Examination Regulations for the Master's Program in Economics at the University of Mannheim

as at 05 June 2009
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 17/2009 (Part 2) of 15 June 2009, pp. 18 et seqq.)

1st amendment as at 21 June 2011
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 15/2011 (Part 1) of 30 June 2011, pp. 60 et seqq.)

2nd amendment as at 07 March 2013
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 07/2013 (Part 1) of 21 March 2013, pp. 12 et seqq.)

3rd amendment as at 12 June 2013
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 15/2013 (Part 1) of 12 June 2013, pp. 61 et seqq.)

4th amendment as at 18 June 2015
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 17/2015 (Part 2) of 02 June 2015, pp. 54 et seqq.)

5th amendment as at 22 December 2017
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 35/2016 of 22 December 2016, pp. 11 et seqq.)

This is a non-official version of the Regulations on Admission and Enrollment. Only the version published in the Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) shall prevail and be binding.

In the German language version of these Selection Statutes, this sentence deals with the subject of gender-neutral language. For the English language version, this is not relevant and therefore omitted.

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I. General Provisions

Section 1 – Purpose of the Master's Examination, Master's Degree

(1) The completion of the master's examination leads to a degree constituting a second professional scientific qualification in the field of economics.

(2) The master's examination serves to prove whether the candidate has gained the necessary substantial knowledge of the field for a transition into higher professional practice or a doctoral program and whether he or she has the ability to apply scientific methods and findings independently and comprehensively.

(3) Based on the completion of the master's examination, the University of Mannheim confers the academic degree "Master of Science" (M.Sc.).

Section 2 – Standard Period of Study, Objectives and Structure of the Program, Language of Instruction, Required Coursework

(1) The standard period of study for obtaining the academic degree is four semesters.

(2) The degree course is a research-oriented consecutive master's program. It provides students with a profound understanding of economic interdependencies, with the ability to apply analytical and methodological approaches in order to solve economic problems and with an extended ability to judge economic policy measures.

The master's program in economics is subdivided in an introductory phase of one semester, a specialization phase of two semesters and a research phase of one semester. The structure of the master's program depends on the module combinations chosen during the introductory phase and on the selected track of study: 1. Economics, 2. Competition and Regulation Economics or 3. Economic Research; further details on the structure of the program are also to be found in the respective subject-specific attachments of these Examination Regulations. The structure of the study tracks allows students to complete the program in the standard period of study and to chose focus areas.

(3a) During the introductory phase of the master's program, students may choose between two module combinations according to the Subject-Specific Attachments 1 and 2 in line with the regulations of section 10a subsection 1(ii). Students choose a module combination by registering for it in the first two weeks of the lecture period. If students do not register themselves, they are registered for the module combination "Economics" automatically. The two module combinations cannot be combined. All modules of the chosen module combination are to be completed.

(3b) Upon request to the examination committee, students may change from the module combination "Economics Research Preparatory Courses" to the module combination "Economics" until four weeks before the end of the lecture period of the semester in which they have registered for examinations for the first time. If the request is approved, already completed examinations are recognized as additional coursework in the transcript of records. The results are not taken into account for the calculation of the overall grade.

(3c) Students cannot change from the module combination "Economics" to the module combination "Economic Research Preparatory Courses".

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(4) The language of instruction is English. The examination committee may allow exceptions for single courses in agreement with the examiner(s). As a rule, examinations are conducted in the course's language of instruction. With regard to oral examinations in particular, the examiner may allow German as language of examination. The master's thesis shall be written in English; in exceptional and justified cases, it may be written in German; the responsible supervisor decides upon this matter.

(5) The required coursework for the completion of the master's program corresponds to a total of at least 120 ECTS credits. One credit point corresponds to a workload of about 30 hours.

Section 3 – Examinations and Examination Deadlines

(1) The master's examination in the Track of Study 1: Economics consists of examinations in the modules according to Subject-Specific Attachment 1, at least two of which are seminars, and of the master's thesis. For the master's examination in the Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulation Economics, the following elements are mandatory: examinations in the modules according to Subject-Specific Attachment 2, at least one of which is a seminar, the master's thesis, and the adequate attendance at the Mannheim Competition Policy Forums according to section 14 subsection 2. The master's examination in the Track of Study 3: Economic Research consists of examinations in the modules according to Subject-Specific Attachment 3 and of the master's thesis.

(2) In the modules offered at the Department of Economics, as a rule, the examinations to be completed during the course according to subsection 1 take place in the form of written examinations. These written examinations may be replaced completely or in parts or supplemented with one or several graded term paper(s) and/or one or several graded oral presentation(s) and/or one or several mid-term examination(s) and/or a final oral examination. This would apply to all candidates in the same form. In this case, the exam grade is the rounded average grade of all the partial examinations or coursework according to section 9 subsection 1; in case of doubt, the better of two grades shall be assigned. The type of examination(s) to be completed and its or their weighting are determined by the examiner and announced in the module catalog. If the module catalog does not provide any final regulations, additional provisions are announced at the beginning of the respective course at the latest. Examinations in other subjects are governed by the relevant examination regulations of the respective school or department.

(3) [deleted]

(4) If the master's examination is not completed by the end of the seventh semester at the latest, the candidate loses the eligibility to take examinations, unless he or she is not responsible for having exceeded the deadline. The examination committee is in charge of granting extensions of examination deadlines. The respective student receives an official notification if he or she exceeds a deadline.

(5) In justified cases, written examinations of the first semester may be conducted completely or partially as multiple-choice examinations. The examination questions shall provide for reliable examination results. When designing the examination, the examiner shall determine which answers are accepted as correct and how the scoring system works. If, during the assessment of the examination, it turns out that single exercises do not lead to reliable results, they shall not be considered for the calculation of the examination's result. The minimum
passing score is to be adjusted accordingly; lowering the passing score shall not have negative implications for candidates. The examination is passed if a candidate achieves at least the minimum passing score determined before the exam; if the candidate does not achieve the minimum passing score, he or she might still pass the exam provided his or her performance was good enough to be among the set minimum rate of candidates that will pass the exam regardless of the results (pass rate; pass rate + failure rate = 100%). If the examination is only partly multiple-choice, the regulations of this section apply to that part respectively.

(6) [deleted]
(7) [deleted]
(8) [deleted]

Section 3a – Extension of Examination Deadlines

(1) The examination deadlines as well as the deadlines to take examinations and complete coursework in order to complete the program shall be extended by the examination committee upon written request from a student, which is submitted in due time, if the respective student is in need of an extension due to special conditions he or she is not responsible for. The examination committee shall grant individual extensions based on case by case decisions.

(2) In particular, this applies to students

1. with children, or
2. with a relative in need of care within the meaning of section 7 of the Caregiver Leave Act (PflegeZG), or
3. with a disability, or
4. with a chronic illness

if the situation resulting from the aforementioned special conditions requires an extension of the examination deadlines. The same applies to students who are eligible for periods of protection in accordance with the respective section 3 subsection 1, section 6 subsection 1 of the Maternity Protection Act (MuSchG).

(3) A request in accordance with subsection 1 shall be promptly submitted as soon as the student is aware of the circumstances demanding an extension of examination deadlines. If the request is not made in due time in accordance with sentence 1, the extension shall only be granted if additional requirements according to section 32 of the Administrative Procedure Act of Baden-Württemberg (LVwVfG) are met.

(4) The student requesting the extension is responsible for producing adequate proof. If there are significant changes to the personal situation of the student, particularly any changes that would result in a lapse of entitlement to the extension, the student is obliged to inform the examination committee without delay.

(5) The extension of deadlines to take examinations, re-sit examinations or complete coursework shall not exceed a total of two semesters in any case. The extension of the deadline to complete the program shall not exceed the standard period of study provided there are no legal regulations indicating otherwise.

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(6) The extension of examination deadlines, the preparation period and submission deadlines for coursework, particularly a term paper or master's thesis, are not covered by the subsections listed above. The option of requesting disadvantage compensation in accordance with section 3b remains unaffected.

(7) When calculating the examination deadlines, section 32 subsection 6 of the Act on Higher Education of the Land of Baden-Württemberg (LHG) shall be taken into consideration.

Section 3b – Disadvantage Compensation

(1) If students, as a result of a special condition or situation within the meaning of section 3a subsection 2, cannot take the respective examination or complete a piece of coursework, in particular due to the form of examination, they can request disadvantage compensation. Students are obliged to submit the request for disadvantage compensation in due time and in writing. In coordination with the respective examiners, the examination committee grants the appropriate disadvantage compensation in order to adhere to the principle of equal opportunities. Disabled students or students with a chronic illness shall submit their request for disadvantage compensation to the Commissioner and Counselor for disabled students and students with chronic illnesses. The examination committee is obliged to take the recommendation of the Commissioner and Counselor for disabled students and students with chronic illnesses into account in their decision making process.

(2) A request as outlined in subsection 1 is to be made in due time before the coursework or examination concerned is started. Where it is the responsibility of the student to register for coursework or an examination, the request is to be submitted by the end of the registration period at the latest. If the request is not made in due time in accordance with sentence 1, the extension shall only be granted if additional requirements according to section 32 of the Administrative Procedure Act of Baden-Württemberg (LVwVfG) are met. If students fail to submit the request for disadvantage compensation in due time, in accordance with sentences 1 or 2, the special circumstances will not be considered for the evaluation of the respective coursework or examination. The possibility to withdraw or de-register from an examination or piece of coursework with a valid reason remains in effect.

(3) It is the student's responsibility to provide sufficient proof of his or her special circumstances upon filing the request for disadvantage compensation. If there are significant changes to the special circumstances of the student before or during the claim for disadvantage compensation, particularly any changes that would result in a lapse of entitlement, the student is obliged to inform the examination committee without delay and in writing.

Section 3c – Breaches of Procedure

(1) The examination committee may remedy disturbances of the examination procedure or other breaches of procedure by virtue of office or upon request from a student by deciding on appropriate measures or orders. In particular, the examination committee may order that coursework or examinations shall be retaken by all or by individual students or, in case the principle of equal opportunities was violated, grant an extension or impose another appropriate measure of compensation.
(2) Any disturbances are to be reported immediately by the affected student during a written or oral examination:
1. in case of a written examination to the supervisor,
2. in case of an oral examination to the examiner and
3. in case of any other type of examination to the responsible examiner.

Any other kinds of breaches of procedure are to be reported by the affected student in due time as soon as the student acknowledges a particular breach of procedure. The reports according to sentences 1 and 2 shall be entered into the examination minutes. If the disturbances of the examination procedure or any other kind of breaches of procedure relevant to the evaluation of the respective examination are not reported in due time, they are deemed insignificant.

(3) If the examination committee did not take measures of compensation for a disturbance that occurred during an examination and was reported without delay or for other breaches of procedure, or those measures were inadequate, the student shall address his or her request for the necessary measures of compensation to the examination committee in writing immediately after the examination. If the examination consisted of several parts, the request shall be made immediately after the relevant part of the examination. The request shall not contain any conditions. If the disturbances of the examination procedure or any other kind of breaches of procedure relevant to the evaluation of the respective examination are not reported in due time, they are deemed insignificant.

Section 4 – Examination Committee

(1) The school council chooses four of its members to constitute the examination committee and appoints one of them as chair and one as deputy chair. Members of the examination committee shall be professors and junior professors of the Department of Economics. The chair and the deputy chair shall be professors. The examination committee members' term of office is two years. They may be reappointed.

(2) The examination committee enforces the Examination Regulations. It makes all decisions related to the administration of examinations as far as according to these Examination Regulations no other body is in charge. The committee reports to the school council about the developments of the study and examination periods including the period of time to complete the master's thesis as well as about the subject-specific and final grades. The report shall be published in an appropriate manner by the university.

(3) The members of the examination committee have the right to be present during the examinations.

(4) Meetings of the examination committee are not open to the public.

(5) The examination committee has a quorum if the chair or the deputy chair and at least two more members are present. Decisions require a simple majority of votes of the present members. In the event of a tie, the vote of the chair shall decide the matter.

(6) The examination committee may assign its tasks to the chair of the committee for all regular cases.
Section 5 – Student Services

(1) The Student Services are in charge of the administration of the master's examination.

(2) In particular, the Student Services determine and announce registration deadlines and examination dates, receive registrations for examinations from students, maintain student examination records, supervise the deadlines specified in these Examination Regulations, are in charge of the technical administration of the examinations and the coordination of supervision for written examinations, they inform candidates about their exam results and issue diplomas along with attachments, degree certificates and confirmations on completed exams.

Section 6 – Examiners and Observers

(1) The examination committee appoints the examiners.

(2) Examiners shall be:
   a) university teachers,
   b) senior academic staff members (Privatdozent),
   c) adjunct lecturers if there are not sufficient university teachers available as examiners, senior instructors with tenure (akademische Räte) and academic staff members whom the President's Office has entrusted with the authority to conduct examinations in accordance with section 52 subsection 1(5, 6) of LHG.

(2a) Every examiner may make use of one or several assistants for the correction of examinations or coursework; the examiner shall ensure competent evaluation and grading.

(3) Oral examinations shall be conducted by at least one examiner in the presence of an observer. The observer records the examination process in minutes. The minutes shall contain the essential contents and results of the oral examination. A person may only be appointed as observer if he or she has successfully completed the respective master's degree or holds at least an equivalent qualification.

(4) Examiners and observers are obliged to exercise discretion.

Section 7 – Recognition of Periods of Study, Coursework and Examinations

(1) Coursework and examinations as well as periods of study obtained in degree courses at official or officially recognized higher education institutions in Germany or abroad as well as at public universities of cooperative education ("Berufsakademien") of the Federal Republic of Germany are recognized, provided there is no significant difference between the competences obtained and the coursework or examinations of the master's program.

(2) For the recognition of coursework or examinations completed abroad, agreements between the Federal Republic of Germany and other countries need to be taken into account, such as agreements on equivalencies in higher education (equivalency agreements) and agreements

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within the framework of university partnerships and double degree programs (cooperation agreements). Furthermore, in case of doubts regarding the equivalency of qualifications, the Central Office for Foreign Education (Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB)) can be consulted.

(3) Skills and qualifications obtained outside of the higher education sector shall be recognized if

a) the requirements for admission to a higher education institution are fulfilled at the time of recognition,

b) the skills and qualifications to be recognized are equivalent to the coursework and examinations to be substituted in terms of content and level and

c) the criteria for recognition were examined as part of an accreditation.

For recognition, the applicant has to prove that the competences he or she acquired outside of the higher education sector are comparable to the coursework to be substituted in terms of content and level. For the decision on the recognition, the form of instruction shall be considered as well. Skills and qualifications obtained outside of the higher education sector may substitute 50 percent of the master's program at most. The regulations for the recognition of coursework and examinations at universities of cooperative education ("Berufakademien") in Germany remain unaffected.

(4) The examination committee decides on the recognition upon request. It is the student's responsibility to provide the examination committee with the necessary documents for the recognition of coursework and examinations.

(5) If credits are recognized and the grading systems are similar, the grades shall be transferred according to these Examination Regulations and considered for calculation of the final grade. In order to guarantee a consistent procedure, the examination committee can pass general regulations for the conversion of grades obtained abroad within the limits of the legal provisions. If conversion is impossible because the grading systems differ or the coursework was not graded, the work is simply marked "passed" ("bestanden"). In this case, the coursework or examination will not be included in the final grade. The recognition is indicated in the degree certificate and in the Transcript of Records.

(6) In case the student takes part in an examination at the University of Mannheim even though he or she already obtained the respective qualification elsewhere, he or she automatically waives the right to have the previous qualification recognized.

Section 8 – Absence, Withdrawal, Cheating, Misconduct

(1) An examination is graded with "failed" (5.0) ("nicht ausreichend") if the candidate misses the examination he or she registered for without valid reasons, or if he or she, after admission, does not take part in the examination without valid reasons, or withdraws after the beginning of the examination. The same applies to written examinations that are not completed within the given period of time.

(2) The examination committee shall be informed immediately in writing about the reasons brought forward for the student's de-registration or absence. Relevant proof is required. In case of illness of the candidate, a medical certificate shall be submitted. In case of doubt, the university may demand the medical certificate from a physician of their choice. If the reasons

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are recognized, the new examination has to take place at the next possible examination date. Results of examinations that are already available shall be recognized.

(3) If a candidate tries to manipulate his or her examination by cheating or using unauthorized resources, the respective examination will be graded with "failed" (5.0) ("nicht ausreichend"). A candidate who disturbs the proper course of the examination may be excluded by the respective examiner or supervisor. In this case, the respective examination will be graded with "failed" (5.0) ("nicht ausreichend"). In serious cases, the examination committee may exclude the candidate from taking further examinations.

(4) Up to two weeks after the examination, the candidate may demand that the decisions in accordance with subsection 3 sentences 1 and 2 shall be reviewed by the examination committee. The student shall be informed immediately in writing about decisions with negative implications and provided with a reason as well as the legal basis and information on rights to appeal.

Section 9 – Assessment of Examinations

(1) The respective examiner is responsible for grading the individual examinations. For the assessment of the examinations the following grading system applies:

• 1.0 = very good ("sehr gut") = an excellent performance;
• 2.0 = good ("gut") = a performance which substantially exceeds the average requirements;
• 3.0 = satisfactory ("befriedigend") = a performance corresponding to the average requirements;
• 4.0 = fair ("ausreichend") = a performance which, in spite of its flaws, suffices to meet the requirements;
• 5.0 = "failed" ("nicht ausreichend") = a performance which does not meet the requirements due to considerable flaws.

Grades may be differentiated by adding or subtracting 0.3. The grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 shall not be assigned.

Ungraded coursework is marked P (pass) or F (fail).

The grading system of examinations from other schools may differ from this system.

(1a) The assessment of examinations conducted as written exams shall not to take longer than four weeks. There shall be at least three weeks between the announcement of the examination results of the first attempt and the date of the re-sit examination.

(2) Examinations marked with "fair" (4.0) ("ausreichend") or better are considered passed. ECTS credits are only issued for examinations that are passed.

(3) The overall grade of the master's examination is calculated from the average of the individual examinations weighted in ECTS credits according to Specific Attachments 1 to 3.

The overall grade is:
"very good" ("sehr gut") in case of an average of 1.5 or lower;
"good" ("gut") in case of an average from 1.6 to 2.5;
"satisfactory" ("befriedigend") in case of an average from 2.6 to 3.5;
"fair" ("ausreichend") in case of an average from 3.6 to 4.0.

When calculating the final grade, only the first decimal place shall be of importance; all other decimal places shall be eliminated without rounding up or down.

(4) In addition to the overall grade, a relative grade according to the following system may be given in the Diploma Supplement:

- A for the best 10%
- B for the next 25%
- C for the next 30%
- D for the next 25%
- E for the next 10%

The calculation of the relative grade is based on the previous three classes that have graduated in the respective degree course. The chair of the examination committee decides for each class whether or not a relative grade is given. He or she may decide to take further classes into account for the calculation.

(5) Students may request a Transcript of Records with a provisional average grade to be drawn up prior to receiving their final grade as soon as they have completed 30 ECTS credits. The provisional average grade derives from the average of all completed and graded modules weighted according to the ECTS credits at the time of the request.

Section 10 – Selection of the Track of Study

(1) After completing the one-semester introductory phase, the further structure of the master's program depends on the chosen track of study.

(2) The Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulation Economics is selected if a student registers for a mandatory examination of the specialization phase for the first time in accordance with Subject-Specific Attachment 2.

(3) The Track of Study 3: Economic Research is selected based on the conditions of section 10a.

(4) If the student does not select any track of study in line with sections 2 or 3, the further structure of her/his master's program is composed in accordance with the regulations for the Track of Study 1: Economics.

Section 10a – Admission to the Track of Study Economic Research

(1) Admission to the Track of Study Economic Research is granted after the first semester and requires

(i) the student's request,

(ii) successful attendance of the introductory modules of the module combination "Economic Research Preparatory Courses" with an average grade weighted in ECTS credits of at least 2.5 and

(iii) a positive assessment of the candidate by the examination committee.

The examination committee decides after consulting with the professors who taught the introductory module and, if necessary, talking to the candidate.
(2) If the candidate does not complete at least five mandatory courses of the specialization phase and the average grade of those courses is not at least 2.5, the admission to the Track of Study Economic Research is converted into an admission to the Track of Study Economics.

(3) The chair of the examination committee issues an official notification the decisions on admission, which shall include the information on rights to appeal.

(4) Any change as defined in subsection 2 shall be in accordance with the regulations of section 10b subsections 2 and 3 accordingly.

Section 10b – Change of the Track of Study

(1) Changing the current track of study to one of the other tracks available in the program may be requested in writing; students may only change from the Track of Study 1: Economics to the Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulations Economics if they have not passed any examinations of the mandatory modules of the specialization phase as elective module examinations in the Track of Study 1: Economics. The request shall be submitted to the examination committee in due time, but at the latest four weeks after the beginning of the lecture period of the semester in question. After this deadline, a change may be requested for the following semester only. The request is to be granted if the examinations required for the new track of study – taking into consideration the passed examinations and those which may be transferred to the new track of study – can be completed within the maximum study period in accordance with section 3 subsection 4, assuming a regular course of study. If students want to change to the Track of Study 3: Economic Research, in addition, the requirements in accordance with section 10a subsection 1 shall be met.

(2) If the request is approved, the passed or registered examinations in the specialization phase of the current track of study, including the grades of the passed examinations and the number of undertaken attempts, will be transferred to the new track of study by virtue of office; this only applies if these examinations are also mandatory or can be selected in the new track of study. In case of changing to the Track of Study 1: Economics, students may not re-sit the examinations of mandatory modules they failed once. By way of derogation from section 1, a transfer of successfully completed examinations to the mandatory modules or to the elective modules of the new track of study is only possible within the range of ECTS credits as defined in the relevant Subject-Specific Attachment. In this case, the examinations which the candidate passed first are taken into account. Passed examinations exceeding the range of ECTS credits are taken into consideration neither for the master’s examination nor for calculation of the final grade; these examinations may be listed as additional coursework (additional modules) with the module grades on the Transcript of Records. The examinations exceeding the range of ECTS credits required for the master's examination is not possible, sentences 4 and 5 apply accordingly.

(3) When transferring examinations within the meaning of subsection 2 sentence 1, the examination processes in progress are to be completed within the new track of study. Examination processes which are not transferred to the new track of study terminate when the request has been approved.

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II. Examination Process

Section 11 – Registration for and Admission to Examinations

According to their module combination candidates are automatically registered for examinations of the introductory phase on the regular examination date by the Student Services. With regard to all other examinations, the student is responsible to register for the exams during the registration period. After the end of the registration period, registration for the respective examination attempt can only be withdrawn during the period determined by Student Services (withdrawal); section 8 remains unaffected. Once the withdrawal period has closed, registration for an examination attempt is binding.

Section 12 – Scope and Structure of the Master's Examination

(1) The master's examination comprises:
   1. the mandatory modules of the introductory phase,
   2. in case of the Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulation Economics and of the Track of Study 3: Economic Research:
      the mandatory modules of the specialization phase,
   3. the elective modules of the specialization phase, and
   4. the master's thesis.

(2) The mandatory modules as well as the provisions regarding the elective modules are listed in the respective Subject-Specific Attachment.

(3) The elective modules comprise lectures, which differ in content and may include exercise courses, and, in case of the Track of Study 1: Economics, two to four elective seminars, or, in case of Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulation Economics, one to three elective seminars, which differ in content. In cases of doubt, the examination committee ascertains the equivalency of courses in terms of content.

(4) The duration of written examinations of mandatory modules offered at the Department of Economics is at least 30 minutes and no longer than 90 minutes per credit hour of lectures; however, in total, the exam duration shall be at least 90 minutes. See the subject-specific attachments for more details. The first written examination shall take place in the last week of the lecture period or at the beginning of the following semester break. The re-sit examination shall take place before the beginning of the lecture period of the following semester. The re-sit examination counts for the semester in which the first attempt took place.

(5) The duration of written examinations of mandatory modules offered at other schools or departments is given in the Subject-Specific Attachments. The modalities of re-taking examinations and the duration of examinations in the elective modules offered at other schools or departments are governed by the regulations of the respective school or department.

Section 12a – ENTER Double Degree Program

(1) Students of the Economics track of the master's program in Economics have the opportunity to participate in the ENTER double degree program "ENTER European Master in Economic Research" in cooperation with a partner university.

(2) The ENTER double degree program does not constitute an independent study program. The ENTER program is governed by these Examination Regulations. In order to participate,
the current version of the regulations of the ENTER Agreement of Interuniversity Cooperation for the Organization of a Joint Masters Programme as well as the regulations on the completion of exams and the requirements for the degree completion of the respective partner university are to be acknowledged by the student.

(3) If students participate in the ENTER program and spend their second year of study at a partner university, the number of ECTS credits obtained for the master's thesis may deviate from the 30 ECTS credits determined in the Subject-Specific Attachment 1. In this case, the master's thesis is recognized with the number of ECTS credits according to the regulations of the partner university. The required amount of ECTS credits to be obtained in elective modules in the specialization phase increases or decreases by the number of ECTS credits that corresponds to the difference between the number of ECTS credits issued for a master's thesis at the partner university and at the University of Mannheim.

(4) Examinations and coursework completed at the partner university are recognized according to the following system:

(i) In case the first year of study is completed at the partner university: Examinations and coursework corresponding to 30 ECTS credits are recognized as modules of the introductory phase and additional ECTS credits are recognized as elective modules of the specialization phase. The grades correspond to the average grade of these exams and coursework weighted in ECTS credits.

(ii) In case the second year of study including the master's thesis is completed at the partner university: The master's thesis is recognized with the ECTS credits and the grade issued at the partner university. Other examinations and coursework of the second year of study are recognized as elective modules of the specialization phase. The grade corresponds to the average grade of the exams and coursework weighted in ECTS credits.

Section 13 – Retaking Examinations

(1) Every examination of the introductory phase and every examination of the mandatory module in the specialization phase which is failed or considered failed is to be retaken on the next possible date. If the exam is a partial examination according to section 3 subsection 2(2) that corresponds to a maximum of 50% of the overall grade of the examination, the examiner decides whether a re-sit exam is scheduled and informs the students of this at the beginning of the course at the latest. If a candidate does not show up for a re-sit examination, it is considered failed and graded with "failed" (5.0) ("nicht ausreichend") unless the candidate is not responsible for his or her absence.

(2) Retaking an examination for the second time is only possible for exactly one examination of the introductory phase. When selecting the Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulation Economics, an examination for the second time is only possible for exactly one examination of the mandatory modules during the specialization phase.

(3) Retaking an examination that has been passed is only possible for exactly one examination of the introductory phase. For the calculation of the overall grade and the provisional average grade according to section 9 subsections 3 and 5, the better grade is considered. Apart from that, it is not possible to retake an examination that has been passed.
(4) It is not possible to retake examinations of the elective modules of the specialization phase. If necessary, the candidate shall take another examination in a new course that differs in terms of content.

Section 14 – Master's Thesis

(1) The master's thesis shall discuss a topic from one of the following fields:

- Economics,
- Statistics and Econometrics,
- Economic History.

(2) Work on the master's thesis cannot be started before the fourth semester. Admission requirements for writing the master's thesis:

- completion of at least 45 ECTS credits in the specialization phase,
- for the Track of Study 1: Economics and in the Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulation Economics, a successful completion of at least one seminar,
- for the Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulation Economics, an adequate attendance at the Mannheim Competition Policy Forums. If students select the module combination “Economics” in the introductory area, they must participate in at least nine Competition Policy Forums of 90 minutes each; if selecting the module combination “Economic Research Preparatory Courses”, they must participate in at least six Competition Policy Forums; participation in all further Mannheim Competition Policy Forums, even during the writing of the master's thesis, is recommended.

Students are responsible for providing the required information, especially by submitting current Transcript of Records and the participation certificates of the Competition Policy Forums visited. The examiner shall ensure that the admission requirement has been fulfilled before allocating a topic to the student.

(3) The examiner assigns a topic to the student from the chosen field. The candidate may suggest a topic. Only professors, junior professors and senior academic staff members (Privatdozenten) are eligible to assign the topic of the master's thesis and to supervise and grade the master's thesis. The topic may only be changed once and within the first four weeks of the period of time to complete the master's thesis; in this case, work on the thesis is considered to not have started.

(4) The period of time to complete the master's thesis depends on the track of study and is given the respective subject-specific attachment. The topic, assignment and scope of the master's thesis shall be limited by the supervisor so that its completion is possible within the given period of time. The completed master's thesis is to be submitted in duplicate to the supervisor in due time. If the master's thesis is mailed before the expiry of the deadline and a receipt of post office certifies this, the deadline is not considered exceeded. The dates of assigning and submitting the master's thesis are to be entered in the records. The examination committee may request the student to also submit a copy in electronic form.

(5) In justified and exceptional cases and upon request, the examination committee may grant the candidate an extension of the deadline for the master's thesis of up to four weeks. The extension of the deadline is to be requested one week before the end of the deadline at the latest and shall be approved by the supervisor of the master's thesis.
(6) The master's thesis shall include a bibliography and a written declaration that it is the candidate's own work and that no other sources or means except the ones listed have been employed, that all quotations or references that have been taken from the works of others have been marked and acknowledged as such and that this very thesis or a similar thesis has not been submitted to another university before.

(7) The master's thesis is to be assessed according to the grading system of section 9 by the examiner who has assigned the topic. If the thesis is graded "failed" (5.0) ("nicht ausreichend"), an additional examiner appointed by the examination committee shall be consulted. If the individual assessments differ, the average grade of both individual assessments is assigned according to section 9 subsection 1. In case of doubt, the better grade is to be assigned. If a master's thesis is not submitted in due time, it is graded "failed" (5.0) ("nicht ausreichend") without an additional evaluation.

(8) Two months after the submission of the master's thesis at the latest, the candidate shall be informed of his or her grade.

(9) The master's thesis is passed if it is graded "fair" (4.0) ("ausreichend") or better. For the completed master's thesis, the candidate obtains the amount of ECTS credits determined in the respective subject-specific attachment.

(10) The master's thesis may only be retaken once. If the master's thesis is retaken, a new topic is to be assigned. A master's thesis that has been passed may not be retaken.

(11) The examiner may request the candidate to attend a master's colloquium.

Section 15 – Completing the Master's Examination, Diploma and Degree Certificate

(1) The respective master's examination is passed if all of the required examinations in accordance with the track-specific structure in line with the Subject-Specific Attachments 1 to 3 have been passed.

(2) Failing the last attempt of an examination during the course results in the failure of the entire master's examination. The student receives an official notification informing him or her about failing the final examination attempt.

(3) After the successful completion of the master's examination, the candidate is issued an English and a German degree certificate. These include:
   1. the selected track of study according to section 2 subsection 3;
   2. all completed examinations including the master's thesis with their corresponding ECTS credits and grades (in words and figures);
   3. the topic of the master's thesis and the name of the evaluator;
   4. the final grade (in words and figures);
   5. the final grade according to section 9 subsection 3 (in words and figures).

The certificates date back to the day of completion of the last examination. If it is not possible to determine this date, the last day of classes of the respective semester shall serve as the date of completion. The certificates shall be signed by the chair or deputy chair of the examination committee.

(4) Along with the degree certificate, the candidate receives an English and a German diploma certifying the conferment of the academic degree and comprising the final grade of the degree.
and/or the honors ("mit Auszeichnung bestanden") according to subsection 6. The diplomas bear the date of the degree certificates. The diplomas are signed by the dean of the school or his or her deputy and bear the seal of the University of Mannheim.

(5) The academic degree shall only be used after having received the diploma.

(6) In case the final grade is 1.2 or better, the student graduates "with honors" ("mit Auszeichnung bestanden"). This is indicated on the degree certificates and diplomas.

(7) An English Diploma Supplement in accordance with the European Diploma Supplement model shall be attached to the certificates. A Transcript of Records forms part of the Diploma Supplement comprising all completed modules and the respective coursework and examinations including the issued credits and grades.

(8) Students who failed to complete the degree receive an official notification from the examination committee.

(9) In case of failure of the master's examination, a written confirmation listing all completed examinations and coursework with the respective grades is issued upon request. The confirmation clearly states that the failure of the degree is final.

Section 16 [deleted]

Section 17 [deleted]

III. Final Provisions

Section 18 – Voidness of the Master's Examination

(1) In case the candidate has manipulated an examination by cheating and this fact is revealed after the student has received his or her master's degree certificate, the examination committee may revise the respective grades retroactively and declare the examination as failed completely or partially.

(2) If the requirements to be admitted to an examination were not met without the candidate's intent to disguise this fact and if this fact is revealed after the candidate has received his or her master's degree certificate, this defect is remedied by having passed the examination. If the student attained his or her admission illegitimately on purpose, the examination committee shall decide on the matter.

(3) The candidate in question shall be granted the chance to comment on the issue prior to the decision.

(4) The inaccurate degree certificate and the respective diploma shall be recalled and, if relevant, new ones issued.

Section 19 – Access to Examination Records

(1) After completing an examination, the candidate may be granted access to his or her written exams, the respective evaluations of the examiners and the exam minutes upon request. The examiner or the Student Services decide on the time and place for accessing the examination records.

(2) The request has to be submitted to the examiner or the Student Services within one year after having received the result of the respective examination.
**Section 20 – Commencement**

These Examination Regulations become effective on 1 August 2009.

**Article 2 of the first amendment of 21 June 2011:**

The amendment will come into effect the day after its publication in the Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats). The provisions of article 1 section 4 and article 1 section 8 of this amendment only apply to students who will start their master's program in Economics at the University of Mannheim in the fall semester 2011/2012 or later. The same applies to the required minimum amount of elective courses to be completed at the CDSE given in the Subject-Specific attachment 2 of the version of this amendment.

**Article 2 of the second amendment as at 7 March 2013:**

The amendment will come into effect the day after its publication in the Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats). It applies to all students enrolled in the master's program in Economics as well as all students who are going to start this master's program in the future.

**Article 2 of the third amendment of 3 June 2013:**

The amendment will come into effect the day after its publication in the Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats). The provisions of article 1 section 1 subsection 2, section 4 and section 5 of this amendment only apply to students who will start their master's program in Economics at the University of Mannheim in the fall semester 2013/2014 or later. The same applies to the changed introductory modules of section 9 and the exam durations according to sections 9 and 10 of this amendment. However, the changes of the module titles (sections 9 and 10) become effective according to the provision of sentence 1 of this amendment.

**Article 2 of the fourth amendment of 18 June 2015:**

The amendment applies to students who have started the master's program in Economics at the University of Mannheim in or after the fall semester 2009/2010.

This amendment becomes effective the day after its announcement in the Bulletin of the President's Office ("Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats") of the University of Mannheim.

**Article 2 of the fifth amendment of 20 December 2017:**

**Section 1 – Scope** The regulations in article 1 apply to all students who study in the Master’s Program in Economics at the University of Mannheim according to the Examination Regulations for the Master’s Program in Economics at the University of Mannheim of 5 June 2009 (Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 17/2009 Part 2, pp. 18 et seqq.) in the current version.

**Section 2 – Commencement** This amendment becomes effective on 1 August 2017.
Subject-Specific Attachment 1

Track of Study 1: Economics
Degree: Master of Science (M.Sc.)

Required coursework for the completion of the master’s program in ECTS credits: 120 – 126

The following amount of ECTS credits is awarded for courses in the Economics track of the master’s program at the Department of Economics:

- for each semester hour of lectures from the elective course offer: 2.5 ECTS credits
- for each semester hour of exercise courses from the elective course offer: 2 ECTS credits
- for a seminar of two credit hours (excluding the School Seminar and the CDSE Seminar): 5 ECTS credits
- for a seminar of three semester hours (excluding the School Seminar and the CDSE Seminar): 6 ECTS credits

- For courses of other master’s programs, students receive the number of ECTS credits that is determined by the University of Mannheim according to the European Credit Transfer System. If no ECTS credits are assigned, the ECTS credits shall be issued according to the system above.

Courses of the Introductory Phase

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Modules</th>
<th>Duration of Examination</th>
<th>ECTS Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module Combination &quot;Economics&quot;</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1: E601 Advanced Microeconomics</td>
<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 2: E602 Advanced Macroeconomics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 3: E603 Advanced Econometrics</td>
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<tr>
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<td>or</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module Combination &quot;Economic Research Preparatory Courses&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1: E700 Mathematics for Economists (doctoral level)</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2: E701 Advanced Microeconomics I (doctoral level)</td>
<td>120</td>
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<td>Module 3: E702 Advanced Macroeconomics I (doctoral level)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 4: E703 Advanced Econometrics I (doctoral level)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
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</table>

Specialization Phase

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective modules</th>
<th>ECTS credits</th>
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Elective modules for the master's program of the Department of Economics, of which candidates shall take at least two but no more than four seminars.

16 ECTS credits may be recognized from the following master's programs of the University of Mannheim: "Mannheim Master in Management" (limited to the Business Administration modules), "Master in Political Science", "Master in Social Sciences", "Master in Law" and "Master in Mathematics". From the aforementioned programs, 8 additional ECTS credits may be acquired in the courses related to economics. The decision on the courses which may meet the aforementioned requirements is to be made by the examination committee; the committee shall take into consideration the relevant module catalogs on the basis of a written request by the student in due time; a request shall be submitted two weeks before the beginning of the registration period at the latest. Please refer to the current version of the module catalog of the relevant program for the available courses of the programs mentioned in sentence 1 and for the corresponding examinations.

Total 60 – 66

Research Phase

Research Module

Master's thesis (time for completion is four months)
If a master's colloquium is offered, participation is recommended. Participation in colloquiums is not taken into consideration for the grading of the master's thesis.

Total 120 – 126
Subject-Specific Attachment 2

Track of Study 2: Competition and Regulation Economics

Degree: Master of Science (M.Sc.)

Required coursework for the completion of the doctoral program in ECTS credits: 120 – 126

The following amount of ECTS credits is awarded for courses in the Track of Study: Competition and Regulation Economics of the master’s program at the Department of Economics:

- for each credit hour of lectures from the elective course offer: 2.5 ECTS credits
- for each credit hour of exercise courses from an elective course: 2 ECTS credits
- for a seminar of two credit hours: 5 ECTS credits
- or a seminar of three credit hours: 6 ECTS credits

For courses of other master’s programs, students are granted the number of ECTS credits determined by the University of Mannheim according to the European Credit Transfer System. If no ECTS credits are assigned, the ECTS credits shall be issued according to the system above.

Courses of the Introductory Phase

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Specialization Phase

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<tr>
<th>Mandatory Modules</th>
<th>ECTS Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1: Industrial Organization: Markets and Strategies (Examination: written examination, 180 min)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2: Empirical Industrial Organization (Examination: written examination, 120 min)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Module 3: Competition Law
(Examination: written examination, 120 min) 5

Module 4: Interdisciplinary Competition and Regulatory Policy Seminar
(Examination: term paper (30%), presentation (50%), other oral participation (20%)) 31

Total

Elective Modules
Elective modules for the master’s program of the Department of Economics, of which candidates shall take at least one but no more than three seminars. 16 ECTS credits may be recognized from the following master’s programs of the University of Mannheim: "Mannheim Master in Management" (Business Administration modules in the elective area), "Master in Political Science", "Master in Social Sciences", "Master in Law", "Master in Competition Law and Regulation (LL.M.)” and "Master in Mathematics". Please refer to the current version of the module catalog of the relevant program for the available courses and the corresponding examinations.

Total 29 – 35

Research Phase
Research Module

Master’s thesis (time for completion is four months)
If a master’s colloquium is offered, participation is recommended. Participation in colloquiums is not taken into consideration for the grading of the master’s thesis.

Total 30

Total 120 – 126
Subject-Specific Attachment 3

Track of Study 3: Economic Research

Degree: Master of Science (M.Sc.)

Required coursework for the completion of the master’s program in ECTS credits: 120 – 126

The following amount of ECTS credits is issued for courses in the Economic Research track of the master’s program at the Department of Economics:

- for each semester hour of lectures from the elective course offer: 2.5 ECTS credits
- for each credit hour of exercise courses from an elective course: 2 ECTS credits
- for a seminar of two credit hours (excluding the School Seminar and the CDSE Seminar): 5 ECTS credits
- for a seminar of three semester hours (excluding the School Seminar and the CDSE Seminar): 6 ECTS credits

For courses of doctoral programs, students receive the number of ECTS credits that is determined by the University of Mannheim according to the European Credit Transfer System. If no ECTS credits are assigned, the ECTS credits shall be determined according to the system above.

Courses of the Introductory Phase

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
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Courses of the Specialization Phase

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 5: E801 Advanced Microeconomics II (doctoral level)</td>
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<td>Module 6: E802 Advanced Macroeconomics II (doctoral level)</td>
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<td>Module 7: E803 Advanced Econometrics II (doctoral level)</td>
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<td>Module 8: E804 Advanced Microeconomics III (doctoral level)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 9: E805 Advanced Macroeconomics III (doctoral level)</td>
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Module 10: E806 Advanced Econometrics III (doctoral level)  120  5
Total  30

Elective Courses
Elective courses from the course offer of the GESS. At least four of the required elective courses shall be chosen from the CDSE program.

Mandatory Research Module

E800 CDSE Seminar (in the 3rd and 4th semester)  no ECTS credits issued

School Seminar (Department Seminar)  no ECTS credits issued

Research Phase
Research Module
Master’s thesis (Dissertation Proposal) (time for completion is 11 weeks)  20
Total  120–126