

- NON-OFFICIAL VERSION -

This translation is based on the German version of the Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme of Faculty I: School of Arts and Humanities (readable version, "Lesefassung").

The German version of this text and the official releases it is based on are the only legally binding versions.

Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme of Faculty I: School of Arts and Humanities

**at the
University of Siegen**

of 12 March 2013

Last changed on 18 May 2017

These regulations are based on the wording of:

- The Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme of Faculty I: School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Siegen of 12 March 2013 (Official Notification 21/2013),
- The regulations amending the Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme of Faculty I: School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Siegen of 11 August 2015 (Official Notification 100/2015),
- The second regulations amending the Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme of Faculty I: School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Siegen of 18 May 2017 (Official Notification 49/2017).

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§ 1^{*2}

Scope of these regulations

- (1) These Examination Regulations are valid for the Master's programme of Faculty I: School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Siegen for the subjects listed in Annex 1. They regulate the basic structures of the Master's programme. The subject-specific regulations govern the contents and requirements of the individual subjects offered in the Master's programme. Additional regulations are included in the Module Handbook and the Internship Regulations of the Faculty. Study plans are enclosed in each of the subject-specific regulations that include an example of the recommended course of the studies in the individual subjects.
- (2) The subject-specific regulations to these Examination Regulations may include deviating regulations insofar as a double degree is being awarded in cooperation with a university at home or abroad.

§ 2

Aim of the study programme

- (1) The Master's programme is a postgraduate programme and aims to provide students with relevant in-depth specialist knowledge, theories and methods while taking into account the requirements of professional life, equip them with skills for academic reflection and enable them to apply academic knowledge and methods, as well as to act responsibly in relevant occupations in an academic job market.
- (2) A special emphasis is placed on a close connection between research and teaching.
- (3) The diverse range of optional elements enables students to follow their individual interests and preferences in accordance with their specific professional objectives.
- (4) The programme facilitates the development of social, communicative and intercultural skills by providing specific opportunities for exchanging information and ideas on a specialist and personal level.

§ 3

Master's degree

- (1) Following the successful completion of the study programme, the university will award the academic degree "Master of Arts" (M.A.).
- (2) The specific type of degree will be indicated by stating the subject or core subject or study programme (in the case of interdisciplinary study models) in the German language. This specific information will be attached in an appropriate form.

§ 4^{*1.2}

Admission requirements

- (1) Admission to the Master's programme is granted to students who have a first degree offering suitable professional qualifications upon which the Master's programme is based.
- (2) The Examination Board is responsible for deciding on equivalent degrees. All other details are governed by the subject-specific or programme-specific regulations.

New version of § 4 (2) Sentence 2

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

All other details are governed by the subject-specific regulations.

- (3) The subject-specific regulations can also stipulate other admission requirements.
- (4) Admission restrictions for studying certain subjects or specific study programmes remain unaffected.

§ 5^{1.2}

Standard study period and scope of studies

- (1) The standard study period for the Master's programme, including the Master's Thesis, is four semesters in full-time study and eight semesters in part-time study.
- (2) 120 credit points (CP) must be obtained for the successful completion of the study programme, of which 30 CP are awarded for the Master's Examination (consisting of the Master's Thesis with 25 CP and the Master's Thesis Presentation with 5 CP).
- (3) The Master's programme can be completed in full-time study or in part-time study. **More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.**

Addition of (4) and (5) to § 5

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (4) If a one-year Master's programme is offered as a consecutive study programme following a four-year Bachelor programme, the standard study period, including the Master's Thesis, is two semesters. One-year Master's programmes can only be studied on a full-time basis.
- (5) In the case of a one-year Master's programme, 60 credit points (CP) must be obtained for the successful completion of the study programme, of which 30 CP are awarded for the Master's Examination (consisting of the Master's Thesis with 25 CP and the Master's Thesis Presentation with 5 CP) and 3 CP are awarded for an ungraded colloquium in preparation for the Master's Thesis.

§ 6

Practical elements and general studies

- (1) In accordance with the subject-specific regulations, a Master's programme generally includes the completion of an internship with a duration of at least 8 weeks (full-time or an appropriate period), for which 9 CP are awarded.
- (2) More details can be found in the Internship Regulations of the Faculty.
- (3) General studies describes an area of study that usually, in accordance with the subject-specific regulations, offers interdisciplinary modules instead of the internship that are intended to provide subject-oriented and also job-oriented vocational training.
- (4) More details can be found in the General Studies Regulations of the Faculty.

§ 7^{1.2}

Modules and structure of the study programme

- (1) The study programme is organised in modules and uses a credit point system. Modules cover a certain theme within a specified period of time and are self-contained study units, they generally consist of different module elements and may include different forms of teaching and learning.
- (2) Credit points (CP) are awarded for the successful completion of a module. A module represents 9 CP and 4 SHW (semester hours per week) or 6 SHW (see § 8 (17)). The requirements for the award of the CP are defined in the subject-specific regulations. **In double degree programmes, the scope of the individual modules may deviate. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.**
- (3) Access to a course or a module may be made dependent on certain requirements, especially the successful participation in another course or another module or multiple other modules. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.
- (4) After deducting the Master's Thesis with 30 CP (consisting of the Master's Thesis with 25 CP and the Master's Thesis Presentation with 5 CP) and a further 9 CP (awarded for an internship, a general studies module or an additional

subject-specific module depending on the subject-specific regulations), this leaves 81 credit points that are distributed over 9 modules each offering 9 CP. There are three study models available:

1. The combination study model combines a core subject (6 modules, 54 CP) and a supplementary subject (3 modules, 27 CP).
2. The interdisciplinary model, in which various disciplines offer a joint Master's programme, comprises 9 modules (3+3+3) (81 CP).
3. The research-oriented study model comprises an expanded core subject, with 9 modules in one subject or an associated subject group (81 CP).

Addition of a new § 7 (5)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (5) In the case of a one-year Master's programme and after deducting the Master's Thesis with 30 CP (consisting of the Master's Thesis with 25 CP and the Master's Thesis Presentation with 5 CP) and the Master's colloquium with 3 CP, this leaves 27 CP that are split over 3 modules each offering 9 CP.
- (5) The subjects, subject combinations and interdisciplinary programmes that can be studied are listed in Annex 1.
- (6) The modules are split between compulsory modules, compulsory elective modules (to be selected from a specified catalogue of modules) and elective modules.
- (7) The subject-specific regulations govern which modules need to be studied in each case and the relationship between the compulsory, compulsory elective and elective modules.
- (8) A module from general studies can generally be completed instead of the internship in all study models. More details can be found in § 7 of the Internship Regulations of the Faculty.

§ 8^{1.2}

Course and examination requirements

- (1) Credit points (CP) are awarded to students for meeting course and examination requirements. The number of CP is calculated based on the estimated workload of the students in each case. An average workload of 1,800 working hours is estimated per academic year. One credit point is equal to a workload of 25 up to a maximum of 30 hours of work. In general, 60 CP are awarded per academic year, which means 30 CP are awarded for each semester.
- (2) The modules consist of different courses. In order to successfully complete a course, students must meet certain course requirements in accordance with the subject-specific regulations. Depending on the subject-specific regulations, modules are generally concluded with an examination.
- (3) Credit points are awarded if a course requirement/examination has been passed in accordance with the subject-specific regulations. Graded course or examination requirements are passed if the student achieves a minimum grade of "sufficient" (4.0).
- (4) Course and examination requirements can only be performed by those students who are enrolled at the university and not taking a leave of absence (§ 48 (5) of the HG) or who are approved as a visiting student in accordance with § 52 of the HG. § 12 of the Examination Regulations remains unaffected.
- (5) According to § 65 (1) of the HG, an examiner can be any person entitled to set examinations who:
 1. regularly teaches relevant courses in the subject that is the basis for the examination or thesis (insofar as no compelling reasons exist to the contrary). The Office of the Dean, in consultation with the relevant departmental examination board, is responsible for deciding on any exceptions.

New version of § 8 (5) Sentence 1

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

1. regularly teaches relevant courses in the subject that is the basis for the examination (insofar as no compelling reasons exist to the contrary). The Office of the Dean, in consultation with the relevant departmental examination board, is responsible for deciding on any exceptions.
 2. holds at least a Master's degree or an equivalent degree in a relevant subject, a diploma in a relevant subject or a first state examination for a teaching degree in a relevant subject.
- (6) When setting the course and examination requirements, the teaching staff are independent of any instruction.
- (7) In order to obtain the 3 CP awarded for the course requirements for a course, the following forms of study, in particular, are possible:
1. Qualified oral participation (§ 19 must be observed) or
 2. Written test (also in electronic form and a multiple choice written test) (approx. 30-45 minutes) or
 3. Short presentation (approx. 15 minutes) or
 4. Short written piece of work (approx. 6-8 pages) or
 5. Oral examination (approx. 15 minutes) or
 6. Work samples and portfolios, whereby the workload must not exceed that for the forms of study 1-5, or
 7. A combination of the stated forms of study or alternative forms of course work, whereby the workload must not exceed that for the forms of study 1-5.

New version of § 8 (7) Sentence 1

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (7) In order to obtain the 3 CP awarded for a course including its associated course requirements, the following forms of study, in particular, are possible:
1. Qualified oral participation (§ 19 must be observed) or
 2. Written test (also in electronic form and a multiple choice written test) (approx. 30 – 45 minutes) or
 3. Short presentation (approx. 15 minutes) or
 4. Short written piece of work (approx. 6 – 8 minutes) or
 5. Oral examination (approx. 15 minutes) or
 6. Work samples and portfolios, whereby the workload must not exceed that for the forms of study 1-5 or
 7. Alternative forms of course work, whereby the workload must not exceed that for the forms of study 1-5.
- (8) In order to obtain 3 CP for the examination requirements, the following forms of examination, in particular, are possible:
1. Home assignment (approx. 12-16 pages) or
 2. Short written presentation (approx. 8-12 pages) or
 3. Project or internship report (approx. 8-12 pages) or
 4. Oral examination (approx. 25-45 minutes) or
 5. Written examination (also in electronic form and a multiple choice written examination, see § 9 of the Examination Regulations) (approx. 45-120 minutes) or
 6. a combination of the stated forms of examination or alternative forms of examination, whereby the workload must not exceed that for the forms of examination 1-5.

- (9) Oral examinations and written examinations are generally held in the examination weeks scheduled by the faculty.
- (10) Oral examinations are held by multiple examiners or by one examiner accompanied by an expert observer.
- (11) Examinations can be repeated to a limited extent (see § 10 of the Examination Regulations) and graded (see § 21 of the Examination Regulations), insofar as the subject-specific regulations do not include any other regulations to the contrary and it is possible to clearly identify the work of each individual student in the case of group work. The grades in the form of module grades are included in the overall grade and the relevant subject grade. **Although course and examination requirements in general studies can be graded, the relevant grade is not included in the overall grade.**
- (12) If the subject-specific regulations do not include any regulations to the contrary, the module grades are included in the overall grade and the relevant subject grade and weighted according to the relevant number of CP (see § 21 (3) of the Examination Regulations). The module grades together have a weighting of 80% and the Master's Examination has a weighting of 20%. When calculating the grade for the Master's Examination, the Master's Thesis and the Master's Thesis Presentation are weighted according to their relevant number of CP.
- (13) Course requirements can be repeated an unlimited number of times. § 10 (1) remains unaffected. Course requirements can be graded or ungraded. If they are graded, the grades are not included in the relevant module grade.
- (14) Course and examination requirements must be registered via the online system of the Examination Office of the faculty. Registration for course and examination requirements must occur by the relevant deadlines specified by the Examination Office of the faculty. Each course and examination requirement must be registered separately. Students are obligated to obtain information themselves about all dates and deadlines with respect to course and examination requirements from the responsible bodies (e.g. Examination Office, LSF, lecturers).
- (15) If a deadline has been defined for obtaining the required examination or course requirement, candidates can cancel their registration up to 1 week before the defined deadline via the online system of the Examination Office. If no deadline has been defined for obtaining the required examination or course requirement, candidates can cancel their registration for performing these requirements at any time.

Addition of § 8 (15) Sentence 3

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

The regulations in § 11 (4) and § 12 (4) remain unaffected for the Master's Thesis.

- (16) The form in which the course and examination requirements are performed and other details about the process including verifying the authorship of the respective student to the course and examination requirements will be defined and announced in a suitable manner at the beginning of the course by the relevant lecturers who receive them.
- (17) The modules are structured according to the following models:
 1. Modules with 4 SHW comprise course requirements worth 6 (3 +3) CP + an examination requirement worth 3 CP that is allocated to the module or a course.
 2. Modules with introductory courses or courses designed to provide an overview or exercises or projects with 6 SHW comprise course requirements worth 3 + 3 + 3 CP.

The forms in which the course and examination requirements are performed for modules taken as part of general studies are based on the conditions for the stated module model.

§ 9¹

Multiple choice examinations

New version of the title in § 9

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

§ 9

Multiple choice examination requirements

- (1) An examination can be taken in the form of a multiple choice examination if at least 30 examinees are expected to take part in the examination. In a multiple choice examination, the candidate is required to state which of the answers given for each task is correct. The multiple choice process is excluded for examinations in the sense of § 65 (2) of the HG NRW, which need to be evaluated by at least two examiners.
- (2) The examination tasks must be set based on the content and competencies to be taught in the course or module and enable reliable examination results. The examination must be produced by a person authorised to set examinations. The answers that will be recognised as being correct for each task must be defined in advance.
- (3) In the case of single choice tasks (1 from "n"), the question is followed by a sum of "n" answers, statements or sentence endings. Depending on the task, the only correct, only incorrect or the best answer needs to be selected and marked.
- (4) In the case of multiple select tasks ("x" from "n"), the question is followed by a sum of "n" answers, statements or sentence endings from which multiple answers are correct or incorrect. It is necessary to decide for each answer whether it is correct or incorrect for the task. The task can be supplemented with information about how many of the given answers are correct.
- (5) The examiner must apply to the chairperson of the responsible departmental examination board in good time for authorisation to hold a multiple choice examination. The chairperson will check the tasks to see whether they are appropriate for the requirements in (2), enable reliable examination results and are not misleading, ambiguous or in any way open to interpretation.
- (6) The application must include a description of the examination. This includes:
 - The selected tasks;
 - A description of the evaluation rules;
 - The name of the person authorised to set examinations, who will also receive the completed examinations;
 - A sample solution that shows the type of tasks according to (3) or (4), the maximum number of possible points that can be achieved, the minimum amount of points required to pass the examination and a table for assigning grades based on the points scored.
- (7) In the case of single choice tasks, one evaluation point is awarded for each task where the precisely defined answer has been given. No evaluation points are awarded if another answer, multiple answers or no answer are given.

In the case of multiple select tasks, one evaluation point is awarded for every correct and marked answer, as well as for every incorrect and unmarked answer, i.e. when the defined and actual answers match. No point is awarded if the actual answer does not match the defined answer; although no points are deducted in this case. No evaluation points are awarded if none of the answers have been selected, even if in this case some incorrect answers were correctly left unmarked, or if all of the answers have been marked, even if in this case some correct answers were correctly marked. If information about how many of the answers are correct is provided with the task, no evaluation points are awarded if less or more answers than the defined number of correct answers are marked.

- (8) Notes and text used to comment on the task or supplement the answers are not taken into account in the evaluation of the tasks in multiple choice examinations.

- (9) If a problem with a task is identified due to a conspicuous accumulation of errors after evaluating the answers and when compared with other examination scores, the available points for the relevant task will be credited to the candidates irrespective of whether appropriate answers were given to the flawed examination question.
- (10) The examination is passed if the candidate correctly answers at least 60% of the examination tasks or if the number of questions answered correctly by the candidate does not fall more than 22% below the average examination score of all candidates who took the examination.

New version of § 9 (10)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (10) The examination has been passed when the absolute pass mark has been reached or exceeded. The absolute pass mark is to be defined in advance by the examiner.
- (11) If an examination also contains other sections with different forms of questions in addition to the multiple choice section, the regulations stated here also apply to the whole examination if the evaluation points awarded for the multiple choice section account for more than 40% of the whole examination and/or a certain amount of evaluation points needs to be achieved in the multiple choice section. If the regulations in these paragraphs are applied in accordance with sentence 1, the relevant number of points that can be achieved in each section of the examination and the total number of points for the examination must be defined before the examination is held. If a certain number of evaluation points needs to be achieved in the individual sections of the examination in order to pass the overall examination, this must be defined. Furthermore, the minimum number of points required to pass the overall examination must be defined. This information must be provided with the examination tasks.

§ 10^{*1}

Repeating course and examination requirements, passing, failing

- (1) Course and examination requirements that have been passed cannot be repeated.
- (2) Course and examination requirements are deemed to have been passed if when graded they received a grade of 4.0 or better, or if not graded they were evaluated as "passed".
- (3) Course and examination requirements are deemed to have been failed if when graded they received a grade of "fail", or if not graded they were evaluated as "failed".
- (4) Examination requirements may be repeated twice if they were failed or were considered to have been failed.

New version of § 10 (4) Sentence 1

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

Examination requirements within a module may be repeated twice if they were failed or were considered to have been failed.

Before making their second or third attempt at the examination, candidates are strongly advised to seek advice from a study advisor for their subject area. Course requirements can be repeated an unlimited number of times. At least one opportunity for repeating the course or examination requirement must be offered in the same semester as the missed or failed examination or course requirement.

Addition of Sentences 5 and 6 in § 10 (4)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

There must be a period of at least two weeks between the announcement of the results for the first attempt and the retake. This deadline can be shortened upon application by the student.

- (5) Repeated examination requirements where there are no further alternatives or options available should the examination be definitively failed are governed by the General Examination Board of the Faculty and must be evaluated by at least two examiners.
- (6) If an examination requirement has been definitively failed or is considered to have been definitively failed, the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty will notify the candidate of this situation in writing. This notification must include information on legal remedies.
- (7) If the module that was definitively failed was a compulsory elective module, the student can still complete the alternative module. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.
- (8) Students must be notified about the assessments of the course and examination requirements at the latest 6 weeks after the date of performance or the stipulated submission deadline.

§ 11^{1,2}

Requirements and admission to the Master's Thesis

- (1) Students who have obtained at least 72 CP (four semester M.A.) during the entire study programme (if an internship is required, the successfully completed internship is obligatory) and are enrolled at the University of Siegen for the study programme or at a partner university for a double degree programme or have been approved as a visiting student in accordance with § 52 (2) of the HG will be approved for admission to the Master's Thesis. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.
- (2) The application for admission to the Master's Thesis must be submitted in writing to the General Examination Board of the Faculty in accordance with § 15 of the Examination Regulations. The following should be enclosed with the application:
 1. Proof of the admission requirements named in (1);
 2. The certificate of enrolment;
 3. Proof of the performed course and examination requirements according to the subject-specific regulations in the form of the CP obtained up to now in the study programme;
 4. If applicable, suggestions for the first assessor and second assessor (see § 12 of the Examination Regulations);
 5. A declaration on whether the candidate has already failed or definitively failed a Master's examination in the same study programme at a higher education institution in the Federal Republic of Germany, whether the candidate lost their right to take the examination due to missing a deadline for repeating the examination or whether the candidate is still part of a pending examination process in the same study programme;
 6. If applicable, proof of successful completion of the internship. This information may still be submitted up to the date at which the topic for the Master's Thesis is issued.
- (3) The candidate will receive a written notification of admission to the Master's Thesis.
- (4) The candidate can cancel their registration again without giving any reasons up to 1 week before the start of the writing-up period that was specified in the admission notification. The cancellation must be submitted in writing to the General Examination Board of the Faculty. In this case, a new topic will be issued in accordance with § 12 (6).

New version of § 11 (4) Sentence 3

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

In this case, the registration process for the Master's Thesis in accordance with § 12 (6) begins again, general admission to Master's Thesis remains unaffected.

Addition of § 11 (5)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (5) In the case of a one-year Master's programme, those students who have obtained at least 24 CP during the entire study programme and are enrolled at the University of Siegen for the study programme or have been approved as a visiting student in accordance with § 52 (2) of the HG will be approved for admission to the Master's Thesis. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.

§ 12^{1.2}

Master's Examination

- (1) The Master's Examination consists of the **Master's Thesis** and a Master's Thesis Presentation. The Master's Thesis Presentation can also be taken in the form of a colloquium that is based on the contents of the Master's Thesis. The Master's Thesis contributes 25 CP to the Master's programme.
- (2) The Master's Thesis should generally not exceed 80 pages in length (excluding directories and appendices) and contain approximately 30,000 words.
- (3) The writing-up period for the Master's Thesis is generally 4 months. A period of 6 months is permitted for empirical or historical work with corresponding field research and archive work. The topic, tasks and scope of the thesis should be limited so that the writing-up deadline can be met. The topic can only be cancelled once and only within 1 week of starting the writing-up period. In this case, a new topic will be issued in accordance with § 12 (6).

New version of § 12 (3)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (3) The writing-up period for the Master's Thesis when completed in full-time study is a maximum of 18 weeks. In exceptional cases including empirical work, the writing-up period can be extended by 8 weeks to a total period of 26 weeks. The topic, tasks and scope of the thesis should be limited so that the writing-up deadline can be met. The topic can only be cancelled once and only within one week of starting the writing-up period. In this case, the registration process for the Master's Thesis in accordance with § 12 (6) begins again, general admission to Master's Thesis remains unaffected. The writing-up period for the Master's Thesis when completed in part-time study is a maximum of 36 weeks. In exceptional cases including empirical work, the writing-up period can be extended by 16 weeks to a total period of 52 weeks. The topic, tasks and scope of the thesis should be limited so that the writing-up deadline can be met. The topic can only be cancelled once and only within two weeks of starting the writing-up period. In this case, the registration process for the Master's Thesis in accordance with § 12 (6) begins again, general admission to Master's Thesis remains unaffected.
- (4) If the candidate is ill, the deadline for the submission of the Master's thesis can be extended on one occasion by up to 4 weeks. The illness must be verified with **a medical certificate**. The medical certificate must be submitted to the General Examination Board of the Faculty.

New version of § 12 (4)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (4) If the candidate is ill, the deadline for the submission of the Master's thesis can be extended by up to 4 weeks. The illness must be verified with a medical certificate. The medical certificate must be submitted to the General Examination Board of the Faculty. The regulations in the law for the protection of working mothers ("Mutterschutzgesetz", MuSchG) remain unaffected here. If it is not possible to meet the submission deadline for serious reasons, the General Examination Board of the Faculty must be notified of these reasons immediately in writing and corresponding detailed evidence must be provided to prove their plausibility. This written application to withdraw from the Master's Thesis must be submitted to the General Examination Board of the Faculty

at least one day before the deadline expires. If the General Examination Board of the Faculty accepts the given reasons, the Master's Thesis is considered not to have been taken. The candidate will receive a written notification to this effect.

- (5) The aim of the Master's Thesis is to demonstrate that the candidate is capable of independently working on a problem using scientific methods and properly presenting the results within a stipulated deadline. The Master's Thesis should be based on the contents of one or two of the specialist modules in the selected core subject.
- (6) The candidate has the right to propose a first assessor and a second assessor. The proposals must be submitted together with the application for admission to the Master's Thesis (see § 11 of the Examination Regulations). The proposals will be taken into account where possible but no legal claim exists. The chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty will generally request that the first assessor assigns a topic and also generally appoints the second assessor. In exceptional cases or if the candidate has not submitted any proposals, the responsible departmental examination board will propose the first assessor and/or the second assessor in accordance with § 16 of the Examination Regulations. The chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty will notify the candidate about the first assessor and the second assessor, as well as about the assigned topic for the Master's Thesis.
- (7) The first assessor must be a professor or a junior professor at the University of Siegen, or an assistant professor/private lecturer whose private lectureship is based mainly at the University of Siegen, who is engaged in research and teaching in one of the subjects within the interdisciplinary programme or the (core) subject of the Master's thesis. A postdoctoral academic employee who represents the subject at the University of Siegen may make an application to the responsible departmental examination board to be appointed as a first assessor.

New version of § 12 (7) Sentences 1 and 2

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

The first assessor must be a professor or a junior professor at the University of Siegen, or an assistant professor/private lecturer whose private lectureship is based mainly at the University of Siegen, who is engaged in research and teaching and authorised to set examinations in one of the subjects within the interdisciplinary programme or the (core) subject of the Master's thesis. A postdoctoral academic employee or another lecturer with a PhD qualification (except for assistant lecturers) may make an application to the responsible departmental examination board to be appointed as a first assessor.

In the case of an interdisciplinary programme, the specialist discipline or specialist field of the first assessor for the Master's Thesis specifies the type of academic degree (see § 3 of the Examination Regulations). It is also possible to appoint a member of the teaching staff who is no longer employed at the University of Siegen as a first assessor, if she or he was actively involved in research and teaching in the relevant core subject in the study period immediately preceding the examination period (i.e. generally in the previous year) and also agrees to assess the Master's Thesis.

- (8) The second assessor should generally be an independent lecturer with a PhD or an independent lecturer with a PhD in the core subject.

New version of § 12 (8) Sentence 1

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

The second assessor should generally be a lecturer with a PhD or a lecturer with a PhD in the core subject.

In special cases, the responsible departmental examination board can also issue other lecturers with authorisation to set examinations. In accordance with the regulations of the HG, the examination board can also appoint persons based on their professional experience and training as second assessors if they possess at least equivalent qualifications. In the case of interdisciplinary programmes or if a topic is selected that addresses problems within both the core and supplementary subject (combination study model), the second assessor can also be a representative of the second subject after consultation with the first assessor.

- (9) In the case of study programmes involving international cooperation, lecturers at partner universities who hold the right to set examinations at a Master's level at their university and meet the requirements in § 65 (1) Sentence 2 of the HG NRW can be appointed as a first and/or second assessor. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.
- (10) In general, the Master's Thesis is completed in German or English. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations. The subject-specific regulations can also allow other languages. The responsible departmental examination board can also permit other languages upon application.
- (11) The Master's Thesis must contain a title page, a table of contents and a list of sources and references. The sections of the thesis that have their origin in word or sense in other pieces of work must be clearly indicated citing the source from which they were taken. The candidate shall enclose the following signed and dated written confirmation with the Master's Thesis: "I hereby confirm that this Master Thesis is entirely my own work and that I have not used any additional assistance or resources other than indicated. All sections of the thesis that have their origin in word or sense in other pieces of work (including translations) have been clearly indicated in each individual case with reference to the source (including the World Wide Web and other electronic sources). The same applies to all drawings, pictures, sketches and other illustrations included with the text. I am aware that any proven failure to indicate sources will be considered an attempt at deception."
- (12) The Master's Thesis Presentation can take place during the writing-up period or the assessment period for the Master's Thesis, although at the latest eight weeks after the written notification from the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty that the Master's Thesis has been received.
- (13) The Master's Thesis Presentation can be carried out in the form of an individual assessment or a colloquium. As an individual assessment, it is held in front of at least one assessor in the presence of at least one expert observer.
- (14) In the case of study programmes involving international cooperation, the Master's Thesis Presentation can be held in a different language. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.
- (15) The Master's Thesis Presentation lasts a minimum of 30 minutes and a maximum of 45 minutes. It focuses on the contents of the Master's Thesis and the specialist knowledge or methods taught in the study programme. The candidate can indicate those topics for which they have especially prepared.
- (16) The main content and results of the presentation are recorded in the form of minutes. The results of the presentation will be communicated to the candidate at the end of the presentation in the presence of the observer.
 - (17) The relevant legal regulations (see HG § 63 (4)) govern whether the Master's Thesis Presentation can be held in public. Otherwise, at least those students who are taking the same type of examination should be admitted as observers if there is sufficient room, provided that the candidate does not object to their attendance. Observers are not, however, admitted to the discussion and announcement of the examination results with the candidate.

§ 13^{*1}

Acceptance and assessment of the Master's Thesis

- (1) The Master's Thesis must be submitted by the due date and in two bound copies to the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty or to the authority appointed by the chairperson; the time of submission must be officially recorded. In addition, a digital copy of the Master's Thesis (without password protection) must be enclosed. If the Master's Thesis is not submitted on time, it will be graded as a "fail" (5.0).
- (2) The Master's Thesis will be assessed by two assessors (see § 12 of the Examination Regulations) and graded in accordance with § 21 of the Examination Regulations.
- (3) The assessors must submit their assessments to the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty no later than 6 weeks after receipt of the Master's Thesis. If the grades differ, the grade for the Master's Thesis is calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of the two individual grades. If one of the two individual grades is a "fail" (5.0) or the two assessments differ by more than two full grades, the General Examination Board of the Faculty will appoint a third assessor. In this case, if at least two assessors give the Master's Thesis a grade of at least "sufficient" (4.0), the final grade is calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of the three grades and must be at least "sufficient" (4.0), otherwise the Master's Thesis is considered to have been failed.

New version of § 13 (3) Sentence 4

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

In this case, if at least two assessors give the Master's Thesis a grade of at least "sufficient" (4.0), the final grade is calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of the three grades and must be at least "sufficient" (4.0), otherwise the Master's Thesis is considered to have been failed.

- (4) The chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty will inform the candidate in writing about her/his grade at the latest 8 weeks after the submission of the Master's Thesis.

§ 14^{*1}

Retaking the Master's Examination

- (1) If the Master's Examination was failed, it is possible to retake it once.
- (2) If the Master's Examination was failed or considered to have been failed, the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty will notify the candidate of this situation in writing. The candidate will also receive information on whether, to what extent and by which deadline the Master's Thesis can be retaken.

New version of § 14 (2)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (2) If the Master's Thesis has been failed or is considered to have been failed, the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty will notify the candidate of this situation in writing.
- (3) If the Master's Thesis has been definitively failed or is considered to have been definitively failed, the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty will notify the candidate of this situation in writing. This notification must include information on legal remedies.
- (4) If the candidate fails the Master's Thesis Presentation, it can be retaken once within a period of six months, whereby the date of the retake will generally be during the lecture period. The regulations in § 12 apply for the retake of the examination.

New version of § 14 (4)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (4) The Master's Thesis Presentation must be passed with a minimum grade of "sufficient" (4.0), otherwise it is considered to have been failed. If the candidate fails the Master's Thesis Presentation, it can be retaken once, whereby the date of the retake will generally be during the lecture period. The regulations in § 12 apply for the retake of the examination.

§ 15^{*1}

General Examination Board of the Faculty

- (1) The General Examination Board of the Faculty is responsible for ensuring the correct completion and organisation of the Master's Thesis and the Master's Thesis Presentation in cooperation with the Examination Office and the departmental examination boards in the faculty. The General Examination Board of the Faculty ensures that the examination regulations are adhered to and is responsible for fulfilling its tasks as described in these regulations. It takes decisions based on these regulations and decides on any submitted objections within its area of competence defined in these regulations. Members of the board who were involved in an assessment for which an objection has been submitted are excluded from the decision making process after having been heard.
- (2) The General Examination Board of the Faculty consists of thirteen members. Nine members belong to the group of university professors; two belong to the group of academic employees and two to the group of students. If necessary, the General Examination Board of the Faculty may nominate additional competent members with an advisory vote. The members of the General Examination Board of the Faculty are elected for a period of 2 years, while student members are elected for 1 year. The re-election of members is permitted. The General Examination Board of the Faculty is convened and chaired by its chairperson.
- (3) The Faculty Council elects two members from the group of academic employees, as well as two members from the group of students. The departmental examination boards elect one member each from the group of professors.

New version of § 15 (3)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (3) The Faculty Council elects two members from the group of academic employees and a total of one deputy who holds only one vote, as well as two members from the group of students and a total of one deputy who holds only one vote. The departmental examination boards elect one member each from the group of professors as well as one deputy member.
- (4) The General Examination Board of the Faculty elects a chairperson and deputy chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty from the group of professors.
- (5) The General Examination Board of the Faculty may revocably delegate powers to the chairperson; this does not apply to decisions about objections submitted to it. The chairperson prepares the resolutions of the General Examination Board of the Faculty and implements them. The chairperson reports to the General Examination Board of the Faculty about this task on a regular basis.
- (6) The General Examination Board of the Faculty is an official authority in the sense of the Administrative Procedures Act.
- (7) The General Examination Board of the Faculty makes decisions based on the majority of the valid votes cast.

New version of § 15 (7) Sentence 1

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

The General Examination Board of the Faculty makes decisions based on the majority of the valid votes cast by those members entitled to vote.

The chairperson's vote is decisive in the event of a tied vote. The General Examination Board of the Faculty constitutes a quorum if a meeting has been properly convened and a majority of its members are in attendance, of which at least five members from the group of professors must be present. The members from the group of students only have an advisory vote on issues related to the assessment and recognition of course and examination requirements.

- (8) The meetings are not open to the public. The participants are bound to secrecy and confidentiality. The results of the meetings are recorded in written minutes.

§ 16^{1.2}

Departmental examination boards of the faculty

- (1) In addition to the General Examination Board of the Faculty, the different subject areas form departmental examination boards in accordance with § 15 of the Examination Regulations.

Addition of § 16 (1) Sentence 2

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

In exceptional cases, cross-departmental examination boards can also be formed.

The departmental examination boards of the faculty ensure that the rules in these Examination Regulations, within their area of responsibility, and the subject-specific regulations are observed. Furthermore, they decide on whether the performance of course and examination requirements is recognised in accordance with § 17 of the Examination Regulations after consulting with representatives from the subject areas. They decide on any objections made within their area of responsibility as defined by these regulations.

- (2) The departmental examination boards of the faculty each consist of five members from the relevant department. Three members belong to the group of professors, one belongs to the group of academic employees and one to the group of students. If necessary, the departmental examination boards of the faculty may nominate additional competent members with an advisory vote. **In the case of study programmes involving international cooperation, teaching staff from the relevant partner university can be taken into consideration.** The members of the departmental examination boards of the faculty are elected for a period of 2 years, while student members are elected for 1 year. The re-election of members is permitted. The departmental examination boards of the faculty are each convened and chaired by their respective chairperson.
- (3) The Faculty Council elects the members of the departmental examination boards of the faculty.
- (4) Each departmental examination board of the faculty elects its chairperson and deputy chairperson from the group of professors.
- (5) The departmental examination boards of the faculty may revocably delegate powers to the relevant chairperson; this does not apply to decisions about objections made to them. The chairperson prepares the resolutions of the relevant departmental examination board of the faculty and implements them. The chairperson reports to the relevant departmental examination board of the faculty about this task on a regular basis.
- (6) The departmental examination boards of the faculty are official authorities in the sense of the Administrative Procedures Act.
- (7) The departmental examination boards of the faculty make decisions based on the majority of the valid votes cast. The chairperson's vote is decisive in the event of a tied vote. The relevant departmental examination board of the faculty

constitutes a quorum if a meeting has been properly convened and a majority of its members are in attendance, of which at least two members from the group of professors must be present. The member from the group of students only has an advisory vote on issues related to the assessment and recognition of course and examination requirements.

- (8) The meetings of the departmental examination boards of the faculty are not open to the public. The participants are bound to secrecy and confidentiality. The results of the meetings are recorded in written minutes.
- (9) In addition to the departmental examination boards, the faculty can establish interdepartmental examination boards that are responsible for the interdisciplinary study programmes (see Annex 1) offered by different subjects and departments within the faculty and across different faculties. These interdisciplinary examination boards do not appoint members for the General Examination Board.

§ 17^{*1.2}

Recognition of prior learning

- (1) Prior learning (examinations and course requirements) performed in study programmes at other state or state-approved universities, state or state-approved vocational academies or in study programmes at state or state-approved universities abroad will be recognised upon application insofar as there is no significant difference between the acquired competencies and the requirements they are intended to replace.
- (2) It is the responsibility of the person making the application to provide the required information about the prior learning to be recognised.
- (3) The necessary determinations in (1) will be made by the responsible departmental examination board in accordance with § 16 of the Examination Regulations after consulting with representatives from the subject areas. Decisions on applications for the recognition of prior learning will be made within two months at the latest. The burden of proof for deciding that an application in the sense of (1) does not meet the requirements stipulated in (1) lies with the responsible departmental examination board. If substantial differences are identified or proven in accordance with the “Lisbon Recognition Convention”, the decision not to recognise the prior learning must be justified in writing.
- (4) Based on the recognition of the prior learning according to (1) and upon application by the student, the student must be placed in a semester calculated according to sentences 2 and 3. The semester into which the student is placed is calculated based on the number of ECTS credit points recognised in relation to the overall number of ECTS credit points that can be obtained in the relevant study programme, multiplied by the standard study period for the study programme in semesters. If the decimal point is smaller than five then the number is rounded down, otherwise it is rounded up, although the student will be placed in at least the 1st semester.
- (5) If agreements and conventions between the Federal Republic of Germany and other states about equivalences in higher education (equivalency agreements) are more favourable to students from foreign states than the regulations in (1), the regulations in the equivalence agreement take precedence.
- (6) Other knowledge and qualifications can be recognised upon application based on the submitted documentation, if the knowledge and qualifications are equivalent to the content and level of the examination requirements they are intended to replace.
- (7) § 63a (5) of the HG remains unaffected.
- (8) If examinations are recognised, the grades are transferred and included in the calculation of the overall grade and the respective module grade, insofar as the grading systems are comparable. If the grading systems are not comparable, the standards of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) will apply. Special agreements at a faculty or university level are to be taken into consideration.
- (9) In the case of those applicants to a study programme who due to the placement test in accordance with § 49 (11) of the HG are entitled to start the degree at a later semester, the knowledge and abilities proven in the placement test are generally credited to course requirements in the Master's programme. The findings in the placement test report are binding for the examination boards.

§ 18^{1.2}

Missing examinations/deadlines, withdrawal, deception

- (1) A study or examination requirement is assessed as a "fail" (5.0) or considered to have been failed if the candidate misses an examination date or a stipulated deadline for the performance of a requirement without good reason or if after the beginning of a course or examination requirement, the student withdraws from the examination without good reason. The same also applies if a written examination or course requirement is not completed within the scheduled time period.
- (2) If a deadline has been defined for obtaining the examination or course requirement, candidates can cancel their registration until 1 week before the defined deadline via the online system of the Examination Office. If no deadline has been defined for obtaining the examination or course requirement, candidates can cancel their registration for performing these requirements at any time (see § 10 of the Examination Regulations).

Addition of § 18 (2) Sentence 3

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

The regulations in § 11 (4) and § 12 (4) remain unaffected for the Master's Thesis.

- (3) If the failure to comply with deadlines is the reason for missing examination or course requirements or observing the writing-up periods for the Master's Thesis or examination or course requirements, the illness of a child for which the candidate is predominantly the sole carer will be considered in the same way as the illness of the candidate.
- (4) The General Examination Board of the Faculty must be informed immediately about any good reasons according to (1) and (3) and evidence must be provided to prove their plausibility. In the case of the illness of the candidate or a child for which the candidate is predominantly the sole carer, a medical certificate about the inability to take the examination or about the illness of the child for which the candidate is predominantly the sole carer is required. If the General Examination Board of the Faculty accepts these reasons, the candidate will be notified in writing and a new date will be set. Already existing examination results will be taken into account in this case.
- (5) If the candidate attempts to influence the results of her or his examination or course requirement through deception, e.g. the use of non-approved aids or through plagiarism, the relevant course or examination requirement will be graded as a "fail" (5.0); the actual determination of this deception will be made and recorded by the relevant lecturer in the case of an oral examination or course requirement, by the relevant lecturer or supervisor in the case of a written examination or course requirement and by the assessor in the case of the Master's Thesis. The assessment is carried out by the General Examination Board of the Faculty. In the case of multiple or other serious attempts at deception, the candidate can be exmatriculated.
- (6) The members of the departmental examination boards and the General Examination Board of the Faculty have the right to attend the examination or course requirements.
- (7) Candidates must be immediately notified in writing about negative decisions of any kind with an explanation of the reasons and with information on legal remedies.

§ 19^{*1}

Family regulations, protective regulations, periods of absence

- (1) Upon application by the candidate, maternity protection periods, as defined in the applicable law for the protection of working mothers ("Mutterschutzgesetz", MSchG) must be taken into account. The maternity protection periods interrupt any deadlines set by these uniform regulations and examination regulations; the duration of the maternity protection period is not included in the calculation of the deadline.

New version of § 19 (1)

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (1) Upon application by the candidate, maternity protection periods, as defined in the applicable law for the protection of working mothers ("Mutterschutzgesetz", MuSchG) must be taken into account. The maternity protection periods interrupt any deadlines set by these Examination Regulations and the subject-specific regulations; the duration of the maternity protection period is not included in the calculation of the deadlines.
- (2) The deadlines for parental leave in accordance with the applicable law for parental allowance and parental leave ("Bundeserziehungsgeldgesetz", BErzGG) must be taken into account upon application by the candidate.

New version of § 19 (2) Sentence 1

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

The deadlines for parental leave in accordance with the applicable law for parental allowance and parental leave ("Gesetz zum Elterngeld und zur Elternzeit", BEEG) must be taken into account upon application by the candidate.

The candidate must inform the General Examination Board of the Faculty about the period or periods of time in which they will be taking parental leave at least 4 weeks before the time that she or he enters parental leave.

- (3) In addition, periods of absence due to nursing or caring for spouses, registered civil partners, immediate relatives or first-degree relatives of spouses when they require nursing or care must be taken into account upon application by the candidate. The application must be made immediately after the requirements are met.
- (4) The required verifications must be enclosed with the applications for assessment.

§ 20^{*1}

Compensation regulations for disabled and chronically ill students

If a candidate provides credible evidence that she/he is not able to fully or partially complete an examination requirement in the stipulated form or within the specified deadlines due to a chronic disease or disability according to § 2 (1) of the SGB IV, the General Examination Board of the Faculty will allow an extension of the deadlines for the completion of an examination requirement or the deadlines for the taking of an examination requirement or agree to equivalent forms of examination requirements in an appropriate format.

New version of § 20

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

§ 20

Compensation regulations for disabled and chronically ill students

If a candidate provides credible evidence that she/he is not able to fully or partially complete course requirements and/or an examination requirement in the stipulated form or within the specified deadlines due to a chronic disease or disability according to § 2 (1) of the SGB IX, the General Examination Board of the Faculty will allow an extension of the deadlines for the completion of an examination requirement or the deadlines for the taking of an examination requirement or agree to equivalent forms of examination requirements in an appropriate format.

§ 21^{*1,2}

Assessment, calculation of grades

- (1) The grades for the Master's Thesis and the examination and course requirements are assigned by the respective examiners or lecturers.

The following grades shall be used for their assessment:

1 = very good = an excellent performance;

2 = good = a performance that is significantly above the average requirements;

3 = satisfactory = a performance that meets the average requirements;

4 = sufficient = a performance that still meets the requirements despite its deficiencies;

5 = fail = a performance that no longer meets the requirements due to its significant deficiencies.

For a more differentiated assessment, individual grades can be raised or lowered to intermediate values by 0.3. The grades 0.7; 4.3; 4.7 and 5.3 are excluded here.

- (2) If the grades given by two examiners differ, the grade for the Master's Thesis or the examination requirement is calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of the two individual grades. If one of the two grades is a "fail" (5.0) or the two grades differ by more than two full grades, the General Examination Board of the Faculty will appoint a third assessor. In this case, the final grade is calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of the three grades. This final grade must be at least "sufficient" (4.0), otherwise the Master's Thesis or examination requirement is failed. The first decimal place is taken into account here; all other decimal places are removed without rounding. A grade calculated as described above will be assessed as follows:

up to 1.5 very good;

above 1.5 to 2.5 good;

above 2.5 to 3.5 satisfactory;

above 3.5 to 4.0 sufficient;

above 4.0 fail.

- (3) If a final grade or subject grade is composed of different individual grades, it will be calculated by taking the arithmetic mean of the individual grades weighted according to the number of credit points (for weighting of the Master's Thesis, see § 8 (12) and § 12 (1) of the Examination Regulations). At least two decimal places are included in this case. Grades with a decimal number of 5 are rounded down. Grades above 4.0 correspond to a fail.
- (4) In double degree programmes, the subject-specific regulations may define further regulations for calculating the grades.

§ 22*1

Completion of the study programme

- (1) The Master's programme has been successfully completed when the student has successfully participated in all of the required modules for the study programme according to the subject-specific regulations, passed the Master's Thesis and obtained 120 CP.
- (2) A candidate has definitively failed if one of the required examination requirements for completing the Master's programme or the Master's Thesis have been definitively failed.
- (3) If a candidate has not successfully completed the Master's programme, she or he will be receive a written transcript that details the study achievements including the respective grades and CP.
- (4) The total of 120 CP comprises 30 CP for the Master's Thesis (consisting of the Master's Thesis with 25 CP and the Master's Thesis Presentation with 5 CP) and a further 9 CP, which according to the subject-specific regulations is awarded for an internship, a general studies module or an additional subject-specific module. A further 81 CP are obtained from the subjects, subject groups or interdisciplinary programmes (see § 7 of the Examination Regulations).

Addition of (5) and (6) in § 22

(Applicable to students registering for a Master's programme of Faculty I of the University of Siegen for the first time from winter semester 2014/2015 onwards)

- (5) In the case of a one-year Master's programme, the Master's programme has been successfully completed when the student has successfully participated in all of the required modules for the study programme, as well as the Master's colloquium, according to the subject-specific regulations, passed the Master's Thesis and obtained 60 CP.
- (6) The total of 60 LP for the one-year Master's programme comprises 30 LP for the Master's Thesis (consisting of the Master's Thesis with 25 CP and the Master's Thesis Presentation with 5 CP) and a further 3 CP, which is awarded for an ungraded colloquium in preparation for the Master's Thesis (Master's colloquium). A further 27 CP are obtained from the subjects, subject groups or interdisciplinary programmes (see § 7 of the Examination Regulations).

§ 23²

Master's degree transcript and Master's degree certificate

- (1) If the student has successfully completed the Master's programme, she or he will receive a Master's degree transcript, which includes the title "Master of Arts" (M.A.) (see § 3 of the Examination Regulations), the name of the study programme, the selected subjects and subject grades, the topic and grade for the Master's Thesis and the grade received for the Master's Thesis Presentation, as well as the overall final grade.
- (2) The Master's degree transcript bears the date on which the final examination was completed. It is signed by the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty.
- (3) At the same time at which the Master's degree transcript is issued, the student also receives a Master's degree certificate bearing the same date as the Master's degree transcript. The Master's degree certificate indicates the academic degree in accordance with § 3 of the Examination Regulations.
- (4) The Master's degree certificate is signed by the dean of the faculty. The Master's degree certificate is also marked with the seal of the faculty. Furthermore, the Master's degree certificate is also signed by the chairperson of the General Examination Board of the Faculty.
- (5) In the case of study programmes involving international cooperation, the subject-specific regulations may stipulate that the Master's degree transcript and Master's degree certificate contain additional information (e.g. international study programme).
- (6) The Master's degree transcript and Master's degree certificate can be issued in English or German. More details can be found in the subject-specific regulations.
- (7) In the case of double degree programmes, students also receive Master's degree transcripts and Master's degree certificates from the respective partner university. The Master's degree transcript and Master's degree certificate must indicate that a double degree programme has been completed.

§ 24¹

Diploma supplement and transcript of records

- (1) In addition to the Master's degree transcript, the graduate also receives a diploma supplement and transcript of records.
- (2) The diploma supplement contains information about the study programme, its admission requirements and contents, the grading system and the type of academic degree. The diploma supplement also includes information on the university and the German educational system.
- (3) The transcript of records provides information on the individual study plan (namely the specialist profile selected), all completed courses and modules, as well as all course requirements completed during the study programme (incl. the Master's Thesis) and their assessments. In particular, it also contains the individual module grades.

§ 25

Access to the examination files

- (1) After completion of the individual examinations and the Master's Thesis, the candidate is allowed access to her or his written examinations or Master's Thesis and the respective examiner's reports upon application to the General Examination Board of the Faculty.
- (2) The request must be submitted to the General Examination Board of the Faculty within 1 month of the candidate being notified about the results. § 29 of the Administrative Procedures Act for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia applies accordingly.

§ 26^{1,2}

Invalidity of the Master's Examination

- (1) If the admission requirements for an examination were not fulfilled and the candidate did not intend any deception in this respect, and if this was only discovered after the certificate was issued, this deficiency is considered remedied if the exam was passed. If a candidate intentionally obtained admission through deception, the General Examination Board of the Faculty will determine the legal consequences in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (VwVfG. NRW).
- (2) The candidate must be given the opportunity to comment before a decision is taken.
- (3) The incorrect examination certificate is retracted and a new one is issued where necessary. Any decision according to (1) and (2) is excluded if a period of 5 years have passed since the issuing of the examination certificate. *The time period between the initiation and conclusion of an administrative process on whether to withdraw the award of the degree is not included in the calculation of the five year deadline according to sentence 2. § 48 (1) and (3) of the Administrative Procedures Act for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia are valid for the withdrawal of the award of the degree.*

§ 27

Retraction of the Master's degree

The Master's Degree may be retracted retroactively if it turns out at a later stage that it had been obtained by deception or if it turns out that essential requirements for awarding the degree had been assumed to have been fulfilled by mistake. The authorities responsible for awarding the degree according to § 23 (4) are also responsible for making the decision on retracting the degree.

§ 28

Implementation and transitional regulations

- (1) These examination regulations are valid for all students who enrolled on a Master's programme stated in Annex 1 at the University of Siegen for the first time from the winter semester 2011/2012 onwards.
- (2) Students who were already enrolled on Master's programmes in the former specialist departments 1 and 3 before the winter semester 2011/2012 are able upon application to complete their studies in accordance with the regulations of these Examination Regulations. The application must be submitted to the responsible departmental examination board in the faculty.

§ 29

Enactment and publication

...

These regulations govern the enactment and publication of the original Examination Regulations. This notification contains the valid version of the Examination Regulations of 1 October 2014.

LESEFASSUNG

Research-oriented study model: Subjects#

Literature Science

Media Culture

Social Sciences

Applied Linguistics: Language and Communication in Professional Life (KFB)

Roads to Democracies – Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Politics and Culture

Interdisciplinary study model: Programme

International Historical-Cultural Studies (IKHS) Media

and Society (MuG)

Combination study model: Possible combinations of core subject + supplementary subject

Core subjects	Supplementary subjects							
	History	Literature Science	Media Culture	Philosophy	Safety Management	Social Sciences	Language and Linguistics: German, English and Romance Languages	Drama Teaching
International Historical-Cultural Studies (IKHS) *	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Literature Science	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Media Culture	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Philosophy	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Social Sciences	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Language and Linguistics: German, English and Romance Languages	x	x	x	x	x	x		x

* In combination study models, the core subject International Historical-Cultural Studies can also be combined with a compulsory semester abroad instead of a supplementary subject.

One-year Master's programmes:

Social Sciences in Europe

*1 Contents, § 4, § 5, § 7, § 8, § 9, § 10, § 11, § 12, § 13, § 14, § 15, § 16, § 17, § 18, § 19, § 20, § 21, § 22, § 24, § 26 and Annex 1 amended by official notification 100/2015 "Regulations amending the Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme of Faculty I: School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Siegen of 11 August 2015, which came into force on 1 October 2014, agreed on 6 February 2013, 12 March 2014, 4 June 2014, 9 July 2014 and 4 March 2015.

*2 § 1, § 4, § 5, § 7, § 8, § 11, § 12, § 16, § 17, § 18, § 21, § 23, § 26 and Annex 1 amended by official notification 49/2017 "Second regulations amending the Examination Regulations for the Master's Programme of Faculty I: School of Arts and Humanities at the University of Siegen of 18 May 2017, which came into force on 1 October 2017, agreed on 3 May 2017.

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