Examination regulations for the Master's programme in Neuroscience (M.Sc.) of Faculties V and VI of the University of Oldenburg

dated 21/08/2023[1]

Unofficial version

This is an unofficial English translation, based on the German "Prüfungsordnung für den gemeinsamen Masterstudiengang „Neuroscience" (M.Sc.) der Fakultäten V und VI der Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg", dated 21/08/2023. The German document is the legally binding one.

The Faculty Councils of the Faculties V - Mathematics and Natural Sciences and VI - Medicine and Health Sciences of the Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg have decided on 03/05/2023 according to Sections 44 Abs. 1 S. 2, 72 Abs. 13 NHG the following seventh amendment of the examination regulations for the joint Master´s degree programme "Neuroscience" of the Faculties V and VI in the version of 12/07/2022 (Amtliche Mitteilung 046/2022). It was approved by the Presidential Board on 15/08/2023 in accordance with Section 37.1.3.5 b of the NHG.

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Section 1
Scope of application

These examination regulations apply to the Master's degree programme in Neuroscience of School lV (Mathematics and Natural Sciences) and School VI (Medicine and Health Sciences) at the University of Oldenburg.

Section 2
Study objectives

(1) The English-language Master's program "Neuroscience" is research-oriented and provides comprehensive and in-depth knowledge in the neurosciences. In this Master's programme, students acquire excellent R&D skills which prepare them for entering an international, interdisciplinary labour market and provide the basis for a doctorate.

(2) Through research-based learning, students are enabled to work scientifically in an interdisciplinary and responsible manner when dealing with technical problems and to present the results obtained in a coherent manner. Complementing neuroscience expertise, students gain cross-disciplinary skills (e.g., in programming, data analysis, and science communication) and conduct several scientific projects. In enabling students to solve complex scientific problems, the main skills developed are creativity, originality, and the ability to collaborate across disciplines. Furthermore, graduates will be able to communicate their knowledge, their conclusions and their rationally justified theses to experts and laypersons in an addressee-oriented manner. Structured, hypothesis-driven thinking, communication skills and interpersonal skills provide the basis for professional success.

(3) The basic knowledge of the structure and function of nervous systems is taught comparatively using animal model organisms as examples. A wide range of electives gives students the opportunity to focus on their own interests and thus develop a personal profile. Students can also focus on thematic areas such as Sensory, Behavioural, or Computational Neuroscience or combinations of these topics.

Section 3
University degree

When all the modules have been completed, the Faculties of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and Medicine and Health Sciences of the University of Oldenburg will grant the university degree of Master of Science (M.Sc.). The joint degree certificates will be issued by the two faculties in German and in English (Appendix 1a and b), bearing the date of the transcript.

Section 4
Purpose of the examinations

The purpose of the module examinations and the Master's thesis are to establish whether the student has gained sufficient specialized knowledge to enter into professional practice, has a good grasp of subject-related contexts, and possesses the ability to successfully apply scientific knowledge in practice and work in a scientific manner. The programme is concluded with the Master of Science degree examinations, which qualify graduates for professional activity in neuroscience. The examination requirements ensure a high standard of education in view of the standard period of study as well as the current state of scientific knowledge and the requirements of professional practice.

Section 5

Duration, scope and structure of the academic programme, part-time study

(1) As a rule, a Master's programme must be completed in four semesters, i.e. two academic years (standard period of study). The course comprises a total of 120 ECTS.

(2) Students can apply for part-time study in accordance with the currently applicable regulations for part-time study at the University of Oldenburg.

(3) The curriculum will be arranged in such a way that it is possible for students to

a. successfully complete the examinations which are part of the course

b. complete part of their studies at another university or institution for higher education in Germany or another country

c. write and defend their Master's thesis in the final colloquium by the end of the standard period of study.

(4) The Master's programme in Neuroscience com prises:

1. compulsory elective modules from the curriculum of the degree programme in Neuroscience with a student workload of 60 ECTS. These are structured in accordance with Section 10 as follows:

a) 30 ECTS Background modules
b) 15 ECTS Research modules
c) 6 ECTS Skills modules
d) 9 ECTS Modules of any type from the Master's programme in Neuroscience

2. Elective modules with a student workload of 30 ECTS. These can be selected freely from all three module types in the curriculum of the degree programme in Neuroscience. Alternatively, on request, modules can be credited which meaningfully complement the Neuroscience programme which are taken at another institution for higher education in or outside Germany, or which are from a related degree programme, e.g. biology, neurocognitive psychology, molecular biomedicine, auditory technology/audiology, physics, physics - engineering and medicine, computer sciences, mathematics or philosophy, according to the relevant legal bases. Students are urgently recommended to have the accreditation requirements regarding subject matter checked by the examining board before selecting modules outside of these examination regulations – also with regard to the individual study schedule. Applications to this effect can be made informally.

3. The Master's thesis module (30 ECTS).

Section 6

Examining board, examinations office

(1) There is an examining board which organizes the examinations and undertakes the tasks allocated by the examination regulations.

(2) The examining board ensures that the legal provisions of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (NHG) and these examination regulations are complied with. The examining board also refers students to the examination rules applicable to them in an appropriate manner. The examinations office administers the examination records.

(3) The members and deputy members of the examining board are appointed from the Faculty Councils of Faculties V and VI on a proposal by the bifaculty study commission of the two faculties. The examining board consists of five members with the right to vote, namely three professors or junior professors, and a research associate, all of whom are active in teaching in the Master's programme in Neuroscience, and a student following the Master's programme in neuroscience. With regard to the assessment and crediting of examination results, the student member only has an advisory vote. The members of the examining board elect a chair and a vice-chair from among their members. The chair must be a professor or junior professor; the vice-chair can be a professor or junior professor or a research associate.

(4) Members of the examining board have a term of office of two years, with the exception of the student member, who is appointed for one year. An appointment may be renewed.

(5) The examining board takes decisions by a majority of valid votes cast. Abstentions do not count as votes cast. In the event of a tied vote, the chair has the casting vote. The examining board may take decisions if the majority of its members, including two members who are professors or junior professors, and the chair or vice-chair is present.

(6) The examining board can adopt its own rules of procedure. Minutes are taken on the meetings of the examining board. These minutes record the main topics of discussion and the decisions taken by the examining board.

(7) The examining board can transfer powers revocably to the chair or vice-chair. The chair will be supported by the examinations office in all administrative procedures ensuing from these examination regulations.

(8) Examining board meetings will not be public. Members of the examining board and their representatives are bound to secrecy concerning their office. Insofar as they are not in public service, they are to be obliged to secrecy by the chair.

(9) The examining board can rule that decisions and other measures taken in accordance with these examination regulations are to be made known within the university in compliance with the provisions for data protection.

(10) The members of the examining board have the right to visit examinations as an observer.

Section 7
Examiners

(1) The module examinations are conducted by specialists in the subject of the degree programme, who are also authorized examiners from this or another university. Examinations may be conducted by retired professors or professors who have dispensation. Subject to the approval of the examining board, persons with experience in professional practice may also be appointed as examiners.

(2) Entitlement to conduct module examinations or for subject areas to be examined will be granted by the Faculty Council. Students can refer to the module description for the names of examiners. Current lists of examiners will be made available to the examinations office at the beginning of each semester.

(3) Examiners must have a qualification that is at least equal or equivalent to the qualification established by the examination.

(4) As rule, module examinations are assessed by one examiner. For modules taught by a number of tutors, examinations may be conducted by several examiners. Master's examinations that may result in a definitive fail are to be assessed by two examiners.

(5) In the case of oral examinations, a co-examiner will normally be present. He or she will have an advisory function regarding grading. Co-examiners must have a qualification that is at least equal or equivalent to the qualification established by the examination.

(6) For module neu600, paragraph (1) sentence 1 applies with the restriction that the lecturer must be a member of a neuroscience course at a German university; in this case, the examination committee may grant authorisation to conduct examinations in deviation from paragraph (2) sentence 1.

Section 8
Crediting of examination results

(1) Periods of study that include vocational activities in the same or a related degree programme at a university or equivalent institution for higher education in Germany or another European country will be credited without a special equivalence assessment. However, examination components of modules can only be credited if they correspond fundamentally regarding both content and scope to the modules in the relevant examination regulations. Students must submit the documents necessary for crediting of examination results in German or English.

(2) Periods of study that include vocational activities and examination performances within a different degree programme will be credited at the request of the student insofar as there are no fundamental differences regarding the acquired skills. The overall situation must be taken into account in deciding whether modules are to be credited. The level, scope, quality, profile and learning results must be assessed. Any fundamental difference will be verified by the university. Students must submit the documents necessary for crediting examination results in German or English. More factual and legal information can be obtained (in German) from the information portal for the recognition of foreign educational attainments (anabin). Different rules concerning credits based on agreements with foreign universities will remain unaffected.

(3) Performances outside of the university (e.g. vocational activities, or examinations from related training courses and further education) may be credited on condition that an adequate academic basis and requirements for equivalence are met. Up to 50 percent of the credits may be recognized. If there is insufficient evidence, a knowledge test may be required.

(4) Performances in modules from other degree programmes specified as obligatory for admission to the study programme will not be credited.

(5) Where examination performances are credited, the grades and credits will be adopted. In the case of different scope or grading scales, the examining board will decide on conversion. If grading systems are incomparable, an equivalence assessment will be performed by persons competent in the relevant subject area. Credited performances will be included in the transcript.

Section 9
Admission to modules and module examinations

(1) A student is entitled to study a module if he or she is enrolled in the Master's programme in Neuroscience or is obliged to take the module in question on the grounds of an ancillary clause in a letter of acceptance, insofar as grounds for exclusion do not apply under Section 10.2 or Section 21.3. Students taking a module will be admitted to all examinations relating to the module.

(2) Students of Bachelor's programmes can take Master's modules and examinations ahead of time up to a total of 30 ECTS if they submit a founded application and have gained at least 120 ECTS in the Bachelor's programme. The examining board will decide on the application. Modules in which comparable competences are taught will not be credited twice.

(3) Students can apply to take module examinations in writing or electronically. Students can withdraw within the registration period without giving reasons. Notification of the registration period must be given in good time. After expiry of the registration deadline, withdrawal is only possible if valid reasons are given and accepted. Withdrawal will not be possible if an inability to take the exam or another valid reason for withdrawal was already known or could reasonably be expected to have been known at the start of the examination.

(4) Each module is concluded with a module examination. The nature and number of the examination components are laid down in Section 10.

(5) The examinations pertain to the modules and take place during the study programme. As a rule, they must be completed at the end of the semester in which the last class or lecture of a module is attended.

(6) Modules may require the prior completion of another module.

Section 10

Structure and content of the modules

(1) Modules of the Master's programme in Neuroscience

A distinction is made between:

Background Modules (BM), which generally impart a thorough knowledge of neurosciences with a combination of lectures, seminars and practical exercises.

Research Modules (RM), which generally impart experimental, specialized knowledge and competences through active involvement in current research projects.

Skills Modules (SM), which teach competences relevant to the subject and equip students for professional activity.

(2) As a precondition for passing the modules listed below, students must participate regularly in course units which convey subject matter based on interaction or in which the material is taught in terms of practical implementation (seminars, exercises, internships, individual research projects). In exceptional cases, a written examination may be replaced by an oral examination or a term paper.

Modules in which similar competencies are taught may not be taken more than once. The tables below show which modules from other degree programmes may not be taken alongside modules from the Neuroscience programme (column, exclusion: similar modules).

Background Modules – Compulsory Elective, to be taken for at least 30 ECTS:

Description of module	Exclusion: similar modules	Course units	ECTS	Examination components	Ungraded examination components
bio845 Development and Evolution	bio840 neu110	**	6	**	**
bio846 Lab Exercises in Development and Evolution	bio840 neu120	**	6	**	**
neu242 Computational Neuroscience – Encoding and Decoding	neu241	L, E	6	Portfolio	
neu246 Computational Neuroscience – Biophysical Modeling	neu241	L, E	6	Portfolio	
neu250 Computational Neuroscience – Statistical learning	psy220	L, S, E	6	Portfolio	
bio605 Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology	bio600 neu170	**	12	**	**
bio695 Biochemical Concepts in Signal Transduction	bio690 neu190	**	12	**	**
neu210 Neurosensory Science and Behaviour		L, S,	9	Presentation(s) (20%) Written examination (80%)	
neu220 Neurocognition and Psychopharmacology	bio610 psy180 psy181	L, S	6	Written examination	

Description of module	Exclusion: similar modules	Course units	ECTS	Examination components	Ungraded examination components
neu141 Visual Neuroscience – Physiolgy and Anatomy	bio620 neu140 neu150	L, S, E	12	Written examination (40%) Reports (60%)	Presentation(s) in seminar
neu280 Research Techniques in Neuroscience		L, I	6	Written examination	
psy270 Functional MRI data analysis	neu305 neu300 psy275	***	9	***	***
neu310 Psychophysics of Hearing		L, S, E, I	12	Report or oral examination (70 %), Presentation(s) (30 %)	
neu320 Introduction to Neurophysics		L, S, E	6	Written examination or oral examination (80%), Practical exercise (20%)	
neu340 Invertebrate Neuroscience - Neurophysiology		S, E	6	Porfolio	
neu350 Biological Foundations of Neuroscience		L, S	6	Written examination	
neu360 Auditory Neuroscience		L, S, E	6	Term paper	
neu380 Neuroethology and Neurogenetics: Insect Models		S, E	6	Portfolio	
neu400 Recent Topics in Neuroscience		S, E	6	Portfolio	

L = Lecture, S = Seminar, E = Exercise, I = Internship; IRP = Individual Research Project

** Courses, examinations and active participation as specified in the course-specific appendix for the master's degree programme in Biology (M.Sc.).

*** Courses, examinations as well as active participation and additional obligatory ungraded course work as specified in the course-specific appendix Neurocognitive Psychology.

Research modules – Compulsory Elective, to be taken for at least 15 ECTS:

Description of module	Exclusion from taking module twice	Course units)	ECTS	Examination components	Ungraded examination components
neu600 Neuroscience Research Project*		PBC, S	15	Internship report	Presentation
neu610 External Research Project*		PBC	15	Internship report	
neu650 Neuroscience Team Project		I, S	9	Portfolio	

L = Lecture; S = Seminar; PBC = project-based course, I = Internship

* Modules neu600 and neu610 can be taken more than once by taking different courses in terms of content. It is advisable not to complete more than one research module neu600/neu610 with the supervisor of the master thesis.
Note: To do a master thesis outside this university, students must have successfully completed module neu600 (cf. Section 21 (2)).

In the context of research modules, project-based courses are taught in small groups of no more than 6 participants. This is because highly specialized equipment is used that is only available in limited numbers in the research laboratories and requires individual supervision and instruction.

Skills modules – Compulsory Elective, to be taken for at least 6 ECTS:

Description of module	Exclusion from taking similar module	Course units	ECTS	Examination components	Ungraded examination components[1]
neu710 Neuroscientific Data Analysis in Matlab		L, E	6	Portfolio	
neu715 Neuroscientific Data Analysis in Python		L, E	6	Portfolio	
neu725 Multivariate Statistics and Applications in R		L, E	6	Written examination	
neu730 Biosciences in the Public Eye and in our Laws	pb227, pb403	L, E	6	Term paper	
neu751 Laboratory Animal Science	neu750	L, E	3	-	Written exam
neu760 Scientific English		L, E	6	Portfolio	
neu780 Biological Data Analysis with Python	pb328	L, E	6	Portfolio	
neu790 Communicating Neuroscience		S	3		Presentation or term paper
neu800 Introduction to Matlab		E	3		Processing of exercise tasks
neu810 International Meeting Contribution		S	3		Presentation

neu820 Neuroscience Journal Club		S	3		Presentation
gsw200 Microscopic Imaging in Biomedical Sciences		S	3		Written examination and presentation
neu830 Introduction to the Neuroanatomy of the Brain		S	3		Presentation
neu900 Recent skills for Neuroscience		S	3		Presentation

L = Lecture; S = Seminar; E = Exercise

[1] The examination performances in the 3 CP modules are ungraded.

Master's thesis module

Description of module	ECTS	Examination components
Master's thesis	30	Master's thesis (90%) and Final colloquium (10%)

(3) When the curriculum is announced, descriptions will be made available for each module. Module coordinators are responsible for the content of the modules and for coordinating the course units for the modules. As a rule, a module coordinator may be any full-time lecturer with a doctorate-level qualification of the University of Oldenburg or a university that is allied to the University of Oldenburg through cooperation agreements.

Section 11

Types of module examinations

(1) The following types of module examinations are available:

1. Written examination (11.4)
2. Oral examination (11.5)
3. Term paper (11.6)
4. Practical exercise (11.7)
5. Internship report (11.8)
6. Portfolio (11.9)
7. Presentation (11.10)
8. Report (11.11)

(2) Module examinations in the form of group work are permitted. In that case, the examination component to be assessed for each individual student must meet the requirements set for the examination as well as being clearly defined and assessable as an individual examination component e.g. based on chapters, page numbers or other objective criteria.

(3) The form of the module examination must reflect the competences taught in the module. Grades given for examination performances must be substantiated by referring to the considerations on which the assessment was based.

(4) In a written examination, the examinee must show, under supervision, that he or she can carry out an assignment in a limited period of time, with the resources provided, and using the applicable methods for the subject area. A maximum of 2 hours is allowed for written examinations.

(5) An oral examination consists of an interview of between 10 and 30 minutes. The main subjects of the examination and the assessment/grading of the examination performance are to be recorded in a report.

(6) A term paper is an independent in-depth written assignment that is either interdisciplinary or specific to the study programme. A term paper may not exceed 5,000 words.

(7) A practical exercise consists of practical experiments with written reports (e.g. test records) or a test procedure and evaluation, or exercises or programming tasks. Practical exercises are specified in the module description.

(8) An internship report consists of a written documentation of assignments completed in an internship within or outside the university, and includes a critical evaluation that clearly shows how the assignments were carried out.

(9) A portfolio consists of a number of components, as a rule, maximally 6 (e.g. a report, handout, review, learning diary, short presentation, exercises, and short test). The number and type of assessed components for a portfolio are specified in the module description. A portfolio may not contain examination components as referred to in Section 11.1.1-5. Portfolios are assessed as a whole.

(10) A presentation is a talk that presents a subject in accordance with the current state of scientific knowledge using appropriate methods and media. The talk must take at least 20 and at most 90 minutes (including discussion of the talk). A presentation with a poster must take at least 5 and at most 30 minutes, and may include oral questions on the contents of the presentation.

(11) A report is an examination component consisting of an independent, written or graphic documentation of the content of a course unit.

(12) Bonus points may be awarded for active participation when a module is graded. The distribution of bonus points is explained in the separate module descriptions. An examination must have been passed before the grade can be improved. A grade can be increased by a maximum of 20%. It must be possible to achieve a grade of 1.0 without a bonus.

(13) Students intending to take the same oral examination within the two following examination periods, as well as other members of the university with a legitimate interest, will be allowed to attend oral examinations as an auditor, space permitting and with the consent of the candidate. (This does not extend to the consultation phase or the announcement of examination results.)

Section 12

Compensation for disadvantages, protective provisions

(1) If the student can credibly demonstrate that they are unable to take examinations or study achievements in whole or in part in the intended manner, form or time due to a disability or chronic illness, the examining board shall, upon application, grant appropriate measures to compensate for disadvantages. Possible measures include, but are not limited to, changing the external examination conditions, extending the processing time, carrying out the examination in another equivalent form and providing technical aids.

(2) If the student can credibly demonstrate that they are unable to take examinations or achieve credits in whole or in part in the intended manner, form or time because they have to care for close relatives or a child of their own, the Examining Board may, upon application, grant appropriate measures to compensate for disadvantages.

(3) The protective provisions of the Maternity Protection Act and the Federal Parental Benefit and Parental Leave Act remain unaffected.

(4) Students may be requested to provide appropriate evidence.

Section 13

ECTS credit points

(1) ECTS credit points are awarded on the basis of module examinations passed. They reflect the average workload in time, including attendance of course units, which is required to pass the module examination. One credit point corresponds to 30 hours of effort, insofar as this is not contradicted by international agreements.

(2) As a rule, 30 ECTS are awarded per semester.

(3) The examinations office keeps a credit point account for each student. Students can view the state of their credit point account subject to the organizational and data protection regulations.

Section 14

Assessment of the module examinations and the Master's thesis

(1) Each module examination is assessed and, as a rule, graded in accordance with Sections 14.2 and 14.3. If a module examination or an assessed component of a module is not graded, it must be assessed as passed or failed. The Master's thesis is graded in accordance with Sections 14.2 and 14.3. A module examination is considered to have been passed if at least the grade 'satisfactory' is attained. The assessment must be made and communicated to the examinations office by the examiners within five weeks.

(2) The following scale will be used for grading:

1 = very good	an outstanding performance.
2 = good	above average performance
3 = satisfactory	average performance in all respects
4 = sufficient	the basic standards have been met but with a number of shortcomings
5 = insufficient	a performance that does not meet the requirements due to notable shortcomings

For a differentiated assessment, grades may be raised or lowered by 0.3 (grades of 0.7; 4.3; 4.7 and 5.3 are not possible).

(3) Insofar as the module examination consists of multiple assessed components, the overall module grade is the weighted arithmetic average of marks for the components. All assessed components must be passed.

The grades are as follows:

with an average of up to 1.50	very good
with an average of over 1.50 up to 2.50	good
with an average of over 2.50 up to 3.50	satisfactory
with an average of over 3.50 and up to 4.00	sufficient
with an average of over 4.00	insufficient

When grades are calculated in accordance with Section 14.3, only the first two decimal places are taken into account. Other places are deleted without being rounded off upwards or downwards.

(4) The overall grade will be listed together with an ECTS grade, which shows a relative assessment. The ECTS grade demonstrates how a student has performed in relation to other students in the same degree programme. Successful students receive the following grades:

A the top 10%
B the next 25%
C the next 30%
D the next 25%
E the next 10%

(5) As a basis for determining the ECTS grade, the overall module grades will be taken into account from the last six semesters before the date of the degree examination. An ECTS grade is provided when there are at least 20 graduates.

Section 15

Absence, withdrawal and fraud

(1) An examination component is deemed ’failed’ if the student, without valid grounds,

- fails to appear on the date of an examination
- withdraws after the start of the examination
- does not resit it within the designated time limit.

(2) The examining board must be notified without delay of any valid grounds for withdrawal or absence, in writing and together with satisfactory evidence. Otherwise, the examination component will be assessed as

failed. In the event of illness, a medical certificate must be submitted. If the reason or reasons given are accepted, a new deadline will be set. As a rule, this will be the next regular examination date. In this case, existing examination results will remain valid.

(3) If a student attempts to influence the result of his or her performance in an examination by means of fraud or by using unauthorized means, the examination will be graded as failed. Individuals who have violated the examination regulations may be barred from continuing the examination components concerned. In that case, the examination performance concerned will be graded as failed. Before a decision is taken by the examining board according to these provisions, the student will have the opportunity to be heard. The student will continue the examination until the examining board has taken a decision, unless the invigilator decides that temporary exclusion of the student is necessary for proper conduct of the examination. In particularly serious or repeated cases of fraud, the examining board may prevent the student from continuing the Master's programme. In that case, the Master's programme in Neuroscience will be definitively failed.

(4) If the deadline for an examination component is not met, and no valid reasons are given, the examination component will be assessed as failed. Section 15.2.1-4, will apply mutatis mutandis. In cases in which there are valid reasons for not meeting a deadline, the examining board will decide whether the deadline for the module can be extended or a new assignment is defined, taking into account the principles of equal opportunity and the precedence of academic achievements over compliance with procedural rules.

Section 16
Resits of module examinations, free attempt

(1) Failed module examinations may be retaken twice. If a module examination counts as or is assessed as failed after the second resit, it will be rated as definitively failed. In the case of resits, the examination component concerned may be completed in a different form in consultation with the module coordinator.

(2) The Master's degree programme is definitively not passed if the student has definitively failed the module examination in a compulsory module after exhausting all repetition options. The Master's examination is also definitively failed if elective modules can no longer be passed to the required extent.

(3) Resits, including single assessed components in a module examination, must be taken within a reasonable period of time within the academic year.

(4) Unsuccessful attempts to take an examination component in the same degree programme or in one of the chosen subjects at another university or equivalent institution for higher education in Germany or another European country will count towards the possibilities for a resit in accordance with Section 16.1.

Section 17
Certificates and transcripts

(1) As soon as a Master's examination has been passed, a Transcript of Records will be issued in English and in German (Appendix 2a and b). The date shown on the transcript will be the date on which the last module examination was passed. The transcript will be accompanied by an overview of the module examinations passed and a Diploma Supplement (Appendix 3a and b).

(2) If a Master's programme is definitively failed, the chair of the examining board will issue a document to this effect.

(3) If a student leaves the university or switches to a different course of study, a certificate will be issued that shows the examination components passed and the grades and ECTS obtained. In the case of Section 16.2, the certificate shows that the Master's programme in question has been failed definitively.

Section 18
Invalidity of an examination

(1) If a student has committed fraud during an examination and this does not become known until after a certificate is issued, the examining board may adjust the grades retroactively for the examination components concerned, and declare the examination to be totally or partly failed.

(2) The student will have the opportunity to make a statement to the examining board before a decision is taken.

(3) The incorrect certificate will be cancelled and replaced by a correct certificate or statement. If an incorrect examination certificate is cancelled, the Master's degree certificate must also be cancelled if the examination is graded as failed on the grounds of fraud.

Section 19

Access to examination records

On request, after completing a module examination or the Master's thesis, a student will be entitled to view the written examination papers, the examiner's comments, and the examination records. Such a request must be made to the examining board within a year of notification of the grades, or notification that the student has failed the examination. The examining board will determine the place and time of the inspection.

Section 20

Appeal procedure

(1) An appeal can be made against a decision based on the assessment of an examination component (assessment decision) within one month of notification of the corresponding examination decision according to Section 1 et seqq. of the Administrative Procedures Code.

(2) The competent Examining Board will decide on the appeal. Before taking a decision, the Examining Board will inform the examiner of the appeal so that they can review the grading. If the examiner modifies the assessment in accordance with the objection, the Examining Board will have definitively dealt with the objection. Otherwise, the Examining Board will review the assessment decision on the basis of the examiner's opinion, in particular to see whether

1. the examination procedure was carried out properly,

2. the grading was based on incorrect information,

3. general marking principles were adhered to

4. an acceptable solution substantiated by consistent and sound arguments was judged to be wrong, or whether

5. and whether the examiner was guided by extraneous considerations.

The same procedure applies if an appeal is lodged against an assessment by more than one examiner.

(3) The competent Examining Board may appoint a reviewer to carry out the review in accordance with (2), sentence 3. The reviewer must have a qualification that is at least equal or equivalent to the qualification established by the examination.

(4)The Examining Board shall appoint another person authorised to conduct examinations pursuant to Section 7 and not previously involved in the assessment of this examination to reassess the examination component if

- the competent Examining Board
    - finds a breach according to (2) sentence 3
      and
    - has not already upheld the appeal at this stage of the proceedings

  and
- the examiner does not change their assessment decision accordingly.

If the type of examination does not allow for a reassessment, the examination shall be retaken.

An appeals procedure cannot lead to a lowering of the examination grade.

Section 21
Admission to the Master's thesis

(1) For admission to the Master's thesis, students must be enrolled in the Master's programme “Neuroscience” at the University of Oldenburg and have proved that they have the necessary knowledge to undertake the Master's thesis by successfully completing modules counting for at least 60 ECTS.

(2) Applicants for admission to the Master's thesis must submit the following documents:

- a proposal for the two examiners
- a proposal for the thesis topic which has already been submitted to one of the nominated examiners
- a declaration as to whether a Master's examination or parts of such an examination or another examination in the same subject area at a university or equivalent institution for higher education in Germany or another European country has been definitively failed or whether the student is currently involved in an examination procedure.

- The prerequisite for an external Master's thesis is that module neu600 has been successfully completed.

(3) The examining board will decide on admission. Admission will be denied if:

1. the admission requirements are not met
2. the documents provided are incomplete
3. another examination has been definitively failed in the chosen subject area within the same degree programme at another university or equivalent institution for higher education in Germany or another European country.

Section 22
Master's thesis module

(1) The time spent on the Master's thesis corresponds to the number of ECTS (30). 27 ECTS are allocated for writing the Master's thesis and 3 for the final colloquium.

(2) The Master's thesis must show that a student is capable of working on a problem from the chosen subject of study independently, within a fixed period of time and on the basis of academic/scientific methods. The topic and assignment of the Master's thesis must correspond to the purpose of the examination (Section 4) and the allowed period of time for the thesis (Section 22.6). The nature of the assignment and its implementation must be established when the topic is assigned. A topic can only be returned once, and only within the first two months of the allowed period of time.

(3) The topic of the Master´s thesis can be determined by any person listed in the list of examiners of the master program "Neuroscience" for the assessment of the Master´s thesis module. Subject to the approval of the examining board, the topic may also be set by other authorized examiners in accordance with Section 7.1, in this case the second examiner must be authorized to assess the Master's thesis module according to the list of examiners.

(4) The topic will be chosen by the examiner who is to be the first examiner, after consultation with the student Upon application by the student, the examining board will ensure that the student is assigned a topic in time. The topic will be assigned via the chair of the examining board, and the assignment of the topic will be put on record. Upon assignment of the topic, the examiner who has set the topic (the first examiner), and the second examiner are appointed. The student will be supervised by the first examiner while working on the Master's thesis. If a Master's thesis is written at an organization outside of this university and supervised or evaluated by an external examiner at the organization in question, the approval of the examining board will be required.

(5) The Master's thesis must be written in English.

(6) As a rule, the Master's thesis must be submitted within six months of assignment of the topic. In exceptional cases, a well-founded application can be made to the examining board to extend the period available for completing the Master's thesis by up to two months.

(7) When the Master's thesis is submitted, the student must give assurance in writing that he or she produced the thesis independently without using any sources and aids other than those stated, and that the general principles of academic work and publications as laid down in the Guidelines for good scientific practice of the University of Oldenburg (*Ordnung über die Grundsätze zur Sicherung guter wissenschaftlicher Praxis an der Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg)* have been followed.

(8) The Master's thesis must be submitted to the examinations office by the due date; the time of submission will be recorded.

(9) As a rule, the thesis will be assessed by the two examiners within eight weeks of submission.

(10) The student will be required to present the results of the Master's thesis in a final oral colloquium at the university, thereby demonstrating that he or she is capable of dealing with interdisciplinary and practical issues relating to the subject “Neuroscience” in a scientific manner and can present the knowledge gained clearly and com prehensibly.

(11) The final colloquium must not take more than 60 minutes. Exceptionally, the examining board may decide that the second examiner is to be replaced by another examiner.

(12) The grade for the Master's thesis is based on the two module components and weighted in accordance with ECTS (90% for the Master's thesis and 10% for the final colloquium).

Section 23
Resubmission of the Master's thesis

(1) If a Master's thesis counts or is assessed as failed, it may be resubmitted once only. A second resubmission is not possible. If a Master's thesis is resubmitted, the topic can only be returned if this option was not used during the first Master's thesis examination.

(2) The new topic for the Master's thesis must be assigned within an appropriate period, usually within three months after the first thesis is assessed.

Section 24
Overall result

(1) The degree programme is considered to have been concluded successfully when 120 ECTS have been gained in accordance with these examination regulations and all the module examinations, including the Master's thesis, have been passed.

(2) To determine the overall grade in accordance with Section 14.3, a weighted grade point average is established for the Master's programme. To this end, the grades for the separate module examinations graded in accordance with Section 14(2), including the Master's thesis module, are multiplied by the ECTS for the modules. The sum of the weighted grades is then divided by the sum of the ECTS included in the grading.

(3) The overall grade will be given the title ‘passed with distinction’ if the grade is between 1.0 and 1.1 according to Section 14.3.

Anlage 1 a
Urkunde über die bestandene Master-Prüfung (M.Sc.) in deutscher Sprache

Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg
Fakultät für Mathematik und Naturwissenschaften
und Fakultät für Medizin und Gesundheitswissenschaften

Urkunde

Frau/Herr* .....
geboren am ..... in .....

hat den Masterstudiengang NEUROSCIENCE an der Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg mit der Ge-
samtnote .... und der ECTS-Gesamtnote ..... erfolgreich abgeschlossen.

Ihr/Ihm* wird der Hochschulgrad

Master of Science (M.Sc.)

verliehen.

Oldenburg, den.....

Die Dekanin/Der Dekan der Fakultät V*

Die Dekanin/Der Dekan*der Fakultät VI

Der/Die* Vorsitzende des Prüfungsausschusses

Notenskala: sehr gut, gut, befriedigend, ausreichend
ECTS Notenskala: A: beste 10%, B: nächste 25%, C: nächste 30%, D: nächste 25%, E: letzte 10% im Verhältnis zu
mindestens 20 Abschlüssen der vorherigen 3 Jahre.

*Zutreffendes einfügen

Anlage 1 b
Urkunde über die bestandene Master-Prüfung (M.Sc.) in englischer Sprache

Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg
School of Mathematics and Science
and School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Certificate

Ms./Mr.* ..... Place of birth: ..... date of birth: .....

has fulfilled the examination requirement for the Master of Science in NEUROSCIENCE and has been awarded the degree of

Master of Science (M.Sc.)

The overall grade achieved is .....
The corresponding ECTS-Grade is .....

Seal date.....

Dean of the School of Mathematics and Science Sciences

Dean of the School of Medicine and Health

The Chairman of the Board of Examiners

grading scheme: Very Good, Good, Satisfactory, Sufficient
ECTS grading scheme: A: best 10%, B: next 25%, C: next 30%, D: next 25%, E: last 10%relative to at least 20
graduates during the previous 3 years.

*Zutreffendes einfügen