

Translation

Unofficial version of the Examination Regulations for the Consecutive Master's Degree Programs
"Ecumenical Studies" and "Extended Ecumenical Studies"

Note: This unofficial version is only provided for informational purposes. Only the regulations published in the Official Announcements of the University of Bonn shall be legally binding.

December 15, 2021

**Examination Regulations
for the Consecutive Master's Degree Programs**

**“Ecumenical Studies” and
“Extended Ecumenical Studies”**

**at the Faculty of Protestant Theology,
in cooperation with the Center for Religion and Society (ZERG),
of the University of Bonn
Version: August 30, 2021**

Unofficial version

By virtue of § 2, para. 4 and § 64, para. 1 of the NRW Higher Education Act (Gesetz über die Hochschulen des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, Hochschulgesetz) of September 16, 2014 (Legal and Regulatory Gazette of North Rhine-Westphalia, p. 547) as last amended by Article 2 of the Act for Amending the Arts Higher Education Act and for Amending other Provisions in the Area of Higher Education (Gesetz zur Änderung des Kunsthochschulgesetzes und zur Änderung weiterer Vorschriften im Hochschulbereich) of March 25, 2021 (Legal and Regulatory Gazette of North Rhine-Westphalia, p. 329), the Faculty of Protestant Theology of the University of Bonn issued the following Regulations:

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Part 1
Scope

§ 1
Scope

(1) Students who commence their studies within the consecutive master's degree program "Ecumenical Studies" or the consecutive master's degree program "Extended Ecumenical Studies" at the University of Bonn after entry into force of these Examination Regulations are subject to these Examination Regulations.

(2) The Examination Regulations for the master's degree programs "Ecumenical Studies" and "Extended Ecumenical Studies" of the University of Bonn Faculty of Protestant Theology in cooperation with the Center for Religion and Society (ZERG) dated May 29, 2013 (Official Announcements of the University of Bonn, 43rd year, no. 22, dated June 18, 2013), hereinafter referred to as MPO Est/EESt 2013, will be repealed as of September 30, 2024. Examinations in accordance with MPO Est/EESt 2013 will be admissible until September 30, 2023. The examination board may extend this period by six months upon valid request.

(3) Students who, having commenced their studies prior to the coming into force of these Examination Regulations, are subject to MPO Est/EESt 2013 and have not yet completed all necessary examinations, may

- a. continue their studies under MPO Est/EESt 2013 until the deadline stated in para. 2 or
- b. irrevocably adopt these Examination Regulations by written request.

Students who continue their studies under MPO Est/EESt 2013 and do not graduate by September 30, 2023 shall adopt these Examination Regulations ex officio on October 1, 2023. Credit for prior academic achievements shall be granted. Para. 2 sentence 3 shall remain unaffected; these Examination Regulations shall then be adopted ex officio on April 1, 2024.

§ 1a

Coronavirus pandemic

If the Rectorate has made use of the authorization to issue provisions concerning academic studies that it was granted under the Ordinance on Overcoming Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 Epidemic Related Challenges Posed on University Operations (Corona-Epidemie-Hochschulverordnung) dated April 15, 2020, as amended, which was issued based on § 82a of the NRW Higher Education Act, the provisions issued by the Rectorate shall supersede the corresponding provisions in these Examination Regulations.

Part 2

Program Objective, Degree and Standard Period of Study

§ 2

Objective of the degree program and purpose of the examination

(1) The consecutive master's degree programs "Ecumenical Studies" and "Extended Ecumenical Studies" offered by the University of Bonn Faculty of Protestant Theology, in cooperation with the Center for Religion and Society (ZERG), are interdisciplinary, international and research-oriented.

(2) Students in these master's degree programs are to acquire the necessary scientific knowledge, skills and methods as well as relevant key qualifications for an occupation in the field, enabling them to conduct sound research, to critically assess and practically apply research findings and methods as well as to act responsibly. This includes giving due regard to changes and requirements in the working world and, if applicable, in cross-disciplinary references. The program objectives mainly focus on

- building expert knowledge regarding current research by expanding the students' basic knowledge;

- building methodical and analytical competences, enabling students to expand their research findings on their own authority, with a strong emphasis on research methods and strategies.

(3) Students are to learn how to approach complex problems and work on their solution beyond the existing scope of knowledge, using research methods. The interdisciplinary nature of the master's degree program is to enable students to capture cross-disciplinary correlations as well as autonomously apply research methods and findings.

(4) The master's examination shall lead to conferral of a master's degree in Ecumenical Studies, qualifying the holder for positions demanding extensive skills in this field.

§ 3

Academic degree

Candidates who successfully complete the master's examination for the "Ecumenical Studies" degree program or "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program shall be awarded a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree by the University of Bonn Faculty of Protestant Theology, in cooperation with ZERG.

§ 4

Standard period of study, ECTS credit point system, range of courses, program structure and language of instruction/examinations

(1) The standard period of study, including the master's thesis, is two semesters (60 ECTS CP) for the "Ecumenical Studies" degree program and four semesters (120 ECTS CP) for the "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program.

(2) The contents of the degree program are selected and limited in a manner that the master's examination can be completed within the applicable standard period of study. They are organized in modules that, as a rule, consist of courses with a thematic, methodical or systematic connection.

(3) As a rule, each module is completed by passing a module examination, awarding credit points (CP) in accordance with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). One ECTS credit point is equivalent to a calculated student workload in contact hours and self-learning of 30 hours.

(4) The degree program

- in "Ecumenical Studies" includes 27 ECTS CP in compulsory modules, 18 ECTS CP in subject-specific elective modules and 15 ECTS CP for the master's thesis;
- in "Extended Ecumenical Studies" includes 72 ECTS CP in compulsory modules, 18 ECTS CP in subject-specific elective modules and 30 ECTS CP for the master's thesis.

Details on modules, admission to courses and the amount of ECTS credit points per module are set forth in the respective module structure (Annexes 1 and 2).

(5) Students receive a curriculum as recommendation on how to structure their course of studies. Students may receive an individual study schedule upon request.

(6) As a rule, the language of instruction and examinations is English. The examination board may make exceptions for individual elective modules and shall announce them in due time before the beginning of the semester, pursuant to § 8, para. 7.

(7) The degree program starts in the winter semester of each year.

(8) Students who have acquired less than 30 ECTS CP after three program-related semesters shall be invited to attend mandatory subject-specific study counseling. The goal of this subject-specific study counseling is to conclude a study progress agreement in which the further course of studies is planned, the

student commits to certain measures to achieve the study goals and further University measures suitable for promoting further study progress are stipulated. If such a study progress agreement is not concluded, the student may be required, based on the results of the subject-specific study counseling, to complete certain examinations or course work as specified in § 13, para. 4 within a specified period of time. The student's personal situation must be taken into account appropriately when specifying the requirements. The requirements shall be specified by two examiners appointed by the examination board in accordance with § 9, para. 1, based on the results of the subject-specific study counseling. The student shall receive written notification of the requirements from the examination board; the notification shall include information on legal remedies.

Part 3

Admission requirements and recognition of academic achievements

§ 5

Degree program admission requirements

- (1) The consecutive master's degree programs "Ecumenical Studies" and "Extended Ecumenical Studies" are open to applications from graduates from a university undergraduate degree program in Old Catholic Theology, Protestant Theology, Catholic Theology, Religious Education, Religious Studies or a related field. For the master's degree program
 - in "Ecumenical Studies", a minimum of 240 ECTS CP must have been acquired in the previous university undergraduate degree program indicated in sentence 1;
 - in "Extended Ecumenical Studies", a minimum of 180 ECTS CP must have been acquired in the previous university undergraduate degree program indicated in sentence 1.
- (2) The university degree in para. 1 must provide proof of in-depth knowledge of a Christian denomination and its scientific reflection/interpretation based on elements of the degree program providing at least 60 ECTS CP or comparable knowledge.
- (3) English skills at level B2 or higher according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) are a prerequisite for admission to the degree program and are to be proved by submitting a recognized language certificate (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS) or equivalent proof.
- (4) Foreign students who are not given equivalent status to Germans by or based on international treaties and do not have German university entrance qualifications must provide proof that they have passed the aptitude test for university studies (in accordance with Annex 4).
- (5) This does not affect admission restrictions due to capacity limits (numerus clausus).
- (6) Students who do not meet the admission requirements stated in paras. 1 and 2, may already enroll for a master's degree program if there is sufficient proof of their aptitude for that degree program, which is determined with special regard to the average grade for all examinations taken to that point. Enrollment is revoked with effect for the future if necessary proof of meeting the admission requirements is not submitted to the admission office within six months after the date of enrollment.

§ 6

Recognition of and granting credit for academic achievements

- (1) Academic achievements in degree programs at other public or officially recognized universities, at public or officially recognized vocational academies, in degree programs at foreign public or officially recognized universities, or in another degree program at the University of Bonn will be recognized if the acquired skills are deemed equivalent to those that would have been acquired at the University of Bonn; an equivalency assessment is not performed. The examination board assigns credit points for these

achievements to the corresponding modules defined in the curriculum. Enrollment may be denied to applicants who failed the final attempt at an examination that cannot be compensated for in a degree program with substantial similarities in content with the consecutive master's degree program "Ecumenical Studies" or "Extended Ecumenical Studies."

(2) The question of recognition shall be reviewed with special regard to the significance of differences. In order to determine whether significant differences do or do not exist, the topic, scope and requirements of the academic achievement to be recognized is compared to the same aspects of the academic achievement that the former is to replace. This shall not be done by skeletal comparison but rather in the form of an overall review and evaluation. A difference in the amount of awarded ECTS credit points alone does not constitute significant difference. The aforementioned regulations apply analogously to academic achievements in degree programs designed for continued education. Academic achievements are recognized to their full extent if significant difference cannot be determined. If the reviewers, in accordance with the principles described above, find that a certain academic achievement can only be recognized in part, credit points shall partially be assigned to the respective module. The respective module shall only be considered passed when all missing course work and/or examinations are completed; only then, ECTS credit points shall be awarded to the extent stipulated in these Regulations. Scope and nature of course work and/or examinations to be completed are at the discretion of the examination board. Equivalence agreements approved by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder of the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Rectors' Conference as well as agreements under university partnerships shall be observed.

(3) In accordance with § 8, para. 4, sentence 2, the examination board has authority over the processes that underlie recognition of or granting credit for academic achievements. The examination board decides which degree programs are related to or show substantial similarities in content with the master's degree program "Ecumenical Studies" or "Extended Ecumenical Studies." Representatives of the relevant departments shall be consulted when reviewing the significance of differences. In case of doubts regarding whether academic achievements completed abroad should be recognized, the Central Office for Foreign Education may be consulted. Students shall be notified within twelve weeks of whether an academic achievement is recognized, including information on legal remedies available. In case an achievement is not or only partially recognized, the examination board shall provide the reasons for its decision, thus bearing the burden of proof. If the examination board denies recognition, students may apply for an internal audit of the decision to be conducted by the Rectorate.

(4) If examinations are recognized, the same grades—provided grading systems are comparable—shall be added to the student's transcript of records and, weighted with the ECTS credit points of the module to which credit points are assigned, considered when calculating the overall grade. If course work is recognized, the entry "pass" shall be made in the student's transcript, not assigning a grade. Should the grading systems not be comparable, the entry "pass" shall also be made in the student's transcript. Recognized academic achievements shall be identified as such in the student's certificate. Academic achievements in degree programs not using the ECTS credit point system shall be translated by the examination board into the ECTS credit point system, provided that the respective examination is equivalent to the module examinations defined in these Examination Regulations. Such translation must adhere to the current version of the scale approved by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder of the Federal Republic of Germany for comparisons to the ECTS system.

(5) If the requirements defined in para. 1 are met, students are legally entitled to have their academic achievements recognized. The student must provide all information on the academic achievement in question deemed necessary for recognition. Each semester, the examination board defines a deadline in that semester by which applications for recognition must be submitted. Applications submitted after that deadline cannot be processed until the subsequent semester.

(6) Applicants who, due to their performance in a placement test as per § 49, para. 12 of the NRW Higher Education Act, have earned the right to enter the degree program in a higher program-related semester will be granted credit for the knowledge and skills demonstrated in the placement test, with credit points being assigned to examinations that form part of the master's examination. The examination board is bound to the results of the placement test stated in the certificate.

(7) Upon request, up to 25% of the ECTS credit points to be earned pursuant to § 4 para. 1 can be granted towards this degree program for knowledge and qualifications acquired in a manner other than academic studies if the knowledge and qualifications are equivalent in terms of content and level to the academic achievements they are to replace.

§ 7

Admission to individual courses

(1) If admission to a course, due to its nature, purpose or to other reasons, needs to be limited and the number of applications exceeds the defined capacity, the lecturer may file a request with the dean of the faculty to which the respective module is assigned to manage admissions to that course, giving due regard to § 59 of the NRW Higher Education Act. Criteria for admissions in these cases are stipulated in Annex 3 of these Examination Regulations.

(2) The dean shall define the maximum number of participants in courses with limited capacity. The examination board shall announce capacities before the beginning of a semester.

Part 4

Examination board and examiners

§ 8

Examination board and examination office

(1) The faculty council of the Faculty of Protestant Theology shall, in consultation with the other faculties and institutions involved in the teaching, appoint a joint Ecumenical Studies Examination Board for the "Ecumenical Studies" and "Extended Ecumenical Studies" master's degree programs that is to organize examinations and manage the tasks outlined in these Examination Regulations. The dean of the Faculty of Protestant Theology shall ensure that the examination board is able to duly fulfill its tasks and does reliably do so. The dean of the Faculty of Protestant Theology shall give appropriate instructions for this purpose.

(2) The examination board shall consist of five voting members, including

- three members from the group of professors in the faculties and institutions involved in the degree programs specified in paragraph 1 (including the chairperson and deputy chairperson),
- one member from the group of academic staff in the faculties and institutions involved in the degree programs specified in paragraph 1, and
- one member from the group of students in the "Ecumenical Studies" and "Extended Ecumenical Studies" master's degree programs.

The faculty council of the Faculty of Protestant Theology appoints the chairperson, deputy chairperson and other members separately by group upon recommendation by ZERG. All professors with a teaching load of at least two course units per week in at least one of the degree programs indicated in paragraph 1 are eligible to become members of the examination board. From the group of academic staff, those who are teaching or previously taught in at least one of the master's degree programs indicated in paragraph 1, or are involved in the management of one of these degree programs, are eligible to become members. From the group of students, those enrolled in one of the degree programs indicated in paragraph 1 are eligible to become members. For each of the five members a deputy shall be appointed to represent the member in his or her absence; these deputy members may not assume the position of chairperson of the examination board. The term of office of members from the group of professors and from the group of academic staff is

two years. The term of office of members from the group of students is one year. Members may be re-elected. The dean and vice dean of the faculty can also be members of the examination board, or its chairperson or deputy chairperson, provided the faculty regulations do not exclude this.

(3) The examination board is an administrative body as defined by German administrative procedure law and the German law governing procedure in contentious administrative matters. The Faculty of Protestant Theology shall create a Protestant Theology Examination Office for administrative support of the examination board.

(4) The examination board shall ensure compliance with the provisions of the Examination Regulations and make certain that the examination procedure is conducted in accordance with regulations. The examination board shall be responsible in particular for recognizing academic achievements as well as handling objections against decisions made within examination procedures. It shall report to the faculty council of the Faculty of Protestant Theology on a regular, at least annual basis on the development of examination and study periods, including the time taken to complete master's theses and the distribution of overall grades. Once a semester, the examination board shall inform the Student Registry on which students, according to final ruling by the examination board, have failed their final attempt at passing the master's examination in accordance with § 25, para. 8. The examination board shall provide input for amendments to the Examination Regulations and curriculum. It may delegate clearly defined tasks to the chairperson. It shall not delegate

- decisions on objections as per sentence 2,
- reviews of decisions on deception and disruption of examinations as per § 23, para. 1, sentences 1 and 2,
- assessments of whether a student repeatedly or otherwise seriously attempted to cheat as per § 23, para. 3,
- decisions on the invalidity of the master's examination and revocation of the master's degree as per § 30 and
- reporting duties to the faculty council as per sentence 3.

(5) Examination board meetings are not open to the public. All members of the examination board as well as their deputies shall be bound to confidentiality. Members who are not civil servants shall be bound to confidentiality by the chairperson of the examination board. Summary minutes shall be taken as a record of the examination board's discussions and decisions and submitted to the Protestant Theology Examination Office within twenty days after the examination board meeting.

(6) The examination board shall have a quorum when, in addition to the chairperson or their deputy, at least two more members or their deputies, including at least one member from the group of professors, are present. Resolutions shall be passed by simple majority. In the event of a tie vote, the chairperson's vote or, in case of his/her absence, the deputy chairperson's vote shall be the deciding vote. Resolutions may be adopted by means of a circulation procedure if the procedure is specified in detail in the rules of procedure. Members of the examination board shall have the right to be present during examinations.

(7) Directives, dates set and other communication of the examination board with public relevance shall, giving due consideration to data protection requirements, be made available by public display or in electronic form with legally binding effect. Additional publications of other nature are admissible but not legally binding.

(8) The examination board may include staff from the Protestant Theology Examination Office who are involved in the examination procedure for consultation on a regular basis or for individual meetings or agenda items. These staff shall have a right to speak but no right to vote.

§ 9

Examiners and assistant examiners

- (1) The professors and assistant professors of the Faculty of Protestant Theology and the members of ZERG who have teaching responsibilities in the degree program in the current academic year, or had teaching responsibilities in one of the two previous academic years, are examiners without express appointment by the examination board. This also applies to members with postdoctoral qualification (Habilitation) in the faculty, contract lecturers, honorary professors, academic staff and lecturers with special responsibilities, provided the person concerned has teaching responsibilities during the respective academic year. All those holding a position named in sentences 1 and 2 can also act as assistant examiner. The examination board has the right to appoint additional examiners and assistant examiners in accordance with § 65 of the NRW Higher Education Act. Assistant examiners must have at least passed the master's examination or an equivalent examination.
- (2) Module examinations are usually held by the responsible teaching staff on that module. If a teacher, due to illness or other important cause, is not able to hold module examinations in due time, the examination board shall be responsible for the appointment of another examiner for these module examinations.
- (3) Examiners shall be independent of instructions in their conduct of examinations.
- (4) Candidates may propose examiners for their master's thesis. A candidate's proposal should be followed whenever possible; however, it does not substantiate a claim.
- (5) The examination board shall ensure that the candidate is informed of the names of the examiners in due time, as a rule at least two weeks before the date of the respective examination.

Part 5

Scope, conduct, form and dates of examinations

§ 10

Scope of the master's examination

- (1) The master's examination is intended as proof of qualification for positions demanding extensive skills in the respective field as well as in-depth and research-oriented scientific qualification.
- (2) The master's examination consists of
 1. module examinations completed during the course of studies and reflecting the teaching contents of the modules specified in the respective module structure (Annexes 1 and 2);
 2. proof that the requirements in the respective module structure for acquiring ECTS credit points instead of a module examination are satisfied;
 3. the master's thesis.

All examinations are to be completed within the standard period of study stipulated in § 4, para. 1.

- (3) Examinations are completed during the course of studies. As a rule, one module examination is assigned to each module, even when a module consists of more than one course. The grade of the module examination will be indicated on the degree certificate. Students must successfully complete a module in order to be awarded the assigned ECTS credit points. A module is considered successfully completed once
 - a. the assigned module examination or all of the assigned examination components of the module have been graded "Sufficient" or higher, or
 - b. proof has been provided that the requirements in the module structure for acquiring ECTS credit points instead of a module examination are satisfied.

- (4) If a module consists of more than one course, with associated module examination components, the ECTS credit points will be awarded after the last module examination component has been passed.
- (5) Examinations are generally held in the language of instruction. Upon request by the student and after consultation with the examiner, examinations or parts of examinations can also be taken in another language related to the degree program. However, no right to take parts of the examination in this language exists.

§ 11

Admission to the master's examination and to module examinations

- (1) The student must apply for admission to the master's examination. This application shall be submitted to the examination board in writing before the deadline set by the examination board and prior to registration for the first module examination. The following shall be included with the application:
1. Proof of meeting the general admission requirements stipulated in § 5;
 2. A certificate of enrollment as proof of enrollment as a student in the "Ecumenical Studies" or "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program at the University of Bonn;
 3. A statement whether the student has failed a final attempt at an examination or the final attempt at the master's examination in this degree program or, at the time of registration for a module examination, is involved in another examination that, if failed, would give cause for denial of enrollment. The same applies to examination procedures of degree programs with substantial similarities in content.
- (2) The examination board may only admit students to module examinations who
1. can provide proof of meeting the admission requirements as per para. 1;
 2. meet all requirements that may be stipulated in the respective module structure (see Annex 1 or 2) for the module and module examination.
- The proof specified in point 1 is not required for admission to module examinations if proof of enrollment as a student in another degree program at the University of Bonn is provided and that degree program imports the respective module in accordance with its examination regulations, or proof of admission as a cross-registered student in accordance with § 52, para. 1 of the NRW Higher Education Act is provided.
- (3) Should the candidate not be able to submit documented proof as per para. 1 sentence 3 in the required form, the examination board may allow the candidate to provide proof in another form.
- (4) Admission to the master's examination procedure or, respectively, module examinations is at the discretion of the examination board.
- (5) The examination board may only deny admission to the procedure where
- a. documents submitted are incomplete as per para. 1 and/or not submitted as requested by a certain deadline;
 - b. the requirements specified in para. 2 are not met;
 - c. the student has failed a final attempt at an examination that cannot be compensated for or failed the final attempt at the master's examination in the "Ecumenical Studies" or "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program or in a degree program with substantial similarities in content; or
 - d. the student is registered for an examination procedure at another university in the chosen degree program or a degree program with substantial similarities in content as per § 6, para. 1, if failing the examination procedure would mean failing the final attempt at the master's examination.

§ 12

Module examinations – registration and withdrawal

- (1) For each module examination, students shall electronically register with the examination board by the prescribed deadline. Where justified, registrations may be submitted in writing. Registration is only possible if, and as long as, the student satisfies the requirements in § 11, para. 2.
- (2) The examination board shall make the examination dates as well as registration periods available by public display or in electronic form; registration periods are cutoff periods.
- (3) Candidates may withdraw from a written or oral examination in writing or electronically without indicating reasons until one week before the examination date. This shall not affect para. 5. Candidates may withdraw from term papers until one week before assignment of the topic. The date of receipt by the examination board determines whether the deadline has been met. In cases of examinations that spread over a whole semester and are assigned to a specific course, candidates may not withdraw without giving reasons once topics or places have been assigned.
- (4) Rules for registration for the master's thesis are defined separately in § 20, para. 2.
- (5) If students register for a module examination and fail or successfully withdraw from the examination, the registration shall automatically be considered as registration for the first regular examination date in the second following semester. Withdrawal without giving reasons is not possible unless the student registers himself or herself in due time for an earlier examination date or chooses another elective module in accordance with § 15, para. 3.

§ 13

Examination modalities and compulsory attendance

- (1) Module examinations cover the contents and qualification targets of the modules specified in the respective module structure (Annex 1 or 2).
- (2) Candidates in module examinations must be students enrolled in the chosen degree program at the University of Bonn or, respectively, in a degree program at the University of Bonn of which modules are imported in accordance with the Examination Regulations, or admitted as cross-registered students as defined by § 52, para. 1 of the NRW Higher Education Act.
- (3) In the module examinations, students are to demonstrate the knowledge and competences acquired in the respective module as well as their ability to understand cross-disciplinary correlations. Module examinations can be completed by passing graded examination components. Module examinations and module examination components can be
 - written examinations;
 - oral examinations;
 - term papers;
 - portfolios;
 - presentations;
 - internship reports;
 - project reports;
 - reports and
 - seminar papers.

The type of examination and, if applicable, division into module examination components is stipulated in the respective module structure. Deviating from the specifications stipulated in the respective module structure is possible in accordance with § 16, para. 4, § 18, para. 4 and § 19, para. 8; the examination board shall, in conjunction with the examiners, determine the type of examination and, in accordance with § 8, para. 7, announce its decision in due time before the beginning of the registration period.

(4) The module structure may stipulate that students must have completed certain assessments (course work) prior to taking a module examination. Where required course work has not been completed, students shall not be admitted to the module examination. Upon request filed by the lecturer, the examination board shall, in accordance with § 8, para. 7, announce the specific requirements regarding such course work before the beginning of the semester.

(5) Two examination dates shall be set for all written and oral module examinations. As a rule, the first examination date shall be set at the end of the lecture period in which the module or assigned course is completed. The second examination date shall be set in a manner that the degree program can be properly continued and completed within the standard period of study. The examination board shall, in accordance with § 8, para. 7, appropriately announce all examination dates as well as the lengths of individual examinations in due time before the beginning of the semester. Candidates who only take the examination at one of the two examination dates and do not pass the examination are not entitled to another examination date during the current semester.

(6) For courses in which achieving the qualification target requires active participation by students, the module structure may stipulate mandatory regular participation (compulsory attendance) as prerequisite to being admitted to the examination. Before the beginning of the semester, the examination board shall give reasons for its decision on which courses require compulsory attendance. In such cases, the examination board shall also define when participation can be considered regular. Depending on the qualification target, absences of up to 30 % are permissible, including absences excused by means of a medical certificate. The examination board shall announce the decisions in sentences 2–4 before the beginning of the semester in accordance with § 8, para. 7.

(7) The following applies when grading examinations:

1. Examinations submitted in writing shall be graded by a minimum of one examiner. Candidates shall be informed of the result of such examinations within four weeks.
2. Oral examinations shall always be graded by a minimum of two examiners or by a single examiner in the presence of a competent assistant examiner. A record shall be kept of the essential topics and results of each examination. If the examination is conducted by a single examiner in the presence of an assistant examiner, the examiner shall hear the assistant examiner in private prior to setting a grade. Candidates shall be informed of their grade immediately following the oral examination.

If the examination is conducted by more than one examiner, the grade shall be calculated using the average of the individual grades in accordance with § 25, para. 1 and 2. Resit examinations that cannot be compensated for once the final attempt has been failed shall always be graded by a minimum of two examiners. Rules for grading the master's thesis are set forth in § 21, para. 4.

(8) The examination board can permit module examinations to be taken in electronic form or using electronic communications. The examination board shall determine the details for conducting these examinations.

§ 14

Compensation for disadvantages and deadline extension

(1) Students who are unable to take an examination in the designated manner due to a disability or chronic illness, or due to maternity law provisions, can submit a request for compensation for disadvantages to the examination board together with suitable proof; the same shall apply to the completion of course work as specified in § 13, para. 4. Compensation for disadvantages shall be granted on a case-by-case basis. It can, in particular, provide for differences with respect to how the examination is taken, the length of the examination and the use of auxiliary means or support persons. For students with disabilities or chronic illnesses, the entitlement to compensation for disadvantages shall extend to all of the examinations to be taken during the degree program, provided no change is expected in the illness or

disability; sentence 2 remains unaffected. In the case of compulsory attendance courses, compulsory internships and compulsory study periods abroad that cannot be completed due to the impairment, even with the support of the university, alternative forms of assessment that can provide equivalent competence and qualifications shall be permitted.

(2) When determining the deadline for automatic registration for a resit examination in accordance with § 12, para. 5, the examination board shall, upon application and provision of respective proof, consider additional time for:

- a. Caring for and raising underage children as per § 25, para. 5 of the Federal Training Assistance Act (BAföG) – for a maximum of three semesters per child;
- b. Acting as elected representative in a university body, the student body, the student body's student councils or the Studierendenwerke – for a maximum of four semesters;
- c. Acting as gender equality officer – for a maximum of four semesters;
- d. Effects of a disability or severe illness prolonging the period of study;
- e. Caring for spouses, registered partners, direct relatives, second-degree indirect relatives or first-degree in-laws – for a maximum of three semesters.

§ 15

Resitting examinations

(1) Examinations that have been failed may only be repeated twice. Resits shall be conducted in accordance with § 12, para. 5. Rules for repetition of the master's thesis are defined in § 21, para. 7.

(2) Students who fail the same compulsory module three times lose their right to examination and are deregistered from the degree program by the Student Registry once the examination board's decision that the final attempt at the master's examination has been failed has come into force.

(3) If an elective module has been failed, or the final attempt at an elective module has been failed, the candidate can choose another, previously unchosen elective module as compensation. Such compensation is only possible once. Students who use the compensation option without success shall lose their right to examination and are deregistered from the degree program by the Student Registry once the examination board's decision that the final attempt at the master's examination has been failed has come into force.

(4) Module examinations graded "Sufficient" or higher cannot be repeated.

(5) Should a student fail to attend a compulsory resit examination without valid excuse, that examination will be graded "Insufficient".

(6) For modules with examinations that are taken during the semester or that are part of a course, the examination cannot be repeated in the same semester. The module examination in such modules can only be repeated by retaking the entire module or corresponding course. The examination board shall announce the respective examinations and course work to be repeated before the beginning of the semester, pursuant to § 8, para. 7.

§ 16

Written examinations

(1) In written examinations, students are to demonstrate that, within a specific period of time and with limited auxiliary means, they are capable of handling a problem from the content of the module and solving this problem using methods commonly used in that field. The examiners shall announce in a timely manner which auxiliary means may be used during a written examination.

(2) Written examinations may be handwritten or computer-aided examinations, both conducted under supervision. Computer-aided written examinations are in particular free text or clozes that are completed using a computer.

(3) Written examinations shall last a minimum of 60 minutes and a maximum of 240 minutes. § 13, para. 7 applies accordingly. The examination board shall announce the specific examination date before the beginning of the registration period.

(4) The examination board may, in conjunction with the examiner, decide that instead of a written examination, an oral examination shall be held that covers the content of the module; in accordance with § 8, para. 7 this shall be announced in due time before the beginning of the registration period.

§ 17

Multiple choice model

(1) Written examinations as per § 16 with a minimum of 50 registered candidates may be conducted entirely or in part using the multiple choice model.

(2) The examination questions shall be adapted to the specific knowledge covered in the respective module and facilitate reliable results. The examination questions shall be cooperatively developed by two examiners with at least the same or an equivalent qualification as the one to be determined through that examination. When designing the examination questions, the examiners shall define how many and which answers will be considered correct. The number of answers to be ticked shall be indicated on the task sheet. Questions with only one correct answer shall be considered solved correctly if the correct answer is the only one ticked. If the candidate does not tick the correct answer, ticks a wrong answer or ticks more than the one correct answer, the question shall be graded with 0 points. If there is more than one correct answer, the question shall be graded in proportion to the number of correct answers ticked. If the candidate does not tick any answer or ticks too many answers, the question shall be graded with 0 points.

(3) Before determining the result of an examination, its questions shall be checked for errors with regard to the module's requirements. Erroneous examination questions shall not be considered when determining the result of an examination. The reduced number of examination questions shall be taken into account when grading the examination. A candidate's grade shall not suffer under a reduced number of examination questions. Deducting points in individual examination questions or the examination as a whole shall not be permitted when grading a written examination. Offsetting wrong answers with correct answers shall also be prohibited.

(4) Examinations using the multiple choice model shall be considered passed when the candidate reaches a minimum of 50% of the total score or a score that does not fall below the average score reached by all candidates in this examination by more than 22%.

(5) Results in a multiple choice examination shall be graded as follows: If the candidate reaches the minimum score necessary to pass the examination as per para. 4, the grade shall be

1.0	Very good,	if 90 – 100%
1.3	Very good,	if 80 – < 90%
1.7	Good,	if 70 – < 80%
2.0	Good,	if 60 – < 70 %
2.3	Good,	if 50 – < 60%
2.7	Satisfactory,	if 40 – < 50%
3.0	Satisfactory,	if 30 – < 40%
3.3	Satisfactory,	if 20 – < 30%
3.7	Sufficient,	if 10 – < 20%
4.0	Sufficient,	if 0 – < 10%

} of points above the necessary minimum score have been reached.

Candidates who do not reach the minimum score necessary to pass the examination shall receive the grade "Insufficient".

(6) Deviating from para. 1, written examinations that are resits may partly or entirely be conducted using the multiple choice model on the second examination date, even when not reaching the minimum number of registered candidates, provided that

- the written examination held on the second examination date is equal in level of expertise, difficulty and maximum score to the written examination on the first examination date, and
- the written examinations for the first and second examination dates are developed by the same examiner simultaneously, and
- the decision on which written examination is assigned to which examination date is made by drawing lots.

The written examination held on the second examination date shall be graded using the same grading scale as the one used for the written examination held on the first examination date; the pass score defined for the written examination held on the first examination in accordance with para. 4 shall also apply to the written examination held on the second examination date. Examiners shall confirm in the record that the conditions as per sentence 1 are met.

(7) Should the examination include both multiple choice questions and other questions, the part using the multiple choice model shall be graded in accordance with paras. 2–6. All other questions will be graded following the applicable provisions. The overall grade is calculated from the results of both parts, with results from each part being weighted in relation to the total achievable score. If one part of an examination is failed, this part shall be graded "Insufficient" (5.0) and taken into account as such when calculating the overall grade.

(8) Otherwise, § 16 shall apply accordingly.

§ 18

Oral examinations

(1) In oral examinations, candidates are to demonstrate sound knowledge in the subject of examination, identify correlations and analyze specific questions arising from these as well as provide possible solutions.

(2) Oral examinations shall be conducted by either a panel of several examiners (Kollegialprüfung) or a single examiner in the presence of a competent assistant examiner, with candidates being examined individually. If the examination is conducted by a panel of several examiners, the candidate shall be examined by one examiner per subject of examination. This shall not affect the provisions set forth in § 13, para. 7. Each oral module examination shall last a minimum of 15 minutes and a maximum of 45 minutes per candidate.

(3) Students who wish to take the same oral examination at a later date may be admitted to sit in on the examination, provided that spatial circumstances allow for it and no candidate objects to their presence. The decision shall be made by the examiner, and in the case of examinations conducted by a panel of several examiners (Kollegialprüfung), by the examiners. Students sitting in on an examination shall attend neither the discussion nor the announcement of results. They shall also be prohibited from taking notes during the examination.

(4) The examination board may, in conjunction with the examiner, decide that, instead of an oral examination, a written examination shall be held that covers the module's content. In accordance with § 8, para. 7 this shall be announced in due time before the beginning of the registration period.

§ 19

**Term papers, portfolios, presentations, internship reports,
project reports, reports and seminar papers**

- (1) For term papers, candidates are to demonstrate that they are able to perform independent research on a limited topic from the content of the module using methods commonly used in that field and to present this in writing in a manner that satisfies scientific requirements. Each term paper shall contain a minimum of 4,000 and a maximum of 6,000 words, including annotations. Candidates shall have a minimum of six weeks and a maximum of three months to prepare a term paper after receiving the topic. Upon valid request and in conjunction with the examiner, the examination board may grant an extension of up to half of the original preparation time.
- (2) Portfolios are collections of material with comments by the candidate and/or documentation related to internships, subject-related practical projects, tutoring and mentoring activities. The examiner shall specify the structure of the portfolio. As a rule, in addition to a collection of documents, the portfolio also includes an introduction and reflection. The scope of a portfolio can vary; all of the elements specified in the structure must be included. Portfolios must, as a rule, be submitted by the end of the semester in which the respective course is offered (by March 31 for courses in the winter semester and by September 30 for courses in the summer semester).
- (3) Presentations are oral presentations that last a minimum of 20 minutes and a maximum of 45 minutes. Candidates demonstrate their ability to comprehensibly present and discuss their own documented research results obtained using scientific methods. Candidates shall have six weeks to prepare a presentation after receiving the topic. Presentations must be held by the end of the semester in which the respective course is offered (by March 31 for courses in the winter semester and by September 30 for courses in the summer semester).
- (4) Internship reports are written summaries of independent scientific observations, analyses and reflections on activities observed and carried out by the candidates themselves during an internship in the specified field of practice. Internship reports document the candidate's ability to reflect on and analyze practical challenges and tasks using academic tools. The internship report shall contain a minimum of 1,600 and a maximum of 2,400 words, including annotations. Candidates shall have two weeks to prepare an internship report after the last day of the internship.
- (5) As a rule, project reports are used to show an ability to work in a team and, in particular, the ability to develop, implement and present concepts. Candidates are to demonstrate that they can define objectives and develop interdisciplinary problem-solving approaches and concepts for a large/complex assignment. The examiners specify the length of the preparation period and specific requirements for project reports; the preparation period starts when the topic is assigned. In the case of group project reports, it must be possible to clearly identify and grade the contribution of each individual candidate, and the contribution must satisfy the requirements in sentence 1. The presentation shall be a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 45 minutes long for each candidate.
- (6) Reports are written summaries of individual scientific research or field trips in which candidates comprehensibly present the sequence and results of their work or field trips. Reports are based on notes, original scientific texts and individual research. Their layout, structure and scope (4,000–6,000 words, including annotations) shall reflect that of scientific publications. They must be completed within a period of four weeks after receiving the topic of the scientific research/after the last day of the field trip.
- (7) Seminar papers are oral presentations that last a minimum of 20 minutes and a maximum of 45 minutes. They are based on a written paper prepared using original scientific texts and individual research. In seminar papers, candidates demonstrate their ability to comprehensibly present research results and explain them in a discussion. The written paper shall contain a minimum of 4,000 and a maximum of 6,000 words, including annotations. Candidates shall have a minimum of three weeks to prepare the oral

presentation. The deadline for submitting the written paper shall be three weeks from the last session of the course. The seminar paper will be graded based on the assessment of the written paper.

- (8) The examination board may, in conjunction with the examiner, decide that, instead of
- a required seminar paper, a term paper shall be submitted,
 - a required term paper, a seminar paper shall be submitted.

The examination board shall announce this in due time before the beginning of the registration period by public display or in electronic form.

(9) Candidates shall declare in writing when submitting written papers prepared without supervision that the paper is their own work, that they used only those sources and resources cited in the paper, that their use is documented in the annotations and that they have marked citations as such.

(10) Otherwise, the provisions for grading oral and written assignments stipulated in § 13, para. 7 apply accordingly.

Part 6 Master's thesis

§ 20 Registration, topic and scope of the master's thesis

(1) The master's thesis is an examination in the form of a written assignment in which candidates are to demonstrate their ability to conduct research on, develop a solution for and appropriately present a problem from the field of the master's degree program "Ecumenical Studies" or "Extended Ecumenical Studies" within a specified period of time, on their own authority and using scientific methods.

(2) Students must register their master's thesis with the examination board. The examination board shall announce the deadline by which a master's thesis must be registered for the candidate to complete the master's degree program within the standard period of study. As a rule, the topic of the master's thesis is issued

- a. before the beginning of the second semester in the "Ecumenical Studies" degree program and
- b. before the beginning of the third semester in the "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program.

(3) When registering their master's thesis, students must indicate their choice of examiner for the master's thesis.

(4) The topic for the master's thesis may be assigned by any examiner specified in § 9, para. 1, sentence 1; if the topic is to be set by another examiner specified in § 9, para. 1, sentence 2 or 4, the consent of the examination board shall be required. As a rule, the examiner who assigned the topic acts as supervisor of the master's thesis.

(5) The topic for the master's thesis shall only be issued when the student

- a. has acquired a minimum of 18 ECTS CP in the "Ecumenical Studies" degree program, or
- b. a minimum of 48 ECTS CP in the "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program

and has met all of the requirements stipulated in the module structure. The examination board shall issue the topic for the master's thesis. A record shall be kept of the topic and the date of issue. Prior to registration of the master's thesis, students shall be given the opportunity to submit proposals for the research area from which the topic of their master's thesis shall be taken; they shall not, however, have the right to a topic from a specific area. Upon request by the student, the examination board shall ensure that the student receives a topic for his/her master's thesis in due time as per para. 9.

- (6) Candidates may reject a master's thesis topic only once and only within the first two months after its issue. Rejecting a topic does not count as a failed attempt. The new topic issued to the candidate must be substantially different from the initial topic.
- (7) The master's thesis cannot be approved in the form of a group thesis.
- (8) The master's thesis
 - a. shall contain a minimum of 10,000 and a maximum of 12,000 words, including annotations, in the "Ecumenical Studies" degree program, and
 - b. a minimum of 20,000 and a maximum of 24,000 words, including annotations, in the "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program.
- (9) Passing the master's thesis
 - a. awards 15 ECTS CP in the "Ecumenical Studies" degree program, corresponding to 450 hours of student workload; it must be completed within a maximum of four months.
 - b. awards 30 ECTS CP in the "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program, corresponding to 900 hours of student workload; it must be completed within a maximum of eight months.

The examination board shall determine the deadline by which the master's thesis must be submitted and notify the student of that deadline. Topic, task and scope of the master's thesis shall be limited in a way that candidates may complete it under reasonable requirements within the specified period. Upon valid request and in conjunction with the supervisor, the examination board may grant an extension by a maximum of six weeks.

§ 21

Submission, evaluation and repetition of the master's thesis

- (1) Candidates shall submit their master's thesis in triplicate in writing to the examination board along with a digital format suitable for electronic evaluation satisfying the examination board's requirements; a record shall be made of the time and date of submission. Candidates may not withdraw an already submitted master's thesis. Master's theses that are not submitted by the stated deadline shall be graded "Insufficient".
- (2) Candidates shall declare in writing when submitting their master's thesis that the thesis is their own work, that they used only those sources and resources cited in the thesis, that their use is documented in the annotations and that they have marked citations as such. In particular, a master's thesis is considered not to be the candidate's own work if the content or structure and organization of the discussion of the thesis topic are specified by third parties.
- (3) Master's theses shall be evaluated and graded by two examiners. One of the examiners shall be the person who assigned the topic of the master's thesis; the second examiner shall be appointed by the examination board from among the group of examiners as defined by § 9, para. 1. It must be ensured that at least one of the examiners is a member of the group of professors (Hochschullehrerinnen und Hochschullehrer) at the University of Bonn. The candidate shall be entitled to propose examiners but shall not have a right to be assigned a specific examiner.
- (4) The examiners shall each provide a grade separately and provide the reasons for the grade they assigned in writing in accordance with § 25, para. 1. When the difference between the two grades is less than 2.0, they shall be averaged together for the final grade for the master's thesis. When the difference is 2.0 or more or one of the grades is "Insufficient", the examination board shall appoint a third examiner for review of the master's thesis. In this case, the two best grades shall be averaged together for the final grade. Grades shall be averaged in accordance with § 25, para. 3. A master's thesis may, however, only be awarded the grade "Sufficient" or higher when at least two of the individual grades were "Sufficient" or higher.

- (5) Examiners shall submit their reviews of the master's thesis within eight weeks after the submission deadline.
- (6) Candidates who receive a grade of "Sufficient" or higher for their master's thesis are awarded
 - a. 15 ECTS CP in the "Ecumenical Studies" degree program and
 - b. 30 ECTS CP in the "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program.
- (7) Master's theses graded "Insufficient" may be repeated once. The topic of the second master's thesis may be chosen from the same area as the topic of the first master's thesis but must be substantially different in nature. The candidate may reject the proposed topic for their master's thesis within the period specified in § 20, para. 6 only if they did not make use of this option with their first master's thesis. Should the second thesis also be graded "Insufficient", the candidate shall have failed their final attempt at the master's examination, losing their right to examination and being deregistered from the degree program by the Student Registry once the examination board's decision has come into force.

Part 7

Procedural irregularities and protective regulations

§ 22

Cancellation, failure to appear, withdrawal and reprimand

- (1) Candidates may, without giving reasons, electronically (in the examination management system) cancel their registration for module examinations with the examination board before the deadlines indicated in § 12, para. 3; if this is not possible, cancellation can also be submitted in writing. The date of receipt by the examination board determines whether the deadline has been met.
- (2) If a candidate withdraws from an examination after the cancellation deadline without good cause, the examination is graded "Insufficient". The same applies when a candidate fails to appear for an examination or to submit an assignment within the specified period of time (failure to appear).
- (3) Candidates who have registered for an examination but have good cause to withdraw from that examination, especially due to illness, may do so regardless of the cancellation deadline. The examination board shall be notified of such withdrawals immediately and in writing. Candidates shall immediately provide a written statement credibly substantiating the grounds for their withdrawal or failure to appear. In cases of illness, candidates shall present a medical certificate proving their inability to participate in the examination or, respectively, submit their assignment on time. Candidates who withdraw from an examination due to illness after the start of the examination and assignment of the respective task must consult a medical examiner that same day of the examination to obtain a certificate proving their inability to continue the examination. The examination board may, in individual cases, require the submission of a certificate from a medical examiner designated by the University if there are sufficient factual indications that the candidate would in fact have been able to participate in the examination or, respectively, submit their assignment on time or if the examination board deems other proof than that defined by sentence 4 appropriate in that case. As a rule, it is not possible to withdraw from an examination after the start of the examination, especially when the candidate has already seen, or otherwise obtained knowledge of, the examination result. If the examination board accepts a medical certificate allowing for withdrawal due to illness or other good cause given by the candidate, the examination attempt shall be deemed void.
- (4) Candidates shall immediately reprimand any deficiencies related to an examination with the respective examiner or proctor. The reprimand shall be entered into the record and asserted in front of the examination board. If the examination board accepts the reprimand, the examination attempt shall be deemed void.

§ 23

Deception and disruption of examinations

- (1) Candidates who try to influence the outcome of an examination through deception or the use of inadmissible auxiliary means shall receive the grade "Insufficient"; the respective examiner or proctor shall identify deception or use of inadmissible auxiliary means, include it in the record and notify the examination board. The respective examiner or proctor may bar any candidate from continuing an examination who, despite a warning, disrupts the orderly conduct of the examination; in such cases, the examination shall be deemed failed and graded "Insufficient". A record shall be made of the reasons for barring the candidate from the examination.
- (2) Candidates may, within a period of two weeks, request that decisions taken pursuant to para. 1, sentences 1 and 2 be reviewed by the examination board.
- (3) In cases of repeated or otherwise grave attempts at deception, the candidate shall lose their right to examination in this degree program. The student will be deregistered by the Student Registry once the examination board's decision on the loss of the right to examination has come into force. The examination board shall make its decision as to whether repeated or otherwise grave attempts at deception have taken place after hearing the candidate.
- (4) Violation of the provisions in these Examination Regulations regarding deception in examinations is an administrative offense. This administrative offense may be subject to a fine of up to EUR 50,000. As competent administrative authority, the provost of the University of Bonn shall pursue and fine administrative offenses pursuant to sentence 1.

§ 24

Protective regulations

- (1) Regulations on maternity leave stipulated in the Maternity Protection Act (MuSchG) as amended shall be respected; students shall provide all necessary proof. All time frames stipulated in these Examination Regulations shall be suspended by maternity leave; time frames for periods of assessment shall not include periods of maternity leave. The examination board shall notify the student of newly determined examination deadlines once all necessary proof has been submitted.
- (2) Allowances shall likewise be made on application for parental leave under the Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (BEEG) as amended. Candidates shall notify the examination board in writing of the period(s) during which they wish to take parental leave, enclosing necessary substantiating documentation, at least four weeks prior to the date on which they wish to enter parental leave. The examination board shall determine whether the statutory requirements have been met which would lead to an employee being entitled to parental leave under the BEEG and shall inform the candidate immediately of its findings and, if applicable, any new examination deadlines. Time frames for the completion of assignments may not be interrupted by a period of parental leave. The assignment topics shall be deemed not issued. The candidate shall receive a new topic at the end of their parental leave. This does not affect § 22, para. 3, sentence 1.
- (3) Allowances shall likewise be made on application for leave taken for the care of spouses, registered partners, direct relatives, second-degree indirect relatives or first-degree in-laws who are in need of care. The examination board shall review whether the requirements defined by sentence 1 are met. The application is to be submitted as soon as these requirements are met. Relevant documentation shall be attached to the application. The examination board shall immediately notify the candidate of the result and, if applicable, of the new examination deadlines. Time frames for the completion of assignments may not be extended based on such leave taken. The assignment topics shall be deemed not issued. The candidate shall receive a new topic at the end of their leave. This does not affect § 22, para. 3, sentence 1.

Part 8
Grading and final documentation

§ 25

Grading of examinations, grading system and pass requirements for the master's examination

(1) The grade for each examination shall be determined by the respective examiners. The following grading system shall be used:

1	Very good	Excellent achievement
2	Good	Achievement well above average requirements
3	Satisfactory	Achievement corresponding to average requirements
4	Sufficient	Achievement that still meets necessary requirements despite deficiencies
5	Insufficient	Achievement that does not satisfy requirements due to substantial deficiencies

In order to produce a graduate grading scale and provide a more nuanced evaluation, individual grades may be raised or lowered by values of 0.3; grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 shall not be admissible. An examination is passed if it is graded "Sufficient" or higher; otherwise it is failed.

(2) If the examination is conducted by more than one examiner, the grade for the examination shall be calculated using the average of the individual grades. In the case of a written examination, if the grades differ by more than two whole grades or if just one examiner assigns a grade that would result in an examination being deemed failed, the chairperson of the examination board shall appoint a third examiner. In this case, the two better grades shall be averaged together for the examination grade. The deadline for notification of the grade is extended by four weeks if a third examiner is used.

(3) Only the first decimal place after the decimal shall be used when calculating the grades for individual modules or for overall performance; all further decimal places shall be dropped without rounding off.

(4) A module examination shall be deemed passed when the module is graded at least "Sufficient". If a module grade includes more than one examination component, it shall be calculated using the individual examination weights indicated in the module structure. This does not affect § 10, para. 3, sentence 4. The grading scale for modules is:

With an average grade up to and including 1.5	= Very good
With an average grade from 1.6 up to and including 2.5	= Good
With an average grade from 2.6 up to and including 3.5	= Satisfactory
With an average grade from 3.6 up to and including 4.0	= Sufficient
With an average of 4.1 or higher	= Insufficient

(5) Candidates shall be informed of the grades earned in written examinations within four weeks of the particular examination, and the grade awarded for their master's thesis within eight weeks at the latest following the submission deadline. In accordance with the applicable data protection regulations, results shall be made available in electronic form via the examination management system; as a rule, results are to be made available before the standard period of study ends.

(6) Candidates shall have passed the master's examination when they have passed all necessary modules as per § 4, para. 4 as well as the master's thesis and have thus been awarded

- a. 60 ECTS CP in the "Ecumenical Studies" degree program and
- b. 120 ECTS CP in the "Extended Ecumenical Studies" degree program.

(7) The calculation of the overall grade shall include all graded modules. Each grade from individual modules shall be weighted by multiplying it with the number of ECTS credit points assigned to the

respective module. The sum of these individually weighted grades is then divided by the total number of ECTS credit points (weighted average). Para. 4, sentence 4 applies accordingly. Deviating from this, the overall grade shall be "Excellent" if the overall grade is no lower than 1.3 and the master's thesis has been graded "Very good" (1.0). Modules marked "pass" due to lack of comparability between grading systems shall not be included when calculating the overall grade.

- (8) The final attempt at the master's examination shall be deemed failed when
- the candidate has three times failed to pass a module examination in a compulsory module as defined by § 10, para. 3, sentence 4, letter a or, respectively, § 15, para. 2,
 - the compensation option for electives has been used without success as specified in § 15, para. 3, or
 - the master's thesis has been graded "Insufficient" in the second attempt.

§ 26 Certificate

(1) The candidate shall be notified of the results of their successful master's examination in a provisional certificate as soon as all grades have been submitted. A certificate shall thereafter be issued in German and English (bilingual). The certificate shall include the following information:

- The name of the degree program;
- All modules for which ECTS credit points were earned;
- The semester in which ECTS credit points were earned;
- The grades received for the individual examinations;
- The topic and grade of the master's thesis;
- The date of the last examination and
- The overall grade of the master's examination.

On application by the candidate, results from additional examinations as per § 31 may also be included in the certificate; these shall not be included when calculating the overall grade.

(2) The certificate shall state the date of issue. The certificate shall be stamped with the seal of the examination board and signed by the chairperson of the examination board and the speaker of the ZERG.

(3) Candidates who have failed their final attempt at the master's examination shall be issued a written notification thereof by the examination board, including information on legal remedies available.

(4) Candidates who leave the university without a degree shall, after deregistration and on application, be issued a transcript including a list of all completed course work and examinations. This transcript shall be limited to those parts of the student's course of study which were successfully completed. In addition, a notification may be issued on application that indicates which examinations the student did not pass or still needs to complete in order to pass the master's examination.

§ 27 Master's Diploma

Along with the certificate of the master's examination, candidates shall receive a bilingual Master's Diploma issued the same day in English and German stating that the candidate has been awarded the academic degree as per § 3. Master's Diplomas shall be signed by the dean of the Faculty of Protestant Theology and speaker of the ZERG as well as stamped with the seal of the Faculty.

§ 28
Diploma Supplement

The Master's Diploma shall be augmented by a Diploma Supplement. The Diploma Supplement is a standard document in English and German that shall include the following information:

- Essential contents of the program underlying the degree;
- The course of studies;
- The competences acquired with the degree;
- Information on the accreditation of the degree program and
- Information on the university awarding the degree.

The Diploma Supplement shall give a relative classification of the overall grade of the master's examination on the ECTS grading scale.

§ 29
Access to examination records

(1) Candidates shall, on application, be granted access to their examinations, the examiners' written reviews as well as records of oral examinations; applications must be submitted within three months after notification of the examination result. This does not affect § 29 of the Administrative Procedure Act (Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetz).

(2) Candidates shall, on written application within three months after the examination board has issued the certificate as per § 26, be granted access to their examination records. This does not affect § 29 of the Administrative Procedure Act (Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetz).

(3) The examination board shall determine when and where the examination records may be accessed and notify the candidate hereof in due time. The examination board shall determine the details concerning the possibility of preparing copies or other true reproductions, and shall announce them pursuant to § 8, para. 7. Copies and other reproductions of examination records or parts thereof are only intended for candidates to pursue their own rights arising under the legal examination relationship and are therefore only to be used by the candidates, or made available to persons engaged by the candidates to safeguard their legal interests. Any other duplication or distribution of copies or other reproductions is not permitted.

§ 30
Invalidity of the master's examination and revocation of the master's degree

(1) Should it become known after the certificate has been issued that the candidate used deception in an examination or their master's thesis, the examination board may correspondingly correct the grades for those examinations or the thesis in which the candidate used deception as well as the overall grade and declare the entire master's examination or parts thereof failed.

(2) Should it become known after the certificate has been issued that the candidate had not met the requirements for admission to the master's examination, and should this have happened without any fraudulent intent on the part of the candidate, this defect shall be remedied by the candidate's successful completion of the examination. Should the candidate have wrongfully secured admission with intent, the examination board shall decide on the legal consequences in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

(3) Candidates shall be heard before the examination board makes a decision.

(4) The incorrect certificate shall be withdrawn and, where applicable, a new certificate shall be issued. If one or more examinations are declared failed due to deception, the incorrect certificate also makes the Master's Diploma and all other graduation documentation void. Decisions pursuant to para. 1 and para. 2, sentence 2 may be taken only for a period of five years after the issue of the certificate.

(5) Should the master's examination be deemed altogether failed, the master's degree shall be revoked and the Master's Certificate, Master's Diploma as well as all other graduation documentation shall be withdrawn.

§ 31

Additional examinations

Students may, until the end of the semester in which they complete the master examination as per § 10, para. 2, extend their standard scope of studies on application by up to

- 18 ECTS CP in additional modules in the Ecumenical Studies degree program,
- 30 ECTS CP in additional modules in the Extended Ecumenical Studies degree program.

These may be modules from this master's degree program as well as other modules for which credit would otherwise not be granted, provided that they are offered at the University of Bonn and are eligible as additional modules for this master's degree program. Credit can only be granted for modules that are completed within one and a half times the standard period of study. The results of additional examinations shall be included in the certificate in accordance with § 26 on application by the candidate, however it shall not be included when calculating the overall grade.

Part 9
Entry into force

§ 32
Entry into force and publication

- (1) These Examination Regulations shall enter into force on October 1, 2021.
- (2) Under § 12, para. 5 of the NRW Higher Education Act, violations of the procedural or formal requirements of the Higher Education Act or regulatory or other legal provisions of the University of Bonn may no longer be asserted against these Regulations if one year has passed since their announcement.

C. Richter

The Dean
of the Faculty of Protestant Theology
of the University of Bonn
University Professor Dr. Cornelia Richter

Executed pursuant to the resolution adopted by the faculty council of the Faculty of Protestant Theology on April 21, 2021 and the resolution passed by the Rectorate on June 29, 2021.

Bonn, August 30, 2021

M. Hoch

The Rector
of the University of Bonn
Professor Dr. Dr. h. c. Michael Hoch

Annex 1: Module structure for the consecutive master's degree program "Ecumenical Studies" (MEST)

Module structure key:

- Abbreviations of course types: GS = guided independent study, F = field trip, R = research (guided empirical work), P = plenum, I = internship, S = course in seminar form (proseminar/seminar/exercise in seminar form/advanced seminar/review course), LC = language course, T = tutorial, E = scientific exercise, L = lecture.
- Marked with asterisk (*): Courses for which the examination board may, pursuant to § 13, para. 6, require compulsory attendance as prerequisite for participation in the module examination (field trips, language courses, internships and practical exercises as well as comparable courses). In these cases, compulsory attendance is an additional requirement to other listed course work.
- The "Course Type" column shows the type of a course within the module. Modules can include guided independent study for some courses. The contents of the guided independent study are then part of the contents of the courses and, as such, are also part of the subject matter of the examination.
- The "Duration" column shows the duration of the module (in semesters).
- The "Course Work" column shows requirements that must be met for admission to certain examinations pursuant to § 13, para. 4 or, respectively, to acquire credit points in modules without an examination.

Further details on individual modules, especially regarding the courses offered within or required for completion of a module, are described in the module guide, which the examination board will make available before the beginning of the semester, pursuant to § 8, para. 7. The subject-specific study advisory services also provide study schedules (curricula) for students as a recommendation on how to structure their course of studies.

Some of the modules are used in more than one degree program. The module structure below only includes information on the admission requirements for students in the "Ecumenical Studies" master's degree program.

Compulsory Modules (27 ECTS CP)

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
CDP	Christian Denominations Past and Present	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	<p>The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the main features of the processes according to which the Christian churches and denominations originated and have developed • Present the contents and meaning of key ecumenical texts • Analyze the teachings and practice of a selected church and denomination in the context of other churches and denominations and develop topics and positions for a dialog 	Written and/or oral requirements	Oral examination (30 minutes)	9
BHA	Biblical and Historical Aspects of Ecumenical Studies	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	<p>The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives:</p> <p>Students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain and interpret research in the Old and New Testaments that is of particular relevance for ecumenism • Present and analyze paradigmatic and decisive developments in church history • Prepare a critical historical interpretation of key biblical and church texts 	Written and/or oral requirements	Written examination (90 minutes)	9

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
EFWA	Ecumenical Field Work A	I/R	Mandatory: none Recommended: Complete participation in first semester module courses	1-2 semesters	The examination is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to use the knowledge and skills gained in the preceding modules to analyze practical situations, derive relevant questions and develop and implement problem-solving approaches.	Internship/research diary	Internship report	9

Master's thesis (15 ECTS CP)

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
THEA	Master's Thesis A	None	at least 18 ECTS CP	1 semester	The examination is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to independently conduct research on and to develop and appropriately present a solution for a limited problem in the area of ecumenical studies in a reasonable period of time using scientific methods.	None	Master's thesis	15

Elective Modules 1: Winter semester

A module with 9 ECTS CP must be chosen.

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
PSA	Practical and Systematic Aspects of Ecumenical Studies	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	<p>The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the interaction of religion, church(es) and society by means of paradigmatic examples and develop consequences for church actions Interpret theological statements and church practice using the theories and methodology of Systematic Theology and Practical Theology 	None	Oral examination (20 minutes; 50%) and seminar paper with written paper (50%)	9
LBC	Looking Beyond Christianity	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	<p>The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present and evaluate selected questions and positions of religious philosophy Apply basic methods of religious philosophy Analyze the dimensions of religious interaction Explain the challenges and possibilities of interreligious dialog 	None	Oral examination (20 minutes; 50%) and seminar paper with written paper (50%)	9

The examination board may, upon request, approve further elective modules and shall announce them before the beginning of the semester, pursuant to § 8, para. 7.

Elective Modules 2: Summer semester

A module with 9 ECTS CP must be chosen.

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
ETP	Ecumenism in Theory and Practice	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to analyze the foundations, prospects and limits of ecumenical dialog and cooperation for selected churches and denominations.	None	Oral examination (20 minutes; 50%) and seminar paper with written paper (50%)	9
CSS	Church, State and Society	S, possibly L, possibly GS	None	1 semester	The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to describe theological, political and social aspects of the integration of church(es) into society.	None	Oral examination (20 minutes; 50%) and seminar paper with written paper (50%)	9

The examination board may, upon request, approve further elective modules and shall announce them before the beginning of the semester, pursuant to § 8, para. 7.

Annex 2: Module structure for the consecutive master's degree program "Extended Ecumenical Studies" (MEESt)

Module structure key:

- Abbreviations of course types: GS = guided independent study, F = field trip, R = research (guided empirical work), P = plenum, I = internship, S = course in seminar form (proseminar/seminar/exercise in seminar form/advanced seminar/review course), LC = language course, T = tutorial, E = scientific exercise, L = lecture.
- Marked with asterisk (*): Courses for which the examination board may, pursuant to § 13, para. 6, require compulsory attendance as prerequisite for participation in the module examination (field trips, language courses, internships and practical exercises as well as comparable courses). In these cases, compulsory attendance is an additional requirement to other listed course work.
- The "Course Type" column shows the type of a course within the module. Modules can include guided independent study for some courses. The contents of the guided independent study are then part of the contents of the courses and, as such, are also part of the subject matter of the examination.
- The "Duration" column shows the duration of the module (in semesters).
- The "Course Work" column shows requirements that must be met for admission to certain examinations pursuant to § 13, para. 4 or, respectively, to acquire credit points in modules without an examination.

Further details on individual modules, especially regarding the courses offered within or required for completion of a module, are described in the module guide, which the examination board will make available before the beginning of the semester, pursuant to § 8, para. 7. The subject-specific study advisory services also provide study schedules (curricula) for students as a recommendation on how to structure their course of studies.

Some of the modules are used in more than one degree program. The module structure below only includes information on the admission requirements for students in the "Extended Ecumenical Studies" master's degree program.

Compulsory Modules (72 ECTS CP)

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
AW	Academic Writing	S or T	None	1 semester	<p>The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name the criteria for determining when plagiarism is present • Identify and reference the ideas of others in their written work in accordance with academic practices • Apply the formal requirements for preparing an academic term paper or thesis 	Portfolio	None	3
CDP	Christian Denominations Past and Present	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	<p>The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the main features of the processes according to which the Christian churches and denominations originated and have developed • Present the contents and meaning of key ecumenical texts • Analyze the teachings and practice of a selected church and denomination in the context of other churches and denominations and develop topics and positions for a dialog 	Written and/or oral requirements	Oral examination (30 minutes)	9

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
BHA	Biblical and Historical Aspects of Ecumenical Studies	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain and interpret research in the Old and New Testaments that is of particular relevance for ecumenism • Present and analyze paradigmatic and decisive developments in church history • Prepare a critical historical interpretation of key biblical and church texts 	Written and/or oral requirements	Written examination (90 minutes)	9
TRA	Theological Reading A	GS	None	1 semester	The examination covers the content of the guided independent study and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to present key content and methods from the main theological disciplines (Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Systematic Theology and Practical Theology) and, if applicable, related disciplines (Religious Studies, Social Sciences).	Portfolio	Oral examination (20 minutes)	9
CSS	Church, State and Society	S, possibly L, possibly GS	None	1 semester	The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to describe theological, political and social aspects of the integration of church(es) into society.	None	Oral examination (20 minutes; 50%) and seminar paper with written paper (50%)	9

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
ETP	Ecumenism in Theory and Practice	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to analyze the foundations, prospects and limits of ecumenical dialog and cooperation for selected churches and denominations.	None	Oral examination (20 minutes; 50%) and seminar paper with written paper (50%)	9
EFWB	Ecumenical Field Work B	I/R	Mandatory: none Recommended: Complete participation in first semester modules	1 semester	The examination is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to use the knowledge and skills gained in the preceding modules to analyze practical situations, derive relevant questions and develop and implement problem-solving approaches.	Internship/research diary	Internship report	15
TRB	Theological Reading B	GS	None	1 semester	The examination covers the content of the guided independent study and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to present advanced content and methods from the main theological disciplines (Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Systematic Theology and Practical Theology) and, if applicable, related disciplines (Religious Studies, Social Sciences) that are relevant for ecumenical questions and use them on these ecumenical questions.	Portfolio	Oral examination (20 minutes)	9

Master's thesis (30 ECTS CP)

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
THEB	Master's Thesis B	None	at least 48 ECTS CP	2 semesters	The examination is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to independently conduct research on and to develop and appropriately present a solution for a limited problem in the area of ecumenical studies in a reasonable period of time using scientific methods.	None	Master's thesis	30

Unofficial version

Elective Modules

Modules with a total of 18 ECTS CP must be chosen.

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
PSA	Practical and Systematic Aspects of Ecumenical Studies	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	<p>The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the interaction of religion, church(es) and society by means of paradigmatic examples and develop consequences for church actions Interpret theological statements and church practice using the theories and methodology of Systematic Theology and Practical Theology 	None	Oral examination (20 minutes; 50%) and seminar paper with written paper (50%)	9
LBC	Looking Beyond Christianity	S, possibly GS	None	1 semester	<p>The examination covers the content of the courses taken by the candidate in this module and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present and evaluate selected questions and positions of religious philosophy Apply basic methods of religious philosophy Analyze the dimensions of religious interaction Explain the challenges and possibilities of interreligious dialog 	None	Oral examination (20 minutes; 50%) and seminar paper with written paper (50%)	9

Module Number/Abbreviation	Module Name	Course Type	Admission Requirements	Duration	Subject (content) of Examination and Qualification Objective	Course Work	Type of Examination	ECTS CP
TRC	Theological Reading C	GS	None	1 semester	The examination covers the content of the guided independent study and is aimed at achieving the following qualification objectives: Students are able to present the positions of different churches/church communions on an ecumenically relevant theological question and the results of the discussions of this question that have been officially conducted and published to date, to interpret them based on exegetical analysis and historical developments, and to identify current difficulties and develop approaches for a continuation of the efforts for ecumenical understanding.	Portfolio	Presentation (45 minutes)	9

The examination board may, upon request, approve further elective modules and shall announce them before the beginning of the semester, pursuant to § 8, para. 7.

Annex 3: Regulations for admission to courses

If admission to a course, due to its nature, purpose or to other reasons, needs to be limited and the number of registrations exceeds the defined capacities, it is handled as follows:

Students shall be admitted in the following order:

- **Group 1:**
Students who are enrolled at the University of Bonn, for whom, according to the module structure, participation in this course is mandatory and who are in the same or a higher study semester as/than the one specified for participation in the study schedule, provided they
 - a. were kept from registering for the course due to a delay in the first semester, or
 - b. were not selected in a random selection procedure at least once in the past;

- **Group 2:**
Students who are enrolled at the University of Bonn and who are in the same or a higher study semester as/than the one specified for participation in the study schedule, and who do not belong to Group 1;

- **Group 3:**
All other students enrolled at the University of Bonn who are eligible for participation in this course pursuant to the module structure;

- **Group 4:**
All other students.

This does not affect further admission requirements. Within the groups – except Group 4 – students who have collected the largest number of ECTS credit points for this degree program or for another degree program at the University of Bonn that imports modules from this degree program shall have priority. Remaining places are allocated by drawing lots.

Annex 4: Aptitude Test for University Studies

Procedure in accordance with § 5, para. 4 of these Examination Regulations for the aptitude test for foreign applicants to a degree program who are not given equivalent status to Germans by or based on international treaties

I. General principles

- (1) The admission requirements in § 5, para. 1 to 4 of these Examination Regulations must be satisfied for admission to the “Ecumenical Studies” and “Extended Ecumenical Studies” consecutive master’s degree programs. Under § 5, para. 4 of these Examination Regulations, foreign applicants who are not given equivalent status to Germans by or based on international treaties and do not have German university entrance qualifications must pass a special aptitude test for the “Ecumenical Studies” or “Extended Ecumenical Studies” degree program.
- (2) This Annex sets down the provisions governing the aptitude test for university studies specified in paragraph 1.
- (3) The objective of the procedure is to determine whether applicants have the aptitude necessary to be expected to successfully graduate from the desired degree program.
- (4) §§ 6 (Recognition of and granting credit for academic achievements), 8 (Examination board and examination office), 9 (Examiners and assistant examiners), 29 (Access to examination records) and 30 (Invalidity of the master’s examination and revocation of the master’s degree) of these Examination Regulations shall apply accordingly.

II. Eligibility and application procedure/admission to the examination procedure

- (1) Foreign applicants who satisfy the other admission requirements in § 5 of these Examination Regulations or are expected to satisfy them in accordance with para. 5, sentence 2, can participate in the examination procedure for the aptitude test for university studies specified in Part I, para. 3.
- (2) Applications for admission to the examination procedure must be submitted electronically in German or English using the application forms provided by the examination board. Admission takes place each winter semester. The application deadline is July 1. The time of electronic receipt by the University of Bonn determines whether the application deadline has been met. The application deadline and issuing of the notices in Part VI shall be coordinated with the enrollment deadline for programs starting in the winter semester.
- (3) The following documents shall be included in German or English in electronic form with the application:
 1. Proof of formal qualification in accordance with § 5, para. 1 to 3 of these Examination Regulations; instead of proof in accordance with § 5, para. 1 and 2, a provisional certificate may be submitted in accordance with para. 5, sentence 2
 2. A completed admission application form
 3. A curriculum vitae with a detailed description of prior education that should, in particular, clearly show the connections in terms of subjects/content to the topics and content of the desired “Ecumenical Studies” or “Extended Ecumenical Studies” master’s degree program
 4. A sample paper in English or German (excerpts from term papers, bachelor’s theses, etc. are also permitted, max. length 10 pages of text, incl. footnotes) that allows an assessment based on the criteria indicated in Part IV, para. 1. § 19, para. 9 of these Examination Regulations also applies to the sample paper.

- (4) The chairperson of the examination board established in accordance with § 8 of these Examination Regulations shall make the decision on the application for admission to the examination procedure.
- (5) Admission shall be rejected if the application is incomplete. If the documents specified in para. 3, no. 1 are not yet available at the time the application is submitted, a corresponding certificate from the university concerned and list of the modules completed and their grades shall be sufficient for the application. The applicant must submit formal proof immediately upon receipt, at the latest at the time of enrollment.

III. Performing the examination procedure

The examination board formed in accordance with § 8 of these Examination Regulations is responsible for organizing and carrying out the examination procedure. The examination board shall hold discussions and make decisions in closed meetings. It shall appoint a committee of examiners as defined in § 9, para. 1 of these Examination Regulations consisting of a chairperson and three other lecturers who regularly teach courses in the “Ecumenical Studies” or “Extended Ecumenical Studies” degree program to carry out the procedure. Decisions shall be made by simple majority. In the event of a tie vote, the chairperson’s vote shall be the deciding vote.

IV. Examination procedure

(1) The application documents will be checked to determine the level of education that has been achieved in the academic discipline required under § 5, para. 1 of these Examination Regulations. Particular attention will be given to whether the applicant has the knowledge and skills in the following areas that are required for successfully completing the “Ecumenical Studies” or “Extended Ecumenical Studies” consecutive master’s degree program:

- Fundamentals of academic work
- The ability to adequately present and reflect on academic problems and theories
- The ability to theoretically describe and interpret the current and historical phenomena of Christian culture based on the applicant’s previous studies

The following standard is used to assess the above-mentioned knowledge and skills:

- a) For the “Ecumenical Studies” degree program, the level reached in the “Protestant Theology” degree program upon completion of the Church degree or Magister Theologiae degree at the University of Bonn at the end of the 7th program-related semester
- b) For the “Extended Ecumenical Studies” degree program, the level reached in the bachelor’s degree component “Protestant Theology and Hermeneutics” (major) at the University of Bonn at the end of the 5th program-related semester

The committee appointed by the examination board decides whether the aptitude test for university studies must be taken in order to assess the qualifications of the applicant based on the criteria above.

- (2) Applicants who completed their studies in accordance with § 5, para. 1 of these Examination Regulations at another institution of higher education within the scope of the German Basic Law (Grundgesetz) or at an institution of higher education in a Member State of the European Union or a state that has ratified the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (Lisbon Recognition Convention) have already proven their aptitude for university studies and are exempt from the test. § 5, para. 1 and 2 of the Examination Regulations remain unaffected.
- (3) If the documents submitted in accordance with Part II, para. 3 show that the applicant has reached the level of education specified in paragraph 1, this proves their aptitude for university studies and they are exempt from taking a separate aptitude test for university studies.

(4) If the documents submitted in accordance with Part II, para. 3 do not show that the applicant has reached the level of education specified in paragraph 1, they must provide proof of their aptitude for university studies by taking a special test. To this end, the person to be tested is asked to submit a written

paper (term paper) electronically in English or German by the specified deadline. The examination board shall specify the topic and length of the written paper (term paper) for the application semester concerned. § 19, para. 9 of these Examination Regulations applies accordingly.

(5) § 14, para. 1 of these Examination Regulations applies accordingly.

V. Assessment of the submitted documents and written paper

(1) For the assessment specified in Part IV, para. 3, the documents submitted in accordance with Part II, para. 3 are examined for indications that the criteria specified in Part IV, para. 1 are satisfied. A separate point score is assigned to each criterion to indicate the degree to which it is satisfied. The highest possible scores are 30 points for each criterion and a total of 90 points. The criteria are considered satisfied overall if each criterion receives a score of at least 10 points and a total score of at least 45 points is achieved.

(2) For the assessment specified in Part IV, para. 4, the written paper (term paper) is assigned a point score. The highest possible score is 100 points. The assessment is considered passed if a score of at least 50 points is achieved.

(3) Two examiners assign separate point scores for the written paper (term paper). The overall score for the paper is calculated as the arithmetic average of the individual scores assigned by the two examiners.

VI. Notification of the results and repetition of the examination procedure

(1) The examination board shall notify the applicant in writing of the results of the assessment in accordance with Part V, para. 1 and 2. If the notice indicates the application has been rejected, it must include information on legal remedies. The reasons the application was rejected must be included.

(2) Applicants who do not pass the examination procedure may repeat the aptitude test for university studies in the following year at the earliest; a new application is required. Further repetitions are possible, but only after a period of at least three years.

VII. Students who change the location of their studies

For students who change the location of their studies and were previously enrolled in an Ecumenical Studies master's degree program at another institution of higher education, the examination board shall assess their individual qualifications, including an examination procedure if one was performed. If the examination board decides that the degree program and examination procedure are equivalent, the applicant will be exempt from participating in the examination procedure at the University of Bonn.