

TU Dresden quality goals for studies and teaching

(last amended by the decision of the Senate on November 13, 2019)

1. Legal and formal framework stipulations

- 1.1 The degree program complies with the requirements of the European or national qualification frameworks, the common or Federal State-specific structural specifications and the interpretations of these by the Accreditation Council, as well as the legal requirements. The stipulations apply accordingly to *Diplom* degree programs.
- 1.2 All degree programs have legally validated, approved and published study documents, which form the basis for the organization of the program.

2. Qualification goals, degree program and modularization concept

[Qualification goals]

- 2.1 TU Dresden's degree programs have detailed and clearly structured, specialist and interdisciplinary qualification goals, which are oriented towards both the requirements of academic standards in the respective subject and the demands of professional practice.
- 2.2 The knowledge, skills and competencies obtained in the degree program are relevant for later professional life including academic activities with regard to theory and methodology as well as practical application. Employability is reflected in technical, methodological, linguistic and social competencies, as well as the ability to pursue independent continuing education.
- 2.3 Imparting interdisciplinary and general qualifications (so-called key qualifications) is an integral part of the curriculum of each individual degree program. This can be realized in an integrative way by immanent imparting of the relevant knowledge, skills and abilities within individual courses and modules of the actual specialized training and in a complementary way in the form of special modules whose content and qualification goals are exclusively geared to general qualifications.

- 2.4 The program promotes the students' personal development, especially the ability for critical self-reflection and societal commitment. During regular courses, students are given the opportunity to reflect on different topics regarding life in a pluralistic and open society (e.g. sustainability, diversity) and to link them with formally acquired knowledge.
- 2.5 Based on the specialist disciplines, interdisciplinarity in studies and teaching will be promoted.
- 2.6 The international orientation and compatibility of the range of courses will be enhanced, e.g. through double degrees, international cooperation, foreign-language courses or international lecturers. The students' intercultural education and multilingualism will be strengthened.
- 2.7 Students are offered free, subject-related foreign language training of 10 hours per week (SWS) during their undergraduate studies, which is at least partially anchored in the curriculum through the acquisition of credit points.
- 2.8 Studies are oriented towards current research and promote the students' academic curiosity, e.g. through early participation in research projects.
- 2.9 Continuous communication of the rules of good scientific practice is anchored in the degree program. Students commit themselves to follow these rules both during their studies and in professional practice.

[Modularization concept]

- 2.10 The combination of the individual modules of the degree program is coherently structured with regard to the formulated qualification goals, and provides for adequate teaching and learning forms.
- 2.11 The admission requirements for the degree program and, if required, an adequate selection procedure as well as recognition rules for non-university qualifications are specified and published.
- 2.12 Modules shall have a scope of at least five and a maximum of 15 credit points. Provided that the overall examination load is reasonable, the degree program is coherently structured and modularized, and a deviation from the rules is substantiated, exceptions may be accepted.
- 2.13 Teaching is designed in a way that ensures a balanced proportion between periods of attendance and phases of self-study.

- 2.14 The curriculum offers the opportunity to develop an individual profile and focus.

3. Study organization

- 3.1 For each degree program, an academic Studies Coordinator and a student Studies Coordinator will be appointed and announced, who will be responsible for quality assurance and quality improvement of the degree program and who will be available to students as contacts.
- 3.2 Students can organize their studies as specified in the study regulations so that they are able to plan their studies in a relatively predictable way. The study organization ensures the implementation of the concept of the degree program and allows for graduation within the standard period of study.
- 3.3 The students' previous knowledge, existing skills, interests and study goals are taken into account appropriately when selecting teaching content and methods.
- 3.4 The actual workload in the degree programs shall correspond to the indications given in the module descriptions. The workload is distributed evenly over the semesters, is transparent, and is regularly reviewed by the responsible committees and adjusted if necessary.

[Advice and supervision]

- 3.5 For the degree program, an academic advisory service is offered, which is supplemented by central interdisciplinary services. In order to guarantee these services, the central and decentralized advisory centers cooperate with each other.
- 3.6 Tutor and mentoring programs, courses on academic writing, learning groups, supervised learning (so-called learning rooms) and similar services can help students to successfully complete their studies and strengthen their sense of belonging to the university.
- 3.7 The lecturers actively support the students in achieving their study goals and are expected to devote adequate time to the individual supervision of the students within the scope of their possibilities.

- 3.8 In order to spark interest in a future degree program at an early stage and to support competent and goal-oriented study decisions, there are coordinated information, advisory and orientation services available prior to the start of studies. Pre-study achievements of highly motivated prospective students are fostered and recognized during their subsequent studies.
- 3.9 Psychological problems of students are taken seriously and the student is referred to the relevant contact point, which is offered in cooperation with Dresden's Student Union (*Studentenwerk*), if required,

4. Mobility and internships

- 4.1 The degree program facilitates study-related stays abroad for students, e.g. through partnerships and mobility programs at university, faculty and degree program level.
- 4.2 Both the curriculum and the study organization in all undergraduate programs must, and in all Master's programs should, include mobility slots for study-related stays abroad. Degree programs that are primarily designed for international students may be excluded from this rule.
- 4.3 Each faculty appoints individuals who can advise students interested in studying abroad and provide them with optimal information about funding opportunities for studying abroad and the recognition of credits.
- 4.4 Regulations for the recognition of credits and study periods completed in one's home country or abroad in accordance with the Lisbon Convention are anchored in the study documents and implemented in practice.
- 4.5 If the degree program includes practical training, it is structured in a way that credit points (ECTS) can be earned.
- 4.6 Each faculty has contact persons available to advise students on internship matters. Moreover, students are supported in the organization and implementation of internships.

5. Examination system

- 5.1 Examinations are conducted on a module and competence basis. As a rule, each module is completed with an examination that covers the entire module and assesses the achievement of the central learning objectives. The feasibility of the degree programs shall be guaranteed by an appropriate number, scope and scheduling of the examinations.
- 5.2 The examinations are organized in such a way that the students know the examiners and the examination dates and formats in good time. The examination results are published in a timely manner and the students are informed accordingly.
- 5.3 It is ensured that there is sufficient communication between the relevant actors with regard to teaching, examinations and examination organization, and that agreements are made so that students do not suffer any disadvantage from a lack of communication between lecturers, especially if they are from different faculties and institutes.

6. Equipment and university didactics

[Equipment]

- 6.1 It is guaranteed that the degree program can be adequately realized in terms of the qualitative and quantitative equipment with regard to personnel, material and rooms. Interrelationships with other degree programs are taken into account.
- 6.2 Students are provided with facilities for intensive learning, for the preparation and follow-up of courses, and for group work.

[University didactics]

- 6.3 The didactic quality of teaching is reviewed in regular intervals, at least every three semesters, by interviewing the participants and evaluating the results with the interviewed students.
- 6.4 The continuing education program regarding university didactics is demand-oriented and can be used by both teachers and early-career researchers.
- 6.5 The lecturers of the degree program regularly engage in continuing education in university didactics.

- 6.6 To support teaching, up-to-date, easily understandable and easily accessible materials are provided even for past courses.
- 6.7 Teaching is supported by the use of audiovisual media as well as new forms of teaching and learning.
- 6.8 In addition to classroom teaching, students are given the opportunity to expand their knowledge through E-learning courses.

7. Transparency and participation

[Transparency]

- 7.1 The qualification goals and skills to be achieved according to the study regulations are described clearly and comprehensibly.
- 7.2 The study and examination regulations are up-to-date, comprehensible and publicly accessible at all times. Amendments and other committee decisions affecting the studies are published in a timely manner and are plausible.

[Participation]

- 7.3 In the development of the degree program, the participation of lecturers and students, graduates, external experts and representatives of professional practice is guaranteed.
- 7.4 The degree program considers the students important partners and fosters student participation.
- 7.5 The development of both the university-wide and the subject-specific quality goals involves the participation of students and teachers.

8. Diversity

- 8.1 Studies shall be made flexible to allow for an individual organization of the studies (e.g. to ensure child care, care of relatives, or the financing of studies). In particular, the possibility of part-time studies should generally be provided for; justified exceptions can be made in individual cases. The implementation of flexibility and part-time studies shall be guaranteed and facilitated by advisory services.

- 8.2 Students have the opportunity to compensate for the disadvantages arising from causes for which they are not responsible by profiting from appropriate measures. Disadvantage compensation regulations, especially with regard to admission requirements, selection procedures, recognition rules and examination requirements, are documented, transparent and a self-evident practice in daily individual life.
- 8.3 The degree programs are designed in a way that prolonged interruptions do not result in a further extension of the study period. An appropriate study organization, individually adapted study plans or specific advisory services allow for students to re-enter the program at each semester.
- 8.4 TU Dresden is an attractive location to stay and study for anyone coming at the university from abroad.
- 8.5 TU Dresden provides targeted advisory and support structures for international students, e.g. mentoring programs within the degree programs, which involve German students as partners and thus increase integration.

9. Cooperations

- 9.1 Degree programs offered at TU Dresden in cooperation with other universities, companies and other institutions are based on cooperation agreements that regulate the cooperative implementation and quality assurance of the degree programs. For the special advice and support needed by students, there are contact persons available. There is a regular exchange between the cooperation partners regarding the improvement and development of the degree programs.

10. Transition from studies to a profession

- 10.1 A high success rate (graduation rate) in the degree programs is aimed for and appropriate efforts are made.
- 10.2 The graduates of TU Dresden's degree programs have excellent prospects on the job market. Relevant occupational fields for which the degree programs prepare are described and published.
- 10.3 In order to make the transition successful, the students are supported by a variety of advisory services. Motivation, decision-making competence, and alternative perspectives of those seeking advice are particularly promoted during the transition to professional life.

11. Quality assurance and development

- 11.1 Results of the quality management within the university are incorporated into the development of the degree programs. This includes the consideration of evaluation results, the analysis of the student workload, the study success and the positions graduates were able to achieve.

12. Degree programs with special profile requirements

- 12.1 Degree programs with special profile requirements meet special demands. The goals outlined above are to be pursued with these requirements in mind.