



In its 10<sup>th</sup> session on October 14, 2020, the Senate discussed the

**University-wide regulations for studies and examination procedures to mitigate the legal uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 crisis, as well as the fundamental decisions of the Senate for the 2020/2021 winter semester**

and concluded the following stipulations:

The Senate adopts the following resolutions for the 2020/2021 winter semester, with effect from October 26, 2020:

**I.**

All examinations scheduled for the 2020/2021 winter semester shall proceed as planned. The examiner may deviate from the intended form of examination if this is necessary in order to protect against infection or due to a change in teaching formats. Students are encouraged to participate in the examinations; there is, however, generally no obligation to take part in the examinations in the 2020/2021 winter semester. The grading procedure for the examinations is described in paragraph IV.

**II.**

Students can still retroactively apply for the 2020/2021 winter semester to not be counted towards their standard period of study (§ 10 Enrolment Regulations); this option is available to all students who apply and has a legal basis. The application procedure remains greatly simplified. The non-recognition of the 2020/2021 winter semester will be granted by the Admissions Office if graded academic work cannot be completed in full. Students can apply for this at the Admissions Office at the end of the semester - without having to provide proof - using an online form. Students will receive a notice of non-recognition so that the reasons for this, as well as their lack of culpability given the current circumstances, can be proven to third parties. There is no special regulation for semesters of leave.

**III.**

Due to the fact that there is no obligation to take examinations and because deadlines could be missed as a result, all deadlines for repeat exams will be set aside for another semester and the current deadlines are no longer valid. All deadlines for repeat examinations are thus automatically extended again by one semester. There will be no notification of deadlines for the 2020/2021 winter semester. Compulsory registrations, in particular for final theses, will be suspended in the 2020/2021 winter semester, as there is no obligation to take examinations.

**IV.**

Students can decide for themselves whether to accept individual examination results from the 2020/2021 winter semester. This also applies to academic work graded as "insufficient" (5,0) or "failed", with the exception of grades given for cheating or non-attendance. The recognition/acceptance of an examination result does not require a separate declaration by the student. If a student chooses to reject an examination result, they must declare this to the Examination office by the end of the 2021 summer semester. In this case, the examination can be taken again and is classed as the first attempt, whereby the new grade is counted. The declaration

should be made prior to the registration for the corresponding exam. The same applies to all other types of examined work, in particular graduation theses and colloquia, as well as preliminary examinations, provided that their repetition is limited. Students are asked to take advantage of this opportunity responsibly and mindfully, in order to avoid a significant increase in the workload and in the length of the grading process of the examiners. It is also feasible for students to waive the possibility of rejecting examination results.

#### **V.**

In principle, no decisions will be issued for the 2020/2021 winter semester regarding the failure or irreversible failure of graded work. However, the decision of the Examination Board on examinations that have received the grade "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed", e.g. due to cheating, shall stand. The same applies to all other types of graded work, in particular graduation theses and colloquia, as well as preliminary examinations.

#### **VI.**

The examination boards are requested to take appropriate measures to mitigate any potential disadvantages that may arise in the event of a transfer to a newer version of the study documents in the subsequent semester. In particular, it should be avoided that students have to submit additional graded work due to such a transfer caused by the corona virus.

#### **VII.**

The stipulations shall be corroborated by the implementing regulations issued by the Vice-Rector Academic Affairs with the participation of the Teaching Coordination Staff; the implementing regulations shall be published in an appropriate manner.