

**Study and Examination Regulations for the Master's Degree Programme
in International Business and Finance
at the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences
- Fachhochschule Augsburg -
of 23rd January 2008**

**Consolidated version with colour-coded markings regarding entry into effect based on the 2nd
bylaws amendment of 23rd January 2012.**

On the basis of Art. 13 Para. 1 Clause 2, Art. 43 Para. 6 Clause 2, and Art. 61 Para. 2 Clause 1 of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (Bayerisches Hochschulgesetz/BayHSchG) of May 23rd, 2006, BayRS 2210-1-1-WFK, the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences hereby enacts the following bylaws:

**§ 1
Purpose of the Study and Examination Regulations**

These Study and Examination Regulations are intended to supplement and augment the Framework Examination Regulations for Universities of Applied Sciences (Rahmenprüfungsordnung für die Fachhochschulen/RaPO) of 17th October 2001 (BayRS 2210-4-1-4-1-WFK) and the General Examination Regulations (Allgemeine Prüfungsordnung) of the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences of 1st August 2007, as amended from time to time. These Study and Examination Regulations also serve as the legal basis for potential cooperation with partner universities within the context of the master's programme in International Business and Finance.

**§ 2
Study Goals**

The goal of the master's programme in International Business and Finance is to enable students to independently develop solutions to business problems by combining scientific methods and techniques from the fields of business management, financial management and financial communication with a systematic analysis of the enterprise and the enterprise's environment. An educational concept with teaching and learning methods heavily oriented towards active participation allows students to develop social skills and leadership responsibility as part of a team working on solutions to complex issues.

In addition to the use of English as the language of instruction in most cases, all courses have a strong international orientation. This is further reinforced by a mandatory semester abroad at a partner university outside of Germany. This gives student the skills and flexibility to take on complex tasks and managerial responsibility very quickly within an enterprise.

**§ 3
Prescribed Period of Study, Structure of the Programme**

1. The study programme is offered as a full-time programme. The prescribed period of study is three semesters.
2. The assignment of modules to semesters, the specific functional contents of the modules and how they are arranged, the number of semester hours and/or credit points associated with modules and subjects, and the rules for choosing among the elective subjects and compulsory elective subjects that are offered are defined in the curriculum (§ 6).
3. Students select from among the options offered a field of specialisation for Module 6, "Specialisation" defined in Annex 1. The fields of specialisation offered may be replaced by new ones added according to new developments in scientific knowledge. The individual fields of specialisation will only be offered if there are enough participants.
4. For the "Studies Abroad" module in the second semester, the curriculum defined by the Examination Board specifies that 30 credit points must be earned at a partner university participating in the master's programme.

**§ 4
Admission Requirements, Provisional Admission**

(1) The requirements for admission to the master's programme in International Business and Finance are as follows:

1. A university degree with above-average grades, with at least 210 credit points in economics or business degree programmes. With relevant, clearly-documented professional experience, unrelated degrees will also qualify.
 2. Suitability as determined by the Faculty of Business; this is defined in detail by the Examination Board (§ 7).
 3. Documented knowledge of the English language, including aural comprehension, reading comprehension, speaking and writing of at least UNICert Level 2 or equivalent. Foreign students can alternatively demonstrate a suitable language level according to TOEFL; the details are defined by the Examination Board (§ 7).
- (2) Applicants who have earned a degree according to 1. above with fewer than 210 credit points, but with at least 180 credit points, and who meet the requirements according to Para. 1 Nos. 2. and 3., are admitted to the programme provisionally. Admission is conditional based on the student providing documentation of the missing credit points within a year of beginning the master's programme. The Examination Board defines what coursework and examination results have to be submitted, and verifies whether the missing credit points have been made up before the start of the third programme semester.
- (3) Students who have already earned a cumulative total of more than 210 credit points in one or more relevant bachelor's degree, master's degree or *diploma* programmes can apply for transfer of credit for the credit points exceeding 210. However, credit transfer can only provide a maximum of 30 credit points to the programme of study for the first and third semesters.
- (4) The Examination Board decides as to the equivalence of degrees and the validity of the necessary documentation.

§ 5

Modules, Subjects and Performance Assessments

1. The programme of study is subdivided into modules. A module functionally combines one or more compulsory or compulsory elective subjects from a definable subject area to form a self-contained unit.
2. The modules, the subjects, the number of hours, the type of course, the examinations and course-related performance assessments are defined in Annex 1 of these Study and Examination Regulations.
3. All modules are compulsory modules. The individual subjects are assigned to the modules in the curriculum.
 - a. Compulsory elective subjects are subjects which are offered as alternatives, individually or in groups. All students must select a certain number of them as defined in the Study and Examination Regulations. The selected subjects are treated like compulsory subjects.
 - b. Students may also take elective subjects. These are subjects that are not mandatory requirements for receiving a degree. Students can select them from the course offerings of the University of Applied Sciences master's degree programmes, or from the business languages courses offered by the Faculty of Business at at least UNICert Level 2, provided that there are enough slots available.

§ 6

Curriculum

To document the course offerings and to provide information to students, the Faculty of Business generates a curriculum. This contains the rules required according to these Study and Examination Regulations, but which are not part of the Examination Regulations. The curriculum indicates the sequence of specific activities in the programme of study.

1. The curriculum is decided upon by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Business, and shall be published openly to the entire University of Applied Sciences. New provisions must be announced at the latest by the beginning of the lecture period in which the provisions are to be applied for the first time. In particular, the curriculum contains provisions and information regarding:
 - a. The apportionment of credit points and semester hours to subjects and semesters, insofar as this has not been defined in Annex 1.
 - b. The compulsory elective subject with the number of semester hours and credit points, and their assignment to the fields of specialisation.

- c. The types of courses (lecture, seminar, etc.) in the individual subjects, if not already defined in Annex 1.
 - d. The type and length of examinations, including the examination admission requirements and course-related performance assessments having an effect on the final grade.
 - e. The study goals and contents in the individual subjects.
 - f. Further requirements for performance assessments and proof of attendance.
2. There is no guarantee that all of the listed compulsory elective subjects and elective subjects will actually be offered. There is likewise no guarantee that the associated courses will be held if there are an insufficient number of participants. There is also no guarantee that more than one field of specialisation according to § 3, Paras. 3 and 4 will be offered that can be completed entirely at the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences.

§ 7 Examination Board

The Examination Board consists of three full-time professors from the Faculty of Business. The chairperson and the other board members are elected by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Business.

§ 8 Master's Thesis

1. The programme of study includes a final paper (master's thesis).
2. The master's thesis is written during the third semester.
3. The topic of the master's thesis should be such that it can be completed as a rule in four months of dedicated work.
4. The master's thesis must be personally presented and explained openly to the entire University of Applied Sciences. The quality of the presentation is included in the evaluation.
5. The master's thesis must be submitted in two bound copies and in digital form. Further details are defined by the Faculty Council.
6. For finer distinctions in evaluating the master's thesis, the grade can be raised or lowered by 0.3; the grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 are not allowed, however.
7. The master's thesis may be written in a language other than German or English with the permission of the Examination Board and the agreement of the examiner (advisor) in question.

§ 9 Passing the Master's Examination

The master's examination has been passed when satisfactory final grades have been achieved in all of the compulsory modules in Annex 1 and in the specialisation module (module no. 6), including the number of credit points indicated there. § 4 Para. 2 still applies.

§ 10 Overall Grade

- (1) A diploma is issued for a successfully passed master's examination based on the example in the annex to the General Examination Regulations of the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences.
- (2) The overall grade is determined using weighted averaging of the grades for the modules. Module grades are calculated using weighted averaging of the corresponding subject grades. For finer distinctions, the subject grades can be raised or lowered by 0.3; the grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 are not allowed, however. The modules and subjects, including the master's thesis, are weighted according to the credit points in column 4 of Annex 1, provided that no other provision is specified in column 9.
- (3) The master's examination has only been passed when at least satisfactory results have been achieved in all of the examinations and course-related performance assessments comprising the master's examination and included in the final grade.
- (4) If a student earns more credit points in a module than are required for that module, then the best grades achieved will be counted, unless the student applies for this to be handled otherwise.

§ 11
Academic Degree, Diploma

1. Upon successful completion of the degree programme, the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences grants the academic degree "Master of Arts", abbreviated "M-A".
2. A diploma is issued to mark the successful completion of the course of study, and a certificate according to the examples in Annexes 2 and 3 is issued to mark the granting of the academic degree.
3. The diploma lists the evaluations and credit points achieved in all subjects.
4. The titles of the master's thesis and the master's project are indicated on the diploma.

§ 12
Entry into Effect, Transitional Provisions

These Study and Examination Regulations entered into effect on 15th March 2008.

Issued based on a decision of the Senate of the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences of 22nd January 2008 and official approval by the President of the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences of 23rd January 2008.

Augsburg, 23rd January 2008

Prof. Dr.-Ing. H.E. Schurk
President

These bylaws were entered into the record at the University of Applied Sciences on 23rd January 2008. Entry into the record was announced to the University of Applied Sciences on 23rd January 2008 by means of public posting. The date of announcement is therefore 23rd January 2008.

Glossary of Abbreviations:

MT master's thesis
MP master's project
FGWT weighting of the final grade for the overall grade
S course in seminar format
IS course in introductory seminar format
E course in exercise format
PR course in practical format
RP research project
EXRP examination research project
WE written examination
CP course-related performance assessment
PRES presentation
PW project work
SP seminar paper

Annex: Overview of Subjects

Overview of subjects and performance assessments for the master's degree programme in International Business and Finance at the Augsburg University of Applied Sciences

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Examinations

Module
No.

Subject

Sem. hrs.

Credit points
(ECTS points)

Type of
courses
1)

Type and
duration
in minutes

Requirements for admission
1)

Course-related
performance assessments
included in the final grade 1)

Supplementary
provisions

1 Financial Market
Decisions

2 4
IS/E/PR/S - CP CP 3)

2 Business Ethics and
Corporate Governance

4 6 IS/E/PR/S - CP CP 3)

3 Managing People

4 6 IS/E/PR/S - CP CP 3)

4 Financial Economics,
Financial Institutions
and Monetary Policy

6 10 IS/E/PR/S - CP CP 3)

5 Cases and Projects in
Finance

2 4 S -- CP 3)

6 Elective Module
(Specialisation) 1)

6 10
12 *)
IS/E/PR - CP CP 3)

7 Studies Abroad 2) 30 2) 2) 2) -

8 Master's thesis - 20
18 *)
MT PRES
Total 48 90

1) Details are defined in the curriculum.

2) The details on numbers of hours and examination procedures can be found in the curricula of the partner universities.

3) The materials can be completed in whole or in part during the semester by means of suitable performance appraisals as provided for in § 5 Para. 6 of the General Examination Regulations (APO). A single grade is generated for each module and weighted equally according to § 7 Para. 2 APO.

The following amendments (highlighted in yellow) are the result of the second bylaws amendment to these Study and Examination Regulations.

*) These amendments apply to students who began their studies in the summer semester of 2012.