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Examination Regulations of the University of Mannheim for the Master's Program

Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.)

as at 10 December 2020

1st amendment of 26 May 2023

(Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 08/2023 of 31 May 2023, pp. 64 et seqq.)

2nd amendment of 18 December 2023

(Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 12/2023 of 20 December 2023, pp. 37 et seqq.)

3rd amendment as at 16 July 2024

(Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 08/2024 (Part I) of 25 July 2024 pp. 12 et seqq.)

In the German language version of these Examination Regulations, this section deals with the subject of gender-neutral language. For the English language version, this is not relevant and therefore omitted. This also applies to the usage of academic degrees and academic titles.

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I. General Provisions

Section 1 – Purpose of the Program of Study

¹The master's examination marks the proper completion of the master's program "Master of Comparative Business Law".
²The completion of the master's examination constitutes the second professional qualification. ³The completed master's examination serves to prove that the student has gained profound legal knowledge in the field of comparative law, European and international business law as well as the necessary subject-specific language skills for an employment abroad on the basis of a successfully completed program in law, economics, political science, social sciences or a degree recognized as equivalent. ⁴Moreover, students gain profound knowledge of the current state of research of their selected field of law and of the respective theoretical, conceptual and practical principles. ⁵The knowledge in the field of law is systematically supplemented or expanded through interdisciplinary knowledge in another field. ⁶The students' awareness of familiar and unfamiliar questions of their field is raised and they learn to independently conduct high-quality scientific research. ⁷They learn to apply methods of their selected specialization and to demonstrate their abilities in spoken and written academic discourse. ⁸Further, students who complete the master's examination are able to develop their own ideas or apply them in an international career in quantitative methods in academe or in the business world where substantial knowledge is required.

Section 2 – Graduation

¹Based on the completion of the master's examination, the School of Law and Economics of the University of Mannheim awards the academic degree "Master of Comparative Business Law" (M.C.B.L.). ²In accordance with section 31, the academic degree is only to be used after having received the diploma.

Section 3 – Required Coursework, Structure, and Language of Instruction and Examination

(1) ¹Examinations within the master's program total 60 ECTS and are obtained in accordance with sections 24 to 28 in conjunction with the attachment of these examination regulations. ²The detailed rules and regulations on the required ECTS credits for each module are specified in the attachment. ⁴One ECTS credit corresponds to a workload of 30 hours. ⁴The workload comprises the hours spent in class, the hours spent on the preparation for and the revision of classes, self-study and the hours spent on preparing for examinations as well as the examinations themselves.

(2) ¹The master's program has a modular structure. ²Several courses usually include technical, topical and coherent units of instruction (modules); the master's thesis module does not include a course. ³The composition of the individual modules is stipulated in the respective tables in the attachment. ⁴The remaining content is stipulated in the module catalog of the "Master of Comparative Business Law" at the University of Mannheim in the respective current valid version. The module catalog is passed by the school council of the School of Law and Economics. ⁵If the attachment or the module catalog refer to other examination regulations or module catalogs, the rules and regulations of said examination regulations and module catalogs apply in line with the rules and regulations of these examination regulations.

(3) ¹Modules are taught completely in English. ²The courses that are part of a module are completely taught in English and all examinations associated with these courses as well as the master's thesis are to be completed in English.

(4) ¹Students of the program "Master of Comparative Business Law" have the opportunity to apply for a double degree program. ²The requirements for a double degree program are listed in the respective study regulations. ³There is no academic leave of absence granted for semesters abroad.

Section 4 – Standard Period of Study, Maximum Period of Study

(1) The period of study for the master's program, during which all examinations required to pass the master's examination are to be completed, is two semesters (standard period of study).

(2) ¹All examinations that must be completed as a part of the master's examination must be completed within a given time (maximum period of study). ²The maximum period of study ends three semesters after the standard period of study at the end of the fifth semester, unless the student is not responsible for having exceeded this time. ³The student will be notified by the examination committee if they have exceeded the deadline; the student loses their eligibility to take exams in accordance with section 32 subsection 5 sentence 3 alternative 2 LHG.

(3) The student is responsible for meeting the deadlines listed in these examination regulations.

II. Organization and Administration of Examinations, Recognition of Coursework and Examinations

Section 5 – Examination Committee

(1) ¹An examination committee is formed for the “Master of Comparative Business Law” (M.C.B.L.) program of the University of Mannheim. ²It is composed of two university teachers of the Department of Law and an academic staff member of the higher level whose main employer is the university. ³The members of the examination committee are appointed by the school council.

(2) ¹The committee members’ term of office is three years. ²All members can be reappointed. ³The committee members’ term of office starts on 1 August of each year. ⁴If a member of the examination committee retires from their position before the end of the term of office, a successor is appointed for the remaining term of office.

(3) ¹The examination committee appoints one of its members from the group of university teachers as chair and one as deputy chair for the term of office. ²The chair manages the examination committee.

(4) ¹The examination committee has a quorum if the chair or the deputy chair and at least another member are present. ²Decisions require a simple majority of votes of the present members. ³In the event of a tie, the vote of the chair decides the matter.

(5) ¹The members of the examination committee are obliged to exercise discretion. ²If they are not employed in the public service, they must be obliged to exercise discretion by the chair of the examination committee in writing. ³This obligation applies to all examination-related facts and matters

1. that the members were informed about in a non-public meeting and/or that happened to be discussed,
2. that are to be kept secret by law,
3. that were ordered or decided to be kept secret for the public good or in order to protect the legitimate interests of an individual,
4. or that are to be kept secret by their nature.

⁴The obligation to exercise discretion continues after the term of office ends and includes discussion-related documents.

Section 6 – Competences of the Examination Committee

(1) ¹The examination committee makes all decisions regarding these Examination Regulations if no other entity is responsible. ²The examination committee enforces the examination regulations. ³The examination committee can entrust the chair with certain tasks that the committee is normally in charge of.

1. Appointment of examiners and observers,
2. Decisions on the recognition of coursework and examinations,
3. Decisions on the approval of reasons for de-registration or absence,
4. Decisions on cheating attempts,
5. Decisions on disadvantage compensations,
6. Decisions on the extension of deadlines,
7. Decisions on breaches of procedure,
8. Declaring the failure of the final examination attempt,
9. Declaring the exceeding of the maximum period of study,
10. Decisions in appeal procedures,
11. Approving the topic of the master’s thesis.

⁴The resolution can be revoked at any time.

(2) In order to support the examination committee, an office can be established whose staff is mainly in charge of proceedings on behalf of the chair or their deputy.

Section 7 – Examiners, Observers, and Supervisors

(1) ¹Only university teachers, auxiliary professors (außerplanmäßige Professoren), honorary professors, senior academic staff members (Privatdozenten), and adjunct lecturers as well as those academic members of staff who have been appointed by the President's Office in accordance with section 52 subsection 1 sentences 5 and 6 LHG, are authorized to administer examinations. Section 15 subsection 2 sentence 1 remains unaffected. ²An individual can only act as an observer if they have at least completed a master's degree or an equivalent degree at a higher education institution successfully or are certified by the state in the field of the examination.

(2) Observers have an advisory role in the examination processes.

(3) ¹For oral examinations, the responsible examiner is to bring in an individual familiar with the field of study as secretary to take the minutes. ²The secretary can act as an observer at the same time.

(4) Usually, the responsible teacher for each course is appointed as examiner.

(5) ¹Every examiner can make use of one or several assistants for grading the examinations. ²The examiner ensures competent evaluation. ³Supervisors advise students on any questions to do with completing the examination; the individual performance and the students' self-reliance for the examination is to be maintained.

(6) Examiners, observers, and assistants for the grading of examinations are obliged to exercise discretion in accordance with section 5 subsection 5.

Section 8 – Competences of the Student Services

(1) The Student Services are in charge of the administration of the examinations.

(2) In particular, the Student Services

1. determine and announce registration deadlines, examination dates and rooms,
2. announce the names of the examiners and notify them about the examination,
3. receive examination registrations from students, except for the master's thesis registration,
4. enter the admissions and rejections for examinations into the system,
5. carry out compulsory registrations,
6. maintain student examination records,
7. enforce the deadlines specified in these examination regulations,
8. are in charge of technical administration of all examinations,
9. inform students about their examination results,
10. issue and hand out official documents, degree certificates and confirmations on examinations (Transcript of Records) along with attachments.

Section 9 – Recognition of Coursework and Examinations

(1) Coursework and examinations as well as periods of study obtained in other degree programs 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.

(2) ¹For the recognition of coursework, examinations and semesters 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 within the framework of university partnerships and double degree programs (cooperation agreements). ²Furthermore, in cases of doubt regarding the equivalency of qualifications, the Central Office for Foreign Education (Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen - ZAB) can be consulted.

(3) ¹Skills and qualifications obtained outside of the higher education sector are to be recognized if

1. the requirements for admission to a higher education institution are fulfilled at the time of recognition,
2. the skills and qualifications to be recognized are equivalent to the coursework and examinations to be substituted in terms of content and level, and

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

²For recognition, the applicants have to prove that the competences they acquired outside of the higher education sector are comparable to the coursework and examinations to be substituted in terms of content and level. ³For the decision on the recognition, the form of instruction is to be considered as well. ⁴Skills and qualifications obtained outside of the higher education sector may substitute 50 percent of the master's program "Master of Comparative Business Law" at most. ⁵The regulations for the recognition of coursework and examinations at public universities of cooperative education (Berufsakademien) in Germany remain unaffected.

(4) ¹The examination committee decides on the recognition upon written request of the student. ²It is the student's responsibility to provide the examination committee with the necessary documents for the recognition of coursework and examinations.

(5) ¹If coursework and examinations are recognized and the grading systems are similar, the grades must be transferred according to these Examination Regulations and considered for calculation of the final grade. ²In 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. ³If conversion is impossible because the grading systems differ or the coursework was not graded, the work is simply marked "passed" ("bestanden"). ⁴In this case, the coursework or examination will not be included in the final grade. ⁵The recognition is indicated in the degree certificate and in the Transcript of Records.

(6) In case the students take part in an examination at the University of Mannheim even though they already obtained the respective qualification elsewhere, they automatically waive the right to have the previous qualification recognized.

III. Examination Process

Part 1: Admission Requirements and Examinations

Section 10 – General Information

(1) The examinations that are to be completed as a part of the master's examination, excluding the master's thesis, are assigned to the individual courses within the modules.

(2) An examination as defined in these examination regulations comprises one examination component.

(2) ¹The examinations of the mandatory modules (mandatory examinations) and mandatory elective modules (mandatory elective examinations) as well as their type, form, and scope or duration are stipulated in the attachment of these examination regulations in conjunction with the module catalog.

(3) ¹Written examinations serve to prove the student's ability to solve a problem by independently applying the common methods of the field in a limited period of time and with a limited amount of authorized materials. ²The examiner determines the authorized materials and informs the students about it using appropriate means in due time before the examination.

Section 11 – Registration and Admission to Examinations; Examination Dates

(1) ¹Students need to register for all examinations. ²It is the students' responsibility to register for a first attempt at an examination; the registration is only valid for the regular examination date. ³If a student fails an examination in the first attempt or if a first attempt at an examination is deemed not taken, they will automatically be registered for the alternate examination date provided that the student is eligible for further examination attempts. ⁴If a student fails an examination at the second attempt or if a second attempt at an examination is deemed not taken, they are responsible to register themselves for the next examination date that is available to them. ⁵Students are not automatically registered for exams taking place in the next semester.

(2) ¹It is the students' responsibility to register for examinations at the Student Services; it is to be done strictly within the registration period set by the Student Services before taking the examination. ²The Student Services can extend the registration period (late registration).

¹After the registration period, a registration can only be withdrawn during the withdrawal period determined by Student Services (withdrawal). ²Once the withdrawal period has ended, the registration for an examination attempt is binding. ³Sentences 1 and 2 also apply to examinations for which students were automatically registered.

(3) ¹If the examination takes place before the start of the registration period and the students are therefore unable to register at the Student Services before the examination, the students are registered bindingly as soon as they accept the task of the examination from the examiner (participation in the examination). ²In this case, students are admitted to the respective examination by the examiner as soon as they are given the task; it is the students' responsibility to provide the examiner with the information that is required for their admission.

(4) Regarding the student's registration for the master's thesis only the regulations of section 15 subsection 3 apply.

(5) ¹The regular examination date of a semester must take place at the start of the semester break and the alternate examination date must take place before the following lecture period begins or at the latest during the first week of the lecture period of the following semester. ²There must be at least three weeks time between announcing the results from the regular examination date and the alternate examination date. ³The alternate examination date counts for the semester in which the regular date took place.

(6) ¹The student is only admitted to an examination if they

1. are enrolled in the program "Master of Comparative Business Law" (M.C.B.L.),
2. have not lost the eligibility to take exams in the very same program or in a program in a similar field of study, in accordance with the Selection Statutes for the master's program "Master of Comparative Business Law" in the respective valid version, and
3. did not already fail the final examination attempt in this degree program or in another degree program.

Section 12 – Types and Forms of Examinations

Examinations as defined in these examination regulations are individual tasks that are graded by the examiner with a grade in line with section 16 subsection 2; types and forms of examinations are

1. oral tasks in the form of oral examinations;
2. written tasks in the form of written exams, the master's thesis and unsupervised digital take home exams (off campus);
3. digital coursework and examinations in the form of supervised digital examinations (on campus) and unsupervised digital take home exams (off campus), as far as exam problems are being displayed on a computer screen and the respective answers are being typed directly at the computer.

Section 13 – Oral Examinations

(1) ¹Oral examinations are conducted by an examiner as an individual assessment in the presence of an observer. ²Oral examinations must last at least 10 and no more than 20 minutes. ³Oral examinations conducted in groups are permitted. ⁴The final topic of a group examination and the assignment of respective tasks to the students is to be determined by the examiner. ⁵In case of group examinations, the individual contribution of each student to the examination must be evaluated; it must be ensured that within the joint preparation of a topic the individual contribution of each group member can clearly be separated and evaluated individually. ⁶The group must not exceed five students. ⁷The duration of such an examination must allow for each student to be examined for at least 10 minutes and no more than 20 minutes.

(2) ¹Minutes from the examination (Ergebnisprotokoll) are to be taken during the main course of the oral examination. ²The examination result, which is to be communicated to the student shortly after its completion, is to be recorded in the minutes. ³The minutes are to be signed by the examiner, the secretary and the observer, and to be put on file.

(3) Oral examinations can be conducted with digital support; oral examinations are considered to be conducted with digital support if not all examiners and examinees attend the examination in person, but via electronic means of communication. In compliance with data protection regulations, the decision according to sentence 1 lies with the examiner or the examination committee of the respective oral examination. Students will be informed of this decision by the beginning of the examination registration period preceding the examination date at the latest. The regulations of section 32a LHG, in particular regarding examinations with video supervision, remain unaffected.

Section 14 – Written Examinations

(1) ¹The duration of a written examination is 60 minutes. ²Written examinations must not be conducted in the form of multiple-choice examinations.

(2) The examination supervisors must take minutes for each written examination. The minutes must be signed and included in the examination records unless the type of examination is not suitable for minutes.

In digital take home exams - unsupervised (off campus), students demonstrate that they can complete a task or solve a problem independently within limited time, either with or without authorized resources. These examinations can be provided in hard copy or digitally; the completed examination prepared by the students in electronic or handwritten form must be submitted digitally in a way specified by the university and in a file format approved by the university; section 14a subsection 2 remains unaffected. For unsupervised digital take home exams (off campus), a reasonable amount of time for downloading the examination and uploading the completed examination is provided in addition to the actual working time that is set in minutes; students are not allowed to work on the examination during this time; it is the responsibility of the students to start the download and upload in a timely manner to ensure that it can be completed within the allocated time frame. If students do not submit examinations within the allocated upload period in accordance with the requirements, this is considered failure to attend the examination (no-show); in this case, the examination is graded with "failed" (5.0), unless the student is not responsible for exceeding the upload period. The examination committee is responsible for determining whether the upload period has been exceeded. A handwritten signature is not required for unsupervised digital take home exams (off campus); instead, students must submit a declaration stating that they have completed the examination on their own and have only used the authorized resources. In all other aspects, the regulations on written examinations apply accordingly for unsupervised digital take home exams (off campus), for which a working time is set in minutes. The regulations of section 32a LHG, in particular regarding examinations with video supervision, remain unaffected.

Section 14a – Digital coursework and examinations

(1) In digital examinations, students demonstrate that they can complete a task or solve a problem independently within a limited time in an examination environment set up by the university, either with or without authorized resources.

(2) Unsupervised digital take home exams (off campus) and supervised digital examinations (on campus) are digital examinations if the examination questions of the relevant examination are displayed on a computer screen and the answers are entered immediately on this computer. If a relevant examination is not exclusively but partially conducted this way, sentence 1 applies to this part accordingly.

(3) The regulations of section 32a LHG, in particular regarding examinations with video supervision, remain unaffected.

Section 14b – Obligation to Cooperate During Digitally Supported Examinations

(1) Digitally supported examination formats within the meaning of this regulation are unsupervised digital take home exams (off campus), supervised digital examination (on campus), digital oral examinations, as well as all examinations in which the work is performed directly on a computer or the submission of the completed examination is done electronically.

(2) In the case of digitally supported examination formats where the university does not provide supervision at the student's respective location, students must cooperate in ensuring examination security; it is particularly important to guarantee the means of verification that are intended to ensure independent performance in the examinations. Students are to remain in a quiet room throughout the entire examination, including the download and upload period. Any form of contact with other persons during this time is to be prevented; examiners are not considered other persons within the meaning of this regulation; the same applies to technical support staff of the university if they are responsible for the technical support of the respective examination and the contact solely serves to resolve a technical issue.

(3) If the university does not provide technical equipment for the respective examination, students themselves are responsible to ensure that their technical equipment works properly; they are responsible for must making sure that their technical equipment is suitable for the intended purpose in due time before the exam. Section 32b LHG remains unaffected. If the cause for a technical error cannot be clearly determined, students who claim such a technical error can be imposed with the condition to take examinations exclusively on campus and with equipment provided by the university for additional examination attempts and other examinations.

(4) The university is required to provide students with the opportunity to test the environment for examinations with video supervision in accordance with section 32a LHG with regard to its (technical) equipment and facilities. Students are obliged to make use of this opportunity in due time before the examination.

(5) If digital examinations are conducted on campus and under the supervision of the university, the examiner decides whether students must bring their own device to take the examination or whether a device provided by the university is to be used. If students are permitted to use their own device for examinations within the meaning of sentence 1 and it is necessary to avoid cheating and attempts to cheat, students are required to install a browser specified by the university on their devices which is to be started in due time before the examination and used throughout the entire examination. If the devices are provided by the university the prescribed browser is installed by the university; in all other respects, sentence 2 applies accordingly. If students close the prescribed browser during the examination period, the examination is deemed to have been completed without the submission of any work. In cases of hardship, in particular in the event of a sudden defect of their device, students may use a device provided by the university to take the digital examinations referred to in sentence 1. Students who have to use a device provided by the university, must contact the examination coordination of the university in due time before the examination.

Section 15 – Examination in the Module Master’s Thesis

(1) ¹By writing the master’s thesis, the students are to prove that they have acquired the skills and proficiency to work independently on a problem of their field of study employing the scientific methods available within a limited period. ²The master’s thesis contributes to broadening students’ knowledge of a specific field. During the production of the thesis, students link complex issues. ³They use current research to develop and apply their own ideas. ⁴The topic for the master’s thesis is to be chosen from the field of the European and international business law; as a rule, it relates to comparative law. ⁵Group work is not permitted.

(2) The master’s thesis is to be evaluated by two examiners who are university teachers. ²In deviation from this, the examination committee can admission an honorary professor or an adjunct lecturer holding a doctorate as first and second examiners. ³The first examiner must simultaneously be the supervisor. ⁴The supervisor advises the student on any questions to do with the production of the master’s thesis; the individual performance and the students’ self-reliance for the thesis must be maintained. ⁵The second examiner is appointed based on the recommendation of the main examiner.

(3) ¹The student is responsible for registering each attempt of the master’s thesis at the examination committee’s office within the periods defined in section 5 sentence 3. This also applies if an attempt has been deemed not taken. ²If the master’s thesis is not registered at the office of the examination committee within the defined period at the end of the second semester, the first attempt at the thesis is deemed not taken and is evaluated 5.0, “nicht ausreichend” or “failed”, unless the student is not responsible for having exceeded this deadline. ³The student will be notified by the examination committee by means of an official notification.

(4) ¹The examiner determines the topic which is to originate from the field as defined in subsection 1, sentence 4 and does not require the approval by the examination committee. ²The student is to be granted the chance to put forward suggestions for a topic. ³However, no legal right arises to be assigned the suggested topic. ⁴The topic for the master’s thesis must be set in such a way that allows it to be completed within the preparation period. ⁵Once the examination committee has approved the topic, registration is binding and the student is admitted to write their thesis.

(5) ¹The time to complete the master’s thesis totals four months. ²The preparation period starts with the examination committee’s approval of the topic. ³Either the master’s thesis is registered after completing the courses of the first semester or after completing the courses of the second semester. ⁴The examination committee decides on the registration periods; the office of the examination committee communicates the deadlines. ⁵Sections 22 and 23 remain unaffected.

(6) ¹The master’s thesis is to be submitted in due time to the examination committee’s office as a hard copy and as a digital file. ²According to the rules of the Department of Law, the examination committee and examiners are allowed to use software recommended by the department to detect plagiarism in the master’s thesis. ³In accordance with the Data Protection Act of the Land of Baden-Württemberg (Landesdatenschutzgesetz), the work must be anonymized before the plagiarism check. ⁴The student must enclose a signed declaration when submitting their master’s thesis:

“I hereby declare that the paper presented is my own work and that I have not called upon the help of a third party. In addition, I affirm that neither I nor anybody else has submitted this paper or parts of it to obtain credits elsewhere before. I have clearly marked and acknowledged all quotations or references that have been taken from the works of others. All secondary literature and other sources are marked and listed in the bibliography. The same applies to all charts, diagrams and illustrations as well as to all Internet resources. Moreover, I consent to my paper being electronically stored and sent

anonymously in order to be checked for plagiarism. I am aware that if this declaration is not made, the paper may not be graded."

(7) ¹If the master's thesis is not submitted in due time, it will be graded 5.0 ("nicht ausreichend") by both examiners. ²A master's thesis submitted in due time will be graded by both examiners of the master's thesis. ³If the grades given by the two examiners differ, the grade awarded for the master's thesis must be the grade as defined in section 16 subsection 2 which comes closest to the arithmetic average of both individual grades. If in doubt, the better of the two grades must be awarded. ⁴If the grade equals 4.1 or worse, the grade 5.0 ("nicht ausreichend"), is awarded.

(8) The topic of the master's thesis, the date on which the topic was approved, the end of the preparation period and the date on which the thesis is to be submitted must be put on record by the examination committee's office once this information is transferred. The examination committee's office also transfers the examiner's evaluation to the Student Services.

(9) The master's thesis is to be graded within a period of two months.

(10) ¹If the master's thesis is graded 5.0 ("nicht ausreichend"), it may be redone once. ²Under no circumstances is it possible to redo the master's thesis twice. ³In case the master's thesis is redone, a new topic must be registered within six months after the first attempt was determined as failed. ⁴If no new topic is registered within six months according to sentence 3, the examination committee will assign a topic to the student. ⁵The period can be extended upon request if the student can provide reasons in accordance with section 21. ⁶The period of time to complete the thesis is three months starting from the day of registration of the topic.

Section 16 – Grading of Examinations, Calculation of Grades for Examinations and Module Grades

(1) ¹The grades for individual examinations are determined by the respective examiner; section 15 subsection 7 remains unaffected. ²The assessment is to be completed within four weeks; section 15 subsection 9 remains unaffected. ³If an examination is not completed in due time, it is graded 5.0 ("nicht ausreichend").

(2) The following grades can be assigned:

<i>Numerical Value</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Explanation</i>
1.0 or 1.3	very good ("sehr gut")	an excellent performance
1.7; 2.0 or 2.3	good ("gut")	a performance which is substantially above the average requirements
2.7; 3.0 or 3.3	satisfactory ("befriedigend")	a performance corresponding to the average requirements
3.7 or 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

(3) The overall examination grade equals the grade of the component.

(4) ¹The module grade is calculated from the average of all grades of the mandatory and elective examinations belonging to a module weighted in ECTS credits. ²Module grades that are calculated from at least two separate grades are to be indicated with the first decimal; all other decimal places are eliminated without rounding up or down. ³In the master's thesis module, the module grade equals the grade that has been given for the master's thesis.

Section 17 – ECTS Credits

The examination must be passed for ECTS credits to be awarded. The examination process ends when the examination is passed.

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Section 18 – Failing and Retaking Examinations; Failing the Final Examination Attempt

- (1) An examination which is graded 5.0 (“nicht ausreichend”) is not passed.
- (2) An examination is considered not passed if the respective examination has been failed.
- (3) ¹Failed examinations can generally be retaken once (re-sit examination). ²In case of failing a re-sit examination of one of the examinations mentioned in the attachment, the student can only retake two examinations a second time (extra chance). ³Section 15 subsection 10 remains unaffected.
- (4) ¹The failure of an examination is final if the last available attempt at the examination was not passed. ²Failing the final attempt at an examination terminates the examination process. ³The regulations as set out in sections 25 to 28 regarding options for compensation and legal consequences in case of a failure of the final attempt of an examination remain unaffected.
- (5) It is not possible to retake an examination that has already been passed.

Section 19 – Breaches of Procedure

- (1) ¹The examination committee can 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. ²In particular, the examination committee can order that examinations must be retaken by all or by individual students or, in case the principle of equal opportunity was violated, grant an extension or impose another appropriate measure of compensation.
- (2) ¹Any disturbances of the examination procedure must be reported immediately by the affected student during the 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.

²Any other kinds of breaches of procedure are to be reported by the affected student in due time as soon as the student learns of a particular breach of procedure. ³The reports according to sentences 1 and 2 must be entered into the examination minutes. ⁴If 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) ¹If the examination committee did not take measures of compensation in accordance with subsection 1 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 must address their request for the necessary measures of compensation to the examination committee in writing immediately after the examination. ²The request must not contain any conditions. ³If the request is not made in due time, the disturbances of the examination procedure or any other kind of breaches of procedure relevant to the evaluation of the respective examination are deemed insignificant.

(4) ¹In addition to the responsibilities as in subsection 1, measures to compensate for procedural errors that cannot be postponed can be taken by the examiner, the examination committee or the supervisor of the exam in question. A measure is deemed not to be postponed, when a decision of the examination committee cannot be obtained in time; this applies particularly in case of sudden disruptions of the examination, when waiting for a decision of the committee is not sensible, as the remaining examination seems to be in jeopardy. In case measures are being taken that are deemed not to be postponed, the examiner, the examination commission or the supervisor of the exam in question informs the responsible examination committee without delay about the decisions that were taken.

Section 20 – Access to Examination Records

- (1) Provided that the examination papers have not been returned to the student, they are to be granted access to their written examinations upon written request submitted within an appropriate period of time. This includes the written examination, the respective evaluation(s) of the examiner(s) and the minutes of each examination.
- (2) ¹The request has to be submitted to the chair or the Student Services within one year of receiving the result of the respective examination. ²They decide on the time and place for accessing the examination records.

Part 2: Disadvantage Compensation

Section 21 – Extension of Examination Deadlines

(1) The deadlines to take examinations in order to complete the program are to 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 they are not responsible for. The examination committee must grant individual extensions based on case by case decisions.

(2) ¹In particular, this applies to students

1. with children, or
2. with a relative in need of care within the meaning of section 7 subsection 3 of the Caregiver Leave Act (PflegeZG), and
for students
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.

²The same applies to students who are eligible for periods of protection in accordance with section 3 subsections 1 and 2 of the maternity protection act (*Mutterschutzgesetz, MuSchG*).

(3) ¹A request in accordance with subsection 1 must be submitted immediately as soon as the student is aware of the circumstances demanding an extension of examination deadlines. ²If the request is not made in due time in accordance with sentence 1, the extension is only to be granted if additional requirements according to section 32 of the Administrative Procedure Act of Baden-Württemberg (LVwVfG) are met.

(4) ¹The student requesting the extension is responsible for producing adequate proof. ²If 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 the deadline to complete the program must not exceed the standard period of study provided there are no legal regulations indicating otherwise.

(6) ¹The preceding subsections do not apply to extensions of the preparation period and submission deadlines for the master's thesis. ²The option of requesting disadvantage compensation in accordance with section 22 remains unaffected.

(7) When calculating the examination deadlines, section 32 subsection 6 LHG must be taken into consideration.

Section 22 – Disadvantage Compensation

(1) ¹If students, as a result of a special condition or situation within the meaning of section 21 subsection 2, cannot take the respective examination, in particular due to the form of examination, they can request disadvantage compensation. Students must 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 opportunity. ²Disabled students or students with a chronic illness must 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) ¹A request as outlined in subsection 1 is to be made in due time before the examination concerned is started. Where it is the responsibility of the student to register for an examination, the request must be submitted by the end of the registration period at the latest. ²If the request is not made in due time in accordance with sentence 1, the extension is only to be granted if additional requirements according to section 32 of the administrative procedure act of the Land of Baden-Württemberg (LVwVfG) are met. ³If participants 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 examination. ⁴The possibility to withdraw or de-register from an examination with a valid reason remains in effect.

(3) ¹It is the student's responsibility to provide sufficient proof of their special circumstances upon filing the request for disadvantage compensation. ²If 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.

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Section 23 – De-registration and Absence

- (1) If a valid reason, especially illness, prevents students from entirely or partially taking an examination, they may request the approval of the reasons for de-registration or withdrawal.
- (2) ¹The request is to be submitted immediately without undue delay, in written form, to the Student Services office. The examination committee decides on the approval of the request. ²The student seeking approval is responsible for producing adequate proof. ³If the student is ill, they must submit a medical certificate to the Student Services. This certificate must include the medical diagnosis which confirms that the student is not able to take the examination. ⁴If the student has a child who is sick, or a relative who is in need of care, proof of this responsibility is to be submitted.
- (3) The approval of the request is ruled out if the examination result has been published, unless valid proof could not be provided earlier by the student due to reasons beyond their control.
- (4) In case the student is not able to take a mandatory examination for which they are registered due to a period of study at a university abroad, this, in particular, will be recognized as a valid reason.
- (5) ¹If the student took an examination whilst being aware of an illness or on the basis of negligent lack of knowledge of an illness, a de-registration for this reason cannot be approved. ²In particular, the criteria for negligent lack of knowledge are met if the student did not react to symptoms of health problems as soon as possible.
- (6) If de-registration is approved, the examination is to be deemed not taken and it will be mandatory for the student to register for the next possible examination date.
- (7) ¹If a request for de-registration is not approved, the request is to be deemed not made. ²In this case, the examiner grades an examination handed in by the student in due time; if the student did not hand in an examination in due time, the examination will be graded 5.0 (“nicht ausreichend”).

Part 3: Master’s Examination, Module Grade and Final Grade

Section 24 – Master’s Examination

- (1) ¹The master’s examination is passed if all required examinations in accordance with sections 25 to 28 in conjunction with the attachment have been completed within the maximum period of study.
- (2) The master’s examination comprises examinations which are composed of mandatory examinations amounting to 44 ECTS credits, as well as mandatory elective examinations amounting to 16 ECTS credits.

Section 25 – Mandatory Modules

- (1) In both mandatory modules, three mandatory examinations, each amounting to 12 ECTS credits, are to be passed.
- (2) ¹If a student fails one of these mandatory examinations with no option to re-sit, the examination committee notifies them, in writing, that the respective mandatory examination has been failed and cannot be re-taken. ²The students loses their eligibility to take exams in the master’s program “Master of Comparative Business Law” in accordance with section 32 subsection 5 sentence 3 alternative 1 LHG.

Section 26 – Specialization Modules

- (1) Mandatory elective examinations, amounting each to 6 ECTS credits, are to be passed in the specialization modules.
- (2) ¹It is the student’s responsibility to choose both examinations as determined within the respective options in the attachment. ²To choose, students must bindingly register for their first attempt at one mandatory elective examination stated in the attachment.
- (3) The respective module is completed once students pass two of the assigned mandatory elective examinations.
- (4) ¹If a student fails a final attempt of a mandatory elective examination with no option to re-sit, they have the possibility to choose a different exam within the respective module catalog of the attachment as mandatory elective examination. ²It is the student’s responsibility to register for the first attempt of another available mandatory elective examination. ³Aside from the additional requirements, the student can only be admitted to take the alternative mandatory elective examination if they are still able to pass the required number of mandatory elective examinations in the module

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and, under normal circumstances, they can pass the examination within the maximum period of study. ⁴It is not possible to change mandatory elective examinations beforehand.

(5) ¹If, among the available exams for the mandatory elective examination, the student fails at least three examinations in the specialization module “The Internal Market”, or at least four examinations in the specialization module “The Global Market” with no option to re-sit, the examination committee officially notifies them, in writing, that the mandatory elective examination has been failed and cannot be retaken. ²The student loses their eligibility to take exams in their master’s program in accordance with section 32 subsection 5 sentence 3 alternative 1 LHG.

Section 27 – Extension Modules

(1) In the extension module, mandatory elective examinations, amounting to 2 ECTS credits each, are to be passed.

(2) ¹It is the students’ responsibility to choose the examination as determined within the respective options in the attachment. ²To choose, students must bindingly register for their first attempt at one of the mandatory elective examinations stated in the attachment of the respective extension module.

(3) The respective module is completed once students pass one of the assigned mandatory elective examinations.

(4) ¹If a student fails a final attempt of a mandatory elective examination with no option to re-sit, they have the possibility to choose a different exam within the respective module catalog of the attachment as mandatory elective examination. ²It is the student’s responsibility to register for the first attempt of another available mandatory elective examination. ³Aside from the additional requirements, students may only be permitted to take the new mandatory elective examination if, under normal circumstances, it can be successfully completed within the maximum period of study. ⁴It is not possible to change the mandatory elective examination beforehand.

(5) ¹If a student fails the final attempt at all exams available as mandatory elective examinations in an extension module with no option to re-sit, the examination committee officially notifies them in writing that the mandatory elective examination has been failed and cannot be retaken. ²The student loses their eligibility to take exams in the master’s program in accordance with section 32 subsection 5 sentence 3 alternative 1 LHG.

Section 28 – Module Master’s Thesis

(1) The mandatory master’s thesis, corresponding to 20 ECTS credits, must be successfully completed.

(2) The regulations stated in section 15 apply to the master’s thesis in particular.

(3) ¹If a student fails this mandatory examination with no option to re-sit, the examination committee officially notifies them, in writing, that the respective mandatory examination has been failed and cannot be retaken. ²The student loses their eligibility to take exams in the master’s program in accordance with section 32 subsection 5 sentence 3 alternative 1 LHG.

Section 29 – Grading of the Master’s Examination (Final Grade)

(1) The final grade of the master’s examination derives from the module grades according to section 16 subsection 4. The separate grades are weighted according to the number of ECTS credits assigned.

(2) ¹For the final grade, only the first decimal place is of importance; all other decimal places are eliminated without rounding up or down. ²In line with sentence 1, the grades are as follows:

- in case of an average grade of 1.5 or better = “very good” (“sehr gut”);
- in case of an average grade from 1.6 to 2.5 = “good” (“gut”);
- in case of an average grade from 2.6 to 3.5 = “satisfactory” (“befriedigend”);
- in case of an average grade from 3.6 to 4.0 = “fair” (“ausreichend”).

(3) In case the final grade is 1.2 or better, the student graduates with honors (“mit Auszeichnung bestanden / distinction”).

(4) ¹Students 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. ²The provisional average grade derives from the average of all completed and graded examinations weighted according to the ECTS credits at the time of the request; subsection 2 applies respectively.

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Section 30 – Master’s Degree Certificate

(1) ¹After successful completion of the master’s examination, the student is issued a degree certificate. ²This comprises:

1. the respective modules; these are listed together with the respective ECTS credits and the module grades (in words and figures) that were obtained;
2. the topic of the master’s thesis and the name of the examiner;
3. the final grade (in words and figures).
4. if applicable, the honors according to section 29 subsection 3.

³The certificate dates back to the day of completion of the last examination. ⁴If it is not possible to determine this date, the last day of classes of the respective semester serves as the date of completion. ⁵The certificate must be signed by the chair or deputy chair of the examination committee.

(2) ¹An English Diploma Supplement in accordance with the European Diploma Supplement model is attached to each certificate. ²A Transcript of Records forms part of the Diploma Supplement comprising all completed modules and the respective examinations including the issued ECTS credits and grades; all completed additional modules and the respective examinations including the grades are listed as well.

Section 31 – Diploma

(¹) Along with the master’s degree certificate, the student receives a bilingual diploma in German and English certifying the conferment of the academic degree, which includes the final grade for the master’s examination and if applicable the honors according to section 29 subsection 3. ²The diploma bears the date of the master’s degree certificate. ³The diploma is signed by the dean of the school or their deputy and bears the seal of the University of Mannheim.

Part 4: Violation of the Examination Regulations

Section 32 – Cheating and other Misconduct

(1) ¹If a student manipulates or tries to manipulate their examination by cheating or using unauthorized resources or by influencing the examiner or supervisor in favor of themselves or a third person, the respective examination or further examinations may be graded 5.0 (“nicht ausreichend”) or the student may be excluded from the examination depending on the severity of the violation. ²In especially severe cases, the student can be excluded without the option to retake the examination. ³It is also considered cheating according to sentence 1 if examinations contain quotations or references from the works of others which have not been indicated as such by the student.

(2) ¹If a student tries to have examinations completed abroad recognized on the basis of false information, the examinations they are to substitute are graded 5.0 (“nicht ausreichend”). ²In case of mandatory courses, the examinations to be substituted must be submitted or taken on the next possible date at the University of Mannheim.

(3) ¹A student who violates the examination regulations severely, in particular, if they disturb the proper course of an examination, can be excluded from the examination by the examiner or the supervisor. ²In such cases, the relevant examination is graded 5.0 (“nicht ausreichend”). ³In severe cases, the examination committee can exclude the student from taking any further examinations.

Section 33 – Voidness of the Master’s Examination

(1) ¹In case a student has manipulated an examination by cheating and this fact is revealed after the student has received the master’s degree certificate, the examination committee can revise the result or the respective grade retroactively and declare the examination as completely or partially failed. ²If the completion of the master’s examination is affected by this, the examination committee can revoke the respective ECTS credits and, if necessary, declare the master’s examination “failed with no option to resit”.

(2) ¹If 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 student has received the master’s degree certificate, this defect is remedied by having passed the examination. ²If the student attained admission illegitimately on purpose, the examination and consequently the degree completion may be considered “failed” (“nicht bestanden”).

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

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(4) ¹Inaccurate master's degree certificates are to be recalled. ²Where applicable, new master's degree certificates are to be issued. ³Along with the inaccurate master's degree certificates, the respective diploma must be recalled if changes to the final grade have to be made or failure of degree completion was declared. ⁴After a period of five years starting from the issuance date of the original master's degree certificate, a decision in accordance with subsection 1 or subsection 2 sentence 2 is no longer possible.

(5) The revocation of the degree complies with the legal rules and regulations.

IV. Final Provisions

Section 34 – Entry into Force, Scope, Transitional Provisions

(1) ¹These Examination Regulations become effective on 1 August 2021 ²The examination regulations apply to students who start their program Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.) at the University of Mannheim in the first or advanced semester in the fall/winter semester 2021/2022 or later.

(2) ¹The Study and Examination Regulations of the University of Mannheim for the master's program "Master of Comparative Business Law" of 2 March 2011 (Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachung des Rektorats) No. 06/2011, pp. 11 et seqq.) in their current version ceases to be effective with the commencement of these examination regulations. ²Students who have already started their program "Master of Comparative Business Law" (M.C.B.L.) at the University of Mannheim under the examination regulations that cease to be effective in accordance with sentence 1 have the option to finish their program according to the former examination regulations up until and including the fall/winter semester 2021/2022. ³The fall/winter semester 2021/2022 will be the last semester to offer examinations according to the former examination regulations that ceased to be effective in accordance with sentence 1. ⁴Students who do not manage to complete their program until then are to be disenrolled; further disenrollment reasons, especially section 62 subsection 3 sentence 1 number 2 LHG, remain unaffected.

Article 2 of the first amendment of 26 May 2023:

The regulations of article 1 only apply to students of the master's program Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.) of the University of Mannheim, who begin their studies as of the fall semester 2023/2024 in the first or in a higher subject-specific semester in line with the examination regulations of the University of Mannheim for the master's program Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.) of 10 December 2020 (Bulletin of the President's Office (BekR) No. 23/2020 Teil 2, p. 48 et seqq.) in the respective valid version.

This amendment comes into effect the day after its publication in the Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats).

Article 2 of the second amendment of 18 December 2023:

This amendment applies to all students who study the master's program Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.) in accordance with the examination regulations for the master's program Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.) of 10 December 2020 (Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No 23/2020 Part 2020, pp. 48 et seqq.) in its respective valid version.

This amendment comes into effect the day after its publication in the Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats).

Article 2 of the third amendment of 16 July 2024:

This amendment applies to all students who study the master's program Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.) in accordance with the examination regulations for the master's program Master of Comparative Business Law (M.C.B.L.) of 10 December 2020 (Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No 23/2020 Part 2020, pp. 48 et seqq.) in its respective valid version.

This amendment comes into effect the day after its publication in the Bulletin of the President's Office (Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats).

Annex: Composition of the Modules

I. Modules of the first semester

1. Mandatory module 12 ECTS credits

Introduction to Comparative European Law	ECTS Credits	Examination
Comparative Law I (European Legal Traditions)	4	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
Introduction to European Business Law	4	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
European Union Law – Institutional Aspects	4	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)

2. Specialization module 6 ECTS credits

The Internal Market	ECTS Credits	Examination
European Market Freedoms	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
European Competition Law	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
European Private Law	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
International Arbitration	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)

3. Extension module 2 ECTS credits

European Business Law	ECTS Credits	Examination
EU Business Law Special Topic 1	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)
EU Business Law Special Topic 2	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)
EU Business Law Special Topic 3	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)
EU Business Law Special Topic 4	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)

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II. Modules of the second semester

1. Mandatory module 12 ECTS credits

Introduction to Comparative International Law	ECTS Credits	Examination
Comparative Law II (The Common/Civil Law Divide)	4	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
Introduction to International Business Law	4	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
Law and Economics	4	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)

2. Specialization module 6 ECTS credits

The Global Market	ECTS Credits	Examination
International Trade Law	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
Corporate Governance II	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
International Sale of Goods	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
Private International Law	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)
International Organizations: a Structural Introduction	3	Written exam/digital take home exam - unsupervised (off campus)/digital examination - supervised (on campus) (60 minutes)

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3. Extension module 2 ECTS credits

International Business Law	ECTS Credits	Examination
International Business Law Special Topic 1	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)
International Business Law Special Topic 2	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)
International Business Law Special Topic 3	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)
International Business Law Special Topic 4	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)
International Business Law Special Topic 5	2	Oral exam (10 to 20 min.)

III. Module master's thesis

Module master's thesis	ECTS Credits	Examination
Master's thesis	20	Master's thesis

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