



Specifications for examinations and graded study tasks at TU Dresden during the Corona Pandemic valid from 4th May 2020

Prof. Hans Georg Krauthäuser, Vice-Rector for Academic and International Affairs

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The University Management Board, the Corona Crisis Management Team and the Teaching Planning Team of the TU Dresden have agreed on the following principles to guide their activities:

1. The protection of the health of both lecturers and students is of the utmost priority.
2. The 2020 summer semester shall not be a "lost semester".
3. The highly dynamic implementation of digital teaching should provide the greatest possible advantages for teaching and learning at TU Dresden.

On the one hand, this means that students should be put in a position where they can take all the planned examinations and complete all graded study tasks and thus acquire credit points. On the other hand, due to health protection reasons, exams can only partially be taken as originally planned. In its meeting on 29 April 2020, the Senate of TU Dresden passed the resolution Hochschulweite Festlegungen für Studium und Prüfungsverfahren (University-wide regulations for studies and examination procedures) **to cushion the legal uncertainties caused by the corona crisis, fundamental resolutions of the Senate for the summer semester 2020** ([LINK](#)), by which the negative consequences of deviating from the regulations of the study documents are largely averted.

Furthermore, the following specifications are made:

- a. **On-site examination activities** shall be reduced **to the absolute minimum**. Following the stipulations of the Senate of 29th April 2020 (see above), students are not obliged to take part in examinations of the 2020 summer semester. This applies in particular to attendance at in-class examinations. **Non-objective attendance examinations** (oral individual and group examinations, presentations, defence, colloquia, etc.) are generally prohibited until further notice. It is recommended to replace these examinations with virtual equivalents ("video conference"). Please note the following:
 - i. The requirements of the examination procedure and the examination regulations are to be adhered to even though the examination is conducted via video conference. This applies in particular to the public/non-public aspects of examinations, advice on examination results with a closed circle of participants or the appointment and participation of examiners and assessors following the regulations.
 - ii. From the point of view of technology, the video conference must run smoothly; it must be ensured that the person connected via video conference can hear the exam conversation well and is well audible, is not distracted, etc. It should also be ensured as best as possible, depending on the circumstances, that the person to be examined has no possibility of

deception during the examination. It must also be ensured that the examiners take full and immediate note of the examination performance and can, therefore, evaluate it independently. This applies in particular to the fact that the examination interview should run without technical problems and the persons involved must be audible.

- iii. For reasons of data protection, no electronic recording should take place, but rather a conventional protocol should be used. The person to be examined shall be informed about this before the examination begins. Due to the current situation, the ZIH, together with the Bildungsportal Sachsen, provides virtual teaching and examination rooms which, in the case of public defences, also enable the involvement of the university public (BigBlueButton, <https://tu-dresden.de/zih/dienste/videokonferenz>). The use of these rooms is possible under data protection law.
 - iv. Persons to be examined who do not have sufficient technical possibilities to participate in the virtual examinations offered cannot be obliged to do so. For these persons concerned, the tests shall be offered or made up for after the start of regular operation. Alternatively, "**online-based exams**" can be applied for, in which the person to be tested is provided with the possibility of video conferencing in a suitable room at TU Dresden.
 - v. If in the course of the examination interview, technical difficulties arise that make the examination interview no longer reliably audible and practicable, the examination is to be aborted ex officio and made up at another date. Extensions of the examination interview in the event of serious technical difficulties are not advisable since this can cause considerable legal problems in terms of the fluidity of the examination process and the concentration of examiners and candidates.
- b. **Face-to-face examinations** (written tests, etc.) are permitted in exceptional cases if health protection can be guaranteed.
- i. A security concept should be drawn up, similar to the one for classroom teaching event (https://tu-dresden.de/tu-dresden/gesundheitsmanagement/ressourcen/dateien/corona/tud-dokumente-intern/2020-04-20_Uebergang_Praesenzlehre_final-TUD.pdf). It is the responsibility of the Examination Committee.
 - ii. If the examiners and the examination board decide not to hold individual examinations, these scheduled examinations are to be cancelled, i.e. postponed, following the stipulations of the Planning Staff Teaching Establishment of 16th March 2020..
2. All planned **non-presence examination activities** (homework, documentation, etc.) can and should be carried out as planned. If necessary, an extension of the processing time for important reasons can be requested informally from the Examination Committee. Any disadvantages for students should be excluded. In the summer semester 2020, the regulations of the senate of 28th April 29, 2020 (see above) also apply to these exams.
3. If it appears necessary for reasons of health protection or as an adaptation to a deviating teaching-learning concept, examiners may also offer **substantially different examination formats** in the summer semester 2020. The responsible examination boards and deans of studies are to be informed of the courses offered. The experience gained in these examinations should be documented as well as possible in the interest of further

development and the accumulation of experience. The regulations of the Senate of 29 April 2020 (see above) also apply to these examinations in the summer semester 2020.