

English Translation of Parts of the IMIB Examination Regulations regarding the Master Thesis [May 2020]

Translated by Petra Lehmeyer for Prof. Andreas Pott and Sophie Hinger, EuMIGS coordinator

Introductory Note on this translation

This is a loose English translation of excerpts from the original German document. *Please note that only the German version, Prüfungsordnung für den Masterstudiengang „Internationale Migration und Interkulturelle Beziehungen (IMIB)“ Nr. 03/2018 vom 24.05.2018, S. 257, is legally binding.*

Where applicable, the identical wording has been applied from the Program-Specific Examination Regulations for the „Nanosciences – Materials, Molecules and Cells“ Master Program English version of the regulations // Official Gazette (AMBI) of Osnabrück University no. 03/2018 dated 24/05/2018, p. 292, as well as from the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor’s and Master’s Programs at Osnabrück University pursuant to Section 41 Paragraph 1 of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (NHG), English version of the regulations in the Official Gazette (AMBI) of Osnabrück University no. 03/2018 dated 24.05.2018, p. 451.

Section 18 Admission to the Master’s thesis

¹The application for admission (registration) to the Master's thesis is to be submitted to the examination board in writing within the time stipulated by the examination board. ²Application periods set by the examination board can be extended when a sound reason exists or can be retrospectively extended, especially if it would be unreasonable to accept the continuing existence of the legal consequences which would arise due to the expiry of the set period.

(4) Admission to the Master’s thesis :

- evidence of examination achievements in accordance with annex 4 (*these are your record sheets you have handed in for all classes, module theses, field trips, the internship and colloquium*)
- a statement confirming the applicant has not failed a Master examination in a Master programme of equal content at a university or institute of higher education in Germany or abroad (*such a statement is worded and included in the application form and merely requires your signature*)
- First and second supervisor suggestions (*Please provide the signatures of the two suggested supervisors.*)
- topic proposal (this means that you write down your topic in the form of a working title. The exact wording of the title may change in the course of writing, but needs to remain close to the chosen topic.
- presentation of educational background (*A short CV indicating schooling and achieved degrees*)
- and a recent photograph (*passport photo or digital photo*)

(5) ¹The examination boards decides on admission.

Section 19 The Master’s thesis

(1) ¹The Master's thesis should demonstrate that the candidate is in a position to work independently within a prescribed time period on a defined problem within the field of „International Migration and

Intercultural Relations“ using academic methods, and to present this work accordingly. ²The topic of the Master's thesis and the nature of the assignment must comply with the purpose of the examinations (Section 1, paragraph 2) and with the working period allocated in accordance with paragraph 5. ³The type of task and the nature of the assignment are to be stipulated when the topic is assigned.

(2) ¹The Master's thesis can take the form of group work. ²The contribution of the individual candidate to be assessed must be clearly delineated and assessable in its own right through indication of sections, page numbers or other objective criteria referring specifically to this contribution, and comply with the requirements in accordance with paragraph 1.

(3) ¹The topic of the Master's thesis can only be suggested by examiners appointed in accordance with section 5 paragraph 1 items 2 and 3. ²The second examiner must be entitled to hold examinations in accordance with section 5 paragraph 1 item 2. ²At least one of the examiners must be a lecturer at the university or have a postdoctoral qualification or hold an interim professorship. ⁴In accordance with section 18 paragraph 4 the topic is to be accepted unless there are specific grounds to the contrary.

(4) ¹The first examiner suggests the topic. ²On application of the candidate, the head of the examination board responsible ensures that the candidate receives a topic in good time. ³The topic is officially assigned by the head of the examination board, the date of assignment is to be filed. ⁴When the topic is assigned, the head of the examination board responsible appoints the examiner who determined the topic as first examiner and also appoints a second examiner. ⁵The candidate is to be supervised by the first examiner during preparation of the thesis.

(5) ¹The time between the issuing of the topic and the submission of the Master's thesis is 6 months. ²The topic can only be handed back once and only within the first third of the working period allowed in accordance with item 1. ³The working period allowed, upon substantiated application by the candidate, can generally be extended by the examination board up to nine months. ⁴Section 7 paragraph 8 remains unaffected. ⁵Section 11 paragraph 4 items 3 and 4 are to be noted.

(6) When submitting the work, the candidate has to confirm in writing that the thesis – or in the case of group work, the section of the work marked accordingly – was written independently and no other sources or resources other than those cited in the document have been used.

(7) The Master's thesis is to be submitted to the Examination Office responsible by the subscribed deadline. The date of submission is to be officially recorded.

(8) The Master's thesis is generally graded by both examiners within six weeks after submission in accordance with section 8 paragraph 2 to 4.

Section 20 Retaking the Master examination

(1) ¹A Master's thesis graded as „failed“ can be retaken solely once, a second retake is ruled out. ²In case of a retake, a topic return in accordance with section 19 paragraph 5 item 2 is only permissible, if the topic was not returned during the first thesis working period.

(2) The new topic is assigned within an adequate period of time, generally within three months after the assessment of the first thesis.

(3) Section 9 paragraph 5 applies mutatis mutandis.

Section 21 Overall results of the Master's thesis

(1) The Master's thesis is graded as passed if all achievements gained by continuous assessment (this relates to classes, module theses, field trips, internship, colloquium as laid down in your course plan) in accordance with annex 2 and the Master's thesis have been assessed "sufficient" or better.

(2) The final grade for the achieved continuous examinations is calculated from the average of all the unrounded grades of these achievements (= *graded papers*).

(3) The final grade of the Master's examination is calculated at a ratio of 1:1 from the unrounded final grade for examination achievements gained by continuous assessment in accordance with paragraph 2 and the unrounded average of the two assessments of the Master's thesis, section 8, paragraphs 4 and 5 apply *mutatis mutandis*.

(4) ¹If an average final grade within the range of 1.0 to 1.3 is achieved, the head of the examination board awards the student the attribute "passed with distinction". ²The attribute is to be noted on the diploma.

(5) The Master's examination is definitively failed if a collateral examination (= *any achievement laid down in your course plan*) or the Master's thesis is assessed as "failed" or is deemed to have been assessed as "failed" and whereby there is no remaining option for a retake.