

**Degree Program and Examination Regulations for the Master's Degree Program for Professional Development in Human Rights at the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)  
– FPOHR –  
dated September 28, 2023**

last amended by the statutes of  
September 26, 2024,  
December 19, 2024 and  
January 15, 2026.

Based on Section 9 (1), Section 80 (1)(1), Section 84 (2)(1), Section 86 (3), Section 88 (9), Section 90 (1)(2) and Section 96 (3)(1) Bavarian Higher Education Innovation Act dated August 5, 2022 (**BayHIG**) in the currently valid version, FAU enacts the following degree program and examination regulations:

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### **Section 1 Scope, Purpose of the Master's Examination**

(1) These degree program and examination regulations govern the examinations for the degree program for professional development in Human Rights leading to the degree Master of Arts (MA).

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Master of Arts in Human Rights is a postgraduate degree that qualifies graduates for further research as well as professional work. <sup>2</sup>The Master's examination serves to determine whether students:

- have acquired in-depth knowledge of fundamental concepts and research findings in international human rights during the course of their Master's degree program,
- are capable of working independently in accordance with scientific methods and of developing these further, and
- are prepared for professional practice.

### **Section 2 Specializations and Program Objectives**

<sup>1</sup>The degree program provides students with in-depth knowledge of international human rights, preparing them for careers in governmental and non-governmental institutions, the media and industry. <sup>2</sup>The degree program enables students to gain knowledge and skills in the fundamental political, philosophical and legal concepts of international human rights and offers them the opportunity to specialize in specific areas. <sup>3</sup>The degree program has an international and interdisciplinary focus and facilitates intercultural communication and learning for its students.

### **Section 3 Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Structure of Degree Program, Starting Date**

(1) The standard duration of studies is three semesters.

(2) Teaching units and examinations are held exclusively in English.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The Master's degree program is concluded with the Master's examination. <sup>2</sup>The scope and structure of the Master's degree program in Human Rights as well as the scope and type of the examinations shall be set forth in **Appendix 3** or **4**. <sup>3</sup>90 ECTS credits are required to successfully complete the degree program.

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

### **Section 3a Part-Time Degree Programs, Changing Degree Programs, Maximum Number of ECTS Credits**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Master's degree program may also be completed in the form of a part-time degree program with twice the standard duration in accordance with **Appendix 4**. <sup>2</sup>Students must provide the Student Records Office with written confirmation of their decision to study part-time in writing upon enrollment.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Students may change from a full-time degree program to a part-time degree program upon written request after completing the first subject semester; students are advised to consult their study advisor before making a change. <sup>2</sup>A change to a part-time degree program after the second full-time semester shall only be permitted in justified exceptional cases; the decision rests with the Examinations Committee. <sup>3</sup>The semesters completed as part of the full-time degree program up until that point shall be accredited and the student enrolled in the relevant subject semester, with the number of subject semesters being doubled as a result. <sup>4</sup>The examinations and/or modules the student has taken and any failed attempts are recognized pursuant to Section 11. <sup>5</sup>Any existing rights and obligations governed by the applicable examination regulations created during the full-time degree program shall not be affected by the change.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Students may change from a part-time degree program to a full-time degree program upon written request after completing the first, second and third part-time subject semester; students are advised to consult their study advisor before making a change. <sup>2</sup>A change to a full-time degree program after the fourth part-time semester shall only be permitted in justified exceptional cases; the decision rests with the Examinations Committee. <sup>3</sup>The semesters completed as part of the part-time degree program up until that point shall be accredited and the student enrolled in the relevant subject semester, with the number of subject semesters being halved as a result. <sup>4</sup>The examinations and/or modules the student has taken and any failed attempts are recognized pursuant to Section 11. <sup>5</sup>Any existing rights and obligations governed by the applicable examination regulations created during the part-time degree program shall not be affected by the change.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Part-time students may obtain a maximum of 35 ECTS credits per academic year. <sup>2</sup>Notwithstanding sentence 1, modules worth a maximum of 45 ECTS credits may be obtained in the year in which the Bachelor's thesis is submitted. <sup>3</sup>The maximum number of ECTS credits stated in sentences 1 and 2 may be exceeded once by 5 ECTS credits. <sup>4</sup>The Examinations Committee may grant exemptions from the provisions in sentence 3 on written request; the request shall be submitted before the start of the respective examination.

### **Section 4 ECTS Credits**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The degree program and examinations are based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). <sup>2</sup>Students must study 30 ECTS credits in each semester. <sup>3</sup>A single ECTS credit corresponds to a workload of 30 hours.

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

### Section 5 Modules and Credits

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

(2) <sup>1</sup>The modules are completed with a module examination. <sup>2</sup>This examination shall as a rule consist of one examination achievement or one course achievement. <sup>3</sup>In exceptional cases, this examination can also consist of several partial examinations or parts of examinations or a combination of examination and course achievements if the subject warrants it. <sup>4</sup>Achievements taking the form of directly related partial examinations on the same examination subject (genuine portfolio examination) or ungraded course achievements that may or may not be repeated an unlimited number of times consisting of several separate partial ungraded course achievements that may or may not be repeated an unlimited number of times shall only count as one independent (partial) module examination pursuant to sentence 3. <sup>5</sup>ECTS credits shall only be given for achievements that are awarded the grade “ausreichend” (sufficient, 4.0) or better. <sup>6</sup>Module examinations are examinations that are held during the lecture period or after the last lectures and seminars of a module have been held. <sup>7</sup>With the exception of written assignments and oral examinations, the examinations are usually held during the eight-week examination period. <sup>8</sup>The examination period is divided into two weeks before and two weeks after the end of the lecture period of one semester, during which the examinations are sat for the first time, and a period of two weeks before and two weeks after the beginning of the following semester’s lecture period, during which the resit examinations take place.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Examinations (examination achievements and course achievements) measure the students’ performance. <sup>2</sup>They may be written, oral, electronic, or use electronic communication devices. <sup>3</sup>In 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. <sup>4</sup>Examination achievements are graded. <sup>5</sup>Course achievements are graded pass or fail.

(4) Enrollment in the Master’s degree program in Human Rights at FAU is a requirement for participation in module examinations according to (2)(1).

### Section 6 Qualification for a Master’s Degree Program

(1) <sup>1</sup>In order to qualify for the Master’s degree program in Human Rights, applicants require the following:

1. A degree from a German or foreign university usually consisting of a total of 210 ECTS credits, with the minimum being 180 ECTS credits, usually in law, social sciences or humanities.
2. A minimum of one year of relevant work experience in a relevant field or equivalent experience in a position of responsibility in an organization involved in human rights.
3. English language proficiency equivalent to at least level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) or equivalent,
4. A pass in the qualification assessment process according to **Appendix 1** and

5. A pass in the suitability assessment examination pursuant to **Appendix 2** in the event of a degree pursuant to no. 1 consisting of 180 ECTS credits.

<sup>2</sup>Section 86 **BayHIG** shall apply to the assessment of equivalence of German and foreign degrees.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee can 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 the Master's degree program. <sup>2</sup>Admission to the degree program is granted provisionally; if proof is not submitted within the deadline, the student shall be de-registered.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Notwithstanding (1)(1) (2), the Examinations Committee can grant admission before completion of the minimum of one year of work experience if the candidate demonstrates excellent academic achievements and a strong human rights profile and it can thus be expected that the lack of work experience can be compensated by the candidate's existing excellent qualifications. <sup>2</sup>Notwithstanding (1)(1)(3), applicants may be admitted to the Master's degree program under the condition that proof of the English language proficiency required according to (1)(1)(3) is submitted no later than the date of enrollment.

(4) Notwithstanding Section 5 (5)(14a) of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg's agreement on enrollment, re-registration, leave and de-registration (**ImmaS**) in the currently valid version, no knowledge of German is required for the Master's degree program in Human Rights.

### **Section 7 Examination Deadlines, Failure to Observe Deadlines**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Examinations shall be sat in such a timely manner as to allow the student to obtain 90 ECTS credits for the Master's degree by the scheduled deadline. <sup>2</sup>The deadline for the full-time Master's degree is the third and for the part-time Master's degree the sixth subject semester. <sup>3</sup>The deadline according to sentence 2 may be exceeded by one semester for the full-time Master's degree program or by two semesters for the part-time Master's degree program (extended deadline). <sup>4</sup>An examination shall be considered to have been sat and failed at the final attempt if the required number of ECTS credits were not obtained from the modules of the Master's degree program within the extended deadline pursuant 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 periods of protection according to the current version of the law protecting mothers at work, in education and whilst studying (Maternity Protection Act, Mutterschutzgesetz – MuSchG) in the version published on May 23, 2017 (BGBl I S. 1288 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 1228]), 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 May 28, 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 May 26, 1994 (BGBl I S. 1014, 1015 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 1014, 1015]).

(3) <sup>1</sup>The reasons according to (1) and (2) shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the Examinations Committee without delay. <sup>2</sup>If the reasons are acknowledged, the examination shall be sat at the soonest possible time; previous examination and course achievements shall be accredited. <sup>3</sup>Section 9 (3) sentences 2 to 4 shall apply.

### Section 8 Examinations Committee

(1) <sup>1</sup> An Examinations Committee shall be appointed to organize and hold the examinations. <sup>2</sup>The Examinations Committee shall comprise one professor from the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology, one professor from the School of Law and another authorized examiner from the degree program. <sup>3</sup>Members are appointed by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology for a period of three years. <sup>4</sup>The Examinations Committee shall select one of the members as the chairperson for three years and shall appoint a deputy to act in the event of the chairperson's absence. <sup>5</sup>The chairperson of the Examinations Committee may transfer tasks within his or her responsibility to a member of the Examinations Committee.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee shall be tasked with carrying out the examination procedures, especially the planning and organization of the examinations. <sup>2</sup>Its duties include ensuring that the provisions of these degree program and examination regulations are observed. <sup>3</sup>With the exception of the examinations themselves and their assessment, which the examiners are responsible for, all decisions shall be taken by the Examinations Committee unless they have been delegated to the Examinations Office or the examination officers. <sup>4</sup>The Examinations Committee shall check delegated decisions if requested to do so and shall verify that examinations have been legitimately assessed. <sup>5</sup>It shall regularly report to the Faculty Council on the development of examinations and study periods including information on gender-specific aspects, and shall, where applicable, submit suggestions for amendments to the examination regulations; it shall be consulted before such amendments are made. <sup>6</sup>The members of the Examinations Committee shall have the right to be present during examinations. <sup>7</sup>The affairs of the committee shall be governed by Section 30 of the Constitution of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (**GrO**).

(3) In addition, the Examinations Committee is responsible for verifying compliance with the qualifications and admission requirements for the Master's degree program as set out in Section 6 in conjunction with **Appendices 1 and 2**.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The 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. <sup>2</sup>It passes resolutions in meetings by a majority of the votes cast. <sup>3</sup>Abstention, secret ballots and delegation of votes shall not be permitted. <sup>4</sup>In the event of a tie, the chairperson's vote is the deciding vote.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The chairperson shall call the meetings of the Examinations Committee. <sup>2</sup>The chairperson shall be entitled to take decisions that cannot be delayed on behalf of the Examinations Committee. <sup>3</sup>The Examination Committee shall be informed of such

cases without delay. <sup>4</sup>Furthermore, unless these examination regulations state otherwise, the Examinations Committee shall have the right to transfer individual tasks to the chairperson as well as revoke these responsibilities.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Official 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. <sup>2</sup>Students shall be given the opportunity to make a statement before negative decisions are finalized. <sup>3</sup>The Examinations Committee shall have the right to rule that official notifications in legal matters pertaining to examinations may be sent out in electronic form to the individual students. <sup>4</sup>Any 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 9 Announcement of Examination Type, Examination Dates and Examiners, Registration, Withdrawal**

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

(2) <sup>1</sup>Students shall register for the individual module examinations after the start of the lecture period. <sup>2</sup>The registration dates and formalities shall be announced according to local practice no later than four weeks in advance. <sup>3</sup>In order to sit the examination, students must register correctly on the provided platform. <sup>4</sup>Notwithstanding sentences 1 to 3, students are automatically registered for the corresponding examination in the case of internships, field seminars, and excursions, as indicated in the respective module description, following their independent registration for participation in the internship, field seminar, or excursion; if no such indication is made in the module handbook, sentences 1 to 3 apply. <sup>5</sup>Section 27 (2) must be observed for registration for resit examinations.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Notwithstanding the deadlines set forth in Section 7, withdrawal from first attempts at examinations for which students have registered pursuant to paragraph 2 sentences 1 to 3 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, and the days between and including Monday and Friday shall be considered working days. <sup>2</sup>In cases covered by paragraph 2 sentence 4, withdrawal from the examination is only permissible for reasons beyond the student's control, particularly in the case of illness. <sup>3</sup>In 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. <sup>4</sup>The 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. <sup>5</sup>In 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. <sup>6</sup>Once 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. <sup>7</sup>Students shall only be able to register for and sit the examination in a later semester. <sup>8</sup>Section 34 (3) must be

observed for withdrawal from resit examinations. <sup>9</sup>The consequences of a delayed or invalid withdrawal shall be governed by Section 13 (1).

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

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee shall appoint examiners and reviewers. <sup>2</sup>All persons eligible to administer examinations according to the current version of **BayHIG** and the Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act (**BayHSchPrüferV**) shall be eligible for appointment as examiners or reviewers. <sup>3</sup>A change of examiners shortly before the start of an examination shall be permissible on urgent grounds. <sup>4</sup>If a university member who is eligible to administer examinations leaves the University, they shall as a rule remain eligible to administer examinations subject to the provisions in Section 85 **BayHIG** and the **Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act** for up to one year. <sup>5</sup>Eligible examiners who only have a temporary contract shall only remain eligible to act as an examiner for the contractually agreed duration of employment. <sup>6</sup>The relevant Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend this period upon request following consultation with the place of employment.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Persons who have completed the degree program in question or a degree program related to it at the same qualification level shall be eligible for appointment as observers. <sup>2</sup>Observers shall be research associates in principal employment at the University.

(3) 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**.

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

### **Section 11 Recognition and Accreditation of Skills**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Study 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. <sup>2</sup>The 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. <sup>3</sup>Recognition enables students to continue their studies, to take examinations, to start a further degree program or to be admitted to a doctoral degree.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Skills 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. <sup>2</sup>Skills acquired outside the university sector may replace a maximum of half of the skills required.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The grades achieved in accredited course and examination achievements shall be transferred if they were awarded according to Section 19. <sup>2</sup>If the grading system applied in the examinations sat at the university or equivalent institution of higher education and accredited by FAU is not identical to the grading system set forth in Section 19, 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<sub>max</sub> = best grade attainable

N<sub>min</sub> = lowest grade for passing

N<sub>d</sub> = grade attained

<sup>3</sup>One decimal place shall count towards the module grade for grades thus calculated.

<sup>4</sup>If conversion is not possible, the Examinations Committee shall usually determine a system by which to calculate the grades.

(4) <sup>1</sup>If 30 or more ECTS credits are recognized or accredited, the student shall be permitted to enter at a higher semester. <sup>2</sup>Students shall move up one semester for every 30 ECTS credits that are accredited. <sup>3</sup>Sentences 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) <sup>1</sup>Students must file an application for recognition and accreditation. <sup>2</sup>The documents needed for this accreditation shall be submitted to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee. <sup>3</sup>Subject to the provisions in sentence 4, the student shall have a legal claim to accreditation or recognition if the conditions stipulated in paragraphs 1 and 2 are met. <sup>4</sup>Accreditation 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. <sup>5</sup>If a student requests accreditation, the decision shall rest with the chairperson of the Examinations Committee after consultation with the subject representative appointed by the department. <sup>6</sup>The decision shall be issued in writing.

## **Section 12 Consequences of Delayed Withdrawal, Breach of Regulations, Fraud, Exclusion from Further Participation**

(1) <sup>1</sup>An examination shall be graded as “nicht ausreichend” (unsatisfactory; 5.0) if the student withdraws from the examination after the withdrawal deadline (Section 9 (3)) without good reasons; Section 7 (3) shall remain unaffected. <sup>2</sup>The reasons for withdrawal or tardiness according to sentence 1 shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the Examinations Committee without delay. <sup>3</sup>If the Examinations Committee accepts the reasons, a new date shall be set. <sup>4</sup>Furthermore, Section 7 (3) shall apply accordingly.

(2) <sup>1</sup>In 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). <sup>2</sup>Unauthorized 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. <sup>3</sup>The possession of unauthorized materials during or after the handing out of examination papers shall

constitute an attempt to commit fraud within the meaning of sentence 1. <sup>4</sup>The Examinations Committee keeps a record of candidates who have failed examinations due to fraud.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If there are sufficient grounds for suspecting plagiarism or other deception, particularly through the use of artificial intelligence systems as per paragraph 2 sentence 2, the examiners responsible are entitled, within the scope of fact-finding according to Section 26 **BayVwVfG**, to conduct an interview using questions on the original examination subject to verify whether the student has mastered the examination material. <sup>2</sup>Sufficient grounds as per sentence 1 exist if, according to the examiner's experience, a typical situation for the presence of plagiarism or deception is given, which, based on general experience, justifies the conclusion that plagiarism or deception is present. <sup>3</sup>The interview is conducted by the examiners responsible for the original examination; if only one examiner was assigned for the original examination, the interview takes place in the presence of an observer appointed by the examiner. <sup>4</sup>When assessing the interview, the time interval between the original examination and the control interview must be taken into account. <sup>5</sup>If the student masters the examination material to an extent that would have sufficed to pass the original examination, the grounds for suspecting plagiarism or other deception are considered rejected, and the original examination will be evaluated in accordance with standard procedure. <sup>6</sup>If the student cannot demonstrate the examined competencies to a sufficient extent as per sentence 5 during the interview according to sentence 1, and there are no actual circumstances that would make an atypical occurrence appear seriously possible in the individual case, the deception is considered proven; paragraph 2 sentence 1 shall apply. <sup>7</sup>If the student refuses to participate in the interview, this constitutes a violation of their obligations to cooperate in the examination procedure as per Section 26 (2) sentence 1 **BayVwVfG**. <sup>8</sup>If the student simultaneously does not credibly demonstrate actual circumstances that make an atypical occurrence appear seriously possible in the individual case, sufficient grounds for plagiarism or other deception are considered proven.

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

(5) In the case of repeated or severe breaches as stipulated in (2) or (4), 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 13 Compulsory Attendance

(1) <sup>1</sup>For teaching units in which the qualification goal can only be achieved by regular attendance (these are marked accordingly in the respective module description), compulsory attendance can be made a requirement for admission to the module examination or for obtaining the course achievement. <sup>2</sup>If 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) <sup>1</sup>Regular attendance is defined as missing no more than 15% of instruction time in any given teaching unit. <sup>2</sup>If between 15% and 30% of instruction time has been missed, the lecturer can offer the student the option to obtain a skills-orientated 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. <sup>3</sup>If more than 30% of instruction time is missed in total, the student must take the teaching unit again. <sup>4</sup>Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of instruction time missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Paragraph 2 notwithstanding, in the context of field trips, laboratory courses and block seminars, attendance is only considered to have been regular if all teaching units have been attended. <sup>2</sup>Appropriate 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. <sup>3</sup>If more than 15% of instruction time is missed, the student must take the teaching unit again. <sup>4</sup>Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of instruction time missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Attendance 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, or in a comparable manner. <sup>2</sup>If teaching units are held online, teaching staff shall record attendance by taking a register of the names of all those attending. <sup>3</sup>Teaching 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. <sup>4</sup>If 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 14 Revocation of Degrees**

The revocation of degrees shall be governed by Section 101 **BayHIG**.

#### **Section 15 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 16 Written Examination, Multiple Choice Examinations**

(1) <sup>1</sup>In written examinations students are required to prove that they are capable of presenting issues from their field and identifying problems within a limited period and with limited materials, and using the conventional methods employed in their field to find solutions to these problems. <sup>2</sup>This applies in particular to invigilated written examinations (*Klausur*). <sup>3</sup>With 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. <sup>4</sup>In 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) <sup>1</sup>Written examinations shall generally be evaluated by one examiner. <sup>2</sup>If a written examination is graded “nicht ausreichend” (unsatisfactory), it must be evaluated by a second examiner. <sup>3</sup>The examiner’s evaluation must be documented in writing and reasons for the final rating must be made clear. <sup>4</sup>Written examinations shall usually be evaluated within six weeks.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Written examinations may take the form of multiple-choice examinations (with one or more possible correct answers), either in full or in part. <sup>2</sup>Detailed information on the modules with multiple choice examinations is given in the module handbook. <sup>3</sup>The candidate must indicate which of the answers to the questions they consider to be correct. <sup>4</sup>Examination questions must allow for reliable examination results. <sup>5</sup>When setting the examination questions, the answers that shall be recognized as applicable must be defined. <sup>6</sup>Multiple answers shall not be permitted and shall not be evaluated in cases where questions do not allow multiple answers. <sup>7</sup>Before 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 and allow for reliable examination results. <sup>8</sup>If the results of this assessment show that individual examination questions contain errors, these questions must not be considered when determining the examination result; a reduced number of examination questions must be assumed. <sup>9</sup>A reduction in the number of examination questions must not have any negative consequences for examinees. <sup>10</sup>No minus points may be awarded beyond the respective question.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The authors of the examination pursuant to paragraph 3 (7) shall determine when the examinations have been passed pursuant to paragraph 3 (1) and shall set a relative pass limit (sentence 2 (2)). <sup>2</sup>Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant degree program and examination regulations, examinations pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be deemed to have been passed if:

1. The examinee answered at least 60 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 50 percent of the attainable points, or
2. The examinee answered at least 50 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 50 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.

<sup>3</sup>If sentence 2 (2) is applied, the Dean of Studies shall be notified.

(5) In case of written examinations that are not entirely composed of multiple choice questions, paragraphs 3 and 4 shall only apply to the respective part.

### Section 17 On-Campus Electronic Examinations

<sup>1</sup>Examinations may be administered in electronic form on campus. <sup>2</sup>Detailed information on the modules in which examinations are held in electronic form on campus is given in the module handbook. <sup>3</sup>Electronic examinations (e-examinations) on campus are examinations which are administered and evaluated via computer or using digital technology. <sup>4</sup>The authenticity and integrity of the examination results must be ensured. <sup>5</sup>Automatically 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 18 Oral Examination

(1) <sup>1</sup>In oral examinations participants must demonstrate both general and specific knowledge of the subject being tested. <sup>2</sup>Oral examinations shall be conducted, unless otherwise stated, by one examiner in the presence of an observer with knowledge of the subject appointed by the examiner.

(2) In oral examinations in the presence of several authorized examiners, each examiner shall determine the grade according to Section 19.

(3) <sup>1</sup>A record shall be kept of the oral examination; this shall include the following: time, date and duration of the examination; subject and result of the examination; the names of the examiners, the observer and the student; and any special occurrences. <sup>2</sup>It is not usually necessary to record the questions asked in the examination or the answers given. <sup>3</sup>The record shall be signed by the authorized examiners and the observer. <sup>4</sup>The record shall be stored for at least two years. <sup>5</sup>The student shall be informed of the result of the oral examination directly after the oral examination.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Students planning to undergo the same examination during a subsequent examination period shall be permitted to attend oral examinations as listeners within the bounds of feasibility with regard to the examination's location; listeners shall be excluded at the examinee's request. <sup>2</sup>Students 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 Evaluation of Examinations, Grades, Final Grade

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

Grade (in words)	Grade level	Key
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 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

<sup>2</sup>Other grade levels are not permitted. <sup>2</sup>An examination (Section 5 (2)) has been passed if it has received at least the grade “ausreichend” (sufficient). <sup>4</sup>For ungraded examinations the result shall be either “bestanden” (pass) or “nicht bestanden” (fail). <sup>5</sup>A module examination is passed when all partial achievements (Section 5 (2)(3)) have been passed. <sup>6</sup>If an examination has several examiners or consists of several partial achievements, the total grade is calculated from average of the individual grades, weighted if applicable according to **Appendix 3** or **4**; the grading system described in sentence 1 shall not be used. <sup>7</sup>Sentence 6 can also be applied to examinations that are not an examination consisting of several parts as defined in Section 5 (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 are stipulated in **Appendix 3** or **4**. <sup>8</sup>Unless stipulated otherwise in **Appendix 3** or **4**, the module grades shall be calculated from the average of the individual grades achieved in the examinations within the meaning of Section 5 (2)(3); the grading system described in paragraph 1 (1) shall not apply. <sup>9</sup>Only one decimal place shall count towards the module grade; further decimal places shall be omitted without being rounded.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The authors of the examination shall set the assessment criteria for multiple choice examination achievements pursuant to Section 16 (3). **<sup>2</sup>If no assessment criteria are set, multiple-choice examinations shall be graded as follows:**

<sup>2</sup>Students who answer the required minimum of examination questions correctly or attain the minimum number of attainable points according to Section 16 (4)(1) shall receive the grade:

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

<sup>3</sup>Grades can be increased or decreased by 0.3 according to the percentage; grades 0.7, 4.3 and 4.7 are excluded. <sup>4</sup>Students who do not achieve the required minimum number of points shall receive the grade 5.0. <sup>5</sup>Sentence 3 notwithstanding, the grades 4.3 and 4.7 may be awarded in cases in which examinations according to Section 16 (5) partly take the form of a multiple choice examination.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The final grade of the Master’s examination is:

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| at an average of up to                      | 1.5 = sehr gut (very good)           |
| at an average of 1.6 to up to and including | 2.5 = gut (good)                     |
| at an average of 2.6 up to and including    | 3.5 = befriedigend (satisfactory)    |
| at an average 3.6 to                        | 4.0 = ausreichend (sufficient)       |
| at an average of over 4.0                   | = nicht ausreichend (unsatisfactory) |

<sup>2</sup>The overall grade in the Master's examination shall be calculated as the weighted arithmetic average of the module grades and the Master's thesis grade. <sup>3</sup>Two decimal places shall count towards the module grade; further decimal places shall be omitted without being rounded.

### **Section 20 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 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 (partial) examination or part of an examination were not fulfilled while no fraudulent acts were committed willfully and if this fact only becomes known after the certificate has been awarded, these circumstances shall be considered remedied by the passing of the (partial) examination or part of the examination.

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

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

### **Section 21 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) <sup>1</sup>The request shall be submitted to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee within one month of the notification of grades. <sup>2</sup>Students prevented from observing this deadline through no fault of their own can apply for full restitution according to Section 32 of the Bavarian Administrative Procedures Act (**BayVwVfG**). <sup>3</sup>The Examinations Committee shall determine the time and date of the inspection.

### **Section 22 Final Academic Record, Transcript of Records, Diploma Supplement, Degree Certificate**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Students who have successfully completed the Master's examination shall receive a final academic record signed by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee, a transcript of records, a diploma supplement and a degree certificate within four weeks after the evaluation of the final examination. <sup>2</sup>All documents shall be issued in German and English. <sup>3</sup>Only the German version is legally binding. <sup>4</sup>The certificates shall be signed by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee or their deputy.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The final academic record contains the modules and module grades, the grade for the Master's thesis including the topic and name of the supervisor and the final grade of the Master's examination. <sup>2</sup>The transcript of records lists all modules attended; the final academic record and the transcript of records may be combined into one docu-

ment. <sup>3</sup>The diploma supplement contains further information on the graduate's qualifications. <sup>4</sup>The transcript of records and diploma supplement shall indicate that the degree program is a professional development program. <sup>5</sup>Information 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 (1).

### **Section 23 Notification of Failed Examinations**

<sup>1</sup>Students who fail the 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. <sup>2</sup>Students can also print off an overview of their grades achieved in the individual modules in the examination administration system.

### **Section 24 Adjustments to Examination Arrangements**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The examination procedure shall be adjusted to take into account the nature and extent of a student's disability. <sup>2</sup>Students 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. <sup>3</sup>Sentences 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 least four weeks before the examination date.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Decisions 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. <sup>2</sup>Students 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 their special circumstances. <sup>3</sup>Applications for adjustments to examination arrangements shall be made in writing to the Examinations Committee at the latest four weeks before registration for the examination.

### **Section 25 Admission to Examinations**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Students enrolled in a Master's degree program shall be deemed as admitted to the Master's examination and the module examinations of which the Master's examination consists, unless admission is to be refused. <sup>2</sup>If there are elective options for the modules to be completed for the Master's examination, students shall be considered admitted to the modules they choose by registering for the examination; the choice shall be binding. <sup>3</sup>Admission shall be refused if:

1. Requirements stipulated in **Appendix 3** or **4** are not met or certificates are not submitted at all or not in due time.

2. The Diplom or Master's examination in a degree program for a related subject (Master's degree programs in human rights) has been failed 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.

<sup>4</sup>The cases in sentence 3 also constitute an obstacle to enrollment.

(2) If admission is to be refused, the student shall be informed without delay and informed as to the reasons for the decision and information on the legal remedies available.

### **Section 26 Master's Examination**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Master's examination shall consist of the required module examinations including the Master's thesis module. <sup>2</sup>The Master's examination shall have been passed if all required module examinations and the Master's thesis module have been passed.

(2) The content, type and scope of the Master's examination are set forth in **Appendix 3** or **4**.

### **Section 27 Master's Thesis**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Master's thesis is intended to show that the student is capable of dealing with a problem from the areas covered in the degree program independently and according to academic methods within a set period and presenting the results in an appropriate form. <sup>2</sup>The Master's thesis may be based on an initial seminar paper.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Master's thesis can be completed in two variants. <sup>2</sup>The Master's thesis in module variant A has a stronger focus on research and shall be awarded 30 ECTS credits. <sup>3</sup>The Master's thesis in module variant B has a stronger practical focus and shall be awarded 15 ECTS credits; students must also complete module B2 Internship worth 15 ECTS credits.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The period between the allocation of the subject and the submission of the thesis for module variant A is six months in the full-time degree program and twelve months in the part-time degree program, and for module variant B three months in the full-time degree program and six months in the part-time degree program; subjects shall be such that the thesis can be completed within the applicable period. <sup>2</sup>The period for working on the thesis can be extended in justified exceptional cases by a maximum of two months for module variant A and one month for module variant B in the full-time degree program and by a maximum of four months for module variant A and two months for module variant B in the part-time degree program. <sup>3</sup>If a student submits a doctor's certificate proving that they are incapable of working on their thesis, the period for thesis work shall be suspended temporarily. <sup>4</sup>If the period for working on the thesis is suspended for a considerable period of time as defined in sentence 3 (6 months minimum), the Examinations Committee 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. <sup>5</sup>Sentences 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.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The Master's thesis is assessed by the supervisor and another reviewer suggested by the supervisor. <sup>2</sup>The Examinations Committee may approve exceptions.

(5) <sup>1</sup>University lecturers employed at the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology or the School of Law in main or secondary employment pursuant to Section 19 **BayHIG** (supervisors) shall be entitled to assign Master's theses; the Examinations Committee may grant exceptions. <sup>2</sup>The Examinations Committee may permit students to write their Master's thesis at an institution outside the University if supervision there is ensured.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Students are required to provide evidence of having successfully completed the modules Human Rights Philosophy, Human Rights Politics, Human Rights Law and Human Rights Research Methods in order to be allocated a subject for the Master's thesis. <sup>2</sup>Students shall take the necessary steps to obtain a subject for the Master's thesis as soon as they fulfill the requirements pursuant to sentence 1, and in time to observe the deadlines set forth in Section 7. <sup>3</sup>Should a student not be allocated a subject, 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. <sup>4</sup>The Examinations Office shall be notified of the subject and the date of allocation.

(7) <sup>1</sup>On request, the subject of the Master's thesis can be modified during the thesis work period with the approval of the person who allocated the subject of the thesis. <sup>2</sup>The subject may only be returned once and within the first two weeks of the period for working on the thesis. <sup>3</sup>A new subject must be allocated without delay, at the latest within four weeks. <sup>4</sup>The period for working on the thesis restarts when a new subject is allocated.

(8) <sup>1</sup>The thesis shall be written in English. <sup>2</sup>If the supervisor agrees, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee responsible may permit students to write the thesis in a different language upon request.

(9) <sup>1</sup>The thesis shall be submitted to the secretary's office of the Examinations Committee in duplicate as well as in a machine-readable, electronic version. <sup>2</sup>The staff member responsible at the Secretary's Office informs the Examinations Office of the submission date without delay. <sup>3</sup>The thesis must include a declaration confirming that it is the student's original work and that no sources or materials other than the ones listed were used. <sup>4</sup>If the thesis is not submitted in time, it shall be graded "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory; 5.0); it shall be regarded as rejected.

(10) <sup>1</sup>The chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall arrange for the thesis to be graded at the latest within six weeks. <sup>2</sup>The thesis shall be accepted if it receives at least the grade "ausreichend" (sufficient) from both reviewers. <sup>3</sup>It shall be rejected if it receives the grade "nicht ausreichend" (unsatisfactory) from both reviewers.

(11) <sup>1</sup>If there are two reviewers and their evaluations are no more than two grades apart, the grade of the thesis shall be the arithmetic average of the grades from the two reviewers; the grade scale set forth in Section 19 (1)(1) shall not apply and only one decimal place shall be shown in the final thesis grade. <sup>2</sup>If the grades of the two

reviewers are more than two grades apart or if one reviewer gives the thesis the grade “nicht ausreichend” (unsatisfactory), the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall appoint a third reviewer; sentence 1 shall apply accordingly.

(12) <sup>1</sup>If the thesis is rejected or if it is considered to have been rejected, it may be repeated once; a second repetition shall not be permitted. <sup>2</sup>The student shall ensure that they receive a new subject for the repetition of the thesis within two months following the announcement of the rejection; otherwise the thesis shall be regarded as having been failed at the final attempt. <sup>3</sup>Paragraphs 1 to 4, paragraph 5 sentences 2 and 3 and paragraphs 6 to 10 shall apply accordingly in the case of a repetition.

### **Section 28 Resitting Examinations, Changing Modules**

(1) <sup>1</sup>With the exception of the Master's thesis, every failed module examination or partial examination may be resat three times. <sup>2</sup>Examinations of internships, field seminars, and excursions can be repeated twice, provided that the internship, field seminar, or excursion must be resat in accordance with the provisions for resitting examinations stipulated in sentence 5. <sup>3</sup>Section 27 (9) shall apply to the repetition of the Master's thesis module. <sup>4</sup>The resit examination shall be limited to the failed examination or course achievement. <sup>5</sup> In the case of modules with compulsory attendance, students shall only be obliged to attend the teaching unit again if the manner in which the unit is taught or the nature of the examination is such that the student must attend again in order to acquire the required skills; see module handbook for details. <sup>6</sup>As a rule, resit examinations must be taken within six months of notification of the previous examination result. <sup>7</sup>Examinations shall be carried out in such a way that students are able to continue their studies if the examination is passed. <sup>8</sup>If a repetition is not offered within the period specified in sentence 6, another module will be specified in which the repetition will take place instead.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Students register for the resit examination independently, subject to the regulation in sentence 2. <sup>2</sup>Notwithstanding sentence 1, students register independently for the repetition of an internship, field seminar, or excursion in a semester of their choice in the case of internships, field seminars, and excursions where, according to paragraph 1 (5), repetition is required; Section 9 (2) sentence 4 applies.

(3) Withdrawal from resit examinations is possible according to Section 9 (3), whereby the restriction of Section 9 (3)(2) only applies to modules as per paragraph 2 (2).

(4) <sup>1</sup>Students 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. <sup>2</sup>The obligation to resit an examination remains even in the case of de-registration and leave of absence. <sup>3</sup>If a student misses the resit examination the examination shall be deemed to have been failed unless the Examinations Committee grants the student an exception due to special reasons beyond the student's control. <sup>4</sup>The provisions regarding maternity leave, parental leave and caregiver leave (Section 7 (2)) shall apply.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Voluntarily resitting a passed examination of the same module shall not be permitted. <sup>2</sup>Provided the examination deadlines stipulated in Section 7 are met, alternative

modules may be attended and completed in place of failed modules; the failed attempts in the previous alternative module shall not be counted.

### Section 29 Legal Validity

(1) <sup>1</sup>These examination regulations shall come into effect on October 1, 2023. <sup>2</sup>They shall apply to all students starting a degree program from winter semester 2023/2024 onwards.

(2) <sup>1</sup>At the same time, the Degree Program and Examination Regulations for the Master's Degree Program for Professional Development in Human Rights at the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU) – **FPOHR** – dated July 18, 2014, amended on February 23, 2023 and subsequently on July 31, 2023, shall become invalid as of March 31, 2026. <sup>2</sup>Examinations according to the valid degree program and examination regulations stated in sentence 1 shall be offered for the last time in winter semester 2025/2026. <sup>3</sup>From this date onwards, those students who are affected by **FPOHR** no longer being valid shall take their examinations in accordance with the version of the degree program and examination regulations that is valid at that time.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The first amendment statute shall come into effect on October 1, 2024. <sup>2</sup>It applies to all examinations (first, second, and third attempts) in the examination period winter semester 2024/2025 and later. <sup>3</sup>For examinations from previous examination periods, the regulations in FPO HR dated September 28, 2023, shall apply.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The second amendment statute shall come into effect on February 1, 2025. <sup>2</sup>It applies to all students who are already studying in accordance with FPOHR pursuant to paragraph 1 or 3 as well as those commencing their studies as of winter semester 2025/26.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The degree program and examination regulations shall become invalid as of September 30, 2028. <sup>2</sup>Examinations pursuant to these degree program and examination regulations shall be offered for the last time in summer semester 2028.

## Appendix 1: Qualification assessment process

(1) <sup>1</sup>The purpose of the qualification assessment process is to assess the qualifications of applicants for the Master's degree program. <sup>2</sup>It is intended to demonstrate whether the applicant possesses the required specialist and methodological expertise in the foundations of human rights protection and can be expected to carry out graduate research independently.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The qualification assessment process will be carried out once per year before the start of the lecture period in the winter semester. <sup>2</sup>Applications 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 sentence 3, the deadlines given are the final deadlines. <sup>3</sup>Applications can be submitted between February 15 and May 31 each year or from April 15 until July 15 each year. <sup>4</sup>The start and end dates for the application period specified in sentence 3 may also be combined in other ways; selecting different start and end dates is not possible.

<sup>5</sup>The following documents must be submitted with the application:

1. Proof of an undergraduate degree from a German or foreign university that meets the requirements in Section 6 (1)(1)(1) (final academic record, diploma supplement, transcript of records or equivalent documents)
2. Proof of a minimum of usually one year of relevant work experience in a relevant field or equivalent experience in a position of responsibility in an organization involved in human rights that meets the requirements in Section 6 (1)(1)(2) and Section 3 (1) along with a description of responsibilities or work sample
3. Proof of proficiency in English pursuant to Section 6 (1)(1)(3)
4. A short essay discussing the following aspects on one to two pages:
  - a) What is the relevance of your professional and/or voluntary experience specifically to the field of human rights?
  - b) Describe a specific instance of a human rights violation and explain why you think this constitutes a human rights violation.
  - c) What do you think is the biggest human rights issue in your country? Why?

(3) <sup>1</sup>In accordance with Section 8 (3), qualification assessment shall be the responsibility of the Examinations Committee. <sup>2</sup>The Examinations Committee may transfer the task of coordinating and carrying out the process to individual members unless otherwise specified.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Admission to the qualification assessment process shall be subject to the timely and complete submission of the documents listed in paragraph 2 sentence 4. <sup>2</sup>The qualification assessment process shall be carried out with those applicants who fulfill the requirements according to the provisions in paragraphs 5 and 6. <sup>3</sup>Applicants who are rejected shall receive a rejection notification including reasons and information on legal remedies available.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee shall determine according to the application documents whether an applicant is qualified to enter into a Master's degree program according to paragraph 1. <sup>2</sup>In the first stage of this process, the documents are viewed by the Examinations Committee and rated in their entirety according to the following criteria; the maximum number of points that may be awarded is indicated in brackets:

1. Quality of the degree pursuant to Section 6 (1)(1) with regard to relevance and average grade in the final academic report (max. 50 points)
2. The scope and content of the work experience according to Section 6 (1)(1)(2) and in the case of the alternative in Section 6 (1)(1)(2) alt. 2 the quality of the equivalent experience (based in particular on the length and the relationship to human rights), taking the essay pursuant to Section 2 (4)(4) into consideration (max. 50 points).

<sup>3</sup>The Examinations Committee may allocate a total of 100 points. <sup>4</sup>The overall score is reached by adding the points scored for the individual criteria. <sup>5</sup>Applicants who have scored 70 points shall receive a notification of having passed the qualification process; ineligible applicants with less than 50 points shall receive a rejection notification including reasons and information on legal remedies available. <sup>6</sup>Points are allocated for the various aspects pursuant to sentence 2 according to the following criteria:

1. Criteria for sentence 2 no. 1:
  - a) Relevance of content

Correspondence to requirements pursuant to sentence 2	Points
The extent to which the named specialist areas covering explicitly human rights related topics were studied	30
The extent to which the named specialist areas with an international focus without human rights related topics were studied	20
The extent to which the named specialist areas without an international focus and without human rights related topics were studied	15
Degree in another subject with at least one human rights related (elective) module	10
Degree in another subject without any human rights related content	0

b) Average grade in final academic record

Grade	Points
1.0	20
1.1	19
1.2	18
1.3	17
1.4	16
1.5	15
1.6	14
1.7	13
1.8	12
1.9	11
2.0	10
2.1	9
2.2	8
2.3	7
2.4	6
2.5	5
2.6	4
2.7	3
2.8	2
2.9	1
3.0	0

2. Criteria for sentence 2 no. 2:

- a) The scope of the work experience according to Section 6 (1)(1)(2) and in the case of the alternative in Section 6 (1)(1)(2) alt. 2 the quality of the equivalent experience

Correspondence to requirements pursuant to sentence 2	Points
Full-time position (90–100 %)	20
Part-time position (50–89 %)	15
Part-time position (10–49 %)	10
Volunteering or part-time under 10%	5

- b) The content of the work experience according to Section 6 (1)(1)(2) and in the case of the alternative in Section 6 (1)(1)(2) alt. 2 the quality of the equivalent experience

Correspondence to requirements pursuant to sentence 2	Points
Exclusively human rights work	30
Predominantly human rights work	20
Partly human rights work	10
No experience in human rights	0

(6) <sup>1</sup>During the second stage of the qualification assessment process, the qualifications of applicants who have achieved 50 to 69 points are assessed in a selection interview.

<sup>2</sup>A maximum of 20 points can be awarded and they are distributed as follows:

1. Subject-related skills (in particular fundamental knowledge of and understanding of human rights protection) (maximum of 10 points),
2. Learning and methodological skills (in particular critical analysis and problem solving capabilities in the field of human rights protection and ability to grasp new information) (maximum of 10 points).

<sup>3</sup>Points are allocated for the various aspects pursuant to sentence 2 according to the following criteria:

Correspondence to requirements pursuant to sentence 2 no. 1 or 2	Points
Requirements with respect to the criteria pursuant to sentence 2 no. 1 or 2 are fully met	10
Requirements with respect to the criteria pursuant to sentence 2 no.1 or 2 are mainly met, even though the criteria are not (fully) met for individual points	7.5
As a whole, the requirements with respect to the criteria pursuant to sentence 2 no.1 or 2 are met, although the criteria are not (fully) met otherwise	5
As a whole, the requirements with respect to the criteria pursuant to sentence 2 no. 1 or 2 are not met	2.5
The requirements with respect to the criteria pursuant to sentence 2 no. 1 or 2 are hardly met or not met at all	0

(7) <sup>1</sup>If a selection interview is to take place, the date shall be announced at least one week in advance. <sup>2</sup>If an applicant should be unable to attend the selection interview 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. <sup>3</sup>The selection interview shall be held individually for each applicant and shall take approximately 20 minutes. <sup>4</sup>The selection interview may be conducted via video call with the consent of the applicant if an examination at the place of study is only feasible with considerable effort. <sup>5</sup>The interview will be conducted by at least two members of the Examinations Committee. <sup>6</sup>Each member shall award a maximum of 20 points pursuant to Section 6 (3); the final

number of points shall be calculated from the arithmetic average of the individual scores, whereby any positions after the decimal point shall be rounded up.

(8) <sup>1</sup>An applicant's overall score shall be calculated from the sum of the scores according to 5 and 6. <sup>2</sup>Applicants who have scored 70 or more points are classified as qualified.

(9) <sup>1</sup>Applicants will be notified of the result of the qualification assessment process in writing. <sup>2</sup>A rejection notification must include reasons and information on the legal remedies available.

(10) Applicants shall bear their own costs incurred as a result of taking part in the qualification assessment process.

(11) <sup>1</sup>Documentation shall be produced about the type and schedule for the first and second stages of the qualification assessment process, showing the date, duration and place of the assessment, the names of the Examination Committee members, the names of the applicant, the decision of the committee members and the overall score. <sup>2</sup>The documentation shall clearly indicate the essential reasons for the decision.

(12) <sup>1</sup>The applicant can withdraw from the qualification assessment process without the need to state any reasons up until the point at which the decision about whether the applicant has passed. <sup>2</sup>A withdrawal request must be made in writing to the Examinations Committee; a declaration of withdrawal is binding.

(13) <sup>1</sup>The qualification assessment process shall be adjusted to take into account the nature and extent of an applicant's disability or any special circumstances. <sup>2</sup>Section 24 shall apply accordingly.

(14) Applicants who did not qualify for admission to the Master's degree program may apply to repeat the qualification assessment process on the basis of the documents submitted for the first application one more time.

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

## Appendix 2: Suitability assessment examination

(1) <sup>1</sup>The suitability assessment examination shall demonstrate whether applicants' qualifications required in addition to their undergraduate degree (basic level: 180 ECTS credits) mean that they have reached a level equivalent to the 210 ECTS credits required for admission to the Master's degree program in Human Rights. <sup>2</sup>The suitability assessment examination shall generally be carried out at the same time as the qualification assessment process according to **Appendix 1**.

(2) <sup>1</sup>During the suitability assessment examination, which is an oral examination lasting 40 minutes, it shall be determined whether the applicant has acquired skills relevant to the Master's degree program outside of higher education that are equivalent to 30 ECTS credits. <sup>2</sup>The examination may be conducted via video call with the consent of the applicant if an examination at the place of study is only feasible with considerable effort. <sup>3</sup>It involves the following areas and weightings: Subject-specific skills (1/3), methodological skills (1/3), personal skills (1/6) and social skills (1/6). <sup>4</sup>Applicants shall prepare for the oral examination using the template provided by the degree program relating to the skill areas and attach suitable proof. <sup>5</sup>The extent to which skills are fulfilled can be demonstrated by means of the following:

- a) Previous work experience, especially in the field of human rights protection
- b) International work experience, particularly in human rights protection, peace and development work, intercultural exchange, education
- c) previous training activities and additional examinations in social and political education work
- d) evaluations received at work, letters of recommendation, employer evaluations
- e) references, certificates
- f) other proof.

<sup>6</sup>Documents are to be submitted with the application for the degree program according to paragraph 2 in **Appendix 1**.

(3) <sup>1</sup>In the oral examination the applicant shall be asked questions relevant to their previous qualification and on the proof presented as evidence of the skills listed in sentence 2. <sup>2</sup>The assessment shall focus on the following abilities within the individual areas:

1. Subject-related skills: Fundamental knowledge of the international human rights system, the ability to recognize and practical experience of how to deal with human rights violations, analysis and criticism of the human rights protection system.
2. Methodological skills: Analytical and problem-solving skills, ability to grasp new information, decision-making skills, holistic thinking, ability to critically reflect on political, economic and social contexts.
3. Personal skills: Ability to deal with criticism, independence, ambition/goal orientation.
4. Social skills: Intercultural skills, communication skills, ability to resolve conflict, ability to work in a team.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee shall evaluate each ability on a five-point scale based on the level reached and expressed as a percentage.

<sup>2</sup>The evaluation is carried out as follows:

1. no skills = 0%
2. limited skills = up to 25%
3. average skills = up to 50 %
4. above average skills = up to 75 %
5. excellent skills = up to 100%

<sup>3</sup>The suitability assessment examination shall be evaluated as passed if the average of all assessed skills in the individual areas is at least 60%.

(5) **Appendix 1** (1) and (3) and (7) sentences 1 and 2 and 4 to 6 as well as (9) to (15) shall apply accordingly.

### Appendix 3: Degree program structure for Master's degree program in Human Rights (full-time)

Module name	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				Total ECTS credits	1. sem.	2. sem.	3. sem.	Type and scope of the examination	Module grade factor
		L	T	P	S		ECTS credits	ECTS credits	ECTS credits		
Human rights philosophy	Lecture Human rights philosophy	2				5	5			Written examination (90 min)	1
Human rights politics	Lecture Human rights politics	2				5	5			Written examination (90 min)	1
Human rights law	Lecture Human rights law	2				5	5			Written examination (90 min)	1
Human rights research methods	Seminar Human rights research methods				1	5	3			Written assignment (5-10 pages)	0
	Tutorial Research and writing exercise				1		2				
Actors in human rights politics	Seminar Actors in human rights politics				2	5	5			Presentation (15-20 min)	0
Cases in human rights law	Seminar Cases in human rights law				2	5	5			Presentation (15-20 min)	0
Interdisciplinary approach to non-discrimination	Seminar				2	5		5		Written assignment (10-15 pages)	1
Key skills	Key skill workshops				2	5		5		Learning diary (5-10 pages)	0
Specialized aspects of human rights protection I	Seminar				2	5		5		Written examination (120 min, 100 %) or Presentation and written assignment (30 % + 70 %) <sup>1</sup>	1
Specialized aspects of human rights protection II	Seminar				2	5		5		Written examination (120 min, 100 %) or Presentation and written assignment (30 % + 70 %) <sup>1</sup>	1

Module name	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				Total ECTS credits	1. sem. ECTS credits	2. sem. ECTS credits	3. sem. ECTS credits	Type and scope of the examination	Module grade factor	
		L	T	P	S							
Specialized aspects of human rights protection III	Seminar				2	5		5		Written examination (120 min, 100 %) or Presentation and written assignment (30 % + 70 %) <sup>1</sup>	1	
Specialized aspects of human rights protection IV	Seminar				2	5		5		Written examination (120 min, 100 %) or Presentation and written assignment (30 % + 70 %) <sup>1</sup>	1	
<b>Module A or modules B1 and B2 must be chosen from the following modules:</b>												
<b>A: Master's thesis</b>	Master's thesis					30			27.5	Master's thesis (60-80 pages)	1	
	Colloquium								2.5			
<b>B1: Master's thesis</b>	Master's thesis					15			15	Master's thesis (20-40 pages)	2	
<b>B2: Internship</b>						15			15	Internship report (2-5 pages)	0	
<b>Total SWS and ECTS credits</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>			<b>18</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>		

<sup>1)</sup>The type and scope of the examination depend on the specific manner in which the module chosen by the student is taught. Please refer to the module handbook for details.

Glossary of terms used to refer to classes

German	English
Vorlesung	lecture
Seminar	seminar
Tutorium	tutorial
Projektgruppe	group project
Masterarbeit	Master's thesis

Glossary of examination forms

German	English
Klausur	written examination
Lerntagebuch	learning diary
Referat	presentation
Hausarbeit	written assignment
Masterarbeit	Master's thesis

**Appendix 4: Degree program structure for Master's degree program in Human Rights (part-time)**

Module name	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				ECTS credits	Distribution of workload per semester in ECTS credits						Type and scope of the examination	Factor Grade factor	
		L	T	P	S		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.			
<b>Human rights philosophy</b>	Lecture Human rights philosophy	2				5	5							Written examination (90 min)	1
<b>Human rights politics</b>	Lecture Human rights politics	2				5	5							Written examination (90 min)	1
<b>Human rights law</b>	Lecture Human rights law	2				5			5					Written examination (90 min)	1
<b>Human rights research methods</b>	Seminar Human rights research methods				1	5			3					Written assignment (5-10 pages)	0
	Tutorial Research and writing exercise				1				2						
<b>Actors in human rights politics</b>	Seminar Actors in human rights politics				2	5	5							Presentation (15-20 min)	0
<b>Cases in human rights law</b>	Seminar Cases in human rights law				2	5			5					Presentation (15-20 min)	0
<b>Interdisciplinary approach to non-discrimination</b>	Seminar				2	5		5						Written assignment (10-15 pages)	1
<b>Key skills</b>	Key skill workshops				2	5				5				Learning diary (5-10 pages)	0
<b>Specialized aspects of human rights protection I</b>	Seminar				2	5		5						Written examination (120 min, 100 %) or Presentation and written assignment (30% + 70%) <sup>1</sup>	1
<b>Specialized aspects of human rights protection II</b>	Seminar				2	5		5						Written examination (120 min, 100 %) or Presentation and written assignment (30% + 70%) <sup>1</sup>	1

Module name	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				ECTS credits	Distribution of workload per semester in ECTS credits						Type and scope of the examination	Factor Grade factor	
		L	T	P	S		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.			
Specialized aspects of human rights protection III	Seminar				2	5				5				Written examination (120 min, 100 %) or Presentation and written assignment (30% + 70%) <sup>1</sup>	1
Specialized aspects of human rights protection IV	Seminar				2	5				5				Written examination (120 min, 100 %) or Presentation and written assignment (30% + 70%) <sup>1</sup>	1
<b>Module A or modules B1 and B2 must be chosen from the following modules:</b>															
<b>A: Master's thesis</b>	Master's thesis					30					15	12.5	Master's thesis (60-80 pages)	1	
	Colloquium											2.5			
<b>B1: Master's thesis</b>	Master's thesis					15					15		Master's thesis (20-40 pages)	2	
<b>B2: Internship</b>						15						15	Internship report (2-5 pages)	0	
<b>Total ECTS credits</b>		<b>6</b>			<b>18</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>			
		<b>24</b>													

Glossary of terms used to refer to classes

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Vorlesung	lecture
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Tutorium	tutorial
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Glossary of examination forms

German	English
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Referat	presentation
Hausarbeit	written assignment
Masterarbeit	Master's thesis