



## **Statutes of Ulm University as a consequence of the effects of the corona pandemic in the area of study and teaching of 17 April 2020**

Pursuant to §§ 3 (3) sentence 2, 29 (4) sentence 2, 32 (3) sentence 1 in conjunction with 19 (1) sentence 2 no. 9 of the Federal State Higher Education Act Baden-Württemberg (*LHG*) in the version of 1 January 2005 (law gazette p. 1 ff), last amended by article 1 of the act of 13 March 2018 (law gazette no. 5, p. 85 ff), the Senate of Ulm University adopted these Statutes of Ulm University as a consequence of the effects of the corona pandemic in the area of study and teaching, by way of rapid decision of the President pursuant to § 15 (1) of the rules of procedure of Ulm University upon consent of the Deans of the Faculties of the University, also by way of rapid decision pursuant to § 15 (1) of the rules of procedure. The President of Ulm University gave his consent on 17 April 2020 in accordance with § 32 (3) sentence 1 of the *LHG*.

### **Preamble**

Due to the provisions of the ordinance of the state government regarding infection protection measures to contain the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (Corona ordinance – CoronaVO) of 17 March 2020 in the version of 9 April 2020, the winter semester 2019/2020 could not be terminated regularly. Because of the legal regulations in place, it is already clear that in the summer semester 2020 studies as usual will not be possible. In view of § 2 of the Corona ordinance (CoronaVO) providing that higher education institutions ensure that students can complete all study achievements projected for the summer semester 2020, at the same time guaranteeing studyability and allowing universities to regulate rescheduling of cancelled lectures, courses and examinations under their own responsibility, legally compliant special regulations are required to manage the situation and to implement § 2 of the Corona ordinance (CoronaVO).

### **§ 1 Scope of application**

- (1) These Statutes expressly allow exceptions and deviations, initially for a limited period until the end of the examination period of the summer semester 2020 pursuant to § 2 (2), from
  - the respective applicable General provisions for study and examination regulations regarding bachelor's and master's programmes at Ulm University (General Framework),
  - the Study and examination regulations of Ulm University for the degree programme in Human Medicine (preclinical and clinical study section),
  - the Study and examination regulations of Ulm University for the degree programme in Dentistry,
  - the applicable Study and examination regulations of the bachelor's and master's programmes in Teacher Education for grammar schools, as well as
  - the Subject-specific study and examination regulations including pertaining module handbooks.

As long as there are no changes of the content of these Statutes, the President is authorised to extend and to republish them - in line with the effects of the corona crisis.

- (2) These special regulations apply until these Statutes expire and replace deviating provisions in the regulations named in paragraph 1 sentence 1. These special regulations are supplemented by separately adopted statutes regarding the admissions and selection procedure (bachelor's and master's) for the winter semester 2020/2021.

## **§ 2 Study-related changes regarding organisational aspects and legal requirements for examinations**

- (1) The lecture period of the summer semester ends on 21 August 2020 instead of 24 July 2020 as previously determined by the Senate on 22 February 2017. The lecture period of 14 semester weeks will take place during this period. Instead of the planned-for traditional classroom teaching, lecturers will conduct their teaching online; there will be no classroom teaching in the summer semester 2020. According to § 3 (2) sentence 4 LVVO, lectures/courses that are developed for internet-based teaching will be remunerated in the same way as comparable classroom teaching. Sentence 3 does not cover courses that cannot be offered online because of their practical elements. The feasibility of such classroom teaching as well as other face-to-face events in the summer semester 2020 is subject to the restrictions imposed to ensure infection protection and modifications thereof, and they will be resumed gradually in the summer semester 2020 in an order decided by the Board in consultation with the Deans of the Faculties. Sentence 6 applies analogously to lab work in connection with final and doctoral theses.
- (2) Deviating from § 13 (1) of the General Framework of 27 July 2017, all written exams will be offered as open written examinations and the examination period will extend throughout the summer semester until the first week of the lecture period of the winter semester 2020/21.
- (3) Examinations will be resumed at the beginning of the lecture period of the summer semester 2020; the resumption of the oral and oral practical examinations is subject to the restrictions imposed to ensure infection protection and related modifications, e.g., by having smaller groups or individual exams or conducting oral exams through video conferencing in compliance with the conditions set out in § 4 (6); it is recommended that written exams (requiring attendance) should be scheduled for the second half of the summer semester or to replace written exams requiring attendance with other written work.

## **§ 3 Extension of examination periods**

- (1) If deadlines for bachelor's or master's theses, seminar papers or other written assignments registered by 16 March 2020, whose submission date was after 17 March 2020, could not be kept, these deadlines will be moved back officially by the *Studiensekretariat* (student administration and examinations office) by the time of suspension of studies pursuant to the Corona ordinance (CoronaVO) or by the time of suspension under § 2 (1) sentence 6.
- (2) If examination candidates already enrolled in the winter semester 2019/20 failed to complete coursework or take exams (on time) or to earn a certain number of credit points prescribed by the respective study and examination regulations due to the cancellation of courses or exams or the postponement of such events to the summer semester or after

the summer semester, such periods will automatically be extended officially by a minimum of one semester.

- (3) As a rule, in the summer semester 2020 examination dates fixed by the examiners must be attended by the students. Thus the general rules for withdrawal from examinations under the legal provisions named in § 1 apply; however, a good reason entitling the candidate to withdraw from an examination also exists if this student made arrangements to be away during the period from 17 August to 18 September 2020 and the scheduled examination is during such a period of absence, but only if such arrangements were made before the effective day of these Statutes and the decision to change the lecture period of the summer semester 2020. This applies analogously to requested extensions of submission deadlines.
- (4) If students are abroad and cannot attend the examination dates rescheduled by the examiners because of travel restrictions or an existing lack of travel opportunities, respective examination deadlines must be extended at the request of such students. Here, the provisions of the statutory regulations regarding withdrawal from examinations mentioned in § 1 apply. This applies analogously to requested extensions of submission deadlines.
- (5) The deliberations in paragraph 4 also apply to examinations regularly scheduled for the summer semester that cannot be taken by students staying abroad for the reasons named in paragraph 4.
- (6) Students who could have completed their studies in the winter semester 2019/2020 if operations had been normal by submitting their thesis no later than one month after the beginning of the lecture period and who cannot do this because of the suspension of normal operations need not continue to be enrolled to complete their studies. Examiners are advised to reschedule cancelled exams and submission dates for theses etc., wherever possible, in such a way that studies can be completed with one month of the start of the lecture period.
- (7) In cooperation programmes, the cooperation partners may agree in their joint committees to deviate from the exam-related regulations in these Statutes.

#### **§ 4 Lectures/courses and exams**

- (1) As far as possible, students should be offered a suitable substitute for regular participation in classroom teaching; the same applies to excursions and practical courses. This decision is taken by the competent lecturer in consultation with the Dean of Studies.
- (2) As a rule, it is permitted to offer seminars and practice classes (*Übungen*) and similar as a block event.
- (3) To anticipate cancellations of practical courses, excursions and courses comprising lab work and similar because of the restrictions in place, lectures/courses regularly scheduled for the winter semester should already be offered in the summer semester 2020 to avoid disadvantages for the students concerned unless relevant subject-related reasons speak against this.
- (4) Examination boards decide under their own responsibility whether students must provide proof of all study and exam achievements required for a module examination to be admitted to this module examination, deviating from § 6 (3) General Framework in conjunction with the respective FSPO. Admission to the examination can be granted subject to the

- condition that the study achievements are proven later. The same applies to admission to final theses.
- (5) If examination type and format for study and exam achievements are defined in the respective subject-specific provisions or in the module handbooks or annexes (criteria for the award of study achievements under § 2 Study regulations) of the Study and examination regulations of Ulm University for the degree programme in Human Medicine (preclinical and clinical study section) and the Study and examination regulations of Ulm University for the degree programme in Dentistry, the defined examination type and format may be deviated from. The examiner decides on the alternative form and format of the examination, if any. The subject-specific requirements of the examination must be guaranteed. The examiner must document this decision and notify the chair of the examination board thereof. Students must immediately be informed about the decision taken, the type and scope of the newly defined requirements and the examination time or submission date.
  - (6) At the request of the exam candidate and with the consent of the examiner, oral examinations can be conducted electronically by video conference. The orderly conduct of the examination must be guaranteed. The guidelines for examiners ("Handreichung für Prüfende") regarding requirements for the proper conduct of oral examinations by video conference at Ulm University during the corona crisis is an integral part of these Statutes. This applies analogously to oral examinations in doctoral or habilitation procedures as well as colloquia for final theses.
  - (7) It is currently being checked whether electronic exams, so called e-exams can be offered via the learning platform in compliance with exam regulations; if so, these Statutes will be amended with provisions regulating electronic examinations.

## **§ 5 Decisions of examination boards and academic affairs committees**

Examination boards and academic affairs committees can take decisions in writing as well as by fax or by email through the electronic circulation procedure, or in other ways; decisions can also be taken by video conference. Instead of the examination board, the chair of the examination board can take decisions. In the study programmes in Human Medicine and Dentistry, the Dean of Studies decides instead of the chair of the examination board.

## **§ 6 Effective date**

These statutes come into effect on the day after their publication in the Official Bulletin (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen*) of Ulm University.

Ulm, 17 April 2020

signed

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Michael Weber  
-President-