

These degree programme and examination regulations have been worded carefully to be up to date; however, errors cannot be completely excluded. The official German text available from L 1 – Office of Legal Affairs and Academic Quality Management is the version that is legally binding.

**General Degree Programme and Examination Regulations
for the
Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree Programmes at the
Faculty of Sciences of
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)
– ABMPO/NatFak –
Dated 28 October 2019**

Based on Section 13 (1)(2), Section 43 (5), Section 58 (1) and Section 61 (2)(1) of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (Bayerisches Hochschulgesetz, BayHSchG), FAU enacts the following degree programme and examination regulations:

Table of 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 Programme, Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Starting Date.....	3
Section 4 Structure of the Master’s Degree Programme, Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Starting Date.....	3
Section 5 ECTS Credits.....	4
Section 6 Modules and Credits, 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 Personal Involvement, Obligation to Confidentiality	8
Section 11 Announcement of Examination Dates and Examiners, Registration, Withdrawal.....	8
Section 12 Admissions Committee for the Master’s Degree Programme	9
Section 13 Accreditation of Skills	9
Section 14 Consequences of Delayed Withdrawal, Fraud, Breach of Regulations, Exclusion from Further Participation	10
Section 15 Revocation of Degrees	10
Section 16 Faults in the Examination Process	10
Section 17 Written Examination, Multiple-Choice Examinations.....	11
Section 18 Oral Examination	12
Section 19 Talks and Presentations	13
Section 20 Practical Achievements	13
Section 21 Electronic Examination	13
Section 22 Evaluation of Examinations, Grades, Final Grade	13
Section 23 Invalidity of Examinations	15
Section 24 Inspection of Examination Records	15
Section 25 Final Academic Record, Transcript of Records, Diploma Supplement, Degree Certificate	15
Section 26 Notification of Failed Examinations	16
Section 27 Adjustments to Examination Arrangements	16
Part II: Bachelor’s Examination.....	16
Section 28 Admission Requirements for Examinations.....	16
Section 29 Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP)	17
Section 30 Bachelor’s Examination	17
Section 31 Bachelor’s Thesis	17
Section 32 Resit Examinations.....	19

Section 33 Additional Modules	19
Part III: Master's Examination	20
Section 34 Qualification for a Master's Degree Programme	20
Section 35 Admission to Examinations	20
Section 36 Master's Examination	21
Section 37 Master's Thesis	21
Section 38 Resitting Examinations, Additional Modules	22
Part IV: Final Provisions	23
Section 39 Legal Validity, Transitory Provisions	23
Appendix	24

Part I: General Provisions

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

(1) ¹These general degree programme and examination regulations govern the examinations for the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU, leading to the qualification Bachelor of Science or Master of Science, with the exception of

- the Elite Master's degree programme in Integrated Immunology (ilmmune),
- the Bachelor's degree programme in Physical Geography,
- the Master's degree programme in Climate and Environmental Studies,
- the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in Cultural Geography,
- the degree programmes at the Department of Chemistry and Pharmacy as well as
- the degree programmes at the Department of Mathematics and
- the degree programmes at the Department of Physics.

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

(2) ¹The Bachelor of Science 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, and
- are prepared for the transition to professional practice.

(3) ¹The Master of Science 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 programme,
- are capable of working independently according to scientific methods and of developing these further, and
- are prepared for professional practice.

Section 2 Degrees

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

1. The degree of Bachelor of Science (abbreviation: BSc) for passing the Bachelor's examination.
2. The degree of Master of Science (abbreviation: MSc) 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 Programme, Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Starting Date

(1) ¹Bachelor's degree programmes 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 programme by the end of the second semester. ³The subsequent part of the Bachelor's degree programme includes the examinations until the end of the standard duration of study. ⁴To complete the Bachelor's degree programme successfully, students shall achieve 180 ECTS credits pursuant to these general degree programme and examination regulations in conjunction with the **degree programme 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 programme including all examinations is six semesters.

(3) ¹The teaching and examination language in the Bachelor's degree programme is German. ²Unless stipulated otherwise in the respective **degree programme and examination regulations**, individual modules may be taken and examined in English. ³Further details are stipulated in the **degree programme 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 programme 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 programme may only be started in the winter semester.

Section 4 Structure of the Master's Degree Programme, Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Starting Date

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

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

(4) ¹The teaching and examination language in the Master's degree programmes is German or English; further details are stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**. ²Individual modules may be taught and assessed in either German or English. ³Further details are stipulated in the **degree programme 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**

programme 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 programme may be started in the winter semester or in the summer semester, unless stipulated otherwise in the applicable **degree programme and examinations regulations**.

Section 5 ECTS Credits

(1) ¹The degree programmes 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 categorise, 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 programme consists of modules for which students are awarded ECTS credits. ²One module is a chronologically connected and self-contained teaching and learning unit, the contents 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. ⁴ECTS credits shall only be awarded for successful participation in modules that can be verified in an individual, separately identifiable performance in a module examination. ⁵Module 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). ³Examination 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 (5), the applicable **degree programme 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 manager. ²Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree programme 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 labelled accordingly in the module description.

(8) Enrolment in the relevant degree programme at FAU is a requirement for participation in module examinations according to (2)(1). This shall not apply to resit examinations as defined in Sections 30 (1)(6) and 38.

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) Attendance is checked in the individual teaching units by means of an attendance list in which students must enter their name and signature.

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 programme 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 degree programme 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 programme 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 23 May 2017 (BGBl I S. 1228 [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 5 December 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 Sections 14, 15 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. ³In case of an inability to sit the examination occurring before or during the examination, the examiner shall be notified immediately. ⁴In 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. ⁵In

case of withdrawal from an examination due to illness after the examination has started, the student must submit a certificate from an official medical examiner to the Examinations Office without delay.

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 programmes to organise examinations. ²One Examinations Committee shall be responsible for each of the following combinations:

1. Bachelor's degree programme in Biology (BSc Biology) and Master's degree programme in Cell and Molecular Biology (MSc ZMB)
2. Bachelor's degree programme in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (BSc ILS) and Master's degree programme in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (MSc ILS)
3. Bachelor's degree programme in Geosciences (BSc) and Master's degree programmes in Geosciences (MSc) and GeoThermics/GeoEnergy (MSc).

(2) The composition of each Examinations Committee is governed by the relevant **degree programme 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 organisation of examinations. ²Its duties include ensuring that the provisions of these degree programme and examination regulations are observed. 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.

(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 programme 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 finalised. ³The Examinations Committee shall have the right to rule that grade notifications may be sent out in electronic form to individual students. ⁴The President shall issue any notification of objection in questions of examination legislation 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 the Bavarian Higher Education Act (BayHSchG) and the Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act (BayHSchPrüferV) shall be eligible for appointment, insofar as 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. ⁴The relevant Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend this period upon request.

(2) External examiners may be appointed if they are university lecturers or are eligible to administer examinations according to the Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act and there is a valid reason for doing so; however, at least one examiner must be a full-time lecturer at FAU's Faculty of Sciences.

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

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

(5) Exclusion from the deliberation and voting process of the relevant Examinations Committee as well as from the positions of examiner and observer due to personal involvement shall be governed by Section 41 (2) BayHSchG.

(6) The obligation to confidentiality of the Examinations Committee responsible and other persons involved in matters pertaining to examinations shall be governed by Section 18 (2)(2) and 18 (2)(3) BayHSchG.

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 programme 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.

(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 as 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. ³In case of withdrawal from an examination due to illness after the examination has started, the student must submit a certificate from an official medical examiner to the Examinations Office without delay. ⁴Once a student has declared that they wish to withdraw they may not revoke this declaration; registration to the examination shall be cancelled once the declaration is submitted and the student shall no longer be entitled to take the examination. ⁵The consequences of a delayed or invalid withdrawal shall be governed by Section 14 (1).

Section 12 Admissions Committee for the Master's Degree Programme

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

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

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

Section 13 Accreditation of Skills

(1) ¹Study periods, modules, course and examination achievements achieved in other degree programmes at FAU or at other public or state-approved universities in the Federal Republic of Germany, through successful participation in a distance course as part of a degree programme at a public or state-approved university in the Federal Republic of Germany, or in degree programmes at foreign universities shall be accredited according to these examination regulations unless there are significant differences in the skills acquired. ²The same shall apply to study periods, course and examination achievements achieved at a public or state-approved university in Bavaria in the course of other study programmes as defined by Section 56 (6)(1) and (2) BayHSchG, in special study programmes as defined by Section 47 (3)(1) BayHSchG, or at the Virtual University of Bavaria.

(2) ¹Skills acquired in programmes for professional development as defined by Section 56 (6)(3) BayHSchG, or outside of higher education shall be accredited if they are equivalent to skills acquired through university studies. 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 approved 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 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) ¹The documents needed for this accreditation shall be submitted to the chairperson of the relevant Examinations Committee. ²Subject to the provisions in sentence 3, the student shall have a legal claim to accreditation if the conditions stipulated in (1) and (2) are met. ³Accreditation 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, Fraud, Breach of Regulations, 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) In case of an attempt to commit fraud or to influence the result of an examination through the use of unauthorised materials, the examination in question shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory, 5.0).

(3) Persons who disturb the orderly examination process may be excluded from continuing the examination in question by the authorised 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 case of a repeated or severe breach of regulations as defined by (2) or (3), the Examinations Committee may exclude students from further participation in the examination.

Section 15 Revocation of Degrees

The revocation of Bachelor's and Master's degrees shall be governed by Section 69 BayHSchG.

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) If more than six months have passed since the examination, resit examinations may no longer be ordered as stipulated in paragraph 1.

Section 17 Written Examination, Multiple-Choice Examinations

(1) ¹ In written examinations (written examinations, assignments or seminar papers) 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. ² Changing the examination format from an (electronic) written examination to an oral examination may be possible in exceptional circumstances after the semester has started if the respective **degree programme and examination regulations** allow for both forms of examinations and the teaching concept of a module has been changed accordingly at short notice. ³ The decision shall be taken by the module manager. ⁴ They 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. ⁵ The 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. ⁶ Resit examinations in semesters in which the teaching unit is held shall follow the examination form chosen for the semester in question.

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

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

(4) ¹ Written examinations may take the form of multiple-choice examinations (with one or more possible correct answers), either in full or in part. ² Detailed information on the modules with multiple-choice examinations is given in the module handbook. ³ The examinee shall state which of the answers to the questions they deem to be correct. ⁴ Examination questions must allow for reliable examination results. ⁵ When drawing up the examination questions, it shall be specified which of the answers shall be accepted as correct. ⁶ If the question does not allow multiple answers, multiple answers shall be inadmissible and disregarded. ⁷ 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. ⁸ Should 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. ⁹ This reduction of the number of examination questions may not result in disadvantages for any of the examinees. ¹⁰ No minus points may be awarded outside of individual examination questions.

(5) ¹ Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, examinations pursuant to (4)(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.

²If sentence 1 (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, (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. ²Oral examinations taken by just one authorised 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 programme and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹Changing the examination from an oral examination to an (electronic) written examination may be possible in exceptional circumstances after the semester has started if the respective **degree programme 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 manager. 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 authorised 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 authorised 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 kept in the examination records for a minimum of 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 within the bounds of feasibility with regard to the examination's location; 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 authorised 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 programme 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 Electronic Examination

¹Examinations may be administered in electronic form. ²Detailed information on the modules in which examinations are in electronic form 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:

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 fulfils average requirements;
ausreichend (sufficient)	= (3.7 or 4.0)	an achievement that fulfils the requirements despite flaws;
nicht ausreichend (unsatisfactory)	= (4.3 or 4.7 or 5.0)	an achievement that no longer fulfils 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 programme 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. ⁶One decimal place shall count towards the module grade; further decimal places shall be omitted without being rounded.

(2) ¹Multiple-choice examinations (single and/or multiple choice) shall be evaluated as follows: ²Students who answer the required minimum of examination questions according to Section 17 (5)(1) correctly 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 none or less than 25 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly.

³The grades can be increased or decreased by increments of 0.3 according to the percentage; the grades 0.7, 4.3 and 4.7 shall not be awarded. ⁴Students who do not achieve the required minimum shall receive the grade 5.0. ⁵Notwithstanding sentence 3, 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 programme and examination regulations** have been fulfilled.

(4) ¹The overall grade of the GOP, 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 programme 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 programme 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. ²Two decimal places shall count towards the 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 programme 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 awarded for the module. ⁵If the examination is not graded, the successfully completed module shall have the result 'bestanden' (pass).

(6) ¹The final grade of the GOP shall be calculated using all module grades from the modules required for passing the GOP with the weighting of their ECTS credits. ²In case of several possible modules, the better results shall be used.

(7) ¹Unless otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, all module grades of the Bachelor's or Master's degree programme shall be included in the calculation of the final grade of the Bachelor's or Master's examination, weighted according to their ECTS credits. ²Paragraph 1 sentence 5 (2) and sentence 6 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 wilfully and if this fact only becomes known after the certificate has been awarded, 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 certificate shall be withdrawn; a new certificate 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 responsible examination body 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, Degree Certificate

(1) Students who have successfully completed a degree programme shall receive a final academic record, a transcript of records, a diploma supplement and a degree certificate, generally within four weeks.

(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 programme's completion at the latest; otherwise this information may no longer be taken into consideration for the documents listed in paragraph 1.

Section 26 Notification of Failed Examinations

Upon request and submission of the required certificates as well as the de-registration certificate, students who have failed the Bachelor's or Master's examination at the final attempt shall receive written confirmation showing that the examination was failed, which grades were achieved in the individual module examinations and which examination achievements are still missing.

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.

(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 according to paragraphs 1 and 2 shall only be taken by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee responsible upon written request. ²The student may be required to submit an official certificate from a medical examiner ('vertrauensärztliches Attest') proving the fulfilment of the conditions in paragraph 1. 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 programme 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 29-32) and in the **degree programme and examination regulations**.
2. The GOP, the Bachelor's examination, the Diplom intermediary examination or the Diplom examination in the same subject or in a related subject pursuant to the **degree programme and examination regulations** 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.

(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 fulfil the requirements of an academic course of study in their 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 programme and examination regulations** have been passed and all requirements stipulated in the **degree programme and examination regulations** have been fulfilled. ²The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify the subject, type and scope of the GOP.

Section 30 Bachelor's Examination

¹The **degree programme 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 programme 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 programme 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 credits; further details are stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(2) ¹The relevant **degree programme 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 latest by the beginning of their sixth semester of studying the subject. 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 programme and examination regulations** may stipulate conditions for allocating a Bachelor's thesis deviating from those stipulated in sentence 1.

(4) ¹Depending on the **degree programme 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 programme 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.

(5) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, the topic of the Bachelor's thesis may not 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 programme 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 programme 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 programme and examination regulations**, and depending on the number of evaluations pursuant to (7), two hard copies (one evaluation) or three 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 supervisor and second examiner shall each be given one of the (stamped) hard copies. ³The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by the Examinations Committee responsible. ⁴The 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.

(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 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory), it shall be rejected; if not, the thesis shall be given the grade derived from the arithmetic average of all three evaluations. Section 22 (1) sentences 5 and 6 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. ³Paragraphs 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. 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. ⁶The resit period shall not be interrupted by de-registration or leave of absence. ⁷If 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. ⁸The 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 Additional Modules

(1) ¹Additional modules are modules included in the degree programme (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 programme 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 programmes offered as partial qualifications for this degree programme are also classed as additional modules. ²Examination procedures for such modules are governed by the regulations stipulated in the **examination regulations** for the degree programme 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 programme and examination regulations** may contain provisions deviating from (1) and (2).

Part III: Master's Examination

Section 34 Qualification for a Master's Degree Programme

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

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

²The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** for the Master's degree programmes 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 programme and examination regulations** with regard to the expertise 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. ³Admission in this case shall be granted conditionally.

(3) ¹Notwithstanding (1)(1)(1), students who are enrolled in a Bachelor's degree programme may be admitted to a Master's degree programme if they have achieved a minimum number of ECTS credits according to the provisions stipulated in the relevant **degree programme 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 programme; completing the Bachelor's degree programme is a prerequisite for formally starting the Master's degree programme. ³Admission to the Master's degree programme shall be granted conditionally.

Section 35 Admission to Examinations

¹Students enrolled in the Master's degree programme 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 36-38) and in the **degree programme and examination regulations**.
2. The Diplom or Master's examination in a degree programme classed according to the **degree programme and examination regulations** as being in the same or a comparable subject 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.

³Section 28 (2) shall apply accordingly.

Section 36 Master's Examination

(1) ¹The Master's examination shall consist of all module examinations throughout the degree programme including the Master's thesis module. ²The relevant **degree programme 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 programme; the Examinations Committee responsible can allow exceptions.

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

Section 37 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 programme ('Lehramt'). ⁴According to the provisions set forth in the relevant **degree programme 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 latest by the beginning of their fourth semester of studying the subject. 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 programme and examination regulations** may stipulate conditions for allocating a Master's thesis deviating from sentence 1.

(3) ¹The relevant **degree programme 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 programme 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.

(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 programme 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. ⁵Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, two hard copies of the Master's thesis and two machine-readable, electronic copies (pdf document on a CD-ROM) shall be submitted to the Examinations Office, the supervisor and the second evaluator; the date of submission shall be recorded in writing. ⁶If 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) sentence 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 38 Resitting Examinations, Additional Modules

Unless stipulated otherwise in the **degree programme and examination regulations** Sections 32 and 33 shall apply accordingly to resitting examinations and taking additional modules.

Part IV: Final Provisions

Section 39 Legal Validity, Transitory Provisions

(1) ¹These general examination regulations shall come into effect on the day after their publication. ²They shall apply to students starting one of the degree programmes listed in Section 1(1) from the winter semester 2019/2020 onwards. ³In deviation from sentence 2, in the case of the Master's degree programme in Geosciences, the provisions in Section 34 and the **Appendix** shall only apply to students applying to start studies in the winter semester 2020/2021; until then, the provisions stipulated in the latest version of the degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme in Geosciences and the Master's degree programme in Geosciences at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU – **FPOGeo** – dated 2 March 2017 shall apply, in conjunction with the latest version of the general examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme in Geosciences (BSc) and the Master's degree programmes in Geosciences (MSc) and GeoThermics/GeoEnergy (MSc) at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU – **ABMPOGeo/NatFak** – dated 29 February 2016.

(2) ¹At the same time, the general examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme in Biology (BSc Biology) and the Master's degree programme in Cell and Molecular Biology (MSc ZMB), and for the Bachelor's degree programme in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (BSc ILS) and the Master's degree programme in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (MSc ILS) at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU – **ABMPOBio/NatFak** – dated 22 July 2015 shall become invalid from 30 September 2024. ²Students studying pursuant to the regulations stated in sentence 1 in conjunction with

- the degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme (BSc Biology) and the Master's degree programme in Cell and Molecular Biology (MSc ZMB) at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU – **FPOBio** – dated 22 July 2015, last amended on 5 August 2016 or
- the degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme in In Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics, Biophysics (BSc ILS) and the Master's Degree Programme in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (MScILS) at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU – **FPOILS** – dated 22 July 2015

who started to study before the winter semester 2019/2020 shall complete their studies in accordance with the provisions that have applied to date. ³Examinations governed by the previously applicable degree programme and examination regulations stated in sentences 1 and 2 will be offered for the last time for the Bachelor's degree programmes in summer semester 2024 and for the Master's degree programmes in winter semester 2022/2023.

(3) ¹Paragraph 2 shall apply accordingly with respect to the general degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme in Geosciences (BSc) and the Master's degree programme in GeoThermics/GeoEnergy (MSc) at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU – **ABMPOGeo/NatFak** – dated 29 February 2016 for students who are studying in accordance with the degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme in GeoSciences (BSc) and the Master's degree programme in Geosciences (MSc) at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU – **FPOGeo** – dated 29 February 2016, last amended on 2 March 2017. ²The regulations stipulated in **ABMPOGeo/NatFak** shall continue to apply unchanged for students studying the Master's degree programme in GeoThermics/GeoEnergy.

Appendix

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

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

(2) ¹Applications for the qualification assessment process must be submitted to the FAU Master's Office by 15 July for starting to study in the winter semester and 15 January for starting to study in the summer semester. ²The individual **degree programme and examination regulations** may stipulate deadlines deviating from sentence 1. ³The application shall contain:

1. A certificate proving that the applicant holds a university degree according to Section 34 (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 programme and examination regulations**.
3. Where applicable, further documents as proof of fulfilment of the requirements set forth in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹In accordance with Section 12, the qualification assessment shall be the responsibility of the Admissions Committee of the Master's degree programme 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 fulfil 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 (2). ²The qualification assessment process shall be carried out with those applicants who fulfil the requirements according to the provisions in (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 programme 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 programme. 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 fulfils the provisions under Section 34 (1)(1), or in the case of Section 34 (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 programme in the course of the preselection 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 programme 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 programme. 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 selection interview 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 programme 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 programme; the individual **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify the criteria of the examination. ¹²The result of the examination shall be either 'bestanden' (passed) or 'nicht bestanden' (failed). ¹³Applicants shall be notified of the result of the oral admissions examination in writing. ¹⁴A rejection notification shall include reasons and information on the legal remedies available.

(6) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the applicable **degree programme 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 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 programme has not been changed significantly.

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Erlangen, 28 October 2019

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Joachim Hornegger
President

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