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## I. General

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

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

### § 2 Academic degree

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

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

- (1) The standard period of study for the master's programme is four semesters.
- (2) The courses of the master's programme are structured in modules and stretch over two semesters. To successfully complete the master's programme, students need to acquire 60 ECTS credits in the modules. They have to acquire a total of 120 ECTS credits in the entire master's programme. Possible combinations of modules and corresponding ECTS credits are listed in appendix 1.
- (3) Students can specialize within the master's programme. To do so, they participate in in-depth modules in the subjects inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry and physical chemistry as well as elective subjects as per para. 5. Courses available in the master's programme are listed in the module guide and the course catalogue of the University of Konstanz. The Examination Board Chemistry decides about the recognition of courses not listed there.
- (4) The three main subjects are: inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry and physical chemistry. Students select one of these as their focus area of study.
- (5) Possible electives in the master's programme are: analytical chemistry, biochemistry, chemical materials science, geochemistry and environmental chemistry, theoretical chemistry, industrial chemistry and fields of biology, computer science, mathematics and physics. To acquire transferable skills and thus broaden their career field, students can also select an elective outside the natural sciences, mathematics or computer science such as business administration, management or law. They can also select an elective to acquire language skills required for their future profession. The Examination Board Chemistry decides which electives outside of chemistry are permitted.
- (6) Students write their master's thesis in the third and fourth semester of the master's programme.

### § 4 Examination deadlines, leave of absence for family reasons and health impairments

- (1) 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.

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- (2) 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 assignments.
- (3) 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.
- (4) Similarly, *Elternzeit* (parental leave) as defined in the *Bundeselterngeld- 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 master's 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.

### § 5 Examination Board (*StPA*)

- (1) The Examination Board Chemistry (*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 or *Privatdozenten* (lecturers)
  - 1 academic staff member
  - 1 student in an advisory capacity
 as well as the following persons from the Departments of Biology and Physics:
  - 1 university teacher or *Privatdozent* (lecturer) from each department in an advisory capacity.
- (2) The *StPA* nominates one of its university teachers as chairperson.
- (3) The *StPA* is responsible for organizing the examinations, for ensuring that the provisions stipulated in these examination regulations are observed and for taking decisions in cases of doubt. The *StPA* regularly reports back to the Department, providing information about the development of examination and study periods including the actual time it takes to write and review master's theses as well as the distribution of overall and subject-specific grades. The report has to be disclosed in a suitable manner. The *StPA* makes suggestions for changes to the curriculum and examination regulations.
- (4) Decisions about exam parts governed by these examination regulations that students complete in other subjects are taken in agreement between the Examination Board *Chemistry* and the corresponding Examination Board of the other subject. If the Examination Boards

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are unable to reach an agreement, the Central Examination Board of the University of Konstanz shall decide. To this end, two competent teaching staff members of the relevant departments, at least one of them a university teacher or *Privatdozent* (lecturer) shall join the Board. These members are appointed in accordance with the regulations of the Central Examination Board.

- (5) The members of the *StPA* have the right to sit in on examinations.
- (6) The *StPA* members and the examiners are legally bound to maintain confidentiality. Those who are not in civil service have to be instructed by the chairperson to maintain confidentiality.

### § 6 Examiners and observers

- (1) The Examination Board *StPA* appoints the examiners for the corresponding examinations including the final oral examinations and the master's thesis. 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 staff and contract lecturers may, as an exception, be appointed as examiners if there are not enough university teachers and *Privatdozenten* available and who have been authorized to conduct examinations by the Rectorate as per § 52 para. 1 sentence 5 *Landeshochschulgesetz LHG* (state law on higher education). Only university teachers and *Privatdozenten* who have their main employment as teachers and researchers in the Department of Chemistry may assign topics for master's theses and supervise the theses. In case of a master's thesis with an interdisciplinary topic, one supervisor from the Department of Chemistry and the relevant other department will be appointed.
- (3) Course-related performance assessments are conducted by the course instructors.
- (4) The chairperson of the *StPA* has to ensure that the candidates are notified in good time of exam dates, rooms and the names of the examiners.
- (5) Observers called upon to sit in on examinations must have a master's degree or a *Diplom* in chemistry or hold at least 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 Chemistry at the University of Konstanz. When recognizing credits, the examination periods defined in these examination regulations are to be taken into account.
- (2) When recognizing coursework and performance assessments completed outside of Germany, the following have to be considered:

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- Recommendations of the *Kultusministerkonferenz, Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen* (Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany, Central Office for Foreign Education)
  - Agreements on Equivalence of the Federal Republic of Germany
  - Agreements with partner universities.
- (3) Recognition of performance assessments in the context of final examinations and the master's thesis may be declined.
  - (4) If coursework and performance assessments are recognized, the grades earned - insofar as the grading systems are comparable - shall be transferred and shall be included in the calculations of the grades for the modules and the overall grade. If the grading systems are not comparable, the 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 cooperation with the representatives of the subject.

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

- (1) Non-higher education achievements will be assessed as coursework and performance assessments if the following apply:
  - The knowledge and skills thus acquired are equivalent to the coursework and performance assessments they stand to replace
  - The prerequisites for acceptance at an institution of higher education are met at the time credit is granted for such achievements
  - The institution at which the knowledge or skills were acquired has implemented a quality assurance system
- (2) An overall view must be taken and an overall assessment made when determining whether knowledge and skills are equivalent. They are considered equivalent if there is no significant difference between the knowledge and skills acquired. There is no significant difference if the knowledge and skills achieved outside of any institution of higher education largely correspond to the contents, learning objectives and requirements of the corresponding achievement in the study programme at the University of Konstanz.
- (3) If equivalence cannot be determined, a placement test may be administered.
- (4) A maximum of 15 ECTS credits can be granted for achievements obtained outside the university system.
- (5) Decisions on whether to 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.
- (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.

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### **§ 8 Non-attendance, withdrawal, fraud, breach of regulations**

- (1) A performance assessment will be considered as failed (5.0) if the candidate misses an examination date without adequate justification or withdraws without adequate justification after the performance assessment has already started. 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 reasons for missing or withdrawing from an examination in writing and without delay. In case of illness of the candidate, a medical certificate may be requested. If the reason is recognized, a new examination date will be set. In this case, examination results acquired up to that point will be credited.
- (3) 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).
- (4) The corresponding 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 considered as failed (5.0). In serious cases, the *StPA* may exclude the candidate from the exam retake.
- (5) Within a period of 30 days, the candidate may request that the decisions as per. paras. 3 and 4 be examined by the *StPA*.
- (6) The candidate must be notified of an incriminating decision and the reasons in writing and without delay, including information on available options for legal recourse. He/she shall be given the opportunity to make a statement about the facts relevant for the decision.

### **§ 9 Failure and confirmation of performance assessments**

- (1) If a candidate 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.
- (2) If a student has finally failed an examination, or lost the right to take examinations, his/her admission for this study programme will be withdrawn (§ 32 para. 5, sentence 3 *LHG* (state law on education)).
- (3) If a candidate failed the master's examination or has lost the right to take examinations, he/she will be issued, on request and after presenting the certificate of exmatriculation, a written confirmation listing the performance assessments completed and corresponding grades, as well as performance assessments that were not successfully completed. It will also state that the student has failed that examination.

### **§ 10 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.

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### § 11 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 and including 1.5 = very good
  - an average from 1.6 up to and including 2.5 = good
  - an average from 2.6 up to and including 3.5 = satisfactory
  - an average from 3.6 up to and including 4.0 = sufficient
  - an average from 4.0 = fail
- (4) A performance assessment is passed if the grade is "sufficient" (4.0) or better.

### § 12 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.

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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

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

- (1) Candidates must register for course-related performance assessments with the course instructor. To register for written examinations, students have to accept the examination sheet. For oral examinations, presentations and papers, they register by agreeing on a date or deadline.
- (2) In order to take a course-related performance assessment, the candidate must have declared in writing that he/she is participating in the corresponding course. Usually, this declaration can be made via an online information system or via a form available from the departmental office before the course begins. Other pre-requisites, such as regular course attendance as per § 15a, are announced at the beginning of the course.
- (3) Candidates can only register if they have been admitted to and are enrolled in the master's programme in Chemistry at the University of Konstanz.

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

- (1) Course-related performance assessments can be term papers, presentations, written or oral examinations connected to a certain course. Oral examinations are conducted by an examiner and an observer, and last around 30 minutes. Written examinations last between two to three hours. Term papers must be completed within a period of four weeks. Presentations consist of a talk of 30 to 90 minutes; a written composition may be required. The type of the required course-related performance assessment is determined by the course instructor and announced at the beginning of the semester. Oral and written course-related examinations each take place on two dates subsequent to the course. The first date usually is in the last week of the semester or the first week of the semester break. The second date usually is in the last two weeks before the next semester starts. Examination dates are determined at the start of the lecture period.
- (2) Students can retake every failed course-related performance assessments once. If a candidate is unable to retake the examination on the dates mentioned in paragraph 1, he/she 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 time period allowed to complete them, unless the reasons for not completing them in time were beyond the candidate's control.

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- (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. A candidate can only be granted the option of a second retake if not more than two of the performance assessments required to pass the master's examination were graded "fail" in the first retake. The Examination Board shall determine the time limit for scheduling the second retake. If the candidate fails to register in time, he/she loses his/her right to take the examination, unless the deadline was missed due to circumstances beyond the candidate's control.

### **§ 15 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 which apply to the curriculum for the study programme to which the course belongs. In addition to this, § 5 para. 4 applies.
- (2) Performance assessments in courses from other departments have to be documented by a confirmation stating a grade, the scope and the credit points of that course.

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

- (1) In seminars and other dialogue-oriented courses as well as in practical courses such as lab courses, the instructors **may** request regular attendance in the course or participation in a lab introduction as a pre-requisite for completing coursework and performance assessments and/or for acquiring credits. In this case it must be announced, in writing or electronically and at the beginning of the course, that regular attendance or participating in the lab introduction is an admission requirement for course-related performance assessments and/or a pre-requisite for acquiring credits.
- (2) Regular attendance means that not more than one fifth of course time or course dates was missed. Otherwise admission to coursework and performance assessments in that course will be denied, irrespective of whether or not the student is responsible for the absences. In this case, no ECTS credits can be acquired. In justified cases<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.

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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.

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### 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) three final oral examinations as per § 19
- c) the master's thesis including thesis defence as per § 20

#### § 17 Admission requirements

- (1) Admission to course-related performance assessments is described in § 13.
- (2) Candidates can only be admitted to the final oral examinations if they
  1. have been enrolled at the University of Konstanz for at least one semester and
  2. have successfully completed all required course-related performance assessments for the modules stated in § 3 para. 2.
- (3) Only candidates who have successfully completed the final oral examination can be admitted to the master's thesis.
- (4) Admission is granted with the provision that students be enrolled in the master's programme at the time of the performance assessments, including retakes. On request, 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 § 13.
- (2) As a rule, candidates shall apply for admission to the final oral examinations at the end of the second semester of the master's programme. The application for admission has to be submitted in writing, via the departmental office, to the Examination Board *StPA*. The application must include:
  1. Documentation of meeting the admission requirements
  2. A curriculum vitae written and signed by the candidate with a complete description of his/her educational background
  3. A declaration whether the candidate has already failed a master's or *Diplom* examination in chemistry at a university or equivalent institution of higher education, and whether he/she currently is in another examination procedure.
- (3) The application contains the selected focus area of study. It may contain a suggestion for the examiners in the final oral examination. There is no right guaranteeing that this suggestion will be considered.
- (4) The application has to be submitted at least two weeks before the first examination date.
- (5) As a rule, candidates shall apply for admission to the master's thesis immediately after successfully completing the final oral examination. They have to apply for admission in writing, via the departmental office, to the *StPA*. The application may include a suggestion

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of one or several topics (including interdisciplinary topics) for the master's thesis and the reviewers. There is no right guaranteeing that this suggestion will be considered.

- (6) The *StPA* assigns the topic of the master's thesis and appoints the reviewers. The *StPA* chairperson has to ensure that a topic is issued to the candidate as soon as possible after the application and that the supervisor and second reviewer are appointed. The date the topic was assigned must be recorded.
- (7) 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 chemistry or has lost the right to examination in this study programme at a university.

### § 19 Final oral master's examinations

- (1) The final oral examinations consist of three oral examinations, each conducted by two examiners. One of these examinations lasts around 60 minutes and covers the focus area of study. The other two last around 30 minutes each and will be held right after each other. They cover the 2nd and 3rd major.
- (2) The final oral examinations should, as a rule, be completed within a period of 30 days.
- (3) The essential topics and results of the final oral examination have to be recorded. Subsequently to the oral examination, the candidate will be informed about the result.
- (4) In addition to the required subjects, the candidate can also take an examination in up to two other subjects. Examination results achieved in these subjects will be included in the examination certificate upon request of the candidate, but will not count towards the final grade.
- (5) If an oral examination has not been passed, the candidate has to be given the opportunity to repeat it within four months after failing the first oral examination. If the repetition of the examination is not completed within this time limit, the candidate's right to take this examination expires, unless the reasons for not completing the examination in time are beyond his/her control.

### § 20 Master's thesis

- (1) The master's thesis is a written exam paper in which candidates have to demonstrate that they are able to work independently and according to scientific methods, within a set period, on a topic from the field of chemistry and can present the results in an understandable and precise manner. In case of an interdisciplinary topic, the thesis has to meet the requirements of a master's thesis in chemistry.
- (2) The time period allotted for the master's thesis is six months. The topic of the master's thesis must be determined in such a way that this deadline can be met. Candidates may return a topic only once and only within two months after the original topic was assigned.
- (3) If a candidate cannot complete the thesis within the prescribed time limit due to circumstances beyond his/her control, he/she can apply in writing to the Examination Board *StPA* for an extension of the deadline by a maximum of three months. If these circumstances prevail after that time period, the candidate can give the topic back, which will then be considered as not assigned. After these circumstances have ceased to prevail, a new topic will be assigned immediately.

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- (4) A thesis in the context of the scientific examination as part of the "*Lehramt an Gymnasien*" state examination for the major in chemistry may be recognized by the *StPA* as a master's thesis in the sense of these examination regulations if it is equivalent.
- (5) After completing the master's thesis, the candidate has to present his/her results in a thesis defence, which is open to all members of the department (ungraded record of academic achievement).
- (6) Three bound copies of the master's thesis must be submitted, via the Chemistry departmental office, to the *StPA* by the set deadline. The date of submission must be recorded. If a master's thesis is not submitted by the deadline due to reasons the candidate is responsible for it will be considered as failed.
- (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 at the University of Konstanz as per § 10 para. 1 no. 1 *LHG* (state law on higher education), or a *Privatdozent* (lecturer) whose main employment is with the department, or academic staff members authorized to conduct examinations as per § 6 para. 2. Master's theses with an interdisciplinary topic will be reviewed by both supervisors as per § 6 para. 2 and an additional reviewer. This additional reviewer must be from the Department of Chemistry.
- (9) Each of the appointed reviewers as per para. 8 has to assess the master's thesis within 60 days.
- (10) A master's thesis is passed if all the reviewers assess it as "sufficient" (4.0) or better.
- (11) The grade for the master's thesis will be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the grades as per § 11.
- (12) 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 calculated as the arithmetic mean of all three grades. If this value is worse than 4.0, the grade will be rounded to 4.0.
- (13) 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 the candidate did not use this option during his/her first attempt.

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

- (1) Individuals without a master's degree who were admitted to a 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 § 11.

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- (3) The overall grade for the report is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the individual reviewers' grades as per § 11.

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

- (1) The master's examination is passed if all performance assessments mentioned in § 16 are graded "sufficient" or better. When determining the overall grade, the performance assessments are weighted as follows:
- 50 %: the arithmetic mean of all grades for course-related performance assessments (for modules listed in § 3 para. 2) weighted by their corresponding credit points.
  - 25 %: the grades of the final oral examination, with the oral exam in the focus area of study and the 2nd and 3rd major weighted at a ratio of 3:2:2.
  - 25 %: 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 examination certificate as well as the degree certificate will be revoked. After a period of five years, counted from the date on the examination certificate, has elapsed, a decision as per paragraphs 1 and 2, sentence 2 can no longer be made.
- (5) Revocation of the academic degree will be handled in accordance with statutory provisions.

### § 24 Inspection of examination records

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

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### § 25 Legal recourse

The candidate can object to decisions in the examination procedure that constitute an administrative act (§§ 68 et. seq. VwGO). The Vice-rector for Academic Affairs 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.

### § 26 Effective date and transitional provisions

- (1) The German version of these study and examination regulations comes into effect the day after its publication in the "Amtliche Bekanntmachungen" (official announcements) of the University of Konstanz. At the same time the previously valid version of the study and examination regulations dated 15 September 2004 (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* 36/2004), amended on 13 March 2008 (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* 10/2008), expires.
- (2) Students who began the master's programme before these study and examination regulations became effective can request to continue their studies in line with the new version of the regulations.
- (3) The amendments as of 8 February 2012 come into effect the day after their publication in the "Amtliche Bekanntmachungen" of the University of Konstanz.

### Appendix

#### **Note:**

The German version of these regulations was published in the *Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* (official announcements) of the University of Konstanz No. 37/2008 on 28 August 2008.

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

The second amendment to these examination regulations as of 26 July 2013 was published in the *Amtliche Bekanntmachungen* of the University of Konstanz no. 63/2013.

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

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## Appendix

### Module combinations and ECTS credits

Semester	Module combination <sup>(1)</sup>	ECTS credits
1-2	Modules from the focus area of study	18
1-2	Modules from the 2nd major	12
1-2	Modules from the 3rd major	12
1-2	Modules from the area of electives as per § 3 para. 5 or the area of the majors inorganic, organic or physical chemistry, with a maximum of 6 ECTS credits from the focus area of study and 12 ECTS credits each from the area of the 2nd and 3rd major. Students may acquire a maximum of 12 ECTS credits from modules outside of chemistry.	18
3	<b>Oral master's examination</b>	15
3-4	<b>Master's thesis</b> <b>including thesis defence</b>	30 15
<b>Total</b>		<b>120</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> The module guide lists the elective modules and the areas to which they belong (inorganic, organic and physical chemistry, electives). The Examination Board decides which other modules and electives are permitted.