

Please note that this document is a non-binding convenience translation. Only the German version of the document entitled "Prüfungsordnung der Universität Heidelberg für den Masterstudiengang Kultur- und Religionsgeschichte Südasiens (Indologie I)", dated 23 March 2017 [published in the President's bulletin (Mitteilungsblatt des Rektors) of 28 April 2017, p. 231 ff.] has legal validity.

Heidelberg University examination and degree programme rules and regulations for the Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia (Indology I)

as of 23 March 2017

On the basis of § 32 of the Act on Higher Education of the Land of Baden-Württemberg (Landeshochschulgesetz – LHG), last amended by the Act for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men in the Public Services in Baden-Württemberg and the amendment of the Act on Higher Education of 23 February 2016 (Official Register (Gesetzblatt - Gbl.) of 26 February 2016, p.108), the following examination rules and regulations for the Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia were approved by the Senate of the University of Heidelberg on 21 March 2017.

The approval of the Rector was granted on 23 March 2017.

Preamble

All titles in this document, be they official, job, status or functions, are used in masculine form, however, they refer to men and women equally and may also be used in the corresponding feminine form. This applies to the university degrees as well as academic and other titles.

Section I: General provisions

- § 1 Purpose of the academic programme and examination
- § 2 Master's degree
- § 3 Standard period of study, programme structure, range of courses offered and selection of specialisations
- § 4 Modules, credits and list of grades
- § 5 Examinations board
- § 6 Examiners and observers
- § 7 Recognition of course credits, examination results and academic degrees
- § 8 Unexcused absence, withdrawal, exceeding of deadlines and deception
- § 9 Types of examinations completed during the course of study
- § 10 Oral examinations completed during the course of study
- § 11 Written examinations completed during the course of study
- § 12 Assessment of examinations

Section II: Master's examination

- § 13 Admission requirements for the Master's examination
- § 14 Master's thesis and final examination admission procedure
- § 15 Scope and nature of the Master's examination
- § 16 Final oral examination
- § 17 Master's thesis
- § 18 Submission and assessment of Master's thesis
- § 19 Passing the examination and overall grade
- § 20 Retaking an examination component and deadlines
- § 21 Master's diploma and certificate

Section III: Final provisions

- § 22 Invalidity of examinations
- § 23 Access to examination documents
- § 24 Coming into force and transitional provisions

Appendix 3: Modules for the Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia

Section I: General provisions

§ 1 Purpose of the academic programme and examination

- (1) The objective of the Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia (Classical Indology) is the study of the ancient and middle Indian languages in their cultural context, with particular emphasis on classical Sanskrit. Classical Indology thus focuses on texts from the ancient and middle languages as well as contemporary texts, the study of which will provide students with basic knowledge of the cultural, religious, and philosophical history of India. The subject covers both traditional and modern India, and provides an interdisciplinary learning approach to the areas of philology and cultural studies.
- (2) The purpose of the Master of Arts examinations is to assess whether students have mastered the interrelationships between the individual disciplines of their subject, are able to apply advanced scientific methods and findings, and are able to work independently, employing scientific principles.
- (3) The requirements for admission to this degree programme are set forth in the Admission Regulations, published separately.

§ 2 Master's degree

Upon successful completion of the Master's examination, Heidelberg University will confer the academic degree of "Master of Arts" (abbreviated to M.A.).

§ 3 Standard period of study, programme structure, range of courses offered and selection of specialisation

- (1) The standard period of study for the Master's degree programme is four semesters, including the Master's examination. Lectures and courses in the Master's degree programme run for three semesters. The Master's thesis is to be completed and a final examination to be taken within the fourth semester. Successful completion of the Master's degree programme requires a total of 120 credits (CP - credit points).
- (2) Students may be admitted to part-time studies upon application. Details are subject to the applicable version of the regulations on part-time study at Heidelberg University (Teilzeitstudienordnung - TeilzeitstudienO). If admission to part-time studies is granted, the standard period of study will be extended in accordance with the regulations on part-time study. With regard to processing times for written examinations, § 4, paragraph 3 of the regulations for part-time study (TeilzeitstudienO) must be taken into account.
- (3) The Master's programme is a modular programme. The Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia may be studied as major subject (120 CP), or as a major subject (100 CP) in conjunction with a minor subject (20 CP) offered at Heidelberg University, or it may be taken as minor subject (20 CP) in combination with another major (see Appendix). When studied as a major subject, the examination module (Master's thesis and final oral examination) comprises 30 CP; the lectures and courses within the degree programme comprise the remaining credits. If Cultural and Religious History of South Asia has been selected as a minor subject, one specialisation must be selected from a choice of five, each of which differs in its subject focus and language requirements (20 CP). The modules to be completed are listed in the Appendix; the order in which they are to be taken should be similar to the sample curricula provided in the module handbook.
- (4) Successful completion of the Master's degree programme requires proof of the successful completion of the examinations to be completed during the course of study for the major subject or the major and minor subject, and the successful completion of the examination module. If the Master's degree programme is studied as a combination major/minor subject, completion of only one subject is not sufficient for completion of the Master's degree.
- (5) In accordance with § 21, the faculty of the major subject is responsible for verifying adherence to the regulations set forth in paragraphs 3 and 4, as well as for issuing the diploma and degree certificate.
- (6) The languages of instruction and examination are English and German.
- (7) The Master's examination must be completed no later than four semesters following the end of the standard period of study. If candidates fail to meet this

deadline, they will lose entitlement to take this examination, unless they are not at fault for the deadline being exceeded.

§ 4 Modules, credits and list of grades

- (1) A module is a teaching unit, self-contained in terms of both time and content and comprised of various lectures and courses. It not only comprises the lectures and courses attended, but also the components necessary for a passing grade in the module.
- (2) The Master's thesis and the final oral examination are regarded as individual modules.
- (3) A distinction is made between:
 1. compulsory modules: these must be completed by all students;
 2. compulsory elective modules: students may select these from a limited subject area.
- (4) All components within a module must be graded as "sufficient" (4.0) or higher (=sub-module grades) for the complete module to be passed.
- (5) Credits are given for successfully completed modules, including their individual components. One credit (CP) corresponds to a workload of 30 hours.
- (6) Grades that are to be recognised as having been earned during the course of study may only be submitted once and only in one subject area. If two subjects require the same course to be completed, permission to have it counted for both subjects may be granted. This decision will be made by the corresponding examinations boards.
- (7) A grade report (Transcript of Records) will be issued at the end of each semester, listing all module examinations students have passed, including the corresponding credits and grades.

§ 5 Examinations board

- (1) The examinations board of the Faculty of Philosophy is responsible for the organisation of examinations and the tasks required by the examination rules and regulations. It is made up of two professors and a research assistant representative. A student may serve on the examinations board in an advisory capacity. The faculty council appoints the chairperson, the deputy, and the other members of the examinations board for a period of two years each. The chairperson and the deputy must be professors.
- (2) The examinations board ensures that the examination rules and regulations are upheld and provides recommendations for further improving the curriculum and

the examination rules and regulations. The examinations board appoints examiners and observers. The examinations board may delegate these appointments to its chairperson or to another person authorised by the Institute. The board may be called upon for all questions regarding examinations.

- (3) The chairperson manages the business of the examinations board, prepares and chairs its meetings and, in the event of a tie vote, has the deciding vote.
- (4) The examinations board may confer further responsibility on its chairperson, or another person authorised by the Institute, provided this does not violate applicable law. Such a decision may be revoked at any time. The examinations board must be informed on a regular basis about the execution of these tasks.
- (5) Examinations board members have the right to attend examinations. The student representative may only attend with the candidate's approval.
- (6) Members of the examinations board, examiners, and observers, as well as administrative personnel, are obligated to maintain professional confidentiality. Members who are not civil servants are sworn to secrecy by the chairperson.
- (7) The candidate must be informed of negative decisions of the examinations board immediately and in writing; the reasons for the decision must be stipulated and information on the procedure for appeal must be provided.

§ 6 Examiners and observers

- (1) In general, examinations which are not completed during the course of study may only be carried out by professors, associate professors, or research associates who, on the basis of long-standing teaching experience, have been granted the right to conduct examinations.
- (2) Examinations held during the course of study are usually conducted by the instructor of the course in question.
- (3) Observers must have sat the corresponding Master's examination or equivalent.
- (4) In accordance with paragraph 1, the candidate is permitted to propose an examiner for the Master's thesis and the final oral examination; however, this does not constitute entitlement to be examined by a particular examiner.
- (5) The chairperson of the examinations board ensures that candidates are given sufficient advance notice of examiners' names.
- (6) Authorised examiners – subject to their agreement – may be called upon to conduct examinations for up to two years after they leave Heidelberg University.

§ 7 Recognition of course credits, examination results and academic degrees

- (1) Examination prerequisites and results, as well as academic degrees obtained through degree programmes at German universities or universities of cooperative education (state or state-recognised), or at foreign universities (state or state-recognised), will be recognised as long as there is no significant difference concerning the skills acquired, courses taken and degree obtained through the programme. This recognition is required in order to continue an academic programme, take examinations, start a further academic programme or be admitted to a doctoral programme. The validity of § 15, paragraph 3 and 4 LBG (State Public Service Law) remains unaffected.
- (2) Courses completed at recognised distance-learning institutions will be considered equivalent to those in a corresponding traditional degree programme with regard to determining the duration of study.
- (3) It is the applicant's responsibility to provide all information necessary for credits to be recognised. It is the responsibility of the office which carries out the recognition procedure to prove that an application does not fulfil the requirements.
- (4) If agreements exist between the Federal Republic of Germany and other states concerning equivalent university degree programmes (Equivalency Agreements) that favour students from other states by way of derogation from paragraph 1 and § 29, paragraph 2, sentence 5 of the LHG (Act on Higher Education of the State of Baden-Württemberg), the rules and regulations in the Equivalency Agreement take precedence.
- (5) Examination results are to be graded on the basis of a credit point system that allows for achievements in equivalent or similar degree programmes to be recognised; this also applies to universities of cooperative education, provided that there is equivalence.
- (6) If examination prerequisites and results are recognised, grades, provided that the grading systems are similar, must be transferred and used when calculating the overall grade in accordance with these examination rules and regulations. If grading systems are not comparable, examination prerequisites and results are graded as a "pass". This recognition may be indicated on the certificate.
- (7) Knowledge and skills acquired outside of the higher education system are to be recognised if
 1. the requirements for university admission are fulfilled at the time of recognition,
 2. the knowledge and skills to be recognised for the university degree programme are equivalent in both content and level to the course credits and examinations which they are to replace, and
 3. the criteria for recognition have been verified in an accreditation.Knowledge and skills gained outside a university degree programme may not replace more than 50% of the university degree programme. A Master's thesis will not be recognised. If documentation of individual examinations that would provide evidence of specific knowledge and skills cannot be provided, the

examinations board may request the completion of a placement test.

- (8) In the case of refresher courses, credits may be awarded for courses and examinations. When recognising credits from refresher courses for a university degree programme, paragraphs 2 and 5 as well as paragraph 7, sentence 1, no. 1 apply accordingly. When recognising knowledge and skills gained outside a university degree programme for refresher courses, paragraph 7 applies accordingly.
- (9) The examinations board, or another person authorised by the board in accordance with § 5, paragraph 4, will make this decision in accordance with paragraph 7.

§ 8 Unexcused absence, withdrawal, exceeding of deadlines and deception

- (1) An examination will be graded as "failed" (5.0), if a candidate fails to appear and is unable to provide a valid reason for his or her absence, or if the candidate withdraws after the examination has started. The same applies if the candidate fails to provide a written examination by the established deadline, unless the candidate is not at fault for the deadline being exceeded.
- (2) Following registration for the examination, withdrawal for unstated reasons is only possible up until two weeks before the examination. After this deadline, and in accordance with paragraph 3, reasons for the withdrawal must be provided.
- (3) Reasons for withdrawal or absence must be plausible and must immediately be submitted in writing to the examinations board. If the candidate, or a child for whom the candidate is generally the sole caregiver, is ill, a medical certificate must be provided. In the event of doubt, a medical certificate from a designated physician may be required. If the reasons stated are accepted, a new examination date will be scheduled. In this case, examination results that are already available will be taken into account.
- (4) When deciding whether the candidate is at fault for exceeding a deadline for registration or taking an examination, the examinations board must respect the provisions stated in the Maternity Protection Act and the legal regulations concerning parental leave, and allow candidates to make appropriate use of these provisions. The same applies for students with disabilities or chronic diseases, or for students with dependent relatives, in accordance with § 7 paragraph 3 of the Pflegezeitgesetz (Home Care Leave Act).
- (5) If the candidate tries to influence the examination results through deception, particularly plagiarism, or by using unauthorised aids, the examination will be graded as "failed" (5.0). In extreme cases, the examinations board may permanently exclude the candidate from the examination, with no option to repeat it. If a candidate disrupts the proper course of the examination, he or she may be excluded by the examiner or examination supervisor from taking further part in the examination, in which case the examination will be graded as "failed"

(5.0). In extreme cases, the examinations board may exclude the candidate from all further examinations.

- (6) With regard to paragraph 5, sentences 1 and 3, within a period of 7 days, the candidate may request that the decision be validated by the examinations board. The candidate must be informed of negative decisions immediately and in writing; the reasons for the decision must be stipulated and information on the procedure for appeal must be provided.

§ 9 Types of examinations completed during the course of study

- (1) Examinations completed during the course of study are taken as
1. oral examinations,
 2. written examinations (electronically, where applicable).
- (2) If candidates provide a medical certificate that plausibly proves that they are not able to take examinations in the form prescribed, whether completely or partially, due to permanent or chronic health problems, the examinations board may allow them to take an equivalent examination. The same applies for other course requirements.
- (3) The lecturer responsible for a lecture or course determines the nature, duration and scope of the integrated examinations and provides this information no later than the beginning of the lecture or course.

§ 10 Oral examinations completed during the course of study

- (1) In oral examinations, candidates should be able to prove that they are able to identify interrelationships within the examination subject matter and relate specified problems to these interrelationships. Additionally, the purpose of the oral examination is to assess whether the candidate has adequate basic knowledge of the field of study. Oral examinations may be held as individual or group examinations with a maximum of four candidates.
- (2) For individual examinations, an oral examination lasts between 10 and 30 minutes; in group examinations, which will last between 40 and 90 minutes, each candidate will be examined for between 10 and 30 minutes.
- (3) Following the oral examination, candidates must be notified of examination results.

§ 11 Written examinations completed during the course of study

- (1) In written examinations, candidates should be able to prove that they are able to recognise problems related to their subject and develop solutions for them,

using subject-specific methods and within limited time and with limited resources.

- (2) A written examination lasts between 30 and 180 minutes. Multiple choice questions are permitted.
- (3) Multiple choice questions are generally set by the lecturer responsible for a course, who is appointed by the examinations board. The examination questions must correspond to the knowledge imparted in the course, and must provide reliable examination results. Before assessing the examination results, the examiner responsible, as determined in sentence 1, must ensure that the questions for the examination have met the requirements set forth in sentence 2. If the examiner finds that individual examination questions are incorrect, these questions may not be considered when assessing the examination results. The number of given questions is reduced accordingly and the assessment of the examination must be based on this reduced number. Reducing the number of questions must not have negative consequences for the candidates. An examination carried out as a multiple choice examination is considered to be passed, when at least 60% of the questions were answered correctly, or when the number of the candidate's correctly answered questions is not lower than 22% of the average examination results of all candidates (norm-referenced grading); it may, however, not fall below 50% of the maximum of points to be earned. If a candidate has correctly answered the required number of questions for passing, the multiple choice examination must be assessed as follows: For non-referenced grading, the scale for assessment is moved linearly by the difference between the absolute and relative threshold for passing.

Percent	corresponds to	Grade
≥ 60 – 64		4.0
> 64 – 68		3.7
> 68 – 72		3.3
> 72 – 76		3.0
> 76 – 80		2.7
> 80 – 84		2.3
> 84 – 88		2.0
> 88 – 92		1.7
> 92 – 96		1.3
> 96 – 100		1.0

- (4) If a written examination component is taken as a term paper, a log, or an essay, candidates must certify that they are the authors of their work and have used no sources or aids other than those indicated. Examiners may use appropriate technical methods to detect plagiarism.
- (5) The evaluation period for written examinations should not exceed six weeks.

§ 12 Assessment of examinations

- (1) Grades for the individual examinations are determined by the respective examiners. The following grades must be used for assessment of examinations:

1 = very good	=	an outstanding performance;
2 = good	=	a performance which lies substantially above average requirements;
3 = satisfactory	=	a performance which fulfils average requirements;
4 = sufficient	=	a performance which, despite deficiencies, still meets the requirements;
5 = failed	=	a performance which, due to considerable deficiencies, does not meet the requirements.

For more detailed assessment of examination performance, grades may be further differentiated by increasing or decreasing the individual grades by 0.3; however, the grade 0.7 and incremental grades above 4.0 may not be used.

- (2) Unless another calculation method is indicated in the module handbook, the final module grade will be calculated on the basis of the unrounded values of module examination components, weighted according to the number of credits earned. If a final examination is to be completed within a module, the grade from this final module examination constitutes the grade for this module.
- (3) The overall Master's grade is assessed in accordance with § 19, paragraph 2.
- (4) When calculating final module grades and the overall examination grade, only the first decimal after the point is taken into account, without rounding.
- (5) Grading for the final module grade and overall Master's examination grade is as follows:

for an average of up to and including 1.5:	very good
average of between 1.6 and up to/including 2.5:	good
average of between 2.6 and up to/including 3.5:	satisfactory
average of between 3.6 and up to / including 4.0:	sufficient

If the overall Master's examination grade is "very good" (1.0), the degree will be conferred with the notation: "with distinction".

- (6) In addition to the German-system grades, students who have passed the examinations will also be awarded a letter grade (ECTS grade) according to the following scale:

- A for the top 10 %
- B the subsequent 25 %

- C the subsequent 30 %
- D the subsequent 25 %
- E the subsequent 10 %

The relative grades are calculated based on the examination results of the total graduating class, as well as the graduating classes from two or more previous years, depending on the number of students in the current graduating class. For degree grades, the ECTS grade must be included. For individual modules, the ECTS grade may be listed when possible and necessary.

Section II: Master's examination

§ 13 Admission requirements for the Master's examination

- (1) Admission to the Master's examination in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia will only be authorised for students who:
 1. are enrolled in the Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia at Heidelberg University,
 2. have not lost their entitlement to take the final examinations in the Master's degree programme Cultural and Religious History of South Asia.
- (2) The following certificates must be provided for admission to the final oral master's examination and Master's thesis: successful completion of modules in the major subject, as set forth in the Appendix, and successful completion of all modules and courses in the minor subject, comprising the total of credits set forth in § 3 (minus a maximum of 6 CP for modules taken during the 4th semester).

§ 14 Master's thesis and final examination admission procedure

- (1) The application for admission to the examination must be made in writing, addressed to the chairperson of the examinations board. The application must include the following documents:
 1. evidence of fulfilment of the admission requirements in accordance with § 13, paragraphs 1 and 2,
 2. declarations from candidates, stating whether they have previously failed a Master's examination in the Cultural and Religious History of South Asia Master's programme, or whether they are currently undergoing an examination procedure in such a programme.
- (2) If candidates are unable to provide such evidence, the examinations board may allow other documents of proof to be accepted.
- (3) The application is the basis for the examinations board's decision as to whether the candidate may be admitted to the examination. Denials must be made in

writing, stating the reasons and providing information on the procedure for appeal.

- (4) The application for admission to the examination may only be denied if:
1. conditions are not fulfilled in accordance with § 13, or
 2. documents set forth in paragraph 1 are not complete, and have not been completed upon request, or
 3. candidates have failed their final attempt at the Master's examination in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia, or another equivalent degree programme, or have lost the entitlement to take the final examinations, or
 4. the candidate is currently undergoing examination procedures in such a degree programme.

§ 15 Scope and nature of the Master's examination

- (1) The Master's examination consists of:
1. successful completion of the examinations for the modules set forth in the Appendix, and, if applicable, successful completion of the examinations for the modules and courses for the minor subject
 2. the final oral examination,
 3. the Master's thesis.
- (2) The examinations referred to in paragraph 1, no. 1 are taken as an integrated part of their respective lectures, courses or modules. They may be in written or oral form. For examinations in the minor subject, the respective programme rules and regulations apply.
- (3) In accordance with § 13, paragraph 2, the candidate must begin work on the Master's thesis no later than four months following successful completion of the last examination completed during the course of study.
If this deadline is not met, the missing examination will be graded as "failed" (5.0), unless the candidate is not at fault for the deadline being exceeded.

§ 16 Final oral examination

- (1) The purpose of the final oral examination is for candidates to prove that they have mastered the interrelationships between the individual disciplines of their subject, and are able to assess special problems accordingly. Additionally, the purpose of the oral examination is to assess whether the candidate has profound basic and specialised knowledge in limited fields of the subjects to be examined.
- (2) The final oral examination will be held as an individual examination by one examiner and one qualified observer. The candidate is permitted to make a proposal; however, this does not constitute entitlement to be examined by a

particular examiner. The chairperson of the examinations board ensures that candidates are given sufficient advance notice of the examiner's name.

- (3) In accordance with § 15, paragraph 1, number 1, the candidate is required to register for the final oral examination no later than during the next registration period following the completion of the last examination completed during the course of study. If this deadline is not met, the final oral examination will be graded as "failed" (5.0), unless the candidate is not at fault for the deadline being exceeded. The registration period for the Summer semester runs from 1 March until 30 April and for the Winter semester from 1 September until 30 October. The preparation time for the final oral examination may not exceed three weeks.
- (4) Upon approval of the examiners, the candidate may propose three topics; however, the content of the examination will not be limited to those fields.
- (5) The final oral examination lasts approximately 45 minutes.
- (6) The candidate may choose to have the final oral examination held in either German or English.
- (7) The topics examined and the results of the oral examination must be recorded in a written report. Following the oral examination, candidates must be notified of examination results.
- (8) Students wishing to take a subject examination at a later examination date will be permitted to attend the same examination for another candidate, as long as room is available. However, the visitor may not be present for assessment or announcement of the examination result. Upon the candidate's request, or for other valid reasons, observers may be prohibited from attending the examination.

§ 17 Master's thesis

- (1) The purpose of the Master's thesis is for candidates to prove that they are able to work independently, within a given period of time and using academic methods, to address a problem from the field of Cultural and Religious History of South Asia.
- (2) In accordance with § 6, paragraph 1, the Master's thesis may be assigned and supervised by any authorised examiner in the Cultural and Religious History of South Asia department.
- (3) The candidate must begin work on the Master's thesis no later than two weeks after the successful completion of the final oral examination, or, must have by that time submitted an application to the chairperson of the examinations board for the assignment of a topic. If the deadline is not met, the Master's thesis will be graded as "failed" (5.0), unless the candidate is not at fault for exceeding the

deadline.

- (4) The topic of the Master's thesis will be determined by the thesis supervisor, in consultation with the candidate. If an application for assignment of a topic is submitted, the chairperson of the examinations board will ensure that the candidate receives a topic for his or her Master's thesis in a timely fashion. The candidate is permitted to propose topics; however, this does not constitute entitlement to a particular topic. The thesis topic will be assigned by the chairperson of the examinations board; the date of assignment must be recorded.
- (5) The deadline for submission of the thesis is four months following assignment of the topic. In duly-justified exceptional cases, the examinations board, in consultation with the supervisor, may extend this deadline by up to two months; for part-time students, by up to four months. Requests for an extension of the deadline must be submitted to the chairperson of the examinations board no later than three weeks prior to the final deadline. If the deadline is not met, the Master's thesis will be graded as "failed" (5.0), unless the candidate is not at fault for the deadline being exceeded.
- (6) The topic, task and scope of the Master's thesis must be limited in such a way that the candidate should be able to complete the thesis within the given time frame. The Master's thesis must comprise approx. 20,000 words (approx. 55 pages; 1.5 line spacing; 30 lines; excluding bibliography). This limit may only be exceeded with prior approval from the thesis supervisor. The number of words and any deviation from the above-stated limit are to be noted in the Master's thesis. The topic may only be rejected once, and only within the first month after the date of assignment. Once the new topic is assigned, the completion period starts again.
- (7) The Master's thesis may be written in German or English. Upon approval of the examinations board, the thesis may also be written in other languages.
- (8) If the Master's thesis is graded as "failed" (5.0), it may be retaken on a new topic; re-writing the thesis on the previous topic is not permitted.

§ 18 Submission and assessment of Master's thesis

- (1) Three copies of the Master's thesis must be submitted to the examinations board before the established deadline; an additional digital copy must also be submitted, formatted as a fully printable, storable, and searchable PDF-file. The date of submission must be recorded.
- (2) When submitting a Master's thesis, candidates must certify in writing that they are the authors of their work, have used no sources or aids other than those indicated, and, for all sections that in meaning or wording are based on or taken from other works including, if applicable, electronic media, have provided information on the sources referenced. Referenced information obtained from

Internet sources must be provided in printed form.

- (3) The Master's thesis is assessed by two examiners, one of whom must be a professor. The thesis supervisor should be the first examiner. The second examiner is designated by the examinations board. The candidate is permitted to make a proposal; however, this does not constitute legal entitlement to be examined by a particular examiner. The evaluation period should not exceed six weeks.
- (4) The grade is calculated as the average of the two assessments; § 12 applies accordingly. If the two assessments differ by more than one grade, the examinations board will determine the grade for the Master's examination after consulting both examiners. In such cases, a third examiner may be consulted.
- (5) If a Master's thesis is graded as "failed" (5.0), it may be retaken once. The candidate must begin work on a new thesis no later than during the next registration period following notification of the failure. Upon request, the chairperson of the examinations board will ensure that the candidate receives a new topic. If the deadline is not met, the Master's thesis will be graded as "failed" (5.0), and the Master's examination is not considered to have been passed, unless the candidate is not at fault for exceeding the deadline. Rejection of a topic is only possible during the period set forth in § 17, paragraph 6, and will only be permitted if the candidate has not rejected the topic of the first Master's thesis.

§ 19 Passing the examination and overall grade

- (1) The Master's examination is passed when all examination components according to § 15, paragraph 1 have been graded as "sufficient" (4.0) or higher, or as "passed".
- (2) In accordance with § 12, paragraph 5, for the calculation of the overall grade, the numerical values of the module grades are added together and weighted according to the number of credit points earned.

§ 20 Retaking an examination component and deadlines

- (1) If examinations are not passed, or are not considered to have been passed, they may be retaken once. This includes failed examinations taken at other universities. A second re-examination is permitted only under exceptional circumstances and only for a maximum of two examinations completed during the course of study. Approval must be granted by the examinations board. A second re-examination for the Master's thesis or the final oral examination is not permitted.
- (2) Retaking an examination that has been graded as passed is not permitted.

- (3) Failed examinations must be retaken no later than during the following semester. If candidates fail to meet this deadline, they will lose entitlement to take this examination, unless they are not responsible for the deadline being exceeded.
- (4) If a compulsory module examination is failed on the final attempt, the candidate will be dismissed from the academic programme. Failure of compulsory elective modules and optional modules may be offset by the successful completion of a different compulsory elective module.

§ 21 Master's diploma and certificate

- (1) Upon successful completion of the Master's examination, a diploma in German and English will be issued within four weeks after submission of all grades (the Master's thesis and the modules, from both subjects, when applicable). This will list all individual modules with their respective grades (graded in accordance with § 12, paragraph 5, and numerical value) and credits, as well as the grade and topic of the Master's thesis, and the overall grade of the Master's examinations. The diploma will be dated with the date of the last examination. It must be signed by the dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and the chairperson of the examinations board.
- (2) A "Diploma Supplement" in German and English will also be provided, containing additional information about the course content and period of study. The content complies with the "European Diploma Supplement Model".
- (3) A bilingual Master's certificate in German and English will be issued with the diploma, bearing the same date as the diploma. It certifies conferment of the academic degree "Master of Arts". The Master's certificate will be signed by the dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and the chairperson of the examinations board. It bears the faculty seal.
- (4) If the Master's examination is failed on the final attempt or is considered not to have been passed, the chairperson will issue a written notification, providing information on the procedure for appeal. A certificate will be issued upon request, and upon presentation of documentation of proof and a certificate of withdrawal, listing passed examinations and their grades, missing examinations required for obtaining the Master's degree, and a statement that, on the final attempt, the Master's examination has not been passed.

Section III: Final provisions

§ 22 Invalidity of examinations

- (1) If a candidate has cheated on an examination and this is not discovered until after the diploma has been issued, the examinations board may correct the examination results that were affected by the deception and may declare the

examination to be partially or completely failed.

- (2) If the requirements for admission to the examination were not fulfilled, but without any intent on the candidate's part to deceive, and this is not discovered until after the diploma has been issued, the passed examination will be considered to compensate for this shortcoming. If the candidate intentionally gained admission to the examination through deceit, the examinations board will make a decision on the matter.
- (3) Before a decision is made, candidates will be given the opportunity to provide an explanation.
- (4) Fraudulent examination diplomas will be confiscated and, if necessary, a new diploma will be issued. If the examination has been graded as "failed" due to cheating or deception, the Master's certificate will be confiscated along with the fraudulent examination diploma. The statute of limitations for rendering a decision such as described in paragraph 1 and paragraph 2, sentence 2, is five years from the date on the examination diploma.

§ 23 Access to examination documents

After the examination procedure has been completed, the candidate has the right to request access to examination documents within a reasonable period of time. Requests must be made in writing and within a period of up to one year after the examination process. The chairperson of the examinations board will decide when and where such access will be given.

§ 24 Coming into force

- (1) These examination rules and regulations will come into force on the first day of the month following publication in the President's bulletin (Mitteilungsblatt des Rektors). At that time, the Heidelberg University examination and degree programme rules and regulations for the Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia from 28 March 2007 (including university statutes for the amendment of the examination and degree programme rules and regulations for the Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia (Indology I) from 16 May 2013; President's bulletin (Mitteilungsblatt des Rektors) no. 8/13 from 28 June 2013) will cease to be in force.
- (2) For those students who were already enrolled in the Master's degree programme in Cultural and Religious History of South Asia at Heidelberg University at the time that these Examination Rules and Regulations came into effect, the previous Master's degree programme Examination Rules and Regulations may, upon request, remain applicable for a period of up to two years.

Heidelberg, 23 March 2017

Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Bernhard Eitel
President

Appendix 1: Modules for the degree programme Cultural and Religious History of South Asia (without indication of minor subject or major subject)

Within the major subject, the programme consists of a compulsory area to be completed by all students; a compulsory elective “subject” area, in which students may select one of the modules offered; and an elective “language” area, in which students may select one of four alternatives, according to their knowledge of and interest in a second South Asian language.

Within the minor subject, students select one of the five specialisations offered.

Modules

- [COL] Colloquium (6 CP)
- [MAEx] Examination Module (30 CP)
- [CRS1], [CRS2], [CRS3], [CSM] Subject-specific modules for Cultural and Religious History of South Asia, compulsory area (12 CP each)
- [CRS4], [BUD] Subject-specific modules for Cultural and Religious History of South Asia or Buddhist Studies, compulsory elective “subject” area (12 CP each)
- [SLA and RS], [PS and RS], [BHUT1 and 2], [TIB1 and 2] language modules and, if applicable, one subject-specific module from the compulsory elective “language” area

Major subject, 120 CP

The major subject (120 CP) consists of:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • the compulsory modules MAEx and COL, CRS1, CRS2, CRS3, CSM; | 84 CP |
| • the compulsory elective “subject” area; | 12 CP |
| • the elective “language” area | 24 CP |

Curriculum, 120 CP (module BUD from the compulsory elective “subject” area and version A from the compulsory elective “language” area)

	Compulsory area	Compulsory elective “subject”	Compulsory elective “language”	Σ
1	CRS1, 12 CP CRS2, 12 CP		SLA – part 1 (6 CP)	30
2	CRS3 – part 1 (6 CP) CSM – part 1 (6 CP)	BUD – part 1 (6 CP)	SLA – part 2 (6 CP) RS – part 1 (6 CP)	30
3	CRS3 – part 2 (6 CP) CSM – part 2 (6 CP) COL (6 CP)	BUD – part 2 (6 CP)	RS – part 2 (6 CP)	30
4	MAEx (Master’s thesis (25 CP) and oral examination (5 CP))			30

Major subject, 100 CP

The major subject (100 CP) consists of:

- the compulsory modules MAEx, COL, CRS1, CRS2, CRS3, SLA, RS; 88 CP
- the compulsory elective “subject” area; 12 CP

Curriculum, 100 CP (with module BUD from the compulsory elective “subject” area)

	Compulsory area	Compulsory elective “subject”	Σ
1	CRS1 – part 1 (6 CP) CRS1 – part 2 (6 CP) CRS2 – part 1 (6 CP) SLA – part 1 (6 CP)		30
2	CRS2 – part 2 (6 CP) CRS3 – part 1 (6 CP) SLA – part 2 (6 CP)	BUD – part 1 (6 CP)	30
3	CRS3 – part 2 (6 CP) COL – part 2 (6 CP) RS (4 CP)	BUD – part 2 (6 CP)	30
4	MAEx (Master’s thesis (25 CP) and oral examination (5 CP))		30

Minor subject, 20 CP

The minor subject (20 CP) consists of:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • one module from the courses offered, according to the specialisation selected (CRS1/CRS2/CRS3/CRS4 or CSM or SLA or PS or BUD); | 12 CP |
| • the corresponding minor subject module | 8 CP |

Curriculum, 20 CP

	Specialisation II	Σ
1	CSM – part 1 (6 CP)	6
2	CSM – part 2 (6 CP)	6
3	CSM-BF – (2 CP) Oral examination completed during the course of study (2 CP)	8
4		0

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