



School of Business, Economics and Information Systems

**Subject-specific Study and
Examination Regulation
M.Sc. International Economics
and Business**

of 20 March 2019

amended on 12 August 2020

This English version is only intended to aid your understanding and does not have legal force. Only the German text, as published in the official law gazette, is legally binding. In the event of discrepancies between the English and German wording, the German wording shall prevail.

**Subject-specific Study and Examination Regulation
for the degree programme
M.Sc. International Economics and Business
at the University of Passau**

of 20 March 2019

amended on 12 August 2020

On the basis of Art. 13(1) sentence 2 in conjunction with Art. 43(5) sentence 2, Art. 58(1) sentence 1 and Art. 61(2) sentence 1 of *Bayerisches Hochschulgesetz* (BayHSchG, Bavarian higher education act), the University of Passau lays down the following statute:

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§ 1 Scope

¹This subject-specific study and examination regulation (FStuPO, *Fachstudien- und -prüfungsordnung*) supplements the general study and examination regulation (AStuPO, *Allgemeine Studien- und Prüfungsordnung*) for the master's degree programmes of the School of Business, Economics and Information Systems of the University of Passau, as amended.

²Where a provision of the present statute is inconsistent with the provisions of the AStuPO, the regulation set forth in the AStuPO shall take precedence.

§ 2 Object and aims of the degree programme; commencement of studies

(1) The School of Business, Economics and Information Systems of the University of Passau offers the master's degree programme in International Economics and Business leading to the award of the 'Master of Science' degree.

(2) ¹In the course of the master's programme 'International Economics and Business', students are taught in-depth specialist knowledge, skills and methods in microeconomic and macroeconomic theory and in empirical economics. ²The primary economic methodological skills are extended specifically to include elements of business management. ³The programme includes modules in both German and English. ⁴The programme can be completed entirely by attending courses in English.

(3) The degree programme can only be commenced in the winter semester.

§ 3 Entry qualifications (language requirements and selection process)

(1) ¹Notwithstanding § 4(1) sentence 1 no. 3 AStuPO, applicants are required only to demonstrate basic knowledge of German at level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages by means of a recognised language test or equivalent, if German is not the native language of the applicant or their language of instruction. ²If the level of German required is not in place on commencement of the programme, it shall be demonstrated by confirmation submitted to the Student Registration Office by the end of the first year of study at the latest; § 4(3) sentences 3 to 5 AStuPO apply accordingly.

(2) In addition, the aptitude test for the master's programme 'International Economics and Business' shall be completed and passed in accordance with the appendix.

§ 4 Module groups

(1) ¹The programme consists of module groups A: Core Courses; B: Advanced Methods; C: Global Economy, International Trade and Finance; D: Governance, Institutions and Development; E: Business; F: Business Foreign Language (for Business/Economics); G: Interdisciplinary Modules and the master's thesis. ²A minimum of 20 ECTS credits must be obtained in Module Group A; a minimum of 10 ECTS credits in each of module groups B, C and D; 0 to 20 ECTS credits in module group E; 0 to 10 ECTS credits in module group F; 0 to 12 ECTS credits in module group G and a total of 100 ECTS credits in all module groups. ³All modules are usually assessed. ⁴All graded modules and the mark of the master's thesis are included in the final grade calculation.

(2) Module group A: Core Courses

¹This module group includes central econometric, macroeconomic and microeconomic courses, through which students learn central techniques required for their further studies.

²Other modules may be offered with the approval of the Board of Examiners. ³The courses are published in the module catalogue at the latest at the beginning of the semester.

Course type	Module title	Form of assessment	hrs/wk	ECTS credits
(L) and (E)	Econometric Methods	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Natural and Field Experiments	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Fundamentals of International Trade	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Micro Development Economics	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Advanced Macroeconomics (Monetary Economics)	written exam	2+2	5
(L)	Advanced Microeconomics (Game Theory)	written exam	2	5
In total: at least four modules			min. 14–16	min. 20

(3) Module group B: Advanced Methods

¹This module group comprises in-depth econometric and behaviour-based courses, through which students learn advanced quantitative methods. ²Other modules may be offered with the approval of the Board of Examiners. ³The courses are published in the module catalogue at the latest at the beginning of the semester.

Course type	Module title	Form of assessment	hrs/wk	ECTS credits
(L) and (E)	Econometric Methods II	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Empirical Economic Research	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Advanced Empirical Economic Research	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Multivariate Analysis	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Panel Data Analysis	written exam	2+2	5
(S)	Applied Statistics	written assignment	2	7
(L)	Computer-assisted Statistics – Regression in R	written exam	1	3
(L)	Computer-assisted Statistics – Programming in R	written exam	1	3
(L)	Behavioural Game Theory	portfolio	3	5
(S)	Experimental Economics (individual experiment)	written assignment	4	10
(S)	Experimental Economics (group experiment)	written assignment	4	7
In total: at least two modules			min. 3–8	min. 10

(4) Module group C: Global Economy, International Trade and Finance

¹This module group comprises courses on globalisation, trade and finance. ²Students learn theories and apply empirical methods in order to understand human decisions in relation to investment, location, trade and finance, their systemic interaction and opportunities for exercising influence through economic policy. ³Other modules may be offered with the approval of the Board of Examiners. ⁴The courses are published in the module catalogue at the latest at the beginning of the semester.

Course type	Module title	Form of assessment	hrs/wk	ECTS credits
(L) and (E)	Advanced International Trade	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Empirics of International Trade	written exam	2+2	5
(S)	Recent Topics in International Trade	written assignment	2	7
(S)	Advanced International Economics	written assignment	2	7
(L) and (E)	International Monetary Economics	written exam	2+2	5
(S)	Money, Interest and Inflation	portfolio	2	7
(S)	International Monetary Economics Seminar	portfolio	2	7
(L) and (E)	New Location Theories: Economics of Cities and Regions in Theory and Practice	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Financial Engineering and Structured Finance	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Corporate Finance and Capital Markets	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Quantitative Methods in Finance	written exam	2+2	5
(L)	Finance and Banking Workshop	portfolio	2	5
(S)	Finance and Banking Seminar	written assignment	2	7
In total: at least two modules			min. 4–8	min. 10

(5) Module group D: Governance, Institutions and Development

¹This module group comprises courses on development, institutions and governance systems. ²Students learn theories and apply empirical methods in order to understand development theory and policy, the design of institutions, fighting corruption, ethics, financial policy and health economics. ³Other modules may be offered with the approval of the Board of Examiners. ⁴The courses are published in the module catalogue at the latest at the beginning of the semester.

Course type	Module title	Form of assessment	hrs/wk	ECTS credits
(L) and (E)	Evaluation of Development Policies	written assignment	2+2	5
(S) and (E)	Economics of Corruption	portfolio	2+2	7
(L) and (E)	Anti-Corruption and the Design of Institutions	portfolio	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Population Economics	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Behavioural Public Economics	written exam	2+2	5
(S)	Public Economics Seminar	portfolio	2	7
(L) and (E)	Economics of Education	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Health, Development and Public Policy	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Growth, Inequality and Poverty	written exam	2+2	7
(S)	Development Economics Seminar	written assignment	2	7
(S)	Experimental Ethics Seminar	portfolio	2	7
In total: at least two modules			min. 4–8	min. 10

(6) Module group E: Business

¹This module group comprises additional appropriate business management courses which complement the courses in Module Groups A–D. ²Other modules may be offered with the approval of the Board of Examiners. ³The courses are published in the module catalogue at the latest at the beginning of the semester.

Course type	Module title	Form of assessment	hrs/wk	ECTS credits
(L)	Sustainability and Business Ethics	portfolio	2	5
(L) and (E)	Business Valuation	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	M&A – Tax Aspects	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Financial Control I	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Empirical Finance	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Auditing	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	International Taxation	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Organisational and Competitive Strategy	written exam	2+2	5
(L)	Managing and Leading Strategic Innovation and Change	written exam	2	5
(L) and (E)	Value-based Management Accounting	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Telecommunications Management	written exam	2+2	5
(L) and (E)	Electronic Markets	written exam	2+2	5
In total: at most four modules			max. 16	max. 20

(7) Module group F: Foreign Language (for Business/Economics)

¹Any foreign language offered by the Language Centre may be chosen. ²In English, French and Spanish, previous knowledge must be demonstrated, which entitles attendance of FFA Advanced Level 1 (level C1 CEFR). ³If a higher level is demonstrated in the corresponding business language from a first degree, FFA Advanced Level 2 (level C2 CEFR) must be selected. ⁴In all other languages, prior knowledge must be demonstrated that entitles attendance of the FFA Intermediate Level. ⁵If more advanced prior knowledge is demonstrated, the level that builds on that prior knowledge shall be attended.

Course type	Module title	Form of assessment	hrs/wk	ECTS credits
(E)	Foreign Language Course (one level corresponds to two language courses studied over two semesters)	Intermediate (written exam 120 minutes and oral exam approx. 45 minutes) or Advanced 1 (written exam 150 minutes and oral exam approx. 60 minutes) or advanced 2 (Written exam 150 minutes and oral exam approx. 75 minutes)	8	10
In total: one module			8	10

(8) Module group G: Interdisciplinary Modules

¹In the context of this module group, students can develop an interdisciplinary complement to their studies independently and familiarise themselves with the methodology and topic areas of disciplines in other faculties at an advanced level. ²To this end, courses up to a maximum of 12 ECTS credits may be taken from master's degree programmes in other faculties of the University of Passau, by agreement with and with the individual permission of the lecturer responsible. ³On request, the Board of Examiners shall verify suitability for the master's in 'International Economics and Business'. ⁴The request shall be submitted before attending the chosen course. ⁵The requirements and number of ECTS credits shall be determined by the relevant study and examination regulation for the degree programmes or by consultation with the lecturer responsible.

§ 5 Master's thesis

¹All students are required to write a master's thesis in module group A, B, C or D. ²As a rule, the master's thesis should be between 12,000 and 18,000 words in length.

§ 6 Results of module examinations

(1) All modules graded 'insufficient' or 'fail' may be retaken any number of times.

(2) ¹By submitting a declaration to the Board of Examiners, students may have the marks of two passed module examinations cancelled. ²In this case, the grade is replaced with the note 'passed' and shall not be included in the calculation of the final grade.

(3) The AStuPO provisions on repeating the master's thesis apply.

§ 7 Effective date, superseded regulation and transitional provisions

¹This statute shall come into effect on 1 October 2018. ²The study and examination regulation for the master's degree programme 'International Economics and Business' at the University of Passau of 15 July 2008, most recently amended by statute on 22 December 2014 (vABIUP p. 360), shall simultaneously cease to apply. ³Notwithstanding sentence 1, the present statute does not apply to those students enrolled in the M.Sc. International Economics and Business programme who commenced their studies before the effective date of the present statute, unless their studies were interrupted and the students were de-registered from the degree programme for a period of at least four consecutive semesters. ⁴Students within the meaning of sentence 3 shall continue to study in accordance with the study and examination regulation of sentence 2 until the completion of their programme of study.

1. in place of § 19(2) of the statute, under sentence 2 § 9(5) of the AStuPO shall apply;
2. by way of derogation from § 17(6) sentence 1 of the statute, under sentence 2 the time from setting the topic to submission of the master's thesis shall be 18 weeks.

⁵Students, who have commenced their studies by 1 October 2018, may declare irrevocably in writing to the Examinations Office by 31 October 2018 that, by way of derogation from sentence 1, sentence 2 of the statute shall apply to them.

Appendix

Procedure for establishing programme-specific aptitude (aptitude test) for the master's programme 'International Economics and Business' at the University of Passau

1. Aim of the procedure

In addition to the requirements of § 3(1), qualification for the master's programme 'International Economics and Business' at the University of Passau requires evidence of programme-specific aptitude pursuant to § 3(2), in accordance with the following provisions.

2. Procedure for establishing aptitude

¹The procedure for establishing aptitude is carried out annually. ²Applications for enrolment for the aptitude test shall be submitted to the Aptitude Committee (no. 3) by 30 June for the following winter semester (cut-off deadlines).

3. Aptitude Committee

¹The Aptitude Committee shall consist of at least three members of academic staff at the University of Passau who are authorised to set examinations; the chairperson of the committee shall be a member of academic staff in Economics. ²The provisions of § 10 AStuPO relating to the Board of Examiners shall apply correspondingly to the Aptitude Committee.

4. Admission to the aptitude test

¹Admission to the qualification procedure presupposes that the documents referred to in § 4(1) AStuPO and § 3 FStuPO have been submitted in due time and in full. ²Applicants who are not admitted shall receive an official rejection notice stating the reasons and providing advice on legal remedies.

5. Completion of the aptitude test

5.1 First stage:

5.1.1 ¹Applications are reviewed by at least two members of the committee to determine whether the applicants are suitable for the programme, based on their certified qualifications. ²This is assessed on a scale of 0 to 210 points, where 0 is the worst score and 210 the best. ³Up to 90 points are awarded for the final grade in the undergraduate degree programme in accordance with § 3(1) no. 1. ⁴A maximum points score of 90 is given for an average mark of 1.0. ⁵3 points are deducted for every tenth of a mark worse. ⁶Up to 40 points are awarded for prior learning in the area of methodological skills (mathematics and statistics) covering at least 15 ECTS credits. ⁷A maximum points score of 40 is given for an average mark of 1.0. ⁸One point is deducted for every tenth of a mark worse. ⁹Missing ECTS credits are included in the average mark as 5.0. ¹⁰Up to 80 points are also awarded for prior learning in the area of economics covering at least 35 ECTS credits. ¹¹A maximum points score of 80 is given for an average mark of 1.0. ¹²2 points are deducted for every tenth of a mark worse. ¹³Missing ECTS credits are included in the average mark as 5.0.

- 5.1.2 ¹Applicants who are able to demonstrate in a different way that their final grade or coursework grade in the areas of methodological skills and economics is above average shall be given half of the available points. ²A mark is above average if it is above the average of the marks achieved in that exam.
- 5.1.3 ¹For applicants who have not yet completed their first degree, it shall be assumed in the interests of equal opportunities that they will pass their outstanding assessments. ²A grade of 'Sufficient' (4.0) shall be assumed.
- 5.1.4 The points score of the applicant shall be determined by the total of the individual assessments.
- 5.1.5 Applicants with fewer than 120 points shall receive an official rejection notice stating the reasons and providing advice on legal remedies, signed by the chairperson of the Aptitude Committee.
- 5.1.6 Insofar as is necessary, the marks shall be converted into the mark system of the University of Passau in accordance with the stipulations of § 8(4) sentence 4 AStuPO.

5.2 Second stage:

- 5.2.1 ¹The remaining applicants shall be invited to attend an aptitude interview. ²Notification of the date shall be given at least one week in advance and the interview may take place before the end of the cut-off deadline pursuant to no. 2. ³The applicant shall keep to the date set. ⁴If the applicant is unable to attend for reasons beyond his or her control, on submission of a legitimate application the interview may be rearranged by 15 September at the latest.
- 5.2.2 ¹The aptitude interview may be held in person or via videoconference. ²It shall be conducted individually for each applicant and shall last approximately 20 minutes. ³The interview is intended to reveal whether the applicant is able to apply the knowledge gained from the first degree to questions of economics and thus whether it is likely that the candidate will be able to achieve the outcome of the programme independently on an academic basis. ⁴Specialist knowledge of the subject that is only covered in the master's programme 'International Economics and Business' shall not inform the decision. ⁵Three criteria shall be assessed, namely 1) the aptitude of the prior knowledge for the programme, 2) the ability to apply knowledge previously acquired to current issues in economics and 3) methodological skills in addressing economic problems. ⁶In the selection interview, each of these three criteria shall be rated on a points scale of 1 to 5 by each of the two interviewers. ⁷These six individual assessments shall then be added up. ⁸The aptitude interview is deemed to have been passed if the applicant has achieved an overall score of at least 20 of the available 30 points. ⁹The requirements of the videoconference shall be determined by the Aptitude Committee, in particular with regard to the objectivity of the results.
- 5.2.3 The aptitude interview shall be conducted by at least one member of the Aptitude Committee and at least one other interviewer, appointed by the chairperson of the Aptitude Committee.
- 5.2.4 The aptitude interview is also deemed to have been passed if the applicant has achieved an overall score of at least 12 of the available 30 points and obtained more than 180 points in the first stage of the aptitude test.

5.2.5 If the aptitude interview is passed, the aptitude test is deemed to have been completed successfully.

6. Announcement of the result

¹The result of the aptitude test shall be communicated to the applicant in writing. ²An official rejection notice shall state the reason and provide advice on legal remedies.

7. Written record

¹A written record of the course of the aptitude interview shall be prepared and shall indicate the date, duration and location of the assessment, the names of the interviewers, the name of the applicant, the assessment of the interviewers and the overall result. ²The written record must indicate the main grounds and the topics covered in the interview with the applicant; the main grounds and topics may be given as key words.

8. Resits

¹Applicants who are not able to demonstrate their aptitude for the master's programme 'International Economics and Business' may enrol in the aptitude test once more at the next possible opportunity. ²In justified exceptional cases, the Aptitude Committee may grant enrolment at a later date. ³A further retake is not possible.

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Issued as per the resolution of the Senate of the University of Passau of 6 June 2018 and as approved by the President of the University of Passau on 18 March 2019, file ref.: IV/5.I-10.3930/2019.

Passau, 20 March 2019

UNIVERSITY OF PASSAU
The President

Professor Carola Jungwirth

This statute was issued by the University on 20 March 2019 and announced on 20 March 2019 by posting on the noticeboards of the University.

The date of promulgation is 20 March 2019.