

Please note that this document is a non-binding translation. Only the German version of the document entitled "Prüfungsordnung der Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg für den Masterstudiengang Translational Medical Research (TMR)" of 5 October 2022, has legal validity.

## **Examination regulations of the Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg for the Master's programme Translational Medical Research (TMR)**

from 5th of October 2022

Based on § 32 of the Law on Universities in Baden-Württemberg (Landeshochschulgesetz - LHG) of 1 January 2005 (GBl. p. 1), last amended by Article 7 of the Ordinance of 21 December 2021 (GBl. 2022, p.1, 2), the Senate of the Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg adopted the following Statutes on 4 October 2022.

The Rector gave his approval on 5 October 2022.

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

#### **Section I: General Considerations**

- § 1 Subject matter of the study programme and examinations
- § 2 Master's degree
- § 3 National and international course version, standard periods of study, course structure, extent of the curriculum
- § 4 Modules, credit points, list of grades
- § 5 Examination board
- § 6 Examiners and assessors
- § 7 Withdrawal, failure to attend, exceeding of deadlines, deception and compensation for disadvantages
- § 8 Types of examination<sup>1</sup>
- § 9 Oral or oral-practical examinations during the study
- § 10 Written examinations during the study
- § 11 Assessment of examinations
- § 12 Repetition of examinations

#### **Section II: Master's Examination**

- § 13 Admission requirements for the Master's examination
- § 14 Admission procedure for the Master's examination
- § 15 Scope and type of the Master's examination
- § 16 Master's thesis for students in the national course version of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research
- § 17 Master's thesis in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine
- § 18 Submission and assessment of the Master's thesis in the national course version of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research
- § 19 Submission and assessment of the Master's thesis in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine
- § 20 Oral presentation and disputation of the Master's thesis in the national course version of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout the document, the German word "Prüfungsleistung" is translated by "examination" but does also refer to and include assignments and other required and assessed performances.

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- § 21 Oral presentation and disputation of the Master's thesis in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine
- § 22 Passing the examination, overall grade
- § 23 Master's certificate, certificate and additional IMIM diploma supplement

### **Section III: Final provisions**

- § 24 Invalidity of examinations
- § 25 Inspection of the examination files
- § 26 Coming into effect and transitional provision

**Appendix A:** Tabular overview of the modules and ECTS credits in the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research

**Appendix B:** Tabular overview of the Modules and ECTS credits in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine

### **Section I: General**

#### **§ 1 Subject matter of the study programme and examinations**

- (1) The subject of the consecutive Master's programme Translational Medical Research (TMR) is translational medical research, which deals with the implementation of experimental scientific findings into clinical treatment as well as the development of scientific questions based on clinical observations. In particular, advances in molecular genetics and cellular research are effectively linked to clinical practice, including targeted feedback. The dynamic development in molecular and cellular research places high demands on the training of future clinicians in this field, but also on scientists who must be sufficiently capable of (i) understanding the molecular cellular and systems physiological background of biologically oriented diagnostics and therapy, (ii) being able to define the prerequisites for the use of such molecular therapy strategies in individual patients and (iii) ultimately contribute to the most efficient and rapid transfer of molecular knowledge into clinical and therapeutic application. Accordingly, the Master's programme Translational Medical Research is interdisciplinary and research-oriented. It systematically promotes the training of young researchers with an individually selectable focus on key research fields of the Mannheim Medical Faculty.
- (2) The Master's programme is research-oriented and is intended to provide both the prerequisites for independent scientific work in a subsequent doctorate and extended specialist knowledge for scientific activities in the fields of industry, business, administration, research and teaching.
- (3) The Master's examination is intended to determine whether students have an overview of the contexts of the subject, the ability to apply scientific methods and findings, and whether they have acquired the fundamentals and methodological and practical skills necessary for the transition to professional practice and doctoral studies.
- (4) The requirements for admission to the study programme in the national and international course versions are regulated in separate admission regulations.

## **§ 2 Master's Degree**

After passing the Master's examination, Heidelberg University represented by the Medical Faculty Mannheim awards the academic degree "Master of Science" (abbreviated to "M.Sc.").

## **§ 3 National and international course versions, standard periods of study, course structure, extent of the curriculum**

- (1) The Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research can be studied as a national course version (paragraphs 2 to 5), or as an international course version (paragraphs 6 to 7) with the completion of a double degree.
- (2) The standard period of study for the Master's degree programme, including the examination periods, is two semesters. The total amount required for successful completion of the Master's programme is 60 ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) credits. 1 ECTS credit point corresponds to approximately 30 hours.
- (3) The degree programme has a modular structure. Study achievements are measured with the help of credit points according to the ECTS guidelines. The Master's thesis including the Master's examination (disputation) comprises 30 ECTS credit points. The modules to be completed are listed in Appendix A.
- (4) The teaching programme does not follow the usual lecture schedule, but is held in modules with a time span of approx. 23 weeks.
- (5) The language of instruction and examination is English.
- (6) The Master's programme Translational Medical Research (TMR) can also be studied as an international course version in the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree Programme (EMJMD) with the completion of a double degree. In the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine (IMIM), graduates are awarded an additional Master's degree from a partner university in addition to the Master's degree in the Master's programme Translational Medical Research (TMR) at Heidelberg University.
- (7) The standard period of study for the Master's programme in the international pathway is four semesters including the examination periods. A total amount of 120 ECTS credits is required for successful completion of the Master's programme. The first two semesters are to be completed at Heidelberg University, comprising 60 credit points, semesters three and four are to be completed at one of the European partner universities. The European partner universities are the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, Netherlands, and the Uppsala Universitet, Sweden. The 30 ECTS credit points acquired in the second semester in Heidelberg are an admission requirement for taking up studies at the European partner university and are at the same time fully credited towards the required total of 120 credit points. In all other respects, paragraphs 3 to 5 apply.

## **§ 4 Modules, credit points, list of grades**

- (1) A module is a thematically and temporally self-contained teaching and learning unit that can be composed of different courses. It consists not only of the courses to be attended, but also includes the academic examinations that are necessary for its successful completion

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- (2) The Master's thesis and the final oral examination constitute a separate module.
- (3) A distinction is made between
  - Compulsory modules: must be completed by all students
  - Compulsory elective modules: students can choose within a compulsory elective area; these are modules of a compulsory elective area.
- (4) To pass a module, all examination within the module must have been assessed with at least "sufficient" (4.0) or with "passed" (= module parts grades).
- (5) Credit points are awarded for successfully completed modules and their partial achievements. One credit point corresponds to a time expenditure of approx. 30 hours for the student.
- (6) At the end of each semester, a list of grades (*transcript of records*) is issued if required. It lists all passed module examinations together with the respective credit points and grades.

## § 5 Examination board

- (1) An examination board is formed for the organisation of examinations and the tasks assigned by these examination regulations. It consists of three university teachers, university lecturers or private lecturers and one student representative. The latter only has an advisory vote. The members of the examination board and their deputies are appointed by the Faculty Council. The chairperson must be a university lecturer. The term of office of the members is three years, that of the student member one year. Re-election is possible. In examination matters that personally affect a member of the examination board and/or in cases where a member is suspected of bias, his or her membership in the matter shall be suspended. The member concerned shall not vote on decisions.
- (2) The examination board ensures that the provisions of the examination regulations are observed and makes suggestions for reforming the curriculum and the examination regulations. It appoints the examiners and assessors involved in the examinations. The examination board may delegate the appointment to the chairperson. It may be consulted on all questions concerning the examinations.
- (3) The Chairperson shall conduct the business of the examination board, prepare and chair its meetings and decide in the event of a tie.
- (4) The Examination board may at any time revocably delegate other tasks of the Examination Committee to the Chairperson, provided that this does not conflict with statutory provisions. The examination board shall be regularly informed about the completion of these tasks.
- (5) The members of the examination board have the right to attend the taking of examinations.
- (6) The members of the examination board, the examiners and assessors are subject to official secrecy. If they are not in public service, they shall be sworn to secrecy by the chairperson.
- (7) Rejecting decisions of the examination board or the chairperson are to be communicated to the candidate immediately in writing with the reasons for rejection and with instructions for appealing the decision.

## **§ 6 Examiners and assessors**

- (1) As a rule, only university teachers, university lecturers and private lecturers as well as academic staff to whom the examination authority has been delegated are authorised to take the Master's examination. Other persons may only be appointed as second examiners or, in exceptional cases, as examiners if there are not enough examiners available and they themselves have the qualification acquired through the examination or an equivalent qualification. In the case of external examiners, their position should be comparable to that of a German professor, university lecturer or private lecturer.
- (2) Only those who have passed the relevant Master's examination or a comparable examination may be appointed as assessors.
- (3) The candidate can propose one of the two examiners for the Master's thesis; this does not constitute a legal claim to the assignment of a specific examiner. As a rule, one of the examiners is the supervisor.
- (4) The chairperson of the examination board shall ensure that the names of the examiners are made known to the candidate in good time.
- (5) As a rule, the persons responsible for the respective course shall be appointed to conduct partial examinations during the course of study.
- (6) § 5 (6) (official secrecy) shall apply accordingly to the examiners and assessors.

## **§ 7 Withdrawal, failure to attend, exceeding of deadlines, deception and compensation for disadvantages**

- (1) An examination performance shall be deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed" if the candidate fails to appear at an examination without a valid reason or if he/she withdraws after the start of the examination without a valid reason. The same applies if a written examination is not completed within the specified time, unless the candidate is not responsible for exceeding the deadline.
- (2) The reasons asserted for the withdrawal or the failure to attend in accordance with §7 (1) must be notified to the examination committee in writing without delay and must be made credible. In the case of illness of the candidate or of a child who is predominantly his or her sole responsibility or of a relative in need of care, a medical certificate must be submitted; in cases of doubt, the certificate of a doctor appointed by the university may be requested. If the reasons are accepted, a new appointment will be scheduled.
- (3) In its decision as to whether the candidate is responsible for exceeding a deadline for registering for or taking examinations, the examination board shall observe the protective provisions in accordance with the Maternity Protection Act (Mutterschutzgesetz) and the statutory provisions on parental leave (Elternzeit) and enable them to be taken. The same applies to students with relatives in need of care within the meaning of §7 (3) 3 of the Nursing Leave Act (Pflegezeitgesetz) and to disabled and chronically ill students.
- (4) If the candidate attempts to influence the result of the examination by deception or the use of unauthorised aids, the examination in question will be graded as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed". A

candidate who disturbs the orderly course of the examination can be excluded from the continuation of the examination by the person authorised to conduct the examination or the invigilator; in this case, the examination in question will be assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed". To check for plagiarism in written examinations, examiners may use internal plagiarism software. In the case of proven plagiarism, the examination in question is graded as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed". In serious cases, the examination board may exclude the candidate from taking further examinations. Before a decision is made in accordance with the above sentences 1 to 4, the candidate must be given the opportunity to make a statement.

- (5) If the candidate has cheated in an examination and this fact only becomes known after a certificate of achievement has been issued, the examination committee may subsequently correct the marks for those examination in which cheating took place. The examination board may declare the examination failed in whole or in part; the candidate shall be given the opportunity to comment before a decision is made. The incorrect performance record shall be withdrawn and, if necessary, a new one issued.
- (6) If the candidate proves by means of a medical certificate that he/she is unable to perform the examination in whole or in part in the intended form due to long-term or permanent physical disabilities, the examination committee shall, upon application by the candidate, allow him/her to perform an equivalent examination in another form (compensation for disadvantages), unless the purpose of the examination necessarily precludes performance in another form. The choice of the other form shall be made in consultation with the examiner and with regard to safeguarding the purpose of the examination and equal opportunities for all candidates. The same applies to coursework.
- (7) The candidate must be informed immediately in writing of any adverse decisions, the reasons for such decisions must be given and the candidate must be provided with instructions on how to legally appeal the decision.

## **§ 8 Types of examination**

- (1) Examinations are taken within the framework of the respective course. The type of examination is determined by the head of the course and announced at the latest at the beginning of the course. Examinations are:
  1. Oral examinations,
  2. Written examinations,
  3. the Master's thesis including its disputation.
- (2) Examinations can also be carried out orally and practically (e.g., demonstration/ practical) and/or supported by modern media (computer, audio, video) and/or can take place during the course (e.g., presentation).
- (3) Module examinations may consist of several examination parts.

## **§ 9 Oral or oral-practical examinations during the study**

- (1) By means of oral or oral-practical examinations, the candidate should prove that the interrelationships of the examination area are understood and that special questions can be placed in these interrelationships. Furthermore, it is to be determined whether the candidate has a basic knowledge corresponding to the course of study.
- (2) Oral examinations are taken before several examiners or one examiner in the presence of an expert assessor.
- (3) The duration of the oral or oral-practical examinations is between 10 and 60 minutes. The examinations can also be held as group examinations with up to a maximum of 5 participants. The duration of the examination may be extended accordingly. In this case, no more than 45 minutes are allotted to each individual student.
- (4) The essential contents and the result of the oral examination performances are to be recorded in a protocol.
- (5) Students who wish to take the same subject examination at a later examination date may be admitted as listeners. Admission does not extend to the deliberations and the announcement of the examination results. At the request of the candidate or for important reasons, the public shall be excluded.

## **§ 10 Written examinations during the study**

- (1) In the written examinations, the candidate should demonstrate that he/she can recognise a problem and find ways to a solution in a limited time and with limited aids using the common methods of the subject.
- (2) The duration of the written examinations is between 30 and 240 minutes. The Multiple Choice procedure is permissible. The form and scope are regulated by the Module handbook or the person responsible for teaching by announcement, if necessary electronically, at the latest at the beginning of the course to which the examination belongs. In the case of multiple-choice questions, the candidate must select one or more answers from a limited number of possibilities, particularly in the form of:
  - a) single-choice questions: one answer shall be selected from several possible answers;
  - b) multiple choice questions: a predetermined number of answers shall be selected from a list;
  - c) multiple true/false tasks: a series of sub-questions are to be answered dichotomously, e.g., with "yes/no" or "true/false".
- (3) Questions in a Multiple Choice examination are usually set by the person responsible for the course appointed by the examination board. The examination questions must be adapted to the knowledge imparted by the course and provide reliable examination results. The examiners named in sentence 1 shall check the examination material before determining the examination result to see whether they comply with sentence 2. If this examination shows that individual examination questions are faulty, they shall not be taken into account. The number of examination

questions set shall be reduced accordingly; the assessment shall be based on the reduced number. The reduction in the number of examination questions must not be to the candidate's disadvantage.

If a Multiple Choice procedure is used, the examination is deemed to have been passed if at least 60% of the questions were answered correctly or if the number of questions answered correctly by the examinee does not fall below the average examination performance of the examinees by more than 22% (*sliding clause*). In the case of repeat examinations, the *sliding clause* is only to be applied if this is decided by the examination board.

Instead of the 60 percent limit, a *Standard Expectation* (Erwartungshorizont) can also be determined, which is defined by at least two teachers responsible for setting the examination (standard setting).

If the candidate has reached the pass mark required to pass the examination, the performance in the examination shall be graded in the Multiple-Choice procedure as follows. In the case of the sliding clause, the grading scale is shifted linearly by the difference between the absolute and relative pass mark.

Percentage	corresponds to grade
≥ 64 – 60	4. <sup>2</sup> 0
> 64 – 68	3.7
> 68 – 72	3.3
> 72 – 76	3.0
> 76 – 80	2.7
> 80 – 84	2.3
> 84 – 88	2.0
> 88 – 92	1.7
> 92 – 96	1.3
> 96 – 100	1.0

- (4) If a written examination is conducted in the form of a term paper, the candidate must certify in writing that he/she has written the term paper independently and has not used any aids other than those specified.
- (5) The assessment procedure for written examinations should not exceed four weeks.

## § 11 Assessment of the examinations

- (1) The grades for the individual examinations are determined by the respective examiners. The following grades are to be used for the assessment of the performances:

1 = very good	= an excellent performance;
2 = good	= a performance that significantly exceeds the average requirements;
3 = satisfactory	= a performance that meets average requirements;
4 = sufficient	= a performance which, despite its deficiencies, still meets the requirements and suffices;
5 = insufficient	= a performance which, due to significant deficiencies, does not meet the requirements and is no longer sufficient.

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<sup>2</sup> Note: Decimal values are separated from the whole values by a dot (".") in English but with a comma (",") in German.



For the differentiated assessment of examinations, intermediate values can be formed by reducing or increasing the individual grades of an examinee by 0.3; the grade 0.7 and intermediate values above 4.0 are excluded. In the case of assessments by several examiners, the arithmetic mean shall apply, rounded to the first decimal place.

- (2) A final module grade is calculated from the unrounded module sub-grades weighted according to their number of credit points. If a final module examination is to be taken in a module, the grade of the final module examination forms the grade for this module.
- (3) A final module grade and the overall grade of the Master's examination are designated as follows:

with an average of up to 1.5	very good
with an average of 1.6 to 2.5	good
with an average of 2.6 to 3.5	satisfactory
with an average of 3.6 to 4.0	sufficient
- (4) When calculating the final module grades and the overall grade of the Master's examination according to (3), the first decimal place is included (rounded).
- (5) The Master's examination is passed if all scheduled examination performances have been assessed with at least "sufficient" (4.0) or with "passed". The overall grade of the Master's examination is calculated according to § 22 (2).
- (6) If the overall grade of the degree programme is less than or equal to 1.1, it is possible to add the remark "cum laude"/ "with distinction" to the Master's certificate on the basis of a written application by the student to the examination board. The examination board decides on this.
- (7) In addition to the final grade according to the German system, students who have successfully passed the corresponding examination performance receive a relative grade according to the following grading scale:

- A the best 10 %
- B the next 25 %
- C the next 30 %
- D the next 25 %
- E the next 10 %

As a basis for the calculation of the relative grade, depending on the size of the final year, at least two previous years are to be recorded as cohorts in addition to the final year, if possible. The ECTS credit grade is obligatory as a supplement for degrees; for individual modules it can be shown optionally - if this is possible and there is a corresponding need.

- (8) An appeal against the examination result can be submitted in writing to the chairperson of the examination board after it has been announced.

## § 12 Repetition of examinations

- (1) Examinations that have not been passed or are deemed to have not been passed can be repeated twice. Failed attempts at other universities are to be taken into account.
- (2) It is not possible to repeat an examination that has been passed.

- (3) Failed examinations must be repeated at the next possible date. If this deadline is missed, the examination entitlement expires, unless the candidate is not responsible for missing the deadline.

## **Section II: Master's examination**

### **§ 13 Admission requirements for the Master's examination**

- (1) A student can only be admitted to a Master's examination in the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research if he/she
1. is enrolled in the national course version Master's programme Translational Medical Research at Heidelberg University,
  2. has not lost his/her examination entitlement in the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research or a similar degree programme.
- (2) For admission to the Master's thesis, the certificates proving the following must also be submitted:
1. Successfully completed courses, usually totalling 24 credit points, from the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research at Heidelberg University. In individual cases, admission can also be granted if only courses totalling fewer credit points are provisionally proven to have been successfully passed;
  2. A statement as to whether the candidate has already failed a Master's examination in a Master's degree programme in Translational Medical Research or a similar degree programme or is currently in an examination procedure in such a degree programme.

### **§ 14 Admission procedure for the Master's examination**

- (1) The application for admission must be submitted in writing to the chairperson of the examination board. Evidence in accordance with § 13 (2) must be enclosed with the application.
- (2) If the candidate is unable to provide the required evidence in the prescribed manner, the examination board may allow the evidence to be provided in a different manner.
- (3) The examination committee decides on admission on the basis of the application. A rejection must be communicated in writing, the reasons must be given and a notice with instructions on how to appeal the decision must be included.
- (4) The application for admission may only be rejected if:
1. the requirements according to § 13 are not fulfilled or
  2. the documents according to (1) are incomplete and have not been completed despite a request to do so, or

3. the candidate has definitively failed the Master's examination in the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research or a similar degree programme or has lost the right to take the examination or
4. the candidate is in an ongoing examination procedure in such a degree programme.

### **§ 15 Scope and type of the Master's examination**

(1) The Master's examination for students in the national course version of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research consists of

1. successful participation in course-related examinations amounting to at least 30 ECTS credits (see Appendix A),
2. the Master's thesis
3. an oral presentation with a disputation of the Master's thesis.

(2) The Master's examination for students in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine consists of

1. successful participation in examinations during the course of study amounting to at least 90 ECTS credits at at least two of the three European partner universities (see Appendix B).
2. the Master's thesis including an oral presentation with disputation amounting to at least 30 ECTS credit points.

(3) The examinations shall be in the following order

- examinations during the course of study (according to § 1)
- Master thesis

(4) In justified exceptional cases, the examination committee may approve a deviation from the order of examinations specified in (3). The resulting deadlines for the individual examinations shall be determined at the same time as the approval. If these deadlines are missed, the examination performances not yet taken shall be deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed", unless the candidate is not responsible for missing the deadline.

### **§ 16 Master's thesis for students in the national course version of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research**

(1) The Master's thesis is an examination paper that concludes the scientific training and consists of research work and a written paper. It is intended to show that the candidate is able to independently work on a problem from the field of translational medical research using scientific methods within a specified period of time. The Master's thesis can be issued and supervised by any person authorised to conduct examinations according to § 6 (1) sentence 1.

(2) The candidate must submit an application for the assignment of a Master's thesis topic (registration) to the chairperson of the examination committee no later than four weeks after successfully passing the last part of the course-related examination. Notwithstanding (8), the Master's thesis

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may only be started after registration. A later start is only possible upon justified application to the chairperson of the examination committee.

- (3) If the above-mentioned deadline is missed, the Master's thesis will be assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed", unless the candidate is not responsible for missing the deadline.
- (4) The topic of the Master's thesis is determined by the supervisor in consultation with the candidate.
- (5) Upon request, the chairperson of the examination board shall ensure that the candidate receives a topic for the Master's thesis in good time. The candidate shall be given the opportunity to make suggestions for the topic. A legal claim to a specific topic is not established. The topic shall be announced by the chairperson of the examination committee; the time of announcement shall be recorded.
- (6) The time from the announcement of the topic to the submission of the thesis is five months and includes the research work as well as the written elaboration. In exceptional cases, the deadline may be extended by two months by the examination committee. If the deadline is not met, the Master's thesis will be assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed", unless the candidate is not responsible for exceeding the deadline.
- (7) In individual cases, a topic may be approved on which the student has previously demonstrably conducted research as part of the usual research performance corresponding to the scope and specialized direction of a TMR Master's thesis (15-25 ECTS credit points, approximately 450-750 hours), and the results of which have not been used in any other thesis. The writing can only take place after the registration and approval of the Master's thesis by the examination board. The submission of the written report to the examination board takes place two months after the registration. The existence of the conditions mentioned in this paragraph must be confirmed by the student and the supervisor of the Master's thesis with an affidavit.
- (8) A manuscript prepared according to the guidelines of a relevant peer-reviewed journal (original paper category) can also be submitted as a Master's thesis. This must be supplemented by an accompanying text of five to ten pages. The personal and external contribution to the publication should be made clear. An addition in the publication that the publication contains parts of a Master's thesis from the Translational Medical Research programme is desirable. The examination committee decides on the acceptance of the manuscript as a Master's thesis.
- (9) The topic, task and scope of the Master's thesis must be limited in such a way that the deadline for completion can be met.
- (10) The written Master's thesis must be written in English.

## **§ 17 Master's thesis in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine**

- (1) The Master's thesis is an examination paper that concludes the scientific training and consists of research work and a written paper. It is intended to show that the examinee is able to independently work on a problem from the field of translational medical research using scientific methods within a specified period of time.

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- (2) The Master's thesis can be issued and supervised by any person authorised to conduct examinations in accordance with § 6 (1) sentence 1. The topic of the Master's thesis is determined by the supervisor in consultation with the candidate. The topic, task and scope of the Master's thesis shall be limited in such a way that the deadline for completion can be met.
- (3) Registration for the Master's thesis takes place after successfully passing the last examination of the overall degree programme (usually after the 3rd semester).
- (4) If the above-mentioned deadlines are missed, the written thesis will be assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed", unless the candidate is not responsible for missing the deadline.
- (5) The written Master's thesis must be written in English.
- (6) The procedure and content of the Master's thesis, such as the deadlines for registration and submission of the Master's thesis, depend on the regulations of the respective European partner university at which the Master's thesis is completed.

#### **§ 18 Submission and assessment of the Master's thesis in the national course version of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research**

- (1) Three bound copies and one digital copy of the Master's thesis must be submitted to the examination committee by the deadline; the date of submission must be recorded. The thesis shall contain an abstract.
- (2) When handing in the Master's thesis, the candidate must assure in writing that he/she has written the thesis him/herself and has not used any sources or aids other than those indicated.
- (3) The Master's thesis is assessed by two examiners, one of whom must be a university lecturer. The first examiner should be the supervisor of the thesis. The second examiner is determined by the examination committee; the candidate has the right to propose an examiner, but this does not constitute a legal claim. The assessment procedure should not exceed six weeks. The grade results from the arithmetic mean of both evaluations; § 11 applies accordingly. In the case of deviations of more than one grade, the examination committee shall determine the grade of the Master's thesis after hearing both examiners. In such cases, it may consult a third examiner.

#### **§ 19 Submission and assessment of the Master's thesis in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine**

- (1) The Master's thesis must be submitted in accordance with the regulations of the respective European partner university at which the Master's thesis is completed; the submission date must be recorded on file. For recognition within the framework of a double degree, the final version must also be submitted to the examination board of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research.
- (2) When handing in the Master's thesis, the candidate must assure in writing that he/she has written the thesis him/herself and has not used any sources and aids other than those indicated.

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- (3) The recognition and determination of the grade of the Master's thesis shall take place within the framework of the recognition and determination of the overall grade of the Master's thesis according to § 22 (2) point 3 by the examination board of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research.

### **§ 20 Oral presentation and disputation of the Master's thesis in the national course version of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research**

- (1) The Master's thesis must be presented to the appointed examiners in an oral presentation of 15-20 minutes and defended in a subsequent academic discussion. The defense lasts up to 60 minutes in total. The subject of the discussion is approximately half the subject area of the Master's thesis and half the overall area of the material taught in the course Modules.
- (2) The presentation shall take place no later than eight weeks after the submission of the thesis. The date is set by the examination committee and the candidate must be informed of it at least two weeks before the start of the presentation. In exceptional cases and in agreement with both examiners, a different examination date may be approved by the examination committee.
- (3) The main points of the interview are to be recorded in a transcript, which is to be signed by the chairperson of the examination board.

### **§ 21 Oral presentation and disputation of the Master's thesis in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine**

- (1) The Master's thesis must be presented in an oral presentation and defended in a subsequent academic discussion. The procedure and content of the academic discussion depend on the regulations of the respective European partner university at which the Master's thesis is completed.
- (2) The grade of the lecture and the academic discussion is determined by the regulations of the respective European partner university at which the Master's thesis is completed.
- (3) The recognition and determination of the grade of the lecture and the academic interview is carried out within the framework of the recognition and determination of the overall grade of the Master's thesis according to §22 (2) point 3 by the examination board of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research.

### **§ 22 Passing the examination, overall grade**

- (1) The Master's examination is passed if all examinations according to § 15 (1) have each been assessed with at least "sufficient" (4.0) or with "passed".
- (2) For the calculation of the final grade according to § 11 (3), two grades are, formed from the grades of the course-related examinations according to § 15 (1) point 1, and the Master's thesis, each contributing half to the final grade.
  1. The module grades are used with their numerical value according to § 11 (4) for the calculation of the overall grade.

2. The overall grade of the Master's thesis in the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research in the national course version results from the written grade and the grade of the oral presentation with disputation. The written grade is weighted three times and the grade of the oral presentation with disputation is weighted once.
3. The overall grade of the Master's thesis in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine results from the written and oral grade according to the specifications of the respective partner university. The recognition and determination of the corresponding overall grade according to § 11 (3) and (4) is carried out by the examination board of the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research.

### **§ 23 Master's certificate, certificate and additional IMIM diploma supplement**

- (1) After taking the examination, a certificate is issued within six weeks of passing the Master's examination, which contains a description of the individual modules with the grades achieved in them (grade according to § 11 (3) and their numerical value), the assigned credit points and the overall grade of the Master's examination. The certificate shall bear the date on which the last examination was taken and shall be signed by the Dean of Studies of the Faculty and the Chairperson of the Examination Committee.
- (2) The certificate shall be accompanied by a "Diploma Supplement" in English, which shall contain supplementary information on the contents of the degree programme and the course of study and shall follow the framework laid down in the "European Diploma Supplement Model". Upon application to the chairperson of the examination board, the student shall also be issued with an equivalent "Diploma Supplement" in German.
- (3) A Master's certificate with the date of the certificate is issued at the same time as the certificate. It certifies the award of the academic degree "Master of Science". The certificate is signed by the Dean of Studies of the Faculty and the Chairperson of the Examination Committee and bears the seal of the faculty.
- (4) If the Master's examination has been definitively failed or has been considered as definitively failed, the chairperson shall issue a written notification of this, which shall include instructions on how to appeal. On application and on presentation of the relevant evidence, a certificate will be issued containing the examination achievements and their grades, the examination achievements missing to pass the Master's examination and the note that the Master's examination has been definitively failed.
- (5) In addition to the documents according to (1) to (3) and the degree certificates and transcripts of the second European partner university at which they have completed semesters three and four, students of the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine receive an additional IMIM Diploma Supplement, which certifies the participation in the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine and lists all IMIM-specific courses in which they have participated within the curriculum of the international course version International Master in Innovative Medicine.

### **Section III: Final provisions**

#### **§ 24 Invalidity of examinations**

- (1) If the candidate has cheated in an examination and this fact only becomes known after the certificate has been issued, the examination board may subsequently correct the marks for those examinations in which the candidate cheated and declare the examination failed in whole or in part.
- (2) If the requirements for admission to an examination were not fulfilled without the candidate intending to deceive and this fact only becomes known after the certificate has been issued, this defect shall be remedied by passing the examination. If the admission was obtained intentionally and unlawfully, the examination board shall decide.
- (3) The candidate shall be given the opportunity to make a statement before a decision is made.
- (4) The incorrect examination certificate shall be withdrawn and, if necessary, a new one shall be issued. Together with the incorrect examination certificate, the corresponding Master's degree certificate shall also be withdrawn if the examination was declared "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed" due to deception. A decision according to (1) and (2) sentence 2 cannot be made retrospectively anymore if a period of five years from the date of the examination certificate has passed already.

#### **§ 25 Inspection of the examination files**

After completion of the examination procedure, the candidate shall be granted access to the examination documents within a reasonable period of time upon written request. The request must be made within one year of the conclusion of the examination procedure. The chairperson of the examination board shall determine the time of inspection.

#### **§ 26 Coming into effect and transitional provision**

These examination regulations shall come into effect on the day after publication in the Rector's Gazette. At the same time, the examination regulations of Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg for the Master's degree programme Translational Medical Research of 6 July 2017 (Rector's Gazette of 28 July 2017) shall expire.

Heidelberg, 5th October 2022

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Bernhard Eitel  
Rector



Please note that this document is a non-binding translation. Only the German version of the document entitled “Prüfungsordnung der Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg für den Masterstudiengang Translational Medical Research (TMR)” of 5 October 2022, has legal validity.

## Appendix A:

Tabular overview of the modules and ECTS credits in the Master’s degree programme Translational Medical Research

Module	Titel	ECTS credits
1	The biological basis of disease	7
2	Diagnosis and clinical treatment	6
3	Research in practice	10
4	Translation in lab and clinics	7
5	Master thesis research project with written and oral presentation/Master thesis	30

## Appendix B:

Tabular Overview of the modules and ECTS credits in „International Master in Innovative Medicine“

### Study Year 1 (Heidelberg)

<b>Semester 1:</b>	
Module 1: The biological basis of disease	7 ECTS credits
Module 2: Diagnosis and clinical treatment	6 ECTS credits
Module 3: Research in practice (includes BBB2 below)	10 ECTS credits
Module 4: Translation in lab and clinics	7 ECTS credits
<b>Semester 2:</b>	
Module 5: Research project (includes BBB1 and Spring School)	30 ECTS credits*
<b>IMIM-specific courses (included in Modules above):</b>	
- Spring School (Personal development)	(2 ECTS credits)
- BBB1 (Bench to Bedside and Back): Analysis of research groups	(4 ECTS credits)
- BBB2 (Bench to Bedside and Back): Research proposal	(4 ECTS credits)

\* needed for two-year degree at partner university, not part of the final TMR master grade

## Study Year 2 (Groningen or Uppsala)

### Rijksuniversiteit Groningen – MSc Molecular Medicine and Innovative Medicine (MMIM)

<b>Semester 3+4:</b>	
Electives incl. colloquium, small research project, etc.	10 ECTS credits
Introduction to research project II	2 ECTS credits
Research project II (Master thesis)*	32 ECTS credits
Fit for practice	2 ECTS credits
Research proposal incl. BBB4: Theoretical preparation for advanced research in medical, biomedical and pharmaceutical sciences: tender research proposal	8 ECTS credits
<b>IMIM-specific courses:</b>	
- Summer School	2 ECTS credits
- BBB3 (Bench to Bedside and Back): Entrepreneurship course	4 ECTS credits
- BBB4 (Bench to Bedside and Back): Research or innovation proposal project (included in 8 ECTS credits above)	

\* part of both Master degrees, also the TMR Master degree

### Uppsala Universitet – MMS Molecular Medicine (MM) & MMS Medical Research (MR)

<b>Semester 3:</b>	
Option A: - Advanced Research Practice 2	30 ECTS credits
Option B: - Research Project - Bioimaging and cell analysis - Regenerative medicine	15 ECTS credits 7.5 ECTS credits 7.5 ECTS credits
<b>Semester 4:</b>	
Master's Degree Project*	30 ECTS credits
<b>IMIM-specific courses (included in courses above):</b>	
- Summer School	
- BBB3 (Bench to Bedside and Back): Entrepreneurship course	
- BBB4 (Bench to Bedside and Back): Research or innovation proposal project	

\* part of both Master degrees, also the TMR Master degree