2023-02Published 04.05.2023No . 2/S. 9 Content Tag **Page** 10-21 04.05.23 General Regulations for Examinations in the Study Programmes at Trier University of **Applied Sciences PUBLICUS OFFICIAL PUBLICATION** This document is a reading version. Only the original German version (see Publicus Nr. 2023-02) is legally binding.

Trier University of Applied Sciences

HOCH SCHULE TRIER

General regulations for examinations in the degree programmes at Trier University of Applied Sciences from 04.05.2023

On the basis of § 7 Para. 2 No. 2 and § 86 Para. 2 No. 2 of the Rhineland-Palatinate Higher Education Act (HochSchG) of 23 September 2020 (GVBl. p. 461), last amended by § 31 of the Act of 17.12.2020 (GVBl. p. 719), the Senate of Trier University of Applied Sciences adopted the following General Examination Regulations for examinations in the degree programmes at Trier University of Applied Sciences on 03.05.2023. These General Examination Regulations were approved by the Presidential Board of Trier University of Applied Sciences on 03.05.2023.

It is hereby made public.

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§ 1 Scope of application

- (1) These general examination regulations for degree programmes at Trier University of Applied Sciences apply to all degree programmes at Trier University of Applied Sciences whose examination regulations refer to them.
- (2) The subject examination regulations of the degree programmes named in Para. 1 shall regulate in particular:
- the purpose of the audit,
- the degree to be awarded,
- admission to the degree programme,
- the standard period of study, the course structure and the scope of the courses offered,
- the study achievements,
- the thesis,
- the colloquium for the final thesis,
- the formation of the overall grade.

§ 2 Examination Board, Examination Office

- (1) The departments form examination boards.
- (2) A majority of the members of an examination board shall be members of the group pursuant to Article 37, Paragraph 2, Sentence 1, No. 1 of the Higher Education Act (HochSchG) and at least one member of each of the groups pursuant to Article 37, Paragraph 2, Sentence 1, Nos. 2 to 4 HochSchG.
- (3) The respective examination board is responsible for the organisation of examinations and for decisions in examination matters. It ensures that the provisions of these regulations and the subject examination regulations are observed. The chairing member of the respective responsible examination board regularly reports to the departmental council on the development of examination and study times as well as on the distribution of the grades of the examination performances and the overall grades. The examination board makes suggestions for reforming the general examination regulations and the subject examination regulations.
- **(4)** The members of the respective responsible examination board are elected by the responsible departmental councils. The respective responsible examination board elects the chairing member and his/her deputy from among its members. The term of office of the student member is one year, that of the other members three years. If a member leaves prematurely, a substitute member shall be appointed for the remainder of the term of office in accordance with sentence 1.
- (5) The examination committee may delegate individual tasks to the chairing member. The chairing member can only make negative decisions if there is a corresponding decision-making practice in comparable matters.
- **(6)** The chair and deputy chair are held by a professor. Members of the examination board who do not fulfil the requirements of § 24 Para. 2 HochSchG do not have the right to vote in decisions of the respective competent examination board on the assessment, crediting and recognition of achievements. The members of the respective competent examination board have the right to be present at the examinations insofar as they have not registered for the same examination in the same period.
- (7) The members of the respective examination board are subject to official secrecy. If they are not in public service, they shall be sworn to secrecy by the chairing member or the deputy.
- **(8)** The decisions of the respective responsible examination board are made in face-to-face meetings, online face-to-face meetings or by circulation procedure; these procedures are not public. Guests may attend meetings at the invitation of the chairing member, who are equally bound to secrecy.

The chairing member shall invite to meetings with a notice period of one week, stating the agenda items; the day of the meeting shall not be included in the notice period. Circular resolutions shall be taken in writing or by e-mail at the instigation of the presiding member. The presiding member shall determine whether the procedure is to be carried out in writing or by mail and shall determine the period up to which votes may be cast. If a vote is not cast by a member within the specified voting period, that member shall not be deemed to have participated.

- **(9)** The Audit Committee constitutes a quorum if more than half of the members entitled to vote according to the law are present or participate in a circular resolution and if the meeting has been convened in due form or the circular resolution procedure has been initiated in due form. If this quorum is not reached at the first meeting or in the first circular resolution, a new meeting may be convened by the chairing member with the same agenda or a circular resolution may be initiated. In this case, the respective responsible examination committee always has a quorum.
- (10) The Examinations Office, in cooperation with the respective Examination Committee, is responsible for the organisation and coordination of the examination process, including the award of the degree certificate, the degree certificate and the Diploma Supplement. Administrative action of the examination board is generally carried out by the examination office; decisions of the examination board may be announced by the examination office at the request of the examination board. Announcements in other examination matters are regularly made by the Examinations Office, subject to any regulations to the contrary in the subject examination regulations. The Examinations Office accepts registrations for examinations and determines whether the requirements for admission to examinations have been met. The Examinations Office is the appeal authority in examination matters.

§ 3 Examiners and assessors, thesis supervisors

- (1) The respective examination board shall appoint examiners, assessors and supervisors of the final thesis; it shall regulate the appointment procedure by resolution. It may transfer the appointment to the chairing member.
- (2) Examiners are university teachers according to § 46 HochSchG, retired professors, honorary professors and post-doctoral lecturers. Furthermore, academic and artistic staff and assistants with duties pursuant to § 56, section 1, sentence 2 and section 6, sentence 4 HochSchG, teachers for special tasks, lecturers, persons experienced in professional practice as well as teachers of foreign universities who possess a qualification equivalent to the group of persons pursuant to § 24, section 1 HochSchG may examine.
- (3) Only those who fulfil the prerequisite in the subject to be examined in accordance with § 24 Para. 2 HochSchG may be appointed as assessors.
- **(4)** The names of the examiners and assessors as well as the registration deadlines for the examinations must be made known to the students in good time.
- (5) The supervisors of the thesis are persons according to Paragraph 2. The respective examination board decides on exceptions. The students can propose the supervisor. This suggestion does not constitute a legal claim.
- (6) For examiners and assessors, § 2 Para. 7 shall apply accordingly.

§ 4 Requirements and Procedure for Participation in Examinations

- (1) Only those who are enrolled in the respective degree programme at Trier University of Applied Sciences at the time of the examination may take part in examinations.
- (2) The respective examination board or the body entrusted with this task sets the examination dates and determines the deadlines for registration, for withdrawal from registration and, if applicable, for the application for admission. Furthermore, the examination board determines which documents have to be submitted with the application for admission. If it is not possible to submit the documents in the prescribed manner, the respective examination board may allow the evidence to be submitted in another manner.
- (3) Students must register and, if necessary, deregister for all study and examination performances as well as for their repetitions within the applicable registration deadlines (cut-off deadlines) in the university's own electronic examination administration system. Unless the Examination Committee or the body entrusted by it with this task has set other deadlines in accordance with Para. 2, the registration and withdrawal deadline for each examination ends at midnight three working days before the respective examination date. Saturdays do not count as working days. If registration does not take place within the deadline, participation in the examination is not permitted. If a withdrawal is not made in due time, the examination will be marked as "failed".

assessed if the students do not take part in this examination without good reason. § 12 Para. 1 applies accordingly. The examination board decides on exceptions.

- (4) If admission to an examination is provided for, this shall be decided by the respective competent examination board or the body entrusted by it. Admission shall be refused if the student has lost the right to take the examination in the chosen degree programme at a higher education institution in the Federal Republic of Germany or if students no longer have the opportunity to take the examinations required to pass the final examination due to the crediting of failed attempts in accordance with § 14 Para. 1.
- (5) The subject examination regulations may define attendance requirements as a prerequisite for participation in an examination, taking into account § 26 Para. 2 No. 7 HochSchG. The subject examination regulations may only stipulate an obligation for students to attend courses as an examination requirement if this is necessary to achieve the learning objective of the course; attendance requirements are permissible in particular for excursions, practical courses, practical exercises and laboratory exercises. The modules concerned are to be listed in an annex to the respective subject examination regulations.

§ 5 Modules, award of credit points (ECTS), types of examinations, deadlines

- (1) As a rule, modules are completed with an examination. An examination usually consists of a graded examination during the course of study. Credit points (ECTS) are awarded on the basis of the successful completion of a module. If a module is completed with several examinations, the successful completion of the module requires the passing of all partial examinations.
- (2) Types of examination performances are:
 - 1. oral examinations according to § 7,
 - 2. written and artistic-creative examinations according to § 8,
 - 3. project work according to § 9,
 - 4. a thesis in accordance with § 10, including a colloquium if applicable.
- (3) The form of the examination (e.g. written examination, colloquium, project presentation, seminar and homework, practical/laboratory work, presentation, oral examination, portfolio or a combination thereof, in each case also in electronic form if necessary) is announced by the respective examiners at the beginning of the semester, but at the latest at the beginning of the course. Written and oral examinations including a colloquium on the final thesis as well as practical examinations can be offered as distance examinations, as oral distance examinations and as practical distance examinations in the form of an electronic distance examination. Further details are regulated by the state ordinance on the testing of electronic distance examinations at the universities in Rhineland-Palatinate in conjunction with the regulations for the implementation of electronic distance examinations at Trier University of Applied Sciences in the currently valid version.
- (4) If the courses are offered in a language other than German, the examinations shall also be taken in that language. Para. 3 shall apply accordingly to the determination of the examination language other than German.
- (5) Examination performances according to §§ 7 9 shall be assessed by the persons named in § 3 Para. 2 as a rule within four weeks after the examination date. As a rule, the final thesis shall be assessed within six weeks after submission. The assessment shall be announced in a suitable manner. The announcement can also be made in electronic form within the university's own examination administration system.
- (6) If students can credibly demonstrate in an application that they are unable to complete all or part of their work in the prescribed form or within the prescribed period for the reasons listed in § 26 Para. 5 No. 2-4 HochSchG, the examination board will allow appropriate compensation for disadvantages. To this end, the submission of a medical certificate, comparable proof or an official medical certificate may be required. Reasonable compensation for disadvantages can be made in particular by extending the processing time. In exceptional cases, a change in the type or form of examination may be provided for.

(7) Students must be informed of the examination dates at the latest four weeks before the respective examination date. If the examinations take place outside the examination period, the examination dates must be announced no later than four weeks before the end of the lecture period.

§ 6 Academic Achievements

- (1) The successful completion of coursework can against the background of an adequate and workload-appropriate examination density be an admission requirement for the performance of examinations or be a prerequisite for the successful completion of a module.
- **(2)** A course credit is an assessed individual performance. Certificates of participation are not academic achievements.
- (3) Course achievements are assessed as "passed" or "failed".
- **(4)** Their form and the time of their delivery are announced by the lecturer at the beginning of the course or module.
- (5) As a rule, coursework is assessed within four weeks of its completion.
- **(6)** The respective subject examination regulations according to § 1 Para. 2 of these regulations regulate whether and how academic achievements are to be made in the respective degree programme.

§ 7 Oral examinations

- (1) In oral examinations, students should demonstrate that they have a broad and integrated knowledge including the scientific fundamentals, the practical application of the examination area and a critical understanding of the most important theories and methods. Oral examinations are also intended to determine whether the students can present complex subject-related problems and solutions to experts in an argumentative manner and develop them further with them.
- (2) Oral examinations are held by at least two examiners or by one examiner in the presence of at least one expert assessor in accordance with § 3 Para. 3. Oral examinations are individual examinations or group examinations. No more than four students may take part in group examinations.
- **(3)** Unless otherwise stipulated in a subject examination regulation, oral examinations usually do not last more than 30 minutes. Group examinations last at least 15 minutes per student.
- (4) The essential items and results of the oral examination shall be recorded in a transcript for the individual students. The examiners shall hear the student before determining the grade in accordance with § 11. The result shall usually be announced to the students following the oral examination, but at the latest at the end of the examination procedure on the following working day, whereby Saturday shall not be counted as a working day.
- (5) Students of their own subject may be admitted as listeners in accordance with the space available, unless the examiners have objected by the beginning of the examination at the latest. The candidate and the audience shall not participate in the discussion of the examination result by the examiners and the assessors.
- **(6)** At the request of students, the Senate's Equal Opportunities Officer or the Faculty's Equal Opportunities Officer as well as the Senate's representative for the interests of students with disabilities or chronic illnesses may take part in oral examinations.

§ 8 Written and artistic-creative examinations

(1) In written and artistic-creative examinations, students should demonstrate that they have a broad and integrated knowledge, including the scientific foundations, the practical application of the examination area and a critical understanding of the most important theories and methods. Written and artistic-creative examinations should further determine whether students can identify problems in a limited amount of time and develop solutions using subject-specific methods.

- **(2)** Unless otherwise stipulated in the subject examination regulations, written examinations last 45 to 240 minutes.
- (3) Homework is individual work or group work. Unless otherwise specified in a subject examination regulation, the processing time shall not exceed two thirds of the designated student workload of the respective module. In the case of group work, the contribution of the individual students to be assessed must be clearly distinguishable and assessable.
- **(4)** Examinations according to the answer-choice procedure are conducted in accordance with the regulations for the conduct of examinations using the multiple-choice procedure at Trier University of Applied Sciences, as amended from time to time.
- (5) Computer-based examinations ("e-examinations") are permissible if they are suitable for providing or contributing to the evidence pursuant to Para. 1; if necessary, they may be supplemented by other forms of examination. Before computer-based examinations are conducted, it must be ensured that the electronic data can be clearly identified and unmistakably and permanently assigned to the candidates. The examination shall be conducted in the presence of a competent person. In accordance with the provisions of § 19, candidates shall be given the opportunity to inspect the computer-based examination and the result they have achieved.

§ 9 Project work

- (1) Project work demonstrates the ability to develop, realise and present projects. Here, the students should prove that they can define goals and develop solutions to problems and concepts. Project work usually includes a written elaboration and should have an interdisciplinary character.
- (2) The processing period, including the written work, is usually a maximum of 18 weeks.
- (3) Project work is individual work or group work. In the case of group work, the contribution of the individual students to be assessed must be clearly distinguishable and assessable.

§ 10 Thesis

- (1) The final thesis should show that the students are able to work independently on a subject-related problem using scientific methods within a specified period of time. An interdisciplinary thesis in connection with other subject areas is possible.
- (2) The thesis must be assessed by at least two persons who are approved as examiners in accordance with § 3 Para. 2, whereby one of these persons must belong to the group of professors (§ 46 HochSchG) of the relevant department. One of the two persons should have supervised the work. The respective examination board decides on exceptions. Upon application by the student, the respective responsible examination board shall appoint a supervising person.
- (3) The topic of the thesis is assigned by the supervisor. The students shall be given the opportunity to make suggestions. The topic, task and scope of the final paper must be set in such a way that the processing time specified in the respective subject examination regulations pursuant to § 1 Para. 2 of these regulations can be adhered to.
- **(4)** The thesis must be registered with the relevant examination board or the office appointed by it. The topic and the date of issue must be recorded.
- **(5)** The topic can only be returned once and only within the first third of the processing period. The time of the return is to be recorded. The work on a new topic must be registered within three months after the return of the first topic.
- **(6)** The thesis may also be admitted as a group thesis if the contribution of the individual students to be assessed is clearly distinguishable and assessable and fulfils the requirements according to Paragraph 1
- (7) The processing time is regulated in the respective subject examination regulations. The thesis is to be submitted in due time to the chairing member of the respective examination board or to the

to an office to be determined by the examination committee. The form and number of copies to be handed in is determined by the examination committee. When handing in the work, the students have to assure in writing that they have written their work - in the case of a group work, their correspondingly marked part of the work - independently and have not used any sources and aids other than those stated. The date of submission is to be recorded. If the thesis is not handed in on time, it is deemed to have been failed. The students receive a written notification of the failure, which at the same time informs them whether and until when a repetition of the thesis is possible.

§ 11 Assessment of examinations / Determination of module results

- (1) The grades for the examination performances are determined by the respective examiners. The following grades are to be used for the assessment:
- 1 =very good = an excellent performance
- 2 =good = a performance that is significantly above the average requirements
- 3 =satisfactory = a performance that meets average requirements
- 4 =sufficient = a performance that still meets the requirements despite its deficiencies
- 5 = not sufficient or failed = a performance that does not meet the requirements due to considerable deficiencies

For the differentiated assessment of an examination performance, individual grades can be raised or lowered by 0.3 to intermediate values; the grades 0.7; 4.3; 4.7 and 5.3 are excluded.

- (2) If an examination performance is assessed by more than one examiner and the assessments do not differ by more than one grade level, the arithmetic mean is calculated and only the first decimal place behind the comma is taken into account; all other places are deleted without rounding. In the event of a major discrepancy, the examiners involved shall endeavour to reach an agreement; otherwise, the respective Examination Committee shall arrange for a professionally qualified examiner to make a final decision within the framework of the submitted evaluations. A final decision in an oral examination requires the presence of the person making the decision for the entire duration of the oral examination.
- (3) The module result is the grade of the corresponding examination. If several examinations are assigned to a module, each examination must be graded with at least sufficient (4.0). The result of the module is then the weighted average of the grades of the respective examinations. In theory-practice transfer modules of dual degree programmes, the weighting is carried out according to the information in the respective subject examination regulations, otherwise according to the assigned ECTS credits of the examination performances. Only the first decimal place after the decimal point is taken into account from the average value; all other places are deleted without rounding. The grade shown on the transcript is calculated from the module result as follows:

up to and including 1.5

verygood from 1.6 up to and including 2.5

good

from 2.6 to 3.5 inclusive satisfactory from 3.6 to 4.0 inclusive = sufficient

- (4) For the conversion of grades into the ECTS grading scale and vice versa, the rules of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the respective valid version shall apply.
- (5) If a module result was assessed with at least "sufficient" according to Paragraph 1, the corresponding credit points (ECTS) are awarded according to the respective subject examination regulations pursuant to § 1 Paragraph 2 of these regulations of the respective degree programme.

§ 12 Failure to attend, withdrawal, deception, breach of regulations

(1) An examination performance is deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" or "failed" if students do not appear at an examination date without valid reasons or if they withdraw from the examination after the start of the examination without valid reasons. The same applies if a written examination is not completed within the specified processing time.

- (2) The valid reasons asserted for missing an examination date or for withdrawing after the start of an examination must be reported in writing to the respective chairing member of the examination committee or to the office designated by the examination committee without delay, at the latest by the third working day after the examination date, and must be substantiated; Saturdays are not considered as working days in this context. In the case of illness, a medical certificate proving the inability to take the examination must be submitted to the respective chairing member of the examination board or to the office to be designated by the respective examination board. This medical certificate, which is to prove the inability to take the examination, must show which health impairments are present and how these affect the performance. The submission of a medical certificate from a public health officer may be required. The illness of a child or a family member in need of care who is predominantly the sole carer of a student is deemed to be equivalent to illness. Other reasons for which students are not responsible, such as increased family obligations, can be equated with illness by the examination board on application. If the reasons are recognised, the next examination date must be taken. In this case, the examination results already obtained are to be taken into account.
- (3) In the event of cheating or the use of unauthorised aids in the examination context, the examination performance in question is deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" or "failed". The same applies in the case of an attempt. Depending on the severity of the cheating, the examination board may determine further legal consequences such as the loss of a further examination attempt or the loss of entitlemet to an examination. Students who disrupt the orderly conduct of the examination can be excluded from continuing the examination by the respective examiners or invigilators. In this case, the examination performance in question is deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" or "failed".
- (4). The permitted aids are announced by the respective examiners at the latest before the start of the examination. All other aids are inadmissible and their possession and carrying in the examination room is considered an attempt to deceive in the sense of Para. 3. The examination room is equated with its spatial environment, e.g. in the toilet rooms, corridors or staircases. The general principles of prima facie evidence apply.
- (5) Examination results according to § 5 Para. 2 Nos. 2-4 shall be deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" or "failed" if they were not written in whole or in substantial parts by the students themselves, but by other persons, and this is not indicated in a scientifically customary manner, e.g. by citation (plagiarism). In order to assess whether plagiarism has occurred, another person authorised to conduct examinations must be consulted in accordance with § 3 Para. 2. If it is plagiarism, a repetition of the examination performance can be excluded according to § 14, Para. 4. The relevant examination board decides on the exclusion of the repetition according to § 14 Para. 4.
- **(6)** The use of artificial intelligence applications (AI applications) that can automatically create content according to certain specifications is an inadmissible aid in examinations according to §§ 5 to 10 of these regulations. Unless the use is expressly approved in writing by the examiner. In the latter case, the student must adequately identify the source/origin, the so-called prompt as well as the type and scope of the AI applications used in the examination performance by means of a written declaration; in this respect, the regulations according to § 12 Paragraph 5 Sentences 1 to 4 of these regulations on plagiarism apply accordingly.
- (7) Decisions in accordance with Paragraphs 3 to 5 must be communicated to the student in writing by the examination board or by the body to be appointed by the board, and must be substantiated and accompanied by instructions on how to appeal. The person concerned shall be heard before the decision is taken.
- (8) If a fact according to Paragraphs 3 to 6 only becomes known after the assessment of the examination performance has been announced, the examination board may also subsequently correct the result of the examination performance accordingly or declare the examination failed, but only within a period of two years after completion of the degree programme.

§ 13 Passing, failing and certification of examinations

- (1) The final examination consists of the examination performances of all subjects listed in the subject examination regulations according to
- § 1 Para. 2 of these regulations. The final examination is passed if all prescribed modules have been assessed with at least "sufficient".

The final examination is definitively not passed if the possibilities to repeat examination performances according to § 14 have been exhausted unsuccessfully.

(2) In the event of a loss of examination entitlement, students will receive a written notification which at the same time provides information about the degree programme in which the loss of examination entitlement occurred. In this case, they will be issued a summary certificate of the examination achievements upon request.

§ 14 Repetition of examinations

- (1) Examination performances other than the thesis and the colloquium for the thesis, which are to be taken in accordance with the examinations which have not been assessed with at least "sufficient" in accordance with § 11 Para. 3 may be repeated twice. The crediting of failed examinations of the chosen degree programme at a state or state-recognised higher education institution as failed attempts towards the permissible number of repeat examinations as well as the crediting of failed examinations of another degree programme, insofar as these are equivalent, shall be regulated in the respective subject examination regulations.
- (2) The repeat examinations must be taken no later than the examination dates of the next semester. In deviation from this, the examination regulations may stipulate a reduction to the next semester. If such a repeat examination is missed without good reason, the respective examination attempt is deemed to have been assessed as "failed" or "insufficient". For students of a foreign partner university, the repeat examination can take place in the same semester if these students will no longer be enrolled at the time of the repeat examination. The examination board decides on exceptions.
- (3) The subject examination regulations in accordance with § 1 Para. 2 of these regulations may stipulate that an examination that has been passed in the first attempt may be retaken once for the next examination date in order to improve the grade. If an improvement in grade is not achieved, the grade achieved in the first examination attempt remains valid. For the final paper and, if applicable, the colloquium on the final paper, a repetition to improve the grade is not permitted.
- (4) The final paper and, if applicable, the colloquium for the final paper can only be repeated once, subject to the regulation in § 12 Para. 5. A failed final paper must be registered with a new topic within three months after notification of the decision on the failure. In the case of a failed colloquium, the examiners of the final paper shall, in consultation with the students, give them the opportunity to repeat the colloquium within four weeks. Deviations can be regulated in the respective subject examination regulations.
- (5) In the event of a failed examination in a compulsory elective module, a repeat examination is usually taken in the identical module. The examination board decides on exceptions.

§ 15 Recognition of study and examination achievements and crediting of non-academic competences

- (1) The recognition of achievements at a higher education institution and the recognition of equivalent knowledge and qualifications acquired outside the higher education sector shall be carried out in accordance with § 25 paras. 3 and 4 HochSchG.
- An application for recognition or crediting of achievements should be submitted within the first semester of enrolment.
- (2) Achievements made at a higher education institution are recognised on application, provided that there are no significant differences with regard to the competences acquired. This requires a match in all essential elements of the performance for which recognition is sought with the performance rendered in terms of content and scope of the material relevant to the examination as well as the type and duration of the examination. In doing so, an overall assessment of the qualifications obtained is made in relation to the criteria of quality of the institution, profile and level of study of the study programme, workload and, in particular, the learning outcomes in terms of content, level of qualification and profile in relation to the qualification objectives of the study programme for which recognition is sought. In particular, there is a substantial difference if the learning outcomes of the achievement rendered differ substantially from the learning outcomes of the achievement for which recognition is applied for

and the applicant is likely to be impaired in successfully completing the degree programme. The applicant is responsible for providing sufficient information on recognition. The burden of proof for the assertion of substantial differences lies with the higher education institution.

- (3) Recognition requires that after enrolment at least one examination has to be taken in the relevant host degree programme. This concerns in particular the final thesis and, if applicable, the colloquium for the final thesis.
- (4) On application, the higher education institution may recognise knowledge and qualifications acquired outside higher education on the basis of documents submitted if this knowledge and these skills are equivalent in content and level to the examination achievements which they are to replace. Knowledge and qualifications acquired outside the higher education system shall be recognised up to a maximum of half of the ECTS to be earned in the higher education programme. The review of whether the non-university achievements of the applicant are equivalent to the examination achievements which they are to replace shall be carried out on a case-by-case basis on the basis of the documents submitted by the applicant, e.g. work samples, certificates, subject descriptions, curricula and the like. The proof of equivalence is the responsibility of the applicant, who must enclose sufficiently meaningful documents for the review of the application for recognition. The subject examination regulations according to § 1 Para. 2 of these regulations may contain detailed regulations, especially in the case of dual courses of study.
- (5) If periods of study, credit points (ECTS) or examination achievements are recognised, grades insofar as the grading systems are comparable are taken over and included in the calculation of the overall grade. In the case of incomparable grading systems and in the case of credited achievements according to Para. 3, the remark "passed" shall be included in the transcript. These performances are not taken into account when calculating the overall grade. Alternatively, in the case of incomparable grading systems, the modified Bavarian formula for grade conversion may be applied. These performances are then taken into account in the calculation of the overall grade. The examination board decides on the choice of alternative. The degree certificate shall state which of the listed study and examination achievements have been recognised or which non-university qualifications have been credited.
- **(6)** The procedures for recognition and crediting are determined by the respective competent examination board, which usually decides on the applications within three months.
- (7) The first legally binding registration for the performance of an examination performance excludes the later application for recognition of this examination performance. This also applies in the event of a legally effective later withdrawal from the examination.

§ 16 Certificate, Diploma Supplement

- (1) A certificate is issued for passing the final examination. The certificate contains
 - 1. the name of the respective degree programme,
 - 2. insofar as the respective subject examination regulations pursuant to § 1 Para. 2 of these regulations provide for this, the names of the field of study, the specialisation, the specialisations,
 - 3. the topic of the thesis,
 - 4. Name and result of all modules,
 - 5. the overall grade
- (2) At the request of the students
 - 1. the length of study required to complete the final examination,
 - 2. a list of the additional study and examination achievements not prescribed in the subject examination regulations according to § 1 Para. 2 of these regulations, as well as
- 3. Stays at other universities included in an annex to the transcript.
- (3) The certificate shall be signed by the chairing member of the respective competent examination board and shall bear the date of the day on which the last performance was achieved.

- (4) The higher education institution shall issue a Diploma Supplement (DS) in accordance with the "Diploma Supplement Model" of the European Union/Council of Europe/UNESCO in German and English. The text agreed between the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Rectors' Conference (Hochschulrektorenkonferenz) in the currently valid version shall be used to represent the national education system (DS section 8).
- **(5)** Upon application by the student, the higher education institution shall, in addition to issuing the Diploma Supplement, provide translations of the certificate, the transcript and, if applicable, the annex to the transcript in English. Further details can be regulated in the respective subject examination regulations.

§ 17 Certificate

- (1) The certificate of the same date is handed out at the same time as the certificate. This certifies the award of the academic degree.
- (2) The certificate shall be signed by the President of Trier University of Applied Sciences and the chairperson of the relevant examination board and shall bear the seal of the University.

§ 18 Invalidity of the audit and retention period

- (1) If students have been deceived in relation to an examination performance belonging to the final examination according to § 13 by actions and facts according to § 12 paras. 3 to 5 and if this fact only becomes known after the certificate about the final examination (final certificate) has been issued, the respective competent examination board may subsequently correct the examination performance concerned and the result of the final examination and, if necessary, declare the final examination as a whole as "failed".
- (2) If the requirements for admission to an examination belonging to the final examination according to § 13 were not fulfilled without the student intending to deceive, and if this fact only becomes known after the final certificate has been issued, this defect shall be remedied by passing the final examination. If students have intentionally obtained admission wrongly, the examination board shall declare the final examination "failed".
- (3) The students shall be given the opportunity to comment before a decision is made in accordance with subsection 1 or 2.
- (4) If the grade of the final examination is changed or the final examination is declared "failed" on the basis of a decision pursuant to sub-section 1 or 2, the incorrect final certificate shall be withdrawn and, if necessary, reissued in a corrected form. Furthermore, the certificate on the final degree shall be withdrawn in the cases of paras. 1 and 2 if the final examination has been declared "failed".
- **(5)** Examination documents are kept for two years after the completion of the last examination or the date of exmatriculation, unless the examination result is objected to. If the examination result has been objected to, examination documents must be kept beyond the period specified in sentence 1 until the proceedings have been legally concluded.

§ 19 Remonstration and inspection of examination files

- (1) Students are given the opportunity to inspect their examination results. Further details are regulated by resolution of the respective examination board.
- **(2)** Students can appeal against the assessment of examinations in writing without delay, at the latest within one month of inspecting the respective examination, stating the reasons. Further details are regulated by the respective examination board.
- (3) Otherwise, students may inspect the examination files within one year after completion of the examination.

§ 20 Entry into force

These General Examination Regulations come into force on the day after their publication in the official publication of Trier University of Applied Sciences "publicus". The General Examination Regulations of 25.04.2019 in the version of 28.10.2020 shall cease to apply simultaneously with the entry into force of these regulations.

Trier, 04.05.2023

The President of Trier University of Applied Sciences