

Study Programme Regulations and Examination Regulations of the Department of Business at Fulda University of Applied Sciences for the “Master of Science” study programme “International Management” of 16 October 2019, updated 11 November 2020 and 15 November 2023

Unofficial reading version! The legally binding guidelines are published in the Official Notices of Fulda University of Applied Sciences as listed below:

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§ 1 Study Programme Objectives, Study Programme Variations, Academic Title

- (1) The study programme aims to teach students the methods and tools deployed in the management of international companies or organisations. Students graduating from the programme are able to apply these methods and tools to address often new and unexpected types of practical and theoretical problems in international management.
- (2) The programme particularly aims to equip students with the following qualifications and competencies:
 - (a) Students will be proficient in the commercial tasks and processes in relevant functional areas of an international company and understand how these tasks and processes interrelate.
 - (b) Students will be able to identify interfaces and conflicting objectives between the business functions of a company, analyse interconnected business processes, and develop and evaluate holistic solutions.
 - (c) Students will acquire or further enhance key qualifications in the field of intercultural communication, including English-language communication, as well as social and leadership skills.
 - (d) Students will be able to reflect critically on their own (leadership) performance. They will be able to take due account of the social and ethical impacts of business decisions, especially from an international, intercultural perspective.
 - (e) Students will be able to independently acquire new knowledge and learn academic methods and apply these to solve changing problems in companies.
- (3) The International Management Master's degree programme is offered in two variations, each with a standard programme length:
 - as a three-semester programme for students with a recognised university degree worth at least 210 ECTS credits in accordance with Section 2(1).
 - as a four-semester programme for students with a recognised university degree worth at least 180 ECTS credits but less than 210 ECTS credits as defined in § 2(1).
- (4) Students graduating from the study programme are awarded a "Master of Science (MSc)" degree by Fulda University of Applied Sciences.

§ 2 Access Requirements and Admission

- (1) Admission to the Master's study programme requires documented proof of completion of a university degree (Diplom, Bachelor's degree), mainly in the field of business and/or economics and worth at least 180 ECTS credits.
- (2) Applicants' English language proficiency must be certified at least at B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Applicants who acquired their university entrance qualification in an English-speaking country or who have completed a university degree taught predominantly in English are exempt from this requirement.
- (3) Admission takes place in winter and summer semesters.

§ 3 Standard Duration of Studies and ECTS Credits for the Study Programme

- (1) The standard study programme length:
 - three semesters for the three-semester programme; students must earn a total of 90 ECTS credits.
 - four semesters for the four-semester programme; students must earn a total of 120 ECTS credits
- (2) Students graduate from their study programme if they successfully complete the modules required by the curriculum and earn a total of at least 300 ECTS credits, including credits from their first degree.

§ 4 Modules

- (1) The programme structure is set out in the Curriculum (Annex 1). The contents of the modules, the relevant number of ECTS credits and the respective examinations are set out in the module descriptions (Annex 2).
- (2) The three-semester degree programme comprises the 15 modules (13 compulsory modules and two elective modules) taught in the first three semesters as described in Annex 1.
- (3) The four-semester degree programme also requires students to complete one semester as set out in § 6. Alternatively, further modules worth 30 ECTS credits can be taken upon agreement with the Dean's Office.

§ 5 Elective Modules

- (1) The study programme requires students to complete two elective modules.
- (2) Elective modules that may be taken are:
 - (a) the following modules from the "Accounting, Finance, Controllership" Master's study programme:
 - Individual Financial Statements in Accordance With IFRS (W5005),
 - Operations Controllership (W5008),
 - Corporate Finance and Capital Market (W5010);
 - (b) the modules W5085 (Elective Module 1) and W5086 (Elective Module 2); these modules offer alternating topics specifically relating to international management; the Dean's Office displays a notice listing the respective topics and module descriptions prior to the start of each semester; the modules W5085 and W5086 may be taken twice provided they cover different topics each time;
 - (c) selected modules from other Master's study programmes at Fulda University of Applied Sciences worth 5 ECTS points each; prior to the start of each semester, the Dean's Office displays a notice listing the modules approved for selection.

§ 6 Study Abroad, Work Placement

- (1) In accordance with § 4(3), students taking the four-semester study programme spend one semester studying at a university abroad (W5016 Study Abroad) or on a work placement (W5164 Work Placement – Master’s in International Management).
- (2) Registration for the Study Abroad or Work Placement modules should be completed by 15 April or 15 October of the preceding semester.
- (3) Prior to commencement of the Study Abroad module, the student and the Department of Business at Fulda University must complete and both sign a Learning Agreement.
- (4) Details of the Work Placement are laid down in Annex 3.

§ 7 Graduation Module

- (1) The Graduation Module (W5041) requires students to complete the Master’s thesis and take an accompanying seminar.
- (2) The Master’s thesis covers a topic from the field of international management.
- (3) An accompanying seminar is conducted to help students prepare their Master’s Thesis.
- (4) The stipulated period for completing the Master’s thesis is twelve weeks. The period can be extended once only by four weeks, upon request.

§ 8 Calculation of Overall Degree Grade

- (1) The overall degree grade is calculated as the weighted arithmetic mean of the ECTS credits attained in the modules.
- (2) The following modules will be listed on the academic transcript, but do not count towards the overall degree grade:
 - (a) Work Placement – Master’s in International Management (W5015),
 - (b) Study Abroad (W5016).
 - (c) Modules completed additional to the curriculum

§ 9 Entry into Force

The Examination Regulations enter into force on 1 October 2020.

§ 10 Transitional Rules

Students already enrolled on the “International Management” study programme at the time the new examination regulations come into force will by default complete their studies in line with the previously applicable examination regulations. This option will lapse at the end of the winter semester 2021/22. It is possible for students to change to the present examination regulations at any time upon request.

Annex 3: Regulations for the Work Placement in the “International Management” Study Programme

§ 1 Fundamental principles, exceptions

- (1) The work placement must be completed at a company or organisation (company providing the placement).
- (2) The placement has a duration of 6 months. During this time, students are to be employed on the basis of the normal working hours of a full-time position. Any periods where the student was not present for the work placement must be made up if these periods of absence amount to more than two weeks in total.
- (3) Students may apply to complete their placement on a part-time basis if a full-time placement basis represents an unreasonable burden for them. The duration of the work placement will be extended accordingly.
- (4) The Examination Board shall decide on applications made pursuant to (3).

§ 2 Grading/credits

- (1) As part of the work placement, students write a term paper that explains and critically analyses a particular topic within the company providing the placement. The term paper is not graded.
- (2) As a pre-requisite for the award of ECTS credits, students must describe their own area of activity with a reflection on the theory and practice in the form of a presentation or a report.

§ 3 Obligations and status of students

- (1) Students are obliged to follow the instructions issued by the company providing the work placement and its designated officers that are necessary in order to achieve the placement goals and objectives.
- (2) During the placement the students remain members of the university with all the rights and duties that this status entails.
- (3) Students are not trainees within the meaning of the German Vocational Training Act (Berufsbildungsgesetz).

§ 4 Supervision by the company providing the work placement

- (1) Students should be supervised at the company providing the work placement by designated mentors who have appropriate training in the relevant subject area and who work in the company providing the placement on a full-time basis or who are project managers at the company.
- (2) Mentors should arrange and oversee the induction of the students in their duties and work areas. In addition to making themselves available to the students as a personal contact

for guidance and assistance, mentors should also support the students' learning process at the work placement sites.

§ 5 Work Placement Agreement

- (1) Prior to the commencement of the work placement, students must sign a Work Placement Agreement with the company providing the placement. Before they conclude the Work Placement Agreement with the company, students must first obtain approval from the Department of Business at Fulda University of Applied Sciences (placement office).
- (2) The Work Placement Agreement will specifically define the students' obligation to:
 - (a) take full advantage of the training opportunities offered by the placement;
 - (b) diligently perform the duties assigned to them in accordance with the work placement plan;
 - (c) follow the instructions of the company providing the placement and its appointed officers;
 - (d) comply with the rules and regulations that apply to the company providing the placement, particularly its working time rules, accident prevention regulations, and confidentiality and non-disclosure policies;
 - (e) report any absences from the work placement without delay.