

**EXAMINATION REGULATIONS FOR THE STUDY PROGRAMMES BIOCHEMISTRY,
BIOCHEMISTRY INTERNATIONAL, BIOLOGY, BIOLOGY - VARIANT ANNUAL,
CHEMISTRY, INDUSTRIAL PHARMACY, INFORMATICS, MATHEMATICS,
MEDICAL PHYSICS AND PHYSICS
WITH THE DEGREE "MASTER OF SCIENCE"
AT THE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES
THE HEINRICH-HEINE-UNIVERSITY DÜSSELDORF
VALID IN GERMAN VERSION (ISSUED ON 25.09.2018) ONLY**

In accordance with Articles 2.4 and 64.1 of the Law Governing the Universities in the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (University Law – UL), published in the State Gazette on 16.09.2014 (State Gazette NRW, p. 547), lastly changed on 07.04.2017 (GV.NRW, p. 414), Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf has drawn up the following Regulations

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§ 1

Scope of Application

(1) These examination regulations apply to the Master's programmes "Biochemistry", "Biochemistry International", "Biology", "Biology International", "Chemistry", "Industrial Pharmacy", "Computer Science", "Mathematics", "Medical Physics" and "Physics" with a Master's degree in Science from the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf. Subject-specific regulations can be found in the appendix, which is part of these regulations.

§ 2

Course of Study: Requirements and qualification goals

(1) To register for a Master's programme candidates must have a primary academic degree in the relevant subject or in a closely related subject, and a particular aptitude for scientific research. The specific requirements for, and details of the registration process are set out in the Regulations on the Determination of Special Aptitude for the relevant Master's programme.

(2) Notwithstanding the requirements set out in paragraph 1, candidates may be provisionally registered (Art. 49(6) University Law) for a Master's programme if they fulfill the Regulations on the Determination of Special Aptitude for the relevant Master's programme and have already earned at least 160 credits in a Bachelor's programme in the relevant subject. Provisional registration shall lapse if the candidate has not obtained a primary professional qualification within six months following the opening day of the semester for which the said registration was granted.

(3) Each Master's programme is designed to teach students the advanced specialist knowledge, skills and methodologies required to carry out scientific work and science-oriented professional activities in the field concerned, and critically evaluate new scientific findings and make use of them in professional practice. The course is intended to acquaint students with the current state of research in a specialised area of their subject, and serves as a preparation for independent scientific research.

(4) Each Master's programme includes an appropriately designed introduction to the Principles of Good Scientific Practice in accordance with the guidelines issued by the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*.

§ 3

Course of Study: Structure

(1) The period normally allotted for completion of the Master's programme (standard period of study), including successful participation in all module examinations and the preparation of the Master's thesis, is four semesters. Exceptions may be granted under the conditions set out in the subject-specific appendix.

(2) Each Master's programme is so designed that it can be completed with an average workload of 900 hours per semester.

(3) Each Master's programme is structured into study modules in accordance with the detailed specifications set out in the subject-specific appendix. Generally, each module ends with a module examination.

(4) Students who have been accepted into a doctoral programme without having first obtained a Master's or a Diplom degree ("fast-track doctorate"), in accordance with Art. 2(5) of the Doctoral Regulations issued by the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, may apply to take the Master's programme in certain subjects in a differently structured form. Details can be found in the relevant subject-specific appendix.

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(5) Any change in course content made by the Board of Examiners or the teaching staff that goes beyond the provisions of these Regulations and the subject-specific appendices is admissible only insofar as it is compatible with completion of the said course within the standard period of study

§ 4

Board of Examiners

(1) The Faculty Council of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf shall select a Board of Examiners for each course of study.

(2) Each Board of Examiners shall consist of five members:

- The Chairperson (a full Professor)
- The Deputy Chairperson (a full Professor)
- A third member of professorial rank
- A non-professorial member of the academic staff
- A current student of the corresponding subject

For each of the last three members, a substitute shall also be chosen from the corresponding group. Each group may submit nominations of candidates for their own members and deputies to the Faculty Council. The term of office for student members is one year, for all other members and their deputies three years. Re-election is permissible. Further provisions concerning the composition of the Board of Examiners are set out in the subject-specific appendices.

(3) The Board of Examiners ensures that the provisions set out in these Regulations are complied with, and that examinations are conducted in the proper manner. In particular, it is responsible for the recognition of study and examination credits in accordance with § 9 and for decisions on appeals against rulings made during the examination process.

(4) The Board of Examiners may delegate responsibility for the execution of its duties in all standard cases to the Chairperson or his/her Deputy. This does not apply to decisions regarding appeals.

(5) The Board of Examiners is competent to make decisions if a quorum consisting of two professors and at least one other voting member is present. The Board's decisions are based on a simple majority of the members present. In cases of a tie, the Chairperson (or his/her Deputy if the former is absent) casts the deciding vote. The student members of the Board of Examiners are not eligible to vote on issues relating to the evaluation, recognition and transfer of study and examination credits or the appointment of examiners and observers. The deputies may take part in meetings of the Board of Examiners but shall only be eligible to vote if the member they represent is not present.

(6) Meetings of the Board of Examiners are not open to the public. Its members and their deputies are duty bound to keep its proceedings confidential. The Chairperson shall obligate those members who are not in the public service to give an undertaking to respect and maintain confidentiality.

(7) The members of the Board of Examiners have the right to be present during examinations.

§ 5

Examiners

(1) The Board of Examiners is responsible for appointing examiners for the module examinations (Para. 10) and for the Master's thesis (Para. 16). It may delegate this responsibility to its Chairperson.

(2) Only those who belong to the categories of persons specified in Art. 65, Para. 1 UL shall be eligible to serve as examiners for a module examination.

(3) As a general rule, the person responsible for the teaching of a module shall be appointed as the examiner for the corresponding examination

(4) Examiners are independent in all matters relating to examinations.

(5) In cases where an oral examination must be repeated, the candidate may suggest an alternative examiner to the Board of Examiners. The said proposal must be accompanied by a written justification, and must comply with Para. 2. The right to propose an alternative does not imply that the proposal must be accepted, but it should, if possible, should be taken into account.

6) Repeat examinations in which a failing grade is definitive and cannot otherwise be compensated for must be evaluated by at least two examiners

(7) All oral examinations must be conducted by more than one examiner or by one examiner in the presence of a competent observer. The observer of an oral examination must have successfully completed the course in which the candidate is being examined (or a related course of study).

(8) Examiners and observers are obliged to maintain confidentiality. The Chairperson shall obligate those members who are not in the public service to give an undertaking to respect and maintain confidentiality. Observers who are not in the public service must be similarly obligated by the appointed examiner.

§ 6

Master's Examination: Purpose

(1) The Master's examination constitutes the final stage of the Master's programme and its successful completion provides the professional qualification "Master of Science". The examination is designed to determine whether the goals set out in Art. 2(2) have been achieved.

§ 7

Master's Examination: Eligibility

(1) Only candidates who have registered for a Master's programme at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, or have registered as visiting students in accordance with Art. 52(2) UL, are eligible to take the corresponding Master's examination.

(2) A candidate shall be declared ineligible for the examination if

- The registration requirements set out in Para. 1 have not been met or
- the examinee has already taken and definitively failed an examination in the same or a closely related subject at another university to which the provisions of the German Higher Education Framework Act apply.

(3) Students are automatically registered for the Master's examination once they have registered for their first module exam in accordance with Art. 11.

§ 8

Master's Examination: Regulations

(1) The Master's examination consists of the module examinations taken as part of the course of study (see Art. 10) and the Master's thesis (see Art. 16). As a rule, the Master's examination should be completed by the end of the fourth semester of the course of study.

(2) In accordance with the subject-specific appendix, the candidate must have earned a minimum total of 120 credit points in the module examinations and for the Master's thesis plus transferable credits. Exceptions are listed in the subject-specific appendix.

(3) For the purposes of these Examination Regulations, one credit point (CP) corresponds to one ECTS point (*European Credit Transfer System*) and is awarded for courses and other academic activities that correspond to a workload of around 30 hours – provided the success of this work is documented by a module examination or a transferable credit.

(4) For the purposes of these Examination Regulations, examination credits are earned through graded examinations and serve as the basis for the module grade in accordance with Art. 12.

(5) For the purposes of these Examination Regulations, study credits are earned through active participation in the academic course of study. Study credits are not graded.

(6) If a candidate can demonstrate by means of a doctor's certificate that, owing to a prolonged illness or permanent physical or mental handicap, he or she is not in position to take an examination wholly or in part in its prescribed form, the Board of Examiners shall enable the said candidate to take an equivalent examination in a different form. Before making its decision, the Board of Examiners may, with the candidate's permission, ask the University's Representative for the Disabled for an assessment of the case. A written application for compensation of disadvantage must be submitted to the Board of Examiners at least 4 weeks prior to the examination concerned.

(7) Upon submission of a corresponding application by a candidate, the Board of Examiners must decide whether or not individual elements of an examination may be taken within a specified period following expiry of the scheduled deadline. The grounds for such requests must be explained and justified in the said application.

§ 9

Recognition of Course and Examination Credits

(1) Upon application, equivalent study and examination credits previously earned in the same or a closely related course at another university or equivalent institution of higher education shall be officially accredited to the candidate's grade transcript. Responsibility for providing the documentation required for said accreditation rests with the candidate.

(2) Study and examination credits earned in other courses will be recognised insofar as their equivalence has been ascertained.

(3) Study and examination credits shall be deemed equivalent if, in terms of content, scope and demands, they essentially correspond to or exceed those awarded in the Master's study programmes to which these Regulations apply. The assessment of equivalence should not be based simply on a schematic comparison, but on an overall review and evaluation. In the case of study and examination credits earned in States that have signed the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications Concerning Higher Education in the European Region of 11.04.1997 – also known as the Lisbon Recognition Convention – recognition may be withheld only if substantial differences can be shown between the qualifications under comparison. Responsibility for demonstrating that an application does not fulfil the relevant requirements rests with the Board of Examiners. If recognition is withheld, the applicant can appeal to have the decision reviewed by the Rector's Office in accordance with Art. 63a(5) UL.

(4) In cases of the recognition of degree and study and exam credits from outside the jurisdiction of the German Basic Law, the equivalence agreements approved by the Conference of Education Ministers and the German Rectors' Conference are to be taken into account, as are any accords reached in the context of university partnerships.

(5) In the case of candidates who have qualified for higher education on the basis of a placement test as defined in Art. 49(11) UL, the knowledge and skills displayed in that test shall be recognized as examination credits insofar as they correspond to the content of the Master's study programmes to which the present Regulations apply. The determinations of equivalence documented in the placement examination certificate are binding on the Board of Examiners.

(6) The Board of Examiners is responsible for the recognition and transfer of qualifications in accordance with paragraphs 1 to 5, and for the assignment of the recognized study and exam credits to the individual modules. The candidate must provide the required documentation for the transfer. Specialists in the relevant subjects may be consulted prior to the determination of equivalence.

(7) Insofar as examination credits are recognised for the Master's study programmes to which these Regulations apply, the grades shall also be transferred (to the extent to which the grading systems used are compatible) and, in accordance with the present Regulations, shall be taken into account in determining the final grade. If the grading systems are incompatible, the "Pass" grade shall be awarded. Transferred credits may be indicated as such in the final grade transcript.

§ 10

Module Examinations: General rules, access restrictions

(1) Each module examination shall be based on the content of a module. Module examinations are held throughout the duration of the course of study and take place shortly after completion of all components of the relevant module.

(2) A module consists of one or more units of study. A given unit of study cannot be selected as a component of different modules of the same study programme.

(3) Admission to modules or units of study may be restricted (to a maximum number of participants) for didactic or infrastructural reasons or owing to capacity limitations. The Board of Examiners shall determine the details of such restrictions and publish these, together with the criteria employed in their specification, prior to the opening of the registration period. The ranking of students to be accepted for such course units shall be based on the following criteria:

- The study program to which the module or course unit belongs
- The number of semesters the candidate has already attended
- The student's level of performance

(4) The course content relevant for the required examinations and/or study credits shall be published by the Board of Examiners. As a rule, the said content is specified in the module descriptions published by the Board of Examiners.

(5) The examiners appointed in accordance with Art. 5 shall specify the type and specific format of each module examination. For each module examination, the following information will be posted on the Internet and/or communicated to students via noticeboards at the beginning of the module:

- Admission requirements (e.g. specific study credits earned)
- Type, scope and duration of the examination
- Permitted aids
- Procedures used to determine the grade (success/failure)

(6) As a general rule, module examinations are held on three dates and at least three weeks apart:

- Shortly after the last course unit in the module.
- Within 6 months after the first scheduled examination date.
- Within 6 months after the second scheduled examination date.

Dates of examinations are announced at the beginning of the module, or no less than three months prior to each examination at the latest. Oral examinations may be held over a specified period rather than on specific dates.

(7) Module examinations generally take the form of a final examination for a given module. Their content shall include all of the course material from the entire module. Module examinations may be held as written or oral examinations, or in other forms (e.g. presentations or final reports), at the discretion of the examiner.

(8) Written examinations are supervised by an invigilator, and are set and evaluated by the examiner who then awards a grade. The duration of such an examination shall not be less than one hour and shall not exceed four hours.

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- (9) An oral examination may be an individual or a group examination involving no more than six candidates. The overall duration of such an examination shall not be less than 15 minutes per candidate and shall not exceed 60 minutes per candidate. The examination shall be conducted by the appointed examiner. The topics touched upon and the results of the examination shall be recorded in a protocol. The examiner determines the grade awarded. The views of the attendant observer shall be heard before the grade is decided. The candidate(s) shall be informed of the result immediately afterwards.
- (10) Oral module examinations may be conducted in the presence of an audience, insofar as space is available. However, the audience is excluded from the deliberations concerning, and the announcement of, the result of the examination. Upon the written request of a candidate, listeners shall be excluded from the examination. Examiners have the right to exclude listeners during an examination if they are concerned about possible disruption of the said examination.
- (11) An independently held presentation in the context of a seminar can be noted as an examination. The responsible lecturer gives evaluation criteria at the beginning of the seminar. Grading takes place within four weeks of the end of the seminar.
- (12) A written report is a written elaboration of a course and is usually graded. The responsible lecturer announces the evaluation criteria. Grading takes place within four weeks of the report being submitted.
- (13) Additional forms of examinations are described in the subject-specific appendix to these Examination Regulations.
- (14) If a candidate can demonstrate by means of a doctor's certificate that he/she is incapable of taking an examination in the prescribed form owing to a long-lasting illness or permanent disability, the Board of Examiners may permit the said candidate to take an equivalent examination in another format.
- (15) In exceptional circumstances, the Board of Examiners may stipulate that a module examination be taken in the form of a cumulative test. Such a test consists of several separately graded and accredited sections, each of which deals with a specific area of the course material covered in the module.

§ 11

Module examinations: Registration, Withdrawal, Deadlines

- (1) Candidates must register for module examinations with the University's Academic Examinations Office at least one week prior to the scheduled date of the examination.
- (2) Registration for certain module examinations may be subject to specific requirements, which are set out in the subject-specific appendix.
- (3) Candidates may withdraw from an examination at any time up to one week prior to the scheduled date of the said examination.
- (4) The procedural requirements for registration for, and withdrawal from, module examinations may differ from those described in paragraphs (1) to (3) and may instead be set out in the subject-specific appendix. Furthermore, the appropriate Board of Examiners, in consultation with University's Academic Examinations Office, may specify registration and/or withdrawal procedures which differ from those defined in these Regulations. In such cases, the requisite regulations shall be published on noticeboards or on the Internet.
- (5) Registered candidates who have not fulfilled the admission requirements by the date of an examination shall be deemed to be no longer registered for the said examination.
- (6) The examination credit or, where appropriate, the memorandum noting the non-fulfilment of admission requirements, for all candidates must be provided to the Academic Examinations Office by the examiner within four weeks following the examination.

§ 12

Module Examinations: Evaluation, Grade Scale

(1) The following grade scale shall be employed for the evaluation of performance in module examinations:

1 (very good):	an excellent level of achievement;
2 (good):	significantly better than the average;
3 (satisfactory):	average;
4 (sufficient):	a level of achievement which, despite its shortcomings, fulfils the set requirements;
5 (insufficient):	a performance that does not meet the set requirements.

For further differentiation, these grades may be increased or reduced by 0.3; the grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 are inadmissible.

(2) The designated examiners are responsible for awarding the grades for each module examination.

(3) For modules with cumulative module examinations (Art. 10(12)), the grades awarded for the individual examinations in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be averaged. In this context, the examinations for the various course units shall be weighted in accordance with the credit points assigned to the unit concerned. The overall grade average is the module grade, and shall be rounded off to one decimal place.

§ 13

Module Examinations: Success and Failure

(1) A candidate who receives the grade Sufficient (a grade of 4.0 or better) shall be deemed to have passed the module examination.

(2) A candidate who receives the grade Insufficient (5.0) shall be deemed to have failed the module examination.

(3) In the case of a cumulative module examination, a candidate shall be deemed to have passed if he/she has been awarded a grade of Sufficient or better in all required examinations and has acquired all the necessary study credits. In all other cases, the cumulative module examination will be graded as Insufficient (5.0).

(4) All candidates who have passed a module examination shall receive all the credit points specified in the subject-specific appendix for the module concerned.

§ 14

Module Examinations: Repetition

(1) Examinations that have already been passed cannot be repeated.

(2) If a candidate has failed a module examination, the Academic Examinations Office shall inform the said candidate of that fact in writing, indicating whether, in what form and within what period the examination may be repeated. This notification shall be accompanied by information concerning to the appeal procedure against the ruling.

(3) A failed module examination can be repeated no more than twice.

(4) A failed module examination should be repeated on the next possible date (or, in the case of oral examinations, within the set period specified). Withdrawal from a repeat examination is permissible (see Art. 11(3)).

- (5) The form of the repeat examination need not be the same as that of the original exam. The examiner determines the form that the repeat examination will take.
- (6) The grade awarded for a repeat of a final module examination shall apply to that module.
- (7) In the context of a cumulative module examination, only those component exams that have been graded as Insufficient (5.0) may be repeated. A candidate who repeats a component of a cumulative module examination is judged to have passed if all the conditions stated in Art. 13(3) have been met. The grade for the module examination is then derived in accordance with Art. 12(3), taking the grade awarded for the repeated component of the examination into account.
- (8) A module examination is deemed to have been definitively failed if all repeat attempts permitted have been graded as Insufficient (5.0).
- (9) The procedural requirements for repetition of module examinations may differ from those stipulated in paragraphs (3) and (4) and may instead be set out in the subject-specific appendix.

§ 15

Module Examinations: Absence, Withdrawal, Deception and Breaches of Regulations

- (1) A candidate who fails to attend, or fails to formally withdraw from an examination without valid reason, shall be deemed to have failed that examination.
- (2) Valid reasons for missing or withdrawing from an examination must be communicated to the Board of Examiners via the Academic Examination Office in writing, and must be accompanied by credible documentation. If the Board of Examiners accepts the reasons adduced for missing the examination, the examination is considered as not having been taken. In cases of illness, a doctor's certificate, which states the grounds for the candidate's inability to take the examination, must be submitted to the Academic Examinations Office.
- (3) If a candidate attempts to influence the result of an examination by means of deception or the use of unauthorised aids, he/she shall be deemed to have failed that examination.
- (4) A candidate who disrupts the orderly course of an examination may be excluded from that examination by the examiner. In such a case, the candidate will be judged to have failed that examination.
- (5) The candidate may, within the space of 4 weeks, demand that a ruling made under paragraph 3 or 4 be reviewed by the Board of Examiners. Rulings detrimental to the candidate must be promptly communicated in writing, stating the reasons for the ruling and outlining the procedure for appeal. Before a final decision is taken, the candidate concerned must be given a fair hearing.

§ 16

Master's Thesis: Assignment of Topic

- (1) The Master's thesis is the final scientific report that must be prepared in the course of the Master's programme. In this report, the candidate must demonstrate that he/she is capable of working independently and in accordance with good scientific practice on a major topic from his/her field of study, and of presenting the results in an appropriate format within a specified period of time. The Bachelor thesis can be written in German or English.
- (2) The topic of the Master's thesis is assigned, and academic supervision is provided, by a professor or a qualified, full-time lecturer in the relevant subject at the Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf. Exceptions to this stipulation may be made at the discretion of the Board of Examiners. The Board of Examiners also appoints the academic supervisor.
- (3) The candidate submits an application for assignment of a topic for the Master's thesis to one of the supervisors nominated by the Board of Examiners as set out in paragraph (2). The requirements and deadlines relevant to the said application are set out in the relevant subject-specific appendix.

- (4) The supervisor chooses the topic and communicates it to the Board of Examiners. Provided the stipulated conditions have been met, the Board of Examiners then selects the second examiner, and communicates the topic and the names of the examiners to the Academic Examinations Office and to the candidate. The period available for completion and submission of the Master's thesis begins with the date of this notification.
- (5) Provided all the requirements set out in the subject-specific appendix have been fulfilled, a candidate may (without necessarily having to propose any topics or seek the approval of a supervisor) apply to the Board of Examiners for assignment of a topic for his/her Master's thesis and the appointment of a supervisor. In this case, the Board of Examiners shall assign the topic for the Master's thesis and appoint the supervisor within one month of receipt of the candidate's application.
- (6) The Academic Examinations Office must place the assigned topic and the date of its assignment on record and make this record available to the candidate.
- (7) The candidate may reject the allotted topic within two weeks of its assignment. In that case, a new topic shall be assigned in accordance with paragraph 4 or 5 and must then be accepted. The first assigned topic may be rejected at a later time, but only if the candidate provides valid reasons for doing so, in accordance with Art. 15(2).
- (8) The scope of the Master's thesis, the time allotted for its completion and the deadline for its submission are stipulated in the subject-specific appendix.
- (9) Upon submission of the Master's thesis, the candidate shall provide a written assurance that it is his/her own work and that no sources or aids other than those cited in the work itself have been utilized in its preparation.

§ 17

Master's Thesis: Evaluation and Acceptance

- (1) The Master's thesis must be submitted in electronic form (as a PDF document) by the deadline, i.e. by the end of the processing period at the latest. Delivery is made by uploading the PDF document to the student portal of the Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (studierende.uni-duesseldorf.de). The date of submission will be recorded by the Academic Examinations Office. If the Master's thesis is not delivered on time, it is considered as "insufficient" (5.0). At the request of the first examiner, the candidate shall immediately submit two additional printed copies of the thesis to the first examiner.
- (2) The Master's thesis shall be graded by two examiners who possess the qualifications required to assign thesis topics in accordance with Art. 16(2). At least one of these individuals must be a full-time member of the academic staff of the Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf. The first examiner is the academic supervisor of the work. Examiners for Master's theses are appointed by the Board of Examiners
- (3) The first examiner evaluates the Master's thesis and provides a written justification of this evaluation. The second examiner may second this assessment and the justification thereof, or may provide a different assessment, which must then be accompanied by a written justification. The evaluations are quantified as grades in accordance with Art. 12(1).
- (4) The grade awarded for the Master's thesis is the arithmetical mean (rounded off to one decimal place) of the grades provided by the two examiners in accordance with paragraph 3, insofar as both evaluations are at least Sufficient (4.0) and do not differ by more than 2.0. If both examiners grade the work as Insufficient (5.0) this shall be the grade awarded for the Master's thesis. In all other cases, the Board of Examiners shall appoint an additional person as examiner in accordance with paragraph 2, who will assign a third grade for the Master's thesis, together with a written justification of this evaluation. In this case, the final grade of the Master's thesis is the arithmetical mean (rounded off to one decimal place) of the two better grades of the three provided, insofar as both amount, at the least, to Sufficient (4.0). Otherwise the Master's thesis receives the grade Insufficient (5.0).

(5) The final evaluation of the Master's thesis must be communicated to the candidate within no more than six weeks following submission of the work. In cases where a third examiner is necessary, this period may be extended to eight weeks.

(6) A Master's thesis that is graded as Sufficient (4.0) or higher is deemed to be accepted. All credit points reserved for an accepted Master's thesis shall then be awarded (see subject-specific appendix).

(7) If a Master's thesis is not accepted, the candidate must be informed in writing by the Board of Examiners. This communication must also indicate whether the Master's thesis may be repeated (Art. 18). The notification of non-acceptance must be accompanied by information regarding the procedure for appeal.

(8) By analogy, Art. 15 shall also apply to the Master's thesis.

§ 18

Master's Thesis: Repetition

(1) A Master's thesis that has been accepted in accordance with Art. 17(6) cannot be repeated.

(2) A Master's thesis which, in accordance with Art.17(7) or (8), has been awarded the grade Insufficient, and is thus classified as not accepted, may be repeated once. There is no provision for a second repetition.

(3) The application for permission to repeat the Master's thesis and for the assignment of a topic (Art. 16) shall be submitted no later than three months after dispatch of the communication informing the candidate that the first had been evaluated and deemed unacceptable.

(4) The topic for the repetition shall be assigned in accordance with Art. 16.

§ 19

Additional Modules

(1) A candidate may, as part of the Master's examination, take module examinations in modules in his/her study programme or a closely related subject other than those prescribed in the subject-specific appendix (Additional Modules). The results of the examinations in these modules shall, at the request of the candidate, be entered in the final grade transcript, but they shall not be considered in determining the final grade. The Board of Examiners may prohibit candidates from taking additional modules, in particular on the grounds of lack of teaching staff.

§ 20

Access to Examination Records

(1) Within one month of the announcement of results of each module examination, candidates shall be notified of the date on which they may inspect their examination scripts.

(2) Following the conclusion of the Master's examination, the Academic Examinations Office shall, upon application, permit the candidate to inspect the examination and assessment protocols relating to his/her own case. The application must be made within one month of the date of the final grade transcript.

§ 21

Master's Examination: Evaluation

(1) The Master's examination is passed if all credit points have been earned in accordance with the subject-specific appendix.

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(2) The overall grade of the Master's examination is derived from the weighted average of the grades for module examinations and the grade awarded for the Master's thesis. The weighting of the modules is prescribed in the subject-specific appendix.

(3) The overall grade of a successful Master's examination is rounded off to one decimal place.

(4) The overall rating awarded for the Master's examination is defined as follows:

Overall grade 1.0 – 1.5:	Very Good
Overall grade 1.6 – 2.5:	Good
Overall grade 2.6 – 3.5:	Satisfactory
Overall grade 3.6 – 4.0:	Sufficient

(5) In addition, an ECTS-based Grading Table shall be included in the Diploma Supplement in which the statistical distribution of the grades awarded within the student group concerned is shown. This table should take the following form:

Total number of Master's graduates in Master's programme:		
Grade Interval	Proportion in %:	Cumulative Proportion in %:
1,0 – 1,2		
1,3 – 1,6		
1,7 – 1,9		
2,0 – 2,2		
2,3 – 2,6		
2,7 – 2,9		
3,0 – 3,2		
3,3 – 3,6		
3,7 – 4,0		

The deadline for establishing the ECTS grading table is always 31.12. of each year. The total grades of the graduates of the corresponding degree programme who have completed their studies in the five preceding examination years are used as the basis for calculation. The ECTS grading table cannot be used if fewer than 50 students have completed the programme.

§ 22

Master's Examination: Failure

(1) The Master's examination is considered to have been definitively failed if:

- the repeated Master's thesis is not accepted (Art. 17), or
- a module examination has finally failed (Art. 14(8)) for which there is no possibility of equalisation.

(2) The Board of Examiners shall inform the candidate in writing if he/she has failed the Master's examination. This notification must be accompanied by information regarding the appeals procedure.

§ 23

Master's Examination: Academic Title, Final Grade Transcript, Degree Certificate

(1) The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf shall confer on candidates who have passed the Master's examination the academic title of Master of Science (M.Sc.) in the relevant subject.

(2) Upon completion of all components of the Master's examination, each successful candidate will receive a certificate in which the overall grade and the module examinations taken with the corresponding grades and credit points are listed. In addition, this document must include the title of the Master's

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thesis, the grade awarded for the thesis and the number of credit points earned. It also bears the date of the final examination and the signature of the Chairperson of the Board of Examiners.

(3) At the request of the candidate, the results of additional examination modules shall also be included in the final grade transcript in accordance with Art. 19.

(4) The final grade transcript shall be accompanied by a diploma supplement in German and English, which contains a description of the qualification earned in the relevant course of study, together with the overall grade (Art. 21(3)), the final rating (Art. 21(4)) and the ECTS Grading Table (Art. 21(5)).

(5) Together with the final grade transcript, the candidate shall also receive the Master's degree certificate, dated on the day of conferral. This documents the award of the Master's degree in accordance with paragraph 1.

(6) The Master's degree certificate shall be signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf and the Chairperson of Board of Examination Board and bears the Faculty Seal.

(7) A candidate who has not yet passed or has definitively failed the Master's examination may apply for a written record of the credit points earned, the module examinations taken and their grades, as well as the examination credits that are still outstanding to complete the Master's examination, and also indicates whether the candidate has not yet passed, or has definitively failed, the Master's examination.

§ 24

Master's Examination: Invalidity

(1) If a candidate has engaged in deception during an examination, and this comes to light only after the Master's examination, the Board of Examiners can retrospectively correct the grade for the examination in which the deception was practiced and declare the candidate to have failed that examination, either wholly or in part.

(2) If, without any intention to deceive on the part of the candidate, the requirements for admission to an examination were not actually fulfilled, and this fact comes to light only after publication of the results of that examination, this error shall be considered to have been remedied by the candidate's passing the said examination.

(3) If the candidate has gained admission to an examination by intentionally deceitful means, the Board of Examiners shall decide upon the legal consequences in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, dated 21 December 1976 (State Gazette NRW, p. 438), in its currently valid version.

(4) Before taking a decision in accordance with paragraph 1 or 3, the Board of Examiners shall give the candidate concerned an opportunity to make a statement on the case.

(5) The invalid grade transcript must be returned and, if necessary, replaced by a corrected version. In addition to the incorrect grade transcript, the Master's degree certificate must also be withdrawn if the Master's examination is declared to have been failed on grounds of deception.

§ 25

Interim Arrangements

(1) These Examination Regulations apply to all students enrolled in Master's programmes at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (as listed in the subject-specific appendix) on a date subsequent to that on which the said Regulations come into effect.

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(2) Students who were enrolled in the Master's programmes named in the subject-specific appendices prior to the date defined in paragraph 1 may complete the Master's examination in accordance with the Examination Regulations that were in effect at the time of their enrollment, unless they wish to switch to the new Examination Regulations. In that case, candidates should apply in writing to the Board of Examiners via the Academic Examinations Office stating that they wish to switch to the new rules. The application must be submitted, at the latest, when the candidate registers for the last module examination of the Master's examination. This application cannot be withdrawn.

Article II

Entry into Effect and Publication

(1) These examination regulations enter into effect on 01.10.2018. The text of the current version will be published anew.

Issued on the basis of the decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the Heinrich Heine University dated 25.09.2018.

Düsseldorf, 25.09.2018

The Rector of the
Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Anja Steinbeck
(Univ.-Prof. Dr. iur.)