

These degree programme and 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.

**General Examination Regulations for the
Bachelor's Degree Programme in Biology (BSc Biology),
the Master's Degree Programme in Cell and Molecular
Biology (MSc ZMB), the
Bachelor's Degree Programme in Integrated Life
Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (BSc
ILS) and the
Master's Degree Programme in Integrated Life Sciences –
Biology,
Biomathematics and Biophysics (MSc ILS) at the
Faculty of Sciences of
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
- ABMPOBio/NatFak -
Dated 22 July 2015**

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

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I: General Conditions

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

(1) ¹These examination regulations govern the examinations for the Bachelor's degree programme in Biology (BSc Biology) and the consecutive Master's degree programme in Cell and Molecular Biology (MSc ZMB), and the Bachelor's degree programme in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (BSc ILS) and the consecutive Master's degree programme in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (MSc ILS) resulting in the degrees 'Bachelor of Science' and 'Master of Science'. ²They are supplemented by the **degree programme and examination regulations**.

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

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

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

- have acquired in-depth knowledge of the basics and the fundamental research findings in the subjects of their Master's degree programme
- are capable of working independently according to scientific methods and to develop 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
2. The degree of Master of Science (abbreviation: MSc) for passing the Master's examination

(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 Studies,

Teaching Language, Programme Start

(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 subsequent part of the Bachelor's degree programme includes the examinations until the end of the standard duration. ⁴To complete the programme successfully, students shall achieve 180 ECTS credits, which include all required module examinations and the Bachelor's thesis module.

(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. ³The module handbook shall govern this topic in more detail.

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

Section 4 Structure of the Master's Degree Programme, Standard Duration of Studies,

Teaching Language, Programme Start

(1) The Master's degree programme builds on the contents of the Bachelor's programme; it is more research-orientated.

(2) ¹The Master's degree programme shall have a duration of three semesters plus one semester for working on the Master's thesis. ²To complete the programme successfully, students shall achieve 120 ECTS credits, which include all required module examinations and the Master's thesis module.

(3) The standard duration of the Master's degree programme, within which all module examinations should be taken, is four semesters.

(4) The teaching language shall be governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(5) Master's degree programmes shall begin in the winter semester.

Section 5 ECTS Credits

(1) ¹The degree programmes and examinations are organised based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). ²30 ECTS credits are estimated 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 Modularisation, Course Credit Certificates

(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.

(2) ¹The modules shall be completed with a module examination. ²This examination shall as a rule consist of one examination achievement or one coursework achievement. ³In exceptional cases, this examination can also consist of several parts (portfolio examination) or partial examinations 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) ¹Examination achievements and coursework achievements measure the student's success. ²They may be in writing, oral, electronic, or in a different form. ³Examination achievements are graded. ⁴The assessment of coursework achievements may be limited to determining whether the student has passed ('bestanden') or failed ('nicht bestanden') the module.

(4) Enrolment in the relevant degree programme at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg is a requirement for participation in module examinations (Paragraph 2 [1]).

Section 7 Compulsory Attendance

(1) ¹For lectures, 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 coursework achievement. ²If attendance of the individual student is required for all participants to obtain the subject-specific skills, if the individual student obtaining such skills depends on the attendance of the other participants, if subject-specific skills 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 no more than 15% of the lectures of any given course have been missed. 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 lectures have been missed, the course must be taken again. ⁴Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of lectures missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(3) ¹Paragraph 2 notwithstanding, in the context of excursions, practical courses, laboratory courses and block seminars, attendance is only considered to have been

regular if all teaching units have been attended. ²Appropriate skills-orientated 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 all lectures. ³If more than 15% of all lectures have been missed, the course must be taken again. ⁴Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of lectures missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(4) Attendance is checked in the individual lectures by means of an attendance list in which students must enter their name and signature, or in a comparable manner.

Section 8 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 in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** 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 stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** 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 Paragraph 1 shall be extended by claiming the periods of protection according to Sections 3, 4, 6 and 8 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]) as amended from time to time and according to the periods set forth in 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]) as amended from time to time.

(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 coursework 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. ⁴In 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 Office without delay.

Section 9 Examinations Committee

(1) An Examinations Committee shall organise and carry out the examinations in the Bachelor's degree programme in Biology and the Master's degree programme in Cell

and Molecular Biology; another Examinations Committee shall organise and carry out the examinations in the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in ILS.

(2) The composition of each Examinations Committee is governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹The term of office of the members shall be three years. ²Re-election shall be permitted.

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

(5) 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 and examination results, all decisions shall be taken by the Examinations Committee. ⁴It shall send out the examination notifications after having verified the examination achievements and their legitimacy. ⁵It shall regularly report 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. ⁷The Examinations Committee shall make use of the University's Examinations Office in carrying out its tasks.

(6) 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.

(7) ¹The chairperson shall call the meetings of the Examinations Committee. ²She or he shall be entitled to take decisions that cannot be delayed by herself or himself on the Examinations Committee's behalf. 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 revocably charge the chairperson with carrying out individual tasks.

(8) ¹Official notifications in matters pertaining to examinations that may result in the infringement upon a person's rights 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 made public in the form of a bulletin or may be sent out in digital form. 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 10 Examiners, 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

(BayHSchPrüferV) shall be eligible for appointment, insofar as they are members of FAU. ³If the membership with the University of an eligible examiner ends, their eligibility as an examiner usually remains intact for up to one year. ⁴The Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend this period upon request.

(2) External examiners may be appointed if they are university lecturers or are eligible to administer examinations according to the Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act and there is a valid reason for doing so; however, at least one examiner must be a full-time lecturer at FAU's Faculty of Sciences.

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

(4) Persons who have completed the degree programme in question or an equivalent degree programme shall be eligible for appointment as observers.

(5) 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.

(6) 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 11 Announcement of Examination Dates and Examiners, Registration, Withdrawal

(1) The dates of the examinations and the examiners shall be announced by the Examinations Office in time in advance and according to local practice.

(2) ¹Students 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 prior.

(3) ¹The deadlines set forth in Sections 8 and 30 notwithstanding, withdrawal from first attempts at written and oral examinations shall be permitted without stating reasons up until the end of the third workday before the examination date; withdrawals are to be submitted to the examiner; the days between and including Mondays and Fridays shall be considered as workdays. 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. ⁴An effective withdrawal shall result in the forfeiture of the registration for the examination. ⁵The consequences of a delayed or invalid withdrawal shall be governed by Section 14 (1).

Section 12 Admissions Committee for the Master's Degree Programme

(1) An Admissions Committee for the Master's degree programme in Cell and Molecular Biology and an Admissions Committee for the Master's degree programme in ILS shall be appointed to evaluate whether applicants meet the qualification and admission requirements.

(2) The composition of the Admissions Committee for each Master's degree programme is governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) Section 9 (3), (4) and (6) to (8) shall apply accordingly.

Section 13 Accreditation of Study Periods, Coursework and Examination Achievements

(1) ¹Study periods, modules, coursework 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, coursework 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) ¹Skills acquired in the course of successfully completed vocational training, courses of secondary education or other specific courses within the meaning of Section 56 (6)(3) BayHSchG, or outside of higher education shall be accredited if they are equivalent to skills acquired through university studies. ²Skills acquired outside the university sector shall replace no more than half of the required skills of which students must provide proof.

(3) ¹The grades achieved in approved modules, examinations and coursework achievements shall be transferred if they were awarded according to Section 20. ²If the grading system applied in the examinations sat at the university or equivalent institution of higher education and accredited by FAU is not identical to the grading system set forth in Section 20, 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. ²If the conditions set forth in Paragraphs 1 to 3 are met, the student shall have a legal claim to accreditation. ³The decision shall rest with the chairperson of the Examinations Committee after consultation with the department representative appointed by the department in question; the decision shall be issued in writing.

Section 14 Consequences of Delayed Withdrawal, Fraud, Breach of Regulations, Exclusion from Further Participation

(1) ¹An examination shall be graded as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) if the student does not attend an examination without good reasons or if the student withdraws from the examination after the withdrawal deadline (Section 11 [3]) without good reasons; Section 8 (3) shall remain unaffected. ²The reasons for withdrawal or absence according to Sentence 1 shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the Examinations Office without delay. ³If the Examinations Committee accepts the reasons, the examination must be sat on the next possible date.

(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 as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0).

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

(4) In case of repeated or a severe breach of regulations in the sense of Paragraph 1 or Paragraph 2, the Examinations Committee may exclude students from further participation in the examination.

Section 15 Revocation of Degrees

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

Section 16 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 Paragraph 1.

Section 17 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 examinations may take the form of written examinations, multiple choice examinations, written assignments, term papers or computer-based examinations. ³In exceptional cases (in particular due to stays abroad, illness or disproportionate strain on resources), the Examinations Committee may permit a change in the type of examination. ⁴In case of a change in the type of examination due to disproportionate strain on resources, the Examinations Committee's decision must be announced at least four weeks in advance.

(2) The duration of the written examination shall be governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹Written examinations shall generally be graded by the author of the examination questions. 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 rating must be made clear.

(4) ¹Written examinations may take the form of multiple-choice examinations (single or multiple choice), either in full or in part. ²Detailed information on the modules in which written examinations take the form of multiple choice questions are given in the module handbook. ³The examinee shall state which of the answers presented along with the questions they deem to be correct. ⁴Examination questions must allow for reliable examination results. ⁵It must be specified during the design of the examination questions 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 are faulty with regard to the requirements set forth in Sentence 4. 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 Paragraph 4 (1) shall be considered to have been passed if

1. the examinee answered at least 50 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 50 percent of the attainable points, or
2. the examinee answered at least 40 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 40 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, Paragraphs 4 and 5 shall only apply for this part.

(7) Section 20 shall apply to grading; section 20 (2) shall apply to grading of multiple choice examinations.

Section 18 Oral Examination

(1) ¹In oral examinations students are required to prove that they grasp the context of their subject and can handle specific questions in this context. ²Oral examinations shall be conducted in the presence of an observer appointed by the examiner.

(2) ¹The duration of oral examinations shall be governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) In oral examinations before several authorised examiners, every examiner shall determine the grade according to Section 20.

(4) ¹Minutes shall be recorded for oral examinations; they shall include the following: time, date and duration of the examination; name of the module to which the examination belongs and number of ECTS credits allocated to the module; subject and result of the examination; the names of the examiners, the observer and the student; and any special occurrences. ²The minutes 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.

Section 19 Electronic Examinations

¹Examinations may be administered in electronic form. ²Detailed information on the modules in which examinations are in electronic form is given in the module handbook. ³Computer-based examinations (e-examinations) are examinations which are administered and evaluated via computer-aided or digital media. 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 20 Evaluation of Examinations, Grade Scale, Final Grade

(1) ¹The evaluation of individual examination achievements shall be expressed by the examiners with the following ratings and 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 rating shall be 'bestanden' (pass) or 'nicht bestanden' (fail). ⁴Except when otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, a module examination shall have been passed when all parts of the examination or partial examinations (Section 6 [2]) have been passed. ⁵If an examination has several examiners or several parts or partial achievements, the total grade is calculated from the weighted average of the individual grades. ⁶One decimal place shall be shown in the calculation of the grade; further decimal places shall be omitted without being rounded.

(2) ¹Multiple choice examinations (single and/or multiple choice) shall be evaluated as follows: ²Students who answer the required minimum of examination questions according to Section 17 (5)(1) correctly shall receive the grade

1.0 (sehr gut/very good) if at least 75 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly,

2.0 (gut/good) if at least 50 percent but less than 75 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly,

3.0 (befriedigend/satisfactory) if at least 25 percent but less than 50 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly,

4.0 (ausreichend/sufficient) if no or less than 25 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly.

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

(3) The Grundlagen und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP) shall have been passed if the requirements stipulated in Section 27 of these examination regulations and in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** have been fulfilled.

(4) ¹The overall grade of the GOP, the Bachelor's examination, the Master's examination and the modules 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 1.3 shall receive the overall assessment 'mit Auszeichnung bestanden' (passed with distinction).

(5) ¹With the Examinations Committee's approval, the module co-ordinator 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 Bachelor's and Master's thesis modules consist of a thesis and an oral part, the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** may stipulate that the Bachelor's and Master's thesis as well as the rest of the module shall be weighted according to their number of ECTS credits in the calculation of the module grade. ³If no graded examination is conducted, the successfully completed module shall be rated as 'bestanden' (passed).

(6) ¹The final grade of the GOP shall be calculated using all module grades from the modules required for passing the GOP with the weighting of their ECTS credits. ²In case of several possible modules, the better results shall be used.

(7) ¹Unless otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, all module grades of the Bachelor's degree programme shall be included in the calculation of the final grade of the Bachelor's examination with the weighting of the ECTS credits. ²Paragraph 1 (6) shall apply accordingly.

(8) ¹Unless otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, all module grades of the Master's degree programme shall be included in the calculation of the final grade of the Master's examination with the weighting of the ECTS credits. ²Paragraph 1 (6) shall apply accordingly.

(9) The **degree programme and examination regulations** may stipulate that individual module examinations shall be given a different weighting in the calculation of the final grade of the Bachelor's or Master's examination.

(10) ¹In addition to the final grade in the degree programme, a relative grade (ECTS grade) shall be calculated as follows according to the ECTS grading scale and included in the diploma supplement:

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

of graduates in the year group. ²In addition to the current year group, at least two previous year groups shall be included in the cohort used to determine the ECTS grade.

Section 21 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 Paragraph 1 shall be excluded after a period of five years starting with the certificate's date of issue.

Section 22 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 minutes.

(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 Sentence 1 without any fault of their own shall be granted restitutio in integrum according to Section 32 of the Bavarian Administrative Procedures Act (BayVwVfG) as amended from time to time.

Section 23 Final Academic Record, Diploma Supplement, Transcript of Records, 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.

(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 contain the topic of the Bachelor's or Master's thesis. ²The transcript of records shall list 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 24 Notification on 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 25 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.

(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 within four weeks before the examination date.

(3) ¹Decisions according to Paragraphs 1 and 2 shall only be taken by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee upon written request. ²The student may be required to submit an official certificate from a 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 26 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 Bache-

lor'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 special provisions of these examination regulations (Section 27–30) and in the **degree programme and examination regulations**.
2. The 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 final attempt.
3. De-registration of the student resulting in the revocation of the student's right to sit the examination is effected.

(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 27 Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP)

(1) In the Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP) students should prove that they:

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

(2) ¹The GOP shall have been passed when the modules designated as part of the GOP in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** have been passed and all requirements stipulated in the **degree programme and examination regulations** have been fulfilled. ²The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify subject, type and scope of the GOP.

Section 28 Bachelor's Examination

¹The **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify subjects, type and scope of the Bachelor's examination. ²The Bachelor's examination shall have been passed if all subject modules required according to the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** have been passed achieving 180 ECTS credits.

Section 29 Bachelor's Thesis

(1) ¹The Bachelor's thesis is supposed to show that the student is capable of dealing with a problem from their field independently according to scientific methods within a set period and presenting the results in an appropriate form. ²Students are awarded 12 ECTS credits for the Bachelor's thesis. ³The results of the Bachelor's thesis shall be presented in a seminar presentation (3 ECTS credits). ⁴The date of the seminar presentation shall be determined by the supervising lecturer either after the student has submitted their Bachelor's thesis or during the final stage of thesis work. ⁵The date shall usually be within four weeks after the date on which the thesis was submitted; students shall be notified of the date at least two weeks in advance.

(2) ¹The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** govern who is eligible to assign Bachelor's theses (act as a supervisor). ²The Examinations Committee shall have the right to grant and regulate exceptions. ³The Examinations Committee may permit students to write their Bachelor's thesis at an institution outside the University 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 degree programme's standard duration. ²The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** govern the requirements for admission to the Bachelor's thesis. ³The Examinations Office shall be notified of the subject and the date of allocation. 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.

(4) ¹The period between the allocation of the subject and the date of the Bachelor's thesis' submission (standard thesis work period) shall be 12 weeks. ²The scope of the subject must be such that it can be dealt with within the standard thesis work period. ³The Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend the period for the Master's thesis by a maximum of four weeks upon receiving a justified request. ⁴If 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 held in abeyance.

(5) ¹The topic of the Bachelor's thesis may not be returned. ²If the subject is returned where it is not admissible, the Bachelor's thesis shall receive the evaluation '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) ¹Unless otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, the thesis shall be written in German or in English. ²With the supervisor's agreement, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee may permit students to write the thesis in a different language upon request.

(7) ¹The thesis shall be submitted to the Examinations Office in triplicate as well as in a machine-readable, electronic version (pdf document on a CD-ROM). ²The supervisor and second examiner shall each be given one of the (stamped) hard copies. ³The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by the Examinations Committee. ⁴The Bachelor's thesis shall include a declaration by 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 shall generally be evaluated by the supervisor and another examiner appointed by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee. ²Further details are set out in the **degree programme and examination regulations**. ³The chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall usually work towards the thesis being graded within one month.

(9) ¹The Bachelor's thesis shall be accepted if it receives at least the grade 'ausreichend' (sufficient) from both examiners. ²It shall be rejected if it receives the grade 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) from both examiners. ³If one examiner grades the thesis as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) and the other examiner grades it as at least 'ausreichend' (sufficient), a third examiner shall be appointed. ⁴If this examiner grades the thesis as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) it shall be rejected; otherwise the Examinations Committee shall decide whether to accept the thesis under consideration of the reviews and shall determine the grade according to Section 20 (1).

(10) ¹If the Bachelor's thesis has been accepted according to Section 9 (1) and if the evaluations of the two examiners are different, the grade of the Bachelor's thesis shall be the arithmetic average of the grades from the two examiners; only one decimal place shall be shown in the final thesis grade. ²If the evaluations of the two examiners are two whole numerical grades apart or more, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall appoint a third examiner; in this case the Examinations Committee shall determine the grade according to Section 20 (1) under consideration of the reviews.

(11) 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 Bachelor's thesis within two months following the announcement of the rejection; otherwise the Bachelor's thesis shall be regarded as having been failed at the final attempt; Paragraph 3 (3) and (4) shall apply accordingly. ³Paragraphs 1 to 10 shall apply accordingly to the repetition.

Section 30 Resit Examinations

(1) ¹With the exception of GOP and the Bachelor's thesis, every failed module examination or partial examination may be resat twice. ²The resit examination shall be limited to the failed examination or coursework achievement. ³Examinations that are part of the GOP according to the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** may only be resat once; section 29 (11) shall apply to repetition of the Bachelor's thesis. ⁴The resit examination must be sat on the next possible date, which shall generally be in the semester following the first examination. 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 8 (1) shall continue to apply. ⁸The provisions regarding maternity protection and parental leave (Section 8 [2]) shall apply.

(2) ¹Voluntarily resitting a passed examination of the same module shall not be permitted.

III: Master's Examination

Section 31 Qualification for the Master's Degree Programme

(1) Qualification for a Master's degree programme shall be proved through:

1. 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; the **degree programme and examination regulations** of the Master's degree programmes shall govern the subject-specific and subject-related degrees according to Clause 1.
2. Passing the qualification assessment process according to the **Appendix**.

(2) ¹The degrees according to Paragraph 1 (1) must be equivalent to the subject-specific Bachelor's examination with regard to the expertise gained according to these examination regulations including the relevant **degree programme and exam-**

ination 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.

(3)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 135 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 with reservations.

Section 32 Admission to Examinations

¹Students enrolled in the Master's degree programme shall be deemed as admitted to the Master's examination and the module examinations of which the Master'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 special provisions of these examination regulations (Section 33–35) and in the **degree programme and examination regulations**.
2. The Diplom or Master's examination in a similar degree programme has been failed at the final attempt.
3. De-registration of the student resulting in the revocation of the student's right to sit the examination is effected.

Section 33 Master's Examination

(1) ¹The Master's examination shall consist of the required module examinations including the Master's thesis module. ²The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** may stipulate that the Master's thesis is to be complemented by a final oral examination (Master's colloquium). ³The Master's examination shall have been passed if all required course-related module examinations and the Master's thesis module including the oral final examination module, where applicable, have been passed.

(2) The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify the subjects, type and scope of the Master's examination.

Section 34 Master's Thesis

(1) ¹The Master's thesis is an examination paper that concludes the Master's degree. ²It is supposed 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 previously submitted Diplom thesis, Bachelor's thesis, Master's thesis, or extended written assignment (Zulassungsarbeit) in a teaching degree programme (Lehramt). ⁴The Master's thesis shall be worth 30 ECTS credits.

(2) ¹Students shall ensure that they receive a subject for their Master's theses at the latest by the start of the last semester of the degree programme's standard duration. ²The subject and the date of its allocation shall be confirmed by the supervisor and presented to the Examinations Office. 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. ⁴The **degree programme and examination regulations** may stipulate the conditions for the allocation of a Master's thesis.

(3) ¹The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** govern who is eligible to assign Master's theses (act as a supervisor). ²Section 29 (2)(2) and (2)(3) shall apply accordingly.

(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 up to two times by a maximum of six weeks 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 held in abeyance.

(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 relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** govern the language in which the Master's thesis is to be written. ²The Master's thesis shall contain a summary of results at the end. ³The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by the Examinations Committee. ⁴The Master's thesis shall include a declaration by the student confirming that the thesis is an original work and that no other sources or materials than the ones listed were used. ⁵Three hard copies and machine-readable, electronic versions (pdf document on a CD-ROM) of the Master's thesis shall be submitted, with one copy submitted to the Examinations Office, one to the supervisor and one to the second examiner; the time of delivery shall be recorded in writing. ⁶If 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) Section 29 (8) and (9) shall apply accordingly.

(8) ¹If the Master's thesis has been accepted according to Paragraph 7 in conjunction with Section 29 (9)(1) and if the evaluations of the two examiners are no more than two numerical grades apart, the grade of the Master's thesis shall be the arithmetic average of the grades from the two examiners; only one decimal place shall be shown in the final thesis grade. ²If the evaluations of the two examiners are more than two numerical grades apart, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall appoint a third examiner; in this case the Examinations Committee shall determine the grade of the Master's thesis according to Section 20 (1) under consideration of the reviews.

(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; Paragraph 2 (3)

shall apply accordingly. ³Paragraphs 1–8 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, if this is not impossible according to the reviews and with the student's approval, permit the student to submit a revised version of the Master's thesis within six months of the announcement of its rejection; in the case of revision, Paragraphs 1–8 shall apply accordingly.

Section 35 Resit Examinations

Section 30 shall apply accordingly.

IV: Final Provisions

Section 36 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 2015/2016 onwards. ³Sentence 2 notwithstanding, Sections 7, 8 (2), 13, 14 (2)–(4), 17, 19, 20, 25 and 30 of these examination regulations shall also apply to students who began their studies under the previously valid degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme in Biology and the Master's degree programme in Cell and Molecular Biology of 5 August 2008 in the version of 6 October 2014 or the previously valid degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics at the Faculty of Sciences of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (StPO/ILS) of 23 December 2009 in the version of 11 May 2015; the previously valid examination regulations shall continue to apply to all other aspects of examinations for these students.

(2) The degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's degree programme in Biology and the Master's degree programme in Cell and Molecular Biology at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg of 5 August 2008 in the version of 6 October 2014 and the degree programme and examination regulations for the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics at the Faculty of Sciences of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (StPO/ILS) of 23 December 2009 in the version of 11 May 2015 shall cease to be in force as of 30 September 2023.

Appendix

Qualification assessment process for the Master's degree programme in Cell and Molecular Biology and the Master's degree programme in Integrated Life Sciences – Biology, Biomathematics and Biophysics (ILS) at the Faculty of Sciences of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg

(1) The qualification assessment process for the relevant Master's degree programme shall be carried out once before the start of the lecture period of the semester preceding the regular start of a degree programme.

(2) ¹Applications for the qualification assessment process must be submitted to the University' Master's Office by the 15 July at the latest. ²The application shall contain:

1. a certificate proving that the applicant holds a university degree according to Section 31 (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 135 ECTS credits have been obtained
3. where applicable, further documents as proof of fulfilment of the requirements set forth in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**

(3) ¹In accordance with Section 12, qualification assessment shall be the responsibility of the Admissions Committee of the Master's degree programme in question. ²The Admissions Committee may transfer the task of co-ordinating and carrying out the process to individual members unless otherwise stated. ³The Admissions Committee shall fulfil its obligations in co-operation 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 Paragraph 2. ²The qualification assessment process shall be carried out with those applicants who fulfil the requirements according to the provisions in Paragraph 5. ³Applicants 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. The 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 31 (1)(1) or in the case of Section 31 (3) if the student has achieved an average of 2.5 (gut/good) or better in their previous achievements; for degrees graded on the basis of a different grading system Section 13 (3) shall apply accordingly. ³Applicants who cannot be admitted to the Master's degree programme in the course of the preselection and have a grade of at least 3.0 in an equivalent degree shall be invited to an oral admission examination. ⁴Sentence 2 notwithstanding, individual **degree programme and examination regulations** can specify whether candidates with a degree from a related subject or an equivalent degree shall be subject to an oral admission examination for admission to the Master's degree programme. ⁵The date of the oral admission examination shall be announced at least one week in advance. ⁶If 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. ⁷The oral admission examination is an individual examination lasting approximately 20 minutes. ⁸With the applicant's approval, the oral admission examination may be conducted via video telephone. ⁹It shall be conducted by at least one member of the Admissions Committee in the presence of an observer; Section 18 (4) shall apply accordingly. ¹⁰The oral admission examination is supposed to demonstrate that the applicant possesses the required technical and methodological expertise and can be expected to carry out independent academic work in a more research-orientated degree programme; the individual **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify the criteria of the examination. ¹¹The examination shall be rated as 'bestanden' (passed) or 'nicht bestanden' (failed). ¹²Applicants shall be notified of the result of the oral admission examination in writing. ¹³A rejection notification shall include reasons and information on the legal remedies available.

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

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

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Erlangen, 22 July 2015

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Joachim Hornegger
President

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