

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 Master-Studiengang Nah- und Mitteloststudien (Near and Middle Eastern Studies)" dated 20 February 2008 [published in the President's bulletin (Mitteilungsblatt des Rektors) of 10 March 2008, p. 209], last amended on 22 April 2013 [President's bulletin (Mitteilungsblatt des Rektors) of 31 May 2013, p. 267ff.] has legal validity.

## Heidelberg University examination and degree programme rules and regulations for the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies

as of 20 February 2008

### Section I: General provisions

- § 1 Purpose of the academic programme and examination
- § 2 Master's degree
- § 3 Standard period of study, programme structure and range of courses offered
- § 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, deception and breaches of regulations
- § 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 Master's examination admission requirements
- § 14 Master's 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

## Section I: General provisions

### § 1 Purpose of the academic programme and examination

- (1) The objective of the Bachelor's degree programme *in Near and Middle Eastern Studies* is the study of the Islamic world from the time of Muhammad to the present, based on knowledge of the languages of the Islamic culture. Islam, which originated in the Arabic-speaking lands, soon spread beyond this area to include people who spoke non-Semitic languages, and who made important contributions to the development of Islamic society. Today, the Islamic world comprises regions in Europe, Asia and Africa, from the Atlantic Coast to the Philippines and from the shores of East Africa to the streams of Siberia. The historic core countries of the Islam, including the Arabian Peninsula, Greater Syria, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Iran with Afghanistan, as well as Anatolia and parts of Central Asia comprise the lands where Arabic and the Turkish-Persian languages are spoken.

Thematically, this degree programme provides a broad range of methodology and content, which arises from its focus on the history, religions, languages, literature, politics, society, economy, law, philosophy, arts, archaeology and historical regional studies of the Islamic world.

To contend with the complexity and diversity of this discipline, at Heidelberg University, three geographic and content-related specialisations in research and teaching have been established. In the context of this Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, these specialisations are primarily based on the selection of one of three possible specialisation options. These include the following:

1. **Arabic:** The objective of the Arabic specialisation is the history of religion, literature, and society in the Arabic world from the 6th/7th century until today, focussing on the countries of the Near East, including Egypt. A prerequisite for the Arabic specialisation is proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic, which is essential for working with classic and modern texts, complemented by further knowledge of the different style levels of modern and classical Arabic and other Oriental source languages (Turkish, Persian).

2. **Ottoman:** The objective of the specialisation Ottoman is the history and culture of the Ottoman Empire and its neighbouring regions in South-East Europe, Caucasus, and Iran. Particular emphasis will be placed upon the administrative, economical, and social history of the "post-classical" period (from approx. 1600), as well as the diplomatics, palaeography, and intellectual history of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

This specialisation is grounded not only upon proficiency in the Turkish language as it is spoken in Turkey, but also upon the acquisition of advanced skills in the Ottoman language and complementary knowledge of other Oriental source languages (Arabic, Persian).

3. **Persian:** The objective of the Persian specialisation is the study of the languages, history, and culture of the Iranian region, with a special emphasis on the Islamic period. In this specialisation, the interrelationships within the Islamic Persian-speaking world and its neighbouring regions (Arabic and Ottoman world) and the interactions between them are of fundamental importance. Therefore, the linguistic requirement is knowledge of Modern Persian, complemented by either knowledge

of its historical forms or knowledge of other Iranian languages or other Oriental source languages (Turkish, Arabic).

- (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

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

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

- (1) The standard period of study for the Master's degree programme is four semesters, including examinations and Master's thesis.
- (2) Lectures and courses in the Master's degree programme run for three semesters: The Master's thesis is to be completed within the fourth semester. Successful completion of the Master's degree programme requires a total of 120 credits (CP-credit points) for both compulsory and elective courses.
- (3) The Master's programme is a modular programme. The total of 120 CP is comprised of 90 CP from specialised lectures and courses within the degree programme and the final oral examination, and 30 CP for the Master's thesis. The Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies may also be studied as a minor subject (see Appendix 2).
- (4) Generally, the language of instruction and examinations is German. Lectures and courses may be also given and examinations taken partially or completely in English.

## § 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:
  - compulsory modules: these must be completed by all students
  - optional modules: students may freely choose these from the modules

- offered in their subject.
- compulsory elective modules: students may select from a limited subject area
- (4) All components within a module must be graded as "sufficient" (4.0) or higher for the complete module to be passed (=sub-module grades).
  - (5) Credits are given for successfully completed modules including their individual components. One credit (CP) corresponds to a workload of 30 hours.
  - (6) A transcript of records is 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, a research assistant representative, and a student, who serves 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 student representative is appointed for one year. 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. It appoints the examiners and observers involved in examinations. 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 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.
- (6) Members of the examinations board, examiners, and observers 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.
- (8) The Joint Examination Office provides support to the examinations board and

executes its decisions.

## § 6 Examiners and observers

- (1) In general, examinations which are not completed during the course of study may only be carried out by professors, lecturers, associate professors, or research associates who have been granted the right to conduct examinations due to longstanding teaching experience in the Master's degree programme. Research assistants, research associates, adjunct lecturers and lecturers with special responsibilities may only be appointed to conduct examinations under exceptional circumstances, when there is not enough qualified faculty personnel available to conduct examinations.
- (2) Examinations held during the course of study are usually conducted by the teacher of the course in question.
- (3) Observers must have sat the corresponding Master's examination or equivalent.
- (4) The candidate is permitted to make a proposal for examiners 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.

## § 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, paragraphs 3 and 4 of the LBG (State Public Service Law) remains unaffected.
- (2) Preliminary or intermediate examinations taken at other German higher education institutions of the same type of higher education institution in the same or a related degree programme will be recognised. 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 achievements 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) Where agreements and conventions between the Federal Republic of Germany and other states on the equivalency of higher education standards (equivalency

agreements) favour students from other states by way of derogation from paragraph 1 and § 29 paragraph 2 clause 5 LHG (Landeshochschulgesetz – State Higher Education Act), the provisions of the equivalency agreements 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 there is equivalence.
- (6) 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 should 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. Universities shall specify the details of the examination rules and regulations, in particular the extent to which knowledge and skills gained outside a university degree programme can be recognised and the preconditions that must be fulfilled. The examination rules and regulations may require the completion of a placement test.
- (7) For refresher courses, credits may be given for courses and examinations. When recognising credits from refresher courses for a university degree programme, paragraphs 2 and 5 as well as paragraph 6 sentence 1 no. 1 apply accordingly. When recognising knowledge and skills gained outside a university degree programme for refresher courses, paragraph 6 applies accordingly.

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

- (1) An examination is 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) 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.
- (3) When deciding whether the candidate is responsible 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.

- (4) If the candidate tries to influence the examination results through deception or by using unauthorised aids, the examination will be graded as "failed" (5.0). If candidates disrupt the proper course of the examination, they may be excluded from taking further part in the examination by the examiner or examination supervisor, in which case the examination result will be graded as "failed" (5.0). In extreme cases, the examinations board may exclude the candidate from all further examinations.
- (5) With regard to paragraph 4, sentences 1 and 2, 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:
1. oral examinations
  2. written examinations (electronically, where applicable).
- (2) If candidates provide a medical certificate which plausibly proves that they are not able to take examination components in the form prescribed, completely or partially, due to permanent or sustained health problems, the examinations board may allow them to take an equivalent examination. This also applies to examination prerequisites.

### **§ 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.
- (2) An oral examination lasts between 10 and 60 minutes.

### **§ 11 Written examinations completed during the course of study**

- (1) In written examinations, candidates should show that they are able to recognise problems relating to their subject and find solutions for them using subject-specific methods and within limited time and resources.
- (2) Written examinations last between 45 and 240 minutes. Multiple choice questions are permitted.
- (3) If a written examination component is taken as a term paper, candidates must assure that they are the authors of their work and have used no sources or aids other than

those indicated.

- (4) The evaluation period for written examinations should not exceed four weeks.

## § 12 Assessment of examinations

- (1) Grades for the individual examination components 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	= performance which, due to considerable deficiencies, does not meet the requirements.

For more detailed assessment of examination results, 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) The final module grade is 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, this final module examination grade constitutes the grade for this module.
- (3) Grading for the final module grade, and the overall Master's examination grade is as follows:

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

- (4) When calculating final module grades and the overall examination grade, only the first decimal after the point is taken into account, without rounding. The overall grade for the Master's grade is calculated in accordance with § 19, paragraph 2.
- (5) In addition to the German-system grades, students who have passed the examinations will also be awarded a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	the top 10 %
B	for the subsequent 25 %
C	for the subsequent 30 %
D	for the subsequent 25 %
E	for the subsequent 10 %

The letter 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 added. For individual modules, the ECTS grade can be stated, where possible and necessary.

### § 13 Master's examination admission requirements

- (1) Admission to the individual examinations for the Master's examination will only be authorised for those who:
  1. are enrolled in the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies at Heidelberg University;
  2. have not lost their entitlement to take the final examinations in the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies.
- (2) For admission to the final oral examination, certificates must be presented with proof of the following:
  1. successful completion of the courses and lectures set forth in Appendix 1, comprising the total of credits set forth in § 3,
- (3) Work on the thesis may only be started after successful completion of the final oral examination.

### § 14 Master's 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 paragraph 1,
  2. declarations from candidates, stating whether they have previously failed a Master's examination in the Near and Middle Eastern Studies 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 paragraph 1, 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 Near

and Middle Eastern Studies 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 and courses set forth in Appendix 1,
  2. the final oral examination,
  3. the Master's thesis.
- (2) Examinations as referred to in paragraph 1 no. 1 are taken as an integrated part of the lecture or course. They can be in written or oral form. The lecturer responsible for a lecture or course determines the nature and duration of the integrated examinations and provides this information no later than the beginning of the lecture or course.
- (3) The components of the Master's examination must be taken in the following order:
  - examinations completed during the course of study (paragraph 1, no. 1)
  - final oral examination (paragraph 1, no. 2).
  - the Master's thesis (paragraph 1, no. 3).
- (4) § 9, paragraph 2 applies accordingly.

## § 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 by two examiners, or 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 examiners' names.
- (3) In accordance with § 15, paragraph 1, no. 1, candidates must take the final oral examination no later than four weeks after the completion of the last final examination component. 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. Upon approval of the examiners, the candidate may propose three topics; however, the content of the examination will not be limited to those fields.
- (4) The final oral examination lasts for approximately 30 minutes.

- (5) Generally, the examination will be conducted in German. Upon request of the candidate and approval of the examiner, it may also be conducted in English. § 3, paragraph 4 applies accordingly.
- (6) 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.
- (7) 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 space is available. Observers may not be present for the assessment or announcement of the examination results. 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 Near and Middle Eastern Studies.
- (2) In accordance with § 6, paragraph 1, no. 1, the Master's thesis may be assigned and supervised by any authorised examiner for Near and Middle Eastern Studies. The assignment and supervision of a qualified examiner from another department at Heidelberg University requires the prior consent of the examinations board.
- (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 this 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.
- (4) The topic of the Master's thesis will be determined by the thesis supervisor. 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 the Master's thesis in 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 five months following assignment of the topic. In exceptional cases, the examinations board, in consultation with the supervisor, may extend this deadline by up to two months. 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 topic may only be rejected once, and only within the first month after the date of assignment.

- (7) Generally, the Master's thesis is to be written in German. Upon approval from the examiner, the Master's thesis may also be written in English. Upon approval from the examinations board, the thesis may also be written in other languages.

### **§ 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 deadline; the submission date must be recorded. The thesis must contain a summary.
- (2) When submitting a Master's thesis, candidates must certify in writing that they are the authors of their work and have used no sources or aids other than those indicated.
- (3) The Master's thesis will be assessed by two examiners, one of whom must be a professor. The first examiner will be the thesis supervisor. The second examiner will be appointed by the examinations board. The candidate is permitted to make a proposal; however, this does not constitute entitlement to be examined by a particular examiner. The assessment period should not exceed six weeks.
- (4) The grade is calculated as the average of the two assessments; § 12 applies accordingly. If the grades differ by more than one grade point, the examinations board will determine the Master's thesis grade after consulting both examiners. In such cases, a third examiner may be consulted.

### **§ 19 Passing the examination and overall grade**

- (1) The Master's examination is passed when all examination components as set forth in § 15, paragraph 1 have been graded as "sufficient" (4.0) or higher.
- (2) When calculating the overall grade for the Master's examination in accordance with § 12 paragraph 3, the numerical values of all module grades shall be considered without rounding according to § 12 paragraph 3, and shall be weighted according to their respective number of credits.

### **§ 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. The decision on this matter will be taken 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 excluded from the academic programme. Failure of compulsory elective modules and elective modules may be offset by the successful completion of a different module.

## § 21 Master's diploma and certificate

- (1) Once the Master's examination is passed, a diploma will be issued within four weeks. This will list all individual modules with their respective grades (graded in accordance with § 12, paragraph 3, 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 component. It must be signed by the dean 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 the course of study. The content complies with the "European Diploma Supplement Model".
- (3) A bilingual master's certificate in German and English bearing the date of the diploma will be provided together with the diploma. It certifies the conferment of the academic degree "Master of Arts". The Master's certificate is signed by the dean and the chairperson of the examinations board. It bears the university 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 de-registration certificate, 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 deceived in an examination and this is only discovered after the diploma has been issued, the examinations board may correct the examination results affected by the deception accordingly and may declare the examination partially or completely failed.
- (2) If the requirements for admission to the examination were not fulfilled without any intent to deceive on the candidate's part, and this is only discovered after the diploma has been issued, the passed examination is 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 deceit, 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**

These examination rules and regulations become effective on the first day of the month following their publication in the President's bulletin (Mitteilungsblatt des Rektors).

## Appendix 1: Modules, Lectures and Courses of the Master's degree Programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies

General observations with regard to the structure of the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies:

The Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies comprises three specialisations which are based on the selection of the primary language (students must be proficient to fluent in this language at the outset of the degree programme). The specialisations are as follows:

- **Arabic**
- **Ottoman**
- **Persian.**

The Arabic specialisation requires proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic and knowledge of Turkish or Modern Persian. Upon request, Turkish or Persian may be replaced by another Islamic source language. The examinations board will consider the request and take a decision.

The Ottoman specialisation requires proficiency in Turkish and knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic or Modern Persian. Basic knowledge of Ottoman is desirable. Upon request, Modern Standard Arabic and Modern Persian may be replaced by another Islamic source language. The examinations board will consider the request and take a decision.

The Persian specialisation requires proficiency in Modern Persian and knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic or Turkish. Upon request, Modern Standard Arabic and Turkish may be replaced by another Islamic source language. The examinations board will consider the request and take a decision.

Regardless of the selected specialisation, another language (the "C-language": Arabic, Persian or Turkish), which was not previously acquired as a part of the Bachelor's degree programme, must be studied during the Master's degree programme. If candidates are able to provide proof of their proficiency in all three source languages at the beginning of the degree programme, they may study other source languages, provided that these are offered and are equivalent in both content and credits earned to the C-Language of the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies. The C-Language courses may also be replaced by additional courses and lectures. Replacing the C-Language courses with other courses or lectures requires the prior consent of authorised Institute faculty.

The C-Language selected **has no impact on** the selected specialisation, since it will be studied only after the degree programme has been begun and is therefore considered a course in basic language skills only.

## 1.) Arabic Specialisation

For students who select the Arabic specialisation in the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, all of the following modules within the compulsory elective area must be successfully completed; for detailed descriptions please see the module handbook:

### 1st-2nd Semester:

NeMES 3a: Advanced Linguistic Module: Modern Standard Arabic  
Modules: NeMES 3a-1 and 3a-2

#### 1. Semester:

NeMES 4a: Intermediate Arabic  
Modules: NeMES 4a-1 and 4a-2

### 2nd-3rd Semester:

NeMES 5a: Advanced Arabic  
Modules NeMES 5a-1, 5a-2, 5a-3 and 5a-4

### The following requirements must be observed:

- Within the NeMES 4a and NeMES 5a modules, a minimum of one text/source seminar per semester must be completed.
- A minimum of four courses or lectures, NeMES 4a-1, 4a-2, 5a-1, 5a-2, 5a-3 and 5a-4, must be specialisation-specific.

## 2. Ottoman Specialisation

For students who select the Ottoman specialisation in the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, all of the following modules within the compulsory elective area must be successfully completed; for detailed descriptions please see the module handbook:

### 1st-2nd Semester:

NeMES 3b: Advanced Linguistic Module: Ottoman  
Modules: NeMES 3b-1 and 3b-2

#### 1. Semester:

NeMES 4b: Intermediate Ottoman  
Modules: NeMES 4b-1 and 4b-2

### 2nd-3rd Semester:

NeMES 5b: Advanced Ottoman  
Modules NeMES 5b-1, 5b-2, 5b-3 and 5b-4

**The following requirements must be observed:**

- Within the NeMES 4a and NeMES 5a modules, a minimum of one text/source seminar per semester must be completed.
- A minimum of four courses or lectures, NeMES 4a-1, 4a-2, 5a-1, 5a-2, 5a-3 and 5a-4, must be specialisation-specific.

### **3.) Persian Specialisation**

For students who select the Persian specialisation in the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, all of the following modules within the compulsory elective area must be successfully completed; for detailed descriptions please see the module handbook:

#### **1st-2nd Semester:**

NeMES 3c: Advanced Linguistic Module: Persian in Context  
Modules: NeMES 3c-1 and 3c-2

#### **1. Semester:**

NeMES 4c: Intermediate Persian  
Modules: NeMES 4c-1 and 4c-2

#### **2nd-3rd Semester:**

NeMES 5b: Advanced Persian  
Modules: NeMES 5c-1, 5c-2, 5c-3 and 5c-4

**The following requirements must be observed:**

- A minimum of four courses or lectures, NeMES 4c-1, 4c-2, 5c-1, 5c-2, 5c-3, and 5c-4, must be specialisation-specific. In keeping with the interdisciplinary approach of this degree programme, and upon request, it is possible to select other lectures and courses; however, the examination content of these courses must meet with the criteria of the Persian specialisation.

## Sample Curriculum for the Arabic Specialisation:

1st Sem. (WS)	2nd Sem. (SS)	3rd Sem. (WS)	4th Sem. (SS)
<b>NeMES 1: Introductory Module: Language C (P):</b> 1-1 C: Introductory Course Language C I (6 CP) 1-2 TUT: Language Practice Language C I (3 CP) C 1-3: Introductory Course Language C II (6 CP) TUT 1-4: Language Practice Language C II (3 CP) <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: 18 CP</b></p>		<b>NeMES 2: Intermediate Module: Language C (P):</b> 2-1 C: <b>Intermediate</b> Course Language C (7 CP) 2-2 TUT: Language Practice Language C III (3 CP) <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: 10 CP</b></p>	
<b>NeMES 3a: Advanced Linguistic Module: Modern Standard Arabic (CE):</b> Ho 3a-1: TUT: Modern Standard Arabic I (6 CP) 3a-2: TUT: Modern Standard Arabic II (6 CP) <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: 12 CP</b></p>			
<b>NeMES 4a: Intermediate Module: Arabic (CE):</b> 4a-1: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) 4a-2: MS: Major Seminar (source/text) (7 CP) <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: 14 CP</b></p>	<b>NeMES 5a: Advanced Module: Arabic (CE):</b> 5a-1: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) 5a-2: MS Major Seminar (source/text) (7 CP) 5a-3: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) 5a-4: MS Major Seminar (source/text) (7 CP) <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: 28 CP</b></p>		
			<b>NeMES 6: Master's Examination (P):</b> 6-1 Final Oral Examination (8 CP) <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: 8 CP</b></p>
			<b>NeMES 7: Master's Thesis (P):</b> 7-1 Completion of the Master's Thesis (30 CP) <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: 30 CP</b></p>
			<b>Total 120 CP</b>

- If they were not studied as a part of the Bachelor's degree programme, Turkish or Persian may be selected as C-Languages.

## Sample Curriculum for the Ottoman Specialisation:

1st Sem. (WS)	2nd Sem. (SS)	3rd Sem. (WS)	4th Sem. (SS)
<b>NeMES 1: Introductory Module: Language C (P):</b> 1-1 C: Introductory Course Language C I (6 CP) 1-2 TUT: Language Practice Language C I (3 CP) C 1-3: Introductory Course Language C II (6 CP) TUT 1-4: Language Practice Language C II (3 CP)	<b>Total: 18 CP</b>	<b>NeMES 2: Intermediate Module: Language C (P):</b> 2-1 C: <b>Intermediate</b> Course Language C (7 CP) 2-2 TUT: Language Practice Language C III (3 CP)	<b>Total: 10 CP</b>
<b>NeMES 3b: Advanced Linguistic Module: Ottoman (CE):</b> 3b-3: TUT: Ottoman I (6 CP) 3b-4: TUT: Ottoman II (6 CP)		<b>Total: 12 CP</b>	
<b>NeMES 4b: Intermediate Module: Ottoman (CE):</b> 4b-1: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) 4b-2: MS Major Seminar (source/text) (7 CP)	<b>NeMES 5b: Advanced Module Ottoman (CE):</b> 5b-1: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) Major 5b-2: MS Seminar (source/text) (7 CP) 5b-3: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) Major 5d-4: MS Seminar (source/text) (7 CP)		<b>Total: 28 CP</b>
		<b>NeMES 6: Master's Examination (P):</b> 6-1 Final Oral Examination (8 CP)	
		<b>NeMES 7: Master's Thesis (P):</b> 7-1 Completion of the Master's Thesis (30 CP)	
		<b>Total: 30 CP</b>	
		<b>Total 120 CP</b>	

- If they were not studied as part of the Bachelor's degree programme, Arabic or Persian may be selected as C-Languages.

## Sample Curriculum for the Persian Specialisation:

1st Sem. (WS)		2nd Sem. (SS)		3rd Sem. (WS)		4th Sem. (SS)	
<b>NeMES 1: Introductory Module: Language C (P):</b> 1-1 C: Introductory Course Language C I (6 CP) 1-2 TUT: Language Practice Language C I (3 CP) C 1-3: Introductory Course Language C II (6 CP) TUT 1-4: Language Practice Language C II (3 CP)		<b>Total: 18 CP</b>		<b>NeMES 2: Intermediate Module: Language C (P):</b> 2-1 C: <b>Intermediate</b> Course Language C (7 CP) 2-2 TUT: Language Practice Language C III (3 CP)		<b>Total: 10 CP</b>	
<b>NeMES 3c: Advanced Linguistic Module: Persian in Context (CE):</b> 3c-5: TUT: Persian in Context I (6 CP) 3c-6: TUT: Persian in Context II (6 CP)		<b>Total: 12 CP</b>					
<b>NeMES 4c: Intermediate Module: Persian (CE):</b> 4c-1: MS MS Major Seminar (7 CP) 4c-2: MS MS Major Seminar (7 CP)		<b>Total: 14 CP</b>		<b>NeMES: 5c. Advanced Module Persian (CE):</b> 5c-1: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) 5c-2: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) 5c-3: MS Major Seminar (7 CP) 5c-4: MS Major Seminar (7 CP)		<b>Total: 28 CP</b>	
						<b>NeMES 6: Master's Examination (P):</b> 6-1 Final Oral Examination (8 CP)	
						<b>Total: 8 CP</b>	
						<b>NeMES 7: Master's Thesis (P):</b> 7-1 Completion of the Master's Thesis (30 CP)	
						<b>Total: 30 CP</b>	
						<b>Total 120 CP</b>	

- If they were not studied as a part of the Bachelor's degree programme, Arabic or Turkish may be selected as C-Languages.

CM= Compulsory module  
 CE= Compulsory elective module  
 E= Elective module

**Appendix 2:** Modules, lectures and courses of the Master's degree programme in Near and Middle Eastern Studies taken as minor subject

1st Sem. (WS)	2nd Sem. (SS)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sem. (WS)	4th Sem. (SS)
<b>NM 1a: Introductory Module: Language C (P):</b> C 1a-1: Introductory Course Language C I (6 CP) C 1a-2: Introductory Course Language C II (6 CP)		<b>TO 2a: Intermediate Module: Language C (P):</b> C 2a-1: Intermediate Course Language C (8 CP)	
	<b>Total: 12 CP</b>	<b>Total: 8 CP</b>	
			<b>Total 20 CP</b>

- If they were not studied as a part of the Bachelor's degree programme, Turkish, Persian, or Arabic may be selected as C-Languages.

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