Examination Regulations
for
Information and Communication
Design B.A.
at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences
Dated 19 June 2013

Please note: this English translation is provided for information purposes only.
Only the German version published in the Official Notices of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences is legally binding.

In accordance with Section 2 (4) sentence 1 and Section 64 (1) of the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia [Hochschulgesetz – HG NRW], in the amended form produced by the Greater Liberty for Higher Education Institutions Act [Hochschulfreiheitsgesetz] of 31 October 2006 (Law and Regulations Gazette of NRW – GV.NRW. 2006, p. 474), last amended by Article 6 of the Recognition Act of North Rhine-Westphalia of 28 May 2013 (GV.NRW. 2013, p. 272) and by the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor’s Programmes (RPO) of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences of 22 October 2012 (published in the Official Notices 11/2012 on 29 October 2012), the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Communication and Environment of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences has issued the following examination regulations:

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Section 1
Scope of application
These examination regulations shall apply to the English-taught bachelor’s degree programme Information and Communication Design of the Faculty of Communication and Environment of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, in conjunction with the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor’s Programmes [Rahmenprüfungsordnung; hereinafter “RPO”] of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. These examination regulations govern the standard seven-semester mode of study (full-time study).

Section 2
Aims and objectives; purpose of examination; degree awarded
(1) The bachelor's examination concludes the degree programme, constitutes a first academic and scientific qualification towards a career, and entitles the holder to continue their studies in a master’s degree programme. The aims and objectives for this bachelor's programme are outlined in Section 3 RPO. A strong command of the English language is key to achieving success in this degree programme, as it provides the essential basis for this programme’s continuous goal of broadening and deepening students’ technical language and communication skills.

(2) The academic degree “Bachelor of Arts”, abbreviated as “B.A.”, shall be awarded for successfully completing the bachelor’s examination.

Section 3
Entry requirements
(1) The general entry requirements for bachelor’s degree programmes are outlined in Section 4 RPO.

(2) A “related or comparable programme of study” within the meaning of Section 4 (6) RPO is defined as any undergraduate (bachelor’s or German ‘Diplom’) degree programme at a university, university of applied sciences or academy of art in Germany if that programme’s content predominately falls under the umbrella of communication design. In addition, applicants are required to submit a portfolio of their work in order to demonstrate that they possess the necessary artistic and creative aptitude to study design. For an overview of the aptitude test requirements, please see the Information and Communication Design homepage.

(3) Sufficient proficiency in English can be demonstrated by submitting a valid and recognised language certificate equivalent to CEFR level B2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). Generally, the following language tests and scores are accepted as valid proof:
- IELTS: 6.0 or better
- TOEFL (iBT): minimum 80
- TOEFL (PBT): minimum 550
- TOEFL (CBT): minimum 213
(4) Exempted from this language certificate requirement are applicants who have acquired English language proficiency equivalent to level B2 over the course of earning their university entrance qualification [Hochschulreife] at a secondary school in Germany. This is considered the case when an applicant has successfully completed at least seven years of English at a German secondary school and earned a final cumulative mark of at least “sufficient” (4.0 or better) for the subject.

Section 4
Preparatory internship

Students in this degree programme are required to complete an eight-week preparatory internship (within the meaning of Section 4 (3) RPO) at an extramural company, public authority or other organisation and in a context relevant to the curriculum. The internship should familiarise the student with design-related tasks and responsibilities. Section 4 (3) to (5) RPO shall apply correspondingly to the preparatory internship requirement.

Section 5
Programme structure; volume of studies; progression of studies

(1) This degree programme has a total volume of study of 136 credit hours [Semesterwochenstunden – SWS].

(2) In accordance with the framework outlined in Section 6 (5) RPO, the modules of this programme comprise a total sum of 210 credit points (hereinafter “CP”).

(3) All modules and examinations shall be conducted in English. An exception to this rule applies to elective modules, for on a case-by-case basis and with the consent of the Examination Board, students enrolled in Information and Communication Design B.A. may be permitted to complete German-taught elective modules from other degree programmes.

(4) Additional information about the structure and progression of the programme, as well as about the type, form and scope of modules, can be found in the study and examination schedule in the annex of these examination regulations. For details about a module’s qualification aims, content and most commonly offered modes of examination, please refer to the descriptions in the module guide, which is available in the dean’s office for all students and staff to review.

Section 6
Scope of examinations

(1) The time allotted to students for a written examination is based on the CP value of the respective course unit(s) and generally will not exceed 120 minutes. If a module uses a combination of examination types within the meaning of Section 14 (3) RPO, then the allotted time shall be reduced accordingly.

(2) An oral examination generally lasts at least 15 minutes, but no more than 30 minutes per student.
Section 7
Scope and form of the bachelor’s thesis

(1) As a rule, the thesis consists of a design project and accompanying documentation. The individual scope and form of a student’s project shall be set in conjunction with the supervising professor. Generally, the accompanying documentation should be around 30,000 characters in length and present in sufficient detail, through text and image, the resulting creation as well as the underlying design process.

(2) Contrary to Section 26 (1) RPO, if the nature of a thesis project makes it impossible or impractical to submit three copies for evaluation, a more suitable form of documentation for the project and/or individual media can be arranged with the consent of the examiners.

(3) The thesis can also be permitted in the form of group work if each student’s individual contribution fulfils the requirements in Section 23 (1) RPO and is clearly distinguishable and thus assessable due to clear delimitation by section, page numbers or other criteria that ensure distinct identification of each student’s separate contribution.

Section 8
Admission to the bachelor’s thesis and colloquium

(1) In conjunction with the general prerequisites for admission to the thesis (Section 24 (1) RPO), students must show that they have acquired 175 CP.

(2) In conjunction with the general prerequisites for admission to the colloquium (Section 27 (2) RPO), candidates must show that they have acquired 207 CP.

Section 9
Credit points for the bachelor’s thesis and colloquium

(1) Twelve CP shall be awarded for successfully passing the thesis.

(2) Three CP shall be awarded for successfully passing the colloquium.

Section 10
Conferment of the bachelor’s degree

The bachelor’s degree specified in Section 2 (2) is officially conferred with the issuing of the bachelor’s degree certificate (Section 30 (1) RPO).
Section 11
Entry into force

These examination regulations shall enter into force on the day after their publication in the Official Notices [Amtliche Bekanntmachungen] of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

Issued on the basis of a resolution from 19 June 2013 put forth by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Communication and Environment of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

Kleve,

Professor Dr Marie-Louise Klotz
President of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences
### Recommended Study and Examination Schedule for Information and Communication Design B.A. (full-time)

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**Total semester hours per week:** 310

### List of abbreviations

- L: Lecture
- SE: Seminar/Roundtable (Seminar)
- BT: Basic Training (Basic Training)
- PT: Practical Training (Practice)
- FE: Final Examination (Final Examination)
- OP: Oral Examination (Oral Exam)
- WS: Winter Semester (Winter Semester)
- SS: Summer Semester (Summer Semester)
- CP: Credit Points (Credit Points)
- ICD: Bachelor of Information and Communication Design
- SW: Winter Semester (Winter Semester)
- SS: Summer Semester (Summer Semester)

*The Faculty reserves the right to determine a minimum number of participants for all credit courses. The possibility to offer the required number of credit points may be restricted.*

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