



**Subject-specific study and examination regulations for the English-taught master's programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience
offered by Ulm University
of 7 June 2019**

On the basis of § 32 (3) sentence 1 of the Baden-Württemberg Federal State Higher Education Act (Landeshochschulgesetz – LHG) in the version of Article 1 of the third act amending higher education regulations (Drittes Hochschulrechtsänderungsgesetz - 3. HRÄG) of 1 April 2014 (law gazette no. 6 p.99ff), last amended by article 1 of the act of 13 March 2018 (law gazette no. 5 p.85ff), the Senate of Ulm University, at the proposal of the Medical Faculty in its meeting on 15 May 2019, adopted the following subject-specific study and examination regulations.

The President of Ulm University gave his consent on 7 June 2019 in accordance with § 32 (3) sentence 1 of the *LHG*.

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I. General provisions

§ 1 Scope of application

- (1) These Subject-specific study and examination regulations contain specific regulations for the master's programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience.
- (2) These Subject-specific study and examination regulations supplement the General provisions on study and examination regulations for bachelor's and master's programmes at Ulm University (General Framework). In cases of doubt, the General Framework has precedence.

§ 2 Academic degree, study programme (§ 2 General Framework)

The Medical Faculty of Ulm University offers the English-taught consecutive master's programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience leading to the degree of "Master of Science" (short: "MSc").

§ 3 Start of the programme (§ 3 General Framework)

The master's programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience begins in the winter semester.

§ 4 Standard period of study, credit points (§ 5 General Framework)

- (1) The standard period of study is four semesters.
- (2) The minimum total number of CP required for a successful completion of the master's programme is 120 CP. A minimum of 90 CP must be earned in the compulsory and the compulsory elective area, 25 CP for the master's thesis and 5 CP for the disputation.

§ 5 Deadlines (§ 6 (8) and (9) General Framework)

Students failing to obtain 60 CP by the end of the examination period of the fourth semester lose their right to examination in this study programme unless they are not responsible for failing to obtain the credit points within the deadline. Students failing to obtain 120 CP by the end of the examination period of the sixth semester lose their right to examination in this programme unless they are not responsible for exceeding the deadline.

§ 6 Courses and examinations in English or any other foreign language (§ 7 General Framework)

- (1) Courses are taught in English (except language courses). German-taught modules can also be selected as compulsory electives. The module handbook provides further information.
- (2) As a rule, exams are conducted in the course language.

§ 7 Subject examination board (§ 10 General Framework)

- (1) The Faculty Board of the Medical Faculty forms a subject examination board for the master's programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience at the proposal of the professors of Molecular and Translational Neuroscience.
- (2) The subject examination board consists of five members. It is composed of three full-time lecturers of Ulm University, one scientific staff member and one student from the programme named in paragraph 1 in an advisory capacity. The term of office of the student member is one year; that of the other members is three years. Re-election is possible.

- (3) The subject examination board takes decisions in cases of doubt covered by neither these Subject-specific examination regulations nor the General Framework.

§ 8 Courses, examination achievements, module handbook

- (1) Study objectives and contents are conveyed, in particular, in the following types of courses:
- lectures
 - practice classes (*Übungen*)
 - seminars
 - laboratory courses
 - excursions
- (2) In seminars, practice classes and laboratory courses, regular attendance is a prerequisite for being admitted to exam registration, since the learning outcomes and skills defined in the module handbook can only be achieved through attendance. Students failing to attend 85%, as a rule, of such courses are not entitled to take the corresponding module examinations. This also applies if their absence is due to reasons beyond their control. If they fail to comply with their obligation to attend as defined in sentence 1 above, they are deemed to have failed to do their their coursework; courses can be repeated at the next possible dates. The module handbook specifies for which courses it is possible to recognise already completed parts of previous courses depending to their content. Any recognition of already completed parts of the previous course is only possible if the absence was for reasons beyond their control.
- (3) The master's examination consists of the master's thesis and oral or written module examinations. The current module handbook states which modules can be taken as compulsory electives.
- (4) Within a module, ungraded coursework (Scheine – achievement certificates) from a previous course within the same module may be required, or admission to certain module examinations may be subject to having completed ungraded coursework. Required coursework is specified in the module handbook. Form and volume of the respective coursework are published in good time before the courses begin.
- (5) Admission to a module examination may be subject to completing one or several other specific module examinations or coursework assignments ensuring that subject-specific requirements are fulfilled. Admission can also be subject to other, additional, criteria, in particular in case of limited places in compulsory elective modules. Admission requirements for the modules are published in the module handbook.
- (6) The required laboratory courses must be done in different work groups. One or more of the laboratory courses must be done at Ulm University.
- (7) The subject examination board decides on any changes to the implementation of courses and study achievements.
- (8) The examination board can determine a minimum number of 5 students for compulsory electives. In case of fewer students than 5, a compulsory elective course marked as such in §16 can be cancelled.

- (9) The subject examination board can decide which courses in the programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience are opened up to students in other programmes.

§ 9 Organisation of module examinations (§ 13 General Framework)

As a rule, written module examinations follow the recommendations of § 13 (1) General Framework. Deviating from the recommendations in § 13 (1) General Framework, written module examinations can be offered throughout the semester and the semester break.

§ 10 Related study programmes (§ 14 General Framework)

Study programmes related to Molecular and Translational Neuroscience according to § 14 (2) General Framework are, in particular, programmes in biology, biochemistry, molecular medicine, pharmaceutical biotechnology, physiological chemistry, neurobiology, biopsychology, human biology and molecular life science.

§ 11 Written module examinations (§ 16 a General Framework)

The duration of written module examinations or study achievements in the form of written exams is between 45 and 180 minutes.

§ 12 Regulations regarding the module master's thesis and disputation (§ 16c General Framework)

- (1) The time from admission to submission of the master's thesis is six months. For theses comprising practical work in a laboratory these six months apply with the exclusion of any shutdown periods of Ulm University. Periods of extension are regulated in the General Framework.
- (2) The master's thesis corresponds to 25 CP. The disputation corresponds to 5 CP.
- (3) As a rule, the master's thesis is written in English; however, it can be written in German with the consent of the examiners (reviewers) and the subject examination board. The request must be submitted to the subject examination board two weeks before registration for the master's thesis in accordance with paragraph 5.
- (4) The master's thesis must be assessed by two examiners (reviewers). The examiners may not be from the same institute.
- (5) The master's thesis must be registered with the subject examination board and the Studiensekretariat (student administration and examinations office) indicating the examiners, the topic and a short concept description.
- (6) The master's thesis must be submitted in good time to the Studiensekretariat in two bound copies and one electronic copy (PDF).
- (7) The written part of the master's thesis must be complemented by a public disputation within six weeks of submitting the thesis. In case of failure to comply with this period, the disputation is graded "fail" (5.0) unless the student is not responsible for exceeding the deadline. The disputation requires the presence of the two reviewers of the master's thesis. As a rule, the disputation should not exceed 60 minutes and takes place in English. As part of the disputation, students present their master's thesis in a presentation of up to 30 minutes and are interviewed by the reviewers. The first reviewer is to notify the subject examination board of the date and invite it to the disputation in good time.

- (8) With the prior consent of the subject examination board for Molecular and Translational Neuroscience, the master's thesis can be written at an institute that is not involved in the master's programme. At least one reviewer of the master's thesis must belong to an institute involved in the master's programme. The internal reviewer must co-supervise the thesis and share responsibility. The application for admission to an external master's thesis must be submitted to the subject examination board before starting the thesis. The application comprises a half-page summary of the master's thesis, CV and list of publications of the external reviewer as well as written confirmation of supervision by the external and University-internal reviewers. Admission to the master's thesis is granted by the subject examination board.

§ 13 Evaluation of module examinations

(1) Each module concludes with a module examination or several module part examinations.

(2) In cases justified by their subject matter, the written exam or parts thereof may also take the form of a multiple-choice test. In such case, the module examination is considered a pass if the student obtains a minimum of 60% of the total points.

The following grading system applies:

- 1.0 = excellent; minimum 95% of total points
- 1.3 = very good; minimum 90% but less than 95%
- 1.7 = good (upper); minimum 86.6% but less than 90%
- 2.0 = good; minimum 83.3% but less than 86.6%
- 2.3 = good (lower); minimum 80% but less than 83.3%
- 2.7 = satisfactory (upper); minimum 76.6% but less than 80%
- 3.0 = satisfactory; minimum 73.3% but less than 76.6%
- 3.3 = satisfactory (lower); minimum 70% but less than 73.3%
- 3.7 = sufficient (upper); minimum 65% but less than 70%
- 4.0 = sufficient; minimum 60% but less than 65%
- 5.0 = not sufficient; less than 60%

The examination is also passed if the number of points achieved by the examinee falls up to 20 % of the examination average of all examinees in this examination (relative pass grade - escalation clause). If the escalation clause is applies, a minimum of 50% of the questions must still be answered correctly.

- (3) The graded module (part) examinations of all modules listed in § 16 and the master's thesis count towards the overall grade of the master's programme.

§ 14 Repetition of module examinations (§ 20 General Framework)

- (1) Module examinations in the master's programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience can be repeated twice. As a rule, the examination dates are announced at the beginning of the courses of the respective semester or at the beginning of the module.
- (2) A disputation graded as "not sufficient" (5.0) may be repeated once, not later than three months after the failed attempt. If this deadline is not met, students lose their right to examination unless they exceeded the deadline for reasons beyond their control.

II. Master's programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience

§ 15 Programme objectives

The programme aims to provide a qualified, research-based education in clinically- and therapeutically-oriented neurosciences. Specific theoretical, methodological and practical knowledge of cellular and molecular processes in nerve cells and nervous systems which may lead to diseases and the application of this knowledge to possible new diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and clinical applications are conveyed. In addition to foundation lectures, students can select subjects providing more in-depth knowledge in such fields or in the field of medical application right from the first semester. The second semester offers a broad scope of choices ranging from specialisation on translational aspects towards clinical and pharmaceutical applications to aspects of animal experimental research and application. In the third semester, all these aspects cumulate in the module "Advanced Molecular and Translational Neuroscience" and finally, together with two laboratory courses, result in the master's thesis, which can be done in clinical, preclinical, biological and external institutes and facilities.

§ 16 Study contents

(1) The master's programme requires the following compulsory and compulsory elective modules:

Sem.	No.		CP	Status
1	1	Introduction to MTN	18	C
	1a	<i>Introduction to Human Neurophysiology</i>	3	C
	1b	<i>Molecular and Translational Neuroscience</i>	3	C
	1c	<i>Introduction to Human Neuroanatomy</i>	3	C
	1d	Practical Training in Laboratory Methods	9	C
1	2	Compulsory elective courses in Introduction to MTN	12	CE
2	3	Compulsory elective courses for Advanced MTN	24	CE
2	4	From Basic Research to Product	6	C
	4a	<i>From Basic Research to Product Lectures</i>	3	C
	4b	<i>From Basic Research to Product Seminar</i>	3	C
				C
3	5	Advanced Molecular and Translational Neuroscience	16	C
	5a	<i>Molecular and Translational Neuroscience Advanced Lecture</i>	3	C
	5b	<i>Molecular and Translational Neuroscience Advanced Seminar</i>	3	C
	5c	<i>Molecular and Translational Neuroscience Advanced Practical tr.</i>	10	C
3	6	Neurological Psychiatric Diseases	4	C
	6a	<i>Psychopharmacology</i>	1	C
	6b	<i>Neurological Diseases</i>	3	C
3	7	Advanced Methods in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience	10	C
	7a	<i>Advanced Methods in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience</i>	10	C
4	8	Master's thesis and disputation	30	C

C = compulsory, CE = compulsory elective

- (2) A minimum of 12 CP is required in the compulsory elective area “Compulsory elective courses in Introduction to MTN”. A minimum of 24 CP is required in the compulsory elective area “Compulsory elective courses for Advanced MTN”.
- (3) The subject examination board specifies which courses according to paragraph 2 can be selected as compulsory elective modules. These courses are taken up in the module hand-book in good time.

§ 17 Subject-specific requirements for admission to the master’s thesis

Admission to the master’s thesis is subject to having earned a minimum total of 84 CP.

III. Final provisions

§ 18 Effective date

- (1) These Study and examination regulations come into effect on the day of their publication in the Official Bulletin of Ulm University. The subject-specific study and examination regulations for the English-taught master’s programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience offered by Ulm University of 10 Jan 2018, published in the Official Bulletin of Ulm University No. 3 of 11 Jan 2018, pages 24-30 cease to be effective.
- (2) Paragraph 1 sentence 2 does not apply to students who, in the summer semester 2019, were enrolled in a higher semester than the third semester in the English-taught master’s programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience and to whom the Subject-specific study and examination regulations for the English-taught master’s programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience of Ulm University of 11 Jan 2018 applied at the time of taking effect. Such students complete their studies in accordance with the previous Study and examination regulations except paragraph 3 below.
- (3) § 12 also applies to students who, in the summer semester 2019, were enrolled in a higher semester than the third semester in the English-taught master’s programme in Molecular and Translational Neuroscience.

Ulm, 07 June 2019

signed

Professor Michael Weber (Dr.-Ing.)

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