissions Committee shall fulfill its obligations in cooperation with the Master's Office.

(4) ¹Admission to the qualification assessment process shall be subject to the timely and complete submission of the documents listed in paragraph (2). ²The qualification assessment process shall be carried out with those applicants who fulfill the requirements according to the provisions in paragraph (5). ³Applicants who are rejected shall receive a rejection notification including reasons and information on legal remedies available.

(5) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the **degree program and examination regulations**, the qualification assessment process shall be conducted in accordance with the following provisions. ²The relevant Admissions Committee shall select applicants based on the submitted documents as part of the qualification assessment process to assess whether they are qualified for a Master's degree program. ³The Admissions Committee shall deem the applicant qualified based on submitted documents if the final grade of the subject-specific or subject-related/equivalent degree fulfills the provisions under Section 35 (1)(1), sentence 2 or in the case of Section

35 (3) if the student has achieved an average of 2.5 (good) or better in their previous achievements; for degrees graded on the basis of a different grading system Section 13 (3) sentences 1 to 3 shall apply accordingly. ⁴Applicants who cannot be admitted to the Master's degree program on the basis of their submitted qualifications alone and have a grade of at least 3.0 in an equivalent degree shall be invited to an oral admission examination. ⁵Sentence 3 notwithstanding, individual **degree program and examination regulations** can specify whether candidates with a degree from a related subject or an equivalent degree shall have to pass an oral admission examination before they can be admitted to the Master's degree program. ⁶The date of the selection interview shall be announced at least one week in advance. ⁷If an applicant should be unable to attend due to reasons beyond their control, a second date may be set upon justified request up until two weeks before the start of the lecture period. ⁸The oral admission examination is an individual interview which lasts approximately 15 to 20 minutes. ⁹With the applicant's approval, the oral admission examination may be conducted as a video conference. ¹⁰It shall be conducted in accordance with the respective **degree program and examination regulations** by at least one member of the Admissions Committee in the presence of an observer; Section 18 (4) shall apply accordingly. ¹¹The oral admission examination is intended to demonstrate in particular that the applicant possesses the required technical and methodological expertise and can be expected to carry out independent academic work in a more research-oriented degree program; the individual **degree program and examination regulations** shall specify the criteria of the examination. ¹²The result for the examination shall be either "bestanden" (passed) or "nicht bestanden" (failed). ¹³Applicants shall be notified of the result of the oral admission examination in writing. ¹⁴A rejection notification shall include reasons and information on the legal remedies available.

(6) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the applicable **degree program and examination regulations**, applicants who fail the oral admissions examination can repeat it once at the date set for the regular application procedure for the next semester. ²It may not be repeated it more than once on the basis of the documentation submitted with the first application.

(7) Applicants shall bear their own costs of the qualification assessment process.

(8) Confirmation of passing the qualification assessment process shall remain valid indefinitely, provided that the Master's degree program has not been changed significantly.