

# Examination Regulations

for

International Relations, B.A.

at

Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Dated 28 March 2018

*This English translation is offered for information purposes only. In the event of any discrepancies or doubt in interpretation, the German original takes precedence. Only the German original is considered legally binding.*

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## **Section 1 Applicability**

These examination regulations shall apply to the bachelor's degree programme International Relations, offered in English by the Faculty of Society and Economics of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, in conjunction with the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes ("RPO") of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

## **Section 2 Academic Objectives and Purpose of Examination, Bachelor's Degree**

(1) The bachelor's examination concludes this degree programme and entitles graduates to continue their studies in a master's degree programme. Academic aims and objectives are outlined in Section 3 RPO. A strong command of the English language is essential to success in this degree programme, as it is a necessary prerequisite for the overarching goal of consolidating and expanding students' technical language and communication skills.

(2) The academic degree "Bachelor of Arts", abbreviated as "B.A.", is awarded upon successful completion of the final bachelor's examination.

## **Section 3 General Admission Requirements**

(1) General admission requirements are defined in Section 4 RPO.

(2) Applicants are ineligible for admission if they have previously failed the final attempt at a mandatory examination in the same degree programme at a university subject to German Basic Law; this also applies to previous degree programmes with a significant overlap in content with this degree programme. A degree programme "with a significant overlap in content" within the meaning of Section 4(6) RPO is defined as any undergraduate degree programme (bachelor's degree or "Diplom") offered by a German university or university of applied sciences whose content is derived primarily from the political sciences.

(3) For English language requirements, refer to Section 4(5a) RPO.

## **Section 4 Basic Internship**

The basic eight-week internship as defined by Section 4(3) RPO should be completed at an external company, public office or other organisation that and familiarise students with questions and matters relating to the fields of politics and economics.

## **Section 5**

### **Programme Structure; Volume of Studies; Progression of Studies**

- (1) This degree programme has a total volume of study of 124 weekly contact hours (SWS).
- (2) The modules of this degree programme comprise a total sum of 210 ECTS credits.
- (3) Modules and examinations are offered only in the degree programme's official language of instruction.
- (4) Additional information about how this degree programme is organised and about the type, form and scope of modules can be found in the study and examination plan (see annex). A maximum of 10 credits can be recognised from any degree programme at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences towards the elective requirements of this degree programme with the approval of the Examination Board. Of these 10 credits, no more than 5 may be earned in degree programmes not offered by the Faculty of Society and Economics. Additional information about learning outcomes, qualification aims, contents and forms of examination can be found in the module guide.
- (5) In accordance with Section 5(3) RPO, the internship semester may be subdivided into parts. Requests to subdivide the internship semester must be submitted to the Faculty Examination Board and adhere to the following restrictions: the internship semester may only be subdivided once, each of the two internship parts consist of at least eight weeks of uninterrupted internship activity, and a combined total of at least 20 weeks must be completed.
- (6) To allow students the possibility of shortening the length of their studies, modules designated for the seventh semester are offered each semester.

## **Section 6**

### **Scope of Examinations**

- (1) The time allotted to students for a written examination is based on the credit value of the respective course and shall not exceed 120 minutes. As a general rule, 20 to 30 minutes shall be allotted for every one credit.
- (2) An oral examination generally lasts at least 15, but no more than 30 minutes per student.
- (3) The text portion of an assignment, term paper or project should not exceed 30 DIN A4 pages.
- (4) Students who have failed an attempt at an examination in the modules IR\_01 to IR\_18 and not registered for a new attempt within two semesters shall be automatically registered for a new attempt on an obligatory basis in accordance with para. (5).
- (5) If a student has not undertaken a new attempt at a failed examination nor submitted a request to do so before the deadline, then he or she shall be registered on an obligatory

basis by the Examination Board for the final examination opportunity remaining before the deadline. This also applies regardless of whether the examination in question was offered again before the deadline. If a student registers for the final examination opportunity before the deadline of his or her own accord, then withdrawing from said examination within the meaning of Section 15(6) RPO is not permitted. If the student does not appear to the examination and cannot provide a good reason for his or her absence, then the examination shall be assessed as Failed (5.0). The Examination Board must be notified in writing immediately of any mitigating circumstances for missing an examination and credible supporting evidence must be provided. In cases of illness, the Examination Board reserves the right to request a medical certificate from a doctor of the Board's choosing. If the Examination Board deems the reasons valid, the deadline will be extended until the next examination opportunity.

(6) Exempted from obligatory registration are students on an official leave of absence in accordance with Section 9 of the Enrolment Regulations of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences or who are currently undertaking an internship or study abroad semester per Sections 21 and 22 RPO, respectively. In exceptional cases, other students can apply for an exemption from obligatory examination registration, in particular those who:

- a) are responsible for the care and upbringing of minors within the meaning of the German Federal Education and Training Assistance Act, Section 25(5), or
- b) are acting as elective representatives in executive bodies of the University, the student body or the faculty, or
- c) are currently assuming the duties of Equal Opportunities Officer at the University, or
- d) have an impairment or are suffering from a serious illness which prolongs their duration of study.

Requests for exemptions must be submitted no later than four weeks before the start of the examination phase or the first scheduled examination, provided it is scheduled to occur in the examination phase. In the case of a), an exemption should generally not exceed three semesters; in the cases b) and c), it should generally not exceed two semesters.

## **Section 7**

### **Scope and Form of the Thesis**

(1) The text portion of the thesis should generally be between 40 and 60 DIN A4 pages in length. The thesis may also be supplemented with other media as well, provided their use is appropriate and useful as additional documentation in accordance with the assigned task. In this case the text portion of the thesis may contain fewer pages than the minimum requirement defined above.

(2) The bachelor's thesis can also be admitted as 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 and distinct identification by section, page numbers or other criteria.

**Section 8**  
**Admission to the Thesis and Colloquium**

- (1) In addition to the thesis admission requirements defined under Section 24(1) RPO, students must also have obtained at least 175 credits.
- (2) In addition to the colloquium admission requirements defined under Section 27(2) RPO, students must also have obtained at least 207 credits.

**Section 9**  
**Credit Values for the Thesis and Colloquium**

- (1) Twelve credits are awarded for passing the bachelor's thesis.
- (2) Three credits are awarded for passing the colloquium.

**Section 10**  
**Awarding 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 referred to in Section 30(1) RPO.

**Section 11**  
**Entry into Force and Transitional Provisions**

- (1) 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. They apply to students who first enrolled in International Relations B.A. of the Faculty of Society and Economics of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in or after winter semester 2019-20.
- (2) Students who enrolled in International Relations B.A. before winter semester 2019-20 may continue their studies according to the examination regulations dated 26 August 2013 (Official Notices 29/2013), as amended on 7 February 2018 (Official Notices 11/2019), until 28 February 2025 at the latest. The examination regulations dated 26 August 2013 (Official Notices 29/2013), as amended on 7 February 2018 (Official Notices 11/2018), shall expire on 1 March 2025.
- (3) Students currently studying according to the examination regulations dated 26 August 2013 (Official Notices 29/2013), as amended on 07/02/2018 (Official Notices 11/2018), may submit a written request to the Faculty Examination Board to switch to the examination regulations defined in this document. The Faculty Examination Board is responsible for all decisions relating to the recognition of previously earned credits.

## Annex

## Recommended Full-Time Study and Examination Plan for International Relations B.A.

Nr. No.	Module Modules	CH	V	S	Ü	Pra	Pro	Ex	CP	WS1	SS2	WS3	SS4	WS5	SS6	WS7
IR_01	Theorien der Internationalen Beziehungen Theories of International Relations	4	3		1			P	5	5						
IR_02	Grundlagen der Volkswirtschaftslehre Basics of Economics	6	4		2			P	5	5						
IR_03	Politische und ökonomische Ideengeschichte History of Political and Economic Thought	4	4					P	5	5						
IR_04	Deskriptive Statistik Descriptive Statistics	4	2		2			P	5	5						
IR_05	Innenpolitik Domestic Policy	4	3		1			P	5	5						
IR_06	Vergleichende Politikforschung und Verfassungsrecht Comparative Politics and Constitutional Law	4	4					P	5	5						
IR_07	Qualitative und quantitative Methoden empirischer Sozialforschung Qualitative and Quantitative Methods of Social Science	4	3		1			P	5		5					
IR_08	Internationale Angelegenheiten International Affairs	4	3		1			P	5		5					
IR_09	Europäische Integration European Integration	4	4					P	5		5					
IR_10	Europarecht European Union Law	4	2		2			P	5		5					
IR_11	Public Choice Theorie Public Choice Theory	4	2		2			P	5		5					
IR_12	Regionale Integration (kompetenzorientiert, incl. akademisches Schreiben und Präsentationstechniken) Regional Integration (skill-based, incl. Academic Writing and Presentation Skills)	4	2		2			P	5		5					
IR_13	Internationale Wirtschaft International Economics	4	3		1			P	5			5				
IR_14	Internationale Organisationen International Organisations	4	3		1			P	5			5				
IR_15	Friedensforschung und Sicherheitspolitik Peace Studies and Security Policy	4	4					P	5			5				
IR_16	Internationale Finanzmärkte International Financial Markets	4	2		2			P	5			5				
IR_17	Völkerrecht Public International Law	4	2			2		P	5			5				
IR_18	Projekt Project	2					2	P	5			5				
IR_19	Wettbewerb und Regulierung Competition and Regulation	4	2		2			P	5				5			
IR_20	Soziokulturelle Faktoren Sociocultural Factors	4	4					P	5				5			
IR_21	Entwicklung und Menschenrechte Development and Human Rights	4	4					P	5				5			
IR_22	Energie-, Ressourcen- und Umweltpolitik Energy, Resource and Environmental Policy	4	2		2			P	5				5			
IR_23	Außenpolitikanalyse und Politikberatung Foreign Policy Analysis and Policy Advice	4	3		1			P	5					5		
IR_24	Globalisierung und Staat Globalisation and the State	4	4					P	5					5		
IR_25	Verhaltensökonomische Aspekte des Entscheidens Behavioral Decision-Making	4	2		2			P	5					5		
IR_26	Projekt Project	2					2	P	5					5		
IR_27	Wahlpflichtfächer Elective Subjects	16	16					P	20				10	10		
IR_28	Praxissemester oder Auslandsstudiensemester Internship or Semester Abroad								30						30	
IR_29	Workshop: Wissenschaftliches Schreiben Workshop: Academic Writing	2					2	T	5							5
IR_30	Angewandtes Projekt Applied Project	2				2		P	5							5
IR_31	Projekt Project	2					2	P	5							5
IR_32	Bachelorarbeit Bachelor's Thesis							P	12							12
IR_33	Colloquium Colloquium							P	3							3
<b>Gesamt Total</b>		<b>124</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>210</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>

Nr. No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Sommersemester) List of Elective Subjects (Summer Semester)	CH	Ex	CP
IR_27.01	Analyse von politischen und ökonomischen Krisen Analysis of Political and Economic Crises	4	P	5
IR_27.02	Internationale Marktforschung/Projekt- und Kampagnenmanagement International Market Research/Project and Campaign Management	4	P	5
IR_27.03	Internationaler Handel und Besteuerung International Commerce and Taxation	4	P	5
IR_27.04	Gerechtigkeit in der Marktwirtschaft und Sozialverantwortung Justice and Fairness in the Market Economy and Social Responsibility	4	P	5

Nr. No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Wintersemester) List of Elective Subjects (Winter Semester)	CH	Ex	CP
IR_27.05	Industrie- und Wachstumspolitik Industrial and Growth Policy	4	P	5
IR_27.06	Aktuelle Probleme des internationalen Rechts Current Issues in International Law	4	P	5
IR_27.07	Internationale Genderstudien International Gender Studies	4	P	5
IR_27.08	Aktuelle Probleme in den internationalen Beziehungen/der internationalen politischen Ökonomie Current Issues in International Relations and International Political Economy	4	P	5

Nr. No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Winter- und Sommersemester) List of Electives (Winter and Summer Semester)	CH	Ex	CP
IR_27.99	Fremdsprache Foreign Language	4	P	5

#### Abkürzungen / Abbreviations

Ex Art der Prüfung / Type of Examination  
 CH Semesterwochenstunden / Contact Hours per Week  
 Wintersemester, Winter Semester  
 SS Sommersemester  
 CP Kreditpunkte / Credit Points (= ECTS Points)  
 V Vorlesung / Lecture  
 S Seminar  
 Ü Übung / Exercise  
 Pra Praktikum / Practical Training  
 Pro Projekt / Project  
 P Prüfung / Examination  
 T Testat / Certificate