

Discipline-Specific Study and Examination Regulations for the Master's Degree Program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods at the University of Potsdam¹

Dated February 26, 2020

The Faculty Council of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Potsdam has approved on February 26, 2020, the following study and examination regulations on the basis of Section 19 subsection 1, Section 22 subsections 1-3, Section 31 in conjunction with Section 72 subsection 2 no. 1 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act (BbgHG) of April 28, 2014 (Law and Ordinance Gazette [GVBl.] I/14, [no. 18]), last amended by Section 2 of the Act of June 5, 2019 (GVBl. I/19, [no. 20], p. 3) in conjunction with the Ordinance on the Design of Examination Regulations to Guarantee the Equivalency of Studies, Examinations, and Degrees (University Examination Ordinance - HSPV) of March 4, 2015 (GVBl. II/15, [no. 12]), and the Ordinance on the Accreditation of Studies (StudAkkV) of October 28, 2019 (GVBl. II/19, [no. 90]) and with Section 14 subsection 1 no. 2 of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of December 17, 2009 (Bulletin UP no. 4/2010, p. 60) in the Fifth Amended Version of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of February 21, 2018 (Bulletin UP no. 11/2018, p. 634) and Section 1 subsection 2 of the new version of the General Study and Examination Regulations for Bachelor and Master's Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam Not Related to Teacher Education (BAMA-O) (Bulletin UP no. 3/2013, p. 35), last amended on April 18, 2018 (Bulletin UP no. 6/2018, p. 370):²

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§ 1 Applicability

(1) These regulations apply to the Master's degree program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods at the University of Potsdam and supplement the provisions of the General Study and Examination Regulations for the Bachelor and Master's Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam Not Related to Teacher Education (BAMA-O).

(2) In the event that these regulations contradict the BAMA-O, then the provisions in the BAMA-O supersede these regulations.

§ 2 Objectives of the Degree Program

The Master's degree program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods imparts competencies that are necessary in order to describe, explain, and assess economic processes at the individual and societal levels. The program has a particular focus on quantitative methods for evidence-based policy analysis. It is the objective of this research-oriented degree program to familiarize students with theories, approaches and methods of modern economic research, instill in them the capacity to reflect critically on such research and enable them to conduct independent research projects.

(2) Graduates of the research-oriented Master's degree program will possess broad-ranging knowledge of the theories and methods used in modern economics. Thanks to their pronounced analytical skills, they are not only capable of assessing complex social and political processes from an economic perspective, but can also propose possibilities for shaping such processes. Graduates of the Master's degree program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods are capable of solving problems in a team, independently acquiring knowledge that they lack, making considered decisions, and justifying them persuasively.

(3) Thanks to its research orientation, the Master's degree program serves as a prerequisite for a doctorate in the field of economics. Graduates of the Master's degree program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods are also qualified for positions in economic research as well as professional activities in various applied fields, such as in public administration or at private companies, international organizations, or associations. The specialization component of the Master's degree additionally makes it possible to obtain specific qualifications that allow graduates to carry out specialized roles in the listed occupational fields.

¹ This translation is for informational purposes only. In the event of inconsistency or discrepancy between the German and English versions of these regulations, the German-language version shall prevail.

² Approved by the President of the University of Potsdam on March 27, 2020

§ 3 Type and Duration of the Degree Program

The consecutive Master's degree program is offered at the University of Potsdam as a single-subject program with a standard period of study (full-time studies) of four semesters and 120 credit points (CPs). The Master's degree program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods is subdivided as follows:

Basic Courses	27 CPs
Specialization	54 CPs
Electives	18 CPs
Master's Thesis and Research Colloquium	21 CPs
Total	120 CPs

§ 4 Part-Time Study

The Master's degree program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods is suitable for part-time study. Part-time study requires advising from the relevant faculty so that an individualized course schedule can be created. Proof of this advising must be attached to an application for part-time study in accordance with Section 3 of the Regulations for Part-Time Study at the University of Potsdam ("Teilzeitordnung"). In all other respects, the provisions of the Part-Time Regulations shall apply.

§ 5 Degree

The Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Potsdam awards the degree of "Master of Science" (M.Sc.) to students who have obtained the necessary credit points and meet the graduation requirements.

§ 6 Content of the Master's Degree Program

The Master's degree program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods consists of the following components:

M.Sc. Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods

Module title	CPs
A. Basic Courses	27
All modules must be completed.	
Advanced Microeconomics	9
Advanced Macroeconomics	9
Advanced Microeconometrics	9

B. Specialization	54
Modules amounting to 54 CPs have to be completed. Of those 54 CPs, 30 CPs will have to be completed from the B.1 modules on Economic Policy and 24 CPs from the B.2 modules on Quantitative Methods.	
B.1 Economic Policy*	30
Political Economics I: Methods	6
Political Economics II: Applications	6
Urban Economics I: Methods	6
Urban Economics II: Applications	6
Growth and Distribution I: Theory	6
Growth and Distribution II: Applications & Empirics	6
Economic Policy	12
Advanced Economic Policy I: Theory	6
Advanced Economic Policy II: Applications	6
Behavioral Economics	12
Recent Topics in Economic Policy I	6
Recent Topics in Economic Policy II	6
Seminar in Economic Policy	6
B.2 Quantitative Methods	24
Policy Evaluation I: Methods	6
Policy Evaluation II: Applications	6
Econometric Methods and Applications I	6
Econometric Methods and Applications II	6
Quantitative Methods I	6
Quantitative Methods II	6
Seminar in (Applied) Quantitative Methods	6
C. Electives**	18
Modules amounting to 18 CPs have to be completed. Modules can be chosen from the following modules or from Specialization area B. Modules that have already been completed cannot be taken again. A maximum of 12 CPs can be obtained through internships.	
Advanced Economic Studies I	6
Advanced Economic Studies II	6
Advanced Economic Studies III	6
Internship I	6
Internship II	6
Internship III	12
Internationalization Module	6
D. Master's Thesis and Research Colloquium	21
Research Colloquium	3
Master's Thesis	18
Total	120

* The following combinations are possible:

[1x12LP + 3x6LP], [2x12LP + 1x6LP], [5x6LP]

** The following combinations are possible:

[1x12LP + 1x6LP], [3x6LP]

English is the language of instruction for the Master's degree program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods. Modules will be offered in English.

(3) A degree progress plan for the Master's degree program can be found in Appendix 1 of these regulations.

(4) Details on the module descriptions of the modules mentioned in subsection 1 are defined in Appendix 2: Module Catalog.

§ 7 Special Examination Provisions

In order to retake an examination that is directly affiliated with a specific course, students are required to register for and participate in the course again.

(2) Examinations will be taken in English.

(3) Students of the Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods Master's degree program can take advantage of a maximum of one non-binding exam option in order to disregard a failed module examination. BAMA-O Section 13 provides further details.

§ 8 Master's Thesis and Colloquium

(1) Students will be awarded 18 CPs for the Master's thesis including the thesis defense.

(2) Students who have obtained a minimum of 78 CPs in their studies can register for the Master's thesis.

§ 9 Entry into Force

(1) These regulations take effect on the day after their publication in the Official Announcements of the University of Potsdam.

(2) These regulations apply to all students who enroll in the Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods Master's degree program at the University of Potsdam after these regulations have taken effect.

Appendix 1: Degree progress plan

Master's Degree Program in Economic Policy and Quantitative Methods						
Module no.	Module name	Semester				Σ CPs
		1. Win- ter	2. Sum- mer	3. Win- ter	4. Sum- mer	
A. Basic Courses						
All modules must be completed.						
MA-B-100	Advanced Microeconomics	9				9
MA-B-200	Advanced Macroeconomics	9				9
MA-B-300	Advanced Microeconometrics	9				9
B. Specialization						
Modules amounting to 54 CPs have to be completed. Of those 54 CPs, 30 CPs will have to be completed from the B.1 modules on Economic Policy and 24 CPs from the B.2 modules on Quantitative Methods.						
B.1 Economic Policy						
MA-P-110	Political Economics I: Methods*		<6>		<6>	6
MA-P-120	Political Economics II: Applications*		<6>		<6>	6
MA-P-210	Urban Economics I: Methods*			<6>		6
MA-P-220	Urban Economics II: Applications*			<6>		6
MA-P-310	Growth and Distribution I: Theory*		<6>		<6>	6
MA-P-320	Growth and Distribution II: Applications & Empirics*		<6>		<6>	6
MA-P-410	Economic Policy		<12>		<12>	12
MA-P-420	Advanced Economic Policy I: Theory*			<6>		6
MA-P-430	Advanced Economic Policy II: Applications*			<6>		6
MA-P-510	Behavioral Economics		<12>		<12>	12
MA-P-610	Recent Topics in Economic Policy I			<6>		6
MA-P-620	Recent Topics in Economic Policy II		<6>		<6>	6
MA-P-630	Seminar in Economic Policy			<6>		6
B.2 Quantitative Methods						
MA-M-110	Policy Evaluation I: Methods*		<6>		<6>	6
MA-M-120	Policy Evaluation II: Applications*		<6>		<6>	6
MA-M-210	Econometric Methods and Applications I			<6>		6
MA-M-220	Econometric Methods and Applications II				<6>	6
MA-M-310	Quantitative Methods I		<6>			6
MA-M-320	Quantitative Methods II			<6>		6
MA-M-410	Seminar in (Applied) Quantitative Methods			<6>		6
C. Electives						
Modules amounting to 18 CPs have to be completed. Modules can be chosen from the following modules or from Specialization area B. Modules that have already been completed cannot be taken again. A maximum of 12 CPs can be obtained through internships.						
MA-E-210	Advanced Economic Studies I			<6>		6
MA-E-220	Advanced Economic Studies II		<6>		<6>	6
MA-E-230	Advanced Economic Studies III			<6>		6
MA-E-310	Internship I		<6>	<6>	<6>	6
MA-E-320	Internship II		<6>	<6>	<6>	6
MA-E-330	Internship III		<12>	<12>	<12>	12
MA-E-410	Internationalization Module		<6>	<6>	<6>	6
D. Master's Thesis and Research Colloquium						
MA-F-100	Research Colloquium				3	
Master's Thesis						18
Total		27	30	30	33	120

* It is recommended to take the related Modules I and II within the same semester.

Appendix 2: Module Catalog

The descriptions of the program's modules listed in Section 3 subsection 1 and the tables below are governed by the statutes for the module catalog of the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences for the Bachelor's and Master's programs at the University of Potsdam (MK WiSo). Supplementary regulations and/or deviations from the MK WiSo are indicated in the following table.

Module no.	Module title	Com- pulsory/ Elective	CPs	Admission requirements
MA-B-100	Advanced Microeconomics	Com- pulsory	9	see MK WiSo
MA-B-200	Advanced Macroeconomics	Com- pulsory	9	see MK WiSo
MA-B-300	Advanced Microeconometrics	Com- pulsory	9	see MK WiSo
MA-P-110	Political Economics I: Methods	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-120	Political Economics II: Applications	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-210	Urban Economics I: Methods	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-220	Urban Economics II: Applications	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-310	Growth and Distribution I: Theory	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-320	Growth and Distribution II: Applications & Empirics	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-410	Economic Policy	Elective	12	see MK WiSo
MA-P-420	Advanced Economic Policy I: Theory	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-430	Advanced Economic Policy II: Applications	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-510	Behavioral Economics	Elective	12	see MK WiSo
MA-P-610	Recent Topics in Economic Policy I	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-620	Recent Topics in Economic Policy II	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-P-630	Seminar in Economic Policy	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-M-110	Policy Evaluation I: Methods	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-M-120	Policy Evaluation II: Applications	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-M-210	Econometric Methods and Applications I	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-M-220	Econometric Methods and Applications II	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-M-310	Quantitative Methods I	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-M-320	Quantitative Methods II	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-M-410	Seminar in (Applied) Quantitative Methods	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-E-210	Advanced Economic Studies I	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-E-220	Advanced Economic Studies II	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-E-230	Advanced Economic Studies III	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-E-310	Internship I	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-E-320	Internship II	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-E-330	Internship III	Elective	12	see MK WiSo
MA-E-410	Internationalization Module	Elective	6	see MK WiSo
MA-F-100	Research Colloquium	Com- pulsory	3	see MK WiSo