

# **Examination regulations of the University of Stuttgart for the Master's program Chemical Sciences**

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German version is legally binding.)**

**Dated July 08, 2024**

On the basis of §§ 19 (1) No. 9 and 32 (3) Sentence 1 of the State Higher Education Act of 01.01.2005 (GBl, Journal of Laws 2005, p. 1), last amended by the law of 07.02.2023 (GBl. p. 43), the Senate of the University of Stuttgart issued the following study and examination regulations for the Master's degree program Chemical Sciences on 17 May 2023.

The Rector of the University of Stuttgart approved these statutes in accordance with § 32 (3) sentence 1 of the State Higher Education Act on July 8, 2024, Az. 7831.175-C-06.

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## **Preamble**

The study and examination regulations for the Master's degree program Chemical Sciences describe the structure of the course and the organization of examinations. They represent the set of rules and the legal basis for a uniform handling of the course of studies and the assessment of coursework and examinations. They are intended for both students and examiners as well as the relevant bodies of the University of Stuttgart.

## **I. General**

### **§ 1 Purpose of the examination**

The Master's examination is a further degree that qualifies students for a profession. The Master's examination is intended to determine whether students have acquired the ability to independently work on scientific questions from their Master's subject using the relevant methods, to develop them and to apply them in complex situations, in a way that goes beyond the objective of their Bachelor's degree program.

### **§ 2 Master's degree**

After passing the Master's examination, the University of Stuttgart awards the academic degree "Master of Science" (abbreviated to "M.Sc.").

### **§ 3 ECTS credits and modules**

- (1) ECTS credits must be earned during the course of study. They are a quantitative measure of the amount of time students spend studying. An average of 30 ECTS credits must be earned per semester. This corresponds to a workload of around 900 hours. The acquisition of ECTS credits requires successful participation in the courses or successful completion of certain coursework and is linked to passing the respective module examination or partial module examinations.
- (2) The degree program is divided into modules for which the ECTS credits assigned to the respective module are awarded after passing the module examination or after passing the partial module examinations. ECTS credits for a module are only earned once all the coursework and examinations prescribed for the module in the annex to the examination regulations and in the module handbook have been successfully completed. The modules comprise related courses (lectures, tutorials, seminars, laboratory practical, and excursions) and generally extend over one semester, but no more than two semesters.

### **§ 4 Course structure, standard period of study, ECTS credits**

- (1) The standard period of study is four semesters. It comprises the module examinations including the Master's thesis.
- (2) The total number of ECTS credits required to obtain the Master's degree is 120, of which 30 ECTS credits are awarded for the Master's thesis and 90 for coursework and examinations during the course of study.
- (3) ECTS credits can only be earned by completing coursework and examinations that are assessed as at least "sufficient" or "successfully completed". The allocation of ECTS credits to the individual modules and courses in the compulsory and compulsory elective areas is regulated in the annex to these regulations and in the module handbook.

## **§ 5 Study and examination structure**

- (1) The Master's examination consists of module examinations during the course of study and the Master's thesis. The courses offered cover all 4 semesters.
- (2) Students must take compulsory modules worth 42 ECTS credits and elective modules worth 48 ECTS credits. The modules are regulated in the annex to these examination regulations.
- (3) The modules in the compulsory elective area serve to specialize in the research profiles of the Faculty of Chemistry and to impart additional skills that are not necessarily linked to the research profiles. The range of selectable modules and the assignment of these modules to the Faculty's research profiles can be found in a list published in the module handbook. The module handbook also specifies which modules are completed with PL, BSL or USL. The selection of elective modules is subject to the following restrictions: The student takes modules worth 6 ECTS credits in compulsory elective area A. Elective area B includes modules that are assigned to the individual research profiles of the Faculty of Chemistry as well as non-profile related modules. The student takes modules worth 30 ECTS credits in compulsory elective area B. Of these, modules worth at least 18 ECTS credits must be selected in such a way that they are assigned to the research profiles of the Faculty of Chemistry. The modules can be selected from one research profile or from different research profiles. A maximum of 12 ECTS credits may be taken from the non-profile related compulsory elective modules. Furthermore, a maximum of 12 of the 30 ECTS credits may be earned through ungraded coursework (USL). Modules that have already been successfully completed in the Bachelor's degree program cannot be selected.
- (4) In up to four cases, an elective module that has not yet been passed can be changed by submitting a declaration to the Examination Office. This also removes the obligation to take further re-examinations in the previous elective module. The declaration can only be submitted as long as the right to take examinations for the Master's degree program in Chemical Sciences has not yet been definitively lost and not all examinations required for graduation have been completed. The previous module that has been changed cannot be continued at a later date.

## **§ 6 Examination deadlines**

- (1) The right to take examinations for the Master's degree program Chemical Sciences expires if the Master's examination is not successfully completed within 8 semesters, unless the examinee is not responsible for exceeding the deadline. The chairperson of the examination committee will decide on this at the request of the examinee.
- (2) Expectant mothers may not take any examinations in the last six weeks before giving birth unless they expressly declare their willingness to take the examination. The declaration must be made in writing to the chairperson of the examination committee and can be revoked at any time. Sentences 1 and 2 also apply to women who have recently given birth up to eight weeks postpartum. For mothers of premature and multiple births, this period is extended to twelve weeks, and in the case of premature births additionally by the period that could not be claimed under sentence 1. In the event of the death of the child, the mother may, at her express request, and in the absence of medical evidence to the contrary, also take examinations again before the expiry of these periods. She may revoke her declaration to the chairperson of the examination committee at any time. For compensation of disadvantages within the meaning of § 1 (1) and § 9 (1) of the Maternity Protection Act (Mutterschutzgesetz), § 10 (5) applies accordingly.

- (3) Students who live in the same household with a child under the age of eight for whom they have custody and who predominantly care for the child alone are entitled to take individual coursework and examinations after the deadlines set for this purpose. The chairperson of the examination committee shall decide on the extension of deadlines at the request of the examinee. Deadlines for re-examinations can only be extended by up to two semesters. The processing time for the Master's thesis can generally only be extended within the framework of the deadline in accordance with § 24 (5) last sentence; in justified exceptional cases, an extension beyond this is also permitted, whereby the total extension may not exceed twice the deadline in accordance with § 24 (5) last sentence. The entitlement shall expire at the end of the semester in which the requirements specified in sentence 1 cease to apply. The period in (1) may be extended by a maximum of 6 semesters per child, provided that the requirements in sentence 1 were met for this period. Otherwise, the entitlement expires at the latest at the end of the semester in which the child reaches the age of eight. Students must provide the relevant evidence. They are obliged to notify any changes to the requirements immediately.
- (4) Students who are caring for a close relative within the meaning of § 7 (3) of the Caregiver Leave Act (Pflegezeitgesetz), who is in need of care within the meaning of §§ 14, 15 SGB XI, are entitled to take individual coursework and examinations after the deadlines provided for this purpose. The chairperson of the examination committee shall decide on the extension of the deadline upon application by the examinee; the application must be accompanied by suitable evidence, which in particular provides information on the amount of time spent caring. Deadlines for re-examinations can only be extended by up to two semesters; (3) sentence 4 applies to the time required to complete the Master's thesis. The entitlement expires at the end of the semester in which the requirements specified in sentence 1 cease to apply. The period in (1) may be extended by a maximum of 6 semesters, provided that the requirements in Sentence 1 have been met for this period. Students must provide the relevant evidence. They are obliged to notify any changes in the requirements immediately.
- (5) Students who, due to prolonged illness or prolonged or permanent physical disability, are unable to attend classes regularly or to complete the expected course work, are entitled to take individual course work and examinations after the deadlines specified in the examination regulations. The chairperson of the examination committee shall decide on the extension of deadlines at the request of the examinee. Deadlines for re-examinations can only be extended by up to two semesters; section (3) sentence 4 applies to the completion period for the Master's thesis, otherwise the extension period is a maximum of two years. The examinee must provide the relevant evidence, in particular medical certificates; in cases of doubt, a certificate from a doctor appointed by the university may be required. Changes in the requirements must be reported immediately.
- (6) An activity as an elected member of statutory committees or statutory bodies of the university or the Studierendenvorstand for at least one year can be disregarded for up to one academic year when calculating the examination deadlines; the decision on this is made by the Rector at the request of the examinee.

## **§ 7 Examination Committee**

- (1) The Faculty of Chemistry shall form an Examination Committee for the organization of examinations and all other tasks assigned by these regulations. The Chairperson of the Examination Committee, the member who represents him/her in the event of his/her absence, the other members and their deputies are appointed by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Chemistry. The Examination Committee is composed as follows:
1. three university lecturers or adjunct professors, provided they work full-time at the University of Stuttgart,
  2. a member of the scientific staff,
  3. one student (with an advisory vote).

The examination committee can only be chaired, even as a deputy, by a university lecturer or an adjunct professor as defined in no. 1. As a rule, the chairperson conducts the business of the examination committee. In addition, the committee may delegate certain tasks to the chairperson on a revocable basis.

- (2) The term of office of the members is three years, that of the student member one year.
- (3) The Examination Committee shall ensure compliance with these regulations. It regularly reports to the faculty on the development of examination and study periods as well as on the distribution of overall grades. The Examination Committee must ensure that coursework and examinations can be completed within the periods specified in these regulations. To this end, students shall be informed in good time about the type and number of coursework and examinations to be completed as well as the dates on which they are to be completed.
- (4) The members of the Examination Committee have the right to attend the examinations.
- (5) The members of the Examination Committee and the persons representing them are subject to official secrecy. If they are not in public service, they must be sworn to secrecy by the chairperson.
- (6) Incriminating decisions by the examination committee or its chairperson must be communicated to the examinee in writing immediately, stating the reasons and legal basis, and providing information on legal remedies. Appeals against these decisions must be submitted in writing to the examination committee within one month of notification of the decision. If the Examination Committee does not uphold the appeal, it must be submitted to the Vice-Rector for Teaching and Continuing Education for a decision.

## **§ 8 Examiners and co-examiners**

- (1) The examination committee appoints the examiners. It may delegate the appointment to the chairperson. The examiner appoints the co-examiner.
- (2) As a rule, only university lecturers, honorary professors and university or private lecturers, as well as those academic staff and lecturers to whom the examination authorization has been transferred in accordance with the statutory provisions, are authorized to conduct university examinations. Academic staff and lecturers may only be appointed as examiners in exceptional cases if university lecturers and university or private lecturers are not available as examiners to a sufficient extent.
- (3) In the case of coursework and course-related examinations, the member of the teaching staff who taught the course is generally appointed as the examiner, taking (2) into account.
- (4) The co-examiner must have passed at least a Master's examination in chemistry or an equivalent examination.
- (5) § 7 (5) applies accordingly to examiners and co-examiner.
- (6) The dates of the examination and the names of the examiners must be announced to the examinee in good time by means of a notice or otherwise. There is no legal entitlement to the assignment of a specific examiner.

## § 9 General admission requirements

- (1) Admission to a module examination and to the Master's thesis is only granted to students who
  1. are enrolled in the Master's degree program Chemical Sciences at the University of Stuttgart at the time of registration for the examination,
  2. fulfill the technical admission requirements for the respective examination,
  3. can prove the fulfillment of conditions upon admission to the Master's thesis, if the admission was granted with conditions, and
  4. have not lost the right to take examinations in the Master's degree program Chemical Sciences or in a related degree program at a university or equivalent university, university of applied sciences, university of cooperative education or university of cooperative education whose degree is equivalent to a degree from a university of applied sciences in Germany. In a related degree program, this only applies to the loss of the right to take examinations in examinations or modules that are also required in the Master's degree program in Chemical Sciences (compulsory modules) and to the loss of the right to take examinations due to exceeding the deadline (e.g. maximum duration of study). The previous sentence does not apply to the loss of the right to take examinations in a Diplom degree program of the same name. Related degree programs are, in particular, Diplom and Master's degree programs with the same name. The Examination Committee decides on other degree programs that are considered related.
- (2) The application for admission must be submitted to the Examination Office for each module examination in the form prescribed by the Examination Office. The application must be accompanied by the following documents, if not already submitted to the University:
  1. proof that the admission requirements specified in (1) no. 1 to 4 have been met and
  2. a declaration as to whether the examinee has already failed a Master's examination or an examination in a related degree program pursuant to (1) no. 4 or whether they are currently undergoing an examination procedure in such a degree program.
- (3) If it is not possible for the examinee to attach the documents in the prescribed manner, the Examination Committee may, in individual cases, allow evidence to be provided in another way.
- (4) If not all evidence can be submitted when registering for the examination, admission to the examination may be granted subject to the proviso that the missing evidence is submitted by the examination date. At the latest before the assessment of the examination, the examiner must ensure that the missing evidence for the examination in question is available.
- (5) The examination committee decides on admission. Anyone who has not been refused admission within one month of receipt of the application by the Examination Office is deemed to have been admitted.
- (6) Admission may only be refused if
  1. the requirements specified in (1) are not fulfilled or
  2. the documents pursuant to (2) are incomplete or
  3. the examinee has lost the right to take examinations in the Master's degree program in Chemical Sciences or in a related degree program pursuant to (1) no. 4 at a university or equivalent higher education institution in Germany or is currently undergoing examination proceedings in such a degree program.
- (7) The registration deadlines for the examinations are announced by the Examination Office of the University of Stuttgart.

## **§ 10 Module examinations, coursework and examinations**

- (1) The module examination consists of one or more coursework and/or examinations. As a rule, modules should only be ex once. Partial examinations are only permitted in justified exceptional cases.
- (2) Coursework (Studienleistungen) are
  1. examination prerequisites,
  2. non-graded certificates of achievement
  3. graded certificates of achievement.
- (3) Graded assessments (Prüfungsleistungen) are
  1. written module examinations,
  2. oral module examinations,
  3. examinations accompanying the course.
- (4) During a leave of absence, graded assessments (Prüfungsleistungen) that are not part of a course can be taken, but coursework (Studienleistungen) and course-related examinations cannot.
- (5) If a examinee provides a medical certificate stating that he or she is unable to take examinations in the intended form in whole or in part due to prolonged or permanent health problems, the chairperson of the examination committee shall allow him or her to take the graded assessments (Prüfungsleistungen) within an extended processing time or to take equivalent examinations in another form. The same applies to coursework (Studienleistungen).

## **§ 11 Language of instruction**

Courses are generally held in English. With prior notice, courses in the compulsory elective areas can also be held in German. In this case, the coursework and/or examinations are generally completed in the language of instruction of the course.

## **§ 12 Coursework and course-accompanying examinations**

- (1) Coursework and course-accompanying examinations are completed during the course of study in conjunction with a course. They are achieved through written or oral work (e.g. term paper, presentation, portfolio, and test) or successful participation in practical courses.
- (2) The expected time, type and scope of the coursework or the course-accompanying examination must be announced by the course instructor to all students participating in the course at the beginning of the semester.

## **§ 13 Oral module examinations**

- (1) In the oral examinations, the examinee should demonstrate that he or she recognizes the fundamentals and contexts of the examination field and is able to classify specific questions in these contexts.
- (2) Oral examinations that are not conducted during the course are conducted in front of an examiner in the presence of a competent co-examiner either in group examinations or in individual examinations.

- (3) The duration of an oral examination is a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 60 minutes. Analogous to the examination duration according to sentence 1, the examination duration for group examinations is at least 15 and at most 45 minutes per examinee. If the exact duration of the examination is not regulated in the annex to these examination regulations, it will be determined by the examination committee at the suggestion of the examiner and must be stated in the module handbook. It must be announced to the students at the latest at the beginning of the lecture period of the semester.
- (4) The main subjects and the results of the oral examinations are to be recorded in a protocol, which is to be signed by the examiner and the co-examiner. The result of the oral examination is determined by the respective examiner after consultation of the co-examiner and communicated to the candidate immediately after the examination.
- (5) Students of the same degree program may participate in oral examinations as listeners upon request, subject to available places. Participation does not extend to the discussion or the announcement of the examination result. The public may be excluded for important reasons or at the request of the examinee.

#### **§ 14 Written module examinations**

- (1) In written examinations, the examinee should demonstrate that he or she can recognize a problem in a limited time and with limited aids using the methods of their subject and find ways to find a solution.
- (2) Written examinations must be assessed by an examiner. The assessment procedure should be completed within four weeks. In addition, particularly in the case of multiple choice tasks and all other task types that allow automatic evaluation, one examiner will determine the examination tasks, questions and answer options, the weighting factor, the number of points for the individual examination tasks and the total number of points..
- (3) Written examinations last a minimum of 60 and a maximum of 120 minutes. If the exact duration of the examination is not regulated in the appendix to these examination regulations, it will be determined by the examination committee at the suggestion of the examiner and must be specified in the module handbook. It must be announced to the students at the latest at the beginning of the lecture period of the semester. A 60-minute written examination may be replaced by a 20-minute oral examination if this is announced on a notice board at the relevant institute or in another suitable manner no later than two weeks after the examination registration deadline and at least four weeks before the examination.
- (4) Written examinations can be carried out in whole or in part using the multiple-choice method. The respective subject examiners are responsible for setting and evaluating the tasks. The examination tasks must enable reliable examination results. In multiple-choice examinations, several possible answers are given for each question, only one of which is correct. Points are only awarded for answering a question if only the correct answer option is selected; minus points are not awarded.
- (5) Written module examinations in which at least 75% of the points are acquired through multiple-choice tasks are passed if the examinee has achieved at least 54% of the achievable points (minimum number of points). If the average number of points achieved by all students in the module examination is below 60 percent of the achievable number of points, the module examination is passed if the proportion of points achieved is no more than 10 percent below the average number of points achieved by the students on the examination date.



- (6) Before the examination result is determined, the individual multiple-choice tasks must be checked by the examiner on the basis of the results to determine whether the task was incorrect. Incorrect examination tasks may not be taken into account when determining the achievable number of points.

### **§ 15 Computer-based module examinations**

- (1) Computer-based module examinations are examinations similar to written examinations on a computer under university supervision, in which, for example, free text tasks, cloze text tasks or multiple-choice tasks are to be answered. The answers are submitted electronically by the student and, where possible, evaluated automatically. The examination content is created by an examiner.
- (2) Before the computer-based examination, the examiner ensures that the electronic data can be clearly identified and permanently and unmistakably assigned to the student. The smooth running of a computer-based examination is guaranteed by appropriate technical support. The examination is conducted in the presence of a competent person.
- (3) All other conditions of a computer-based examination are subject to the regulations that apply to written module examinations (§ 14 of these regulations).
- (4) By way of derogation from § 14 (2), computer-based module examinations must be assessed by two examiners if the first examiner proposes a grade of "fail" in the case of a re-examination. In this case, one of the examiners must be a university lecturer or an associate professor. In this case, the grade is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the individual assessments (§ 16 (2) sentence 3).

### **§ 16 Assessment of coursework and graded assessments, module grades**

- (1) Coursework in accordance with § 10 (2) No. 1 and 2 (preliminary work and ungraded coursework) are assessed with the grade "successfully completed" or "unsuccessfully completed". The former corresponds to at least the grade "sufficient" (4.0).
- (2) Graded assessments and performance records are assessed by the respective examiners with the following grades:

1 = very good	= an outstanding performance ;
2 = good	= a performance that is significantly above the average requirements;
3 = satisfactory	= a performance that meets average requirements;
4 = sufficient	= a performance which, despite its shortcomings, still meets the requirements;
5 = not sufficient	= a performance which, due to significant deficiencies, does not meet the requirements.

The grades can be raised or lowered by the value of 0.3 in order to differentiate the assessment of coursework and examinations. The grades 0,7; 4,3; 4,7 and 5,3 are not awarded.

If examinations are assessed independently by several examiners, the grade is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the individual assessments; (3) sentence 3 applies accordingly.

- (3) If a module is made up of several coursework and/or examination components, the module grade is calculated from the weighted average of the grades of the individual coursework and/or examination components. The weighting of the individual coursework and/or examinations is regulated in the module handbook. Only the first decimal place after the decimal point is taken into account in the calculation; all other decimal places are deleted without rounding.

(4) The grades in the modules correspond to:

(with an average) up to 1.5	=	very good,
(with an average) of 1.6 up to and including 2.5	=	good,
(with an average) of 2.6 up to and including 3.5	=	satisfactory,
(with an average) of 3.6 up to and including 4.0	=	sufficient,
(with an average) over 4.0	=	not sufficient.

The module grade (calculated in accordance with (3)) is added in brackets.

#### **§ 17 Failure to attend, withdrawal, deception, breach of regulations**

- (1) An examination is deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) if the examinee does not appear for an examination without good reason or if he or she withdraws from the examination after the examination has begun without good reason. The same applies if a written examination is not completed within the specified processing time. Withdrawal from a registered examination (PL) is possible in the form specified by the Examinations Office up to 7 days before the scheduled examination date without giving reasons; in the case of course-related examinations (LBP), withdrawal without giving reasons is only possible until the end of the examination registration period. Sentence 3 does not apply to re-examinations.
- (2) The reasons given for a later withdrawal or absence must be provided to the chairperson of the examination committee and the examiner in writing without delay, usually before the examination date, and must be substantiated. In the event of illness, a medical certificate stating that the examinee is not able to take the examination must be submitted to the chairperson of the examination committee without delay (usually within 3 working days). The duration of the expected inability to take the examination should be stated. Insofar as compliance with deadlines for the initial registration for the examination, the repetition of examinations, the reasons for missing examinations and compliance with processing times for examination papers are affected, the illness of the examinee is deemed to be equivalent to the illness of a child for whom he/she is predominantly responsible or the care of a close relative. The chairperson of the examination committee shall decide on the approval of the request.
- (3) If an examinee has undergone examinations in the knowledge or negligent ignorance of a valid reason for withdrawal, subsequent withdrawal for this reason is excluded. Negligent ignorance applies in particular if the examinee has not immediately sought clarification in the event of indications of a health impairment.
- (4) If a candidate attempts to influence the result of their coursework or examination by cheating or using unauthorized aids, the coursework or examination in question or the Master's thesis is deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" (5.0). The sanction provided for in sentence 1 may also be imposed if an examinee carries unauthorized aids with them after the assignment has been issued. An examinee who disrupts the orderly progress of the examination may be excluded from continuing the coursework or examination by the respective examiner or supervisor; in this case, the coursework or examination in question is deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" (5.0). In serious cases, the examination committee may exclude the examinee from completing further coursework and examinations.

## **§ 18 Passing and failing**

- (1) A module examination has been passed if all examinations and graded performance records in accordance with § 10 (2) No. 3 have been assessed with a grade of at least "sufficient" (4.0) and all preliminary work and ungraded performance records in accordance with § 10 (2) Nos. 1 and 2 have been passed.
- (2) The Master's examination is passed if the Master's thesis has been graded at least "sufficient" (4.0) and the associated module examinations have been passed.
- (3) If the examinee has failed a module examination or the Master's thesis, a written notification will be issued with information on legal remedies. In the case of module examinations, the examination result may also be announced in another way.
- (4) If an examinee has irrevocably failed the Master's examination, upon presentation of the relevant supporting documents, the Examination Office will issue a certificate which contains the passed program and examination achievements and their grades, and which indicates that the Master's examination has not been passed.

## **§ 19 Repetition of examinations**

- (1) Passed coursework and graded assessments cannot be repeated.
- (2) Graded assessments (Prüfungsleistungen) that have not been passed or are considered as failed may be repeated once.
- (3) A second repetition of a graded assessment (Prüfungsleistung) is only permitted in **2** cases. A second repetition of the Master's thesis is not permitted.
- (4) If the second repetition of a written examination is assessed as "insufficient" (5.0), an oral continuation of the repeated examination of approximately 20 - 30 minutes is scheduled promptly. This does not apply in the cases of § 17 (1) sentence 1 and (4), § 19 (5) sentence 2 and § 20 (4). The result of a repeated examination followed by an oral continuation can only be "sufficient" (4.0) or "insufficient" (5.0). For the oral continuation exam § 13 applies.
- (5) Re-examinations must be taken within two semesters. Otherwise, they are to be graded as "insufficient" (5.0). If there are valid reasons, the Chairperson of the Examination Committee may approve a withdrawal in accordance with § 17 (2). Semesters of leave are not taken into account in the number of semesters according to sentence 1. As a rule, it should be possible to retake an examination within a period of six months.

## **§ 20 Recognition of periods of study, coursework and graded assessments**

- (1) The chairperson of the examination committee is responsible for the recognition of study and examination achievements. Doubtful cases can be submitted to the Examination Committee for a decision.
- (2) Study and examination achievements that have been completed in degree programs at the University of Stuttgart or at other state or state-recognized universities and vocational academies in the Federal Republic of Germany or in degree programs at foreign state or state-recognized universities will be recognized, provided that there is no significant difference between the competences acquired and the achievements that are being replaced. In any case, there is no significant difference if the content, learning objectives and scope essentially correspond to the requirements of the module at the University of Stuttgart. If individual achievements required for the recognition of certain study and examination achievements are missing, the Examination Committee may specify supplementary achievements. When examining the aforementioned requirements, the assistance of the respective subject professor may be sought. Insofar as agreements and conventions between the Federal Republic of Germany and other countries on equivalencies in higher education (equivalence agreements) favor students from foreign countries in deviation from sentence 1, the provisions of the equivalence agreements shall take precedence. Crediting may be denied if more than half of the ECTS credits to be acquired in the Master's examination or the Master's thesis are to be credited.
- (3) Section (2) shall apply to periods of study, study and examination achievements in state-recognized distance learning courses; section (2) shall also apply to periods of study, study and examination achievements at other educational institutions, in particular at technical and engineering schools and officers' schools of the former German Democratic Republic.
- (4) Failed attempts of coursework and examinations in comparable or other degree programs will be credited ex officio insofar as these are the subject of the Master's examination in the Master's degree program Chemical Sciences.
- (5) If coursework and examinations are recognized, the grades are to be adopted insofar as the grading systems are comparable and included in the calculation of the overall grade in accordance with the grading scale specified in § 16. In the case of incomparable grading systems, the grade "passed" is assigned. In this case, they are not included in the calculation of the module grades and the overall grade. The crediting is indicated in the certificate.
- (6) If the requirements of (2) and (3) are met, there is a legal entitlement to credit transfer. Study and examination credits are recognized upon request. The request must be submitted within two semesters after enrolment in the degree program or after returning from studying abroad, after which a request is excluded. It is the requestor's responsibility to provide the necessary information and documents regarding the achievements to be recognized. The burden of proof that a request does not meet the requirements for recognition lies with the body referred to in (1) carrying out the recognition procedure.
- (7) If students have already successfully completed coursework and examinations from the Master's degree program (early Master's modules) as part of their Bachelor's degree program at the University of Stuttgart on the basis of the examination regulations of the Bachelor's degree program applicable to them in addition to the achievements of the Bachelor's degree program, these will be officially credited towards the Master's examination. If the corresponding coursework and examinations have not been passed, the failed attempts will be counted towards the Master's examination.

- (8) Periods of study from a previous degree course are credited according to the recognized achievements. This means that the placement in a particular semester is based on the extent of the recognized achievements.
- (9) Knowledge and skills acquired outside the higher education sector shall be recognized if they are equivalent in terms of content and level to the coursework and examinations they are intended to replace. (6) sentences 2 to 4 apply accordingly to recognition. The burden of proof that the requirements for recognition have been met lies with the student. A maximum of 60 ECTS credits can be recognized; recognition of the Master's thesis is excluded. If there are doubts regarding the acquisition of certain knowledge and skills based on the evidence submitted, a placement test can be carried out. The placement test can be oral or written. The content and procedure of the placement test must be designed in such a way that, taking into account the evidence submitted, the examiners obtain sufficient certainty about the existence of the knowledge and skills acquired in the modules to be credited. At least one examiner shall be appointed by the Examination Committee to conduct the placement examination; (8) shall apply accordingly to the appointment. In the case of credit transfer, (5) and (8) apply accordingly.

## **II. Master's examination**

### **§ 21 Purpose of the Master's examination**

With the Master's examination, students demonstrate that they have acquired the ability to work independently on scientific issues from their Master's subject using the relevant methods, over and above the objective of their Bachelor's degree program.

### **§ 22 Type and scope of the Master's examination**

- (1) The Master's examination consists of
1. the modules listed in the annex to these examination regulations,
  2. the Master's thesis.
- (2) In the Master's examination, an examination may be taken in up to four modules other than those prescribed (additional modules). At the request of the examinee, the result of these examinations must be included in the transcript. However, they will not be taken into account when determining the overall grade.

### **§ 23 Internship [not applicable]**

## § 24 Master's thesis

- (1) The Master's thesis should demonstrate that the candidate is able to work independently on a task in the field of chemistry using scientific methods within a specified period and to present the results appropriately. The Master's thesis is awarded with 30 ECTS credits.
- (2) Any university lecturer, honorary professor, university lecturer or private lecturer is entitled to award the Master's thesis as an examiner, as well as any academic staff member to whom the right to examine has been transferred in accordance with the statutory provisions. For persons not affiliated with the Faculty of Chemistry, the prior consent of the Chair of the Examination Committee is required.
- (3) The topic of the Master's thesis must be taken from the field of chemistry and its applications and must be essentially chemical in nature. The topic of the Master's thesis can be issued at the earliest when at least 78 ECTS credits have been earned and, if admission with conditions has been granted, proof of fulfillment of the conditions has been provided. After the topic has been assigned by the examiner or the Chair of the Examination Committee, the candidate must register the Master's thesis at the Examination Office without delay. The topic and time of issue must be recorded. The topic can only be returned once and only within the first eight weeks of the completion period.
- (4) The Master's thesis may also be admitted in the form of a group thesis if the contribution to the examination performance of the examinee is clearly distinguishable and assessable on the basis of the specification of sections, page numbers or other objective criteria and fulfills the requirements according to (1).
- (5) The completion period for the Master's thesis is six months. The nature and scope of the assignment must be limited by the examiner in such a way that the deadline for completion can be met. At the request of the examinee, the examination committee may extend the completion period by a maximum of three months for reasons for which they are not responsible.
- (6) The Master's thesis must be written in English. In addition to a printed text, the Master's thesis may also contain multimedia parts on electronic data carriers, provided the topic requires this and the examiners have given their consent.
- (7) Two bound copies of the completed Master's thesis must be submitted to the Deanery of the Faculty of Chemistry within the processing period specified in (5). In addition, one copy must be submitted in electronic form. The time of submission must be recorded. Upon submission, the examinee must provide written confirmation,
  1. that this person has written the work or, in the case of group work, the correspondingly marked part of the work independently,
  2. that no other sources than those stated have been used and that all statements taken verbatim or in spirit from other works have been identified as such,
  3. that the submitted work has not been the subject of another examination procedure either in its entirety or in significant parts,
  4. that he/she has not already published the thesis in full or in part, unless the examiner has previously approved the publication and
  5. that the electronic copy matches the other copies.
- (8) Part of the Master's thesis is a presentation of 20-30 minutes on its content.

- (9) The Master's thesis is assessed by two examiners, one of whom is the examiner who assigned the topic in accordance with (2). One of the examiners must be a university lecturer, associate professor, private lecturer or honorary professor. They shall assess the Master's thesis with one of the grades specified in § 16. The grade of the Master's thesis is the average of the two individual grades. The assessment procedure should be finally completed after two months at the latest.
- (10) The Master's thesis may be repeated once if it is graded as "insufficient" (5.0). However, in the case of a re-examination, the topic of the Master's thesis may only be returned within the period specified in (3) if the examinee did not make use of this option when writing their first Master's thesis. The repeat of the Master's thesis must be registered at the Examination Office within three months of the announcement of the examination result. Otherwise, the re-examination will be assessed with the grade "insufficient" (5.0), unless the examinee is not responsible for missing the deadline. The examination committee will decide on this at the request of the examinee.

#### **§ 25 Regulation on free examination attempt [deleted]**

#### **§ 26 Composition of the finale grade and certificate**

- (1) The overall grade for the Master's examination is calculated from the average of the grades for the modules that make up the Master's examination and the grade for the Master's thesis, each weighted by the number of ECTS credits for the module or the Master's thesis. If students select modules in the elective areas which in combination, including the Master's thesis, result in more than 120 ECTS credits, a total number of points of 126 may not be exceeded. In this case, the overall grade is calculated on the basis of the increased number of ECTS credits. § 16 (3) and (4) apply accordingly to the calculation.
- (2) In the case of outstanding performance (overall grade up to 1.2), the grade "Very good with distinction" is awarded.
- (3) If the examinee has passed the Master's examination, they will receive a certificate. In addition to the overall grade, the individual module grades and the grade for the Master's thesis as well as the title of the Master's thesis are listed on the certificate. The overall grade is given as a decimal grade with one decimal place. The certificate is signed by the Chair of the Examination Committee. It bears the date of the day on which the last examination was completed. A translation of the certificate will be issued in English.
- (4) The university issues a Diploma Supplement (DS) in accordance with the "Diploma Supplement Model" of the European Union/Council of Europe/UNESCO, which represents the profile of the degree program.

#### **§ 27 Degree and Master's certificate**

- (1) The degree "Master of Science" (abbreviated to "M.Sc.") is awarded on successful completion of the Master's examination.
- (2) At the same time as the Master's examination certificate, the graduate receives a Master's certificate with the date of the certificate. This certifies the award of the degree in accordance with (1). An English translation of the certificate will also be issued.
- (3) The Master's certificate is signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and the Rector of the University of Stuttgart and bears the seal of the University.

### **III. Final provisions**

#### **§ 28 Inspection of the examination files**

- (1) Within one year of the conclusion of an examination procedure, the examinee will be granted access to their written examination papers, the related examiners' reports and the examination records within a reasonable period of time upon request.
- (2) Students will be informed of the procedure for viewing examinations in good time.

#### **§ 29 Invalidity of an examination**

- (1) If the examinee has cheated in a coursework or graded assessment and this fact only becomes known after the certificate has been issued, the grade of the coursework or examination in which the examinee has cheated can be corrected. If necessary, the module examination can be declared "insufficient" (5.0) and the Master's examination can be declared "failed".
- (2) If the requirements for admission to an examination were not met without the examinee intending to deceive about this, and this fact only becomes known after the certificate has been issued, this deficiency is cured by passing the examination. If the examinee has intentionally obtained admission wrongly, the module examination may be declared "insufficient" (5.0) and the Master's examination "failed".
- (3) The examinee must be given the opportunity to comment before a decision is made.
- (4) The incorrect examination certificate must be withdrawn and a new one issued if necessary. The Master's certificate shall also be confiscated together with the incorrect certificate if the examination was declared "failed" due to an act of deception in accordance with (1). A decision in accordance with (1) and (2) sentence 2 is excluded after a period of five years from the date of the examination certificate.

#### **§ 30 Effective date and transitional provisions**

- (1) These examination regulations come into force on October 01, 2024.

Stuttgart, July 08, 2024

Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wolfram Ressel  
(Rector)



## Appendix: Overview of the module examinations

No.	Module	Compulsory / Elective	Semester				Course work	Examination/ duration	ECTS- Credits
			1	2	3	4			
Specialization modules:									
1	Tutorial on Advanced Chemistry and Scientific Methods	P	x				USL		6
2	Advanced Inorganic Chemistry A	P	x				V	PL	6
3	Advanced Inorganic Chemistry B	P	x				USL		6
4	Advanced Organic Chemistry A	P	x				V	PL	6
5	Advanced Organic Chemistry B	P		x			USL		6
4	Advanced Physical Chemistry A	P		x			V	PL	6
7	Advanced Physical Chemistry B	P		x			USL		6
5	Research Internship I Chemistry	P			x		USL		6
6	Research Internship II Chemistry	P			x		USL		6
Specialization modules <sup>1)</sup> :									
Compulsory elective area A, see note									
7	Module container A	W	x					PL	6
Compulsory elective area B, see note									
9	Module container B	W		x	x		30 in total		
							BSL		6
							BSL		3
							USL		6
							USL		3
12	Master's thesis					x			30

### Explanations:

#### 1. Explanation of abbreviations:

- P = compulsory module; WP = compulsory elective module; W = elective module
- V = examination prerequisite; USL = ungraded coursework; BSL = graded coursework
- PL = module examination (graded assessment, "Prüfungsleistung"); S = written module examination; M = oral module examination;
- LBP = course-related examination

#### 2. The semesters in which the module is to be taken are marked with an "x".

#### 3. If only "PL" is stated in the "Examination/duration" column or the duration of the examination is not regulated, the type and scope of the examination are regulated in the module handbook.

#### 4. If "LBP" is indicated in the "Examination/Duration" column, the type and scope of the examination will be announced by the lecturer at the beginning of the semester.

#### <sup>1)</sup>Compulsory elective area:

The modules in the compulsory elective area serve to specialize in the research profiles of the Faculty of Chemistry and to impart additional skills that are not necessarily linked to the research profiles. The range of selectable modules and the assignment of these modules to the Faculty's research profiles can be found in a list published in the module handbook. The module handbook also specifies which modules are completed with PL, BSL or USL. The following guidelines apply to the selection:

The student takes a module worth 6 ECTS credits in the compulsory elective area A.

Compulsory elective area B includes modules that are assigned to the individual research profiles of the Faculty of Chemistry as well as non-profile-related compulsory elective modules. The student takes modules totaling 30 ECTS credits in compulsory elective area B.

Of these modules, at least 18 ECTS credits must be selected in such a way that they are assigned to the research profiles of the Faculty of Chemistry. The modules can be selected from one research profile or from different research profiles. A maximum of 12 ECTS credits may be taken from the non-profile-related compulsory elective modules. Furthermore, a maximum of 12 of the 30 ECTS credits may be acquired through ungraded coursework (USL). Modules that have already been successfully completed in the Bachelor's degree program cannot be selected.