

These examination regulations have been worded carefully to be up to date; however, errors cannot be completely excluded. The official German text available at the Examinations Office is the version that is legally binding.

Note: Students who started their studies before the latest amendment came into effect are requested to comply with previous amendments and the respective transitory provisions.

**Examination regulations for the
Bachelor's degree programme in Physical Geography and
the Master's degree programme in
Climate & Environmental Sciences as well as
the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in
Cultural Geography at the Faculty of Sciences at
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)
Dated 27 September 2007**

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Based on Section 13 (1)(2), Section 43 (5)(2), Section 61 (2)(1) of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (Bayerisches Hochschulgesetz, BayHSchG), FAU enacts the following examination regulations:

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I. General Provisions

Section 1 Scope, Purpose of the Bachelor's and Master's Examination

(1) These examination regulations govern the examinations in the Bachelor's degree programme in Physical Geography and in the Master's degree programme in Climate & Environmental Sciences as well as the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in Cultural Geography.

(2) ¹The Bachelor's degree is a first university degree that qualifies the graduate for professional work. ²The Bachelor's examination serves to determine whether students:

- have acquired fundamental knowledge as well as in-depth technical and methodical understanding of the examined subjects
- have the ability to employ and develop scientific methods and knowledge independently
- are prepared for the transition to professional practice.

(3) ¹The Master's degree is a second university degree that qualifies graduates for further research as well as professional work. ²The Master's examination serves to determine whether students:

- have acquired in-depth knowledge of fundamental concepts and research findings in the subjects of their Master's degree programme,
- are capable of working independently according to scientific methods and of developing these further
- are prepared for professional practice.

Section 2 Degrees

(1) Passing the examinations results in the following degrees, depending on the type of degree programme:

1. The degree of Bachelor of Science (abbreviation: BSc) for passing the Bachelor's examination in Physical Geography
2. The degree of Bachelor of Arts (abbreviation: BA) for passing the Bachelor's examination in Cultural Geography
3. The degree of Master of Science (abbreviation: MSc) for passing the Master's examination in Climate & Environmental Sciences
4. The degree of Master of Arts (abbreviation: MA) for passing the Master's examination in Cultural Geography

(2) The degree may also be used with the addition '(FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)'.

Section 3 Structure of the Bachelor's Degree Programme, Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Starting Date

(1) ¹Bachelor's degree programmes lay the academic foundations, provide methodological skills and lead to qualifications related to the professional field. ²Students shall pass a Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP) covering the foundations of the Bachelor's degree programme by the end of the second semester. ³The remainder of the Bachelor's degree programme consists of the examinations taken up to the end of the standard duration of studies in the compulsory subjects and at least two elective subjects. ⁴Students who complete a Bachelor's degree programme achieve a total of 180 ECTS credits, which includes all required module examinations pursuant to **Appendices 2 and 3**.

(2) The standard duration of a Bachelor's degree programme including all examinations is six semesters.

(3) ¹The teaching and examination language is German. ²Individual modules may be taught and assessed in English. ³Further details are stipulated in the module handbook. ⁴In any case of uncertainty, the examination language shall be the same as the teaching language.

(4) The degree programme shall begin in the winter semester.

Section 4 Structure of the Master's Degree Programme, Standard Duration of Study, Teaching and Examination Language, Starting Date

(1) ¹The Master's degree programme builds on the contents of the Bachelor's programme; it is more research-orientated. ²The Master's degree programme shall have a duration of three semesters plus one semester for working on the Master's thesis. ³Students who complete a Master's degree programme achieve a total of 120 ECTS credits, which includes all required module examinations pursuant to **Appendices 4 and 5**.

(2) ¹The standard duration of the Master's degree programme, within which all module examinations should be taken, is four semesters. ²The total standard duration for the consecutive Bachelor's and Master's degree programme is ten semesters.

(3) ¹The teaching and examination language of the Master's degree programme in Cultural Geography is German. ²Individual modules may be taught and assessed in English. ³Further details are stipulated in the module handbook. ⁴In any case of uncertainty, the examination language shall be the same as the teaching language.

(4) ¹The teaching and examination language of the Master's degree programme in Climate & Environmental Sciences is English. ²Individual modules may be taught and assessed in German. ³(3)(3) and (4) shall apply accordingly.

(5) The Master's degree programme may be started in either the winter semester or the summer semester.

Section 5 ECTS Credits

(1) ¹The degree programmes and examinations are based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). ²30 ECTS credits are allocated per semester. ³One ECTS credit corresponds to 30 hours of work.

(2) ¹ECTS credits serve as a system to categorise, calculate and confirm the amount of work a student has invested. ²They are a quantitative indicator of a student's workload.

Section 6 Modules and Credits

(1) ¹The degree programme consists of modules for which students are awarded ECTS credits. ²One module is a chronologically connected and self-contained teaching and learning unit, the contents of which can be tested in an examination. ³The module catalogue sets out the contents and forms of teaching in the modules, stipulates the requirements to be met in order to participate in teaching units and describes how ECTS credits are awarded.

(2) ¹The modules shall be completed with a module examination. ²This examination shall as a rule consist of one examination achievement or one course achievement. ³In exceptional cases, this examination can also consist of several parts or partial examinations or a combination of examination and/or course achievements if the subject warrants it. ⁴ECTS credits shall only be given for successful participation in modules that can be verified in an individual, separately identifiable performance in a module examination. ⁵Module examinations are conducted during the lecture period or following the last lecture/seminar of a module before the start of the next semester's lecture period.

(3) ¹Examinations (examination achievements and course achievements) measure the student's performance. ²They may be taken in writing, orally, electronically or in a different form. ³Examination achievements are graded. ⁴The assessment of course achievements may be limited to determining whether the student has passed or not.

(4) ¹As well as the module examinations taken throughout the degree programme, homework assignments, presentations or discussions may be required during teaching units as voluntary assessments of performance (mid-term examinations). ²Further details, in particular regarding the number, type and scope of such assessments and their

weighting when determining the final grade for the module, will be announced in line with local practice before the semester begins. ³If a student chooses to use the option detailed in (1), the mid-term examination has to be taken into account when determining the grade for the module. ⁴A mid-term examination can account for at most 50 percent of the grade for the module.

Section 6a Compulsory Attendance

(1) ¹For teaching units, which are marked accordingly in the respective module description, in which the qualification goal can only be achieved by regular attendance, compulsory attendance can be made a requirement for admission to the module examination or for obtaining the course achievement. ²If attendance of the individual student is required for all participants to obtain the subject-specific competencies, if the individual student obtaining such competencies depends on the attendance of the other participants, or if subject-specific competencies can only be obtained by being present at a particular place, or if participation is required for safety reasons, it is permissible to introduce an obligation to attend.

(2) ¹Regular attendance is defined as missing no more than 15 % of instruction time in any given teaching unit. ²If between 15 % and 30 % of the lectures have been missed, the lecturer can offer the student the option to obtain a skills-orientated substitute achievement fulfilling the requirement of regular attendance. If no such substitute achievements are offered or the substitute achievements offered are not obtained by the student, attendance is not considered to have been regular. ³If more than 30 % of all instruction time has been missed, the teaching unit must be taken again. ⁴Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of instruction time missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(3) ¹Paragraph 2 notwithstanding, in the context of excursions (field seminars, field trips), placements and block seminars, attendance is only considered to have been regular if all teaching units have been attended. ²Appropriate substitute achievements fulfilling the requirement of regular attendance shall be offered in the case of credibly shown periods of absence due to reasons beyond the student's control of up to and including 15 % of instruction time. ³If more than 15 % of instruction time has been missed, the teaching unit must be taken again. ⁴Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of instruction time missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(4) Attendance is checked in the individual teaching units by means of an attendance list in which students must enter their name and signature.

Section 7 Examination Deadlines, Failure to Observe Deadlines

(1) ¹Examinations shall be sat in such a timely manner as to allow the student to obtain the ECTS credits specified for the Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP) and the Bachelor's or Master's examination by the scheduled deadline. ²Deadlines shall be the second semester of the degree programme for the GOP and the last semester of the respective standard duration for the Bachelor's or Master's examination. ³The deadline according to sentence 2 may be exceeded by the following periods (extended deadline):

1. GOP – by one semester
2. Bachelor's examination – by two semesters
3. Master's examination – by one semester.

⁴An examination shall be considered to have been sat and failed at the final attempt if the required number of ECTS credits was not obtained within the extended deadline according to sentence 3, unless the reasons for this are beyond the student's control.

(2) The deadline set forth in (1) shall be extended by claiming the periods of protection according to Sections 3, 4, 6 and 8 of the current version of the Maternity Protection Act (Mutterschutzgesetz – MuSchG) in the version published on 20 June 2002 (BGBl I S. 2318 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 2318]), according to the periods set forth in the current version of the Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz – BEEG) of 5 December 2006 (BGBl I S. 2748 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 2748]), and according to periods of time spent providing care in the sense of Section 7 (3) of the current version of the Caregiver Leave Act (Pflegezeitgesetz - PflegeZG) of 28 May 2008 (BGBl I S. 874, 896 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 874, 896]) for a close family member who requires care in the sense of the current version of SGB XI (German Social Security Code XI) of 26 May 1994 (BGBl I S. 1014, 1015 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 1014, 1015]).

(3) ¹The reasons according to paragraph 1 (4) and paragraph 2 shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the Examinations Committee without delay. ²If the reasons are acknowledged, the examination shall be sat at the soonest possible time; already available examination and course achievements shall be accredited. ³In case of an incapability to sit the examination occurring before or during the examination, the examiner shall be notified immediately; in cases where the student is unable to sit an examination due to illness, a certificate from an official medical examiner (vertrauensärztliches Attest) may be required by the Examinations Committee. ⁴Section 10 (3) shall remain unaffected.

Section 8 Examinations Committee

(1) ¹An Examinations Committee shall be appointed to organise the examinations. ²The Examinations Committee shall consist of five university lecturers from the Department of Geography and Geosciences at the Faculty of Sciences; at least three of the members shall be professors. ³The members of the Examinations Committee shall be elected by the Faculty Council. ⁴The term of office of the members shall be three years. ⁵Re-election shall be permitted. ⁶The Examinations Committee shall elect one of its members as the chairperson and shall select alternative representatives.

(2) The chairperson may transfer tasks within their responsibility to a member of the Examinations Committee.

(3) ¹The Examinations Committee shall be tasked with carrying out the examination procedures, especially the planning and organisation of the examinations. ²Its duties include ensuring that the provisions of these examination regulations are observed. ³With the exception of the examinations themselves and their assessment, which the examiners are responsible for, all decisions shall be taken by the Examinations Committee. ⁴The Examinations Committee shall check delegated decisions if requested to do so and shall verify that examinations have been legitimately assessed. ⁵It shall report regularly to the Faculty Council on the development of examinations and study periods. ⁶The members of the Examinations Committee shall have the right to be present during the examinations.

(4)¹The Examinations Committee shall have a quorum when all members are summoned in writing observing a notice period of at least one week and the majority of members are present and eligible to vote. ²Decisions shall be taken with the majority of votes cast in meetings. ³Abstentions, ballot votes and delegation of votes shall not be permitted. ⁴In case of a tie of votes, the vote of the chairperson shall be decisive.

(5) ¹The chairperson shall call the meetings of the Examinations Committee. ²The chairperson shall be entitled to take decisions that cannot be delayed on behalf of the Examinations Committee. ³The Examinations Committee shall be informed of such cases without delay. ⁴Furthermore, unless these examination regulations state otherwise, the Examinations Committee shall have the right to transfer individual tasks to the chairperson as well as revoke these.

(6) ¹Official notifications in legal matters pertaining to examinations shall be made in writing; reasons shall be given and information on legal remedies available to the person shall be included. ²Students shall be given the opportunity to make a statement before negative decisions are finalised. ³The Examinations Committee shall have the right to rule that grade notifications may be sent out in electronic form to the individual students. ⁴The President shall issue the notification of objection in questions of examination legislation following consultation with the Examinations Committee and after hearing the examiners.

Section 9 Examiners, Observers, Exclusion Due to Personal Involvement, Obligation to Confidentiality

(1) ¹The Examinations Committee shall appoint the examiners. ²All persons eligible to administer examinations according to the current version of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (BayHSchG) and the Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act (BayHSch-PrüferV) shall be eligible for appointment. ³If an eligible examiner leaves the University, they shall usually remain eligible to act as an examiner for up to one year. ⁴The Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend this period upon request.

(2) A change of examiners shortly before the start of an examination shall be permissible on urgent grounds.

(3) ¹Persons who have completed the degree programme in question or a degree programme related to it shall be eligible for appointment as observers. ²Observers shall be full-time research associates.

(4) Exclusion from the deliberation and voting process of the Examinations Committee as well as from the positions of examiner and observer due to personal involvement shall be governed by Section 41 (2) BayHSchG.

(5) The obligation to confidentiality of the Examinations Committee and other persons involved in matters pertaining to examinations shall be governed by Section 18 (3) BayHSchG.

Section 10 Announcement of Examination Type, Examination Dates and Examiners; Registration, Withdrawal

(1) ¹The nature and the extent of the examination and course achievements are shown in the module plan in **Appendices 2 to 5**. ²The dates of the examinations and the

names of the examiners shall be announced in good time and according to local practice.

(2) ¹The students shall register for the individual module examinations after the start of the lecture period. ²The registration dates and formalities shall be announced according to local practice four weeks in advance.

(3) ¹The deadlines set forth in Sections 7 and 28 notwithstanding, withdrawal from first attempts at written and oral examinations shall be permitted without stating reasons up until the end of the third working day before the examination date; withdrawals are to be submitted to the examiner; the days between and including Monday and Friday shall be considered as working days. ²In cases where the student is unable to sit an examination due to illness, the Examinations Committee may demand that the student submit a certificate from an official medical examiner. ³In case of withdrawal from an examination due to illness after the examination has started, the student must submit a certificate from an official medical examiner to the Examinations Committee without delay. ⁴Once a student has declared that they wish to withdraw they may not revoke this declaration; registration to the examination shall be cancelled upon effective withdrawal. ⁵The consequences of a delayed or invalid withdrawal shall be governed by Section 13 (1).

Section 11 Admissions Committees for Master's Degree Programmes

(1) The evaluation of the qualification and admission requirements for a Master's degree programme shall be the responsibility of admissions committees appointed for every Master's degree programme.

(2) ¹The admissions committees shall consist of at least one professor as the chairperson, a university lecturer, and a full-time research associate working for the University. ²The members shall be appointed by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Sciences for a term of office of three years; re-election shall be permitted. ³Section 8 (5) and (6) shall apply accordingly.

Section 12 Accreditation of Competencies

(1) ¹Study periods, modules, course and examination achievements achieved in degree programmes at other public or state-approved universities in the Federal Republic of Germany, through successful participation in a distance course as part of a degree programme at a public or state-approved university in the Federal Republic of Germany, or in degree programmes at foreign universities shall be accredited according to these examination regulations unless there are significant differences in the skills acquired. ²The same shall apply to study periods, course and examination achievements achieved at a public or state-approved university in Bavaria in the course of other study programmes within the meaning of Section 56 (6)(1) and (2) BayHSchG, in special study programmes within the meaning of Section 47 (3)(1) BayHSchG, or at the Virtual University of Bavaria.

(2) ¹Competencies acquired in the course of other specific courses for professional development within the meaning of Section 56 (6)(3) BayHSchG, or outside of higher education shall be accredited if they are equivalent to competencies acquired through university studies. ²Competencies acquired outside the university sector shall replace no more than half of the required competencies of which students must provide proof.

(3)¹The grades achieved in approved modules, examinations and course achievements shall be transferred if they were awarded according to Section 18. ²If the grading system applied in the examinations sat at the university or equivalent institution of higher education and accredited by FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg is not identical to the grading system set forth in Section 18, the grades achieved at other universities shall usually be converted according to the following formula:

$$x = 1 + 3 (N_{\max} - N_d) / (N_{\max} - N_{\min}) \text{ with}$$

x = converted grade

N_{max} = best grade attainable

N_{min} = lowest grade for passing

N_d = grade attained

³Only one decimal place is shown for the grades thus calculated. ⁴If conversion is not possible, the Examinations Committee usually determines a system by which to calculate the grades.

(4) ¹The documents needed for this accreditation shall be submitted to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee. ²Subject to the provisions in sentence 3, the student shall have a legal claim to accreditation if the conditions stipulated in (1) to (3) are met. ³Accreditation is only possible if the student has not already lost the right to be examined in that subject at FAU by passing or failing to pass the relevant examination at the last attempt. ⁴The decision shall rest with the chairperson of the Examinations Committee after consultation with the department representative appointed by the department in question. ⁵The decision shall be issued in writing.

Section 13 Consequences of Delayed Withdrawal, Fraud, Breach of Regulations, Exclusion from Further Participation

(1) ¹An examination achievement shall be graded as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory, 5.0) if the student fails to attend an examination on the examination date without good reasons or if the student withdraws from the examination after the withdrawal deadline (Section 10 (3)) without good reasons; Section 7 shall remain unaffected. ²The reasons for withdrawal or absence according to (1) shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee without delay. ³If the Examinations Committee accepts the reasons, a new date shall be set. ⁴In cases where the student is unable to sit an examination due to illness, a certificate from an official medical examiner may be required. ⁵In case of withdrawal from an examination due to illness after the examination has started, the student must submit a certificate from an official medical examiner to the Examinations Committee without delay.

(2) In case of an attempt to commit fraud or to influence the result of an examination through the use of unauthorised materials, the examination in question shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory, 5.0).

(3) Persons who disturb the orderly examination process may be excluded from continuing the examination by the authorised examiner or the supervising person; in this case the examination achievement in question shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory, 5.0).

(4) In case of a repeated or a severe breach of regulations in the sense of paragraph (2) or (3), the Examinations Committee may exclude students from further participation in the examination.

Section 14 Revocation of Degrees

The revocation of Bachelor's and Master's degrees shall be governed by Section 69 BayHSchG.

Section 15 Faults in the Examination Process

(1) Should it turn out that the examination process was faulty in a manner that influenced the result of the examination, it shall be ordered upon a student's request that a certain student or all students shall resit the examination or parts of the same.

(2) Faults in the examination process shall be reported to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee or the examiner without delay.

(3) Six months after completion of the examination, resit examinations may no longer be ordered ex officio as stipulated in (1).

Section 16 Written Examination

(1) ¹In written examinations students are required to prove that they are capable of identifying a problem within a limited period and with limited materials, using the conventional methods employed in their field, and to find a solution to this problem. ²Written examination achievements may take in particular the form of written examinations, multiple choice examinations, electronic examinations, written assignments, seminar papers, homework assignments or practical exercises.

(2) **Appendices 2 to 5** stipulate the duration of written examinations.

(3) ¹Written examinations shall generally be evaluated by one examiner. ²If a written examination achievement is graded as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) it shall be presented to a second examiner for evaluation. ³The examiner's evaluation must be documented in writing and reasons for the final grade must be made clear.

(4) ¹Written examinations may take the form of multiple-choice examinations (with one or more possible correct answers), either in full or in part. ²Detailed information on the modules with multiple choice examinations is given in the module handbook. ³The examinee shall state which of the answers to the questions they deem to be correct. ⁴Tasks must allow for reliable examination results. ⁵When drawing up the examination questions, it shall be specified which of the answers shall be accepted as correct. ⁶If the question does not allow multiple answers, multiple answers shall be inadmissible and disregarded. ⁷Before the evaluation of the examination results, at least two of the authors of the examination shall assess whether the examination questions meet the requirement set out in sentence 3. ⁸Should they determine that individual examination questions are faulty, these shall not be taken into account in the evaluation of the examination result; the number of examination questions shall be considered to have been reduced. ⁹This reduction of the number of examination questions may not result in disadvantages for any of the examinees. ¹⁰No minus points may be awarded outside of individual examination questions.

(5) ¹The examinations according to (4)(1) shall be considered to have been passed if

1. The examinee answered at least 60 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 60 percent of the attainable points, or
2. The examinee answered at least 50 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 50 percent of the attainable points and the number of correct

answers/points obtained is no more than 17 percent below the average number of correct answers/points obtained by all examinees sitting the examination for the first time.

²If sentence 1(2) is applied, the Dean of Studies shall be notified.

(6) In case of written examinations that are not entirely composed of multiple choice questions, (4) and (5) shall only apply for the respective part.

Section 17 Oral Examination, Presentations

(1) ¹In oral examinations students must demonstrate both general and specific knowledge of the subject being tested. ²Oral examinations shall be conducted, unless otherwise stated, in the presence of an observer appointed by the examiner.

(2) The duration of the oral examinations is stipulated in **Appendices 2 to 5**.

(3) In oral examinations in the presence of several authorised examiners, each examiner shall determine the grade according to Section 18.

(4) ¹A record shall be kept of the oral examination including the following: place, date and duration of the examination; subject and result of the examination; the names of the examiners, the observer and the student; and any special occurrences. ²The record shall be signed by the authorised examiners and the observer. ³It shall not be necessary to record the questions asked in the examination or the answers given.

(5) ¹Students planning to undergo the same examination during a subsequent examination period shall be permitted to be present as hearers during oral examinations within the bounds of feasibility with regard to the examination's location; hearers shall be excluded at the examinee's request. ²Students granted permission to attend the oral examination shall not be permitted to be present during the deliberation process and the announcement of the examination result.

Section 17a Electronic Examinations

¹Examinations may be administered in electronic form. ²Information on the modules in which examinations are in electronic form is given in the module handbook. ³Electronic examinations (e-examinations) are examinations which are administered and evaluated via computer or using digital technology. ⁴The authenticity and integrity of the examination results shall be verified. ⁵Automatically calculated evaluations of examination achievements shall be verified by one examiner at the request of the examinee or two examiners in case of a failed examination.

Section 18 Evaluation of Examinations, Grades, Final Grade

(1) ¹The evaluation of individual examination achievements shall be expressed by the examiners with the following grades:

'sehr gut' (very good)	= (1.0 or 1.3)	an outstanding achievement;
'gut' (good)	= (1.7 or 2.0 or 2.3)	an achievement that exceeds the average requirements considerably;
'befriedigend' (satisfactory)	= (2.7 or 3.0 or 3.3)	an achievement that fulfils average requirements;

'ausreichend' (sufficient)	= (3.7 or 4.0)	an achievement that fulfils the requirements despite flaws;
'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory)	= (4.3 or 4.7 or 5.0)	an achievement that no longer fulfils requirements due to considerable flaws.

²An examination (Section 6 (2)) has been passed if it has received at least the grade 'ausreichend' (sufficient). ³For ungraded examinations (Section 6 (3)(4)) the result shall be either 'bestanden' (pass) or 'nicht bestanden' (fail); the module is not graded. ⁴A module examination is passed when all parts of the examination and/or partial achievements (Section 6 (2)(3)) have been passed. ⁵If an examination has several examiners or consists of several parts or partial achievements, the total grade is calculated from the weighted average of the individual grades; the grading system described in sentence 1 shall not be used. ⁶One decimal place shall count towards the module grade; further decimal places shall be omitted without being rounded.

(2) ¹Multiple choice examinations (single and/or multiple correct answers) shall be evaluated as follows: ²Students who answer the required minimum of examination questions correctly or attain the minimum number of attainable points according to Section 16 (5)(1) shall receive the grade:

- 1.0 ('sehr gut'/very good) if at least 75 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved,
- 2.0 ('gut'/good) if at least 50 percent but less than 75 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved,
- 3.0 ('befriedigend'/satisfactory) if at least 25 percent but less than 50 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved,
- 4.0 ('ausreichend'/sufficient) if no or less than 25 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved.

³The grades can be increased or decreased by increments of 0.3 according to the percentage; the grades 0.7, 4.3 and 4.7 shall not be awarded. ⁴Students who do not achieve the required minimum shall receive the grade 5.0. ⁵Sentence (3) notwithstanding, the grades 4.3 and 4.7 may be awarded in cases in which examinations according to Section 17 (6) partly take the form of a multiple choice examination.

(3) ¹The overall grade of the preliminary examination (GOP), the Bachelor's examination, the Master's examination and the modules as well as subject grades shall be as follows:

- at an average of up to 1.5 = 'sehr gut' (very good)
- at an average of over 1.5 and up to 2.5 = 'gut' (good)
- at an average of over 2.5 and up to 3.5 = 'befriedigend' (satisfactory)
- at an average of over 3.5 and up to 4.0 = 'ausreichend' (sufficient)

²Students who pass the Bachelor's or Master's examination with a final grade between 1.0 and 1.1 shall receive the overall assessment 'mit Auszeichnung bestanden' (passed with distinction).

(4) ¹With the Examinations Committee's approval, the module coordinator shall disclose in the module handbook how the module grade is calculated from the evaluations of the individual parts of the module examination (Section 6 (2)); paragraph 1 (6) shall apply accordingly. ²If the examination is not graded, the successfully completed module shall have the result 'bestanden' (pass).

(5) ¹The preliminary examination (GOP) shall have been passed if the required modules for the first two semesters stipulated in Section 25 have been passed. ²The final grade of the GOP shall be calculated from all module grades pursuant to sentence 1. The individual grades shall be weighted according to their ECTS credits.

(6) ¹The final grade of the Bachelor's examination shall be calculated from all module grades obtained throughout the Bachelor's degree programme, with the individual grades weighted according to their ECTS credits, unless stipulated otherwise in **Appendices 2 and 3**. This shall apply accordingly to subject grades for compulsory and elective subjects. ²Paragraph 1 (6) shall apply accordingly.

(7) ¹The final grade of the Master's examination shall be calculated from all module grades obtained throughout the Master's degree programme, with the individual grades weighted according to their ECTS credits, unless stipulated otherwise in **Appendices 4 and 5**. This shall apply accordingly to subject grades for compulsory and elective subjects. ²Paragraph 1 (6) shall apply accordingly.

Section 19 Invalidity of Examinations

(1) If fraudulent methods were used during the examination and if this only becomes known after the certificate has been awarded, the Examinations Committee may correct the grade after the fact and declare the examination as having been failed in part or in full.

(2) If the requirements for admission to the examination were not fulfilled while no fraudulent acts were committed wilfully and if this fact only became known after the certificate has been awarded, these circumstances shall be considered remedied by the passing of the examination.

(3) Students shall be given the opportunity to make a statement before a decision is taken.

(4) ¹The incorrect certificate shall be withdrawn; a new certificate shall be issued if applicable. ²A decision according to (1) shall be excluded after a period of five years starting with the certificate's date of issue.

Section 20 Inspection of Examination Records

(1) After the completion of the individual examination procedures, students shall on request be entitled to inspect their written examination papers, the corresponding reviews by the examiners, and the examination records.

(2) ¹Students shall submit the request to the responsible examination body within one month of being notified of their grades. ²Unless the Examinations Office is responsible, the examiner shall allow the inspection; further details shall be decided by the Examinations Committee. ³Students prevented from observing the deadline according to (1) through no fault of their own shall be granted full restitution according to Section 32 of the Bavarian Administrative Procedures Act (BayVwVfG).

Section 21 Final Academic Record, Transcript of Records, Diploma Supplement, Degree Certificate

(1) Students who have successfully completed a degree programme shall receive a final academic record, a transcript of records, a diploma supplement and a degree certificate, generally within four weeks of the final assessment of the final thesis.

(2) ¹The final academic record shall contain the modules and module grades and the final grade of the Bachelor's or Master's examination; it shall also cite the topic of the Bachelor's or Master's thesis. ²The transcript of records lists all modules attended; the final academic record and the transcript of records may be combined into one document. ³The transcript of records and the diploma supplement shall be issued in English and German. ⁴Further details on the diploma supplement, in particular regarding its content, shall be determined by the Examinations Committee. ⁵Information not yet available to the Examinations Office must be submitted together with the required proof by the time of the degree programme's completion at the latest; otherwise this information may no longer be taken into consideration for the documents listed in paragraph (1).

Section 22 Notification of Failed Examinations

Upon request and submission of the required certificates as well as the de-registration certificate, students who have failed the Bachelor's or Master's examination at the final attempt shall receive a written confirmation showing that the examination was failed, which grades were achieved in the individual module examinations and which examination achievements are still missing.

Section 23 Adjustments to Examination Arrangements

(1) ¹The examination procedure shall be adjusted to take into account the nature and extent of a student's disability. ²Students with a doctor's certificate showing credibly that they are either in part or fully incapable of sitting the examination in the intended manner due to long-term or permanent physical disabilities shall be entitled to have the permission of the chairperson of the Examinations Committee to offset this disadvantage by a corresponding extension of their working time or by the examination process being structured differently. However, care must be taken to ensure that the examination is still suitable to provide evidence of competencies which are being assessed by the examination.

(2) Adjustments to examination arrangements may be made for pregnant students if the student submits a medical certificate confirming that she will be at least 30 weeks pregnant by the examination date to the Examinations Committee responsible at least four weeks before the examination date.

(3) ¹Decisions according to (1) and (2) shall only be taken by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee upon written request. ²The student may be required to submit a certificate from an official medical examiner proving the fulfilment of the conditions in paragraph (1). ³Applications for adjustments to examination arrangements should be made to the Examinations Committee four weeks before the examination.

II. Bachelor's Examination

Section 24 Admission Requirements for Examinations

(1) ¹Students enrolled in a Bachelor's degree programme shall be deemed as admitted to the Bachelor's examination and the module examinations of which the Bachelor's examination consists, unless admission is to be refused. ²Admission shall be refused if:

1. Requirements are not met or certificates are not submitted at all or not in due time as stipulated in the second part of these examination regulations and in **Appendices 2 and 3**.
2. The preliminary examination (GOP), the Bachelor's examination, the Diplom intermediary examination or the Diplom examination in the same subject or in a related subject has been failed at the last attempt.
3. It has been ordered that the student is to be de-registered, resulting in the revocation of the student's right to sit the examination.

(2) If admission to the examinations is to be refused, the decision shall be taken without delay, furnished with reasons and information on legal remedies available, and announced to the student.

Section 25 Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP)

(1) In the preliminary examination (GOP) students should prove that they:

- can fulfil the requirements of an academic course of study in the chosen subjects
- have acquired the methodological skills required to continue their studies successfully.

(2) The GOP shall have been passed when all modules allocated to it have been passed.

(3) The following modules have to be completed successfully for the degree programme in Physical Geography: PG1, PG2, PG3, PG4, PG5, PG6 (total of 30 ECTS) and one module from an elective subject.

(4) The following modules have to be completed successfully for the degree programme in Cultural Geography: KG1, KG2, KG3, KG4, KG5, KG6 (total of 30 ECTS) and one module from an elective subject.

Section 26 Bachelor's Examination

(1) ¹The Bachelor's examination shall have been passed when the modules allocated to it in **Appendices 2 and 3** including the Bachelor's thesis module have been passed (180 ECTS credits). ²Modules have to be taken from the compulsory subjects relating to geography and at least two electives. ³The compulsory subjects together with the Bachelor's thesis account for 140 ECTS credits, the electives account for a total of 40 ECTS credits. ⁴Elective 1 must account for at least 20 ECTS credits, further electives must account for at least 10 ECTS credits each.

(2) The following subjects are available as electives in the degree programme Physical Geography:

1. Biology
2. Chemistry
3. Geosciences

4. Computer science
5. Mathematics
6. Physics
7. Economics
8. Cultural Geography

(3)¹The following subjects are available as electives in the degree programme Cultural Geography:

1. Sociology
2. Political science
3. Economics
4. History
5. International studies (Anglo-American societies)
6. International studies (Romance-speaking societies)
7. English and American studies
8. Scandinavian studies
9. Chinese studies
10. Oriental studies
11. Philosophy
12. Physical Geography

²One of the electives within the meaning of (1)(4) must include a subject pursuant to sentence 1 nos. 1 to 3 or a subject relating to language or linguistics. There are no other restrictions governing how the other subjects are combined.

(4) The Examinations Committee may approve other subjects which fit into the context of the degree programme upon the student's request.

(5) ¹The students shall submit their list of electives with the planned scope of course and examination achievements to the Examinations Committee for approval at the latest by the beginning of the third semester. ²The subjects chosen must make a sensible contribution to the degree programme.

(6) The scope and type of examinations, the duration of examinations and the number of ECTS credits for the Bachelor's examination are stipulated in **Appendix 2** for the degree programme in Cultural Geography and in **Appendix 3** for the degree programme Physical Geography.

(7) ¹Students may decide the order in which they take modules themselves, unless **Appendices 2** and **3** stipulate a requirement for a particular semester. ²Freedom of choice is in particular restricted in those instances where participation in the examination for one module is dependent on the student having successfully completed another module.

Section 27 Bachelor's Thesis

(1) ¹The Bachelor's thesis is intended to show that the student is capable of dealing with a problem independently according to scientific methods within a set period and presenting the results in an appropriate form. It may be based on an initial seminar paper. ²12 ECTS credits shall be awarded for the Bachelor's thesis. ³After completion it shall be defended during an oral examination, for which 3 ECTS credits are awarded.

(2) ¹Full-time university lecturers employed at the Department of Geography and Geosciences (supervisors) shall be entitled to assign Bachelor's theses; the Examinations Committee may grant exceptions. ²The Examinations Committee may permit students to write their Bachelor's thesis at an institution outside the University and stipulate the rules for this if supervision there is ensured.

(3) ¹Students shall ensure that they receive a subject for their Bachelor's theses at the latest by the start of the last semester of the standard duration of their degree programme. ²The Examinations Committee shall be notified of the subject and the date of allocation. ³Should a student, despite a genuine effort to that end, not be allocated a subject, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall, in consultation with a representative of the student's department, allocate a subject and a supervisor to the student.

(4) ¹The period between the allocation of the subject and the date for submission of the Bachelor's thesis (standard thesis work period) shall be three months. ²The scope of the subject must be such that it can be dealt with within the standard thesis work period of three months. ³The Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend the period for the Bachelor's thesis by a maximum of two weeks upon receiving a justified request. ⁴If a student submits a doctor's certificate proving that they are incapable of working on the thesis, the period for thesis work shall be held in abeyance.

(5) ¹The subject of the Bachelor's thesis may only be returned once and within the first three weeks of the thesis work period; returning the subject shall not be permitted for repetitions of the Bachelor's thesis. ²If the subject is returned where it is not admissible, the Bachelor's thesis shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0); it shall be regarded as rejected. ³Sentence 2 shall apply accordingly if the Bachelor's thesis is not submitted on time.

(6) ¹The thesis shall be written in German or, with the approval of the supervisor, in English. ²With the supervisor's agreement, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee may permit students to write the Bachelor's thesis in a different language upon request.

(7) ¹The Bachelor's thesis shall be submitted in duplicate and in a machine-readable, electronic version to the Examinations Office; the date of submission shall be stated in writing. ²The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by the Examinations Committee. ³The Bachelor's thesis shall include a declaration from the student confirming that the thesis is an original work and that no other sources or materials than the ones listed were used.

(8) ¹The Bachelor's thesis is usually graded by the supervisor; Section 16 (3) shall apply accordingly. ²A review of the thesis shall be made in writing and a grade given pursuant to Section 18 (1). ³The chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall work towards the Bachelor's thesis being graded within one month. ⁴The thesis shall be accepted if it receives at least the grade 'ausreichend' (sufficient).

(9) ¹If a Bachelor's thesis is rejected, it may be repeated once; a second repetition or revision shall not be permitted. ²The student shall ensure that they receive a new subject for the repetition of the thesis within two months following the announcement that the original thesis was graded unsatisfactory; otherwise the thesis shall be regarded

as having been failed at the final attempt. ³ Paragraphs 1 and 2, paragraph 3 sentences 2 and 3 and paragraphs 4 to 6 and 8 shall apply accordingly in the case of a repetition.

Section 28 Resit Examinations, Change of Module

(1) ¹With the exception of the preliminary examination (GOP) and the Bachelor's examination, every failed module examination or partial examination may be resat twice. ²The resit examination shall be limited to the failed examination or course achievement. ³Examinations that are part of the GOP may only be resat once; Section 27 (9) shall apply to repetition of the Bachelor's thesis. ⁴Resit examinations shall take place at the earliest possible date, usually within six months of notification of the first examination result. ⁵The student shall be considered as registered for the next resit examination. ⁶The deadline for resit examinations shall not be interrupted by de-registration, change to or from a part-time degree programme, or leave. ⁷If a student misses the resit examination or the resit period is not observed, the examination shall be deemed to have been failed unless the Examinations Committee grants the student a respite due to special reasons beyond the student's control. The standard deadlines according to Section 7 (1) shall continue to apply. ⁸The provisions regarding maternity protection, parental leave and caregiver leave (Section 7 (2)) shall apply.

(2) Voluntarily resitting a passed examination of the same module shall not be permitted.

Section 28a Additional Modules

(1) ¹Additional modules are modules included in the degree programme (e.g. elective modules, core skills) that are attended within the examination periods as stipulated in Section 7 in addition to successfully completed modules. ²If a student completes additional modules of the degree programme at FAU, they themselves shall decide which of the modules shall go into the calculation of the final grade. ³Students shall notify the Examinations Office of their decision at the latest eight weeks before the degree certificate is issued. ⁴This decision is binding. ⁵If no choice is made and if there are different modules from which to choose, the Examinations Office shall use the module with the better grade for the calculation.

(2) ¹Modules from other degree programmes offered as partial qualifications for this degree programme are also classed as additional modules. ²Examination procedures for such modules are governed by the regulations stipulated in the examination regulations for the degree programme containing the additional module. ³Additional modules pursuant to (2) are not included in the final grade, but are shown in a separate section of the transcript of records. ⁴If the student files a request with the Examinations Office at the latest eight weeks before certificates are issued, individual additional modules may be omitted from the final certificate.

III. Master's Examination

Section 29 Qualification for a Master's Degree Programme

(1) Students shall be considered to have met the qualification requirements for the Master's degree programme if they:

1. Have completed an undergraduate degree that is subject-specific or subject-related to the Master's degree programme in question from a university or another degree with equivalent content; a subject-specific degree is any university degree in Geography; subject-related degrees shall be in particular university degrees in

related socio-cultural disciplines (for students applying to take the Master's degree programme in Cultural Geography or the Master's degree programme in Climate & Environmental Sciences) or other university degrees which can be deemed to be equivalent, provided they include geography-related topics accounting for at least 30 ECTS credits

2. Pass the qualification assessment process according to **Appendix 1**.

(2) Applicants should have completed the relevant degree with an overall grade of at least 2.5 (= good).

(3) ¹In terms of the skills and knowledge gained, the degrees according to Paragraph 1 (1) must not differ significantly from the Bachelor's examination according to these examination regulations. ²If there are differences which can be substituted, the Admissions Committee may grant admission under the condition that proof of further achievements worth up to a maximum of 20 ECTS credits and to be determined by the Admissions Committee be submitted within one year of taking up studies for a Master's degree. ³Admission in this case shall be granted conditionally.

(4) ¹Paragraph 1(1) notwithstanding, students enrolled in a Bachelor's degree programme may be admitted to a Master's degree programme if they have achieved at least 150 ECTS credits. ²Proof of the successfully completed Bachelor's degree shall be submitted at the latest within one year of taking up the degree programme; completing the Bachelor's degree programme is a prerequisite for formally starting the Master's degree programme. ³Admission to the Master's degree programme shall be granted conditionally.

Section 30 Master's Examination

(1) ¹The Master's examination shall consist of all module examinations throughout the degree programme including the Master's thesis module. ²The Master's examination shall be considered passed if all required module examinations and the Master's thesis module have been passed, amounting to a total of 120 ECTS credits. ⁴Modules which have already been part of a Bachelor's examination cannot normally be accredited as part of the Master's examination due to the specific subject competencies that must be acquired as part of the qualification goals of the Master's degree programme, as detailed in the module descriptions. Exceptions may be granted by the Examinations Committee.

(2) ¹Students shall submit the modules which have to be completed in other subjects as part of the interdisciplinary perspectives module to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee by the beginning of the second semester at the latest, stating the planned scope of course and examination achievements. ²The modules chosen shall represent a sensible addition to the geography degree. ³The scope and form of the module examinations to be taken throughout the degree programme, the duration of examinations and the number of ECTS credits are stipulated for the degree programme Cultural Geography in **Appendix 4** and for the degree programme Climate & Environmental Sciences in **Appendix 5**.

Section 31 Master's Thesis

(1) ¹The Master's thesis is a written assignment that concludes the Master's degree. ²It is intended to show that the student is capable of dealing with a problem from their

field independently and according to scientific methods within a set period. ³The Master's thesis may not to any significant degree be identical to a Diplom, Bachelor's or Master's thesis previously submitted by the student (prevention of plagiarism). ⁴A written assignment suitable for use in the State Examination in teaching (Lehramt) pursuant to the examination regulations for teaching degree programs I (Lehramtsprüfungsordnung I – LPO I) can be submitted as a Master's thesis if the topic is explored in more depth from an academic point of view. ⁵Students are awarded 25 ECTS credits for the Master's thesis. ⁶After completion it shall be defended during an oral examination, for which 5 ECTS credits are awarded.

(2) ¹The topic for the Master's thesis shall be issued once the student has submitted evidence of having completed modules accounting for 60 ECTS credits during the degree programme. (3) ²Students shall take the necessary steps to obtain a subject for the Bachelor's thesis as soon as they fulfil the requirements pursuant to sentence 1, generally no later than at the beginning of the last semester of the standard duration of studies. (2) ³The subject and the date of its allocation shall be confirmed by the supervisor and presented to the Examinations Committee. ⁴Should a student, despite a genuine effort to that end, not be allocated a subject, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall, in consultation with a representative of the student's department, allocate a subject and a supervisor to the student.

(3) ¹Full-time university lecturers employed at the Department of Geography and Geosciences shall be authorised to assign Master's theses. ²The Examinations Committee shall have the right to grant exceptions. ³The Examinations Committee may permit students to write their Master's thesis at an institution outside the University if supervision there is ensured.

(4) ¹The time between the selection of a subject and the submission of the Master's thesis shall be six months; the scope of the subject must be such that it can be dealt with within this period. ²The Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend the period for the Master's thesis by a maximum of three months upon receiving a justified request. ³If a student submits a doctor's certificate proving that they are incapable of working on the Master's thesis, the period for thesis work shall be suspended temporarily.

(5) ¹The subject may only be returned once with good reason and with the approval of the chairperson of the Examinations Committee within the first third of the period for thesis work. ²Otherwise the Master's thesis shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0) when the subject is returned; it shall be regarded as rejected.

(6) ¹The Master's thesis for the degree programme Cultural Geography shall be written in German or, with the approval of the supervisor, in English. ²In the Master's degree programme in Climate & Environmental Studies it shall be written in English. ³If the Master's thesis is written in English in the Master's degree programme in Cultural Geography, it shall include a summary written in German of approximately 5 to 10 pages citing the topic, methods used and findings. ⁴The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by the Examinations Committee. ⁵The Master's thesis shall include a declaration from the student confirming that the thesis is an original work and that no other sources or materials than the ones listed were used. ⁶The Master's thesis shall be submitted in duplicate as well as in a machine-readable, electronic form to the

Examinations Office; the date of submission shall be recorded in writing. ⁷If the Master's thesis is not submitted in time, it shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0); it shall be regarded as rejected.

(7) ¹The Master's thesis is usually graded by the supervisor; Section 16 (3) shall apply accordingly. ²A review of the thesis shall be made in writing and a grade given pursuant to Section 18 (1). ³The chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall work towards the Master's thesis being graded within one month.

(8) ¹The Master's thesis shall be accepted if it receives at least the grade 'ausreichend' (sufficient). ²It shall be rejected if it receives the grade 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory).

(9) ¹If the Master's thesis is rejected or if it is regarded as rejected, it may be repeated once; a second repetition shall not be permitted. ²The student shall ensure that they receive a new subject for the repetition of the Master's thesis within the semester following the announcement of the rejection at the latest; otherwise the Master's thesis shall be regarded as having been failed at the final attempt. ³Paragraphs 1, 2(3), 3 and 4 and 6-8 shall apply accordingly for the repetition of the Master's thesis; returning the subject shall not be permitted. ⁴The chairperson of the Examinations Committee may permit the student to submit a revised version of the Master's thesis within six months of the announcement of its rejection if this has not been ruled out by the examiner's review. If revision of the thesis is permitted, paragraphs 1, 2(3), 3 and 4 and 6-8 shall apply accordingly.

Section 32 Resitting Examinations, Changing Modules, Additional Modules

Sections 28 and 28a shall apply accordingly for resitting examinations, changing modules and taking additional modules.

IV. Final Provisions

Section 33 Legal Validity, Transitory Provisions

(1) ¹These examination regulations shall come into effect on the day after their publication. ²They shall apply to students starting a degree programme from the winter semester 2007/08 onwards.

(2) Students who started to study at the Department of Geography and Geosciences before these examination regulations came into effect shall take their examinations in accordance with the previous examination regulations.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Qualification Assessment Process for the Master's degree programme in Climate & Environmental Sciences and for the Master's degree programme in Cultural Geography at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU

(1) The qualification assessment process shall be carried out as necessary, but at least once per year for the relevant Master's degree programme.

(2) ¹Applications for the qualification assessment process must be submitted to the Master's Office by 15 July for the winter semester and 31 January for the summer semester using the given template. ²The application shall contain:

1. A certificate proving that the applicant holds a university degree according to Section 29 (1)(1) (final academic record, transcript of records, diploma supplement or comparable documents)
2. For applicants who have not yet obtained their Bachelor's degree: a transcript of records demonstrating that at least 150 ECTS credits have been obtained
3. A letter of application demonstrating the applicant's academic suitability and qualifications for the relevant degree programme
4. Students applying for the Master's degree programme in Climate & Environmental Sciences shall be required to submit proof of language proficiency equivalent to at least English Level B 2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages – CEFR) Vantage or Upper Intermediate or comparable qualifications; six years of English lessons at a German Gymnasium shall also suffice as proof; applicants who obtained their university entrance qualifications or their first degree in English need not submit any proof of English language ability.

(3) ¹The qualification assessment process shall consist of a preselection on the basis of the documents submitted followed by a selection interview for those applicants admitted to this stage. ²In accordance with Section 11, the qualification assessment shall be the responsibility of the Admissions Committee of the Master's degree programme in question. ³The Admissions Committee may transfer the task of coordinating and carrying out the process to individual members unless otherwise stated. ⁴The Admissions Committee shall fulfil its obligations in cooperation with the Master's Office.

(4) ¹Admission to the qualification assessment process shall be subject to the timely and complete submission of the documents listed in (2). ²Applications not submitted in due form or time shall lead to exclusion from the qualification assessment process. ³The chairperson of the Admissions Committee shall decide whether to accept the student. ⁴The qualification assessment process shall be carried out with those applicants who fulfil the requirements according to the provisions in (5). ⁵Applicants who are rejected shall receive a rejection notification including reasons and information on legal remedies available.

(5) ¹The relevant Admissions Committee shall carry out a preselection based on the submitted documents as part of the qualification assessment process to assess whether an applicant qualifies for a Master's degree programme as such. ²The Admissions Committee shall deem the applicant qualified based on submitted documents if the final grade of the subject-specific or subject-related/equivalent degree fulfils the provisions under Section 29 (1)(1)(1) or in the case of Section 29 (4) if the student has achieved an average of 2.3 (gut/good) or better in their previous achievements; for degrees graded on the basis of a different grading system Section 12 (3) shall apply accordingly. ³Applicants who cannot be admitted to the Master's degree programme on the basis of the preselection alone who have a grade of at least 2.5 shall be invited to an oral admission examination. ⁴The date of the oral admission examination shall be announced at least one week in advance. ⁵If an applicant should be unable to attend due to reasons beyond their control, a second date may be set upon justified request up until

two weeks before the start of the lecture period. ⁶The oral admission examination is an individual examination lasting approximately 30 minutes. ⁷With the applicant's approval, the oral admission examination may be conducted as a video conference. ⁸It shall be conducted by two university lecturers appointed by the Admissions Committee. Section 17 (4) shall apply accordingly. ⁹The selection interview is intended to demonstrate in particular that the applicant possesses the required technical and methodological expertise and can be expected to carry out independent academic work in a more research-oriented degree programme. ¹⁰In the selection interview, applicants shall be evaluated according to the following criteria in particular, which are weighted as specified:

1. Quality of subject-specific knowledge relating to Cultural Geography, in particular geographical development research, urban research and regional development, political geography and social geography (applicants for the Master's degree programme in Cultural Geography) or quality of subject-specific knowledge in biological and soil geography, geoinformatics and climate research (applicants for the Master's degree programme in Climate & Environmental Sciences) (50 %)
2. Applicant's ability to analyse and produce academic texts as well as to recognise and analyse sociological and ecological processes (30 %)
3. A positive prognosis based on improving progress during the applicant's course of studies so far which suggests that the applicant is able to carry out independent academic work in a more research-oriented degree programme (discussion on the basis of graduation documents (in particular Transcript of Records) from their first degree programme) (20 %)

¹¹The result of the oral examination is either pass or fail. ¹²If the oral examination is passed, the Admissions Committee shall decide whether admission is to be granted with conditions according to Section 29 (3)(2) based on the examiner's recommendation. ¹³Applicants shall be notified of the result of the oral admission examination and the qualification assessment process in writing. ¹⁴A rejection notification shall include reasons and information on the legal remedies available.

(6) ¹Applicants failing the oral examination may resit it one time at the date available for the next semester. Paragraph (5) sentences (5) to (14) shall apply accordingly. ²It may not be repeated more than once on the basis of the documentation submitted with the first application.

(7) Section 23 shall apply accordingly.

(8) Applicants shall bear their own costs of the qualification assessment process.

(9) Confirmation of passing the qualification assessment process shall remain valid indefinitely, provided that the Master's degree programme has not been changed significantly.

Appendix 2: Bachelor's degree programme in Cultural Geography

Module title	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				Total ECTS	Distribution of workload per semester in ECTS credits ¹						Type and scope of the examination/course achievement	Grade factor
		L	T	E	C		1st sem.	2nd sem.	3rd sem.	4th sem.	5th sem.	6th sem.		
KG 1: Fundamental principles of CG I	Introductory lecture CG I	2				5	5						Written examination (45 min.), 100 %	1
KG 2: Fundamental principles of CG II	Introductory lecture CG II	2				5		5					Written examination (45 min.), 100 %	1
KG 3: seminar CG with field trip	Seminar CG + field trip				2	5		5					Portfolio examination: short presentation (10 min.) with written assignment (5 pages), 60 %, and report (5-6 pages), 40 %	1
KG 4: Fundamental principles of PG I	Introductory lecture PG I	2				5	5						Written examination (45 min.), 100 %	1
KG 5: Fundamental principles of PG II	Introductory lecture PG II	2				5		5					Written examination (45 min.), 100 %	1
KG 6: seminar PG with field trip	Seminar PG + field trip				2	5		5					Portfolio examination: short presentation (10 min.) with written assignment (5 pages), 60 %, and report (5-6 pages), 40 %	1
KG 7: Cartography and spatial information	Lecture: Cartography and spatial information	2				5	5						One assignment per week, 0 %	0
KG 8: Qualitative and quantitative methods	Lecture: Qualitative and quantitative methods	2				5	5						One assignment per week, 0 %	0
KG 9: field placement	Field placement 6 days				6 days	5		5					Report (5 pages), 0 %	0
KG 10: Methods in geography	Lecture: GIS and remote sensing	2				10		3					One assignment per week, 100 %	1
	Seminar: Empirical social research				2				4					
	Seminar: GIS and remote sensing				2				3					
KG 11: Advanced CG I	Lecture: Advanced CG	2				10			4				Portfolio examination: written examination (90 min.), 0 % or 2 written examinations (45 min.), 0 % and report (5-10 pages), 0 %	0
	Lecture: Advanced cultural geography	2								4				
	Minor field seminar (3 days)				3 days						2			
KG 12: Regional geography	Advanced seminar on major field seminar				2	15				5			Portfolio examination: presentation (approx 30 min.) with written assignment (10-30 pages), 50 %, and report (10-15 pages), 50 %	1
	Major field seminar (minimum of 8 days)				8 days						10			

Module title	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				Total ECTS	Distribution of workload per semester in ECTS credits ¹						Type and scope of the examination/course achievement	Grade factor
		L	T	E	C		1st sem.	2nd sem.	3rd sem.	4th sem.	5th sem.	6th sem.		
KG 13: Specific topics in CG I	Advanced seminar CG				2	10			5				Portfolio examination: presentation (approx 30 min.) with written assignment (10–30 pages), 50 %, and one assignment per week, 50 %	1
	Seminar: Special methods in CG				2					5				
KG 14: Specific topics in CG II	Advanced seminar CG				2	10				5			Portfolio examination: presentation (approx 30 min.) with written assignment (10–30 pages), 50 %, and one assignment per week, 50 %	1
	Seminar: Special methods in CG				2						5			
KG 15: Applied CG	Project-oriented advanced seminar CG				2	5					5		Presentation (approx 30 min.) with written assignment (10–30 pages), 100 %	1
KG 16: Advanced CG II	Lecture: Advanced CG	2				5					4		Written examination (45 min.), 0 %	0
	Oral examination CG										1			
KG 17: Advanced CG III	Lecture: Advanced CG	2				5						4	Written examination (45 min.), 0 %	0
	Oral examination CG											1		
KPrakt: External placement	External placement			6 weeks		10						10	Certificate + placement report (3-5 pages)	0
Electives	According to the examination regulations for the electives					40	Min 20 ECTS credits in first elective, min 10 ECTS in each further elective						According to the examination regulations for the electives, 100 %	1
KBA: Bachelor's thesis CG	Bachelor's thesis CG					15						12	Monograph (50 pages), 100 %, and oral examination (15 min.), 0 %	2
	Oral examination											3		
Total:		22			20	140	20–30	28–30	16–30	21–30	25–30	30		

¹The distribution shown is a recommendation.

²Students may choose to obtain the examination achievement either by taking a 90 minute written examination or two partial examinations of 45 minutes each in the individual subject areas.

Appendix 3: Bachelor's degree programme in Physical Geography

Module title	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				Total ECTS	Distribution of workload per semester in ECTS credits ¹						Type and scope of the examination/ course achievement	Module grade factor
		L	T	E	C		1st sem.	2nd sem.	3rd sem.	4th sem.	5th sem.	6th sem.		
PG 1: Fundamenta principles of PG I	Introductory lecture PG I	2				5	5						Written examination (45 min.), 100 %	1
PG 2: Fundamental principles of PG II	Introductory lecture PG II	2				5		5					Written examination (45 min.), 100 %	1
PG 3: seminar PG with field trip	Seminar PG + field trip				2	5		5					Portfolio examination: short presentation (10 min.) with written assignment (5 pages), 60 %, and report (5–6 pages), 40 %	1
PG 4: Fundamental principles of CG I	Introductory lecture CG I	2				5	5						Written examination (45 min.), 100 %	1
PG 5: Fundamental principles of CG II	Introductory lecture CG II	2				5		5					Written examination (45 min.), 100 %	1
PG 6: seminar CG with-field trip	Seminar CG + field trip				2	5		5					Portfolio examination: short presentation (10 min.) with written assignment (5 pages), 60 %, and report (5–6 pages), 40 %	1
PG 7: Cartography and spatial information	Lecture: Cartography and spatial information	2				5	5						One assignment per week, 0 %	0
PG 8: Qualitative and quantitative methods	Lecture: Qualitative and quantitative methods	2				5	5						One assignment per week, 0 %	0
PG 9: field placement	Field placement (6 days)				6 days	5		5					Report (5 pages), 0 %	0
PG 10: Methods in geography	Lecture: GIS and remote sensing	2				10		3					One assignment per week, 100 %	1
	Seminar: Multivariate statistics and geostatistics				2				4					
	Seminar: GIS and remote sensing				2				3					
PG 11: Advanced PG I	Lecture: Advanced PG	2				10			4				Portfolio examination: written examination (90 min.), 0 % or ² two written examinations (45 min.), 0 % and report (5-10 pages), 0 %	0
	Lecture: Advanced PG	2							4					
	Minor field seminar (3 days)				3 days					2				
PG 12: Regional geography	Advanced seminar on major field seminar				2	15				5			Portfolio examination: presentation (30 min.) with written assignment (10–30 pages), 50 %, and report (10–15 pages), 50 %	1
	Major field seminar (minimum of 8 days)				8 days						10			

Module title	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				Total ECTS	Distribution of workload per semester in ECTS credits ¹						Type and scope of the examination/ course achievement	Module grade factor
		L	T	E	C		1st sem.	2nd sem.	3rd sem.	4th sem.	5th sem.	6th sem.		
PG 13: Special methods in PG I	Advanced seminar PG				2	10			5				Portfolio examination: presentation (approx 30 min.) with written assignment (10–30 pages), 50 %, and one assignment per week, 50 %	1
	Seminar: Special methods in PG				2					5				
PG 14: Special topics in PG II	Seminar: Special methods in PG				2	10				5			One assignment per week, 100 %	1
	Seminar: Special methods in PG				2						5			
PG 15: applied PG	Project-oriented advanced seminar PG				2	5					5		Presentation (approx 30 min.) with written assignment (10-30 pages), 100 %	1
PG 16: Advanced PG II	Lecture: Advanced PG	2				5					4		Written examination (45 min.), 0 %	0
	Oral examination PG										1			
PG 17: Advanced PG III	Lecture: Advanced PG	2				5						4	Written examination (45 min.), 0 %	0
	Oral examination PG											1		
PPrakt: External placement	External placement			6 weeks		10						10	Certificate + placement report (3–5 pages)	0
Electives	According to the examination regulations for the electives					40	Min 20 ECTS credits in first elective subject, min 10 ECTS in each further elective						According to the examination regulations for the electives, 100 %	1
PBA: Bachelor's thesis PG	Bachelor's thesis PG					15						12	Monograph (50 pages), 100 % and oral examination (15 min.), 0 %	2
	Oral examination											3		
Total:		22			20	180	20-30	28-30	16-30	21-30	25-30	30		

¹ The distribution shown is a recommendation.

² Students may choose to obtain the examination achievement either by taking a 90 minute written examination or two partial examinations of 45 minutes each in the individual subject areas.

Appendix 4: Master's degree programme in Cultural Geography

Module title	Teaching unit	SWS (semester hours)				Total ECTS	Distribution of workload per semester in ECTS credits ¹⁾				Type and scope of the examination/ course achievement	Grade factor
		L	T	E	C		1st sem.	2nd sem.	3rd sem.	4th sem.		
KGV: Advanced cultural geography	Seminar: Philosophy of science				2	10	4				Portfolio examination: presentation (45 min.) with written assignment (20–25 pages), 60 %, and one assignment per week, 40 %	1
	Advanced seminar				2		6					
EE: External expertise²⁾	External expertise I				2	10	5				Portfolio examination: presentation (45 min.) with written assignment (20–25 pages), 0 %, and one assignment per week, 0 %	0
	External expertise II				2			5				
LF: Teaching research	Teaching research project				2	20	10				Project report (20–25 pages) with presentation (approx. 30 min.), 100 %	1
					2			10				
INT: Interdisciplinary perspectives	Teaching unit for the elective	According to examination regulations for the elective				10	5				According to examination regulations for the elective	0
	Teaching unit for the elective							5				
RGV: Advanced regional geography	Advanced seminar on major field seminar				2	15		5			Portfolio examination: presentation (45 min.) with written assignment (20–30 pages), 50 %, and report (10–15 pages), 50 %	1
	Major field seminar (minimum of 10 days)				10 days				10			
FW: Research workshop	Research workshop				4	15			15		Research report (20–30 pages), 0 %	0
MV: Advanced methodology	Seminar: Advanced methodology in CG				2	10		5			Portfolio examination: presentation (45 min.) with written assignment (20–25 pages), 50 %, and one assignment per week, 50 %	1
	Seminar: Advanced methodology in CG				2				5			
ARB: Master's thesis	Master's thesis					30				25	Master's thesis (approx. 80 pages), (100 %) and oral examination (approx. 30 min.), 0 %	2
	Oral examination									5		
Total:					22	120	30	30	30	30		

¹⁾ The distribution shown is a recommendation.

²⁾ The module EE (External Expertise) can be replaced by an external placement lasting at least six weeks.

Appendix 5: Study plan – Master's degree programme MSc Climate and Environmental Sciences

Module	Course	SWS (semester hours)				Total ECTS	Workload distribution per semester in ECTS ¹⁾				Specification graded/non-graded examination	Grade factor
		L	E	E	C		1st sem.	2nd sem.	3rd sem.	4th sem.		
Compulsory modules												
Scientific working I	Scientific writing and communication				2	5	5				Weekly assignment	0
Scientific working II	Graduate seminar				2	5		5			Written paper (20–30 pages), 60 %, with oral presentation (45 min.), 40 %	1
RTC: Advanced research training course	Advanced research training course				4	20		10	10		Research report (20–30 pages), 60 %, with oral presentation (30 min.), 40 %	1
Interdisciplinary perspectives ²⁾	Elective module courses	According to examination regulations of the elective modules				10	5				According to examination regulations of the elective modules	0
	Elective modules	According to examination regulations of the elective modules					5					
Advanced regional geography I	Graduate seminar				2	5		5			Written paper (20–30 pages), 60 %, with oral presentation (45 min.), 40 %	1
Advanced regional geography II	Field trip (min. 10 days)				10 days	10			10		Report (10–15 pages)	1
					10	55	15	20	20	0		
Elective modules ^{1) 3) 4)}												
Advanced methods A	Depending on module				2	5		5			Depending on module	1
Advanced methods B	Depending on module				2	5			5		Depending on module	1
Advanced methods C	Depending on module				2	5			5		Depending on module	0
					6	15	0	5	10	0		

Consolidation modules – Emphasis on climate research ¹⁾												
Advanced methods: Advanced climate data analysis	Advanced climate data analysis				2	5	5				Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of climate data analysis, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: modelling physical systems in the climate	Modelling physical systems in the climate				2	5	5				Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of modelling physical systems in the climate, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: scripting for remote sensing of the environment	Scripting for remote sensing of the environment				2	5	5				Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of scripting for remote sensing, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: tree-ring analysis – applied dendroecology	Tree-ring analysis – applied dendroecology				2	5		5			Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of tree-ring analysis, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
MT: Master's Thesis	Master's Thesis					30				25	Master's thesis (approx. 80 pages), 100 % and oral examination (approx. 30 min.), 0 %	2
	Master's oral examination									5		
					8	50	15	5	0	30		

Consolidation modules - emphasis on geoinformatics ¹⁾												
Advanced methods: microwave remote sensing	Microwave remote sensing				2	5	5				Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of microwave remote sensing, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: scripting for GIS analysis	Scripting for GIS analysis				2	5	5				Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of scripting for GIS, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: scripting for remote sensing of the environment	Scripting for remote sensing of the environment				2	5	5				Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of scripting for remote sensing, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: remote sensing: spectroscopy and analysis of spectral data	Remote sensing: spectroscopy and analysis of spectral data				2	5		5			Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of spectroscopy and analysis of spectral data, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
MT: Master's thesis	Master's Thesis					30				25	Master's Thesis (approx. 80 pages), 100 % and oral examination (approx. 30 min.), 0 %	2
	Master's oral examination									5		
					8	50	15	5	0	30		

Consolidation modules - environmental analysis ¹⁾													
Advanced methods: Soil science	Soil science				2	5	5					Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of soil science, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: tree-ring analysis – applied dendroecology	Tree-ring analysis – applied dendroecology				2	5	5					Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of tree-ring analysis, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: stable isotope analysis	Stable isotope analysis				2	5	5					Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of stable isotope analysis, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
Advanced methods: remote sensing: spectroscopy and analysis of spectral data	Remote sensing: spectroscopy and analysis of spectral data				2	5		5				Weekly assignment (problem-solving issues within the broader context of spectroscopy and analysis of spectral data, max. 3 pages weekly) or written paper (max. 15 pages) ⁵⁾	1
MT: Master's thesis	Master's Thesis										25	Master's Thesis (approx. 80 pages), 100% and oral examination (approx 30 mins), 0%	2
	Master's oral examination					30					5		
					8	50	15	5	0	30			
Total					24	120	30	30	30	30			

1) The specified distribution constitutes a recommendation only.

2) Selection from among the range of modules offered by the Faculty of Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering.

3) Selection from among modules that are not part of the chosen area of specialisation (consolidation modules). The range of elective modules may be extended.

4) The ungraded module can be replaced by an internship of at least six weeks.

5) The specific nature of the examination depends on the particular nature of the course held in the particular semester. The specific nature of the examination will be announced in the module handbook at the beginning of each semester.