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**The German version of this document is the only *legally binding version*. This English translation is for your convenience only.**

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## I. General

### §1 Objective of the master's examination

Through a successfully passed master's examination the candidates acquire an advanced scientific degree qualifying them for a profession in life science. In the master's examination, candidates must show that they have extensive knowledge in the chosen field, are able to work independently according to scientific principles and can apply scientific methods and insights.

### § 2 Academic degree

Once a candidate has passed the master's examination, the University of Konstanz awards the academic degree "Master of Science (MSc)".

### § 3 Structure of the programme, standard period of study

- (1) The standard period of study for the master's programme is four semesters.
- (2) The courses of the master's programme are structured in modules and stretch over two semesters. To successfully complete the master's programme, students need to acquire 60 ECTS credits in the modules. A total of 120 ECTS credits have to be acquired in the entire master's programme. Possible combinations of modules and corresponding credit points are listed in attachment 1.
- (3) Students can choose an area of specialisation: "Life Science, main focus: Biology" or "Life Science, main focus: Chemistry". Scope, topics and form of the advanced courses required for the Master's Programme in Life Science are listed in the attachments 1 and 2.
- (4) Every student must have had a mentor meeting with a university teacher from the Departments of Biology or Chemistry or a *Privatdozent* (lecturer) working full-time in one of these departments by the end of the first semester of the master's programme at the latest. During this meeting, students will get advice about how to structure the contents of their study programme. The combination of courses that were recommended must comply with the regulations set out in attachment 1. This meeting will be confirmed in writing.
- (5) A total of two months' work experience as per § 12 has to be completed during the master's programme.
- (6) The master's thesis will be written in the third semester, and if required, also in part of the fourth semester.
- (7) Attachments 1 and 2 are part of these study and examination regulations.

### § 4 Structure of examinations, deadlines

- (1) The master's examination consists of course-related performance assessments in the modules mentioned in § 3 para. 2, the final oral examination as per § 19 and the master's thesis including a thesis defence as per § 20. The number of course-related performance assessments depends on the courses the student has selected. Course-related performance assessments that were part of a completed bachelor's examination cannot be recognised for the master's examination.
- (2) If the reasons for not completing an examination are beyond the candidate's control, the Examination Board (*StPA*) grants an extension of the examination deadline upon written request and accompanied by the corresponding documentation.

- (3) If a student has finally failed the master's examination, the chair of the Examination Board, supported by the Central Examination Office, will issue a written confirmation containing information on the options available for legal recourse.
- (4) A candidate's admission to this study programme will be revoked if he/she finally fails an examination or loses his/her right to take examinations (§ 32 para. 1 *Landeshochschulgesetz LHG* (state law on higher education)).
- (5) On request, and on presentation of the certificate of exmatriculation, students will receive a transcript providing details of completed performance assessments and corresponding grades, and information on performance assessments missing for the relevant part of the examination. It will also state that the student has finally failed that examination and/or the right to take examinations has expired.

### **§ 5 Examination Board (*StPA*)**

- (1) The Examination Board Life Science (*Ständiger Prüfungsausschuss, StPA*) is responsible for organising and conducting the examinations. Members of the *StPA* are
  - 2 university teachers
  - 1 academic employeefrom the Departments of Biology and Chemistry as well as
  - 1 student (advisory vote)The Study Commission Life Sciences appoints the members of the *StPA* for a period of two years. The student representative is appointed for one year.
- (2) The *StPA* nominates one of its university teachers as chairperson.
- (3) The University of Konstanz's Central Examination Office supports the *StPA* in organising the examinations. *StPA* decisions concerning examination procedures are made in accordance with the examination regulations. The *StPA* ensures that the examination provisions are observed and submits proposals for necessary amendments to the examination regulations. Subject to revocation, it may assign certain tasks to the chairperson. The *StPA* regularly reports back to the Departments of Biology and Chemistry, providing information about the development of examination and study periods, about the amount of time it took master's students to complete their theses as well as the distribution of overall and subject-specific grades. This report has to be disclosed in a suitable manner.
- (4) The members of the Examination Board and their representation are legally bound to maintain confidentiality. Members who are not in the civil service must be sworn to secrecy by the chairperson.
- (5) Decisions concerning examinations in courses from other departments will be taken jointly by the *StPA* and the Examination Board of the other subject. If the Examination Boards are unable to reach an agreement, the university's Central Examination Board shall decide. To this end, two competent staff members teaching in the relevant departments, at least one of them a university teacher as per § 10 para. 1 no. 1 *LHG*, shall join the Board. These members are appointed according to the regulations of the Central Examination Board.

### **§ 6 Examiners and observers**

- (1) The *StPA* appoints the examiners for the individual examinations and for the master's thesis. It can task the chairperson to make these appointments.
- (2) Generally, university teachers and *Privatdozenten* (lecturers) are appointed as examiners of performance assessments that are not related to a course. Academic employees who have many years of teaching experience and who have been authorized by the University Executive to conduct examinations according to § 52 sec. 1 sentence 5 *LHG* may also be appointed as examiners. Only university teachers, *Privatdozenten* and academic staff members who have been authorized by the University Executive to conduct examinations, may assign topics for master's theses and supervise and assess the theses.
- (3) Academic staff and contract lecturers may, as an exception, be appointed as examiners if there are not enough university teachers available.
- (4) Course-related performance assessments are conducted by the course instructors.
- (5) Observers called upon to sit in on examinations must have a master's degree or a *Diplom* in life science, biology or chemistry or hold an equivalent degree.

### **§ 7 Recognition of coursework and performance assessments**

- (1) On request, coursework and performance assessments completed as part of a study programme offered by another state or state-approved institution of higher education in the Federal Republic of Germany or abroad, or a German *Berufsakademie*, are recognised, provided the competencies thus acquired do not differ significantly from the achievements they replace. In this process, ECTS credits in line with those granted at the University of Konstanz for the corresponding achievements in accordance with these examination regulations are taken into account. The competencies are considered similar if contents, learning objectives and examinations largely correspond to the Master's Programme in Life Science at the University of Konstanz. When recognising credits, the examination periods defined in these examination regulations are to be taken into account.
- (2) When recognising coursework and performance assessments completed outside of Germany, the following have to be considered:
  - Recommendations of the *Kultusministerkonferenz, Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen* (Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany, Central Office for Foreign Education)
  - Agreements on Equivalence of the Federal Republic of Germany
  - Agreements with partner universities.
- (3) Recognition of performance assessments in the context of final examinations and the master's thesis may be declined.
- (4) If coursework and performance assessments are recognised, the grades earned - insofar as the grading systems are comparable - shall be transferred and shall be included in the calculations of the grades for the modules and the overall grade. If the grading systems are not comparable, the grade "passed" shall be applied. Recognitions may be marked as such in the certificate.

- (5) Students must submit the required documents when applying for recognition of credit. If the prerequisites (see para. 1 and 2) are met, students are legally entitled to recognition of credits.
- (6) The corresponding Examination Board (§ 7 para. 1), or a person appointed by it, makes decisions as per paragraphs 1 - 4 in cooperation with the representatives of the subject.

### **§ 7a Recognition of non-higher education achievements**

- (1) Non-higher education achievements will be assessed as coursework and performance assessments if the following apply:
  - -The knowledge and skills thus acquired are equivalent to the coursework and performance assessments they stand to replace
  - -The prerequisites for acceptance at an institution of higher education are met at the time recognition is granted for such achievements
  - -The institution at which the knowledge or skills were acquired has implemented a quality assurance system
- (2) An overall view must be taken and an overall assessment made when determining whether knowledge and skills are equivalent. They are considered equivalent if there is no significant difference between the knowledge and skills acquired. There is no significant difference if the knowledge and skills achieved outside of any institution of higher education largely correspond to the contents, learning objectives and requirements of the corresponding achievement in the study programme at the University of Konstanz.
- (3) If equivalence cannot be determined, a placement test may be administered.
- (4) A maximum of 15 ECTS credits can be granted for achievements obtained outside the university system.
- (5) Decisions on whether to recognise the achievements and on the necessity and form of placement tests shall be made by the Examination Board (*StPA*) or an appointed representative.
- (6) The regulations regarding recognition do not come into effect until after the criteria for recognition have been verified in the context of a suitable accreditation procedure.

### **§ 8 Absence, withdrawal, health impairments, leave of absence for family reasons, fraud, breach of regulations**

- (1) A performance assessment shall be graded "fail" (5.0) if the candidate fails to attend or withdraws from an examination after it has already started without giving compelling reasons. The same applies if the candidate fails to complete a written performance assessment within the set time limit.
- (2) Candidates must provide the Examination Board (*StPA*) with credible reasons for missing or withdrawing from an examination without delay. In case of illness, a medical certificate detailing the reasons for the candidate's inability to take the examination must be submitted. If a candidate's reasons are accepted, he/she has to take the examination at the next examination date available. In this case, examination results acquired up to that point shall be credited.

- (3) If a candidate is able to verify by means of a medical certificate that he/she is unable to undergo an performance assessment in part or in full in the designated form or time period due to a longer or permanent medical condition, the chair of the Examination Board will allow him/her additional time or grant him/her permission to complete an equivalent type of performance assessment in a different form. The same applies for coursework assignments.
- (4) On request, the *Mutterschutzfrist* (maternity protection period), as defined by the applicable federal law in Germany on the protection of working mothers (*MSchG*) shall be taken into consideration. The required documentation must be submitted with the application. The *Mutterschutzfrist* interrupts all other periods defined in these examination regulations; this means that time spent on *Mutterschutz* (maternity protection) is not counted as elapsed time within these periods.
- (5) Similarly, *Elternzeit* (parental leave) as defined in the *Bundeselterngehalt- und Elternzeitgesetz (BEEG)* (law on parental leave allowance and parental leave) shall be taken into consideration on application. The candidate must inform the examination committee of the period(s) of *Elternzeit* to be taken no later than four weeks before the first day of planned *Elternzeit*. This must be done in writing and include the necessary documentation. The Examination Board will assess whether the legal prerequisites are met under which employees have the right to *Elternzeit* in accordance with the *BEEG*, and shall inform the candidate of their decision and, if applicable, of the new schedule for examination dates, without delay. The time period allowed for completing the master's thesis (part of the final examination) cannot be interrupted by *Elternzeit*. In this case the topic is considered not to have been assigned. After the *Elternzeit* period has ended, the candidate will be assigned a new topic.
- (6) Students who have familial obligations beyond those described in paragraph 5 can also apply for an extension of the deadlines set down in these examination regulations. The required documentation must be submitted with the application.
- (7) If the candidate attempts to influence the result of a performance assessment through fraud or the use of aids that are not permitted, the examination shall be graded "fail" (5.0). The relevant examiner or supervisor can exclude a candidate who has disturbed the proper proceedings of an examination from continuing the examination. In this case the corresponding examination is failed. The candidate must be notified of an incriminating decision by the *StPA* in writing and without delay, including information on available options for legal recourse. Before the *StPA* takes a decision, the candidate shall be given the opportunity to comment the case.

### **§ 9 Course and examination languages**

- (1) Courses may be held in both English and German.
- (2) Coursework and performance assessments can be completed in both English and German.

### § 10 Grades

- (1) Grades for the individual performance assessments are determined by the examiners. The following grades are used:
- 1 = very good = excellent performance;
  - 2 = good = performance well above average;
  - 3 = satisfactory = average performance;
  - 4 = sufficient = performance that meets the requirements despite shortcomings
  - 5 = fail = performance that does not meet the requirements due to considerable shortcomings
- For a more detailed evaluation of the candidate's performance, grades can be raised or lowered by a value of 0.3. Values of 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 or 5.3, however, are not permitted.
- (2) If a performance assessment is evaluated by more than one examiner, the grade shall be the arithmetic mean of the grades given by each of the examiners as per paragraph 1. Grades for individual performance assessments are calculated to only one decimal place. Additional decimal places are discarded without rounding. This also applies to the determination of the module grades and the overall grade for the master's examination.
- (3) The grades are as follows:
- an average up to 1.5 = very good
  - an average above 1.5 up to 2.5 = good
  - an average above 2.5 up to 3.5 = satisfactory
  - an average above 3.5 up to 4.0 = sufficient
  - an average above 4.0 = fail
- (4) An examination is passed if the grade is "sufficient" (4.0) or better.

### § 11 Examination certificate and degree certificate

- (1) Once students have passed the master's examination and all achievements relevant for passing the examination have been recorded, they will receive a certificate with the overall grade of their study programme. The certificate also includes the grade and topic of the master's thesis.
- (2) The certificate will be awarded "with distinction" if students achieve an overall grade of 1.2 or better.
- (3) With the examination certificate, students also receive a degree certificate confirming that they have earned an academic master's degree and indicating the subject studied as well as the chosen field of specialization either as "Life Science – main focus: Biology" or "Life Science – main focus: Chemistry".
- (4) The examination and degree certificate are signed by the chairperson of the Examination Board (*StPA*) and stamped with the seal of the University of Konstanz. The date to be entered is the date on which, according to the request for issuing a certificate, the last coursework or performance assessment was completed.
- (5) A diploma supplement in line with the European Diploma Supplement Model and a transcript of records are issued as further components of the certificate. The transcript of records contains the completed modules and their components, the

module grades, the ECTS credits acquired in the modules and the overall number of ECTS credits as well as the grades for the completed coursework and performance assessments; ungraded modules and achievements will be included with a remark about successful participation. Coursework and performance assessments that are not included in the master's examination will be included in the transcript of records as "Sonstige Leistungen" / "Additional voluntary course work".

- (6) In addition to that, a transcript of records as per para. 5 is issued without the grades for the individual coursework and performance assessments.
- (7) On request of the students, the duration of studies until completion of the study programme can be included in the transcript of records.
- (8) All documents mentioned in paragraphs 1, 3, 5 and 6 are issued in German and – as far as possible – in English.

### **§ 12 Practical work experience**

- (1) Students have to complete a total of two months' work experience during the master's programme. All private or public institutions in Germany or abroad are suitable for the internship if the student can experience practical work in the field of life science there. Practical work experience may be divided into no more than two stages.
- (2) Practical work during the master's programme must be authorised beforehand by a representative appointed by the *StPA*, and must be documented through a confirmation issued by the work place.
- (3) On request of the student, the *StPA* may recognise relevant professional training and activities completed before the master's programme.

## **II. Course-related performance assessments**

### **§ 13 Registration for and admission to course-related performance assessments**

- (1) Candidates must register for course-related performance assessments in writing with the Examination Board (*StPA*). The registration dates for course-related performance assessments are posted along with the deadlines for registration.
- (2) When registering for the first course-related performance assessment in the master's programme, the candidate has to apply to the *StPA* for admission to all course-related performance assessment in that master's programme.
- (3) Only students can be admitted who are enrolled in the Master's Programme in Life Science at the University of Konstanz.
- (4) Together with their application for admission, students must also submit a certificate of enrolment.
- (5) Admission may be denied only if a candidate does not meet the admission requirements such as regular attendance in a course as per § 15a.



#### **§ 14 Conducting and repeating course-related performance assessments**

- (1) Course-related performance assessments can be term papers, presentations, written or oral examinations connected to a certain course. Oral examinations are conducted by an examiner and an observer, and last around 30 minutes. Written examinations last between two to three hours. Term papers must be completed within a period of four weeks. Presentations consist of a talk of 30 to 90 minutes and a written report. The type of the required course-related performance assessment is determined by the course instructor and announced at the beginning of the semester. Oral and written course-related examinations each take place on two dates subsequent to the course. The first date usually is in the last week of the semester or the first week of the semester break. The second date usually is in the last two weeks before the next semester starts. Examination dates are announced at the beginning of every academic year.
- (2) Students can retake every course-related performance assessment once. If a retake cannot be completed on the dates mentioned in para. 1, the candidate will take the examination in the context of the same course in the next academic year. The right to take these course-related performance assessments expires two semesters after the time period allowed to complete them, unless the reasons for not completing them in time were beyond the candidate's control.
- (3) If the student's performance in an examination retake as per paragraph 2 is yet again graded fail, the Examination Board (*StPA*) may permit the student to repeat the examination a second time, usually in the form of an oral examination, if this is deemed justifiable in view of the student's overall performance. A candidate can only be granted the option of a second retake if not more than two of the performance assessments required to pass the master's examination were graded "fail" in the first retake. The Examination Board shall determine the time limit for scheduling the second retake.

#### **§ 15 Course-related examinations for courses from other departments**

- (1) Details on the examinations in courses from other departments (registration for and admission to examinations, as well as the procedure, form, content and evaluation of examinations) are governed by the examination regulations which apply to the curriculum for the study programme to which the course belongs. Otherwise, § 5 para. 5 applies.
- (2) Examinations in courses from other departments have to be documented by a confirmation stating a grade, the scope and the credit points of that course.

#### **§ 15a Regular attendance as a special form of coursework**

- (1) In seminars and other dialogue-oriented courses as well as in practical courses such as lab courses, the instructors may request regular attendance in the course or participation in a lab introduction as a pre-requisite for completing coursework and performance assessments and/or for acquiring credits. In this case it must be announced, in writing or electronically and at the beginning of the course, that regular attendance or participating in the lab introduction is an admission requirement for course-related performance assessments and/or a pre-requisite for acquiring credits.

- (2) Regular attendance means that not more than one fifth of course time or course dates was missed. Otherwise admission to coursework and performance assessments in that course will be denied, irrespective of whether or not the student is responsible for the absences. In this case, no ECTS credits can be acquired. In justified cases it is possible to deviate from these regulations in favour of the students; corresponding requests have to be submitted to the Examination Board (StPA) via its secretary.

<sup>1</sup> Cases, for which exceptions may be granted are, in particular: 1. Students with a medically certified chronic or longer-term illness who may request academic adjustments in line with these examination regulations and who cannot participate in all dates of the course for health reasons; 2. Student-parents whose child is ill as well as students with relatives in need of care if they submit corresponding documentation that the care is necessary; 3. Students who are members of a university body or the Students' Union in the current semester and consequently miss individual course dates if they submit documentation of their participation in the meeting of the committee; 4. Students who are members of a university body or the Students' Union in the current semester and consequently miss individual course dates if they submit documentation of their participation in the committee meeting; 5. Study abroad stays during the ongoing semester with corresponding documentation; 6. Startup founders with corresponding documentation.

### III. Master's examination

#### § 16 Type and scope of the master's examination

The master's examination consists of:

- a) the course-related performance assessments for the modules listed in § 3 para. 2
- b) the final oral examination
- c) the master's thesis including thesis defence

#### § 17 Admission requirements

- (1) Admission to course-related performance assessments is described in § 13.
- (2) Candidates can only be admitted to the final oral examination if they
  1. have been enrolled at the University of Konstanz for at least one semester,
  2. have successfully completed all required course-related performance assessments for the modules stated in § 3 para. 2.
- (3) Only candidates who have successfully completed the final oral examination can be admitted to the master's thesis.
- (4) Admission is granted with the provision that students be enrolled in the master's programme at the time of the performance assessments, including retakes. On request, the candidate must produce a valid certificate of enrolment.

#### § 18 Admission to the master's examination

- (1) The admission process for course-related performance assessments in the context of the master's examination is stated in § 13.
- (2) As a rule, candidates shall apply for admission to the final oral examination at the end of the second semester of the master's programme. The application for admission has to be submitted to the chairperson of the Examination Board *StPA* in writing. The following must be attached to the application: documentation of meeting the admission requirements, a declaration whether a master's or *Diplom* examination in Life Science has already been failed and whether the candidate currently is in another examination procedure. The application may contain a suggestion for the subject areas and the examiners in the final oral examination. There is no right guaranteeing that this suggestion has to be considered.
- (3) If the student does not apply for admission to the final oral examination within three months after completing the last of the course-related performance assessments required for the final oral examination, the *StPA* will assign a date, the examiners and the subject areas for the final oral examination.
- (4) As a rule, candidates shall apply for admission to the master's thesis immediately after successfully completing the final oral examination. The application for admission has to be submitted to the chairperson of the *StPA* in writing. The application may include a suggestion of a topic for the master's thesis and the reviewers. There is no right guaranteeing that this suggestion has to be considered.
- (5) The *StPA* is responsible for decisions regarding admissions. Admission has to be denied if the requirements mentioned in § 17 have not been met, the application is not

complete, or the candidate has finally failed the master's or *Diplom* examination in Life Science or has lost the right to examination in this study programme at a German university.

### **§ 19 Final oral examination**

- (1) In the final oral examination, two subject areas will be tested that the candidate chooses from the curriculum of the master's programme. The final oral examination is conducted by two examiners and lasts around one hour.
- (2) Students in the same study programme who have not yet registered for the same examination may be present as audience in proportion to the space available during the oral examination, however, not during the consultation or the announcement of the examination result. If sufficient reason is given or on request of the candidate, the public may be excluded from the examination.
- (3) The essential topics and results of the final oral examination shall be recorded. Subsequently to the oral examination, the candidate will be informed about the result.
- (4) If the oral examination has not been passed, the candidate has to be given the opportunity to repeat it within four months after failing the first oral examination. If the repetition of the examination is not completed within this time limit, the candidate's right to take this examination will be revoked, unless the reasons for not completing the examination are beyond his/her control.

### **§ 20 Master's thesis**

- (1) By completing the master's thesis, candidates shall demonstrate that they are able to work independently and according to scientific principles on a problem in the area of life science within a certain period of time.
- (2) The time period allotted for the master's thesis is six months. Topic, scope and research question must be determined in such a way that the candidate can complete the thesis within the allotted time. The time period to complete the master's thesis begins six weeks after successfully completing the final oral examination at the latest. The Examination Board *StPA* decides about exceptions. If the candidate can supply compelling reasons, the *StPA* may grant an extension of the time period allowed to write the master's thesis of up to three months.

If an obstacle arises during the time the thesis is written due to circumstances beyond the candidate's control that makes the completion of the thesis questionable, the topic shall be revoked and the candidate will be assigned a new topic.

Candidates may return a topic only once and only within two months after the original topic was assigned. In this case the candidate will immediately be assigned a new topic. The *StPA* assigns the topic of the master's thesis, appoints the reviewers and documents this information.

- (3) After the thesis was submitted, a colloquium on the master's thesis which is open to the whole department will take place usually within 2 weeks (ungraded academic achievement).
- (4) Three bound or stapled copies of the master's thesis have to be submitted to the chairperson of the *StPA* within the prescribed time limit. One of the submitted copies will remain with the *StPA* until the examination procedures are completed.

- (5) Upon submission, candidates must provide written confirmation of being the sole author of the thesis and of not having used any sources or aids other than the ones stated. Candidates must retain any materials that can prove their sole authorship until the examination procedure has been concluded.
- (6) Two reviewers will assess the master's thesis. The reviewers have to be university teachers of the Departments of Biology or Chemistry at the University of Konstanz as per § 10 para. 1 no. 1 *LHG* (state law on higher education), or a *Privatdozent* (lecturer) working full-time at the department, or academic staff members authorised to conduct examinations as per § 6 para. 2. The reviewers shall submit their review (including a grade) to the Examination Office within four weeks of submission.
- (7) In order to pass, a candidate must achieve a minimum grade of "sufficient" for the master's thesis. A "fail" means that the thesis has not passed.
- (8) In case the thesis is graded "sufficient" by one reviewer, and "fail" by the other, the *StPA* will appoint a third reviewer. If the third reviewer grades the thesis "sufficient" or better, the master's thesis is passed. In this case the grade is 4.0, or is calculated from the grades of the three reviewers if that figure is better than 4.0. If the third reviewer grades the thesis "fail", the master's thesis will have failed.
- (9) In case of a "fail", candidates are given the opportunity for a second attempt. A new topic shall be assigned within three months after notification of the first result was given. A third attempt is not permitted. The second topic can only be given back within the time limit mentioned in para. 2 if the candidate did not use this option during his/her first attempt.

### **§ 21 Type and scope of the master's thesis for members of graduate schools**

- (1) Individuals without a master's degree who were admitted to a graduate school can apply to have the report (as per article 5 para. 3 Department of Chemistry Regulations, Doctoral Regulations of the University of Konstanz) recognised as their master's thesis if the report was graded "sufficient" (4.0) or better.
- (2) The thesis committee will assess the report as per § 10.
- (3) The overall grade for the report is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the individual reviewers' grades as per § 10.

### **§ 22 Results of the master's examination**

- (1) The master's examination is passed if all performance assessments mentioned in § 16 are graded "sufficient" or better. When determining the overall grade, the performance assessments are weighted as follows:
  - 50 %: the arithmetic mean of all grades for course-related performance assessments (for modules listed in § 3 para. 2) weighted by their corresponding credit points
  - One sixth: the grade for the final oral examination
  - One third: the grade for the master's thesis
- (2) If one of the examinations graded "fail" can no longer be repeated, the candidate has finally failed the master's examination.

#### IV. Final provisions

##### § 23 Invalidation of the master's examination

- (1) If a candidate has cheated on an examination and this fact is discovered after the certificate has been issued, the Examination Board *StPA* may subsequently correct the corresponding grades and may declare all or part of the examination failed.
- (2) If the prerequisites for admission to an examination were not met, and this fact is discovered after the certificate was issued, the deficit shall be deemed to have been rectified by the passing of the examination, provided the candidate had no intent to deceive. If the candidate intentionally practised deceit to obtain admission to the examination, the *StPA* will decide.
- (3) Before a decision goes into effect, the candidate shall be given the opportunity to make a statement.
- (4) The incorrect examination certificate shall be revoked and, if appropriate, a new certificate issued. If the master's examination is declared "fail" due to deceitful practices, the examination certificate as well as the degree certificate shall be revoked.
- (5) Revocation of the academic degree shall be handled in accordance with statutory provisions.

##### § 24 Inspection of records

On request and within one year of the conclusion of the examination procedure, candidates are permitted to inspect their written examination records, the examiners' evaluations as well as the examinations minutes.

##### § 25 Legal recourse

The candidate can object to decisions in the examination procedure that constitute an administrative act (§§ 68 et. seq. *VwGO*). The Vice-rector for Academic Affairs shall issue a ruling on the matter following a recommendation of the Central Examination Board, which shall hear the Examination Board *StPA* on that matter.

##### § 26 Effective date and transitional provisions

- (1) These study and examination regulations come into effect the day after their publication in the "*Amtlichen Bekanntmachungen*" (official announcements) of the University of Konstanz. At the same time the previously valid version of the study and examination regulations dated 31 October 2002 (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* no. 49/2002), as amended 03 June 2004 (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* no. 18/2004) become invalid.
- (2) Students who began the master's programme before these study and examination regulations became effective can request to continue their studies in line with the new version of the regulations.
- (3) The amendments of 13 March 2008 (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* 9/2008) become effective on 1 April 2008.
- (4) The amendments of 01 April 2011 (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* 24/2011) become effective on 01 October 2010.

(5) The amendments of 26 July 2013 (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* 56/2013) become effective on 01 October 2013.

## **Appendix**

**Attachment 1**

**Combinations of modules and corresponding credit points in the master's programme**

Semester	Module combination <sup>(1)</sup>	ECTS credits
	<b>Option A</b>	
1-2	2 advanced biology courses	30
1-2	1 course listed in attachment 2 and a minimum of 2 advanced chemistry courses. The course listed in attachment 2 may be replaced by an advanced course.	30
	<b>Option B (main focus: Biology)</b>	
1-2	2 advanced biology courses and required elective biology courses at the master's level. The master's level courses include, if places are available, the accompanying lecture series and seminars of other advanced courses.	45
1-2	Courses listed in attachment 2 or advanced chemistry courses, totalling a minimum of 2 courses	15
	<b>Option C (main focus: Chemistry)</b>	
1-2	1 advanced biology course	15
1-2	A minimum of 1 course listed in attachment 2 and a minimum of 2 advanced chemistry courses. The courses listed in attachment 2 may be replaced by advanced courses.	45
	<b>Further options</b>	
1-2	The following courses can be replaced by a relevant elective <sup>(2)</sup> from outside biology or chemistry: 1 advanced biology course or one or several required elective biology courses or 1 advanced chemistry course. However, at least 1 advanced biology course and 1 advanced chemistry course must be attended.	
1-4	<b>Practical work experience</b>	10
3	<b>Oral master's examination</b>	10
3-4	<b>Master's thesis including thesis defence</b>	30 10
<b>Total</b>		<b>120</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> The elective modules are listed in attachment 2 and in the module guide. The Examination Board decides which other courses are permitted.

<sup>(2)</sup> The Examination Board decides which elective courses are permitted.



## Attachment 2

### Modules offered by the Departments of Biology and Chemistry for the Master's Programme in Life Science

The advanced courses offered by the Departments of Biology and Chemistry are listed in the module guide.

Additional courses offered by the Department of Chemistry:

Module Organic Chemistry III

Module Organic Chemistry IV

Module Physical Chemistry III

Module Physical Chemistry IV

Module Inorganic Chemistry II (module component 1 and 2 (basics))

Module Inorganic Chemistry III (module component 1 and 2 (basics))

#### Note:

These regulations were published in the *Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* (official announcements) of the University of Konstanz No. 4/2007 of 29 January 2007.

The first amendment to these regulations (13 March 2008) was published in the *Amtlichen Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz no. 9/2008.

The second amendment to these regulations (01 April 2011) was published in the *Amtlichen Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz no. 24/2011.

The third amendment to these regulations (08 February 2012) was published in the *Amtlichen Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz no. 4/2012.

The fourth amendment to these regulations (26 July 2013) was published in the *Amtlichen Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz no. 56/2013.

The fifth amendment to these regulations (28 November 2019) was published in the *Amtlichen Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz no. 51/2019.