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# Examination Regulations of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena for the Program Master of Science in Photonics as of 23 February 2023

Pursuant to § 3 (1) in conjunction with § 38 (3) of the Thuringian Tertiary Education Act (ThürHG) of 10 May 2018 (published in GVBI [German legal and regulatory code]: p. 149), as last amended by Article 1 of the Act of 7 December 2022 (GVBI: p. 483), the Friedrich Schiller University Jena decrees the following Examination Regulations for the Master of Science in Photonics program of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy. The Council of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy pronounced the Regulations on 25 January 2023. The Senate of the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena approved the Regulations on 21 February 2023. The President approved the Regulations on 23 February 2023.

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#### I General Provisions

# § 1 Purpose of the Examination

<sup>1</sup>The master's examination in Photonics leads to the second professional qualification in the field of optics and optical technologies. <sup>2</sup>With the successful completion of the master's examination, students have shown that they have acquired sound knowledge and the ability to independently apply sophisticated optical methods both in the field of optical and physical fundamentals as well as in their chosen areas of specialization in optics. <sup>3</sup>Furthermore, they have shown that they are capable of efficient, independent work in current topics of optical research as well as technology and economics, that they can critically classify scientific findings, and that they are capable of responsible, interdisciplinary thought and action.

#### § 2 Degree

<sup>1</sup>After the master's examination has been passed, the Friedrich Schiller University Jena awards the degree of "Master of Science" (abbreviated: "M. Sc."). <sup>2</sup>If parts of the studies are completed within the framework of a cooperative study program at other universities, the university degree can be awarded jointly by the participating universities based on a cooperation agreement. <sup>3</sup>In this case, the degree(s) acquired shall be documented jointly by the participating universities in accordance with the provisions contained in the cooperation agreement.

## § 3 Standard Period of Study

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The standard period of study is two academic years, during which a total of 120 credit points (CP) must be earned. <sup>2</sup>60 credit points must be earned each academic year. <sup>3</sup>According to the guidelines of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), an estimated student workload of 30 hours of attendance and self-study is required to earn one credit point. <sup>4</sup>The total workload for coursework and exams, including the lecture-free period, may not exceed 1,800 hours per academic year.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The course offerings and model curriculum are designed so that all classes that require students' participation as well as the master's thesis can be completed within the standard period of study. <sup>2</sup>Periods of leave are not included in the standard period of study according to (1). <sup>3</sup>Further details are regulated by the Enrollment Regulations of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena.



(3) <sup>1</sup>The study program is fundamentally eligible for part-time study. <sup>2</sup>Admission to part-time study requires the approval of the Examinations Committee. <sup>3</sup>The Enrollment Regulations provide all other regulations for studying part-time, especially provisions that deviate from these Examination Regulations.

## § 4 Organization of Studies

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The degree program is modular. <sup>2</sup>Individual modules are composed of different learning and working methods.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Each module represents a learning and exam unit and is documented on the transcript of records. <sup>2</sup>A module usually lasts one semester but may also include content spanning several semesters. <sup>3</sup>Credit points are only awarded for successfully completed modules.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>A master's thesis is written at the end of the degree program. <sup>2</sup>30 credit points are awarded upon successful completion of the thesis.
- (4) More detailed information regarding the aim of the degree program, the subdivision of the degree program into modules as well as the corresponding credit points can be found in the degree program regulations and the module descriptions.

# § 5 Model Curriculum and Module Catalog

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The Council of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy determines a model curriculum and a module catalog with module descriptions. <sup>2</sup>The model curriculum and the module catalog are to be made known electronically and in a timely manner at the beginning of the semester.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The module descriptions provide information about the respective module coordinators, the prerequisites for participation, the applicability, the type of module, the manners of learning and working, the workload and the credit points to be achieved, the content and qualification objectives of the module, as well as the manner of examination and its weighting. <sup>2</sup>The module descriptions also provide information on the frequency of the module's offering as well as the module's duration.
- (3) Students pursuing an academic degree as part of a cooperative study program, particularly a double-degree program based on a cooperation agreement with one or more partner universities, will complete courses at the partner university in accordance with the provisions of the respective cooperation agreement and its supplements in deviation from the curriculum described in the model curriculum and the module catalog.



#### § 6 Additional Modules

<sup>1</sup>If capacities allow, further modules ("additional modules") may be completed. <sup>2</sup>The results of these modules will be recorded in the transcript of records upon request, but will not be considered when determining the overall grade. <sup>3</sup>When registering for the module exam, the student must indicate whether the exam is being taken as part of an additional module.

## § 7 Accreditation of Periods of Study, Coursework, and Exams

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Coursework and exams completed at a national or international state or state-recognized university or college will be recognized if they are equivalent in terms of the acquired competencies as described in (2). <sup>2</sup>Conditional recognition is possible. <sup>3</sup>Given equivalent achievements, there is a legal entitlement to recognition. <sup>4</sup>Applications for recognition must be submitted to the Examinations Committee together with all necessary documentation.
- (2) Completed coursework and exams are considered equivalent when no significant difference between acquired knowledge and skills and the learning objectives of this degree program can be determined.
- (3) Knowledge and skills acquired through means other than studying and proven by appropriate documentation to be equivalent to those required for successful completion of this degree program can be credited upon request up to a maximum of 50 percent of the coursework and exam units required by this degree program.
- (4) ¹When recognizing achievements that were obtained outside the scope of the Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany, equivalence agreements approved by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs and the German Rectors' Conference as well as agreements within the framework of university partnerships must be considered. ²Academic achievements and exams completed based on a learning agreement during a study abroad program will be recognized. ³The same applies to academic coursework and exams obtained abroad with the aim of obtaining multiple degrees within the framework of cooperative degree programs if a joint model curriculum has been agreed upon in a cooperation agreement in which the cooperating university has listed the specific achievements that are eligible for recognition.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>The grades of recognized coursework and exams, to the extent that the grading systems are comparable, shall be transferred and included in the calculation of the overall grade. <sup>2</sup>If the grading systems are not comparable or convertible, the grade "passed" shall be entered into record. <sup>3</sup>The exam certificate shall indicate the institution at which the achievements were obtained. <sup>4</sup>Deviations may be regulated in a cooperation agreement with a foreign university.
- (6) <sup>1</sup>If the Examinations Committee rejects an application for recognition, the applicant must be provided with the reasons why the application does not meet the requirements specified in (2) and (4) in writing. <sup>2</sup>The rejecting decision must be accompanied by information on legal remedies.



## § 8 Examinations Committee

- (1) <sup>1</sup>An Examinations Committee will be formed from faculty members to carry out the tasks assigned by these Examination Regulations. <sup>2</sup>It consists of three representatives from the group of university professors, one representative from the group of academic staff, and one student who is enrolled in this program. <sup>3</sup>When composing the members, it must be ensured that the representatives of university professors have the majority of votes. <sup>4</sup>The chairperson and their deputy, who must belong to the group of university professors, as well as the other members of the Examinations Committee and their deputies are appointed by the Faculty Council. <sup>5</sup>The term of office for members of the Examinations Committee is generally three years, while the term of student members is generally one year. <sup>6</sup>If a member leaves prematurely, a successor will be appointed for the remaining term of office. <sup>7</sup>The examination office manages the affairs of the Examinations Committee.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee is quorate if the majority of its members, including the member elected as chair (or their representative) are present and the majority of votes is held by university professors. <sup>2</sup>The total number of members present is irrelevant for decision-making if the same matter is being considered for the second time due to a lack of quorum and this is explicitly mentioned in the second invitation. <sup>3</sup>The Examinations Committee passes its resolutions with the majority of votes cast. <sup>4</sup>In case of a tie, the vote of the member elected as chair breaks the tie. <sup>5</sup>Student members do not participate in the evaluation or recognition of academic achievements or the appointment of examiners and arbitrators.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee ensures that the provisions of the Examination Regulations are followed and ensures the proper implementation of exams. <sup>2</sup>This includes the appointment of module coordinators, examiners, and arbitrators in accordance with § 9 (1). <sup>3</sup>It is particularly responsible for deciding on appeals against decisions made in exam procedures.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee monitors quality management, reports annually to the Faculty Council on the development of exams and periods of study, and provides suggestions for reforming the Study and Examination Regulations. <sup>2</sup>It evaluates the model curriculum annually and adjusts it to new requirements from science and professional practice.
- (5) The members of the Examinations Committee have the right, subject to the regulation on bias according to § 24 (3), to attend the conduct of exams and to inspect the exam records.
- (6) The Examinations Committee adopts procedural rules and may delegate tasks to the chairperson.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>The meetings of the Examinations Committee are not public. <sup>2</sup>Members of the Examinations Committee are bound by official secrecy. <sup>3</sup>If they are not civil servants, they are obliged to maintain confidentiality by the chairperson.



# § 9 Module Coordinators, Examiners and Arbitrators

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee appoints the module coordinators in consultation with subject representatives. <sup>2</sup>Only members and affiliates of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena, or in exceptional cases, another university, who are or were authorized to teach independently as university professors, lecturers, private lecturers, or scientific staff with teaching duties or by teaching assignment in the respective degree program or in comparable modules of other degree programs can be appointed as module coordinators. <sup>3</sup>In general, the module coordinators are examiners for the module. <sup>4</sup>If the module coordinators do not teach the corresponding modules, the exam should be conducted by the teaching staff.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Arbitrators are appointed by the Examinations Committee; this applies to examiners as well, provided they are not module coordinators. <sup>2</sup>According to § 54 (2) ThürHG, university professors, academic and artistic staff with teaching duties, adjunct professors, and instructors for special tasks are authorized to administer higher education exams. <sup>3</sup>Only those who have at least the qualification determined by the exam or an equivalent qualification may be appointed as examiners or arbitrators. <sup>4</sup>If the purpose and nature of the exam require it, individuals engaged in non-university research may also be appointed as examiners, provided that they are experienced in professional practice and training and themselves possess a degree that is at least one level higher than the qualification determined by the exam.
- (3) Examiners and arbitrators are bound by official confidentiality.

## § 10 Accommodation Measures

- (1) ¹If a student can demonstrate to the Examinations Committee that, due to a chronic or permanent illness or disability that does not pertain to the performance being tested, they are unable to take the exam or perform a part of it in the prescribed manner, they will be granted reasonable accommodations upon a written request to the Examinations Committee such as an extension to the time allotted for an exam or the provision of equivalent exam methods in an alternative format.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The same applies to academic coursework. <sup>2</sup>However, it must be ensured that the student attends classroom activities to a sufficient extent. <sup>3</sup>Otherwise, the applicant for accommodation measures should be informed about the option of taking a leave of absence for compelling reasons in accordance with the matriculation regulations of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Committee will decide on the request and establish guidelines for the further progression of the student's studies. <sup>2</sup>In this regard, the submission of a medical certificate may be required; in particularly questionable cases, an official medical certificate or other relevant documents may be requested.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>Exam procedures take the protective provisions of the Maternity Protection Act as well as periods of parental leave and the provision of care to a close family member in need into account. <sup>2</sup>Further regulations are given by the Matriculation Regulations.



#### II Master's Exam

## § 11 Manner and Scope of the Master's Exam

- (1) The master's exam is modular and is to be completed during the study period.
- (2) The master's exam is comprised of:
  - Exams of the mandatory and elective modules pursuant to the provisions of the Study Regulations (module exams) and
  - The master's thesis.

#### § 12 Module Exams

- (1) Module exams can be conducted as written or oral examinations, as a combination of examination methods, or in the form of other examinations able to be evaluated according to the same rubrics.
- (2) ¹Coursework and exams can also be completed using electronic media as well as electronic information and communication technologies (examinations in electronic form). ²Especially electronic/digital exams and tests that are conducted on the premises of other institutions (distance examinations) as well as exams using image and sound connections (video conferencing/videotelephony) are permitted. ³Permitted exams are regulated by the current version of § 3 of the Framework Statute of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena for the Regulation of the Consequences of the Corona Pandemic and for the Conduct of Exams in Electronic Form.
- (3) The respective form of the module exam, including scope and duration, will be defined in the module description and disclosed with the pronouncement of the module.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The student must declare in writing that coursework or exams conducted without supervision in the case of group work: the portions he/she was responsible for and marked as such were completed independently in accordance with rules assuring good scientific practice and only with the aid of allowed resources. <sup>2</sup>Exact or paraphrased quotations must be identified by the indication of sources.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>Oral examinations, either as single-student or group exams, will be conducted by an examiner in the presence of an arbitrator. <sup>2</sup>The examiner should be a professor or member of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena.
- (6) <sup>1</sup>Exams which must be passed in order to continue the study program will be evaluated by two examiners. <sup>2</sup>The exam grade will be the arithmetic mean of the two evaluations. <sup>3</sup>At least one of the examiners should be a professor or member of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>Exams will normally be conducted in English. <sup>2</sup>An exam can be held in German at the request of the student. <sup>3</sup>Exams for modules in which the teaching language is German will normally also be held in German. <sup>4</sup>An exam for these modules can be conducted in English at the request of the student and with the consent of the examiners.



## § 13 Registration and Admittance to Module Exams

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The registration for a module exam must be made in the electronic study and exam administration system no later than ten weeks after the start of the lecture period and, in all cases, at least one week before the first module exam. <sup>2</sup>Within the 10-week period, students can withdraw their registration without giving any reasons provided that no exam has yet been written. <sup>3</sup>After the ten-week period, the registration is considered binding until the end of the examination relationship. <sup>4</sup>In the exam admission application, the student must declare that they meet the admission requirements according to (2).
- (2) All students who, after completing a binding registration:
  - 1. are enrolled at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena for the Master's Degree in Photonics course.
  - 2. fulfill all prerequisites for each module exam as described in the module descriptions, and
  - 3. have not permanently failed the module exam or a similar exam in the Photonics program

will be admitted to the module exam.

- (3) <sup>1</sup>If admission to the module exam is contingent on certain prerequisites, admission to the module exam will occur only once the prerequisites have been fulfilled. <sup>2</sup>The prerequisites are defined in the module descriptions.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The module coordinator appointed by the Examinations Committee determines admission to the module exam. <sup>2</sup>If the student does not fulfill the prerequisites as described in (2), the module coordinator will deny admission to the module exam. <sup>3</sup>Special notice will be given in this case.

## § 14 Exam Dates and Deadlines

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The module examinations of the first study year must be written for the first time no later than at the end of the second study year, and module examinations of the second study year no later than at the end of the third study year. <sup>2</sup>If the student misses these deadlines for reasons that are their own responsibility, the corresponding module examinations shall be deemed not to have been passed for the first time. <sup>3</sup>The right to repeat examinations in the case of failed examinations according to § 16 remains unaffected.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>A module examination is considered permanently failed if it has not been successfully completed by the end of the 8th semester. <sup>2</sup>Therefore, all 90 required ECTS from the modules of the degree program must be obtained by the end of the 8th semester, after which only the master's thesis can be worked on.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis must be registered with the Examinations Committee no later than six weeks after the successful completion of all module exams has been announced. <sup>2</sup>The master's thesis is considered to have been permanently failed if it has not been submitted to the Examinations Committee by the end of the 12th semester.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The student is responsible for complying with examination deadlines. <sup>2</sup>The student must note the cycles and frequencies of the individual module exams as stipulated in the module descriptions in particular.



- (5) <sup>1</sup>The announcement of module examination results should take place within four weeks after the last module examination. <sup>2</sup>Generally, students have the right to review their examinations or examination protocols upon request and within four weeks after the announcement of the examination results.
- (6) Examinations in modules that are a prerequisite for participation in a module in the following semester must be organized in such a way that the module result is determined, taking into account the possibility for repetition, by the beginning of the following lecture period.
- (7) If an exam or the master's thesis has been permanently failed or is considered to have been permanently failed, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall issue a written notification to the student, which shall be accompanied by instructions on legal remedies.

## § 15 Exam Grading and Grade Structure

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Generally, all modules will be graded. Exams may also be graded as "passed/failed" (b/nb). <sup>2</sup>Academic work graded this way does not influence the calculation of the module grade or the cumulative grade.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Examinations will be graded by the respective examiners. <sup>2</sup>The following rubric will be used to grade examinations:

1 = very good = exceptional work,

2 = good = significantly better than average work, 3 = satisfactory = work that satisfies average requirements,

4 = sufficient = work that, despite deficiencies, fulfills requirements,

5 = failed = work that does not fulfill requirements due to significant deficiencies

<sup>3</sup>Incremental grades can be made through the addition or subtraction of 0,3 to/from the whole-number values to differentiate the grading of academic work; the grades 0,7, 4,3, 4,7, and 5,3 are not possible.

- (3) <sup>1</sup>If a module exam consists of partial exams, the module grade will be calculated as the average of the partial exam grades. <sup>2</sup>If the partial exams are concerned with distinct areas of knowledge, each partial exam must be passed. <sup>3</sup>Weighing of the partial exams is possible. <sup>4</sup>The weighing scheme is to be declared in the module description.
- (4) Only the first decimal place after the comma will be considered during the calculation of the module grade and of the cumulative grade; any further decimal digits will be ignored.
- (5) The grades are defined:

down to an average of 1,5 as very good,

down to an average between 1,6 and 2,5 as good,

down to an average between 2,6 and 3,5 as satisfactory,

• down to an average between 3,6 and 4,0 as sufficient.



(6) <sup>1</sup>The cumulative grade will be complemented by a relative grade (ECTS Grade) according to the ECTS Grading Rubric pursuant to the decisions of the Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs.

A the best 10%, B the next 25%, C the next 30%, D the next 25%, E the next 10%, FX/F failed.

<sup>2</sup>The population used for the calculation of this grade must include at least 30 graduates. <sup>3</sup>Populations spanning multiple cohorts must be composed where necessary.

### § 16 Repetition of an Exam

- (1) ¹Module examinations that were failed or deemed to have been failed can usually be repeated once. ²If a module examination consists of several examination components, and all examination components must be passed in order to pass the module examination, only the failed examination components must be repeated. ³Failed attempts at other universities or equivalent institutions must be taken into account. ⁴The format of the repeat examination may differ from that of the first examination. ⁵The module coordinator makes the relevant decisions in this regard.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The repetition date will be set at the beginning of the module in the module announcement. <sup>2</sup>It should be scheduled so that there is a minimum of two weeks between the announcement of the results of the first examination and the repetition.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>A second repeat of a module examination will be granted once without giving any reasons. <sup>2</sup>In some cases, however, a second repeat of module examinations is only permissible upon request and only if the student's other achievements indicate that the attainment of the study objective can be expected. <sup>3</sup>The Examinations Committee decides on the application. <sup>4</sup>Admission to the second repeat examination can be subject to conditions.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>If the student does not pass the repeat examination or if they, having failed twice, have not applied for a second repeat examination within 4 weeks after the announcement of the results of the repeat examination, the module examination is considered to have been permanently failed. <sup>2</sup>If the student fails the second repeat examination as well, the module examination is also permanently failed. <sup>3</sup>In all cases, the Examinations Committee shall issue a written notice.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>Applications from a student for recognition of a hardship case must be submitted in writing to the Examinations Office within four weeks after the announcement of the permanent failure of the examination result. <sup>2</sup>The Examinations Committee will decide on the application.



## § 17 Free Attempt to Improve Grades

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Students following the model curriculum can use up to two free attempts for grade improvement of successfully completed final examinations at the end of the semester as part of module examinations. <sup>2</sup>However, a successfully completed final exam can only be repeated once within a module. <sup>3</sup>In this case, the better result counts.
- (2) Free attempts are only possible for the mandatory modules of the first year of study; not for elective modules or the practical research modules Experimental Optics and Internship.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The application for the granting of a free attempt must be submitted in writing to the chairperson of the Examinations Committee no later than two weeks after the announcement of the examination results. <sup>2</sup>The application can only be approved if the module examination was passed with the first attempt.
- (4) The free attempt must be taken at the next possible opportunity in consultation with the module coordinator and no later than at the end of the following semester.

#### § 18 Master's Thesis

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The master's thesis should demonstrate that its student author is able to independently work on a problem in their field using scientific methods and present it according to scientific standards within a given deadline. <sup>2</sup>The topic and tasks must be designed in such a way that the given deadline can be met without the student's workload as connected to the master's thesis exceeding 900 hours.
- (2) The master's thesis can also be allowed as a group project if the contribution of each individual student to be evaluated as an examination is clearly distinguishable and assessable based on the specification of sections or other objective criteria that enable a clear demarcation and meet the requirements of (1).
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The application for admission to the master's thesis includes the submission of a proposed topic, which will be assigned and supervised by an examiner appointed by the Examinations Committee from the group of professors. <sup>2</sup>The student should be given the opportunity to suggest a topic for the master's thesis. <sup>3</sup>Upon request, the chairperson of the Examinations Committee shall ensure that a student receives a topic for a master's thesis in a timely manner. <sup>4</sup>The application for admission to the master's thesis must be submitted in writing to the Examinations Office of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy no later than two weeks before the start of the master's thesis. <sup>5</sup>Further deadlines are indicated in §14.
- (4) Only those fulfilling the following requirements can be admitted to the master's thesis:
  - enrolled in the Master's Program in Photonics at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena,
  - 2. able to demonstrate successful completion of the required modules (including the practical research modules) pursuant to the model curriculum,
  - 3. has not permanently failed a master's thesis in the Photonics program and is not currently undergoing an examination process for the same program at another institution.



- (5) <sup>1</sup>Admission to the master's thesis is determined by the Examinations Committee or, pursuant to § 8(6), its chairperson. <sup>2</sup>Admission to the master's thesis will not be granted if:
  - the prerequisites as specified in § 18(4) are not fulfilled or
  - the student has lost their examination entitlement due to default of a deadline
- (6) The master's thesis will be completed with a written documentation and an oral defense.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>The editing time for the written documentation of the master's thesis is six months. <sup>2</sup>In exceptional cases and for justified reasons, the deadline may be extended by up to three months upon request. <sup>3</sup>This request, which must be accompanied by a statement from the supervisor, must be submitted no later than 14 days before the end of the editing time. <sup>4</sup>The chairperson of the Examinations Committee decides on the request. <sup>5</sup>In the case of illness-related inability to perform, which must be proven by submitting a medical certificate, or, in case of doubt, an official medical certificate, the editing time will be extended accordingly, contrary to Sentence 2. <sup>6</sup>If the editing time is extended due to illness for a period of more than 12 months, the Examinations Committee may terminate the examination attempt.
- (8) <sup>1</sup>The topic of the master's thesis can only be rescinded once and only within the first four weeks of the editing time. <sup>2</sup>The time elapsed until the rescission will not be credited to the editing time of a new topic.
- (9) <sup>1</sup>The written documentation of the master's thesis must be submitted on-time in three printed and bound copies to the Examinations Office of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy. <sup>2</sup>In addition, one copy must be submitted in electronic form (PDF format).
- (10) <sup>1</sup>At the time of submission of the written documentation of the master's thesis, the student must provide a written declaration that they have completed the work independently and in accordance with the rules of good scientific practice, including, in the case of a group assignment, by labelling sections where applicable, and have used no sources or aids other than those explicitly allowed. <sup>2</sup>Any passages taken verbatim or in essence from other works must be identified as such with a cited source.
- (11) The master's thesis is considered failed if the written documentation is not completed within the allotted time.
- 17 (12)

  17 The written documentation of the master's thesis is to be evaluated by two examiners. 20 ne of the examiners must have proposed the topic of the thesis. 3 The second examiner is appointed by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee. 4 In the case of students who complete parts of their studies at another institution based on a cooperation agreement, the second examiner should be a member of the cooperating university. 5 At least one examiner should be a professor or member of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena. 6 The evaluations should be completed within six weeks. 7 Each individual assessment is to be made in accordance with § 15 and documented in writing.



- 13) The results of the thesis are presented by the student in an oral defense consisting of a 20 to 30-minute presentation followed by a discussion. <sup>2</sup>The grade for the thesis is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the two evaluations and the oral defense, provided that the difference between the two evaluators' grades is not more than 2.0. <sup>3</sup>If the evaluators' grades differ by more than 2.0, a third evaluation will be conducted. <sup>4</sup>This also applies if one evaluator assigns a grade of "failed." <sup>5</sup>The chair of the Examinations Committee appoints the third evaluator. <sup>6</sup>The grade for the thesis is then calculated as the arithmetic mean of the best two evaluators' grades and the oral defense. <sup>7</sup>However, the thesis can only be considered "sufficient" if at least two grades are "sufficient" or better.
- 11f the master's thesis is not passed on the first attempt or is deemed to have been failed on the first attempt, the master's thesis can be repeated once. <sup>2</sup>To repeat the master's thesis, the student must report to the Examinations Office within six weeks of the announcement of the failure and register for the repetition; otherwise, the right to repeat expires. <sup>3</sup>The repetition of the master's thesis must be started within one month after registration. <sup>4</sup>After the topic for the repetition has been issued, the master's thesis must be submitted to the Examinations Office of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy by the deadline. <sup>5</sup>Otherwise, the repetition will be deemed to have been failed and the master's examination will be deemed to have been failed permanently. <sup>6</sup>A second repetition of the master's thesis is not permitted.

#### § 19 Default, Rescission, Deceit

- (1) ¹An examination is considered to be "failed" (grade 5.0) if the student is not present for an exam without good reason or if they withdraw from the exam without good reason after it has begun. ²The same applies to missing the deadline for submitting a written essay or other, similar forms of examination, the internship report, or the master's thesis.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If compelling reasons are to be asserted for the withdrawal or absence in accordance with (1), these must be reported to the Examinations Committee immediately and must be substantiated in writing within three working days of the assertion of the reason for withdrawal; at the latest, however, on the day of the examination. <sup>2</sup>In the case of acute illness or accidents of the student or in the case of childcare and caregiving obligations, a medical certificate or, upon request, a medical certificate from a public health officer or other meaningful documentation must be provided to substantiate the claim. <sup>3</sup>If the reasons are recognized, a new appointment will be scheduled. <sup>4</sup>Already existing examination results are to be credited in this case.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>If a student attempts to influence the result of their examination by deception, for example, by using unauthorized aids, the examination will be considered "failed" (grade 5.0). <sup>2</sup>The same applies if the student attempts to falsify their identity or to have the examination performed by a third party when electronic media are used to complete examinations. <sup>3</sup>If a student disrupts the proper conduct of an examination, they can be excluded from continuing the examination by the respective examiner or supervisor. <sup>4</sup>In this case, the relevant examination is considered to be "failed" (grade 5.0). <sup>5</sup>In repeated or serious cases, the Examinations Committee may exclude the student from taking further examinations for up to two semesters. <sup>6</sup>Before making a decision, the student must be heard by the Examinations Committee.



- (4) The student may request a review of decisions made by the Examinations Committee in accordance with (3)1 and 2 by submitting a written application within one month of notification of the examination results.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>In cases of particularly serious or malicious deception, especially in cases of extensive plagiarism, the president can, upon request of the Examinations Committee, permanently exclude the student from taking any further exams in this degree program. <sup>2</sup>The student must be heard before a decision is made.

# § 20 Passing the Master's Exam, Overall Grade

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The degree of Master of Science is conferred when the master's thesis is passed and a total of 120 credit points have been obtained in accordance with the current model curriculum. <sup>2</sup>The overall grade of the master's examination is calculated as the weighted arithmetic mean of all grades of the module exams and the master's thesis.
- (2) For participants in cooperation programs, the master's examination is considered passed if the student has fulfilled the requirements specified in the corresponding cooperation agreement.

# § 21 Transcript of Records, Diploma Supplement, Master's Certificate

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Once the master's degree examination has been passed, a master's degree certificate must be issued promptly, preferably within four weeks of the announcement of the last examination result. <sup>2</sup>The certificate must include the names of the completed modules, the corresponding credit points, and the results (grades) of the module examinations, as well as the additional modules according to § 6 upon request by the student. <sup>3</sup>The master's degree certificate must be signed by the chairperson of the Examinations Committee. <sup>4</sup>The date of the certificate must be the day on which the final necessary examination and thus the master's degree examination was completed.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Upon receipt of the master's certificate, the graduate is issued a master's diploma with the date of the master's certificate. <sup>2</sup>This certifies the award of the academic degree of Master of Science. <sup>3</sup>The master's diploma is signed by the dean of the faculty and the chairperson of the Examinations Board and stamped with the seal of the University.



- (3) ¹Students in cooperative study programs who have passed the master's examination in Photonics will receive two master's certificates, or a corresponding number of master's certificates in case of participation of more than two cooperating universities. ²They will be issued by Friedrich Schiller University Jena and the cooperating universities upon completion of the master's examination and will include the overall grade of the master's examination, the topic and grade of the master's thesis, and the module examinations and their grades. ³At the same time as the master's certificate, one or a corresponding number of master's diplomas in case of participation of more than two cooperating universities will be awarded to the student with the date of the master's certificate of these universities. ⁴The diploma certifies the award of the academic degree "Master of Science" at Friedrich Schiller University Jena and the corresponding degree of the cooperating university or universities. ⁵Each of these master's certificates and diplomas clearly indicates that the degree was obtained within the framework of a cooperative study program and that the master's certificates and diplomas of the issuing universities are only valid in conjunction with each other. <sup>6</sup>(1) and (2) apply to the signing and sealing of the documents.
- (4) A diploma supplement corresponding to the "European Diploma Supplement Model" of the European Union / Council of Europe / UNESCO will be issued in English and German at the same time as the master's certificate.
- (5) If the student leaves the university or changes their degree program, a certificate will be issued to them which contains the completed examination and study achievements and their evaluation in accordance with § 15 upon request.

#### **III Final Provisions**

## § 22 Invalidity of Exams

- (1) If a student is found to have cheated as part of an examination and this fact only becomes known after the master's certificate has been issued, the Examinations Committee may subsequently correct the grades for those examination results in which the student cheated and declare the examination to have been failed in whole or in part.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If the requirements for admission to an examination were unfulfilled without the student intending to deceive and this fact only becomes known after the master's certificate has been issued, this error is remedied by passing the examination. <sup>2</sup>If the student intentionally obtained wrongful admission, the Examinations Board will decide.
- (3) The student must be given an opportunity to comment before a decision is made.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>A wrongful master's certificate is to be revoked and, if necessary, a new one is to be issued. <sup>2</sup>The master's diploma is to be revoked together with the wrongful master's certificate if the examination was declared "failed" due to deception. <sup>3</sup>A decision pursuant to (1) and (2)2 is no longer possible after five years from the date of the master's certificate.



# § 23 Viewing of Examination Protocols

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Within one year of the announcement of the results of the last examination, the student may, upon request, be given access within a reasonable period of time to his or her written examination papers, the relevant evaluators' reports and the examination records. <sup>2</sup>The chair of the Examinations Committee will determine the location and time of the inspection.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Examination records must be kept for at least one year after termination of the study program. <sup>2</sup>The Examinations Committee determines the place of storage."

#### § 24 Appeals Process

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Adverse decisions and other burdening administrative acts made according to these Examination Regulations must be issued in writing and accompanied by a justification and a legal remedy instruction. <sup>2</sup>An objection can be lodged with the Examinations Board within one month of receipt of the decision.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The Examinations Board rules on the objection. <sup>2</sup>Insofar as the objection is directed against a decision by the examiners, the Examinations Board rules after hearing the examiners.
- (3) Members of the Examinations Board cannot perform the committee's responsibilities if they themselves are parties to the examination matter underlying the objection.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The appeal should be decided on at the earliest possible date. <sup>2</sup>If the appeal is not complied with, the decision must be justified and accompanied by information on legal remedies. <sup>3</sup>The decision on the appeal is to be delivered to the appellant.

## § 25 Equality Clause

Status and functional designations in these Regulations apply equally to men, women, and individuals who do not identify with either gender regardless of these designations' German grammatical gender.



# § 26 Entry into Force, Abrogation, Transitional Provisions

- (1) <sup>1</sup>These Regulations come into effect on 1 October, 2023 after publication in the official bulletin of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena. <sup>2</sup>They apply to all students who commence their studies in the Master's Program in Photonics during or after the winter semester of 2023/24.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>At the same time, the Examination Regulations of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy at Friedrich Schiller University Jena for the Master of Science degree in Photonics dated 18 May, 2009 (published in the official bulletin of Friedrich Schiller University Jena, No. 13/2009, p. 1247), will be repealed. <sup>2</sup>However, those Regulations will continue to apply to all students already enrolled in the Master of Science program in Photonics before these Regulations come into effect.

Jena, 23 February 2023

Prof. Dr. Walter Rosenthal

President of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena