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(version published on 20 August 2010 and amended on 8 February 2012, 26 July 2013, 22 April 2014 and 28 November 2019)

## **Table of contents**

### **I. General**

- § 1 Objective of the master's examination**
- § 2 Academic degree**
- § 3 Structure of the study programme, standard period of study**
- § 4 Structure of examinations, deadlines**
- § 5 Examination Board (*StPA*)**
- § 6 Examiners and observers**
- § 7 Recognition of coursework and performance assessments**
- § 7a Recognition of non-higher education achievements**
- § 8 Absence, withdrawal, health impairments, leave of absence for family reasons, fraud, breach of regulations**
- § 9 Course and examination languages**
- § 10 Grades**
- § 11 Examination certificate and degree certificate**

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

- § 12 Registration for and admission to course-related performance assessments**
- § 13 Conducting and repeating course-related performance assessments**
- § 14 Course-related performance assessments in courses from other departments**
- § 14a Regular attendance as a special form of coursework**
- § 15 Practical work experience**

### **III. Master's examination**

- § 16 Type and scope of the master's examination**
- § 17 Admission requirements**
- § 18 Admission to the master's examination**
- § 19 Final oral examination**
- § 20 Master's thesis**
- § 21 Type and scope of the master's thesis for members of graduate schools**
- § 22 Results of the master's examination**

### **IV. Final provisions**

- § 23 Invalidation of the master's examination**
- § 24 Inspection of examination records**
- § 25 Legal recourse**
- § 26 Coming into effect**

## **Appendix: Study plan**

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 2 -

## I. General

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

Through a successfully passed master's examination the candidates acquire a scientific degree qualifying them for a profession in nanoscience. 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. Students have to acquire a total of 120 ECTS credits in the master's programme.
- (2) The courses of the master's programme are structured in modules and stretch over two semesters. Students have to complete modules worth a total of 60 ECTS credits to successfully complete the master's programme. The required combinations of modules and corresponding credit points are listed in the appendix, which is part of these examination regulations.
- (3) The Master's Programme Nanoscience is particularly research-oriented and offers students the option of specializing in a certain area. The modules are divided into three areas: Subject area (A): Chemical aspects of functional materials. Subject area (B): Physical aspects of functional materials. Subject area (C): Additional chemistry courses. Scope, topics and form of the advanced courses required for the Master's Programme Nanoscience are listed in the appendix as well as in the module guide Nanoscience. The Examination Board Nanoscience (*StPA*) decides about the recognition of courses not listed there.
- (4) Students write their master's thesis in the third and fourth semester of the master's programme. The oral master's examination and the master's thesis including thesis defence is worth a total of 50 ECTS credits (see appendix).
- (5) Students have to complete a total of 2 months of work experience (worth 10 ECTS credits) as per § 15 during the master's programme.
- (6) The Master's Programme Nanoscience is a graduate programme building on the Bachelor's Programme Nanoscience. Together both programmes have a standard period of study of five years and amount to a total of 300 ECTS credits.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 3 -

#### § 4 Structure of examinations, deadlines

- (1) The master's examination consists of course-related performance assessments in the modules mentioned in § 3 para. 2, two final oral examinations as per § 19 as well as a master's thesis including 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 recognized for the master's examination.
- (2) If the reasons for not completing an examination within the scheduled deadline 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 chairperson of the Examination Board *StPA*, supported by the Central Examination Office, will issue a written notification containing information on the options available for legal recourse.
- (4) A candidate's admission to this study programme will expire 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) In this case the student can, after presenting the certificate of exmatriculation, request 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 Nanoscience (*Ständiger Prüfungsausschuss, StPA*) is responsible for organizing and conducting the examinations. Members of the *StPA* include the following persons from the Department of Chemistry:

- 3 university teachers
- 1 academic staff member
- 1 student in an advisory capacity

as well as from the Department of Physics

- 1 university teacher in an advisory capacity.

The Study Commission Nanoscience appoints the members of the *StPA* for a period of two years. The student representative is appointed for one year.

- (2) The *StPA* elects one of its university teachers as chairperson.
- (3) The University of Konstanz's Central Examination Office supports the *StPA* in organizing the examinations. *StPA* decisions concerning examination procedures are made in accordance with these 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 delegate certain tasks to the chairperson. The *StPA* regularly reports back to the Departments of Chemistry and Physics, providing information about the development of examination and study periods, about

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 4 -

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. Those who are not in civil service have to be instructed by the chairperson to maintain confidentiality.
- (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 *Landeshochschulgesetz LHG* (state law on higher education), shall join the Board. These members are appointed in accordance with the regulations of the Central Examination Board.

#### **§ 6 Examiners and observers**

- (1) The Examination Board *StPA* appoints the examiners for the individual examinations and for the master's theses. The *StPA* can task the chairperson with 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 Rectorate to conduct examinations as per § 52 sec. 1 sentence 5 *LHG* may also be appointed as examiners. Only university teachers, *Privatdozenten* and academic employees who have been authorized 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 nanoscience, chemistry or physics, 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 recognized, 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 Nanoscience at the University of Konstanz. When recognizing credits, the examination periods defined in these examination regulations are to be taken into account.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 5 -

- (2) When recognizing 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 may be declined if it refers to performance assessments in the context of the final examination and the master's thesis.
- (4) If coursework and performance assessments are recognized, the grades earned - insofar as the grading systems are comparable - will be transferred and included in the calculations of the grades for the modules and the overall grade. If the grading systems are not comparable, the remark "passed" will be included. Recognitions may be marked as such in the certificate.
- (5) Students must submit the required documents when applying for recognition of credit. If the pre-requisites (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 coordination 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 regarding 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 recognize the achievements and on the necessity and form of placement tests shall be made by the Examination Board *StPA* or a representative appointed by it.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 6 -

- (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 will be considered as failed (5.0) if the candidate does not attend or withdraws from an examination after it has already started without giving compelling reasons. The same applies if the student fails to complete a written performance assessment within the set time limit.
- (2) Students must provide the Examination Board *StPA* with credible reason for missing or withdrawing from an examination without delay. In the case of illness, the candidate has to submit a medical certificate stating the medical findings for his/her inability to take the examination. The required form provided by the Central Examination Office must be used for the medical certificate. If a candidate's reasons are accepted, he/she will be informed that he/she has to take the examination at the next examination date available. In this case, examination results acquired up to that point will be credited.
- (3) If a candidate is able to verify by means of a medical certificate that he/she is unable to complete a 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 *StPA* 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.
- (4) On request, the *Mutterschutzfrist* (maternity protection period), as defined by the applicable federal law in Germany on the protection of working mothers (*MSchG*) will be taken into consideration. The required documentation must be submitted with the request. 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 *Bundeselternzeit- und Elternzeitgesetz BEEG* (law on parental leave allowance and parental leave) will be taken into consideration on request. The candidate must inform the *StPA* 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 *StPA* will assess whether the legal prerequisites are met under which employees have the right to *Elternzeit* in accordance with the *BEEG*, and will 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) If students have other familial obligations, they can also apply to the *StPA* for an extension of the deadlines set down in these examination regulations. Paragraph 5, sentences 4 to 6, applies accordingly.
- (7) If a candidate attempts to influence the result of a performance assessment through fraud or the use of aids that are not permitted, the performance assessment will be considered as failed (5.0). The relevant examiner or supervisor can exclude a candidate who has disturbed the proper proceedings of a performance assessment from continuing the performance assessment. In this case the corresponding performance assessment is

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 7 -

deemed to have 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 student'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 will 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 from 4.0                      = fail
- (4) A performance assessment is passed if the grade is "sufficient" (4.0) or better.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
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- 8 -

### § 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.
- (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 coursework".
- (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.

## II. Course-related performance assessments

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

- (1) Candidates have to register for course-related performance assessments online via an electronic information system. Registration is binding and has to take place one week before the relevant exam date at the latest.
- (2) When registering for the first course-related performance assessment, the application for admission is automatically submitted to the Examination Board *StPA*.
- (3) Only students can be admitted who are enrolled in the Master's Programme Nanoscience at the University of Konstanz and who have not lost their right to take examinations in this study programme.
- (4) Together with their application for admission, students must also submit a certificate of enrolment.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 9 -

- (5) Admission may only be denied if candidates cannot document that they fulfil the admission requirements, for example, regular course attendance as per § 14a.

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

- (1) Course-related performance assessments can be term papers, presentations, written or oral examinations that are 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 corresponding written composition. 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 performance assessments each take place on two dates subsequent to the course. The first date usually is in the last week of the semester/lecture period or the first week of the semester break/lecture-free period. The second date usually is in the last two weeks before the lecture period of the next semester starts. Examination dates are announced at the beginning of every academic year.
- (2) Students can retake every failed course-related performance assessments once. If candidates are unable to retake the examination on the dates mentioned in paragraph 1, they will have to take the examination in the context of the same course in the next academic year. The right to take course-related performance assessments expires two semesters after the period allowed to complete them, unless the reasons for not completing them in time were beyond the student's control.
- (3) If the student's performance in an exam 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. The *StPA* determines the time limit for scheduling the second retake. If the retake is not completed within this time limit, the student's right to take this examination will expire, unless the reasons for not completing the examination are beyond his/her control.
- (4) Additional provisions apply for course-related performance assessments that candidates take on the earliest date possible as per the syllabus: Students will be permitted to retake that exam once even if they have passed it (*Freiversuch* = voluntarily taking examinations). If the student gets a better grade in the retake, this grade will count.

### **§ 14 Course-related performance assessments in courses from other departments**

- (1) Details on the performance assessments in courses from other departments (registration and admission, as well as the procedure, form, content and evaluation of performance assessments) are governed by the examination regulations that apply to the curriculum for the study programme to which the course belongs. In addition to this, § 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 for that course.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 10 -

#### **§ 14a 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<sup>1</sup> 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.

#### **§ 15 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 nanoscience there. Working at the University of Konstanz is not generally ruled out for the work experience.
- (2) Practical work during the master's programme must be authorized beforehand by a representative appointed by the Examination Board *StPA*, and must be documented through a confirmation issued by the work place.
- (3) On request of the student, the *StPA* may recognize relevant professional training and activities completed before the master's programme.

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<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. Top athletes in the sense of the university's cooperation agreement for supporting top-class sports if they can document that they were required to participate in competitions or training camps; 5. Study abroad stays during the ongoing semester with corresponding documentation; 6. Startup founders with corresponding documentation.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
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- 11 -

### 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 examinations
- c) the master's thesis including thesis defence

#### § 17 Admission requirements

- (1) Admission to course-related performance assessments is described in § 12.
- (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 as well as the practical work experience 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, students 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 § 12.
- (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. Students have to apply for admission in writing to the chairperson of the Examination Board *StPA*. The following must be attached to the application: documentation of meeting the admission requirements, a declaration whether a master's or *Diplom* examination in nanoscience has already been failed and whether the candidate currently is in another examination procedure. The application may contain a suggestion for the examiners in the final oral examination. There is no right guaranteeing that this suggestion will be considered.
- (3) If students do 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. Students have to apply for admission in writing to the chairperson of the *StPA*. 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 will be considered.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 12 -

- (5) If students do not apply for admission to the master's thesis within six weeks after completing the last of the performance assessments required for the master's thesis, the *StPA* will assign a date, the examiners and the subject areas for the master's thesis.
- (6) The *StPA* decides about 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 nanoscience or has lost the right to examination in comparable study programmes at a university.

### § 19 Final oral examination

- (1) The final oral examination consists of two oral examinations, each conducted by two examiners. One of these examinations lasts 60 minutes and covers subject area (A) (see appendix). The second examination also lasts 60 minutes and covers the subject areas (B) and (C) mentioned in the appendix and in § 3.
- (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 an oral examination has not been passed, the candidate has to be given the opportunity to repeat it once within four months after failing the first examination. If the retake is not completed within this time limit, the candidate's right to take this examination will expire, 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 nanoscience 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. 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. The student and his/her supervisor of the master's thesis may submit an application for a topic of the master's thesis. There is no right guaranteeing that this suggestion will be considered.
- (3) If candidates cannot complete the thesis within the prescribed time limit due to circumstances beyond their control, they can apply in writing to the *StPA* for an extension of the deadline by a maximum of three months. If these circumstances prevail after that time period, the topic will be considered as given back and the candidate will be given a new topic after these circumstances have ceased to prevail.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
--	---------------

- 13 -

- (4) The master's thesis is supervised by at least one university teacher of the Departments of Chemistry or Physics at the University of Konstanz as per § 10 para. 1 no. 1 *LHG* (state law on higher education), or a *Privatdozent* (lecturer) with main employment at one of these departments, or an academic staff member authorized to conduct examinations as per § 6 para. 2.
- (5) After the master's thesis was submitted, a public thesis defence will take place usually within 2 weeks (ungraded academic achievement).
- (6) Three bound or stapled copies of the master's thesis must be submitted, via the departmental office, to the Central Examination Office by the set deadline.
- (7) Upon submission, candidates must provide written confirmation of being the sole author of the master's 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.
- (8) Two reviewers will assess the master's thesis. The reviewers have to be university teachers of the Departments of Chemistry or Physics at the University of Konstanz as per § 10 para. 1 no. 1 *LHG* (state law on higher education), or a *Privatdozent* (lecturer) with main employment at one of these departments, or an academic staff member authorized to conduct examinations as per § 6 para. 2. One of the reviewers is the supervisor of the master's thesis. The reviewers usually submit their review, including a grade, to the Examination Office within four weeks of submission.
- (9) The grade for the master's thesis is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the grades of the two reviews.
- (10) A master's thesis is passed if the grade is "sufficient" or better. It is not passed if the grade is "fail".
- (11) In case the thesis is assessed as at least "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 will be 4.0, or will be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the three reviews if that value is lower. If the third reviewer grades the thesis "fail", the master's thesis will have failed.
- (12) If the master's thesis is graded "fail", it can be repeated once. A new topic shall be assigned within three months after notification of the first result was given. A third attempt of the master's thesis is not permitted. The second topic can only be given back within the time limit mentioned in para. 2 if candidates did not use this option during their 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 subject-specific 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) recognized 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 as the arithmetic mean of the individual reviewers' grades as per § 10 para. 2.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
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- 14 -

### § 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 ECTS credits
  - One twelfth each: the grades for the two final oral examinations
  - 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 will be given the opportunity to make a statement.
- (4) The incorrect examination certificate will be revoked and, if appropriate, a new certificate issued. If the master's examination is declared "fail" due to deceitful practices, the degree certificate will be revoked along with the examination certificate.
- (5) Revocation of the academic degree will be handled in accordance with statutory provisions.

### § 24 Inspection of examination records

Within one year of the conclusion of the examination procedure candidates are permitted, upon request and within a reasonable period of time, to inspect their written examination records, the examiners' evaluations as well as the examination 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 Teaching will issue a ruling on the matter following a recommendation of the Central Examination Board, which shall hear the Examination Board *StPA* on that matter.

<b>UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ</b> <b>Study and examination regulations for the</b> <b>Master's Programme</b> <b>NANOSCIENCE</b>	<b>B 20.0</b>
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- 15 -

### § 26 Coming into effect

- (1) The German version of these regulations comes into effect the day after its publication in the "Amtlichen Bekanntmachungen" (official announcements) of the University of Konstanz.
- (2) The amendments as of 22 April 2014 come into effect on 01 October 2014. This does not apply to students who have started their study programme in the subject named "Molecular Materials Science" before this time; the new name (Nanoscience) will apply to them only upon request.

## Appendix

### Study plan for the Master's Programme Nanoscience

Pos.	Semester		ECTS credits
		<b>Modules<sup>(1)</sup></b>	
1.	1-2	<i>Subject area (A):</i> Chemical aspects of functional materials.	30
2.	1-2	<i>Subject area (B):</i> Physical aspects of functional materials.	18
3.	1-2	Subject area (C): Additional courses from the chemistry and physics master's programmes, if you have not completed them before (see 1. and 2.).	12
4.	3	<b>Practical work experience</b>	10
5.	3	<b>Oral master's examination</b>	10
6.	3-4	<b>Master's thesis including thesis defence</b>	30 10
	<b>Total</b>		<b>120</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> A list of the modules that can be selected is included in the module guide of the study programme Nanoscience. The Examination Board *StPA* decides which other courses are permitted.

#### **Note:**

The German version of these regulations was published in the *Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* (official announcements) of the University of Konstanz No. 53/2010 of 20 August 2010.

The first amendment to these regulations was published in the *Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz No. 4/2012 of 08 February 2012.

The second amendment to these regulations was published in the *Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz No. 64/2013 of 26 July 2013.

The third amendment to these regulations was published in the *Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz No. 14/2014 of 22 April 2014.

The fourth amendment to these regulations was published in the *Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz No. 51/2019 of 28 November 2019.