

# **Study and examination rules and regulations of Heidelberg University for the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture**

of 01/10/2024

Based on §§ 8 (5). 32 (3) sentence 1, (4) of the Act on Higher Education of the Land of Baden Württemberg (*Landeshochschulgesetz – LHG*) in the version of 1 January 2005 (GBl. 2005 p. 1), last amended by Article 8 of the Act of 7 February 2023 (GBl. 2023 p. 26, 43), the Senate of Heidelberg University adopted the following study and examination rules and regulations on 01/10/2024.

The Rector approved them on 11 October 2024.

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## **Section I: Provisions on programme structure and standard period of study**

### **§ 1 Subject of the course of studies and the examination**

- (1) The Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture focuses on the genesis and current form of Christianity and religions as cultural phenomena, as researched in the disciplines of Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Systematic Theology, Religious Studies, Intercultural Theology, and Practical Theology. The Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture introduces students to independent scientific work and supports specialisation in the focus areas of "Biblical studies (Old Testament, New Testament, or Old and New Testament)", "History of Christianity", "Dogmatics", "Ethics and social action", "Religious studies and intercultural theology", and "Theological studies".
- (2) Master's degrees are further degrees at the end of degree programmes that detail, broaden, or extend the first university degree or add other subjects (consecutive Master's degree programmes). The examination is intended to determine whether students have an overview of the contexts of the subject of Christianity and Culture, have the ability to apply scientific methods and findings and to work according to scientific principles.
- (3) Access and admission to the course of studies are governed by separate admission regulations.

### **§ 2 Master's degree**

Heidelberg University awards the academic degree Master of Arts (abbreviated as M.A.) after passing the Master's examination.

### **§ 3 Standard period of study**

- (1) The standard period of study for the Master's degree programme is four semesters, including the time required to complete the Master's thesis.
- (2) The standard period of study shall be extended in accordance with the provisions stipulated there in the case of admission to a part-time degree programme. The processing times for written examination components specified in these study and examination rules and regulations remain unaffected by this. Admission to a part-time degree programme requires an application. Further details are set out in the regulations governing part-time degree programmes at Heidelberg University (*Ordnung zur Regelung des Teilzeitstudiums; TeilzeitO*) as amended.

### **§ 4 Programme structure, start and language**

- (1) Students may commence their course of studies in the winter and summer semesters.
- (2) The programme covers three semesters, with the Master's thesis being completed in the fourth semester. The total number of ECTS credit points (hereinafter abbreviated as CP) required for successful completion of the Master's degree is 120.
- (3) The course of studies has a modular structure. 70 CP out of the 120 CP are allocated to subject-specific courses in the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture, 20 CP to a supplementary subject, and 30 CP to the Master's thesis. In the specialisation subject Theological studies, the supplementary subject is not required, and 90 credit points will be earned in subject-related courses, while 30 credit points will be earned in the Master's thesis.

- (4) Any subject for which a corresponding study programme is offered in the area of the Master's degree programmes can be chosen as a supplementary subject in principle. The supplementary subject can also be replaced by the module "Research-relevant languages (FoSpra)" (see Annex 3).
- (5) The language of instruction and examination is German; in the specialisation subject of Theological studies, the language of instruction and examination is English. Courses and examination components in the elective and compulsory courses may also be attended and completed wholly or in part in the other language of instruction depending on the specialisation subject.
- (6) The following specific language qualifications are compulsory when choosing the following specialisation subjects for the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture. They must be proven at the latest by the beginning of the third academic semester:
  1. Biblical Studies Old Testament: Hebraicum,
  2. Biblical Studies New Testament: Graecum,
  3. Biblical Studies Old and New Testament: Hebraicum and Graecum,
  4. History of Christianity: the "Latinum" qualification in Latin; upon request, the departmental representative may recognise a corresponding language examination in a source language as equivalent to the Latinum,
  5. Religious Studies and Intercultural Theology: Knowledge of Latin; upon request, the departmental representative may recognise a corresponding language examination in a source language (such as Tamil, Hindi, Arabic, Persian) as equivalent to knowledge of Latin,
  6. Dogmatics: Knowledge of Latin,
  7. Theological studies:
    - a. Specialisation subject Old Testament: Knowledge of Hebrew,
    - b. Specialisation subject New Testament: Knowledge of Greek,
    - c. Specialisation subject Church History, Systematic Theology, Religious Studies: Knowledge of a relevant source language.

No specific language qualifications are required if the degree programme is taken as a supplementary subject (20 CP) or with the specialisation subject of Ethics and social action.

## **§ 5 Modules, ECTS credit points**

- (1) A module is a thematically and temporally self-contained teaching and learning unit that can be made up of different courses. It comprises not only the courses to be attended but also includes the coursework and examination components that are required for the successful completion of a module.
- (2) The modules are regulated in Annex 2. A distinction is made between compulsory modules and compulsory elective modules.

Compulsory modules must be completed by all students. It is possible to choose between

different courses and their compensation within a compulsory module. A compulsory module is not eligible for compensation.

Compulsory elective modules are modules within a compulsory elective area. Students may choose between various equivalent compulsory elective modules within the respective compulsory elective area. It is also possible to choose between different courses and their compensation within a compulsory elective module.

- (3) The Master's thesis is a dedicated module.
- (4) All (partial) achievements within the module must have been assessed as at least "sufficient" (4.0) or, in the case of ungraded (partial) achievements, as "passed", in order to pass a module.
- (5) CP are awarded for successfully completed modules with their partial results. One CP corresponds to a workload of 30 hours for the students.

## **Section II: Provisions on the examination system**

### **Examinations board and examiners**

#### **§ 6 Examinations board**

- (1) An examinations board is established to perform the tasks set out in these study and examination rules and regulations. It comprises the head of the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Theology, the deputy head of the Dean's Office, three professorial members of the teaching staff and two academic staff members as voting members as well as one student member with an advisory vote.
- (2) The chair and their deputy as well as the other members of the examinations board are appointed by the faculty council for a period of two years. The term of office of the student member is one year. The chair and deputy chair must be professors.
- (3) The examinations board is responsible for the organisation of examination procedures and monitors compliance with the provisions of these study and examination rules and regulations. In particular, it shall be responsible for appointing the examiners and assessors involved in the examinations, announcing the examiners in advance of the examination, deciding on admission to examinations, deciding on applications for withdrawal and applications for measures to compensate for disadvantages, penalising cheating, or breaches of regulations and deciding on recognition and crediting procedures. The examinations board can also make suggestions for the reform of the curriculum and the study and examination rules and regulations and can be consulted on all matters relating to examinations.
- (4) The examinations board may revocably transfer specific tasks, in particular the appointment of examiners and assessors, to the chair by resolution. The chair may transfer administrative and support tasks to a person authorised by the department if necessary. The examinations board must be regularly informed of their completion.
- (5) The chair shall conduct the business of the examinations board, prepare the meetings, chair them, and decide in the event of a tied vote.
- (6) The members of the examinations board have the right to attend the examinations.

- (7) The members of the examinations board, the examiners, and the assessors are subject to official secrecy. The chair must ensure that those members who are not public servants are also bound to secrecy.
- (8) Decisions made by the examinations board or the chair must be communicated to the examinee in writing without undue delay. Incriminating decisions must be substantiated and accompanied by information on legal remedies.

## **§ 7 Examiners and assessors**

- (1) Only university lecturers within the meaning of § 44 (1) sentence 1 number 1 LHG, associate professors within the meaning of § 44 (2) number 2 LHG and academic staff within the meaning of § 52 (1) LHG, as far as they have been authorised to conduct examinations, which are not conducted during the programme in conjunction with individual courses. Academic staff and lecturers can only be appointed as examiners in exceptional cases if there are not enough authorised examiners available.
- (2) In the case of examination components performed during the programme, the teaching staff responsible for the corresponding course generally corresponds to the examiner.
- (3) Only persons who have passed the corresponding Master's degree examination or a comparable examination may be appointed as an assessor.
- (4) The examinee may propose an examiner for the Master's thesis and for the oral degree examination; this does not constitute a legal entitlement to the assignment of a particular examiner.
- (5) The chair of the examinations board shall ensure that the examinee is informed of the names of the examiners in due time.
- (6) Authorised examiners may be appointed as examiners for up to two years after leaving Heidelberg University.

## **General provisions**

## **§ 8 Assessment of the examination components**

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

1	=	Very good	an outstanding performance;
2	=	Good	a performance that significantly exceeds the average requirements;
3	=	Satisfactory	a performance that meets average requirements;
4	=	Sufficient	a performance that still complies with the requirements despite its shortcomings;
5	=	Insufficient	a performance that does not comply with the requirements due to significant shortcomings.

Intermediate values can be formed by decreasing or increasing the individual grades by 0.3 for a differentiated assessment of the examination components; the grade 0.7 and intermediate values above 4.0 are excluded.

- (2) If assessments of individual examination components of a course are summarised in an overall assessment, the teaching staff member responsible for the corresponding course shall specify a weighting at the latest by commencement of the course. The grade is calculated from the weighted arithmetic mean of the individual assessments; (3) and (4) shall apply accordingly. A final module grade is calculated from the unrounded partial module grades according to the number of CP. If a module examination is to be taken in a module, the grade of the module examination constitutes the grade for this module.
- (3) A final module grade and the overall grade of the Master's examination are 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 for the Master's examination, only the first digit after the decimal point is considered; all other digits are cancelled without rounding.

## **§ 9 Failure and repetition of examination components**

- (1) Examination components that have not been passed or are deemed to have been failed may be repeated once. Failed attempts at other universities must be considered. A second repetition is only permitted in justified exceptional cases. The decision on this is made by the examinations board. A second repetition of the Master's thesis is not permitted.
- (2) Failed examination components must be repeated at the latest within one years of study. If this deadline is missed, the entitlement to take the final exams expires, unless the examinee is not responsible for the failure to attend.
- (3) If an examination has not been passed in spite of exhausting the possible number of examination attempts, it is deemed to have been definitively failed.
- (4) Failure to pass a compulsory module will result in the loss of the entitlement to take the final exams and exclusion from the course of studies. The final failure of a compulsory elective module only leads to the loss of the entitlement to take the final exams and exclusion from the course of studies if all compensation options have been exhausted by other equivalent compulsory elective modules within the compulsory elective area.
- (5) It is not possible to repeat an examination component after passing it.

## **§ 10 Withdrawal for cause**

- (1) As far as these study and examination rules and regulations stipulate the completion of coursework and examination components, students are obligated to register for the respective coursework and complete it at the requested time. In the event of a breach of the obligations in sentence 1, the coursework or examination component will be assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) unless the examinee properly withdraws from the coursework or

examination components.

- (2) Withdrawal for cause is possible. An important reason exists in particular if a sudden and unexpected restriction of performance occurs. A proper cancellation requires:
  1. notification of withdrawal (declaration of withdrawal) is required in writing without undue delay to the responsible member of the teaching staff and the responsible examinations board; in the case of illness of the examinee, notification of withdrawal must be made as soon as the symptoms that form the basis for the request for withdrawal are recognisable. If an examination is cancelled after commencing, which must be recorded, the examinee must also inform a supervisor of the cancellation;
  2. notification and suitable proof of an important reason for cancellation is provided to the responsible examinations board without undue delay; in the event of illness of the examinee, a child to be cared for by him or a close relative to be cared for (§ 7 (3) of the Home Care Leave Act – *Pflegezeitgesetz*), a medical certificate must be submitted. Only the symptoms, but not the diagnosis, need to be reported. If a candidate withdraws after the examination has started and the examination task has already been issued, a medical consultation and a medical certificate issued on the day of the examination must be obtained on the examination day in order to establish the candidate's inability to take the examination.
- (3) Withdrawal from the examination after completion of the examination is excluded, in particular if the examinee has already been able to view the result of the examination or has gained knowledge of it by other means.
- (4) The examinations board shall decide whether the reasons are recognised on the basis of the evidence submitted. They must in particular observe the principle of equal opportunities with regard to the applicant and the entire group of examinees in their assessment. A new appointment can be made if the reasons are recognised. The examination results already available are to be considered in this case. Decisions made by the examinations board must be communicated to the examinee in writing without undue delay. Incriminating decisions must be substantiated and accompanied by information on legal remedies.

## **§ 11 Provisions to compensate for disadvantages for students in special circumstances**

- (1) Measures to compensate for disadvantages can be granted in particular for students with a long-term illness or due to a long-term or permanent physical disability, for students with relatives in need of care (§ 7 (3) of the Home Care Leave Act, § § 14 and 15 of the Eleventh Book of the German Social Code (*Sozialgesetzbuch*)), for students due to pregnancy-related restrictions or with regard to existing maternity leave (§ 3 (1), § 6 (1) of the Act on the Protection of Mothers at Work, in Training and during a Course of Studies (*Gesetz zum Schutz von Müttern bei der Arbeit, in der Ausbildung und im Studium*)) and for students on parental leave (§ 15 (1) to (3) of the Act on Parental Allowance and Parental Leave (*Gesetz zum Elterngeld und zur Elternzeit*)). The periods of protection within the scope of maternity and parental leave (§ 61 (3) sentences 1 and 2 LHG) remain unaffected by this.
- (2) The term “compensation for disadvantages” describes suitable compensatory measures that consider the difficulties of students in special circumstances to present their knowledge and skills under the same conditions for all students or to pass their examinations within the deadlines specified in these regulations. Compensation for disadvantages shall be granted if the student can credibly demonstrate, within the meaning of (3), that they are unable to demonstrate their existing ability wholly or in part in the prescribed form, under the prescribed conditions or within the prescribed deadlines. The prerequisite is that the presentation skills are not part of the examination components or coursework or part of the



competence to be acquired.

- (3) applications for granting of measures to compensate for disadvantages must be submitted in writing to the examinations board in due time. An application generally is only considered to be submitted in a timely manner if it is received by the competent examinations board at commencement of the respective semester, but no later than four weeks before the start of the examination or the due date of the examination component or coursework, in a sufficiently substantiated form, and including submission of suitable medical evidence or other expert reports. Timeliness of the application must also be confirmed if it was not possible to submit the application within the specified deadlines due to the nature of the impairment in the specific individual case. Sufficient justification must be provided if the applicant explains the nature and extent of the impending disadvantage, suitable compensation options and the symptoms that threaten the disadvantage in such a way that the examinations board can understand the need for compensation for disadvantages. The diagnosis does not need to be disclosed.
- (4) The examinations board shall decide on the type, scope and necessity of the measure applied for based on the evidence submitted. The examinations board's assessment is bound by the principle of equal opportunities with regard to the applicant and the entire group of examinees to be examined. It has the right to request further documents and evidence in specific individual cases. Decisions made by the examinations board must be communicated to the examinee in writing without undue delay. Incriminating decisions must be substantiated and accompanied by information on legal remedies.

## **§ 12 Deception and violation of regulations**

- (1) In compliance with the principle of equal opportunities for the entire group of students to be examined, the examinee is obligated to present a personal and independent result without use of any unauthorised aids.
- (2) In particular, use of aids based on artificial intelligence (hereinafter referred to as "AI") must be marked in a manner that is comparable to the declaration on independent performance and use of AI-based aids in examination components (Annex 4), provided that the use of AI-based aids is permitted in the first place upon coordination with the responsible examinations board.
- (3) If the examinee attempts to influence the result of the examination component by cheating or using unauthorised aids, the respective examination component will be assessed as "insufficient" (5.0).
- (4) An examinee who disrupts the proper conduct of the examination may be excluded from continuing the examination component by the authorised examiner or the supervisor; in this case, the examination component in question will also be assessed as "insufficient" (5.0).
- (5) In severe cases, the examinations board may exclude the examinee from completing any further examination components.
- (6) Incriminating decisions shall be communicated to the examinee in writing without undue delay, the reasons for the decision shall be stated and legal remedies shall be provided.
- (7) The examinee may request within a period of one week that the decisions in accordance with (4) be reviewed by the examinations board.

### **§ 13 Recognition of academic achievements and recognition of achievements outside the university degree programme**

The provisions on the recognition of university achievements and the recognition of achievements outside of university studies are set out in Heidelberg University's by-laws governing the procedure for the recognition and recognition of achievements dated 2 March 2023 (Rector's Gazette of 15 March 2023 p. 297).

### **Coursework and examination components during the programme**

#### **§ 14 Types of examinations during the programme**

- (1) Examination components during the programme include:
  1. the oral examination components,
  2. the written examination components.
- (2) As a rule, the above types of examinations may also be taken using electronic information and communication systems (online examination). Heidelberg University stipulates the details by means of corresponding by-laws.
- (3) The respective registration form, the requirements for the module (partial) examinations and the examination mode can be found in the module handbook as amended from time to time.

#### **§ 15 Oral examination components during the programme**

- (1) Oral examination components are to give the examinee an opportunity to demonstrate that they recognise the interrelationships of the examination field, that specific questions can be placed in these contexts, and that subject-specific tasks can be dealt with and reflected upon using scientific approaches and methods. It is also intended to determine whether the examinee has the basic knowledge required for the course of studies.
- (2) The type and duration of the examination component shall be determined by the course instructor within the scope of the specifications in the module handbook and announced at the latest at the beginning of the course.
- (3) Oral examination components during the programme are to be assessed by an examiner in the presence of an expert assessor. For other types of oral examinations, in particular presentations and speeches, an expert assessor is not required.
- (4) Examination components in repeat examinations the failure of which results in the final failure of the Master's examination in accordance with § 9 (4), are to be assessed by two examiners in deviation from (3). The grade of the examination is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the assessments of the individual examiners in such cases.
- (5) The duration of the oral examination components shall be between 15 and 30 minutes.
- (6) The main subjects and the result of an oral examination interview must be recorded in minutes. The result must be communicated to the examinee following the oral examination component.

## **§ 16 Written examination components during the programme**

- (1) In written examination components during the programme, the examinee should demonstrate that they can structure a given problem and find ways to solve it using the usual methods of the subject in a limited amount of time and with limited resources.
- (2) Written examination components during the programme must be assessed by an examiner. The assessment procedure for written examination components during the programme should not exceed six weeks.
- (3) Examination components in repeat examinations the failure of which results in the final failure of the Master's examination in accordance with § 9 (4), are to be assessed by two examiners in deviation from (2). The grade of the examination is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the assessments of the individual examiners in such cases.
- (4) The duration of the written exams is between 30 and 180 minutes.
- (5) If a written examination component during the programme is completed in the form of a term paper, the examinee must confirm that they have written the term paper independently and have not used any aids other than those specified. In particular, the use of AI-based aids must be labelled in a similar way to the declaration on independent performance and the use of AI-based aids in examination components (Annex 4), provided that the use of AI-based aids is permitted in the first place upon coordination with the responsible examinations board. In the case of teamwork, the individual contributions of the persons to be examined must be clearly recognisable.
- (6) The examiners may use suitable technical procedures to verify suspected plagiarism. If plagiarism is established or suspected, the examiner may seek advice from the examinations board. In the event of proven plagiarism, the respective examination component shall be assessed as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed"; § 12 (3) shall apply accordingly. The examinee must be given the opportunity to make a statement before a decision is made.

## **Degree examination**

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

- (1) Admission to the Master's examination must only be granted to those who
  1. are enrolled in the Master's degree programme Christianity and Culture at Heidelberg University,
  2. have not lost their entitlement to take the final exams in the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture or a related degree programme with essentially the same content.
- (2) The following evidence must be submitted for admission to the Master's thesis:
  1. proof of successful completion of the modules and courses listed in Annex 2 to the extent of the credit points specified in § 4 (3),
  2. proof of successfully completed modules and courses in the supplementary subject at the scope of the credit points specified in § 4 (3), unless the specialisation subject Theological studies was chosen,

3. proof of the required language proficiency in accordance with § 4 (6).

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

- (1) The application for admission must be submitted in writing to the chair of the examinations board. The application must include:
  1. proof of compliance with the admission requirements specified in § 17 (1) and (2);
  2. a statement as to whether the examinee has already failed a Master's examination in a Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture or a related degree programme with essentially the same content or is currently undergoing an examination procedure for such a degree programme.
- (2) The examinations board shall decide on admission on the basis of the application. A rejection must be communicated in writing, stating the reasons and providing information on legal remedies.
- (3) The application for approval must only be rejected if
  1. the requirements in accordance with § 17 are not met, or
  2. the documents in accordance with (1) are incomplete and have not been completed in spite of prompting, or
  3. the examinee has definitively failed the Master's examination in the Christianity and Culture degree programme or a related degree programme with essentially the same content or has lost their entitlement to take the final exams, or
  4. the examinee is subject to an ongoing examination procedure for such a degree programme.

### **§ 19 Scope and nature of the examination**

- (1) The Master's examination comprises
  1. successful participation in the modules and courses listed in Annex 2,
  2. successful participation in the modules and courses of the supplementary subject, unless the specialisation subject Theological studies was chosen,
  3. the Master's thesis.
- (2) The examinations in the modules listed in Annex 2 are taken during the programme, either as written or as oral exams. The type of the examination component shall be determined by the course instructor and announced at the latest by commencement of the course.

### **§ 20 Master's thesis**

- (1) The Master's thesis should demonstrate that the examinee is able to independently process a question from the specialisation subject using scientific methods before a specified deadline.
- (2) The Master's thesis can be written and supervised by any authorised examiner in

accordance with § 7 (1) of the Christianity and Culture degree programme. Issuing and supervision by an authorised examiner from another subject area at Heidelberg University requires the prior approval of the examinations board. The Master's thesis may be completed at a facility outside of Heidelberg University if supervision is provided by an authorised examiner in accordance with sentence 1 with the approval of the examinations board.

- (3) The examinee must submit an application for admission to the Master's thesis with an already defined topic or an application for the assignment of the topic of the Master's thesis to the chair of the examinations board no later than two weeks after completing their last examination component during the programme in accordance with § 19 (1) numbers 1 and 2. If the above deadline is missed, the Master's thesis is deemed to have been assessed as "insufficient" (5.0), unless the examinee is not responsible for the deadline being missed.
- (4) The subject of the Master's thesis shall be determined by the supervisor. The chair of the examinations board will ensure that the examinee receives a topic for the Master's thesis in due time upon request. The examinee must be given the opportunity to make suggestions for the topic; this does not constitute a legal claim. The subject shall be issued by the chair of the examinations board. The date of issue must be recorded.
- (5) The time from the issue of the topic to submission is 16 weeks. The deadline may be extended by up to two months by the examinations board in consultation with the supervisor, and by up to four months in a part-time degree programme in exceptional cases. The application for an extension should be submitted to the chair of the examinations board at least two weeks before the processing time deadline. If the processing time deadline is not met, the paper will be deemed assessed as "insufficient" (5.0), unless the examinee is not responsible for the deadline being exceeded. The subject must only be returned once and only within the first month of the processing time.
- (6) The subject, task, and scope of the Master's thesis must be limited in such a way that the deadline for completion can be met. The Master's thesis generally should not exceed 60 pages.
- (7) The Master's thesis may be written in German or English. Other languages are possible with the approval of the examinations board.

## **§ 21 Submission and assessment of the Master's thesis**

- (1) Three printed copies of the Master's thesis and an additional PDF file must be submitted to the examinations board by the deadline by email or on a digital data carrier; the submission date must be recorded. The paper should contain a summary.
- (2) When submitting the Master's thesis, the examinee must declare in writing that they have written the thesis themselves and have not used any sources or aids other than those specified (declaration of independent performance). In particular, the use of AI-based aids must be labelled in a similar way to the declaration on independent performance and the use of AI-based aids in any examination components (Annex 4), provided that the use of AI-based aids is permitted in the first place upon coordination with the responsible examinations board.
- (3) The examiner may use suitable technical procedures to verify suspected plagiarism. § 16 (6) shall apply accordingly.
- (4) The Master's thesis shall be assessed by two examiners, one of whom must be a professor. The first examiner should be the supervisor of the Master's thesis. The second examiner

shall be appointed by the examinations board from the group of authorised examiners in accordance with § 7 (1). The examinee has a right of nomination, but this does not constitute a legal claim. The assessment procedure should not exceed six weeks.

- (5) The grade shall be calculated from the arithmetic mean of both assessments; § 8 shall apply accordingly. If the examiners' grades differ by more than a whole grade, the examinations board shall determine the grade for the Master's thesis after hearing both examiners. In such cases, they may call in a third examiner.

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

- (1) The Master's examination is passed if all examination components in accordance with § 19 (1) have been assessed as at least "sufficient" (4.0).
- (2) The module grades are used with their numerical value before rounding in accordance with § 8 (4) and weighted according to their number of ECTS credits to calculate the overall grade of the Master's examination in accordance with § 8 (3). The "Master's thesis" module is weighted with a factor of 2.
- (3) Calculation of the overall grade includes:
  1. the module scientific theory (*Wissenschaftstheorie*; WTh);
  2. the two modules with the best module grade from the compulsory courses of the specialisation subject in addition to the module "Scientific term paper";
  3. the module from the elective area of the respective specialisation subject with the best module grade;
  4. the Master's thesis (30 CP) weighted with a factor of 2;
  5. the module grades of the supplementary subject.

In the specialisation subject Theological studies, all modules are weighted according to credit points in the overall grade with the exception of the ungraded module "Independent studies". The Master's thesis is weighted with a factor of 2.

- (4) In addition to the final grade, a placement table according to the ECTS-Users Guide in the currently valid version must be shown, which provides statistical information on the distribution of the grade achieved within the respective learning group (relative grade).

## **§ 23 Master's diploma (and transcript) and degree certificate**

- (1) A diploma in the German language, containing the name of the individual modules with the grades achieved in them (grade in accordance with § 8 (3) and numerical value) will be issued for the passed Master's examination within four weeks of passing the degree examination as well as the assigned CP, the topic and grade of the Master's thesis and the overall grade of the Master's examination. An English version of the diploma will also be issued. The diploma shall bear the date on which the last examination component was completed and shall be signed by the chair of the examinations board.
- (2) A "Diploma Supplement" in German and English is attached to the certificate, which contains supplementary information on the programme content and periods of studies and is based on the framework set out in the "European Diploma Supplement Model".

- (3) A Master's certificate in German with the date of the diploma and an additional English version will be issued at the same time as the diploma. This certifies the award of the academic degree Master of Arts. The degree certificate is signed by the chair of the dean's office and the chair of the examinations board and bears the seal of the faculty.
- (4) If the Master's examination has been definitively failed or is deemed to have been definitively failed, the chair of the examinations board shall issue a written notice of this, which shall include information on legal remedies. Upon application and submission of the relevant evidence, a certificate will be issued which contains the examination components completed and the grades achieved in them, as well as the examination components still missing for the Master's examination and indicates that the Master's examination has not been passed.

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

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

- (1) If the examinee has cheated in an examination and this fact only becomes known after the diploma has been issued, the examinations board may subsequently correct the grades for those examination components in which cheating has occurred and declare the examination failed wholly or in part.
- (2) If the requirements for admission to an examination were not met without the examinee intending to deceive about this and this fact only becomes known after the diploma has been issued, this deficiency shall be cured by passing the examination. If the admission was obtained intentionally and unlawfully, the examinations board shall decide.
- (3) The examinee shall be given the opportunity to clarify their position before a decision is made.
- (4) The incorrect examination certificate shall be withdrawn and a new one issued if necessary. If the examination has been declared "failed" due to cheating, the corresponding Master's certificate must also be confiscated together with the incorrect examination certificate. A decision in accordance with (1) and (2) sentence 2 is excluded after a period of five years from the date of the examination certificate.

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

- (1) After completion of the examination procedure, the examinee shall be granted access to the examination documents upon written request. The application generally must be submitted within one year of completing the examination procedure.
- (2) Written examination components during the programme in the form of written examinations may be inspected upon application in text form. The application should be submitted to the chair of the examinations board within three months of the announcement of the grades.

#### **§ 26 Entering into effect, loss of effect, and transitional provisions**

- (1) These study and examination rules and regulations shall enter into effect on the day following their publication in the Rector's Gazette. They shall apply for the first time in the 2025 summer semester.
- (2) The study and examination rules and regulations of Ruprecht-Karls-Universität of

Heidelberg for the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture of 16 July 2009 (Rector's Gazette of 31 July 2009 p. 1093), amended on 7 February 2013 (Rector's Gazette of 28 February 2013 p. 29), on 25 March 2015 (Rector's Gazette of 16 November 2015 p. 1477) and on 02 March 2023 (Rector's Gazette of 31 March 2023 p. 345) shall lose their effect at the same time.

- (3) Students who began their studies before these Study and Examination Regulations came into force may continue their studies in accordance with the study and examination rules and regulations of Ruprecht-Karls-Universität of Heidelberg for the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture of 16 July 2009 (Rector's Gazette of 31 July 2009 p. 1093), amended on 7 February 2013 (Rector's Gazette of 28 February 2013 p. 29), on 25 March 2015 (Rector's Gazette of 16 November 2015 p. 1477) and on 02 March 2023 (Rector's Gazette of 31 March 2023 p. 345), which shall remain applicable until 30 September 2028. Upon application, they may continue their course of studies based on these study and examination rules and regulations as well.

Heidelberg, 11/10/2024

Prof. Dr. Frauke Melchior  
Rector



**Annex 1 Curriculum of the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture**

**Annex 2 Overview of modules of the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture**

**Annex 3 Module "Research-relevant languages"**

**Annex 4 Declaration of independent performance and use of AI-based aids in examination components**

## Annex 1 Curriculum of the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture

### 1. Specialisation subject Biblical studies (major subject 100 CP)

Module			Recommended academic semester				
No.	Module name	Module form*	CP	1	2	3	4
1.	Basic module Biblical Studies (BibSt- Gr)	WP	8	x <sup>1</sup>			
2.	Exegesis and literary history of the OT and/or NT (BibSt 1)	P	10	x	x	x	
3.	Theology of the OT and NT (BibSt 2)	P	10	x	x	x	
4.	History of Israel or early Christianity (BibSt 3)	P	8	x	x	x	
5.	Reading of the OT and/or NT (BibSt 4)	P	8	x	x	x	
6.	Scientific term paper (OT/NT) (BibSt 5)	P	12	x	x	x	
7.	Scientific theory (WTh)	P	6	x	x	x	
8.	History of biblical interpretation/biblical hermeneutics in Christianity and Judaism (BibSt 6)	WP	8	x	x	x	
9.	Biblical archaeology (BibSt 7)	WP	8	x	x	x	
10.	Specialised language OT/NT (BibSt 8)	WP	8	x	x	x	
11.	Exegeticum OT/NT (BibSt 9)	WP	8	x	x	x	
12.	History/religious history of the OT/NT environment (BibSt 10)	WP	8	x	x	x	
13.	Integrative research module I (IntFo 1)	WP	8	x	x	x	
14.	Integrative research module II (IntFo 2)	WP	8	x	x	x	
15.	Master's thesis (BibSt-M)	P	30				x
Total CP:			100				

\* Module forms: Compulsory module = P / Compulsory elective module = WP

<sup>1</sup> 1. The first academic semester if the language qualification required to attend the preparatory seminar is available (Hebraicum or Graecum), otherwise in the semester immediately following the required language qualification.

### 2. Specialisation subject History of Christianity (major subject 100 CP)

Module			Recommended academic semester				
No.	Module name	Module form*	CP	1	2	3	4
1.	Basic module History of Christianity (ChrG-Gr)	WP	8	x <sup>1</sup>			
2.	Epochs in the history of Christianity I (ChrG 1)	P	10	x	x	x	
3.	Epochs in the history of Christianity II	P	10	x	x	x	

	(ChrG 2)						
4.	Subject-related research skills I (ChrG 3)	P	8	x	x	x	
5.	Research into the history of Christianity using exemplary subjects (ChrG 4)	P	8	x	x	x	
6.	Scientific term paper (History of Christianity) (ChrG 5)	P	12	x	x	x	
7.	Scientific theory (WTh)	P	6	x	x	x	
8.	Interdisciplinary approaches to the history of Christianity (ChrG 6)	WP	8	x	x	x	
9.	Christianity and non-Christian religions in their history (ChrG 7)	WP	8	x	x	x	
10.	Denominational Studies (ChrG 8)	WP	8	x	x	x	
11.	Christian archaeology/art history (ChrG 9)	WP	8	x	x	x	
12.	Subject-related research skills II (ChrG 10)	WP	8	x	x	x	
13.	Integrative research module I (IntFo 1)	WP	8	x	x	x	
14.	Integrative research module II (IntFo 2)	WP	8	x	x	x	
15.	Master's thesis (ChrG-M)	P	30				x
<b>Total CP:</b>			<b>100</b>				

\* Module forms: Compulsory module = P / Compulsory elective module = WP

<sup>1</sup> 1. The first academic semester if the language qualification required to attend the preparatory seminar is available (Hebraicum or Graecum), otherwise in the semester immediately following the required language qualification.

### 3. Specialisation subject Dogmatics (major subject 100 CP)

Module			Recommended academic semester				
No.	Module name	Module form*	CP	1	2	3	4
1.	Basic module dogmatics (Dogm-Gr)	WP	8	x			
2.	Dogmatics I (Dogm 1)	P	10	x	x	x	
3.	Dogmatics II (Dogm 2)	P	10	x	x	x	
4.	Basics of the history of dogma and theology (Dogm 3)	P	8	x	x	x	
5.	Ecumenical theology and denominational studies (Dogm 4)	P	8	x	x	x	
6.	Scientific term paper (Dogmatics) (Dogm 5)	P	12	x	x	x	
7.	Scientific theory (WTh)	P	6	x	x	x	
8.	Exegetical basics (OT, NT) (Dogm 6)	WP	8	x	x	x	
9.	Philosophy of religion (Dogm 7)	WP	8	x	x	x	
10.	Dogmatic special subjects (Dogm 8)	WP	8	x	x	x	
11.	Basic matters of ethics (Dogm 9)	WP	8	x	x	x	
12.	Religious studies and intercultural theology	WP	8	x	x	x	

	(Dogm 10)						
13.	Theology in interdisciplinary dialogue (Dogm 11)	WP	8	x	x	x	
14.	Integrative research module I (IntFo 1)	WP	8	x	x	x	
15.	Integrative research module II (IntFo 2)	WP	8	x	x	x	
16.	Master's thesis (Dogm-M)	P	30				x
		<b>Total CP:</b>	<b>100</b>				

\* Module forms: Compulsory module = P / Compulsory elective module = WP

#### 4. Specialisation subject Ethics and social action (major subject 100 CP)

Module			Recommended academic semester				
No.	Module name	Module form*	CP	1	2	3	4
1.	Basic module ethics and social action (EthDi-Gr)	WP	8	x			
2.	Basics of theological and philosophical ethics (EthDi 1)	P	10	x	x	x	
3.	Basics of diaconal studies (EthDi 2)	P	10	x	x	x	
4.	General and applied ethics (EthDi 3)	P	8	x	x	x	
5.	Welfare state, diaconia, and public welfare (EthDi 4)	P	8	x	x	x	
6.	Scientific term paper (ethics and social action) (EthDi 5)	P	12	x	x	x	
7.	Scientific theory (WTh)	P	6	x	x	x	
8.	Church and religion in Europe (EthDi 6)	WP	8	x	x	x	
9.	Counselling and pastoral care (EthDi 7)	WP	8	x	x	x	
10.	Management and diaconia in the organisation (EthDi 8)	WP	8	x	x	x	
11.	Basics of Christianity in the past and present (EthDi 9)	WP	8	x	x	x	
12.	Religion and education (EthDi 10)	WP	8	x	x	x	
13.	Integrative research module I (IntFo 1)	WP	8	x	x	x	
14.	Integrative research module II (IntFo 2)	WP	8	x	x	x	
15.	Master's thesis (EthDi-M)	P	30				x
		<b>Total CP:</b>	<b>100</b>				

\* Module forms: Compulsory module = P / Compulsory elective module = WP

### 5. Specialisation subject Religious studies and intercultural theology (major subject 100 CP)

Module			Recommended academic semester				
No.	Module name	Module form*	CP	1	2	3	4
1.	Basic module religious studies and intercultural theology (RwInt-Gr)	WP	8	x			
2.	Global history of religion and comparative religious studies (RwInt 1)	P	10	x	x	x	
3.	Source language I (RwInt 2)	P	10	x	x	x	
4.	Intercultural theology (RwInt 3)	P	8	x	x	x	
5.	Research module: Applied theories and methods of religious studies (RwInt 4)	P	8	x	x	x	
6.	Scientific term paper (religious studies and intercultural theology) (RwInt 5)	P	12	x	x	x	
7.	Scientific theory (WTh)	P	6	x	x	x	
8.	Source language II (RwInt 6)	WP	8	x	x	x	
9.	Source language III (RwInt 7)	WP	8	x	x	x	
10.	Methods of empirical social research (RwInt 8)	WP	8	x	x	x	
11.	Ecumenical theology (RwInt 9)	WP	8	x	x	x	
12.	History of Christianity (RwInt 10)	WP	8	x	x	x	
13.	Specialised module Religious studies (RwInt 11)	WP	8	x	x	x	
14.	Integrative research module I (IntFo 1)	WP	8	x	x	x	
15.	Integrative research module II (IntFo 2)	WP	8	x	x	x	
16.	Master's thesis (RwInt-M)	P	30				x
		<b>Total CP:</b>	<b>100</b>				

\* Module forms: Compulsory module = P / Compulsory elective module = WP

### 6. Specialisation subject Theological studies (120 CP)

Module			Recommended academic semester				
No.	Module name	Module form*	CP	1	2	3	4
1.	Old Testament (ThSt 1)	P	12	x	x	x	
2.	New Testament (ThSt 2)	P	12	x	x	x	
3.	Church history (ThSt 3)	P	12	x	x	x	
4.	Systematic theology (ThSt 4)	P	12	x	x	x	
5.	Religious studies and intercultural theology	P	12	x	x	x	

	(ThSt 5)						
6.	Specialisation subject (OT, NT, KG, ST, RW) (ThSt 6)	WP	12		x	x	
7.	Scientific term paper in the specialisation subject (ThSt 7)	WP	6		x	x	
8.	Independent studies in preparation for the Master's thesis in the specialisation subject (ThSt 8)	WP	12			x	
9.	Master's thesis in the specialisation subject (ThSt-M)	WP	30				x
		<b>Total CP:</b>	<b>120</b>				

\* Module forms: Compulsory module = P / Compulsory elective module = WP

## 7. Supplementary subject Christianity and Culture (20 CP)

Module			Recommended academic semester				
No.	Module name	Module form*	CP	1	2	3	4
1.	Specialised module Christianity and Culture I (FaMo 1)	WP	8-12	x	x	x	
2.	Specialised module Christianity and Culture II (FaMo 2)	WP	8-12	x	x	x	
3.	Research-relevant languages (FoSpra)	WP	20	x	x	x	
		<b>Total CP:</b>	<b>20</b>				

\* Module forms: Compulsory module = P / Compulsory elective module = WP

## Annex 2 Overview of modules of the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture (100 CP)

### 1. Specialisation subject Biblical studies (major subject 100 CP)

#### A. Compulsory courses for Biblical studies (84 CP)

Biblical studies can be studied either with the sub-discipline Old Testament (language certificate Hebraicum), with the sub-discipline New Testament (language certificate Graecum) or in the combination of Old and New Testament (language certificate Hebraicum and Graecum) (for the language requirements see § 4 (6) numbers 1-3).

84 credit points must be earned in the compulsory courses. The following compulsory modules must be successfully completed.

Compulsory modules		84 CP
<i>BiblSt 1</i>	<i>Exegesis and literary history of the OT and/or NT</i>	10 CP
<i>BiblSt 2</i>	<i>Theology of the OT and NT</i>	10 CP
<i>BiblSt 3</i>	<i>History of Israel or early Christianity</i>	8 CP
<i>BiblSt 4</i>	<i>Reading of the OT and/or NT</i>	8 CP
<i>BiblSt 5</i>	<i>Scientific term paper (OT or NT)</i>	12 CP
<i>WTh</i>	<i>Scientific theory</i>	6 CP
<i>BiblSt-M</i>	<i>Master's thesis</i>	30 CP

#### B. Compulsory elective area (16 CP)

A total of 16 credit points must be earned in the compulsory elective area. Students may choose between the following modules with the exception of the *basic module "Biblical Studies"*:

Compulsory elective modules		16 CP
<i>BiblSt 6</i>	<i>History of biblical interpretation/biblical hermeneutics in Christianity and Judaism</i>	8 CP
<i>BiblSt 7</i>	<i>Biblical archaeology</i>	8 CP
<i>BiblSt 8</i>	<i>Specialised language OT/NT</i>	8 CP
<i>BiblSt 9</i>	<i>Exegeticum OT/NT</i>	8 CP
<i>BiblSt 10</i>	<i>History/religious history of the OT/NT environment</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 1</i>	<i>Integrative research module I</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 2</i>	<i>Integrative research module II</i>	8 CP
<i>BiblSt-Gr</i>	<i>Basic module biblical studies</i>	8 CP

If admission to the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture is based on a Bachelor's degree whose content does not essentially correspond to the Bachelor's degree programme in Christianity and Culture, the *basic module Biblical Studies* (BiblSt-Gr) is compulsory instead of one of the two compulsory elective modules. In this case, the basic module must be completed before writing the scientific term paper (module BiblSt 5).

## 2. Specialisation subject History of Christianity (major subject 100 CP)

### A. Compulsory courses for History of Christianity (84 CP)

Language certificate: the “Latinum” qualification in Latin; upon request, the departmental representative can recognise a corresponding language examination in a source language as equivalent to the Latinum (see § 4 (6) number 4).

84 credit points must be earned in the compulsory courses. The following compulsory modules must be successfully completed.

Compulsory modules		84 CP
<i>ChrG 1</i>	<i>Epochs in the history of Christianity I</i>	10 CP
<i>ChrG 2</i>	<i>Epochs in the history of Christianity II</i>	10 CP
<i>ChrG 3</i>	<i>Subject-related research skills I</i>	8 CP
<i>ChrG 4</i>	<i>Research into the history of Christianity using exemplary subjects</i>	8 CP
<i>ChrG 5</i>	<i>Scientific term paper (history of Christianity)</i>	12 CP
<i>WTh</i>	<i>Scientific theory</i>	6 CP
<i>ChrG-M</i>	<i>Master's thesis</i>	30 CP

### B. Compulsory elective area (16 CP)

A total of 16 credit points must be earned in the compulsory elective area. Students may choose between the following modules with the exception of the *basic module History of Christianity*:

Compulsory elective modules		16 CP
<i>ChrG 6</i>	<i>Interdisciplinary approaches to the history of Christianity</i>	8 CP
<i>ChrG 7</i>	<i>Christianity and non-Christian religions in their history</i>	8 CP
<i>ChrG 8</i>	<i>Denominational studies</i>	8 CP
<i>ChrG 9</i>	<i>Christian archaeology/art history</i>	8 CP
<i>ChrG 10</i>	<i>Subject-related research skills II</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 1</i>	<i>Integrative research module I</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 2</i>	<i>Integrative research module II</i>	8 CP
<i>ChrG-Gr</i>	<i>Basic module history of Christianity</i>	8 CP

If admission to the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture is based on a Bachelor's degree whose content does not essentially correspond to the Bachelor's degree programme in Christianity and Culture, the *basic module History of Christianity* (BibSt-Gr) is compulsory instead of one of the two compulsory elective modules. In this case, the basic module must be completed before writing the scientific term paper (module ChrG 5).



### 3. Specialisation subject Dogmatics (major subject 100 CP)

#### A. Compulsory courses (84 CP)

Language certificate: Knowledge of Latin (see § 4 (6) number 6).

84 credit points must be earned in the compulsory courses. The following compulsory modules must be successfully completed.

Compulsory modules		84 CP
<i>Dogm 1</i>	<i>Dogmatics I</i>	10 CP
<i>Dogm 2</i>	<i>Dogmatics II</i>	10 CP
<i>Dogm 3</i>	<i>Basics of the history of dogma and theology</i>	8 CP
<i>Dogm 4</i>	<i>Ecumenical theology and denominational studies</i>	8 CP
<i>Dogm 5</i>	<i>Scientific term paper (dogmatics)</i>	12 CP
<i>WTh</i>	<i>Scientific theory</i>	6 CP
<i>Dogm-M</i>	<i>Master's thesis</i>	30 CP

#### B. Compulsory elective area (16 CP)

A total of 16 credit points must be earned in the compulsory elective area. Students may choose between the following modules with the exception of the *basic module Dogmatics*:

Compulsory elective modules		16 CP
<i>Dogm 6</i>	<i>Exegetical basics (OT, NT)</i>	8 CP
<i>Dogm 7</i>	<i>Philosophy of religion</i>	8 CP
<i>Dogm 8</i>	<i>Dogmatic special subjects</i>	8 CP
<i>Dogm 9</i>	<i>Basic questions of ethics</i>	8 CP
<i>Dogm 10</i>	<i>Religious studies and intercultural theology</i>	8 CP
<i>Dogm 11</i>	<i>Theology in interdisciplinary dialogue</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 1</i>	<i>Integrative research module I</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 2</i>	<i>Integrative research module II</i>	8 CP
<i>Dogm-Gr</i>	<i>Basic module in dogmatics</i>	8 CP

If admission to the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture is based on a Bachelor's degree whose content does not essentially correspond to the Bachelor's degree programme in Christianity and Culture, the *basic module Dogmatics* (Dogm-Gr) is compulsory instead of one of the two compulsory elective modules. In this case, the basic module must be completed before writing the scientific term paper (module Dogm 5).

#### 4. Specialisation subject Ethics and social action (major subject 100 CP)

##### A. Compulsory courses (84 CP)

Language certificate: None (see § 4 (6)).

84 credit points must be earned in the compulsory courses. The following compulsory modules must be successfully completed.

Compulsory modules		84 CP
<i>EthDi 1</i>	<i>Basics of theological and philosophical ethics</i>	10 CP
<i>EthDi 2</i>	<i>Basics of diaconal studies</i>	10 CP
<i>EthDi 3</i>	<i>General and applied ethics</i>	8 CP
<i>EthDi 4</i>	<i>Welfare state, social welfare and public welfare</i>	8 CP
<i>EthDi 5</i>	<i>Scientific term paper (ethics and social behaviour)</i>	12 CP
<i>WTh</i>	<i>Scientific theory</i>	6 CP
<i>EthDi-M</i>	<i>Master's thesis</i>	30 CP

##### B. Compulsory elective area (16 CP)

A total of 16 credit points must be earned in the compulsory elective area. Students may choose between the following modules with the exception of the *basic module Ethics and social action*:

Compulsory elective modules		16 CP
<i>EthDi 6</i>	<i>Church and religion in Europe</i>	8 CP
<i>EthDi 7</i>	<i>Counselling and pastoral care</i>	8 CP
<i>EthDi 8</i>	<i>Management and diaconia in the organisation</i>	8 CP
<i>EthDi 9</i>	<i>Basics of Christianity in the past and present</i>	8 CP
<i>EthDi 10</i>	<i>Religion and education</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 1</i>	<i>Integrative research module I</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 2</i>	<i>Integrative research module II</i>	8 CP
<i>EthDi-Gr</i>	<i>Basic module on ethics and social behaviour</i>	8 CP

If admission to the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture is based on a Bachelor's degree whose content does not essentially correspond to the Bachelor's degree programme in Christianity and Culture, the *basic module Ethics and social action* (EthDi-Gr) is compulsory instead of one of the two compulsory elective modules. In this case, the basic module must be completed before writing the scientific term paper (module EthDi 5).

## 5. Specialisation subject Religious studies and intercultural theology (major subject 100 CP)

### A. Compulsory courses (84 CP)

Language certificate: Knowledge of Latin; upon request, the departmental representative may recognise a corresponding language examination in a source language (such as Tamil, Hindi, Arabic, Persian) as equivalent (see § 4 (6) number 5).

84 credit points must be earned in the compulsory courses. The following compulsory modules must be successfully completed.

Compulsory modules		84 CP
<i>RwInt 1</i>	<i>Global history of religion and comparative religious studies</i>	10 CP
<i>RwInt 2</i>	<i>Source language I</i>	10 CP
<i>RwInt 3</i>	<i>Intercultural theology</i>	8 CP
<i>RwInt 4</i>	<i>Research module: Applied theories and methods of religious studies</i>	8 CP
<i>RwInt 5</i>	<i>Scientific term paper (Religious studies and intercultural theology)</i>	12 CP
<i>WTh</i>	<i>Scientific theory</i>	6 CP
<i>RwInt-M</i>	<i>Master's thesis</i>	30 CP

### B. Compulsory elective area (16 CP)

A total of 16 credit points must be earned in the compulsory elective area. Students may choose between the following modules with the exception of the *basic module Religious studies and intercultural theology*:

Compulsory elective modules		16 CP
<i>RwInt 6</i>	<i>Source language II</i>	8 CP
<i>RwInt 7</i>	<i>Source language III</i>	8 CP
<i>RwInt 8</i>	<i>Methods of empirical social research</i>	8 CP
<i>RwInt 9</i>	<i>Ecumenical theology</i>	8 CP
<i>RwInt 10</i>	<i>History of Christianity</i>	8 CP
<i>RwInt 11</i>	<i>Specialised module Religious studies</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 1</i>	<i>Integrative research module I</i>	8 CP
<i>IntFo 2</i>	<i>Integrative research module II</i>	8 CP
<i>RwInt-Gr</i>	<i>Basic module religious studies and intercultural theology</i>	8 CP

If admission to the Master's degree programme in Christianity and Culture is based on a Bachelor's degree whose content does not essentially correspond to the Bachelor's degree programme in Christianity and Culture, the *basic module Religious studies and intercultural theology* (RwInt-Gr) is compulsory instead of one of the two compulsory elective modules. In this case, the basic module must be completed before writing the scientific term paper (module RwInt 5).

## 6. Specialisation subject Theological studies (120 CP)

### A. Compulsory courses (60 CP)

60 credit points must be earned in the compulsory courses. The following compulsory modules must be successfully completed.

Compulsory modules		60 CP
ThSt 1	Old Testament	12 CP
ThSt 2	New Testament	12 CP
ThSt 3	Church history	12 CP
ThSt 4	Systematic theology	12 CP
ThSt 5	Religious studies and intercultural theology	12 CP
One of the modules ThSt 1-5 can be replaced by the <i>interdisciplinary module</i> (ThSt-Int) with courses and examination components from other faculties.		12 CP

### B. Compulsory elective area (60 CP)

Language certificate (see § 4 (6) number 7):

Specialisation subject OT: Knowledge of Hebrew

Specialisation subject NT: Knowledge of Greek

Specialisation subject KG, ST, RW: Knowledge of a relevant source language

In the compulsory elective area, students must choose a specialisation subject from the disciplines of OT, NT, KG, ST, and RW.

Compulsory elective modules		60 CP
ThSt 6	Specialisation subject (OT, NT, KG, ST, RW)	12 CP
ThSt 7	Scientific term paper in the specialisation subject	6 CP
ThSt 8	Independent studies in preparation for the Master's thesis in the specialisation subject	12 CP
ThSt-M	Master's thesis in the specialisation subject	30 CP

## 7. Supplementary subject Christianity and Culture (20 CP)

### Compulsory elective area (20 CP)

20 credit points must be earned in the compulsory elective area. For this, either the *specialised modules Christianity and Culture I and II* or the module *Research-relevant language* must be successfully completed from the following modules.

Compulsory elective modules		20 CP
FaMo 1	Specialised module Christianity and Culture I	8-12 CP
FaMo 2	Specialised module Christianity and Culture II	8-12 CP
FoSpra	Research-relevant languages	20 CP

### Annex 3 Module “Research-relevant languages (FoSpra)”

The supplementary subject of the Master’s degree programme can also be replaced by the module *Research-relevant languages (FoSpra)* in accordance with § 4 (4) sentence 2 of the study and examination rules and regulations. This module enables students on the Master’s degree programme in Christianity and Culture (major subject) to acquire additional linguistic knowledge and skills relevant to research work in the subject of Christianity and Culture to the extent of 20 CP. This includes historical source languages as well as modern languages that are important for studying sources and fields (e.g., in religious studies and intercultural theology) or for familiarising oneself with important secondary literature. Amongst other things, this module aims to acquire the language skills required for independent research as part of a PhD programme. The module design depends on the specific requirements of the respective language programmes. The examination prerequisites must total 20 CP and include at least one examination component (see module handbook). The certificates of achievement can also be obtained at higher education institutions outside the faculty of theology. In exceptional cases, it is possible to attend language courses outside of the university, but this requires the approval of the faculty. Details and restrictions on the choice of language courses are set out in the module handbook.

	Module name	CP	Examination components
FoSpra	Research-relevant languages	20	Depends on the requirements of the language course

### Annex 4 Declaration of independent performance and use of AI-based aids in examination components

#### Declaration of independent performance and use of artificial intelligence-based aids for examination components

##### I. Declaration of independence

I hereby certify that this examination component \_\_\_\_\_

1. was completed by me independently and
2. that I have not used any sources and aids other than the ones specified.
3. I have marked all text passages used verbatim or analogous as such.

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Place, date, name

##### II. Disclosure on AI-based electronic aids used

A dedicated annex has been added to the written elaboration, which contains a list and description of all AI-based tools used in order to document the tools applied. The special Annex for the documentation of the tools used fulfils the following criteria:

1. List of the objectives for which the AI-based tools were used in this paper,
2. Documentation of the use of AI-based tools,
3. Mention the chapters and sections of this paper in which the AI-based tools were used to generate content.

The use of these aids, including the type, goal, and scope of use, was agreed with my first supervisor \_\_\_\_\_.

I am aware that in particular the attempt to use AI-based aids in an undocumented manner is to be considered an attempt to cheat in accordance with § 12 of the study and examination rules and regulations:

*“If the examinee attempts to influence the result of the examination component by cheating or using unauthorised aids, the examination in question will be assessed as “insufficient” (5.0).”*

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Place, date, name