

Faculty of Law

UNIVERSITY OF  
COLOGNE

THE DEAN



# Examination Regulations

European Legal Perspectives  
Postgraduate Master's Program  
Master of Laws (LL.M.)

**NOTE: ONLY THE GERMAN VERSION OF THE EXAMINATION REGULATIONS IS LEGALLY BINDING.  
THE ENGLISH VERSION IS ONLY PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES.**

**Official Examination Regulations for the Postgraduate Master's  
Program *European Legal Perspectives* of the Faculty of Law of the  
University of Cologne**

**27 July 2020**

Pursuant to §§ 2 paragraph 4 sentence 1, 64 paragraph 1 sentence 1 of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (Hochschulgesetz - HG) in the version of the Higher Education Future Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Hochschulzukunftsgesetz - HZG NRW) of September 16, 2014 (GV. NRW. p. 547), last amended by Article 10 of the Act on the Consistent and Solidary Management of the COVID-19 Pandemic in North Rhine-Westphalia and on the Adaptation of State Law with Regard to the Effects of a Pandemic of April 14, 2020 (GV. NRW. p. 218b), the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne promulgates the following regulations:

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Appendices:

1. *Synopsis of the course of studies*
2. *Synopsis of the modules*

## § 1

### Scope of Application

<sup>1</sup>These examination regulations govern the course of study, the examination procedure and the academic degree to be conferred for the postgraduate master's program European Legal Perspectives at the University of Cologne (hereinafter: master's program). <sup>2</sup>The contents and requirements of the modules are regulated in the appendix. <sup>3</sup>The appendix is incorporated by reference in these examination regulations.

## § 2

### Program Type and Program Objective

(1) The program is a postgraduate master's degree program pursuant to § 62 paragraph 2 sentence 2 HG with an application-oriented profile.

(2) <sup>1</sup>In light of the pronounced role of the European Union and European law for legal practice, the master's program aims to provide lawyers with academically in-depth, professionally oriented knowledge in the field of European Union law, including its relations to international law and the law of the member states. <sup>2</sup>The special feature of the program is the close connection between legal and methodological fundamentals and practical application. <sup>3</sup>The courses are designed to be both academic and practice-oriented. In addition, the compulsory internship and a regular exchange with practitioners ensure the application of the acquired knowledge by means of direct "on the job training". <sup>4</sup>This direct interlocking of courses and practice is intended to further train graduates for highly qualified pursuits related to the law of the European Union.

(3) The program shall convey to students, in recognition of a changing professional world with its associated demands and multidisciplinary aspects, the necessary subject-specific knowledge, skills and methods to prepare students for scientific and creative work and enable students to apply scientific findings and methods in professional practice, to critically evaluate scientific findings and to conduct themselves responsibly.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Students will acquire the necessary knowledge and skills that enable them for good scientific practice and responsible conduct within the area of science pursuant to the respective current version of the "Regulations of the University of Cologne for Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice and Dealing with Scientific Misconduct" (Amtliche Mitteilungen der Universität zu Köln 24/2011).

### § 3

#### Academic Degree

<sup>1</sup>Upon successful completion of the program, the academic degree Master of Laws, LL. M., will be conferred. <sup>2</sup>A prerequisite for graduation is that credit points have been earned in this or a comparable program at the University of Cologne.

### § 4

#### Eligibility and Admission to the Program, Start of Study, Standard Study Period, Program Organization

- (1) Eligibility and admission to the program are governed by a separate set of regulations.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The program may only be commenced in the winter semester. <sup>2</sup>The standard study period is two semesters.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The course of study is organized by the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne in such a way that the program can be completed within the standard study period. <sup>2</sup>The Faculty of Law at the University of Cologne ensures appropriate support for students in the organization of their studies by, among other things, providing counseling specific to the course of study and taking measures to evaluate and ensure the quality of instruction.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>A master's program plan is to be issued and made available in a suitable form. <sup>2</sup>This master's program plan is part of the examination regulations.
- (5) The master's program is offered in English.

### § 5

#### Master's Program Layout and Structure

- (1) In the master's program, a minimum of 60 credit points must be obtained in accordance with § 7.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The master's program includes 10 modules as set forth in § 6. <sup>2</sup>Specifically, it includes:
  - a) three basic modules ("EU - Legal and Political Perspectives", "EU – Political and Economic Perspectives" and "European Private Law") worth 5 credit points each; one supplementary module ("Introduction to Methods and Procedures of European Law")

worth 4 credit points, one internship module worth 6 credit points; four focus modules worth 5 credit points each, of which at least three must be from the same specialization area pursuant to paragraph 3;

b) the module "Master's Thesis" is worth 15 credit points.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The areas of specialization to choose from are:

- a) Litigation and Arbitration in European Law
- b) European Economic Law
- c) European Law and Sustainability
- d) European Law and International Relations

<sup>2</sup>Three of the four focus modules to be completed must be from the same area of specialization. <sup>3</sup>The fourth focus module may be chosen from a different area of specialization. <sup>4</sup>Focus modules are assigned to the areas of specialization pursuant to the regulations in the appendix.

(4) The master's program is carried out in accordance with the respective provisions in the appendix.

## § 6

### Modules

(1) The master's program is structured in the form of modules.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Modularization is the summary of subject areas into self-contained instructional units with credit points, which are topically and chronologically related to one other. <sup>2</sup>The contents of a module are to be structured in such way that they generally may be taught in one or two semesters.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Modules generally have 4, 5, 6 or 15 credit points. <sup>2</sup>Modules with 4, 5 or 6 credit points may generally be completed in one semester; all others in no more than two semesters.

(4) A distinction is made between the following module types:

- a) Basic Modules, the purpose of which is to convey basic knowledge,
- b) Advanced modules that expand upon the core modules; their purpose is to deepen acquired knowledge and skills,

- c) Focus Modules, the purpose of which is to define one's own emphasis through specialization,
  - d) Supplementary modules that are not firmly established within the course of study; their purpose is to supplement individual study.
- (5) Modules can be offered as required modules or optional required modules:
- a) The study of required modules is mandatory; they are listed as such in the appendix,
  - b) Optional required modules are to be selected from a fixed list and must be studied in accordance with the provisions in the appendix; they are listed as such in the appendix,
- (6) <sup>1</sup>Regulations for the individual modules and for the examinations concluding them are set forth in the appendix. <sup>2</sup>These include, in particular:
- a) Identification number of the module,
  - b) Title of the module,
  - c) Module participation requirements,
  - d) Commencement of the module,
  - e) Module rotation,
  - f) Duration of the module in semesters,
  - g) Instructional forms of the module and participation requirements,
  - h) Examination requirements,
  - i) Examination format, form and duration of the module examination and, as applicable examination components and the modalities for passing and/or retaking them,
  - j) Language of examination,
  - k) Limitations on attempts,
  - l) Identification as required or optional required module,
  - m) Module credit points,
  - n) Requirements for the awarding of credit points,
  - o) For optional required modules: proportion of the module credit points to the respective optional requirement area,



p) Weight of the module grade for the overall grade.

(7) <sup>1</sup>Generally, modules are completed with only one module examination. <sup>2</sup>Individual modules can be completed without examination. <sup>3</sup>The corresponding regulations are set forth in the appendix.

(8) If a module examination consists of more than one examination element, generally, these represent different examination forms and/or forms of examination pursuant to § 12 paragraphs 2 to 6.

(9) <sup>1</sup>Participation in modules or elements of modules may be subject to conditions. <sup>2</sup>The conditions are set forth in the appendix.

## § 7

### **Credit Points and General Criteria for Awarding Credit Points**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Successful participation in modules is certified by the award of credit points. <sup>2</sup>Credit points are calculated according to the expected workload required of the students and are a quantitative measure of the overall workload of the students. <sup>3</sup>They include the time spent both attending classes, as well as preparation and follow-up course material (attendance and self-study), preparation for examinations and the demand of the examinations, including final course work and student research papers, as well as, if applicable, internships. <sup>4</sup>Credit points are equivalent to credits under the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System. <sup>5</sup>One credit point corresponds to an average workload of approximately 30 hours. <sup>6</sup>The workload for the first semester is 840 hours and for the second semester 960 hours. <sup>7</sup>These are awarded with 28 credit points for the first semester and 32 credit points for the second semester.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Credit points are awarded if the study and/or examination results required in the respective module have been demonstrated or deemed as passed. <sup>2</sup>Section 48 paragraph 5 HG applies with respect to obtaining credits in leave of absence cases. <sup>3</sup>Notwithstanding this, study and examination results from modules that have not been completed may be included in the transcript of records.

## § 8

### **Intentionally Left Blank**

## § 9

### Types of Instruction

- (1) Instruction is generally offered in the following types:
- a) Lecture: the coherent presentation and instruction of basic and specialized scientific knowledge and of methodological findings, usually in individual courses spread periodically over a semester.
  - b) Seminar: discursive engagement with basic or advanced issues.
  - c) Practical Exercise: a task accompanying a lecture or seminar. Discussion of prescribed exercises and deepening of learning content through independent elaboration or acquisition and deepening of knowledge by working on tasks or conducting experiments.
  - d) Internship: the acquisition and deepening of knowledge by working on practical tasks or carrying out experiments. An internship may be carried out at the university (e.g. laboratory internship) or outside of the university (e.g. field internship, company internship or school internship).
  - e) Excursion: instruction that takes place outside of the university for the purpose of observation. Students recognize aspects of subject content in reality, gather relevant factors/structures on the basis of observations and practice the application of the acquired knowledge or develop scientific conclusions.
  - f) Language course: a course designed for the acquisition and/or development of foreign language skills.
  - g) Project: an action-oriented, independent handling of a complex task or problem in successive phases (planning, execution, presentation of results), generally within a timeframe determined in advance.
  - h) Tutorial: generally small group meetings that accompany basic courses. In small groups, work techniques are practiced and basic knowledge is deepened; the complex content of the main course is explained to the students or the theoretical content is illustrated using practical examples.

(2) The types of instruction pursuant to paragraph 1 may be offered in combined form.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If a limitation on the number of participants for a course due to its type or purpose or for other reasons of research, artistic development projects, instruction, creative practice or medical care is necessary and the number of applicants exceeds the capacity, the number of participants may be limited in pursuant § 59 paragraph 2 HG. <sup>2</sup>Students who at such point in their course of study are required to take the course are given priority. <sup>3</sup>The Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne shall regulate the details, in particular the criteria for prioritization, in its own

regulations. <sup>4</sup>It is to be ensured within the means available that students do not incur any loss in time through the imposition of limitations on the number of applicants.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Examinations taken as part of excursions, language courses, internships, practical exercises or comparable courses may require regular attendance in the respective course. <sup>2</sup>Corresponding provisions are set forth in the appendix. <sup>3</sup>Section 17, paragraphs 1 to 3 apply accordingly. <sup>4</sup>Regular participation in the courses as well as their preparation and revision is recommended.

## § 10

### **Program Guidance Counseling, Substantive Course Counseling, Examination Guidance Counseling**

(1) The chairperson of the examination committee, his or her deputy, the head of the respective examination office as well as his or her deputy are responsible for providing legally binding information on examinations and examination requirements.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Central Academic Advising Office of the University of Cologne is available for general course guidance, in particular regarding study opportunities and study requirements. <sup>2</sup>Faculty-wide counseling services are available for counseling with regard to interdisciplinary studies.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Substantive course counseling shall be provided by the instructors of the university, as well as academic staff involved in the instruction of the respective course and shall take place during office hours. <sup>2</sup>Office hours are posted at the institutes and are made public via the internet. <sup>3</sup>Taking advantage of individual study counseling is recommended.

(4) Department 9 of the International Affairs Office of the University of Cologne (*Dezernat 9: Internationales der Universität zu Köln*) as well as the Center for International Relations (*Zentrum für international Beziehungen - ZiB*) of the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne offer counseling for special questions of foreign students and for preparation to study abroad.

(5) Students may contact the Psycho-Social Counseling Service of the Cologne Student Union (*Kölner Studierendenwerk*) for any personal issues that they may encounter related to their studies.

(6) Students with disabilities or chronic or mental illness may take advantage of the guidance counseling offered by the university administration's Inclusion Service Center (*Servicezentrum Inklusion*) and the representative for the concerns of students with disabilities or chronic illness.

(7) <sup>1</sup>In addition, the program's central office offers various counseling and guidance services. <sup>2</sup>These services are carried out during office hours. <sup>3</sup>Office hours are posted at the institutes and are made public via the internet.

## § 11

### Recognition of Results Obtained

(1) <sup>1</sup>Examination results that have been obtained in programs at other state or state-recognized universities, at state or state-recognized career academies, in programs at foreign state or state-recognized universities, or in another program at the same institution of higher education, shall be recognized in their entirety upon request, provided that there is no significant difference between the skills acquired and the academic work which is to be substituted. <sup>2</sup>The same applies with respect to degrees conferred upon completion of programs within the meaning of sentence 1. <sup>3</sup>Recognition within the meaning of sentences 1 and 2 is intended to facilitate further study, to take examinations or to enroll in another program of study <sup>4</sup>Failed examinations shall be recognized only to such extent that the right to retake the examination pursuant to § 20, paragraph 1, has not already been exhausted.

(2) Upon request, skills and qualifications acquired by means other than participation in a program of study may be recognized on the basis of submitted documentation, provided such skills and qualifications are equivalent in substance and degree to the examinations they are intended to substitute.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If examination results otherwise obtained are recognized, the grades shall be accepted and included in the calculation of the final grade, to the extent the grading systems are comparable. <sup>2</sup>In the event the grading systems are not comparable, the designation "passed" shall be used. <sup>3</sup>A notation in the certification that examination results otherwise obtained have been recognized is permitted.

(4) Recognition of examination results obtained somewhere else is not possible if such examination results have already been obtained at the University of Cologne.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Students must submit the documentation required for recognition of examination results. <sup>2</sup>Requests for recognition must be submitted in writing. <sup>3</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee shall issue a decision with respect to such recognition. <sup>4</sup>Generally, departmental representatives participate in the recognition process. <sup>5</sup>The decision must generally be made within three months and communicated to the student immediately via posting of the recognition results in the campus management system; in case of denial, a statement of grounds must be given in writing. <sup>6</sup>If the recognition sought on the basis of an application within the meaning of paragraph 1 is denied, the applicant may petition the Rector's office to review the decision, without prejudice to procedural deadlines. <sup>7</sup>The office of the rector shall provide its recommendation with respect to further handling of the application to the chairperson of the examination office.

## § 12

### Examination Types

(1) In order to complete a module only one module examination is generally required; such examination shall be based on the learning objectives and learning outcomes defined for the module.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Module examinations can be in a written, oral, practical or combined form. <sup>2</sup>The type and duration of the respective examination is set forth in detail in the appendix. <sup>3</sup>If serious reasons exist, the chairperson of the examination committee may designate a different type of examination upon written request.

(3) Generally, the forms of written assessment are as follows:

- a) **Written examination:** A written examination is an assignment to be completed under supervision in which the provided tasks are to be solved independently by the student alone using only the permissible aids. The length of a written examination is generally at least 45 and no more than 180 minutes according to the conditions applicable to written examinations in the appendix. Examinations may be taken in handwritten or electronic form. For examinations in electronic form, the provisions of § 8 also apply.
- b) **Term paper:** A term paper is an independent written exposition of an assigned topic which was covered within the framework of the respective module. It must be submitted in written form and as a file on a readable data carrier in a format specified by the examiner; in exceptional cases, submission in electronic form alone is sufficient. A signed certification with the following affirmation must be attached to the term paper: "I hereby affirm that I have prepared this paper independently and without the use of any aids other than those indicated. All passages taken verbatim or in a general sense from published and unpublished writings are cited as such. I affirm that the submitted electronic version is the equivalent of the submitted print version."
- c) **An internship report** is a written account and analysis of the tasks completed at an internship inside or outside of the university.
- d) **A portfolio** is a collection of several completed tasks in the broadest sense, which serves to document and reflect on the learning process, which in turn is evaluated in the summary.

(4) Generally, the forms of oral assessments are as follows:

- a) **Oral examinations:** In oral examinations, an examination candidate must demonstrate that he or she recognizes the interrelationships within the area of examination and is able to analyze particular issues within these interrelationships. Oral examinations are conducted by at least two examiners or by one examiner in the presence of an expert evaluator, unless the use of other means ensures that the oral examination is transparent and comprehensible. Generally, an oral examination lasts at least 20

minutes and no longer than 45 minutes per examination candidate. The length, the basic flow, as well as the substance and results are to be recorded in written minutes of the examination. Upon request, examination candidates of the same program are allowed to attend oral examinations as observers, unless an examination candidate objects. The examiner shall decide with regard to the request according to the number of seats available. Such observation shall not include observation of the deliberations and announcement of the examination result.

- b) Oral report: The purpose of the oral report is to present an assigned topic or subject in a limited amount of time. The examination takes place as part of an instructional course in the form of a presentation with the aid of suitable presentation technology.
- c) Oral presentation: In the context of an oral presentation, independently elaborated aspects or perspectives within a subject area are presented in a limited time with the aid of suitable presentation technology. The examination generally takes place within a form of instruction.

(5) The types of practical examination formats are generally as follows: setting up and conducting experiments, as well as examinations in which a product is created that consists of more than mere text.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Generally, combined examination formats are as follows: workplace-based assessments, simulations, oral reports with written analysis, papers and presentation, and project work. <sup>2</sup>Project work is the independent processing of a task or a problem, generally, in a group, from planning through execution to documentation of the result in written, oral or other form; according to paragraph 7. <sup>3</sup>Combined examinations only include examination formats that are suitable for verifying the acquisition of various competencies or partial competencies.

(7) In appropriate cases, examinations may also be conducted as group work or as an oral group examination, as determined by the examiner, provided the individual contribution of each group member is clearly identifiable, clearly distinguishable and capable of evaluation.

(8) <sup>1</sup>An electronic examination (e-examination) is an examination that is conducted on a computer using an examination program, which through the use of information and communication technologies, assists in the creation, execution and evaluation of the examination. <sup>2</sup>An e-examination is permitted if it is suitable for demonstrating that the examination candidate is proficient in the content and methods of the module in its fundamental contexts and can apply the acquired knowledge and skills; if necessary. It may be supplemented by other examination types. <sup>3</sup>The examination candidates shall be given sufficient opportunity to familiarize themselves with the electronic examination system prior to the examination. <sup>4</sup>The e-examination is to be conducted in the presence of a competent person who will prepare a written record of the course of the examination. <sup>5</sup>The written minutes minimally must include the name of the author of the written minutes and of the candidates, the start and end times of the examination, and any particular incidents that may arise. <sup>6</sup>It must be ensured that the electronic data can be clearly and permanently ascribed to the examination candidates. <sup>7</sup>Pursuant to § 26, examination candidates

must be given the opportunity to review the computer-based examination and the result they have achieved. <sup>8</sup>Data protection laws shall be observed.

(9) <sup>1</sup>Disturbances during the course of the examination must be reported immediately in writing to the chairperson of the examination committee or to the responsible examiner. <sup>2</sup>An assertion that a disturbance occurred may be brought no later than three working days after the examination took place.

## **§ 14 [Note: In the German language original, § 13 was omitted]**

### **Instruction and Examination Language**

<sup>1</sup>The language of instruction and examination is English. <sup>2</sup>Module examinations and, if applicable, their examination elements are conducted in English.

## **§ 15**

### **Examination Registration and Approval to Take the Examination**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Before approval is given to take a module examination, verification must be made as to whether the candidate is entitled to take the examination. <sup>2</sup>Approval to take the examination, as well as taking a module examination shall be granted if the examination candidate is enrolled in the relevant program at the University of Cologne or is admitted as a visiting student, has timely registered for the respective module examination pursuant to paragraph 4 and, if applicable, fulfills further requirements pursuant to paragraph 2, and there are no grounds for denial pursuant to paragraph 3.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Approval to take a module examination may be conditioned on the verification of certain criteria. <sup>2</sup>To the extent these criteria include academic work, the purpose of these criteria are to ensure the acquisition of competencies and, for instructors and students, to evaluate the learning process. <sup>3</sup>They shall remain ungraded. <sup>4</sup>If the academic work requires participation in an instructional course for which regular participation is not required in accordance with § 9 paragraph 4, students may, in justified exceptional cases, be allowed to submit alternative academic work that does not require participation in an instructional course, provided that this is suitable for promoting the acquisition of competencies and to evaluate the learning process and to do so in a comparable manner. <sup>5</sup>Academic work generally includes the following types: Electronic learning assessments, essays, exercises, homework, short oral reports, protocols, reviews, test examinations, thesis papers, and other similar types of academic work. <sup>6</sup>The respective criteria for admission to a module examination are set forth in the appendix.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Approval to take module examination shall be denied if the criteria set forth in paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 are not satisfied, the module examination in the same or an equivalent

module eligible for recognition has already been passed, or if the deadline for retaking the examination has passed. The inclusion of a notification in the campus management system does not cure the absence of the aforementioned criteria. <sup>2</sup>Approval to take a module examination shall also be denied if the examination candidate has failed an examination required by the examination regulations in the chosen program of study at a higher education institution within the area of application of the Basic Law or has lost the right to take the examination; this applies accordingly to programs that are substantially similar in terms of substantive content prior program of study. <sup>3</sup>In addition, approval to take an examination shall be denied if an examination candidate has been granted a leave of absence pursuant to § 48 paragraph 5 HG, unless an exception as set forth in § 48 paragraph 5 sentence 4 and sentence 5 HG applies.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Registration is required for each module examination; failure to register means that neither a right to take the examination nor to have it evaluated shall exist. <sup>2</sup>Generally, registration for a module examination must take place no later than one week before the examination date. <sup>3</sup>Notwithstanding this, § 20 paragraph 7 applies.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The examination dates must be announced at the beginning of the lecture period, but no later than nine weeks before the examination date, by posting a physical notice or posting a notice on the internet in an appropriate form. <sup>2</sup>The following applies notwithstanding the foregoing: In the case of oral module examinations, the examination periods must be announced at the beginning of the lectures and the specific date at the latest two weeks before the module examination. <sup>3</sup>Students who have been admitted to a module examination have the right to take the examination on the published examination date, except in cases of force majeure. <sup>4</sup>Notwithstanding this, § 20 paragraph 7 applies.

(6) Students who are enrolled in more than one program at the same time and wish to take a module examination that is a component of more than one of these programs must specify for which program they are taking the module examination when registering for that module examination.

## § 16

### **Withdrawal of Registration, Failing to Appear and Withdrawal from Examinations**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee shall announce the deadlines for candidates to withdraw from module examinations no less than nine weeks before the examination date by posting a notice or on the internet in a suitable form. <sup>2</sup>An examination candidate may generally withdraw from the module examination no later than one week before the respective examination date without giving reasons.

(2) <sup>1</sup>If an examination candidate fails to appear without good reason for a module examination for which a time and place has been set or if the candidate withdraws from the module examination without good reason after it has begun, the examination will be graded as



"unsatisfactory (5.0)". <sup>2</sup>The same applies if an examination is not completed within the predetermined examination time. <sup>3</sup>§ 19 paragraph 1 applies accordingly.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If a candidate fails to appear for a module examination or withdraws from the module examination after it has begun, the chairperson of the examination committee may, if there are valid reasons, refrain from grading the examination performance as "unsatisfactory (5.0)". <sup>2</sup>The same applies if an examination is not completed within the predetermined examination time. <sup>3</sup>The reasons asserted for failure to appear or withdrawal must be reported immediately in writing to the chairperson of the examination committee and have to be credibly shown. <sup>4</sup>In the case of illness, a medical certificate must be submitted. <sup>5</sup>In cases of doubt, the submission of a confidential medical certificate may be requested; the university shall incur the costs therefor. <sup>6</sup>The same applies in the case of proven illness of a child, spouse, a registered life partner, a relative in the direct line and a relative by marriage in the first degree who are being cared for by the examination candidate. <sup>6</sup>If the examination committee accepts the reasons stated, the candidate will be informed accordingly in writing and a new date will be set.

## § 17

### Compensation for Disadvantages and Protective Provisions

(1) The special concerns of students with disabilities, chronic or mental illnesses and students who are subject to maternity protection regulations shall be taken into consideration in order to ensure equal opportunities for them.

(2) <sup>1</sup>If an examination candidate can credibly demonstrate that he or she is unable to take a module examination in the intended form or to the intended extent due to prolonged or permanent illness or disability, he or she shall be granted compensation for a disadvantage upon written request to the chairperson of the examination committee. <sup>2</sup>The submission of a certification from a physician in the applicable field of specialty may be required for this purpose. <sup>3</sup>This applies accordingly with regard to deadlines and dates as well as obligations to participate in courses and coursework to be completed.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Resort to the protective provisions set forth in maternity protections under law, as well as in accordance with the deadlines of the Federal Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (*Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz*), as amended, shall be made possible upon request; in these cases, it shall be possible to take module examinations despite the leave of absence. <sup>2</sup>If a candidate can credibly demonstrate that she is unable to participate in a module examination in the intended form or to the intended extent due to maternity leave regulations, she will be granted compensation for disadvantages upon written request to the chairperson of the examination committee. <sup>3</sup>The submission of a certification from a physician in a particular specialty may be required for this purpose. <sup>4</sup>This applies accordingly with regard to deadlines and dates as well as obligations to participate in courses and coursework to be completed. <sup>5</sup>The request must be submitted immediately after the criteria have been met.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Special concerns arising from the need to care for or provide for a spouse, registered life partner, direct-line relative or relative by marriage in the first degree shall be taken into account appropriately, in particular with regard to deadlines and dates as well as obligations to attend courses. <sup>2</sup>Such request must be submitted immediately after the criteria have been met.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Requests made pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 4 must be fully substantiated by the examination candidate, who must provide appropriate proof. <sup>2</sup>Requests must be submitted to the chairperson of the examination committee within a reasonable period of time prior to the performance. <sup>3</sup>Unless a change in the illness or disability is to be expected, the compensation for disadvantages shall extend to all examinations to be taken in the course of the study as well as to the acquisition of participation requirements.

## § 18

### Evaluation of Examinations

(1) <sup>1</sup>Examinations are graded by the examiners. <sup>2</sup>The following grades are used:

1 = very good: an excellent result;

2 = good: a result that is significantly above average requirements;

3 = satisfactory: a result that meets average requirements;

4 = sufficient: a result which, despite its deficiencies, still meets the requirements;

5 = unsatisfactory: a result which, due to significant deficiencies, no longer meets the requirements.

<sup>3</sup>By lowering or raising the individual grades by 0.3, intermediate values can be utilized for a more nuanced assessment. <sup>4</sup>The grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 are not permitted. <sup>5</sup>An examination result is deemed passed if it has been graded "sufficient (4.0)" or better.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Examination results with which this program is completed, examination results in retaken examinations for which no compensation option is provided in the event of a definitive failure, as well as the master's thesis shall be evaluated by two examiners. Their appointment shall be made by the chairperson of the examination committee. <sup>2</sup>If a graded examination is evaluated by two examiners, the grade for the examination shall be calculated by taking the mathematical average of the two individual evaluations. <sup>3</sup>If, in the case of written examinations based on the two-examiner principle, the difference between the individual grades is more than 1.0 grade level or if only one of the two individual grades is "unsatisfactory (5.0)", the chairperson of the examination committee shall appoint a third examiner. <sup>4</sup>In this case, the grade shall be calculated by taking the mathematical average of the three individual grades. <sup>5</sup>If the average is lower than "sufficient (4.0)", the examination result shall be evaluated as "sufficient (4.0)", regardless of the mathematical average, if two individual evaluations are "sufficient (4.0)" or

better. <sup>6</sup>If two individual evaluations are "unsatisfactory (5.0)", the examination shall be evaluated as "unsatisfactory (5.0)", regardless of the mathematical average.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Combined forms of examination pursuant to § 12 paragraph 6, shall be evaluated in their totality. <sup>2</sup>Grades shall be reported in accordance with paragraph 1.

(4) If a module examination consists of several examination elements, the evaluation shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions set forth in the appendix.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The final grade of the program is calculated as the weighted mathematical average of the module grades and the grade of the master's thesis according to the weighting set forth in the appendix. <sup>2</sup>The preliminary final grade of the program is calculated as the weighted mathematical average of the existing grades of the successfully completed or recognized modules.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Grades are reported using one decimal place and are used in this form as the basis for further calculations. All other decimal places are deleted without rounding. <sup>2</sup>In the transcript of records, the final grade for the program is reported using one decimal place. <sup>3</sup>All further decimal places are deleted without rounding.

(7) Grades, which are averaged values, are as follows:

from 1.0 to 1.5 = very good;

from 1.6 to 2.5 = good;

from 2.6 to 3.5 = satisfactory;

from 3.6 to 4.0 = sufficient;

above 4.0 = unsatisfactory.

## § 19

### Announcement of Examination Results

(1) <sup>1</sup>The evaluation of examination results shall be announced to the examination candidates generally within eight weeks by posting the grading information in the campus management system. <sup>2</sup>If there is a deviation from this rule, the grounds therefore must be placed on the record. <sup>3</sup>The evaluation is deemed as announced two weeks after it has been posted in the campus management system. <sup>4</sup>The result of an oral examination shall be communicated to the examination candidate following the examination.

(2) The notification of a definitive failure of an examination or of a failed master's thesis will be formally sent to the postal address of the examination candidate on record in the campus management system and shall include a notice setting forth appeal remedies.

## § 20

### Retaking Module Examinations

(1) <sup>1</sup>Failed module examinations may be retaken. <sup>2</sup>The number of examination attempts per module is governed by the provisions set forth in the appendix.

(2) If an examination candidate has failed a module examination in his or her last attempt, for which the number of examination attempts is limited pursuant to paragraph 1 sentence 2, the module examination shall be deemed definitively failed, resulting in the candidate's ex-matriculation from the program.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If a module examination consists of several examination components, two pass or retaking options are possible:

- a) All components of the module examination must be graded "sufficient (4.0)" or better. All components of the module examination graded "insufficient (5.0)" must be retaken (option A). Paragraphs 1 and 2 apply accordingly to examination elements.
- b) All components of the module examination are to be included in the module grade according to the weighting set forth in the appendix. If the module grade determined in this manner is "sufficient (4.0)" or better, the module examination is deemed passed. If the module grade determined in this manner is lower than "sufficient (4.0)", examination elements of the module examination evaluated as "insufficient (5.0)" must be retaken until the module grade is "sufficient (4.0)" or better overall. Components of an examination that have been passed cannot be retaken. Module examinations pursuant to this regulation are not subject to any limitation on whether they may be re-attempted (option B).

<sup>2</sup>The determination as to the option for each module is set forth in the appendix.

(4) <sup>1</sup>If a student fails an examination, he or she may submit a written request to the examination office [*Prüfungsamf*] to retake the examination in the form of an oral examination within two weeks after the grades have been announced. <sup>2</sup>The student will be notified of the date for retaking the examination via the campus management system. <sup>3</sup>There must be at least 14 days between the notification and the examination that is to be retaken, unless the student agrees to a shorter period. <sup>4</sup>Unless the examination committee decides otherwise, the examination to be retaken will be given by the examiner of the original examination.

(5) Notwithstanding paragraph 4, the chairperson of the examination committee may, in justified cases and upon request of the examiner, specify an alternative type of examination or alternative characteristics for examinations be retaken.

(6) Notwithstanding paragraph 4, the deadlines pursuant to § 15 paragraphs 4 and 5 may be changed for repeat examinations in justified cases.

- (7) The repetition of a master's thesis shall be carried out pursuant to § 21a paragraph 11.
- (8) The repetition of module examinations that have been passed is not permitted.

## § 21

### Internship Module

(1) <sup>1</sup>An internship with a duration of six weeks must be completed as part of the master's program. <sup>2</sup>The internship takes place during the lecture-free period between the first and second semesters. <sup>3</sup>In justified cases, the internship may be divided into blocks of three weeks each upon request of the student. <sup>4</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee shall issue a decision with respect to the request.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The internship may be completed at any appropriate location where law is practiced, including at a lawyer's office, at a business enterprise or at an administrative authority. <sup>2</sup>The internship may be completed at supranational, intergovernmental or foreign training centers or at a foreign lawyer's office. <sup>3</sup>The internship must be thematically related to the objectives of the master's program pursuant to § 2 paragraph 2. <sup>4</sup>The internship supervisor must meet the requirements pursuant to § 23 and shall be the examiner of this module. <sup>5</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee shall rule on the suitability of the internship pursuant to paragraph 3.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The student shall propose an internship to the examination office no later than six weeks prior to the start of the internship and shall indicate who is to be the internship supervisor. <sup>2</sup>Provided the requirements set forth in paragraph 2 are satisfied, the chairperson of the examination committee shall appoint the internship supervisor as the examiner of the internship module and shall also confirm the suitability of the internship.

(4) <sup>1</sup>During the internship, both current and newly acquired knowledge are to be applied and expanded in a practice-oriented manner. <sup>2</sup>For this reason, students must deliver at least two independently produced, practical work results during the internship, which will be evaluated by the supervisor. <sup>3</sup>Practical work includes, in particular, statements, memoranda, short lectures, expert reports, presentations or similar. <sup>4</sup>The internship must be evidenced by a graded certificate (internship certificate) from the office where the internship is completed. <sup>5</sup>The internship certificate must be submitted to the examination committee by the end of the second semester. <sup>6</sup>The practical work results shall be reported individually with a grade set forth in the internship certificate. <sup>7</sup>The supervisor shall assign a final grade for the internship pursuant to § 18, taking into account the practical work results and his or her overall impression. <sup>8</sup>If the option of dividing the internship into two individual internships is exercised, two internship certificates must be submitted accordingly. <sup>9</sup>If the internship is divided into two individual internships, the grade for the internship module is the mathematical average of the final grades of the two internship certificates.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Each intern shall write a personal report about the internship in English consisting of 5000 characters. <sup>2</sup>The internship report will not be graded and is not included in the grade of the

internship certificate. <sup>3</sup>If the report is not submitted to the examination committee by the end of the second semester at the latest, no credit points will be awarded for the internship module. <sup>6</sup>If, in accordance with paragraph 1, the option to divide the internship into two individual blocks is exercised, two internship reports must be submitted accordingly.

(6) <sup>1</sup>During the internship phase, two legal-practice meetings shall take place generally at the university. <sup>2</sup>At the legal-practice meetings, all students for the year are encouraged to share their experiences from the internship. <sup>3</sup>Attendance at the legal-practice meetings and active participation is recommended.

(7) <sup>1</sup>The internship should at the same time serve as orientation and to help students select a topic as it relates to the master's thesis. <sup>2</sup>This is to be taken into consideration in the selection and structure of the internship.

## § 21a

### Module Master's Thesis

(1) The master's thesis is an examination in the form of an independently written thesis, in which the candidate demonstrates that he or she is capable of reflecting on and addressing a topically-limited problem from the subject area of the program using the required methods within a specified period of time.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis is to be written during the course of study. <sup>2</sup>Fifteen (15) credit points shall be awarded for the master's thesis. <sup>3</sup>The requirements to receive approval to write the master's thesis are set forth in the appendix.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee shall task an examiner with selecting the topic of the master's thesis pursuant to § 23 paragraph 3 and shall appoint an additional examiner who submits the second evaluation. <sup>2</sup>With respect to the topic selected by the examiner, the examination candidate shall have the right to offer his or her own suggestion. <sup>3</sup>When selecting the topic, special attention shall be paid to the practical orientation of the master's thesis. <sup>4</sup>Such practical orientation may be established, in particular, by reference to the previous internship, but also in other ways. <sup>5</sup>Generally, the master's thesis should be written in connection with the previous internship. <sup>6</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee shall announce the topic to the examination candidate in writing, stating the date by which the master's thesis must be submitted. <sup>7</sup>The date on which the topic has been issued shall be recorded. After receipt or announcement of the notification pursuant to sentence 6, rejection of the topic is only permitted in special cases of hardship. <sup>8</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee shall issue a decision with regard to the topic's rejection. <sup>9</sup>The reasons asserted for the existence of a case of hardship must be notified to the chairperson of the examination committee in writing without delay and must be credible. <sup>10</sup>The number of master's thesis topics to be issued may be limited for the individual examiner with the aim of working towards an even distribution of master's theses according to specialization areas and examiners.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The time allotted to prepare the master's thesis shall be a maximum of six months, to commence when the topic is assigned. <sup>2</sup>Assignment of the topic should generally occur by the beginning of the sixth month of the semester in which participation in the program is commenced. <sup>3</sup>The master's thesis must not exceed 50,000 characters (without spaces). <sup>4</sup>The content and scope of the master's thesis must be such that it can be completed within the time limit specified in sentence 1. <sup>5</sup>On the basis of a well-reasoned written request, the chairperson of the examination committee may grant a grace period of no more than four weeks; such request must be submitted to the examination office before the deadline expires. <sup>6</sup>Notwithstanding this, the regulations pursuant to § 17 apply.

(5) The master thesis must be written in English.

(6) <sup>1</sup>The principles of good scientific practice apply to the preparation of the master's thesis. <sup>2</sup>The master's thesis must not have been submitted in the same or similar form or in excerpts as part of another examination. <sup>3</sup>A violation of the forgoing shall result in the master's thesis being given a grade of "insufficient (5.0)".

(7) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis shall contain a bibliography. <sup>2</sup>In addition, the following signed affirmation must be included: "I hereby affirm that I have written this thesis independently and without the use of any aids other than those indicated. <sup>3</sup>All passages taken verbatim or in a general sense from published and unpublished writings are cited as such. <sup>4</sup>The work has not been submitted in the same or similar form or in excerpts as part of another examination. <sup>5</sup>I certify that the submitted electronic version is equivalent in its entirety to the submitted printed version." <sup>6</sup>If the affirmation was made incorrectly, the legal consequences set forth in § 63 paragraph 5 HG may apply.

(8) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis must be timely submitted in triplicate - two printed and bound copies and one write-protected electronic version - to the examination office; the date of submission must be recorded. <sup>2</sup>If the master's thesis is not submitted on time, it shall be graded "insufficient (5.0)".

(9) <sup>1</sup>The grade given to the master's thesis will be announced to the examination candidate generally within eight weeks after its submission by posting the grading information in the campus management system. <sup>2</sup>In the event there is any deviation from the prior sentence, the reasons therefor shall be put on the record. <sup>3</sup>The grade shall be deemed to have been announced two weeks after it has been posted in the campus management system.

(10) <sup>1</sup>A master's thesis graded "insufficient (5.0)" or deemed insufficient may be resubmitted once with a new topic. <sup>2</sup>The provisions of § 24 paragraph 1 remain unaffected. <sup>3</sup>In order to resubmit the master's thesis, registration must occur within three months from the announcement of the result of the first attempt. <sup>3</sup>If an examination candidate misses this deadline, the master's examination shall be deemed definitively failed unless the candidate demonstrates that he or she is not responsible for missing the deadline. <sup>4</sup>Section 17 remains unaffected. <sup>5</sup>Submitting a failed master's thesis for a second time is not permitted. <sup>6</sup>If a passing grade is not given to a master's thesis after one repetition, the program is deemed to have been definitively failed. <sup>7</sup>Resubmitting a master's thesis that has been given a passing grade is not permitted.

(11) <sup>1</sup>Notice that the master's thesis has been failed shall be formally sent to the examination candidate by the chairperson of the examination committee to the postal address of the examination candidate on record in the campus management system. <sup>2</sup>The notice shall include information regarding appeal remedies.

## § 22

### Examination Committee

(1) For the purpose of organizing the examinations, as well as the obligations set forth by these regulations, the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne has elected an examination committee.

(2) The examination committee is comprised of the following seven voting members:

1. The chairperson from the group of university instructors,
2. Three additional members from the group of university instructors,
3. One member from the group of academic staff,
4. One member from the group of technical and administrative staff,
5. One member from the group of students.

(3) The examination committee elects a deputy to the chairperson from among the members set forth in paragraph 2 no. 2.

(4) <sup>1</sup>A deputy is elected for each of the members under paragraph 2 nos. 2 to 5. <sup>2</sup>The deputies become active if the members from the relevant group are prevented from participating.

(5) The chairperson may invite other persons, in particular, deputy members, to attend the meetings of the examination committee, provided this seems appropriate and the majority of the voting members present do not object.

(6) <sup>1</sup>The members and their deputies as set forth in paragraphs 2 nos. 2 to 5 are elected by the Faculty Council (*Engere Fakultät*) of the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne separately according to groups. <sup>2</sup>The groups have a right of nomination. <sup>3</sup>The members from the group of university instructors, from the group of academic staff and from the group of technical and administrative staff shall be elected for three years; the members from the group of students for one year. <sup>4</sup>Re-election is permitted. <sup>5</sup>The term of office of a deputy ends with the term of office of the corresponding member. <sup>6</sup>If a member or a deputy as set forth in paragraphs 2 no. 2 to 5 withdraws prematurely, a successor shall be elected for the remaining term of office.

(7) <sup>1</sup>A quorum of the examination committee exists if the chairperson or his or her deputy and at least two other voting members are present. <sup>2</sup>In matters that directly concern instruction, with the exception of instructional evaluation, members from the group of university instructors



must constitute at least half of the votes. <sup>3</sup>If the deputy chairperson chairs a meeting because the chairperson is prevented from attending, his or her deputy shall participate in the meeting as a voting member pursuant to paragraph 4. <sup>4</sup>The examination committee shall approve resolutions by a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote. <sup>5</sup>In the event of a tie, the chairperson shall cast the deciding vote. <sup>6</sup>The members of the examination committee from the group of employees in technology and administration shall only have the right to vote in matters of instruction insofar as they perform those corresponding functions in the university and have special experience in the respective area; such experience is presumed, in particular, if the employee satisfies the requirements of an examiner in accordance with § 65 paragraph 1 sentence 2 HG. <sup>7</sup>The chairperson shall determine whether these requirements are met at the beginning of the member's term of office and, in cases of doubt, the rectorate shall issue a decision with regard to such determination. <sup>8</sup>Members of the group of students shall vote on pedagogical decisions, in particular with respect to the assessment and recognition of examination results, the determination of examination tasks, as well as with respect to decisions on objections in this respect, provided they satisfy the requirements of an examiner as set forth in § 65 paragraph 1 sentence 2 HG.

(8) <sup>1</sup>The examination committee shall ensure compliance with the provisions of these regulations, including the appendix. <sup>2</sup>It shall rule on appeals taken against examination procedures. <sup>3</sup>It shall report regularly, at least every two years, to the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne regarding the development of the master's examinations and the study periods, shall disclose the distribution of the overall grades and, if necessary, will offer proposals to amend these regulations.

(9) <sup>1</sup>The meetings of the examination committee shall not be open to the public. <sup>2</sup>The members and their deputies are subject to the duty of confidentiality in an official capacity. <sup>3</sup>If they are not in public service (*im öffentlichen Dienst*) they are to be sworn to confidentiality by the chairperson.

(10) <sup>1</sup>The members of the examination committee and their deputies have the right to be present at examinations. <sup>2</sup>The right to be present does not extend to the deliberations regarding examination results.

(11) The examination committee has the examination office for the Faculty of Law at the University of Cologne at its disposal for the organizational handling of examination procedures.

(12) <sup>1</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee, or his or her deputy if the chairperson is unable to attend, represents the examination committee, convenes and chairs the meetings of the examination committee, and implements the resolutions passed there. <sup>2</sup>The examination committee may delegate the performance of its duties to the chairperson for all regular cases. <sup>3</sup>In urgent cases, the chairperson may conduct a vote through a polling procedure (*Umlaufverfahren*). <sup>4</sup>The chairperson may take a decision on behalf of the examination committee when such decision cannot be postponed. The examination committee must be informed of such decision without delay; the examination committee may rescind such decision. Such rescission shall not affect the rights of third parties that may have already arisen. <sup>5</sup>The examination committee reserves the right to rule on appeals. <sup>6</sup>Minutes shall be taken for each meeting of the examination committee.

(13) The chairperson of the examination committee shall announce orders, schedules and deadlines, and other notifications of the examination committee that affect not only individual persons, by physically posting such notice or by other suitable means, with legally binding effect.

## § 23

### **Examiners, Assessors, Electronic Verification**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The examiners are appointed from the group of university instructors and from the group of members and those associated with the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences, as well as from the group of persons as set forth in § 65 paragraph 1 sentence 2, 2nd alternative HG. <sup>2</sup>Examination results may only be evaluated by persons who themselves possess at a minimum the qualifications established by the examination or an equivalent qualification, or who have passed the First Examination in Law or an equivalent. <sup>3</sup>Examiners who have left the University of Cologne may be reappointed as examiners for a period of one year after the end of the semester in which they left. <sup>4</sup>Only persons who have obtained a relevant degree at no less than at the master's level or an equivalent qualification at a university may be appointed as assessors.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The examination committee appoints the examiners and the assessors. <sup>2</sup>It may delegate the appointment to the chairperson. <sup>3</sup>The appointment of examiners and assessors shall be put on the record. <sup>4</sup>Notwithstanding the provision in sentence 1, the following applies: An instructor is the examiner for the course for which he or she is responsible and which he or she conducts, unless the examination committee appoints a different examiner.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The chairperson of the examination committee shall appoint the examiners responsible for the master's thesis from among the professors, associate professors, honorary professors, junior professors, and assistant professors of the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Business, Economics, and Social Sciences. <sup>2</sup>In justified exceptional cases, the examination committee shall rule on the appointment of additional examiners who meet the requirements of § 65 paragraph 1 HG. <sup>3</sup>Examiners who have left the University of Cologne may be reappointed as examiners for the master's thesis for a period of one year after the end of the semester in which they left. <sup>4</sup>The examination committee may extend this period upon justified application. <sup>5</sup>It may delegate this decision to the chairperson. <sup>6</sup>University professors from a university associated by partnership or cooperation agreement may be appointed as topic examiners for a master's thesis upon a request setting forth the grounds therefor by the university professors representing a subject. <sup>7</sup>The appointment of examiners for the master's thesis shall be put on the record.

(4) <sup>1</sup>In consultation with the examination committee, the examiners shall specify the working materials and aids permitted for the examinations they conduct and shall timely announce these in a suitable manner, no later than when the examination date for the respective examination is announced. <sup>2</sup>If no agreement can be reached, the examination committee shall rule on the matter.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Upon general and announced decision of the examination committee, written examination results may be analyzed electronically for unattributed references to other texts. <sup>2</sup>In such event, the examination candidates are obliged to submit the written examination results electronically as well and to certify that the contents of the written and electronic versions are identical. <sup>3</sup>Electronic verification as set forth in sentence 1 also includes the use of written examination results for the purpose of comparison with the subsequent written examination results of third parties, provided there is an objective connection between the examination results. <sup>4</sup>The resolution pursuant to sentence 1 must provide

- a) the examination results that may be analyzed electronically,
- b) whether the examination committee utilizes an administrative assistant and, if so, who this assistant is,
- c) the file format, in which manner and at which location the electronic version is to be submitted,
- d) the criteria according to which the examination results to be examined are selected, and
- e) the time period during which the electronic versions may be used.

<sup>5</sup>Notwithstanding sentence 1, electronic verification is always permissible in the event there is a reasonable preliminary suspicion of fraud. <sup>6</sup>Notwithstanding sentence 4, such utilization shall end no later than at the same time the retention period ends for the examination file pursuant to § 26 paragraph 4. <sup>7</sup>Any use of the electronic version by examiners or the examination committee other than for the purpose of grading or analyzing an examination is not permitted without the consent of the examination candidate. <sup>8</sup>The result of an electronic examination may only form the basis of a detrimental examination decision if it has been confirmed by the assigned examiners.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Examiners shall carry out their examination activities independently of instructions. <sup>2</sup>They and, if applicable, the assessors are subject to the duty of confidentiality in an official capacity. <sup>3</sup>If they are not in public service, they shall be sworn to confidentiality by the chairperson of the examination committee.

## § 24

### Fraud, Violation of Regulations

(1) <sup>1</sup>If an examination candidate attempts to influence the assessment of an examination result by deception for her or his own advantage or for another person's advantage, if she or he uses aids that are not permitted in the examination or if she or he commits scientific misconduct in the performance of the examination, she or he commits an act of fraud. <sup>2</sup>Unauthorized aids may be confiscated by the supervisors after completion of the examination the candidate is entitled to complete with the consent of the examination candidate for the purpose of preserving evidence.

(2) <sup>1</sup>As a consequence of an act of fraud under paragraph 1, the examination committee shall issue one of the following sanctions against the examination candidate:

- a) a warning;
- b) the examination candidate shall be instructed to repeat the examination to which the act of fraud relates;
- c) the examination result to which the act of fraud relates shall be assessed as "insufficient (5.0)" or "failed".

<sup>2</sup>In serious cases or in the case of a repeated offense, the examination committee may prohibit the examination candidate from taking further examinations, resulting in the abrogation of the student's right to take examinations in the program. <sup>3</sup>A serious case is considered to exist, in particular, if the candidate, in a grossly negligent manner,

- a) made false statements in scholarly work or misrepresented the thoughts or findings of others (falsification),
- b) seriously impaired the examination work or research activities of others [German: *Sabotage*],
- c) reproduces the phrasing, thoughts or findings of another without disclosing the original authorship (plagiarism)

(3) Particularly in the case of justified suspicion of plagiarism, the examination committee may undertake further analyses, including electronically, without the consent of the examination candidate.

(4) As a consequence of an act of fraud pursuant to paragraph 1, the relevant course work shall be deemed to have not been completed.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Anyone disturbing the course of an examination may be prohibited by the respective examiners or supervisors from further taking the examination; in such case, the examination shall be graded as "insufficient (5.0)" or "failed". <sup>2</sup>The reasons for the prohibition shall be placed on the record.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Prior to a decision pursuant to paragraph 1 and paragraph 2 sentences 1 and 2, the examination candidate shall be granted a hearing. <sup>2</sup>The examination candidate shall be informed of the decision in writing without delay, and such decision shall be accompanied by a statement of grounds and a notice regarding appeal remedies.

(7) <sup>1</sup>In addition, administrative offence proceedings may be instituted pursuant to § 63 paragraph 5 HG. <sup>2</sup>In addition, any attempt to influence the result of an examination for the benefit of another person is a violation of these regulations.

## § 25

### **Invalidity of Examination Results, Revocation of the Master's Degree**

(1) <sup>1</sup>In the event the requirements necessary to take an examination were not fulfilled, but not due to any fraudulent intent on the part of the examination candidate, and if this fact only becomes known after issuance of the certificate, this defect is deemed to be cured if the candidate passed the examination. <sup>2</sup>If the examination candidate intentionally and wrongfully obtained approval to take an examination, the examination committee, taking into account the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (VwVfG NRW), shall issue a decision with respect to the appropriate legal consequences.

(2) If an examination candidate has acted fraudulently during an examination and this fact only becomes known after issuance of the certificate, the examination committee may subsequently correct the evaluation of the examination in which the examination candidate acted fraudulently and declare the candidate's examination failed in whole or in part.

(3) The master's degree may be revoked if it is found to have been obtained by fraud or if essential requirements pertinent to its conferral were deemed erroneously to have been fulfilled.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The examination candidate must be provided the opportunity to comment before a decision is made pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3. <sup>2</sup>The examination committee is responsible for taking such decision and shall render its decision in compliance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (VwVfG NRW). <sup>3</sup>Such decision can be taken no later than five years from the date on the certificate.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The incorrect certificate as well as all incorrect attachments shall be revoked and, if necessary, reissued. <sup>2</sup>If it is determined that the candidate failed the program in its entirety, the academic degree shall be withdrawn by the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne and the master's certificate shall be revoked.

## § 26

### **Examination File, Inspection of Files**

(1) <sup>1</sup>An examination file shall be kept by the examination committee for each examination candidate. <sup>2</sup>The examination file shall include the examination attempts, the examination papers, the related reports of the examiners, the examination protocols, the examination results, grade calculations and copies of the certificates and diplomas. The examination file shall be kept as a hard copy, or partially or fully in electronic form.

(2) An examination candidate may obtain information on the status of the examination results at any time, subject to organizational constraints.

(3) <sup>1</sup>After an examination result is announced, each examination candidate or his or her authorized representative shall, upon written request, be granted access to his or her written results of this examination and the related reports and correction notes of the examiners as well as to the records of oral examinations. <sup>2</sup>In the context of this inspection, the examination candidate or his or her authorized representative must be given the opportunity to either make copies or photographs of the documents; any sample answers issued cannot be copied or photographed as they are not part of the examination candidate's examination file. <sup>3</sup>The examination committee otherwise regulates the procedure for inspecting examinations, including setting an appropriate deadline for the inspection request. <sup>4</sup>After expiry of the specified deadlines, inspection is only possible if the examination candidate can show he or she is not responsible for missing the deadline. <sup>5</sup>There is no further right to information.

(4) <sup>1</sup>With the exception of the provisions in sentence 2, the examination file shall be kept on file until the end of the fifth year following ex-matriculation from this program and then offered to the appropriate archive; if the archive refuses to accept it, the file may be destroyed. <sup>2</sup>Written examination documents, including associated evaluation documents, will be offered to the archives two years after the evaluation has been announced, provided that no legal dispute is pending. This applies accordingly to electronic versions; if the archives refuse to accept them, they may be destroyed. <sup>3</sup>Academic degrees conferred, as well as a catalogued collection of the certificates and documents issued may be kept on record in a register until the culmination of the fiftieth year following the completion of studies; sentence 1, second clause applies accordingly.

## § 27

### **Degree and Graduation Documents**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The program is deemed to have been successfully completed when all required examinations have been passed and the credit points pursuant to § 5 have been obtained. <sup>2</sup>A certificate shall be issued upon successful completion of the program. <sup>3</sup>The certificate is to be signed by the chairperson of the examination committee and must contain the final grade of the master's program, the designation of the selected specialization as well as the grade and title of the master's thesis and the name of the person who assigned the topic of the master's thesis. <sup>4</sup>Grades shall be indicated in both words and in numerical form. <sup>5</sup>The certificate shall be issued with the date of the day on which the most recent examination was evaluated or recognized. <sup>6</sup>If the master's thesis is the most recently evaluated examination, the date of submission applies. <sup>7</sup>In addition, an English translation of the certificate shall be issued. <sup>8</sup>The German version is legally binding.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The master's degree certificate, which certifies the award of the degree in accordance with § 3, will be issued to the student along with the transcript; it shall contain the date of the transcript. <sup>2</sup>The master's degree certificate shall be signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne and by the chairperson of the examination committee and will bear the

seal of the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne. <sup>3</sup>In addition, an English translation of the transcript will be issued. <sup>4</sup>The German version is legally binding.

(3) <sup>1</sup>A diploma supplement in German and English shall be issued together with the transcript and the Master's certificate; it provides a substantive overview of the completed degree program and the academic and professional qualifications acquired with the degree. <sup>2</sup>The diploma supplement also describes the program and provides information about the Faculty of Law at the University of Cologne. <sup>3</sup>The transcript of records is a component of the diploma supplement. <sup>4</sup>Furthermore, upon written application to the examination committee, the graduate will be issued a certificate of the ECTS rank achieved. <sup>5</sup>The ECTS rank refers to the total grades for each graduation year.

(4) <sup>1</sup>If a student has not passed, has definitively failed, has terminated the program, or is transferring to another university, a certificate (transcript of records) shall be issued to the student upon request that sets forth the examinations taken, any additional study and completed coursework, the grades and the credit points earned. <sup>2</sup>It must indicate, if applicable, that the study program has not been passed or has been definitively failed.

## § 28

### Publication, Entry into Force and Transitional Provisions

- (1) These regulations will be published in the Official Notices of the University of Cologne.
- (2) These regulations shall enter into force on 27 July 2020.

(3) Insofar as provisions of these regulations contradict the regulations of the resolution of the Rectorate of the University of Cologne on the regulation of aspects of examination law according to the Ordinance on Coping with the Challenges Posed to University Operations by the Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 Epidemic (Corona Epidemic University Ordinance) of 28 April 2020 (Official Notices of the University of Cologne No. 21/2020) or the resulting resolutions of the responsible examination committee, these regulations and resolutions take precedence over the provisions of these present regulations for their period of validity.

Issued on the basis of the resolution of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Law of the University of Cologne of 14 May 2020 and after review of the legality by the Rectorate of 23 June 2020.

Cologne, 27 July 2020

Dean of the Faculty of Law

of the University of Cologne

University Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Ulrich Prei

## 1. Appendix to the Examination Regulations Course of Study and Assignment of Modules

<b>Course of Study</b>
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First Semester		
Module No.	Module Name	CP
BM 1	EU – Legal and Political Perspectives	5
BM 2	EU – Political and Economic Perspectives	5
BM 3	European Private Law	5
EM	Introduction to Methods and Procedures of European Law	4
PM	Internship	6
MM	Master's thesis	3 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total</b>		<b>28</b>

Second Semester		
Module No.	Module Name	CP
SM 1.1 to SM 4.4	Core area: At least three modules of the chosen area of specialization (see below). Each event corresponds to 5 CP.	15 (3 x 5)
SM 1.1 to SM 4.4	Elective area: A course may be from either the selected specialization area or one of the other specialization areas.	5
MM	Master's thesis	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>32</b>

<sup>2</sup> The module master's thesis is worth a total of 15 CP. Due to the extension over two semesters, the module is worth 3 CP in the first semester and with 12 CP in the second semester.



Total program year							
October to January		February to March		April to July		August to September	
Core Module 1	5 CP						
Core Module 2	5 CP						
Core Module 3	5 CP						
Supplementary Module	4 CP						
		Internship	6 CP				
				SM 1.1 to SM. 4.4 <sup>3</sup>	5 CP		
				SM 1.1 to SM. 4.4	5 CP		
				SM 1.1 to SM. 4.4	5 CP		
				SM 1.1 to SM. 4.4	5 CP		
		March: Beginning of master's thesis	3 CP	Continuing master's thesis		Completion of master's thesis	12 CP
	19 CP		9 CP		20 CP		12 CP
<b>First Semester 28 CP</b>				<b>Second Semester 32 CP</b>			

<sup>3</sup> In the second semester four specialization modules are to be elected. In the beginning of the first semester students elect one out of four specialization areas. At least three modules must be completed from this selected specialization area. An additional module can be either from the selected specialization area or from one of the three other specialization areas.

<p><b>Attribution of the Modules</b> (with designation of credit points (CP) and weighting in the final grade)</p>
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Basic Modules (BM)			
Module No.	Module Name	CP	Weighting
BM 1	EU – Legal and Political Perspectives	5	5/60
BM 2	EU – Political and Economic Perspectives	5	5/60
BM 3	European Private Law	5	5/60

Supplementary Module (EM)			
Module No.	Module Name	CP	Weighting
EM	Introduction to Methods and Procedures of European Law	4	4/60

Internship Module			
Module No.	Module Name	CP	Weighting
PM	Internship	6	6/60

Master's Thesis			
Module No.	Module Name	CP	Weighting
MM	Master's thesis	15	15/60

Overview of the Specialization (SP)			
Nr.	Name	Attributed Modules	Module No.
SP 1	Litigation and Arbitration in European Law	Litigation in European Law	SM 1.1
		Commercial Arbitration and Conflict Resolution	SM 1.2
		Private International Law: Choice of Law and Jurisdiction	SM 1.3
		International Investment Law	SM 1.4
SP 2	European Economic Law	European Business and Tax Law	SM 2.1
		EU Competition Law	SM 2.2
		Corporate Law, Capital Market Law and Compliance	SM 2.3
		Law and Public Sector	SM 2.4
SP 3	European Law and Sustainability	Environmental Law	SM 3.1
		Energy Law	SM 3.2
		Challenges of Digitalization for Europe (Industry, Law, Ethics)	SM 3.3
		Air and Space Law	SM 3.4
SP 4	European Law and International Relations	Basic Rights of the EU and ECHR	SM 4.1
		EU and Development	SM 4.2
		The EU and the Common Foreign and Security Policy	SM 4.3
		European Common Commercial (and Currency) Policy	SM 4.4

Note:

Four specialization modules must be completed in the second semester. Students select one of the four specialization areas at the beginning of the second semester. At least three of the assigned modules must be completed from this chosen specialization area. An additional module can be either from the selected specialization area or from one of the three other specialization areas.

Specialization 1 – Core Modules (SM)			
Module No.	Module Name	CP	Weighting
SM 1.1	Litigation in European Business Law	5	5/60
SM 1.2	Commercial Arbitration and Conflict Resolution	5	5/60
SM 1.3	Private International Law: Choice of Law and Jurisdiction	5	5/60
SM 1.4	International Investment Law	5	5/60

Specialization 2 – Core Modules (SM)			
Module No.	Module Name	CP	Weighting
SM 2.1	European Business and Tax Law	5	5/60
SM 2.2	EU Competition Law	5	5/60
SM 2.3	Corporate Law, Capital Market Law and Compliance	5	5/60
SM 2.4	Law in the Public Sector	5	5/60

Specialization 3 – Core Modules (SM)			
Module No.	Module Name	CP	Weighting
SM 3.1	Environmental Law	5	5/60
SM 3.2	Energy Law	5	5/60
SM 3.3	Challenges of Digitalization for Europe (Industry, Law, Ethics)”	5	5/60
SM 3.4	Air and Space Law	5	5/60

Specialization 4 – Core Modules (SM)			
Module No.	Module Name	CP	Weighting
SM 4.1	Basic Rights of the EU and ECHR	5	5/60
SM 4.2	EU and Development	5	5/60
SM 4.3	The EU and the Common Foreign and Security Policy	5	5/60
SM 4.4	European Common Commercial (and Currency) Policy	5	5/60

## 2. Appendix to the Official Examination Regulations: Detailed Module Synopsis

Module identification number	Module title	Participation requirements of the module	Start / Regular cycle / duration of the module	Course types and attendance requirements (TP)	Examination requirements	Examination elements   Type of examination   Duration   Language of the module examination   variant of § 20 paragraph 3	Number of retries	Mandatory module (P)   Elective module (WP)	Credit points of the module   Sum of credit points in elective areas	Weighting of the module grade in the grade of the area
BM 1	Basic Module EU – Legal and Political Perspectives	None	Every 2nd semester winter semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	P	5	5/60
BM 2	Basic Module EU – Political and Economic Perspectives	None	Every 2nd semester winter semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	P	5	5/60
BM 3	Basic Module European Private Law	None	Every 2nd semester winter semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	P	5	5/60

EM	Supplementary Module Introduction to Methods and Procedures of European Law	None	Every 2nd semester winter semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar, Exercise	None	Oral examination: Speech, 20 Min. English	The number of retries is limited to two.	P	4	4/60
PM	Internship	None	Lectures-free period between 1st and 2nd semester Six weeks	Internship, Participation in practice meetings	None	Completion of at least two practical assignments as defined in § 21 paragraph. 4; active participation in the internship; English Variant A (§ 20 paragraph 3)	The number of retries is limited to one.	P	6	6/60
SM 1.1	Core module Litigation in European Business Law	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 1.2	Core module Commercial Arbitration and Conflict Resolution	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 1.3	Core module Private International Law: Choice of Law and Jurisdiction	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 1.4	Core module	Attendance of the basic	Every other semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.)	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60

	International Investment Law	modules BM 1 to BM 3	Summer semester 1 semester			Or: Oral examination (30 min.) English				
SM 2.1	Core module European Business and Tax Law	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 2.2	Core module EU Competition Law	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) Or: Oral examination Oral examination (30 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 2.3	Core module Corporate Law, Capital Market Law and Compliance	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 2.4	Core module Law and Public Sector	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 3.1	Core module Environmental Law	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 3.2	Core module Energy Law	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60

SM 3.3	Core module Challenges of Digitalization for Europe (Industry, Law, Ethics)	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 3.4	Core module Air and Space Law	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 4.1	Core module Basic Rights of the EU and ECHR	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 4.2	Core module EU and Development	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Oral examination: Presentation, Speech (30 min.)  English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 4.3	Core module The EU and the Common Foreign and Security Policy	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Oral examination: Oral examination (30 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
SM 4.4	Core module European Common Commercial (and Currency) Policy	Attendance of the basic modules BM 1 to BM 3	Every other semester Summer semester 1 semester	Lecture, Seminar	None	Written examination: Exam (120-180 min.) English	The number of retries is limited to two.	WP	5	5/60
MM	Modul Master's thesis	Completion of the	Issue of the topic usually by the beginning of the	Master's thesis	None	Written examination Six months English	The number of retries is limited to one.	P	15	15/60



ONLY THE GERMAN VERSION OF THE EXAMINATION REGULATIONS IS LEGALLY BINDING. THE ENGLISH VERSION IS ONLY PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES.

		supplementary modules (EM)	sixth month of study; six months							
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