

Examination Regulations

for

International Relations B.A.

Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Originally dated 28 March 2018
(Official Notice 5/2019)

As amended by the second amending statutes
Dated 24 November 2020
(Official Notice 4/2021)

In accordance with Section 2 (4) sentence 1, Section 28 (1) and Section 64 of the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Hochschulgesetz NRW*), in the amended form produced by the Act for the Future Development of Universities (*Hochschulzukunftsgesetz*) of 16 September 2014 (GV.NRW. 2014, p. 547), which entered into force on 1 October 2014 and was last amended by Article 2 of the Act of 1 September 2020 (GV.NRW., p. 890), which entered into force on 23 September 2020, as well as in accordance with the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences (RPO) from 3 January 2018 (Official Notice 07/2018), the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Society and Economics of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences has enacted the following examination regulations for International Relations B.A.:

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Section 1 Scope

These examination regulations shall apply to International Relations B.A., 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; purpose of examination; degree awarded

(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 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 a degree programme at a university that is subject to German Basic Law which shares a significant overlap in content with the degree programme governed by these Examination Regulations.

(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 instruction hours; Progression of studies

(1) This degree programme has a total volume of instruction of 124 SWS (combined hours per week from all lecture periods in the standard study duration).

(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 the type, form and scope of modules can be found in this study and examination plan (see annex). Students in this degree programme may submit a written request to earn up to 10 credits in modules not included in this degree programme's elective catalogue. Up to 10 credits may be earned in modules offered by other degree programmes of the Faculty of Society and Economics, and up to 5 credits from modules offered by other faculties. Approval shall be granted if the focus areas of the selected modules correspond to focus areas in the elective catalogue or supplement these appropriately. Additional information about learning outcomes, qualification aims, teaching contents and types of examinations can be found in the module guide, which is published on the homepage of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(5) (Intentionally omitted)

(6) The module IR 1 6102 (Fundamentals of Economics) as well as all seventh-semester modules are offered each semester so that students have the option of speeding up their graduation progression.

Section 5a **Internship semester; Semester abroad**

(1) 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.

(2) During a semester abroad, at least 20 of the required 30 CP must be obtained from the host university.

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 failed an examination from the first three semesters (per the study and examination plan) and have not registered for a subsequent attempt within two semesters shall be automatically registered for a new attempt on a compulsory basis in accordance with subsection (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 regularly occurring examination opportunity.

(6) Exempted from compulsory 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 semester or semester abroad in accordance with 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 Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, 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 pages (DIN A4) in length. The thesis may also be supplemented with other media as well, provided their use is appropriate and helpful as additional documentation within the context of the assigned task. In this case the length of the text portion of the thesis may deviate from the aforementioned minimum requirement.

(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 title in Section 2 (2) shall be officially conferred upon issuing of the bachelor's degree certificate defined 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 publication of the German-language original in the Official Notices 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 2021-22.
- (2) Students who first enrolled in International Relations B.A. before winter semester 2021-22 may continue their studies according to the Examination Regulations dated 28 March 2018 (Official Notice 5/2019) until 28 February 2027 at the latest. Accordingly, the Examination Regulations dated 28 March 2018 (Official Notice 5/2019) shall expire on 1 March 2027.
- (3) Students currently studying under the Examination Regulations dated 28 March 2018 (Official Notice 5/2019) may submit a written request to the Examination Board to switch to these new Examination Regulations. The Examination Board is responsible for all credit recognition decisions for previously completed modules and examinations. Students who first enrolled before winter semester 2021-2022 and have requested to continue their studies under these new Examination Regulations may obtain more than 10 elective credits in modules offered by other faculties of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in accordance with Section 5 (4).

Note: These examination regulations entered into force on 27 February 2021.

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 1 6101	Theorien der internationalen Beziehungen Theories of International Relations	4	3		1			P	5	5						
IR 1 6102	Einführung in die Volkswirtschaftslehre Introduction to Economics	6	4		2			P	5	5						
IR 1 6103	Politische und ökonomische Ideengeschichte History of Political and Economic Thought	4	4					P	5	5						
IR 1 6104	Einführung in die Statistik Introduction to Statistics	4	2		2			P	5	5						
IR 1 6105	Innenpolitik Domestic Policy	4	3		1			P	5	5						
IR 1 6106	Vergleichende Politikforschung und Verfassungsrecht Comparative Politics and Constitutional Law	4	4					P	5	5						
IR 2 6107	Qualitative und quantitative Methoden empirischer Sozialforschung Qualitative and Quantitative Methods of Social Science	4	3		1			P	5		5					
IR 2 6108	Internationale Angelegenheiten International Affairs	4	3		1			P	5		5					
IR 2 6109	Europäische Integration European Integration	4	4					P	5		5					
IR 2 6110	Europarecht European Union Law	4	2		2			P	5		5					
IR 2 6111	Public Choice Theorie Public Choice Theory	4	2		2			P	5		5					
IR 2 6112	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 3 6113	Internationale Wirtschaft International Economics	4	3		1			P	5			5				
IR 3 6114	Internationale Organisationen International Organisations	4	3		1			P	5			5				
IR 3 6115	Friedensforschung und Sicherheitspolitik Peace Studies and Security Policy	4	4					P	5			5				
IR 3 6116	Internationale Finanzmärkte International Financial Markets	4	2		2			P	5			5				
IR 3 6117	Völkerrecht Public International Law	4	2			2		P	5			5				
IR 3 6118	Interdisziplinäres Projekt Interdisciplinary Project	2					2	P	5			5				
IR 4 6119	Wettbewerb und Regulierung Competition and Regulation	4	2		2			P	5				5			
IR 4 6120	Soziokulturelle Faktoren Sociocultural Factors	4	4					P	5				5			
IR 4 6121	Entwicklung und Menschenrechte Development and Human Rights	4	4					P	5				5			
IR 4 6122	Energie-, Ressourcen- und Umweltpolitik Energy, Resource and Environmental Policy	4	2		2			P	5				5			
IR 5 6123	Außenpolitikanalyse und Politikberatung Foreign Policy Analysis and Policy Advice	4	3		1			P	5					5		
IR 5 6124	Globalisierung und Staat Globalisation and the State	4	4					P	5					5		
IR 5 6035	Verhaltensökonomische Aspekte des Entscheidens Behavioral Decision-Making	4	2		2			P	5					5		
IR 5 6125	Forschungsprojekt Research Project	2					2	P	5					5		
	Wahlpflichtfächer* Elective Subjects*	16	16					P	20				10	10		
IR 6 6037	Praxissemester oder Auslandsstudiensemester Internship or Semester Abroad								30						30	
IR 7 6038	Workshop: Wissenschaftliches Schreiben Workshop: Academic Writing	2					2	T	5							5
IR 7 6139	Angewandtes Projekt Applied Project	2				2		P	5							5
IR 7 6140	Projekt Project	2					2	P	5							5
IR 7 6041	Thesis Bachelor's Thesis							P	12							12
IR 7 6042	Colloquium Colloquium							P	3							3
Gesamt Total		124	87	0	25	4	8		210	30	30	30	30	30	30	30

Nr. No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Sommersemester) List of Elective Subjects (Summer Semester)	CH	Ex	CP
IR 4 6126	Analyse von politischen und ökonomischen Krisen Analysis of Political and Economic Crises	4	P	5
IR 4 6127	Aktuelle Probleme in den internationalen Beziehungen/der internationalen politischen Ökonomie Current Issues in International Relations and International Political Economy	4	P	5
IR 4 6128	Internationaler Handel und Besteuerung International Commerce and Taxation	4	P	5
IR 4 6028	Gerechtigkeit und Fairness in der Marktwirtschaft Justice and Fairness in the Market Economy	4	P	5

Nr. No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Wintersemester) List of Elective Subjects (Winter Semester)	CH	Ex	CP
IR 5 6129	Industrie- und Wachstumspolitik Industrial and Growth Policy	4	P	5
IR 5 6130	Aktuelle Probleme des internationalen Rechts Current Issues in International Law	4	P	5
IR 5 6131	Internationale Genderstudien International Gender Studies	4	P	5
IR 5 6032	Internationale Marktforschung/Projekt- und Kampagnenmanagement International Market Research/Project and Campaign Management	4	P	5

Nr. No.	Wahlpflichtkatalog (Winter- und Sommersemester) List of Electives (Winter and Summer Semester)	CH	Ex	CP
IR 4 6036 IR 5 6036	Fremdsprache Foreign Language	4	P	5

Abkürzungen / Abbreviations

Ex Art der Prüfung / Type of examination
 CH Semesterwochenstunden / Contact hours per week
 WS Wintersemester / Winter semester
 SS Sommersemester / Summer semester
 CP Kreditpunkte / Credit points (ECTS)
 V Vorlesung / Lecture
 S Seminar
 Ü Übung / Exercise
 Pra Praktikum / Practical training
 Pro Projekt / Project
 P Prüfung / Examination
 T Testat / Certificate