

**Changes to MSQ and Ph.D. "Prüfungsordnungen"<sup>1</sup> for Students Enrolled in  
Sommersemester 2020,  
to Reflect the Documents  
"Informationen für Studierende im SoSe 2020" and  
"Informationen für Lehrende im SoSe 2020"  
as Published by the Executive Board of Goethe University**

May 7, 2020

**First-Year Courses**

□ *Ph.D.:*

- There are three attempts to pass Historical and Normative Foundations of Economics, and four attempts to pass all other first-year courses.
- All first-year courses must have been passed by the beginning of classes of Wintersemester (WS) of the third year of studies, this count including SoSe 2020 (otherwise a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement).
- Opportunities to make up for a failed course are (i) for AEC1/AEC2, AFE1/AFE2, AMA1/AMA2, AMI1/AMI2 and AMM1/AMM2: the two rounds of the qualifying examinations in Sommersemester (SoSe) 2020 and SoSe 2021, (ii) for Mathematical Methods: the examinations and make-up examinations offered in SoSe 2020, WS 2020/2021, and SoSe 2021, and (iii) for Historical and Normative Foundations of Economics: examinations and make-up examinations offered in SoSe 2020 and SoSe 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> MSQ: [http://gsefm.eu/fileadmin/user\\_upload/dateien\\_abteilungen/abt\\_gsefm/Regeln\\_und\\_Rechtliches/MSQOrdnung2015\\_zur-Veroeffentlichung-mit-Datum.pdf](http://gsefm.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/dateien_abteilungen/abt_gsefm/Regeln_und_Rechtliches/MSQOrdnung2015_zur-Veroeffentlichung-mit-Datum.pdf)  
Ph.D.: [http://gsefm.eu/fileadmin/user\\_upload/dateien\\_abteilungen/abt\\_gsefm/Regeln\\_und\\_Rechtliches/2016\\_PhD.pdf](http://gsefm.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/dateien_abteilungen/abt_gsefm/Regeln_und_Rechtliches/2016_PhD.pdf)

□ *MSQ "Only":*

- Historical and Normative Foundations of Economics must be passed latest in the third attempt, and all other first-year courses must be passed latest in the fourth attempt (otherwise, a student must leave the MSQ program, without possibility of re-instatement).
- While the maximum number of attempts allowed has not been exceeded, a failed course may be re-taken in its entirety when it is offered again, subject to also adhering to the overall time limits of the program (which is eight semesters, this count including SoSe 2020).<sup>2</sup> In addition, the same opportunities to make up for a failed course are available as in the Ph.D. programs.

□ *Format and Timing of Examinations*

- Midterm and final examinations in SoSe 2020 will take place following the originally announced schedule.
- Examinations will typically be held in in-person format, provided that this is permitted by the Executive Board of Goethe University for the number of students registered for the examination in question.
- If an examination cannot be held in in-person format, it will instead take place in take-home format. Answers for take-home format examinations may be submitted in electronic format.
- Examination registrations are to be completed at least three weeks prior to the date of the examination in question, and participants will be informed by GSEFM Academic Records as soon as possible after examination registration has been completed whether the examination is to be held in in-person or in take-home format.
- Participants of take-home format examinations are to be required to sign a statement vouching that in answering the examination they have adhered to all instructions provided with and as part of the examination.

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<sup>2</sup> It should be noted in this context that one of the requirements for registration for the Master thesis is that all first-year courses, with the possible exception of Historical and Normative Foundations of Economics, have been passed.

## Qualifying Examinations

- All qualifying examinations must have been passed by the beginning of classes of Wintersemester of the third year of studies, this count including SoSe 2020 (otherwise a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement).
- There are thus at most three attempts to pass any qualifying examination, to be chosen from:
  - first round in SoSe 2020, to take place following the originally announced schedule,
  - second round in SoSe 2020, to be scheduled once the Executive Board of Goethe University has confirmed the starting date of WS 2020/21 (but to be scheduled latest by September 1, 2020),
  - first round in SoSe 2021, expected to take place in the fourth and fifth weeks after SoSe 2021 classes have ended,
  - second round in SoSe 2021, expected to take place in the third-to-last and second-to-last weeks before the start of WS 2021/22 classes.
- If the second attempt to pass the qualifying examinations occurs as part of the second round in SoSe 2020, for each examination in question participants may register for and re-take only one part of an examination. For any attempts to pass the qualifying examinations that occur in SoSe 2021, participants will need to register for and re-take in its entirety each examination that they did not pass, unless the team of instructors for the corresponding course had remained unchanged in its entirety since the last previous attempt to pass the examination in question.
- For all qualifying examinations, it is not possible to register for and re-take only sub-sets of either part of an examination.
- When registration is for both parts of a qualifying examination, the results from the last attempt undertaken will count, even if they are worse than those for (the) prior attempt(s) completed.
- When an option to register only for one part of a qualifying examination exists and is invoked, for the other part of that examination the results from the last previous completed attempt will count.

### *Format of the Qualifying Examinations*

- The qualifying examinations will typically be held in in-person format, provided that this is permitted by the Executive Board of Goethe University for the number of students registered for the examination in question.
- If a qualifying examination cannot be held in in-person format, it will instead take place in take-home format. Answers for take-home format examinations may be submitted in electronic format.
- Registrations for the qualifying examinations are to be completed at least three weeks prior to the date of the examination in question, and participants will be informed by GSEFM Academic Records as soon as possible after examination registration has been completed whether the examination is to be held in in-person or in take-home format.
- Participants of take-home format qualifying examinations are to be required to sign a statement vouching that in answering the examination they have adhered to all instructions provided with and as part of the examination.

### **Transfer from MSQ to Ph.D.**

- Students entering GSEFM as MSQ "Only" have the opportunity to also enroll in the Ph.D. program corresponding to their MSQ program track, either at the beginning of classes of WS 2020/21 or of WS 2021/2022, by
  - having passed at that time each of the three qualifying examinations for their track with an average grade of 2.3 or better, and
  - having also passed at that time the courses Historical and Normative Foundations of Economics as well as Mathematical Methods.

## **Specialization Courses and Seminars in the Second (and Following) Years**

- *MSQ*: All specialization courses and the seminar must be passed latest in the fourth attempt and latest by the end of the eighth semester of studies (this count including SoSe 2020). Otherwise, a student must leave the MSQ program, without possibility of re-instatement. Subject to the eight semesters time limit, a failed specialization course or seminar may be re-taken in its entirety.
- *Ph.D.*: All specialization courses and the seminars must be passed latest in the fourth attempt and latest by the end of the seventh semester of studies (this count including SoSe 2020). Otherwise, a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement. Subject to the seven semesters time limit, a failed specialization course or seminar may be re-taken in its entirety.

## **Master Thesis**

- Master theses registered for between April 20 and October 31, 2020 must be completed within a time period of "six months plus six weeks" of registration.
- Students first enrolled at GSEFM for WS 2017/18, WS 2018/19 or WS 2019/20 must pass the Master thesis latest in the second attempt and latest by the end of the eighth semester of their studies (this count including SoSe 2020). The second attempt must involve a new thesis topic. If the Master thesis is not awarded a passing grade in the second attempt, a student must leave the MSQ program, without possibility of re-instatement.

## **Doctoral Thesis Advisor**

- Students first enrolled at GSEFM for WS 2018/19 or WS 2019/20 must declare a doctoral thesis advisor by the end of their fifth semester of studies (this count including SoSe 2020), using the joint GRADE/GSEFM form on the GSEFM website.
- From their third year of their studies (this count including SoSe 2020) onwards, students must obtain at the end of every Sommersemester a doctoral thesis progress report from their doctoral thesis advisor, using the joint GRADE/GSEFM form on the GSEFM website. The evaluation must rate the doctoral thesis progress as satisfactory. Progress reports that would have been due at the end of SoSe 2020 may also be submitted by the end of WS 2020/21. If satisfactory progress is not attested at the end of WS 2020/21, satisfactory progress must be re-established within six months. If after six months still no satisfactory progress is made, the GSEFM Board of Examiners will decide whether a student must leave the Ph.D. program.

## **Third-Year Research Paper**

- Students making an attempt to pass the third-year research paper requirement during SoSe 2020 must pass this requirement latest in the third attempt and latest by the end of their seventh semester of studies (this count including SoSe 2020). Otherwise, such a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement.
- Students (i) first enrolled at GSEFM between WS 2017/18 and WS 2019/20 and (ii) not making an attempt to pass the third-year research paper requirement during SoSe 2020, must pass this requirement latest in the second attempt and latest by the end of their seventh semester of studies (this count including SoSe 2020). Otherwise, such a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement.

## **Independent Studies Course**

- Students enrolled in an independent studies course during SoSe 2020 must pass the independent studies course latest in the fourth attempt and latest by the end of the seventeenth semester of their studies (this count including SoSe 2020). Otherwise, such a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement.
- Students not enrolled in an independent studies course during SoSe 2020 must pass the independent studies course latest in the third attempt and latest by the end of the seventeenth semester of their studies (this count including SoSe 2020). Otherwise, such a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement.
- Subject to the seventeen semesters time limit, a failed independent studies course may be re-taken in its entirety.

## **Job Market Preparation Course**

- The job market preparation course must be passed latest in the third attempt and latest by the end of the seventeenth semester of their studies (this count including SoSe 2020). Otherwise, a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement. Subject to the seventeen semesters time limit, a failed job market preparation course may be re-taken in its entirety.

## **Doctoral Thesis Regulations**

- The doctoral thesis defense must be passed latest in the second attempt. The second attempt will need to occur within a period of twelve months of the first attempt and must occur latest by the end of the seventeenth semester of their studies (this count including SoSe 2020). If the doctoral thesis defense is not passed in the second attempt, a student must leave the Ph.D. program, without possibility of re-instatement.