

These Examination Regulations have been worded carefully to be up to date; however, errors cannot be completely excluded. The official German text available at the Examinations Office is the version that is legally binding.

**General Examination Regulations for the
Bachelor's degree programme Geosciences (BSc) and the
Master's degree programmes Geosciences (MSc) and
GeoThermics/GeoEnergy (MSc)
at the Faculty of Sciences at
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)
– ABMPOGeo/NatFak –
Dated 29 February 2016**

amended by statutes of
20 June 2017

Based on Section 13 (1)(2), Section 43 (5), Section 61 (2)(1) of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (Bayerisches Hochschulgesetz, BayHSchG), FAU enacts the following examination regulations:

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Part I: General Provisions

Section 1 Scope, Purpose of the Bachelor's and Master's Examination

(1) ¹These examination regulations govern the examinations for the Bachelor's degree programme Geosciences (BSc), the consecutive Master's degree programme Geosciences (MSc) and the Master's degree programme GeoThermics/GeoEnergy (MSc) offered in collaboration with the Technische Universität München as part of the joint project 'Geothermal Alliance Bavaria' leading to a qualification as Bachelor of Science or Master of Science. ²They are supplemented by the **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(2) ¹The Bachelor of Science is a first university degree that qualifies the graduate for professional work. ²The purpose of the Bachelor's examination is to assess whether students:

- have acquired fundamental knowledge as well as in-depth technical and methodical understanding of the examined subjects
- have the ability to employ scientific methods and knowledge independently
- are prepared for the transition to professional practice

(3) ¹The Master of Science is a second university degree that qualifies graduates for further research as well as professional work. ²The Master's examination serves to determine whether students:

- have acquired in-depth knowledge of fundamental concepts and research findings in the subjects of their Master's degree programme
- are capable of working independently according to scientific methods and of developing these further
- are prepared for professional practice.

Section 2 Degrees

(1) ¹Passing the examinations results in the following degrees, depending on the type of degree programme:

1. The degree of Bachelor of Science (abbreviation: BSc) for passing the Bachelor's examination
2. The degree of Master of Science (abbreviation: MSc) for passing the Master's examination

²The Master's degree programme GeoThermics/GeoEnergy leads to a joint degree from FAU and TUM.

(2) The degree may also be used with the addition '(FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)'.

Section 3 Structure of the Bachelor's Degree Programme, Standard Duration of Study,

Teaching Language and Examination Language, Start of Degree Programme

(1) ¹Bachelor's degree programmes lay the academic foundations, provide methodological skills and lead to qualifications related to the professional field. ²Students shall pass a Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP) covering the foundations of the Bachelor's degree programme by the end of the second semester. ³The subsequent part of the Bachelor's degree programme includes the examinations until the end of the standard duration of study. ⁴To complete the programme successfully, students shall achieve a total of 180 ECTS credits, which include all required module examinations throughout the degree programme and the Bachelor's thesis.

(2) The standard duration of a Bachelor's degree programme including all examinations is six semesters.

(3) ¹The teaching and examination language is German. ²Individual modules may be taught and assessed in English. ³The module handbook governs this topic in more detail. ⁴In any case of uncertainty, the examination language shall be the same as the teaching language.

(4) The degree programme shall begin in the winter semester.

Section 4 Master's Degree Programme, Standard Duration of Study Teaching and Examination Language, Start of Degree Programme

(1) The Master's degree programme builds on the contents of the Bachelor's programme; it is more research-orientated.

(2) The structure of the Master's degree programme, the standard duration of study and the number of ECTS credits obtained are stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) The teaching and examination language is stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(4) Master's degree programmes shall begin in the winter semester.

Section 5 ECTS Credits

(1) ¹The degree programmes and examinations are based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). ²30 ECTS credits are allocated per semester. ³One ECTS credit corresponds to 30 hours of work.

(2) ¹ECTS credits serve as a system to categorise, calculate and confirm the amount of work a student has invested. ²They are a quantitative indicator of a student's workload.

Section 6 Modules and Credits, Mid-Term Examinations

(1) ¹The degree programme consists of modules for which students are awarded ECTS credits. ²One module is a chronologically connected and self-contained teaching and learning unit, the contents of which can be tested in an examination. ³The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** and the module handbook set out the contents of the courses and forms of teaching, stipulate the re-

quirements to be met in order to participate in teaching units and describe how ECTS credits are awarded.

(2) ¹The modules shall be completed with a module examination. ²This examination shall as a rule consist of one examination achievement or one course achievement. ³In exceptional cases, this examination can also consist of several partial examinations or parts of examinations or a combination of examination and/or course achievements if the subject warrants it. ⁴ECTS credits shall only be given for successful participation in modules that can be verified in an individual, separately identifiable performance in a module examination. ⁵Module examinations are conducted during the lecture period or following the last lecture/seminar of a module before the start of the next semester's lecture period.

(3) ¹Examinations (examination achievements and course achievements) measure the student's performance. ²They may be written, oral, electronic, or in a different form. ³Examination achievements are graded. ⁴The assessment of course achievements may be limited to determining whether the student has passed or not.

(4) ¹As well as the module examinations taken throughout the degree programme, homework assignments, presentations or discussions may be offered during teaching units as voluntary assessments of performance (mid-term examinations). ²Further details, in particular regarding the number, type and scope of such assessments and their weighting when determining the final grade for the module, will be announced in line with local practice before the semester begins. ³A mid-term examination can account for at most 50 percent of the grade for the module. ⁴If a student chooses to use the option detailed in (1), it is compulsory for the mid-term examination to be taken into account when determining the grade for the module. ⁵Mid-term examination achievements may improve the grade for a module examination or partial examination by a maximum of 0.7. ⁶They cannot have a negative effect on the grade.

(5) Enrolment in the relevant degree programme at FAU is a requirement for participation in module examinations according to (2)(1).

Section 7 Compulsory Attendance

(1) ¹For teaching units, which are marked accordingly in the respective module description, in which the qualification goal can only be achieved by regular attendance, compulsory attendance can be made a requirement for admission to the module examination or for obtaining the course achievement. ²If attendance of the individual student is required for all participants to obtain the subject-specific skills, if the individual student obtaining such skills depends on the attendance of the other participants, if subject-specific skills can only be obtained by being present at a particular place, or if participation is required for safety reasons, it is permissible to introduce an obligation to attend.

(2) ¹Regular attendance is defined as missing no more than 15% of instruction time in any given teaching unit. ²If between 15% and 30% of instruction time has been missed, the lecturer can offer the student the option to obtain a substitute achievement fulfilling the requirement of regular attendance. If no such substitute achievements are offered or the substitute achievements offered are not obtained by the student, attendance is not considered to have been regular. ³If more than 30% of all instruction time has been missed, the teaching unit must be taken again. ⁴Any posi-

tions after the decimal point in the percentage of instruction time missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(3) ¹Paragraph 2 notwithstanding, in the context of excursions, placements and block seminars, attendance is only considered to have been regular if all teaching units have been attended. ²Appropriate substitute achievements fulfilling the requirement of regular attendance shall be offered in the case of credibly shown periods of absence due to reasons beyond the student's control of up to and including 15% of instruction time. ³If more than 15% of instruction time has been missed, the teaching unit must be taken again. ⁴Any positions after the decimal point in the percentage of instruction time missed shall be rounded for the benefit of the student.

(4) Attendance is checked in the individual teaching units by means of an attendance list in which students must enter their name and signature.

Section 8 Examination Deadlines, Failure to Observe Deadlines

(1) ¹Examinations shall be sat in such a timely manner as to allow the student to obtain the ECTS credits specified in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** for the Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP) and the Bachelor's or Master's examination by the scheduled deadline. ²Deadlines shall be the second semester of the degree programme for the GOP and the last semester of the respective standard duration for the Bachelor's or Master's examination. ³The deadline according to Sentence 2 may be exceeded by the following periods (extended deadline):

1. GOP – by one semester
2. Bachelor's examination – by two semesters
3. Master's examination – by one semester

⁴An examination shall be considered to have been sat and failed at the final attempt if the required number of ECTS credits stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** was not obtained within the extended deadline according to (3), unless the reasons for this are beyond the student's control.

(2) The deadline set forth in (1) shall be extended by claiming the periods of protection according to Sections 3, 4, 6 and 8 of the current version of the Maternity Protection Act (Mutterschutzgesetz – MuSchG) in the version published on 20 June 2002 (BGBl I S. 2318 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 2318]), according to the periods set forth in the current version of the Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz – BEEG) of 5 December 2006 (BGBl I S. 2748 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 2748]), and according to periods of time spent providing care in the sense of Section 7 (3) of the current version of the Caregiver Leave Act (Pflegezeitgesetz - PflegeZG) of 28 May 2008 (BGBl I S. 874, 896 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 874, 896]) for a close family member who requires care in the sense of the current version of SGB XI (German Social Security Code XI) of 26 May 1994 (BGBl I S. 1014, 1015 [German Federal Law Gazette I p. 1014, 1015]).

(3) ¹The reasons according to (1) (4) and (2) shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the Examinations Committee without delay. ²If the reasons are acknowledged, the examination shall be sat at the soonest possible time; already available examination and course achievements shall be accredited. ³In case of an incapability to sit the examination occurring before or during the examination, the examiner shall

be notified immediately; in cases where the student is unable to sit an examination due to illness, a certificate from an official medical examiner (vertrauensärztliches Attest) may be required by the Examinations Committee.

Section 9 Examinations Committees

(1) An Examinations Committee shall be appointed to organise each of the examinations.

(2) ¹The composition of each Examinations Committee is governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**. ²The members of the Examinations Committee shall be appointed by the Faculty of Sciences at the suggestion of the Geosciences teaching staff. ³The term of office of the members shall be three years. ⁴Re-election shall be permitted. ⁵The Examinations Committee shall elect one of its members as the chairperson and shall select alternative representatives.

(3) ¹The chairperson may transfer tasks within their responsibility to a member of the Examinations Committee.

(4) ¹The Examinations Committee shall be tasked with carrying out the examination procedures, especially the planning and organisation of the examinations. ²Its duties include ensuring that the provisions of these examination regulations and the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** are observed. ³The Examinations Committee shall take all necessary decisions, with the exception of the actual examinations and examination results. ⁴The Examinations Committee shall check delegated decisions if requested to do so and shall verify that examinations have been legitimately assessed. ⁵It shall regularly report to the Faculty Council on the development of examinations and study periods. ⁶The members of the Examinations Committee shall have the right to be present during examinations. ⁷The Examinations Committees shall have recourse to the Examinations Office when carrying out their tasks.

(5) ¹The Examinations Committee shall have a quorum when all members are summoned in writing observing a notice period of at least one week and the majority of members are present and eligible to vote. ²Decisions shall be taken with the majority of votes cast in meetings. ³Abstentions, ballot votes and delegation of votes shall not be permitted. ⁴In case of a tie of votes, the vote of the chairperson shall be decisive.

(6) ¹The chairperson shall call the meetings of the Examinations Committee. ²The chairperson shall be entitled to take decisions that cannot be delayed on behalf of the Examinations Committee. ³The Examinations Committee shall be informed of such cases without delay. ⁴Furthermore, unless these examination regulations state otherwise, the Examinations Committee shall have the right to transfer individual tasks to the chairperson as well as revoke these.

(7) ¹Official notifications in legal matters pertaining to examinations shall be made in writing; reasons shall be given and information on legal remedies available to the person shall be included. ²Students shall be given the opportunity to make a statement before negative decisions are finalised. ³The Examinations Committee shall have the right to rule that grade notifications may be sent out in electronic form to the individual students. ⁴The President shall issue the notification of objection in ques-

tions of examination legislation following consultation with the Examinations Committee and after hearing the respective examiners.

(8) The **degree programme and examination regulations** for the Master's degree programme GeoThermics/GeoEnergy offered in cooperation with the TUM may stipulate other provisions.

Section 10 Examiners, Exclusion Due to Personal Involvement, Obligation to Confidentiality

(1) ¹The Examinations Committee shall appoint the examiners. ²All persons eligible to administer examinations according to the Bavarian Higher Education Act (BayHSchG) and the Bavarian Higher Education Examiners Act (BayHSchPrüferV) as amended from time to time shall be eligible for appointment. ³If an eligible examiner leaves the University, they shall usually remain eligible to act as an examiner for up to one year. ⁴The Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend this period upon request.

(2) A change of examiners shortly before the start of an examination shall be permissible on urgent grounds.

(3) ¹Persons who have completed the degree programme in question or a degree programme related to it shall be eligible for appointment as observers. ²Observers shall be research associates as their primary occupation.

(4) Exclusion from the deliberation and voting process of the Examinations Committee as well as from the positions of examiner and observer due to personal involvement shall be governed by Section 41 (2) BayHSchG.

(5) The obligation to confidentiality of the Examinations Committee and other persons involved in matters pertaining to examinations shall be governed by Section 18 (3) BayHSchG.

Section 11 Announcement of Examination Dates and Examiners, Registration, Withdrawal

(1) ¹The nature and scope of the examinations are detailed in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**. ²The dates of the examinations and the names of the examiners shall be announced in good time beforehand and according to local practice.

(2) ¹Students shall register for the individual module examinations after the start of the lecture period. ²The registration dates and formalities shall be announced according to local practice four weeks in advance.

(3) ¹The deadlines set forth in Sections 8 and 30 notwithstanding, withdrawal from first attempts at written and oral examinations shall be permitted without stating reasons up until the end of the third working day before the examination date; withdrawals are to be submitted to the examiner; the days between and including Mondays and Fridays shall be considered as working days. ²Sentence 1 notwithstanding, students may withdraw from excursions or field exercises by informing the examiner, without stating reasons for the withdrawal, up until the end of the last working day three weeks before the excursion or field exercise takes place. ³Section 8 (3)(3) shall

apply accordingly. ⁴Once a student has declared that they wish to withdraw they may not revoke this declaration; registration to the examination shall be cancelled upon effective withdrawal. ⁵The consequences of a delayed or invalid withdrawal shall be governed by Section 14 (1).

Section 12 Admissions Committee for the Master's Degree Programme

(1) ¹An Admissions Committee is appointed for each of the Master's degree programmes to evaluate whether applicants meet the qualification and admission requirements. ²The members shall be suggested by the Geosciences teaching staff and appointed by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Sciences for a term of office of three years; re-election shall be permitted.

(2) The composition of the Admissions Committee for each Master's degree programme is governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) Section 9 (3) and (5) to (7) shall apply accordingly.

Section 13 Accreditation of Competencies

(1) ¹Study periods, modules, course and examination achievements achieved in degree programmes at other public or state-approved universities in the Federal Republic of Germany, through successful participation in a distance course as part of a degree programme at a public or state-approved university in the Federal Republic of Germany, or in degree programmes at foreign universities shall be accredited according to these examination regulations unless there are significant differences in the competencies acquired. ²The same shall apply to study periods, course and examination achievements achieved at a public or state-approved university in Bavaria in the course of other study programmes within the meaning of Section 56 (6)(1) and (2) BayHSchG, in special study programmes within the meaning of Section 47 (3)(1) BayHSchG, or at the Virtual University of Bavaria.

(2) ¹Competencies acquired in the course of other specific courses for professional development within the meaning of Section 56 (6)(3) BayHSchG, or outside of higher education shall be accredited if they are equivalent to competencies acquired through university studies. ²Competencies acquired outside the university sector shall replace no more than half of the required competencies of which students must provide proof.

(3) ¹The grades achieved in approved modules, examinations and course achievements shall be transferred if they were awarded according to Section 20. ²If the grading system applied in the examinations sat at the university or equivalent institution of higher education and accredited by FAU is not identical to the grading system set forth in Section 20, the grades achieved at other universities shall usually be converted according to the following formula:

$x = 1 + 3 (N_{\max} - N_d) / (N_{\max} - N_{\min})$ with

x = converted grade

N_{\max} = best grade attainable

N_{\min} = lowest grade for passing

N_d = grade attained

³Only one decimal place is shown for the grades thus calculated. ⁴If conversion is not possible, the Examinations Committee usually determines a system by which to calculate the grades.

(4) ¹The documents needed for this accreditation shall be submitted to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee. ²Subject to the provisions in sentence 3, the student shall have a legal claim to accreditation if the conditions stipulated in (1) and (2) are met. ³Accreditation is only possible if the student has not already terminated the right to be examined in that subject at FAU by passing or failing to pass the relevant examination at the last attempt. ⁴If a student requests accreditation the decision shall rest with the chairperson of the Examinations Committee after consultation with the representative appointed by the department. ⁵The decision shall be issued in writing.

Section 14 Consequences of Delayed Withdrawal, Fraud, Breach of Regulations, Exclusion from Further Participation

(1) ¹An examination shall be graded as 'nicht ausreichend' (5.0, unsatisfactory) if the student fails to attend an examination on the examination date without good reasons or if the student withdraws from the examination after the withdrawal deadline (Section 11 [3]) without good reasons; Section 8 (3) shall remain unaffected. ²The reasons for withdrawal or absence according to (1) shall be explained in writing and shown credibly to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee without delay. ³If the Examinations Committee accepts the reasons, the examination must be sat on the next possible date. ⁴In cases where the student is unable to sit an examination due to illness, a certificate from an official medical examiner may be required. ⁵In case of withdrawal from an examination due to illness after the examination has started, the student must submit a certificate from an official medical examiner to the Examinations Committee without delay.

(2) In case of an attempt to commit fraud or to influence the result of an examination through the use of unauthorised materials, the examination in question shall be graded as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0).

(3) Persons who disturb the orderly examination process may be excluded from continuing the examination in question by the authorised examiner or the supervising person; in this case the examination achievement in question shall be considered to be 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0).

(4) In case of a repeated or severe breach of regulations in the sense of (2) or (3), the Examinations Committee may exclude students from further participation in the examination.

Section 15 Revocation of Degrees

The revocation of Bachelor's and Master's degrees shall be governed by Section 69 BayHSchG.

Section 16 Faults in the Examination Process

(1) Should it turn out that the examination process was faulty in a manner that influenced the result of the examination, it shall be ordered upon a student's request that a certain student or all students shall resit the examination or parts of the same.

(2) Faults in the examination process shall be reported to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee or the examiner without delay.

(3) Six months after completion of the examination, resit examinations may no longer be ordered ex officio as stipulated in (1).

Section 17 Written Examination, Multiple Choice Examinations

(1) ¹In written examinations students are required to prove that they are capable of identifying a problem within a limited period and with limited materials, using the conventional methods employed in their field, and to find a solution to this problem. ²Written examination achievements may take the form of written examinations, multiple choice examinations, reports, written assignments, seminar papers, homework assignments or practical exercises.

(2) The duration of the written examination shall be governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) ¹Written examinations shall generally be graded by the author of the examination questions. ²If a written examination achievement is graded as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) it shall be presented to a second examiner for evaluation. ³The examiner's evaluation must be documented in writing and reasons for the final grade must be made clear.

(4) ¹Written examinations may take the form of multiple-choice examinations (with one or more possible correct answers), either in full or in part. ²Detailed information on the modules with multiple choice examinations is given in the module handbook. ³The examinee shall state which of the answers to the questions they deem to be correct. ⁴Examination questions must allow for reliable examination results. ⁵When drawing up the examination questions, it shall be specified which of the answers shall be accepted as correct. ⁶If the question does not allow multiple answers, multiple answers shall be inadmissible and disregarded. ⁷Before the evaluation of the examination results, at least two of the authors of the examination shall assess whether the examination questions meet the requirement set out in sentence 4. ⁸Should they determine that individual examination questions are faulty, these shall not be taken into account in the evaluation of the examination result; the number of examination questions shall be considered to have been reduced. ⁹This reduction of the number of examination questions may not result in disadvantages for any of the examinees. ¹⁰No minus points may be awarded outside of individual examination questions.

(5) ¹The examinations according to (4) (1) shall be considered to have been passed if

1. the examinee answered at least 50 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 50 percent of the attainable points, or
2. the examinee answered at least 40 percent of the examination questions correctly/achieved at least 40 percent of the attainable points and the number of correct answers/points obtained is no more than 17 percent below the average number of correct answers/points obtained by all examinees sitting the examination for the first time.

²If sentence 1 (2) is applied, the Dean of Studies shall be notified.

(6) In case of written examinations that are not entirely composed of multiple choice questions, (4) and (5) shall only apply for the respective part.

Section 18 Oral Examination

(1) ¹In oral examinations students must demonstrate both general and specific knowledge of the subject being tested. ²Oral examinations are held in the presence of an observer appointed by the examiner. If a module consists of several teaching units, the Examinations Committee may appoint the other teaching staff from the module as additional examiners. ³The final oral examination (defence of Bachelor's or Master's thesis) takes the form of a presentation or colloquium.

(2) ¹The duration of oral examinations shall be governed by the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(3) In oral examinations every examiner shall determine the grade according to Section 20 in the presence of several authorised examiners.

(4) ¹A record shall be kept of the oral examination; this shall include the following: place, date and duration of the examination; name of the module to which the examination belongs and number of ECTS credits allocated to the module; subject and result of the examination; the names of the examiners, the observer and the student; and any special occurrences. ²The record shall be signed by the authorised examiners and the observer. ³It shall not be necessary to record the questions asked in the examination or the answers given. ⁴The record shall be kept in the examination records for a minimum of two years.

Section 19 Electronic Examinations

¹Examinations may be administered in electronic form. ²Detailed information on the modules in which examinations are in electronic form is given in the module handbook. ³Electronic examinations (e-examinations) are examinations which are administered and evaluated via computer or using digital technology. ⁴The authenticity and integrity of the examination results shall be verified. ⁵Automatically calculated evaluations of examination achievements shall be verified by one examiner at the request of the examinee or two examiners in case of a failed examination.

Section 20 Evaluation of Examinations, Grades, Final Grade

(1) ¹The evaluation of individual examination achievements shall be expressed by the examiners with the following results and grades:

sehr gut (very good)	= (1.0 or 1.3)	an outstanding achievement
gut (good)	= (1.7 or 2.0 or 2.3)	an achievement that exceeds the average requirements considerably
befriedigend (satisfactory)	= (2.7 or 3.0 or 3.3)	an achievement that fulfils average requirements
sufficient	= (3.7 or 4.0)	an achievement that fulfils the requirements despite flaws
nicht ausreichend (unsatisfactory)	= (4.3 or 4.7 or 5.0)	an achievement that no longer fulfils requirements due to considerable flaws

²An examination (Section 6 (2)) has been passed if it has received at least the grade 'ausreichend' (sufficient). ³For ungraded examinations (Section 6 (3)(4)) the result shall be either 'bestanden' (pass) or 'nicht bestanden' (fail). ⁴Except when otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, a module examination shall have been passed when all parts of the examination or partial achievements (Section 6 (2)(3)) have been passed. ⁵If an examination has several examiners or consists of several parts or partial achievements, the total grade is calculated from the weighted average of the individual grades; the grading

system described in sentence 1 shall not be used. ⁶One decimal place shall count towards the module grade; further decimal places shall be omitted without being rounded.

(2) ¹Multiple choice examinations (single and/or multiple correct answers) shall be evaluated as follows: ²Students who answer the required minimum of examination questions correctly or attain the minimum number of attainable points according to Section 17 (5)(1) shall receive the grade:

1.0 (sehr gut/very good) if at least 75 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved

2.0 (gut/good) if at least 50 percent but less than 75 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved

3.0 (befriedigend/satisfactory) if at least 25 percent but less than 50 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved

4.0 ('ausreichend'/sufficient) if 0 or less than 25 percent of the remaining questions were answered correctly or remaining points were achieved.

³The grades can be increased or decreased by increments of 0.3 according to the percentage; the grades 0.7 and 4.7 shall not be awarded. ⁴Students who do not achieve the required minimum shall receive the grade 5.0. ⁵Sentence 3 notwithstanding, in addition to the grade 5.0, the grades 4.3 and 4.7 may also be awarded in cases in which examinations according to Section 17 (6) partly take the form of a multiple choice examination.

(3) The Grundlagen und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP) shall have been passed if the requirements stipulated in Section 27 of these examination regulations and in the **degree programme and examination regulations** have been fulfilled.

(4) ¹The overall grade of the GOP, the Bachelor's examination, the Master's examination and the modules shall be as follows:

at an average of up to 1.5 = sehr gut (very good)

at an average of over 1.5 and up to 2.5 = gut (good)

at an average of over 2.5 and up to 3.5 = befriedigend (satisfactory)

at an average of over 3.5 and up to 4.0 = ausreichend (sufficient)

at an average of over 4.0 = nicht ausreichend (unsatisfactory)

²Students who pass the Bachelor's or Master's examination with a final grade between 1.0 and 1.2 shall receive the overall assessment 'mit Auszeichnung bestanden' (passed with distinction).

(5) ¹The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** stipulate how the grade for the module is calculated from the individual parts of the module examination (Section 6 (2)). Paragraph 1 sentence 5(2) and sentence 6 shall apply accordingly. ²Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, all partial achievements are weighted equally when calculating the grade for the module subject to the provisions in (3). ³If the Bachelor's and Master's thesis modules consist of a thesis and an oral part, the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** may stipulate that the Bachelor's and Master's thesis as well as the rest of the module shall be weighted according to their number of ECTS credits when calculating the module grade. ⁴If the examination is not graded, the successfully completed module shall have the result 'bestanden' (passed).

(6) ¹The final grade of the GOP shall be calculated using all module grades from the modules required for passing the GOP with the weighting of their ECTS credits. ² Paragraph 1 sentence 5(2) and sentence 6 shall apply accordingly.

(7) ¹Unless otherwise stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, all module grades of the Bachelor's or Master's degree programme shall be included in the calculation of the final grade of the Bachelor's or Master's examination, weighted according to their ECTS credits. ² Paragraph 1 sentence 5(2) and sentence 6 shall apply accordingly.

(8) The **degree programme and examination regulations** may stipulate that individual module examinations are to be given a different weighting when calculating the final grade of the Bachelor's or Master's examination.

Section 21 Invalidity of Examinations

(1) If fraudulent methods were used during the examination and if this only becomes known after the certificate has been awarded, the Examinations Committee may correct the grade after the fact and declare the examination as having been failed in part or in full.

(2) If the requirements for admission to the examination were not fulfilled while no fraudulent acts were committed wilfully and if this fact only became known after the certificate has been awarded, these circumstances shall be considered remedied by the passing of the examination.

(3) Students shall be given the opportunity to make a statement before a decision is taken.

(4) ¹The incorrect certificate shall be withdrawn; a new certificate shall be issued if applicable. ²A decision according to (1) shall be excluded after a period of five years starting with the certificate's date of issue.

Section 22 Inspection of Examination Records

(1) After the completion of the individual examination procedures, students shall on request be entitled to inspect their written examination papers, the corresponding reviews by the examiners, and the examination records.

(2) ¹Students shall submit the request to the responsible examination body within one month of being notified of their grades. ²Unless the Examinations Office is responsible, the examiner shall allow the inspection; further details shall be decided by the Examinations Committee. ³Students prevented from observing the deadline according to (1) without any fault of their own shall be granted full restitution according to Section 32 of the Bavarian Administrative Procedures Act (BayVwVfG).

Section 23 Final Academic Record, Diploma Supplement, Transcript of Records, Certificate

(1) Students who have successfully completed a degree programme shall receive a final academic record, a transcript of records, a diploma supplement and a degree certificate, generally within four weeks of the final assessment of the final thesis.

(2) ¹The final academic record shall contain the modules and module grades and the final grade of the Bachelor's or Master's examination; it shall also cite the topic of the Bachelor's or Master's thesis. ²The transcript of records lists all modules attended; the report and the transcript of records may be combined into one document. ³The transcript of records and the diploma supplement shall be issued in English and German. ⁴Further details on the diploma supplement, in particular regarding its content, shall be determined by the Examinations Committee. ⁵Information not yet available to the Examinations Office must be submitted together with the required proof by the time of the degree programme's completion at the latest; otherwise this information may no longer be taken into consideration for the documents listed in (1).

(3) The **degree programme and examination regulations** for the Master's degree programme GeoThermics/GeoEnergy offered in cooperation with TUM may contain provisions deviating from the above.

Section 24 Notification of Failed Examinations

Upon request and submission of the required certificates as well as the de-registration certificate, students who have failed the Bachelor's or Master's examination at the final attempt shall receive a written confirmation showing that the examination was failed, which grades were achieved in the individual module examinations and which examination achievements are still missing.

Section 25 Adjustments to Examination Arrangements

(1) ¹The examination procedure shall be adjusted to take into account the nature and extent of a student's disability. ²Students with a doctor's certificate showing credibly that they are either in part or fully incapable of sitting the examination in the intended manner due to long-term or permanent physical disabilities shall be entitled to have the permission of the chairperson of the Examinations Committee to offset this disadvantage by a corresponding extension of their working time or by the examination process being structured differently. However, care must be taken to ensure that the examination is still suitable to provide evidence of competencies which are being assessed by the examination.

(2) Adjustments to examination arrangements may be made for pregnant students if the student submits a medical certificate confirming that she will be at least 30 weeks pregnant by the examination date to the Examinations Committee responsible at least four weeks before the examination date.

(3) ¹Decisions according to (1) and (2) shall only be taken by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee upon written request. ²The student may be required to submit a certificate from an official medical examiner proving the fulfilment of the conditions in (1). ³Applications for adjustments to examination arrangements should be made to the Examinations Committee four weeks before the examination.

Part II. Bachelor's Examination

Section 26 Admission Requirements for Examinations

(1) ¹Students enrolled in a Bachelor's degree programme shall be deemed as admitted to the Bachelor's examination and the module examinations of which the Bachelor's examination consists, unless admission is to be refused. ²Admission shall be refused if:

1. Requirements are not met or certificates are not submitted at all or not in due time as stipulated in the special provisions of these examination regulations (Sections 27–30) and in the **degree programme and examination regulations**.
2. The GOP, the Bachelor's examination, the Diplom intermediary examination or the Diplom examination in the same subject or in a related subject has been failed at the final attempt.
3. It has been ordered that the student is to be de-registered, resulting in the revocation of the student's right to sit the examination.

(2) If admission to the examinations is to be refused, the decision shall be taken without delay, furnished with reasons and information on legal remedies available and announced to the student.

Section 27 Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP)

(1) In the Grundlagen- und Orientierungsprüfung (GOP) students should prove that they:

- can fulfil the requirements of an academic course of study in the chosen subjects
- have acquired the methodological skills required to continue their studies successfully

(2) ¹The GOP shall have been passed when the modules designated as part of the GOP in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** have been passed and all requirements stipulated in the **degree programme and examination regulations** have been fulfilled. ²The **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify subject, type and scope of the GOP.

Section 28 Bachelor's Examination

¹The **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify subjects, type and scope of the Bachelor's examination. ²The Bachelor's examination shall have been passed if all subject modules required according to the **degree programme and examination regulations** have been passed achieving 180 ECTS credits.

Section 29 Bachelor's Thesis

(1) ¹The Bachelor's thesis is intended to show that the student is capable of dealing with a problem from the geosciences field independently according to scientific methods within a set period and presenting the results in an appropriate form. It may be based on an initial seminar paper. ² 12 ECTS credits shall be awarded for the Bachelor's thesis. ³After completion it shall be defended during an oral examination, for which 3 ECTS credits are allocated. Further details are stipulated in the **degree programme and examination regulations**.

(2) ¹Full-time university lecturers employed at the Faculty of Sciences (supervisors) and involved in teaching Geosciences at the GeoZentrum Nordbayern shall be entitled to assign Bachelor's theses. ²The Examinations Committee shall have the right to grant exceptions. ³The Examinations Committee shall also have the right to grant permission for the Bachelor's thesis to be completed in an institute other than the University, providing this is explicitly approved by a supervisor from GeoZentrum Nordbayern.

(3) ¹Students shall ensure that they receive a subject for their Bachelor's theses at the latest by the end of the second last semester of the degree programme's stand-

ard duration. ²The Examinations Office responsible shall be notified of the subject of the thesis on or before 1 April. ³The **degree programme and examination regulations** govern the requirements for admission to the Bachelor's thesis. ⁴The Examinations Committee shall be notified of the subject and the date of allocation via the Examinations Office. ⁵Should a student, despite a genuine effort to that end, not be allocated a subject, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall, in consultation with a representative of the student's department, allocate a subject and a supervisor to the student.

(4) ¹The period between registering the subject and submitting the Bachelor's thesis (standard thesis work period) shall be two months. ²The scope of the subject must be such that it can be dealt with within the standard thesis work period. ³The Examinations Committee shall have the right to extend the period for the thesis by a maximum of one month upon receiving a justified request. ⁴If a student submits a doctor's certificate proving that they are incapable of working on the thesis, the period for thesis work shall be held in abeyance.

(5) ¹The subject of the Bachelor's thesis may only be returned once and within the first three weeks of the thesis work period; returning the subject shall not be permitted for repetitions of the Bachelor's thesis. ²If the subject is returned where it is not admissible, the Bachelor's thesis shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0); it shall be regarded as rejected. ³Sentence 2 shall apply accordingly if the Bachelor's thesis is not submitted by the deadline.

(6) ¹The thesis shall be written in German or, with the approval of the supervisor, in English. ²With the supervisor's agreement, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee may permit students to write the thesis in a different language upon request.

(7) ¹Two hard copies of the thesis and one machine-readable, electronic version (pdf document on an external data storage device) shall be submitted to the Examinations Office. ²The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by the Examinations Committee. ³The Bachelor's thesis shall include a declaration by the student confirming that the thesis is an original work and that no other sources or materials than the ones listed were used.

(8) ¹The Bachelor's thesis is usually graded by the supervisor; Section 17 (3) shall apply accordingly. ²The chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall usually work towards the thesis being graded within one month. ³The thesis shall be accepted if it receives at least the grade 'ausreichend' (sufficient).

(9) ¹If a Bachelor's thesis is rejected, it may be repeated once; a second repetition or revision shall not be permitted. ²The student shall ensure that they receive a new subject for the repetition of the thesis within two months following the announcement that the original thesis was graded unsatisfactory; otherwise the thesis shall be regarded as having been failed at the final attempt. ³ Paragraphs 1 and 2, 3 (4) and (3) (5) and 4 to 8 shall apply accordingly in the case of a repetition.

Section 30 Resit Examinations

(1) ¹With the exception of the GOP and the Bachelor's thesis, every failed module examination or partial examination may be resat twice. ²The resit examination shall

be limited to the failed examination or course achievement. ³Examinations that are part of the GOP according to the **degree programme and examination regulations** may only be resat once; Section 29 (9) shall apply to repetition of the Bachelor's thesis. ⁴Resit examinations shall take place at the earliest possible date, usually within six months of notification of the first examination result. ⁵The student shall be considered as registered for the next resit examination. ⁶The resit period shall not be interrupted by de-registration or leave. ⁷If a student misses the resit examination or the resit period is not observed, the examination shall be deemed to have been failed unless the Examinations Committee grants the student a respite due to special reasons beyond the student's control. The standard deadlines according to Section 8 (1) shall continue to apply. ⁸The provisions regarding maternity protection, parental leave and caregiver leave (Section 8 (2)) shall apply.

(2) Voluntarily resitting a passed examination of the same module shall not be permitted.

Section 30 Additional Modules

(1) ¹Additional modules are modules included in the degree programme (e.g. elective modules, core skills) that are attended within the examination periods as stipulated in Section 8 in addition to successfully completed modules. ²If a student completes additional modules of the degree programme at FAU, they themselves shall decide which of the modules shall go into the calculation of the final grade. ³Students shall notify the Examinations Office of their decision at the latest eight weeks before the degree certificate is issued. ⁴This decision is binding ⁵If no choice is made and if there are different modules from which to choose, the Examinations Office shall use the module with the better grade for the calculation.

(2) ¹Modules from other degree programmes offered as partial qualifications for this degree programme are also classed as additional modules. ²Examination procedures for such modules are governed by the regulations stipulated in the examination regulations for the degree programme containing the additional module. ³Additional modules pursuant to (2) are not included in the final grade, but are shown in a separate section of the transcript of records. ⁴If a request is filed by a student with the office issuing the degree certificate (generally the Examinations Office) no later than eight weeks before the certificate is issued, individual additional modules may be omitted.

Part III Master's Examination

Section 31 Qualification for a Master's Degree Programme

The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** regulate the qualifications required in order to be admitted to the Master's degree programme.

Section 32 Admission Requirements for Examinations

¹Students enrolled in the Master's degree programme shall be deemed as admitted to the Master's examination and the module examinations of which the Master's examination consists, unless admission is to be refused. ⁽²⁾ If admission to the examinations is to be refused, the decision shall be taken without delay, furnished with reasons and information on legal remedies available in writing and announced to the student.

Section 33 Master's Examination

(1) ¹The Master's examination shall consist of all module examinations throughout the degree programme including the Master's thesis module. ²The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** can stipulate that an oral examination is to be taken in addition to the Master's thesis. Further details are stipulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** ³The Master's examination shall be considered passed if all module examinations detailed in the **degree programme and examination regulations** to be taken as part of the degree programme have been passed.

(2) The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify the subjects, type and scope of the Master's examination.

Section 34 Master's Thesis

(1) ¹The Master's thesis is an examination paper that concludes the Master's degree. ²It is intended to show that the student is capable of dealing with a problem from their field independently and according to scientific methods within a set period. ³In order to avoid plagiarism, the Master's thesis may not to any significant degree be identical to a previously submitted Diplom, Bachelor's or Master's thesis or dissertation or an extended written assignment (Zulassungsarbeit) in a teaching degree programme (Lehramt). ⁴ The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** shall specify the scope of the Master's thesis.

(2) ¹Students shall ensure that they receive a subject for their Master's theses at the latest by the start of the last semester of the degree programme's standard duration. ²The subject and the date of its allocation shall be confirmed by the supervisor and presented to the Examinations Committee via the Examinations Office. ³Should a student, despite a genuine effort to that end, not be allocated a subject, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall, in consultation with a representative of the student's department, allocate a subject and a supervisor to the student. ⁴The **degree programme and examination regulations** may stipulate conditions for allocating a Master's thesis.

(3) The relevant **degree programme and examination regulations** govern who is eligible to assign Master's theses (act as a supervisor).

(4) ¹The period between the topic being allocated and the Master's thesis submitted (standard thesis work period) and options for extending the deadline for the thesis are regulated in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**. ²If a student submits a doctor's certificate proving that they are incapable of working on the Master's thesis, the period for thesis work shall be held in abeyance.

(5) ¹The subject may only be returned once with good reason and with the approval of the chairperson of the Examinations Committee within the first third of the period for thesis work. ²Otherwise the Master's thesis shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0) when the subject is returned; it shall be regarded as rejected.

(6) ¹Unless stipulated otherwise in the relevant **degree programme and examination regulations**, the Master's thesis shall be written in either English or German in consultation with the supervisor. ²The Master's thesis shall contain a summary of results at the end. ³The design of the title page shall follow the template provided by

the Examinations Committee. ⁴The Master's thesis shall include a declaration by the student confirming that the thesis is an original work and that no other sources or materials than the ones listed were used. ⁵Three hard copies and one machine-readable, electronic version (pdf document on an external data storage device) of the Master's thesis shall be submitted to the Examinations Office. The submission date shall be given in writing. ⁶If the Master's thesis is not submitted in time, it shall be graded 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory; 5.0); it shall be regarded as rejected.

(7) ¹The thesis shall generally be evaluated by the supervisor and another reviewer entitled to assign Master's theses; Section 17 (3) shall apply accordingly. ²The chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall usually work towards the thesis being graded within one month.

(8) ¹The Master's thesis shall be accepted if it receives at least the grade 'ausreichend' (sufficient) from both examiners. ²It shall be rejected if it receives the grade 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) from both examiners. ³If one examiner grades the thesis as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) and the other examiner grades it as at least 'ausreichend' (sufficient), a third examiner shall be appointed. ³If this examiner grades the thesis as 'nicht ausreichend' (unsatisfactory) it shall be rejected; otherwise the Examinations Committee shall decide whether to accept the thesis under consideration of the reviews and shall determine the grade according to Section 20 (1).

(9) ¹If the Master's thesis has been accepted according to (8) and if the evaluations of the two examiners are no more than two grade increments apart, the grade of the Master's thesis shall be the arithmetic average of the grades from the two examiners; the grading system pursuant to Section 20 (1) (1) shall not apply and only one decimal place shall be shown in the final thesis grade. ²If the evaluations of the two examiners are more than two grade increments apart, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall appoint a third examiner; in this case the Examinations Committee shall determine the grade of the Master's thesis according to Section 20 (1) under consideration of the reviews.

(10) ¹If the Master's thesis is rejected or if it is regarded as rejected, it may be repeated once; a second repetition shall not be permitted. ²The student shall ensure that they receive a new subject for the repetition of the Master's thesis within the semester following the announcement of the rejection at the latest; otherwise the Master's thesis shall be regarded as having been failed at the final attempt. ³Paragraphs 1 and 2(3) and 2(4) and paragraphs 3 to 9 shall apply accordingly for the repetition of the Master's thesis; returning the subject shall not be permitted.

Section 35 Resit Examinations

Section 30 shall apply accordingly.

Part IV: Final Provisions

Section 36 Legal Validity, Transitory Provisions

(1)¹These examination regulations shall come into effect on the day after their publication. ²They shall apply to students starting a degree programme from the winter semester 2016/2017 onwards. ³Notwithstanding (2), Sections 7, 8 (2), 13, 14 (2)-(4), 17, 19, 20, 25 and 30 of these examination regulations shall also apply to students who are already studying the Bachelor's and Master's degree programme Geosciences at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU in accordance with the previously valid examination regulations of 1 October 2007 as amended on 18 February 2013. With the exception of the provisions listed above, these students shall sit their examinations in accordance with the previously valid examination regulations. ⁴Students who are already studying the Bachelor's and Master's degree programme Geosciences at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU in accordance with the previously valid examination regulations of 1 October 2007 as amended on 18 February 2013 and who entered the Bachelor's degree programme in the winter semester 2014/2015 or later are given the option of accepting these examination regulations in their entirety by filing an application to this effect with the Examinations Office on or before 30 November 2016. By agreeing to these examination regulations, students automatically agree to the relevant degree programme and examination regulations.

(2)The examination regulations for the Bachelor's and Master's degree programme Geosciences at the Faculty of Sciences at FAU dated 1 October 2007 as amended on 18 February 2013 shall cease to apply as of 30 September 2024.

(3) The first amendment shall come into effect on the day after it is announced and shall apply to all students intending to commence their studies as of the winter semester 2017/2018.