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Special Regulation for the Master’s programme in Applied Musicology

Version information

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Tabular presentation of the version information

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Supplementing the General Regulations for modular and multi-stage study programmes (AllB) at JLU of 21 July 2004 (Official Gazette No 40 of 4 October 2004), the Faculty of Social Sciences and Cultural Studies at Justus Liebig University Giessen has adopted the following Special Regulation.

Article 1 (Articles 1(1) and 12(1) of the General Regulations)

The Master’s programme in Applied Musicology leads to a further professional qualification (second degree) and lasts four semesters.

Article 2 (Article 2 of the General Regulations)

On successful completion of the study programme, the Faculty of Social Sciences and Cultural Studies at Justus Liebig University Giessen shall award the degree of Master of Arts.

Article 3 (Article 4(1), first sentence, of the General Regulations)

1. The following Bachelor’s study programmes are accredited for admission to the Master’s study programme:
   - Musicology;
   - Music Education.
2. The following qualifications are also recognised as fulfilling the admission criteria:
   - High school teaching qualification with Music as the main subject;
   - Cultural Studies with Music as the main subject;
   - Media Studies with Music as the main subject;

Previous study programmes must comply with the following profile: broad training in music or music education with appropriate foundations in systematic musicology or systematic music education. Following a case-by-case review, the Examination Board may recognise other study programmes as equivalent.

3. For applicants who do not meet the requirements under paragraph 1 or paragraph 2, admission to the Master’s programme in Applied Musicology can be made dependent on their obtaining a pass in an entrance examination. The Examination Board may take account of additional professional experience in its assessment. The examination is taken before the Assessment Committee. If a written paper is required, this will be assessed by the Assessment Committee. Applicants will be given two weeks’ notice of the examination date. The examination must be taken within six weeks following the application deadline in accordance with the applicable version of the Regulation on the matriculation procedure, part-time study, implementation of the Hessian Law on Student Credit and the processing of personal data at universities in the German federal state of Hesse (Hessian Matriculation Regulation, ImmaVO) of 29 December 2003. In special cases the Examination Board may make admission to the Master’s programme in Applied Musicology subject to the completion of adapter modules.

Article 4 (Article 5(1) of the General Regulations)

The modules are described in Annex 2.

Article 5 (Article 6(1) of the General Regulations)

The Master’s programme in Applied Musicology consists of 7 modules, a thesis module and two reference subject modules worth 10 credit points each. Two subjects may be chosen as reference subjects; the number of reference subject modules is derived from the credit points awarded by the relevant faculties.

2. The modules in the study programme are worth:
   - 7 x 10 credit points (Modules 01-03, 05, 08-09 or 10-11 or 12-13, 14).
3. The thesis module (Module 15) is worth 30 credit points.

Article 5a (Article 7 of the General Regulations)

(1) Admission to the module examination is conditional on full attendance at all sessions and courses planned and conducting during any one semester. This rule does not apply to lectures.
(2) Non-attendance at up to two sessions does not affect entitlement to be admitted to the examination.

(3) If more than two and up to half the sessions planned and conducted during any one semester are missed, compensatory achievements for each additional missed session must be used to maintain the entitlement to be admitted to the examination. The teaching staff shall determine the type and scope of the compensatory achievements.

(4) Students are admitted to the examination before the end of the semester tuition period in accordance with the rules in paragraphs 1-3.

Article 6 (Article 9(1) of the General Regulations)

1. Students are required to complete an internship/work placement module. Further details are stipulated in the module description and the Internship Regulation (Annex 3).

(2) Both students and professors may suggest internships and work placements in cooperation with external employers.

Article 7 (Article 10(1) of the General Regulations)

1. The type of examination (during or at the end of a module) is, in each case, specified in the module descriptions (Annex 2).

2. If the module examination comprises all intra-module examinations or a combination of intra-module examinations and a final module examination and if the overall result is a fail, students are required to take a compensatory examination, whose scope and duration must be equal to the failed parts of the module examination. In such cases, the overall grade is compiled from the result of the compensatory examination instead of the failed examination parts and from the parts passed. If the performance in the compensatory examination again fails to achieve an assessment as "Sufficient/Ausreichend", the module examination is considered to have been failed.

Article 8 (Article 10(1) of the General Regulations)

1. The grading procedures (percentage shares) are set forth in the module descriptions (Annex 2). The examination performance is evaluated in accordance with Articles 28 and 29 of the General Regulations.

Article 9 (Article 19(3) of the General Regulations)

The types of examinations include timed written examinations, coursework, portfolios (containing, as discussed with the teaching staff, seminar papers with development, presentations, information extracts, short written examinations, take-home tests, essays, reviews, literature reviews, records of learning, study diaries, seminar records and seminar reports and characterising the collection of results of a student’s work on one course), practical reports, oral examinations and the Master’s thesis. The type of examination is specified in the relevant module descriptions (Annex 2).

Article 10 (Article 11(1), first sentence, of the General Regulations)

1. The programme structure is appended as Annex 1.

2. The two-year Master’s programme in Applied Musicology is application oriented and geared to practice. It equips students for professional employment in the fields of Empirical Music Research, Popular Music and Media and Music Communication and takes the required subject knowledge, skills and methods further:

   • In the specialisation in Empirical Music Research, the aim is for students to acquire the necessary theoretical and methodological skills that equip them to advise companies, for example, on the targeted use and the financing and marketing of music as well as to conduct empirical research projects for commercial and educational institutions.
   • In the specialisation in Popular Music and Media, the focus is on various aspects of the media presentation of popular music from former New Media to the internet. Students explore views of institutions and structures involved in presenting music, of production and reproduction, or of legal and economic aspects of music in the media context.
   • In the specialisation in Music Communication, students gain insights into institutions and professional fields concerned with music communication and work with specific didactic methods that are closely
linked to practice and with areas of practical music education (e.g. concert education, special education work with music).

In addition to advanced knowledge of systematic and historical musicology, the main subject in the Master’s programme in Applied Musicology covers first and foremost professionally relevant tools and knowledge. In addition, students are trained in one or two freely chosen academic reference subjects (e.g. English Studies, Biology, Educational Science, Geography, German Studies, History, History of Art, Art Education, Medicine, Physics, Politics/Sociology, Psychology, Law, Romance Studies, Theatre Studies, Economics).

The overarching objective is to enable students to carry out independent academic and project-based work on the basis of methods, strategies and academic views that are taught. The practically oriented teaching approaches and the teaching of course contents that relate to the present are intended to enable students to learn to recognise acute and complex problems and to solve problems using academic methods, including, if appropriate, beyond the limits of the present state of knowledge. The Institute’s facilities, such as an existing internet network for teaching composition and a research centre for film music and musical films that is currently being set up with incorporated archives enhance the practical orientation of the studies. By engaging high-profile practitioners as lecturers, arranging guest lectures on current issues in music/culture, research contacts and cooperations with research, media and educational institutions and two compulsory eight-week practical placements, interaction between university studies and practical application takes place on a permanent basis, which ensures that courses are adapted to the requirements and needs of the labour market. That also applies, in particular, to the conferences organised by the Institute itself in cooperation with the ASPM (Working Group on Studies in Popular Music) and the DGM (German Society for Music Psychology). The Master’s thesis should be geared to practical problems and completed, if possible, either in cooperation with external practitioners or through participation in research projects conducted by the Institute.

Article 11 (Article 13 of the General Regulations)

The study programme may be started in the winter semester and in the summer semester.

Article 12 (Article 20(1) of the General Regulations)

When students register for the thesis module, they must present evidence of successful attendance at the modules in the first to third semesters in accordance with the programme structure. Exceptions are determined by the Examination Board; it specifies corresponding rules for part-time studies.

Article 13 (Article 25(1) of the General Regulations)

1. In response to a joint application by a group of students and if the Examination Board so decides, an examination may be conducted as a group examination.

2. An oral examination shall last at least 15 minutes and no more than 30 minutes per examinee and subject. In the case of a group examination, it shall last at least 15 minutes but no more than 30 minutes per examinee.

Article 14 (Article 26(1) of the General Regulations)

The thesis is part of Module 15, which also includes an oral examination lasting 60 minutes and an oral discussion (defence).

In the calculation of the overall grade for the thesis module, the grade for the thesis, in which at least “sufficient” must have been achieved, has a share of 60% and the grade for the examination has a share of 40%.

Article 15 (Article 26(4) of the General Regulations)

Subject to application by the examinee and approval by the Examination Board, the thesis may be written in English if the corresponding evaluation can be ensured.

Article 16 (Article 26(5) of the General Regulations)

The time allowed for writing the thesis is six months. The date of the oral examination is announced within six weeks following submission of the thesis.
Article 17 (Article 26(6) of the General Regulations)
The thesis topic may be reasonably rejected once up to four weeks after its issue. Following rejection, a new topic shall be issued immediately and may not be rejected.

Article 18 (Article 30(2), second sentence, of the General Regulations)
Students shall achieve a pass in the study programme if they obtain a pass in all compulsory modules in the programme structure.

Article 19 (Article 31(1) of the General Regulations)
40% of the overall grade is derived from the unweighted average grade for modules 1, 2, 3, 5 and the reference subject module, 30% from the unweighted average grade for the specialisation modules 8 and 9 or 10 and 11 or 12 and 13, and 30% from the grade for thesis module 15.

Article 20 (Article 32 of the General Regulations)
A summary table shall be drawn up in German and in English for each student and shall contain at least the titles of the modules, the dates of the examinations and the grades.

Article 21 (Article 33, second sentence, of the General Regulations)
On request to the Examination Board, records relating to an examination may be viewed for a period of four weeks from the end of the examination.

Article 22 (Article 34(2) of the General Regulations)
On application, the Examination Board may give its approval for a second repeat of the end-of-module examination. Alternatively, following a fail in the first repeat examination, the Examination Board may allow the student to repeat the entire module once at the next possible date, without the possibility of repeating the examination in that module. Permission to repeat the module or to take a second repeat examination may not be granted for more than one-quarter of the modules to be taken, excluding the thesis module.

Article 23 (Article 34(4) of the General Regulations)
1. The module coordinator shall notify students of the examination dates and repeat examination dates by the start of the semester at the latest.
2. Failed examinations must generally be repeated in the first examination cycle following the failure.
3. If a student retakes cumulative module examinations, he or she shall be credited with parts of the overall examination performance that have been successfully completed in the first attempt.
4. In exceptional cases, the Chair of the Examination Board can make appropriate rules.

Article 24 (Article 39(1) of the General Regulations)
1. Students who began studying for a Magister Artium in Musicology or Music Education at Justus Liebig University Giessen before this Regulation entered into force may choose whether to complete their studies in accordance with the previous rules or to transfer to the Master’s programme.
2. They must state their wish to transfer by the end of the summer semester 2008. The statement must be made in writing and submitted to the Chair of the Examination Board.
3. In accordance with paragraph 1, students who have enrolled in the programme leading to a Magister in Musicology or Music Education at Justus Liebig University Giessen and who meet the following requirements may transfer to the Master’s programme:
   1. Completion of the interim examination in Musicology or Music Education with a grade of at least “satisfactory”, acquisition of half the performance credits required for the main studies with a grade of at least “satisfactory”; and
   2. Submission of the equivalent of a Bachelor’s thesis with a grade of at least “sufficient”.
4. The thesis referred to in article 3, No 2, is generally written within the framework of a particular course. Apart from courses, it may be issued and corrected by the persons referred to in Article 5(2) of the Magister Examination Regulation. Further details of the procedure, particularly registration and deadlines, are established by the Examination Board for the Bachelor’s examination in Musicology/Music Education in accordance with Articles 7 et seq. of the Special Regulation of 24 January 2007 for the programme in Musicology or Music Education leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree and ensures that the thesis can be written.

5. Courses in the main part of a study programme leading to a Magister in Musicology/Music Education shall run for the standard period allowed for completion of the main part of the programme. All examinations must be taken within the specified time frame.

Article 25 (Article 40 of the General Regulations)

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following publication.

At the same time the following regulations shall cease to apply:

- The rules relating to examinations in the field of Musicology, as stipulated in the last amended wording of the new version of 29 November 2000 of the Regulation for the Magister examination in humanities subjects at Justus Liebig University Giessen;
- The rules relating to examinations in the subject of Musicology, as stipulated in the wording of the 11th amendment resolution of 7 November 2001 or of the last amended version of the Regulation for the interim examination in humanities subjects at Justus Liebig University Giessen of 18 May 1990; and

Giessen, 24 January 2007
Prof. Dr. Klaus Fritzsche
Dean of Faculty 03 – Social Sciences and Cultural Studies