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# **Prüfungsordnung für den Masterstudiengang Konservierungs- und Restaurierungswissenschaft (Besonderer Teil)**

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**Fakultät Bauen und Erhalten**

Der Fakultätsrat der Fakultät Bauen und Erhalten der HAWK Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaft und Kunst Hildesheim/Holzminde/n/Göttingen hat am 6. August 2025 die nachfolgende Ordnung über den Besonderen Teil der Prüfungsordnung für den Masterstudiengang Konservierungs- und Restaurierungswissenschaft beschlossen. Die Ordnung wurde am 17. Februar 2026 vom Präsidium der Hochschule gemäß § 37 Absatz 1 Satz 3 Ziffer 5b) NHG genehmigt. Die hochschulöffentliche Bekanntmachung erfolgte am 29. April 2026.

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## **§ 1 Dauer und Verlauf des Studiums**

- (1) Die Regelstudienzeit des Masterstudiengangs Konservierungs- und Restaurierungswissenschaft beträgt vier Semester.
- (2) Die Zuordnung zu einer Vertiefung erfolgt in der Regel aufgrund der Ausrichtung des vorangegangenen Bachelorstudiums. Über Ausnahmen entscheidet auf begründeten Antrag der bzw. die Studiendekan\*in. Ein Studium ohne eine der folgenden Vertiefungsrichtungen ist nicht möglich:  
Gefasste Holzobjekte und Gemälde,  
Möbel, Holzobjekte und Materialkombinationen,  
Steinobjekte und Architekturoberflächen,  
Schriftgut, Buch und Grafik.
- (3) Der Gesamtumfang der Pflicht- und Wahlpflichtbereiche beträgt 120 Leistungspunkte (Credits). Das Studium setzt sich aus sechs Pflichtmodulen (54 Leistungspunkte) sowie Wahlpflichtmodulen im Umfang von 66 Leistungspunkten zusammen. Ein möglicher Studienverlauf wird in Anlage 1 aufgezeigt.

## **§ 2 Prüfungen**

- (1) Die Prüfungen werden studienbegleitend erbracht und ergeben sich ebenso wie die Prüfungsarten und die Credits aus der Modulübersicht (Anlage 1). Falls keine andere Gewichtung angegeben ist, gehen bei Modulteilprüfungen die Einzelnoten zu gleichen Teilen in die Modulnote ein.
- (2) Prüfungen können neben den erforderlichen auch in anderen Wahlpflichtfächern abgelegt werden. Es gilt § 17 der Prüfungsordnung Allgemeiner Teil.
- (3) Ist eine Studienleistung als Prüfungsvorleistung (PVL) vorgesehen, so ist das Bestehen dieser Prüfungsvorleistung neben dem Vorliegen der Voraussetzungen gemäß § 8 des Allgemeinen Teils der Prüfungsordnung für die Zulassung zur notenbildenden Modulabschlussprüfung erforderlich.
- (4) Der Master in Konservierungs- und Restaurierungswissenschaft kann mit einem Minor im Umfang von drei bzw. vier Modulen und maximal mit 24 Leistungspunkten studiert werden. In welchen Minor-Modulgruppen Leistungspunkte erbracht werden müssen, damit dieser ausgewiesen werden kann, veranschaulicht Anlage 1.

## **§ 3 Masterarbeit und Kolloquium**

- (1) Die Bearbeitungszeit für die Masterarbeit (Modul MK 10-15) beträgt achtzehn Wochen.
- (2) Zur Masterarbeit wird zugelassen, wer bis dahin mindestens 60 Leistungspunkte erreicht hat und die Pflichtmodule des siebten und achten Semesters erfolgreich absolviert hat.
- (3) Dem Antrag auf Zulassung zur Masterarbeit ist ein mit den Prüfenden abgestimmter Vorschlag für den Themenbereich, dem das Thema für die Masterarbeit entnommen werden soll und eine Erklärung, ob die Masterarbeit als Einzel- oder Gruppenarbeit vergeben werden soll, beizufügen.
- (4) Als Zweitprüfende werden auf Antrag in begründeten Ausnahmefällen auch Personen zugelassen, die keinen entsprechenden akademischen Abschluss haben. Dieser Antrag muss mindestens vier Wochen vor der Anmeldung bei der Prüfungskommission gestellt werden.
- (5) Zum Kolloquium wird zugelassen, wer bis dahin alle Pflichtmodule sowie Wahlpflichtmodule im Umfang von 90 Leistungspunkten erfolgreich absolviert hat, und wessen Masterarbeit (Modul MK10-15) von beiden Prüfenden vorläufig mit mindestens ausreichend bewertet wurde.

- (6) Das Kolloquium gliedert sich in zwei Teile von in der Regel jeweils 25 bis 35 Minuten Dauer:  
Erster Teil: Präsentation der Arbeit durch die bzw. den Studierenden,  
Zweiter Teil: Befragung der bzw. des Studierenden durch die Prüfenden  
Die Gesamtdauer beträgt mindestens 50 und höchstens 70 Minuten. Bei sehr kurzen Präsentationen (unter 25 Minuten Dauer) darf die Befragung durch die Prüfenden entsprechend ausgedehnt werden, so dass die Prüfung insgesamt mindestens 50 Minuten dauert. Bei einer Gruppenarbeit verlängern sich diese Zeiten entsprechend.
- (7) Die Gewichtung von Masterthesis und Kolloquium für die Modulnote beträgt 3 zu 1.

#### **§ 4 Hochschulgrad, Zeugnis**

- (1) Der Studiengang schließt mit dem Bestehen aller Pflicht- und Wahlpflichtmodule ab.
- (2) Die Hochschule verleiht zum Abschluss den Hochschulgrad Master of Science, abgekürzt M.Sc. Hierüber stellt die Hochschule eine Urkunde mit dem Datum des Zeugnisses aus (Anlage 2). Ein Muster des Masterzeugnisses enthält Anlage 3. Gleichzeitig mit dem Zeugnis wird den Studierenden ein Diploma Supplement (Anlage 4) der aktuellen HRK-Vorlage entsprechend ausgehändigt.

#### **§ 5 Inkrafttreten und Übergangsregelungen**

- (1) Diese Prüfungsordnung tritt am Tag nach ihrer hochschulöffentlichen Bekanntmachung in Kraft.
- (2) Sie gilt erstmalig für Studierende, die zum Wintersemester 2026/2027 immatrikuliert werden.
- (3) Mit Ablauf des Sommersemesters 2030 tritt die Prüfungsordnung Besonderer Teil der Version 2020 außer Kraft. Die Studierenden setzen danach ihr Studium nach der Prüfungsordnung Besonderer Teil 2026 fort. Über Ausnahmen entscheidet die Prüfungskommission. § 6 der Prüfungsordnung Allgemeiner Teil findet entsprechend Anwendung. Bei der Überführung werden die in dem gleichen Modul erfolglos unternommenen Versuche, eine Prüfung abzulegen, auf die Wiederholungsmöglichkeiten angerechnet.

## Anlage 1: Modulübersicht

Sem.	Modul-Nr.	Modulgruppe	Modulname	LP	P/WP	Prüfungsart Gewichtung	Bewertung
1. Semester	MK 7-1	Degradation und Schadensursachen	Abiotische Degradationsprozesse	6	P	K1 oder R	benotet
	MK 7-2	Konservierungs- und Restaurierungstechnik	Behandlung degradierter Materialien 1	6	WP(*)	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 7-3	Digitale Methoden	Bauaufmaß und Bauforschung	6	WP	R oder ST	unbenotet
	MK 7-4 <sup>1</sup>	Minor Integriertes Schädlings- und Schadstoffmanagement - IPM	Umgang mit Gefahr- und Biostoffen	6	WP	K2	benotet
	MK 7-5	Recht, Betriebswirtschaft und Management	Grundsätze und Gesetze der Restaurierung	6	P	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 7-6	Konservierungs- und Restaurierungsprojekte (nur GHG, MHM, SAO)	Konzept- und Methodenentwicklung	6	WP(*)	R oder ST	unbenotet
	MK 7-7 <sup>2</sup>	Minor Bestandserhaltungsmanagement (nur SBG)	Grundlagen der Organisation	6	WP(*)	R oder ST	unbenotet
	MK 7-10	Degradation und Schadensursachen	Instrumentelle Analytik	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 7-14	Digitale Methoden	Digitale Methoden der Dokumentation	6	WP	R oder ST	unbenotet
	<b>Summe bei 2 P, 2 WP(*) und 1 WP</b>				<b>30</b>		
2. Semester	MK 8-1	Degradation und Schadensursachen	Biotische Degradationsprozesse	6	P	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 8-2	Konservierungs- und Restaurierungstechnik	Behandlung degradierter Materialien 2	6	WP(*)	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 8-6	Konservierungs- und Restaurierungsprojekte	Vertiefende Fragestellungen der Konservierung -Restaurierung 1	6	WP(*)	R oder ST	unbenotet
	MK 8-7 <sup>2</sup>	Minor Bestandserhaltungsmanagement (SBG)	Mengenbehandlungen	6	WP	K2	benotet
	MK 8-8 <sup>2</sup>	Minor Bestandserhaltungsmanagement (SBG)	Prozessentwicklung	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 8-9	Degradation und Schadensursachen	Bioremediation und Enzymanwendung	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 8-11 <sup>1</sup>	Minor Integriertes Schädlings- und Schadstoffmanagement - IPM	Einfluss von Licht auf Mikroorganismen	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 8-12 <sup>3</sup>	Minor Methodologie der Erhaltung zeitgenössischer Kunst	Herausforderungen und methodologische Ansätze in der Erhaltung zeitgenössischer Kunst	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet

Sem.	Modul-Nr.	Modulgruppe	Modulname	LP	P/WP	Prüfungsart Gewichtung	Bewertung
	MK 8-13 <sup>3</sup>	Minor Methodologie der Erhaltung zeitgenössischer Kunst	Dokumentation zeitgenössischer Kunstwerke	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet
<b>Summe bei 1 P, 2 WP<sup>(*)</sup> plus 2 WP</b>				<b>30</b>			
3. Semester	MK 9-1 <sup>1</sup>	Minor Integriertes Schädlings- und Schadstoffmanagement - IPM	Vermeidung biotischer Degradationsprozesse und Bekämpfungsstrategien	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 9-2	Konservierungs- und Restaurierungstechnik	Behandlung degradierter Materialien 3	6	WP <sup>(*)</sup>	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 9-4 <sup>1</sup>	Minor Integriertes Schädlings- und Schadstoffmanagement - IPM	Erkennen und Bestimmen von Schadorganismen	6	WP	K2	benotet
	MK 9-5	Recht, Betriebswirtschaft und Management	Betriebsführung und Vergaberecht	6	P	R oder ST <sup>4</sup>	unbenotet
	MK 9-6	Konservierungs- und Restaurierungsprojekte	Vertiefende Fragestellungen der Konservierung -Restaurierung 2	6	WP <sup>(*)</sup>	R oder ST	unbenotet
	MK 9-8 <sup>2</sup>	Minor Bestandserhaltungsmanagement (SBG)	Fach- und Führungsaufgabe	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 9-12 <sup>3</sup>	Minor Methodologie der Erhaltung zeitgenössischer Kunst	Fallstudien zur Erhaltung zeitgenössischer Kunst	6	WP	R oder ST	benotet
	MK 9-14	Digitale Methoden	Digitale Methoden Konservierung und Restaurierung	6	WP	R oder ST	unbenotet
<b>Summe bei 1 P, 2 WP<sup>(*)</sup> plus 2 WP</b>				<b>30</b>			
4. Semester	MK 10-5	Recht, Betriebswirtschaft und Management	Thesis-Projektmanagement	6	P	R	unbenotet
	MK 10-15	Masterthesis mit Kolloquium	Masterthesis mit Kolloquium	24	P	AA (3:1)	benotet
	<b>Summe bei 2 P</b>				<b>30</b>		

<sup>(\*)</sup> Dieses Modul muss in der jeweiligen Vertiefung belegt werden

<sup>1</sup> Minor Integriertes Schädlings- und Schadstoffmanagement (IPM): für alle Vertiefungen

<sup>2</sup> Minor Bestandserhaltungsmanagement: für die Vertiefung Schriftgut, Buch und Grafik (SBG)

<sup>3</sup> Minor Methodologie der Erhaltung zeitgenössischer Kunst: für alle Vertiefungen

<sup>4</sup> Anwesenheitspflicht gem. § 7 Abs. 5 Satz 1 NHG

Abkürzung	Bezeichnung
AA	Abschlussarbeit mit Kolloquium
K1, K2	ein-/zweistündige Klausur (60 bzw. 120 Min.)
ST	Studienarbeit (mit oder ohne Kolloquium)
R	Referat (Vortrag und schriftliche Ausarbeitung)
P	Pflichtmodul
WP	Wahlpflichtmodul

## Anlage 2: Masterurkunde (Muster)

### MASTERURKUNDE

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**Die HAWK**  
**Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaft und Kunst**  
**Hildesheim/Holzminde/Göttingen**  
**Fakultät Bauen und Erhalten**

verleiht mit dieser Urkunde

geboren am **«Vorname» «Nachname»**  
«Geburtsdatum» in «Geburtsort»

den Hochschulgrad **Master of Science**  
abgekürzt M.Sc.,  
nach bestandener Abschlussprüfung im Studiengang

**Konservierungs- und Restaurierungswissenschaft**

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Hildesheim «Datum»

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«Dekan\*in»

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«Studiendekan\*in»

## Anlage 3: Masterzeugnis (Muster)

### MASTERZEUGNIS

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geboren am **«Vorname» «Nachname»**  
«Geburtsdatum» in «Geburtsort»

hat die Masterprüfung im Studiengang

**Konservierungs- und Restaurierungswissenschaft**  
Vertiefungsrichtung x

der Fakultät Bauen und Erhalten in Hildesheim  
bestanden.

**Thema der Masterarbeit:**

	Credits	Note
<b>Gesamtbewertung</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>0,0 (in Worten)</b>

Die Gesamtnote ergibt sich aus den Modulnoten gemäß Anlage zum Masterzeugnis.

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Hildesheim, den «PruefDatum»

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«Studiendekan\*in»

# ANLAGE ZUM MASTERZEUGNIS

## Studiengang

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**Vorname Nachname**  
geboren am 00.00.0000 in «Ort»

<b>Module</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Note</b>
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**Pflicht- und Wahlpflichtmodule**

0,0  
0,0  
0,0  
0,0  
0,0  
0,0  
0,0  
0,0  
0,0  
0,0

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**Masterarbeit**

0,0

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**Gesamtnote**

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## Anlage 4: Diploma Supplement (Muster)

### DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

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This Diploma Supplement model was developed by the European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES. The purpose of the supplement is to provide sufficient independent data to improve the international 'transparency' and fair academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates, etc.). It is designed to provide a description of the nature, level, context, content and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed by the individual named on the original qualification to which this supplement is appended. It should be free from any value judgements, equivalence statements or suggestions about recognition. Information in all eight sections should be provided. Where information is not provided, an explanation should give the reason why.

#### 1. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE HOLDER OF THE QUALIFICATION

1.1	Family name(s)	<b>Nachname</b>	1.2	First name(s)	<b>Vorname</b>
1.3	Date of birth	<b>oo.oo.oooo</b>	1.4	Student identification number or code	<b>oooooo</b>

#### 2. INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFICATION

2.1 Name of Qualification and (if applicable) title conferred (in original language)  
Master of Science (M.Sc.) Konservierungs- und Restaurierungswissenschaft

2.2 Main field(s) of study for the qualification  
Conservation and Restoration in the field:

- Polychrome Wooden Objects and Paintings;
- Furniture, Wooden Objects and Material Combinations;
- Archive Material, Book and Graphic;
- Stone Objects and Architectural Surfaces

2.3 Name and status of awarding institution (in original language)  
HAWK Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaft und Kunst  
Hildesheim/Holzminden/Göttingen  
Fakultät Bauen und Erhalten  
University of Applied Sciences and Arts / State Institution

2.4 Name and status of institution (if different from 2.3) administering studies (in original language)  
[as above]

2.5 Language(s) of instruction/examination  
German

#### 3. INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL AND DURATION OF THE QUALIFICATION

3.1 Level of the qualification  
Master programme, second degree, by research with thesis

3.2 Official duration of programme in credits and/or years  
Two years, 4 semesters, 120 ECTS

3.3 Access requirement(s)  
Bachelor degree or relevant diploma in preventive conservation or conservation and restoration in particular or related fields (three years, with 180 ECTS credits), or foreign equivalent.

#### 4. INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMME COMPLETED AND THE RESULTS OBTAINED

#### 4.1 Mode of Study

Full Time Study

#### 4.2 Programme learning outcomes

##### Subject-Specific Competencies

##### 1. Examination and Diagnosis: advanced level

Graduates are able to analyse the object history, technologies, and the condition of the materials, as well as the causes of damage, degradation processes, and current risks. They can classify these from conservation, scientific, and conservation history perspectives. Graduates master common methods of analysis, selects appropriate analyses techniques in interdisciplinary collaboration, collect suitable samples, formulate precise research questions, interpret analytical procedures, and discusses outcomes with experts from other disciplines. They can independently choose and apply appropriate analogue and digital documentation methods as required.

##### 2. Determining the Need for Conservation and Restoration Measures: advanced level

Graduates are able to compare current and intended use of objects and, based on examination and diagnosis, determine the need for necessary preventive, conservation, and restoration measures.

##### 3. Weighing Conservation and Restoration Measures: advanced level

Graduates are able to compare conservation-restoration measures and their results, critically evaluating them in line with professional ethical principles and associated risks. They are able to assess different aims based on the current state of research.

##### 4. Planning and Organisation of Conservation and Restoration Measures: advanced level

Graduates are able to develop and implement concepts and plans for conservation and restoration measures, including project management. They understand essential aspects of occupational health and safety, including relevant legal, insurance, procurement, and funding requirements.

##### 5. Implementation and Documentation of Conservation and Restoration: advanced level

The graduates are able to apply, assess and adapt preventive and stabilising conservation measures and restoration interventions. They are able to evaluate, compare, and modify both methods and materials as necessary.

##### 6. Assessment of Conservation and Restoration Results: advanced level

The graduates analyse the outcomes of conservation and restoration measures, can explain and communicate their findings at both national and international professional levels, and are able to convey their results to expert audiences.

##### 7. Final Recommendations: advanced level

The graduates are able to derive recommendations for long-term preservation (including use and storage) and further measures, based on a comprehensive evaluation of the conservation-restoration results.

##### Transversal Competencies

Graduates are able to work in an interdisciplinary manner and apply conceptual and procedural knowledge even in new and unfamiliar situations. They can further develop established methods and devise new approaches to solutions.

Graduates are able to work constructively in teams, including those with an intercultural composition. They can identify and analyse the interests of various stakeholders in projects. They are able to give professional presentations, participate in subject-specific discussions, articulate and substantiate their own positions, and respond to criticism in a constructive and factual manner.

Graduates possess advanced skills in observation and reflection. They are able to identify the values ascribed to cultural heritage in a differentiated manner and to incorporate these into their analyses and decision-making processes. They are able to organize their work independently and to supervise staff members. Graduates are capable of independently preparing scholarly publications and assume responsibility for their quality and academic integrity.

#### 4.3 Programme details, individual credits gained and grades/marks obtained

Please refer to the Certificate (Masterzeugnis) for a list of courses and grades.

#### 4.4 Grading system and, if available, grade distribution table

Absolute grading scheme: "Sehr Gut" (1,0; 1,3) = Very Good; "Gut" (1,7; 2,0; 2,3) = Good; "Befriedigend" (2,7; 3,0; 3,3) = Satisfactory; "Ausreichend" (3,7; 4,0) = Pass; "Nicht ausreichend" (5,0) = Fail

Statistical distribution of grades: **grading table**

#### 4.5 Overall classification of the qualification (in original language) **o,o**

The final grade is based on the grades awarded during the study programme and that of the final thesis (with oral component). Please refer to the Certificate (Masterzeugnis).

When there are no marks given, not enough results are available yet to determine ECTS-grades.

### 5. INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTION OF THE QUALIFICATION

#### 5.1 Access to further study

The M.Sc. in Scientific Conservation and Restoration entitles the holder to apply for admission for a doctoral thesis according

to respective regulations covering doctoral programmes.

5.2 Access to a regulated profession (if applicable)

The Master degree in Scientific Conservation and Restoration entitles its holder to the legally protected professional title “Master of Science” and to exercise professional work in the field(s) for which the degree was awarded.

**6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

6.1 Additional information

Non-academic acquired competencies were credited in an amount of **00** credits in the following modules: ...

6.2 Further information sources

[www.hawk.de](http://www.hawk.de)

**7. CERTIFICATION**

This Diploma Supplement refers to the following original documents:

Document on the award of the academic degree

(Masterurkunde)

**00.00.0000**

Certificate (Masterzeugnis)

**00.00.0000**

Transcript of Records

Certification Date:

**00.00.0000**

(Official Stamp / Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairwoman/Chairman Examination Committee

**8. NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM**

The information on the national higher education system on the following pages provides a context for the qualification and the type of higher education institution that awarded it.

## **8. INFORMATION ON THE GERMAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM<sup>i</sup>**

### **8.1 Types of Institutions and Institutional Status**

Higher education (HE) studies in Germany are offered at three types of Higher Education Institutions (HEI).<sup>ii</sup>

- *Universitäten* (Universities) including various specialised institutions, offer the whole range of academic disciplines. In the German tradition, universities focus in particular on basic research so that advanced stages of study have mainly theoretical orientation and research-oriented components.

- *Fachhochschulen (FH)/Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (Universities of Applied Sciences, UAS) focus their study programmes on engineering and other technical disciplines, business-related studies, social work, and design areas. The common mission of applied research and development implies an application-oriented focus of studies, which includes integrated and supervised work assignments in industry, enterprises or other relevant institutions.

- *Kunst- und Musikhochschulen* (Universities of Art/Music) offer studies for artistic careers in fine arts, performing arts and music; in such fields as directing, production, writing in theatre, film, and other media; and in a variety of design areas, architecture, media and communication.

Higher Education Institutions are either state or state-recognised institutions. In their operations, including the organisation of studies and the designation and award of degrees, they are subject to higher education legislation.

### **8.2 Types of Programmes and Degrees Awarded**

Studies in all three types of institutions have traditionally been offered in integrated "long" (one-tier) programmes leading to *Diplom-* or *Magister Artium* degrees or completed by a *Staatsprüfung* (State Examination).

Within the framework of the Bologna-Process one-tier study programmes are successively being replaced by a two-tier study system. Since 1998, two-tier degrees (Bachelor's and Master's) have been introduced in almost all study programmes. This change is designed to enlarge variety and flexibility for students in planning and pursuing educational objectives; it also enhances international compatibility of studies.

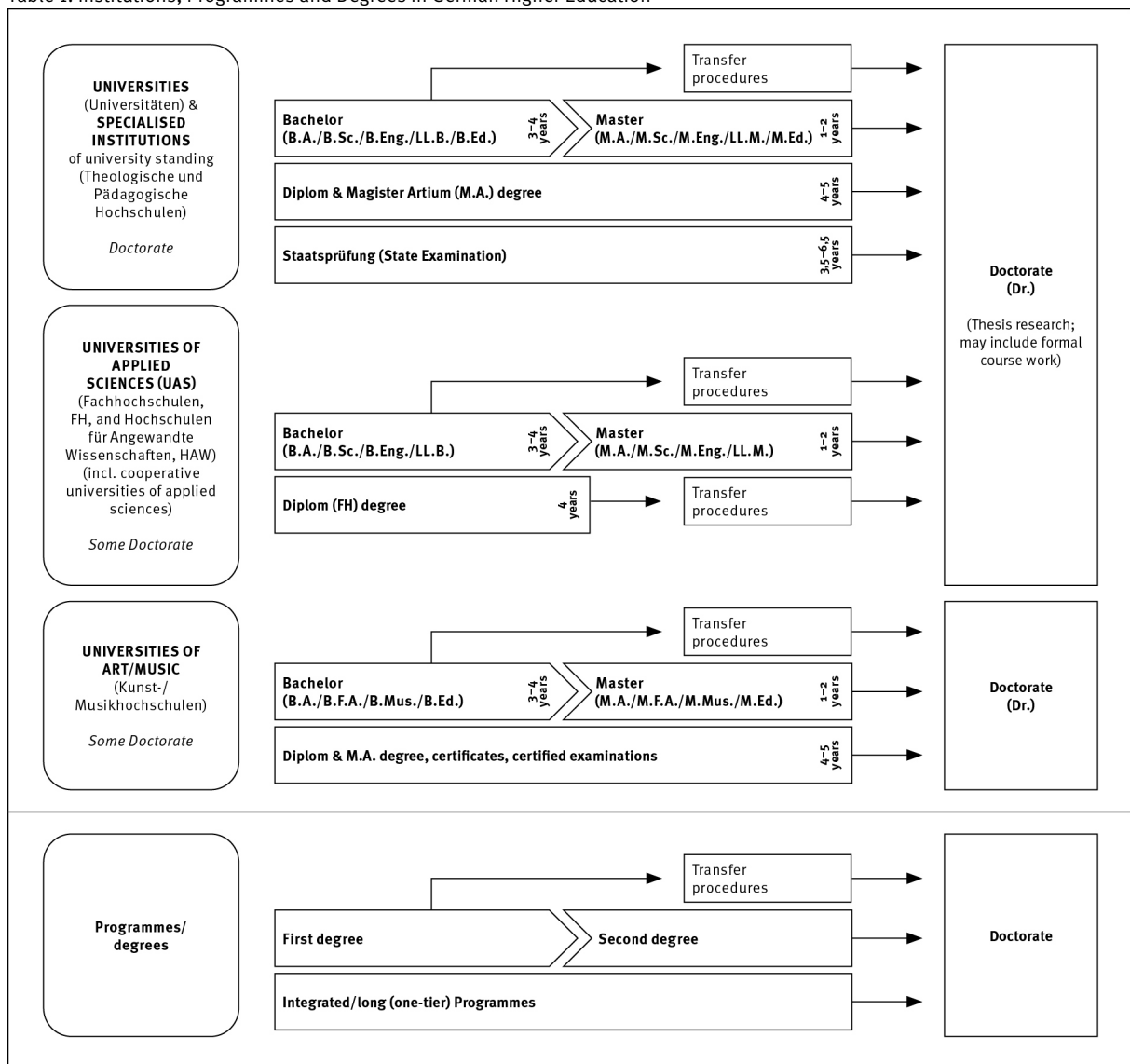
The German Qualifications Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (HQR)<sup>iii</sup> describes the qualification levels as well as the resulting qualifications and competences of the graduates. The three levels of the HQR correspond to the levels 6, 7 and 8 of the German Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning<sup>iv</sup> and the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning<sup>v</sup>.

For details cf. Sec. 8.4.1, 8.4.2, and 8.4.3 respectively. Table 1 provides a synoptic summary.

### **8.3 Approval/Accreditation of Programmes and Degrees**

To ensure quality and comparability of qualifications, the organisation of studies and general degree requirements have to conform to principles and regulations established by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK).<sup>vi</sup> In 1999, a system of accreditation for Bachelor's and Master's programmes has become operational. All new programmes have to be accredited under this scheme; after a successful accreditation they receive the seal of the Accreditation Council.<sup>vii</sup>

Table 1: Institutions, Programmes and Degrees in German Higher Education



#### 8.4 Organisation and Structure of Studies

The following programmes apply to all three types of institutions. Bachelor's and Master's study programmes may be studied consecutively, at various higher education institutions, at different types of higher education institutions and with phases of professional work between the first and the second qualification. The organisation of the study programmes makes use of modular components and of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) with 30 credits corresponding to one semester.

##### 8.4.1 Bachelor

Bachelor's degree programmes lay the academic foundations, provide methodological competences and include skills related to the professional field. The Bachelor's degree is awarded after 3 to 4 years. The Bachelor's degree programme includes a thesis requirement. Study programmes leading to the Bachelor's degree must be accredited according to the Interstate study accreditation treaty.<sup>viii</sup>

First degree programmes (Bachelor) lead to Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.), Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.), Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.), Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.) or Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.). The Bachelor's degree corresponds to level 6 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

##### 8.4.2 Master

The Master's degree is the second degree after another 1 to 2 years. Master's programmes may be differentiated by the profile types "practice-oriented" and "research-oriented". Higher Education Institutions define the profile. The Master's degree programme includes a thesis requirement. Study programmes leading to the Master's degree must be accredited according to the Interstate study accreditation treaty.<sup>ix</sup>

Second degree programmes (Master) lead to Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Science (M.Sc.), Master of Engineering (M.Eng.),

Master of Laws (L.L.M.), Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.), Master of Music (M.Mus.) or Master of Education (M.Ed.). Master's programmes which are designed for continuing education may carry other designations (e.g. MBA).

The Master degree corresponds to level 7 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

#### **8.4.3 Integrated "Long" Programmes (One-Tier): Diplom degrees, Magister Artium, Staatsprüfung**

An integrated study programme is either mono-disciplinary (*Diplom* degrees, most programmes completed by a *Staatsprüfung*) or comprises a combination of either two major or one major and two minor fields (*Magister Artium*). The first stage (1.5 to 2 years) focuses on broad orientations and foundations of the field(s) of study. An Intermediate Examination (*Diplom-Vorprüfung* for *Diplom* degrees; *Zwischenprüfung* or credit requirements for the *Magister Artium*) is prerequisite to enter the second stage of advanced studies and specialisations. Degree requirements include submission of a thesis (up to 6 months duration) and comprehensive final written and oral examinations. Similar regulations apply to studies leading to a *Staatsprüfung*. The level of qualification is equivalent to the Master's level.

- Integrated studies at *Universitäten (U)* last 4 to 5 years (*Diplom* degree, *Magister Artium*) or 3.5 to 6.5 years (*Staatsprüfung*). The *Diplom* degree is awarded in engineering disciplines, the natural sciences as well as economics and business. In the humanities, the corresponding degree is usually the *Magister Artium (M.A.)*. In the social sciences, the practice varies as a matter of institutional traditions. Studies preparing for the legal, medical and pharmaceutical professions are completed by a *Staatsprüfung*. This applies also to studies preparing for teaching professions of some *Länder*.

The three qualifications (*Diplom*, *Magister Artium* and *Staatsprüfung*) are academically equivalent and correspond to level 7 of the German Qualifications Framework/European Qualifications Framework.

They qualify to apply for admission to doctoral studies. Further prerequisites for admission may be defined by the Higher Education Institution, cf. Sec. 8.5.

- Integrated studies at *Fachhochschulen (FH)/Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (Universities of Applied Sciences, UAS) last 4 years and lead to a *Diplom (FH)* degree which corresponds to level 6 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

Qualified graduates of FH/HAW/UAS may apply for admission to doctoral studies at doctorate-granting institutions, cf. Sec. 8.5.

- Studies at *Kunst- und Musikhochschulen* (Universities of Art/Music, etc.) are more diverse in their organisation, depending on the field and individual objectives. In addition to *Diplom/Magister* degrees, the integrated study programme awards include certificates and certified examinations for specialised areas and professional purposes.

#### **8.5 Doctorate**

Universities as well as specialised institutions of university standing, some of the FH/HAW/UAS and some Universities of Art/Music are doctorate-granting institutions. Formal prerequisite for admission to doctoral work is a qualified Master's degree (UAS and U), a *Magister* degree, a *Diplom*, a *Staatsprüfung*, or a foreign equivalent. Comparable degrees from universities of art and music can in exceptional cases (study programmes such as music theory, musicology, pedagogy of arts and music, media studies) also formally qualify for doctoral work. Particularly qualified holders of a Bachelor's degree or a *Diplom (FH)* degree may also be admitted to doctoral studies without acquisition of a further degree by means of a procedure to determine their aptitude. The universities respectively the doctorate-granting institutions regulate entry to a doctorate as well as the structure of the procedure to determine aptitude. Admission further requires the acceptance of the dissertation research project by a professor as a supervisor.

The doctoral degree corresponds to level 8 of the German Qualifications Framework/ European Qualifications Framework.

#### **8.6 Grading Scheme**

The grading scheme in Germany usually comprises five levels (with numerical equivalents; intermediate grades may be given): "*Sehr Gut*" (1) = Very Good; "*Gut*" (2) = Good; "*Befriedigend*" (3) = Satisfactory; "*Ausreichend*" (4) = Sufficient; "*Nicht ausreichend*" (5) = Non-Sufficient/Fail. The minimum passing grade is "*Ausreichend*" (4). Verbal designations of grades may vary in some cases and for doctoral degrees.

In addition, grade distribution tables as described in the ECTS Users' Guide are used to indicate the relative distribution of grades within a reference group.

#### **8.7 Access to Higher Education**

The General Higher Education Entrance Qualification (*Allgemeine Hochschulreife, Abitur*) after 12 to 13 years of schooling allows for admission to all higher education programmes. Specialised variants (*Fachgebundene Hochschulreife*) allow for admission at *Fachhochschulen (FH)/Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (UAS), universities and equivalent higher education institutions, but only in particular disciplines. Access to study programmes at *Fachhochschulen (FH)/Hochschulen für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HAW)* (UAS), is also possible with a *Fachhochschulreife*, which can usually be acquired after 12 years of schooling. Admission to study programmes at Universities of Art/Music and comparable study programmes at other higher education institutions as well as admission to study programmes in sports may be based on other or additional evidence demonstrating individual aptitude.

Applicants with a qualification in vocational education and training but without a school-based higher education entrance qualification are entitled to a general higher education entrance qualification and thus to access to all study programmes, provided they have obtained advanced further training certificates in particular state-regulated vocational fields (e.g. *Meis-*

ter/Meisterin im Handwerk, Industriemeister/in, Fachwirt/in (IHK), Betriebswirt/in (IHK) und (HWK), staatlich geprüfte/r Techniker/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Betriebswirt/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Gestalter/in, staatlich geprüfte/r Erzieher/in). Vocationally qualified applicants can obtain a *Fachgebundene Hochschulreife* after completing a state-regulated vocational education of at least two years' duration plus professional practice of normally at least three years' duration, after having successfully passed an aptitude test at a higher education institution or other state institution; the aptitude test may be replaced by successfully completed trial studies of at least one year's duration.<sup>x</sup>

Higher Education Institutions may in certain cases apply additional admission procedures.

### 8.8 National Sources of Information

- *Kultusministerkonferenz (KMK)* [Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany]; Graurheindorfer Str. 157, D-53117 Bonn; Phone: +49[0]228/501-0, www.kmk.org; E-Mail: hochschulen@kmk.org
- Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) as German NARIC; www.kmk.org; E-Mail: zab@kmk.org
- German information office of the *Länder* in the EURYDICE Network, providing the national dossier on the education system; www.kmk.org; E-Mail: Eurydice@kmk.org
- *Hochschulrektorenkonferenz (HRK)* [German Rectors' Conference]; Leipziger Platz 11, D-10117 Berlin, Phone: +49 30 206292-0; www.hrk.de; E-Mail: post@hrk.de
- "Higher Education Compass" of the German Rectors' Conference features comprehensive information on institutions, programmes of study, etc. (www.higher-education-compass.de)

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<sup>i</sup> The information covers only aspects directly relevant to purposes of the Diploma Supplement.

<sup>ii</sup> *Berufsakademien* are not considered as Higher Education Institutions, they only exist in some of the *Länder*. They offer educational programmes in close cooperation with private companies. Students receive a formal degree and carry out an apprenticeship at the company. Some *Berufsakademien* offer Bachelor courses which are recognised as an academic degree if they are accredited by the Accreditation Council.

<sup>iii</sup> German Qualifications Framework for Higher Education Degrees. (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 16 February 2017).

<sup>iv</sup> German Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning (DQR). Joint resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the German Conference of Economics Ministers and the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 15 November 2012). More information at www.dqr.de

<sup>v</sup> Recommendation of the European Parliament and the European Council on the establishment of a European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning of 23 April 2008 (2008/C 111/01 – European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning – EQF).

<sup>vi</sup> Specimen decree pursuant to Article 4, paragraphs 1 – 4 of the interstate study accreditation treaty (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 21 November 2024).

<sup>vii</sup> Interstate Treaty on the organisation of a joint accreditation system to ensure the quality of teaching and learning at German higher education institutions (Interstate study accreditation treaty) (Decision of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 8 December 2016), Enacted on 1 January 2018.

<sup>viii</sup> See note No. 7.

<sup>ix</sup> See note No. 7.

<sup>x</sup> Access to higher education for applicants with a vocational qualification, but without a school-based higher education entrance qualification (Resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany of 6 March 2009).