

Examination Regulations
for the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism
of the Department of Cultural Studies
at TU Dortmund University
dated 4 August 2026

Based on Section 2 (4) in conjunction with Section 64 (1) of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Hochschulgesetz NRW*, HG) of 16 September 2014 (GV. NRW. p.547), last amended by Article 2 of the Act of 19 December 2024 (GV. NRW. p.1222), TU Dortmund University has issued the following regulations:

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I. General

Section 1

Scope of validity of the Master's Examination Regulations

- (1) These Master's Examination Regulations apply to the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism of the Department of Cultural Studies with the participation of the Department of Business and Economics at TU Dortmund University. In accordance with Section 64 of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Hochschulgesetz NRW*, HG), they regulate the structures of the Master's degree program.
- (2) The module descriptions in the module handbook outline the individual study elements, the course content, and the competencies to be acquired. They are not part of these Examination Regulations. They are decided upon by the relevant department councils and must be reported to the Rectorate.

Section 2

Purpose of the examinations and study objectives

- (1) Successful completion of the Master's degree program leads to the award of a further professional qualification. The Master's examination is designed to determine whether the candidate has an overview of subject-related contexts and is able to independently apply scientific methods and findings in a problem-oriented manner in professional practice and in research and development tasks.
- (2) The degree program is characterized by the integration of theory (research orientation) and practice (career orientation) as well as by the combination of economics and journalism. The study unit *Economics* provides in-depth specialist knowledge and skills in selected areas of modern economics and economic policy, taking into account the requirements of the professional world; students should acquire the ability to critically evaluate scientific findings, solve problems on a scientific basis, and act responsibly. In the study unit *Journalism*, the degree program aims to impart professional basic skills in economic policy journalism in the study profile "Economic Policy and Journalism". By combining sound and comprehensive knowledge of economics with journalistic communication skills, the program provides special qualification advantages for the diverse and important professional fields in which economists must communicate their findings and solutions to the public, journalists, and politicians, or within national and international organizations and think tanks, to people with no background in economics, translating them into generally understandable language and presentation.

As a study unit taught exclusively in English, it also provides particularly good preparation for a career in an English-speaking or international environment. In the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism*, students acquire in-depth knowledge of economics and journalism for the research and practical application of journalistic methods and strategies that enable them to solve complex problems that arise when communicating complicated and difficult economic content that is highly relevant to politics and society in today's mass media. Students study to be experts in the systematic combination of factual and communication skills in the field of economic policy. In line with this goal, both profiles of the degree program also prepare students for further academic qualification, ideally in the field of economic journalism, and thus for a career in academia. Students should also apply the critical thinking and discussion

skills acquired during their training to their future participation in social life. In addition, social engagement, responsible action, and personal development are incorporated into the program as cross-cutting themes. Students acquire knowledge about ethical aspects in the use of language, in politics, and in economics. The interpretation and target group-oriented communication of political, social, and economic issues contribute to the personal development of students.

Section 3 Access requirements

- (1) The requirements for access to the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism are
 - a) a Bachelor's degree in business and economics from TU Dortmund University with a focus on economics, or
 - b) another comparable degree in a comparable degree program lasting at least three years (six semesters) at another German or foreign university, provided that the Examination Board has determined that there are no significant differences between this degree and the degree and degree program referred to in subsection 1 lit. a.
- (2) The Examination Board is responsible for checking the access requirements. The criterion for determining whether or not there are significant differences is a comparison of the content, scope, and requirements of the degree obtained and the degree program with the degree and degree program referred to in subsection 1 lit. a. When deciding on the significance of differences between degrees, particular importance is attached to proven knowledge in the subjects of business and economics as well as mathematics/statistics, which should correspond to that acquired in a Bachelor's degree in business and economics with a focus on economics. Completion of a Bachelor's degree in business and economics with a focus on economics requires proof of examination achievements totaling 50 credit points (ECTS, see section 5 (1)) in the field of economics and 10 credit points in the field of statistics and mathematics. Depending on this assessment, the Examination Board may grant admission without stipulations or with stipulations requiring the successful completion of missing examinations, or it may refuse admission. Stipulations may be imposed for a maximum of 30 credit points and must be successfully completed by the start of the Master's thesis at the latest. Section 14 (1) applies accordingly to the examinations to be taken as part of the stipulations.
- (3) If the academic degree was obtained abroad, the equivalence agreements approved by the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder (*Kultusministerkonferenz*, KMK) and the German Rectors' Conference (*Hochschulrektorenkonferenz*, HRK), agreements within the framework of university partnerships and the recommendations of the Central Office for Foreign Education (*Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen*, ZAB) must be observed when assessing the materiality of differences.
- (4) In the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism, students choose a study profile in accordance with Section 7 from the first semester onwards. The study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism* is completed in English. Proof of German language skills in accordance with Section 3 (6) lit. b is therefore not required. To study this study profile, students must demonstrate English language skills corresponding to level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Proof of this is

provided by relevant language tests or equivalent achievements. The choice of study profile is specified in the application.

- (5) Students applying for the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism (Wirtschaftspolitischer Qualitätsjournalismus)* have to, in addition to a qualifying Bachelor's degree in accordance with Section 3 (1), (2) and (6) lit. a, provide evidence of completion of at least twelve months of editorial traineeship at a current mass media outlet recognized by the Examination Board or an equivalent practical journalistic qualification.
- (6) In addition to the requirements mentioned in subsection 1, applicants have to meet the following criteria:
- a) The final cumulative grade achieved in the required degree in accordance with subsection 1 must be at least *good* (2.5 or better). In the case of a foreign degree, the final cumulative grade must be at least equivalent to *good* (2.5 or better) after conversion to the German grading system and taking into account the recommendations of the Central Office for Foreign Education (*Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen*, ZAB).
 - b) The applicant must demonstrate very good knowledge of the German language, for example by
 - a university entrance qualification from a German-speaking school or
 - a university degree in a German-language degree program or
 - the German Language Test for the Admission of Foreign Applicants to Universities (*Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang ausländischer Studienbewerber*, DSH-2) or equivalent certified training in the German language.

The above-mentioned certificates represent the minimum requirements for the German language skills necessary to successfully complete the degree program. In particular, in order to successfully complete the necessary editorial internships (Section 8), knowledge of the German language beyond the above-mentioned certificates is strongly recommended. Applicants are expected to be highly motivated to continuously improve their existing language skills through appropriate continuing education and training opportunities, for example by participating in relevant courses offered by the Center for Higher Education (*Zentrum für HochschulBildung*, zhb), Division of Foreign Languages.

- c) Sufficient English language skills to work with scientific literature, understand scientific presentations, and discuss scientific results in English are strongly recommended.
- d) When choosing the profile *Economic Policy and Journalism*, applicants have to demonstrate their suitability for the degree program by passing an aptitude test. Further details are regulated by the Regulations for Determining Special Aptitude for the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism and the profile Economic Policy and Journalism with a Master of Arts (M.A.) degree from the Department of Cultural Studies at TU Dortmund University, as amended. Proof of passing the aptitude test must be included with the application documents.
- e) Incomplete application documents cannot be considered in the further application and subsequent admission procedure.

- (7) If an applicant does not yet have the certificate of a Bachelor's degree, the Examination Board may admit this applicant to the chosen Master's degree program if he or she provides evidence that he or she has successfully passed all examinations of a Bachelor's degree program in accordance with subsection 1.

Section 4

Master's degree

Upon passing the Master's examination, TU Dortmund University, through its Department of Cultural Studies, awards the academic degree "Master of Arts" ("M.A.").

Section 5

Credit point system

- (1) The degree program is structured on the basis of a credit point system that is compatible with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).
- (2) Each module is assigned a number of credit points according to the amount of work required. One credit point within the meaning of these Examination Regulations corresponds to one ECTS point and is awarded for work requiring a workload of approximately 30 hours. As a rule, 30 credit points must be earned per semester.
- (3) Credit points are awarded on the basis of successfully and completely completed modules.

Section 6

Standard program duration, scope of studies, and structure of study

- (1) The standard period of study for the Master's degree program is four semesters (two years) and includes the completion of the Master's thesis.
- (2) In total, the Master's degree program comprises 120 credit points, which correspond to approximately 3,600 student working hours and are divided into compulsory and compulsory elective areas.
- (3) The Master's degree program is divided into the modules listed in the appendix, each of which covers a maximum of two consecutive semesters. These modules are self-contained study units with a defined content and duration, usually worth at least 5 credit points.
- (4) The Master's degree program in Economics and Journalism with the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism* can be started in the summer or winter semester. The Master's degree program in Economics and Journalism with the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism* can only be started in the winter semester.
- (5) The courses/examinations in the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism* may also be offered in English as part of the compulsory elective area. The decision by the lecturer to offer a course/exam in English is announced in an appropriate form at least two weeks before the start of the course. In the study unit Economics, at least three modules taught exclusively in English must be selected in the compulsory elective area. The courses and respective exams for the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism* are conducted in English.

- (6) The appendix outlines the structure of the Master's degree program and the modules, including the credits to be earned and the type of examination (module examination or partial assessments).

Section 7

Study profiles

- (1) The program can be studied in the study profiles *Economic Policy Quality Journalism* or *Economic Policy and Journalism*. The study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism* is completed exclusively in English.
- (2) The chosen study profile can be changed once upon application to the Examination Board. The change requires proof of the language skills required for the study profile. The change is irrevocable. Profile-specific examination results achieved prior to the change, including failed attempts, are credited to the new profile, provided that the modules concerned are included in the compulsory and compulsory elective catalogs of the newly selected profile.
- (3) The modules to be completed in the individual study profiles are listed in the module overview in the appendix to these Examination Regulations.

Section 8

Practical phases / Editorial internships

- (1) For the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism*, an editorial internship of at least six weeks must be completed. The working time per internship week is usually five days. The editorial internship must be completed in political and/or economic editorial offices of quality media recognized by the Examination Board or at an economic policy institution of outstanding public importance recognized by the Examination Board. Alternatively, continuous freelance work in a recognized political and/or economic editorial office of a quality media outlet may also be recognized by the Examination Board as an editorial internship. Six credit points are awarded for the successful completion of the editorial internship.
- (2) For the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism*, two editorial internships of at least six weeks each must be completed. The working time per internship week is usually five days. The editorial internships must be completed in political and/or economic editorial offices of quality media recognized by the Examination Board. Alternatively, one of the two editorial internships can be completed at an economic policy institution of outstanding public importance recognized by the Examination Board. In addition, the Examination Board may recognize continuous freelance work in a recognized political and/or economic editorial office of a quality media outlet as an editorial internship within the meaning of sentences 1 and 2. Students also have the opportunity to complete internships in non-English-language media. A total of 7.5 credit points is awarded for the successful completion of each editorial internship.
- (3) Very good knowledge of the German language is required for the success and completion of the editorial internship in the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism*. In the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism*, internships at quality media outlets in any language are eligible for recognition.
- (4) The respective media company or economic policy institution must issue a certificate for each individual internship. The certificate must contain the name of the intern as well as

information on the duration, weekly workload, and type of activity. No grades are given, and any grades are not included in the overall grade for the Master's degree program.

- (5) The individual editorial internships are completed by completing the respective six-week practical phase. For the successful completion of the module, an internship report must be submitted in the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism*.
- (6) Further details are regulated by the internship guidelines of the Institute of Journalism.

Section 9

Access to courses of a module; admission to courses with limited number of participants

- (1) Access to the courses of a module may be made dependent on certain prerequisites, in particular the successful completion of other modules. The individual admission requirements for the modules are specified in the module descriptions in the module handbook.
- (2) The number of participants in courses in the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism may be limited for the reasons specified in Section 59 (2) sentence 1 HG NRW.
- (3) The decision to limit the number of participants and to set a maximum number of participants for the respective courses is made by the Department Council of the Department of Cultural Studies and is announced in an appropriate manner.
- (4) If the number of applicants exceeds the capacity, places will be allocated under the responsibility of the management of the Institute of Journalism at the Department of Cultural Studies at TU Dortmund University, with the participation of the Department Committee for Teaching and Studies. Applicants will be considered in the following order:
 1. Students who, within the framework of their chosen degree program, are required to attend the course at this point in time according to their course of study.

This applies, on the one hand, to students for whom the course is intended according to the module descriptions in the module handbook and the study plan in the semester in which the course is offered; on the other hand, students who are in the last semester of their studies according to the standard program duration or in a later semester and who need the course in order to complete their studies within the standard program duration or in a timely manner.

2. Students who, according to their course of study, are not required to attend the course at this point in time as part of their chosen degree program, or students who are admitted as cross-registered students in accordance with Section 52 (2) HG NRW and who, according to their course of study, are required to attend the course at this point in time as part of their chosen degree program.
 3. Students who are admitted to the respective course as cross-registered students in accordance with Section 52 (1) HG NRW.
 4. Other students of TU Dortmund University, provided they meet the requirements for participation in the course.
- (5) If a selection is necessary within a group, applicants shall be considered in the following order:
 1. Students with long-term or permanent disabilities, chronic illnesses, or students with care responsibilities (care and upbringing of children within the meaning of Section 25 (5) of the Federal Training Assistance Act

(*Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz, BAföG*), care of a spouse, registered civil partner, or direct relative or first-degree relative by marriage, insofar as they are in need of care).

2. Students for whom it is indispensable to repeat a course in the according module.
 3. If the other criteria are exhausted, the decision shall be made by lot.
- (6) Applicants must themselves assert the existence of the conditions relating to the criteria in subsection 5, no. 1 and 2, to the managing director of the Institute of Journalism during the application process within the specified published deadlines.
- (7) The Institute of Journalism shall ensure, within the limits of the available resources, that the students referred to in subsection 4, no. 1, do not generally lose any time or, at most, lose one semester as a result of the restriction on the number of participants.

Section 10 Examinations

- (1) Modules are generally completed with only one examination. In particularly justified cases, several modules may be completed with a joint examination. The module is completed by means of a graded module examination or by means of cumulative graded partial assessments. Partial assessments are completed within the framework of individual courses. The respective types and forms of examination (module examination or partial assessments / graded or ungraded) are specified in the appendix to these Examination Regulations.
- (2) Module examinations or partial assessments are usually completed during the course of study in the form of written, oral, or electronic examinations or examinations in electronic communication (written examinations, presentations or seminar contributions, term papers/written assignments, journalistic work folders or project presentations, etc.). With the approval of the Examination Board, the respective examiners may, if necessary, specify other suitable forms of examination that are not covered by sentence 1.
- (3) The type, form, and scope of the module examinations and partial assessments are specified in the module descriptions in the module handbook or are announced by the examiner no later than two weeks after the start of the course. Upon application to the Examination Board, deviations from the form of assessment originally specified in the module descriptions in the module handbook may be permitted for a limited period of time in justified cases.
- (4) Admission to the individual module examinations or partial assessments requires that the examinations specified as prerequisites in the appendix to these Examination Regulations and in the module descriptions in the module handbook have been successfully completed.
- (5) Access to the courses of a module may be made dependent on certain prerequisites, in particular the successful completion of other modules. The individual admission requirements for the modules are set out in the appendix to the Examination Regulations and the module descriptions in the module handbook.
- (6) For module examinations, a minimum of two and a maximum of four hours should be allowed for written examinations/tests, and a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 60 minutes per student for oral examinations. For partial performances, a minimum of one

and a maximum of two hours should be allowed for written examinations/tests and a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 45 minutes per student for oral examinations. In oral group examinations, the total duration may not exceed 120 minutes. The duration of an examination depends on the workload of the respective module. Term papers and other written assignments should not exceed a maximum of 15 DIN A4 pages. A comparable limitation of the processing time and the scope of the examination must also be ensured in the context of other forms of examination. Further details are specified in the module descriptions in the module handbook. The provision in subsection 6 does not apply to the modules of the Department of Business and Economics at TU Dortmund University.

- (7) Written examinations may be conducted in whole or in part using a multiple-choice format. When using this format, particular care must be taken to ensure that the examination questions are based on the content and required knowledge taught in the modules or corresponding courses and enable reliable examination results. In the case of examinations that are to be assessed by two examiners, the examination questions shall be developed jointly by both examiners. When drawing up the examination questions, it shall be specified which answers are recognized as correct.
- (8) The written examinations are conducted under supervision and are not open to the public. Any aids that may be permitted are announced by the examiners in a suitable form at least four weeks before the examination.
- (9) Written examination results are assessed by an examiner. Students must be notified of the assessment of written examination results within two months at the latest, but in good time before the repeat dates, whereby data protection requirements must be observed.
- (10) Oral examinations are taken before two examiners or one examiner in the presence of a knowledgeable observer as an individual examination or a group examination with a maximum of three students. If an oral examination is taken before one examiner, the examiner must consult the observer before determining the grade in accordance with Section 21 (1). If an oral examination is taken before two examiners, each examiner shall determine an individual grade for the oral examination performance in accordance with Section 21 (1). The grades for the oral examination performance shall be determined from the arithmetic mean of the two individual grades in accordance with Section 21 (7).
- (11) The main subjects and results of the oral examination shall be recorded in minutes. The result of the examination shall be announced to the candidate immediately after the oral examination. Students who wish to take the same examination at a later examination period shall be admitted as listeners, subject to space availability, unless the candidate objects. The admission of listeners does not extend to the consultation and announcement of the examination results. In the event that the examination is influenced or disrupted by the listeners, these persons may be excluded as listeners by the examiner.
- (12) Examination performances in written or oral examinations that conclude a degree program and in repeat examinations for which there is no possibility of compensation in the event of final failure shall be assessed by two examiners within the meaning of Section 16.
- (13) The regulations governing written examinations shall apply mutatis mutandis to electronic examinations.
- (14) Written examination performances within the meaning of subsection 12 shall be

assessed separately by both examiners in accordance with Section 21 (1). The grade for the written examination performance shall be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the two individual grades. Section 21 (7) shall apply accordingly. The provisions of Section 23 shall apply to the assessment of the Master's thesis.

- (15) In modules that conclude with a module examination, additional coursework may be required in the individual courses. Coursework is generally defined as a prerequisite for participation in the module examination. In exceptional cases, coursework may also be defined as a prerequisite for completing the module. The exceptions must be justified in the examination concept and are part of the accreditation of the degree program. Coursework may include, in particular: presentations, term papers/written assignments, internships, practical exercises, written or oral performance assessments, lectures, minutes, or workbooks. Coursework may be graded or assessed as "pass" or "fail." Section 21 (4) (b) does not apply to coursework that can be repeated indefinitely. The prerequisite for participation in the module examination is the successful completion of all coursework required in this module. The coursework must therefore have been graded at least "sufficient" (4.0) or assessed as "passed".
- (16) Coursework is significantly below the level of a module examination or partial assessment in terms of scope, form, and content. If the form in which coursework is to be completed is not defined in the module descriptions in the module handbook, it will be announced by the teacher/lecturer at the beginning of the course.
- (17) By mutual agreement between the student and the examiners, examinations may be conducted in English.
- (18) Regular attendance may be required for courses whose learning objectives cannot be achieved without the active participation of students. The constitutional requirement of proportionality must be observed when regulating attendance requirements. The attendance requirement is decided either on the basis of a vote by the Study Advisory Council (*Studienbeirat*) or on the basis of a two-thirds majority of the Department Council. The attendance requirement must be stated in the module description in the module handbook. The exact details of the attendance requirement will be communicated to students in an appropriate form at the latest at the beginning of the course.
- (19) Examination procedures shall take into account absences due to the care and upbringing of children within the meaning of Section 25 (5) of the Federal Training Assistance Act (*Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz*, BAföG), the care of a spouse, registered partner, or a direct relative or first-degree relative by marriage, insofar as the latter is in need of care.

Section 11

Academic accommodation (i.e., compensation for disadvantages)

- (1) If the student provides credible evidence in the form of a medical certificate that he or she is unable to take an examination in whole or in part in the prescribed form, duration, or time limit due to a long-term or permanent disability or chronic illness, the Chairperson of the Examination Board shall determine the alternative form, duration, or time limit for the examination. This also applies to the acquisition of a prerequisite for participation. Furthermore, deviations may be provided for with regard to the use of aids or assistants, as well as the number and requirements for repeating examinations.

Unless a change in the nature of the illness or disability is to be expected, this academic accommodation shall extend to all examinations to be taken in the course of study for people with disabilities or chronic illnesses. In case of doubt, the person or body responsible for questions relating to the interests of disabled students shall be involved (e.g., the Division of Disability and Studies (*Zhb Bereich Behinderung und Studium*, DoBuS) within the Center for Higher Education at TU Dortmund University).

- (2) The academic accommodation is granted on a case-by-case basis upon application to the Examination Board and must be submitted to the Central Examinations Office (*Zentrale Prüfungsverwaltung*).

Section 12

Maternity protection

The statutory maternity protection periods and the corresponding provisions of the Maternity Protection Act (*Mutterschutzgesetz*, MSchG) apply, cf. Section 64 (2) no. 5 and subsection 2a HG NRW.

Section 13

Deadlines and dates

- (1) Registration for each examination is required at least two weeks before the start of the respective exam. The registration period must be at least two weeks. Details regarding examination registration will be announced to students at the beginning of the course by the respective teacher/lecturer. Withdrawal without giving reasons is possible for oral examinations up to one week before the start of the respective examination and for written examinations up to one day before the start of the respective examination. The student is then considered not to be registered for the examination. Different regulations may apply to examinations conducted by another department as part of the degree program Economics and Journalism.
- (2) The dates for written examinations are set by the examiner and must be announced as early as possible, but generally no later than four weeks before the end of the lecture period. Periods for oral examinations must be announced at least four weeks before the earliest examination date. Individual dates will be announced one week before the examination.

Section 14

Repetition of exams, passing the Master's examination, final failing of examinations

- (1) Module examinations and individual partial assessments may be repeated twice if they have been "failed" or are considered "failed." Students must be given the opportunity to repeat the examination or partial assessment in a timely manner. If a partial assessment is failed, only that partial assessment must be repeated. For reasons of comparability and fairness, repeat examinations must be conducted in the same form as the first attempt at the examination. Passed examinations cannot be repeated.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection 1, the Master's thesis may only be repeated as a whole and only once with a new topic. The oral examination for the Master's thesis may also only be repeated once. The topic of the Master's thesis may only be returned in accordance with Section 22 (4) if the candidate did not make use of this option when writing the unsuccessful Master's thesis.

- (3) The final and definite failure of a single examination during the course of study is not detrimental if the credit points to be earned in a module can still be earned in other courses assigned to the same module.
- (4) A maximum of two compulsory elective modules that have been definitively "failed" can be compensated for by successfully completing another compulsory elective module. This rule does not apply to modules offered by the Department of Economics at TU Dortmund University.
- (5) The Master's examination is "passed" if all 120 credit points from the examinations taken during the course of study, including the Master's thesis, have been acquired and the respective editorial internships pursuant to Section 8 have been completed.
- (6) The Master's examination is definitively and finally "failed" if
 - a) the candidate is no longer able to earn the required minimum number of credit points in one or more of the modules, or
 - b) the Master's thesis is again "failed" after repetition or is considered "failed," or
 - c) at least three of the compulsory elective modules listed in the appendix have been definitively "failed," or
 - d) one of the compulsory modules listed in the appendix has been definitively "failed."
- (7) If the Master's examination has been definitively "failed" or if an examination is considered definitively "failed," the Chairperson of the Examination Board shall issue the candidate with a written notification to this effect. The notification shall include information on the right of appeal. Upon request, the candidate shall be issued with a certificate of the passed examinations; this certificate shall include a note stating that it is not valid for submission to another university.

Section 15

Examination Board

- (1) The Department of Cultural Studies shall establish an Examination Board for the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism to organize the examinations and perform the tasks assigned by these Examination Regulations.
- (2) The Examination Board consists of seven members, namely four members from the group of university teachers, one member from the group of research assistants/academic staff members, and two members from the group of students. The members of the Examination Board must be active or enrolled in the Bachelor's and/or Master's degree programs in Economic Journalism, Science Journalism, or Journalism; one or two members from the group of university teachers should come from the Department of Business and Economics at TU Dortmund University. The Department of Cultural Studies delegates the formation of the Examination Board to the board of the Institute of Journalism. The members are elected by the board of the Institute of Journalism separately for each group by their respective representatives; the members of the student group are elected for one year, the other members for three years. The Examination Board elects the chairperson and deputy chairperson from among its members from the group of university lecturers. With the exception of the chairperson and their deputy, representatives for the members of the Examination Board are elected by the board of the Institute of Journalism in accordance with the provisions set out in sentence 4. Re-election is permitted. The composition of the Examination Board shall be announced by the managing director of the Institute of Journalism. If the election of the

examination board or individual members is declared invalid after they have taken office, this shall not affect the legal validity of the decisions and official acts previously taken; this shall apply accordingly in the event of an incorrect composition of the Examination Board.

- (3) The Examination Board ensures that the provisions of the Examination Regulations are complied with and that the examinations are conducted properly. In particular, it is responsible for deciding on appeals against decisions made in the examination procedure and for coordinating inter-departmental issues and problems. In addition, the Examination Board must report regularly, at least once a year, to the Department Council on the development of examinations and study periods. It makes suggestions for reforming the Examination Regulations and study plans. The Examination Board may delegate the following tasks to the Chairperson: recognition issues, urgent decisions, complaints, appointment of examiners. Decisions on appeals and the obligation to report to the Department Council cannot be delegated to the Chairperson.
- (4) The Examination Board constitutes a quorum if, in addition to the Chairperson or deputy Chairperson and two other members from the group of university teachers, at least two other members with voting rights are present. The Examination Board decides by simple majority. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson has the casting vote. Abstentions are permitted; they are not counted when determining the majority of votes. Resolutions may be passed by written ballot. The student members do not participate in educational and academic decisions. These include, in particular, the assessment and recognition of academic achievements, the setting of examination tasks, and the appointment of examiners and assessors.
- (5) The members of the Examination Board have the right to attend the examinations.
- (6) The meetings of the Examination Board are not open to the public. The members of the Examination Board, including their representatives, the examiners, and the observers are subject to official secrecy. Unless they are in public service, they are bound to secrecy by the Chairperson of the Examination Board. Guests may participate in the deliberations and votes of the Examination Board at the invitation of the Chairperson and shall be bound by the same duty of confidentiality; they shall not be entitled to submit motions or vote.
- (7) In performing its duties, the Examination Board shall make use of the administrative assistance of the Central Examinations Office of TU Dortmund University.

Section 16

Examiners and observers

- (1) The Examination Board appoints the examiners and observers in accordance with the statutory requirements. It may delegate the appointment to the Chairperson of the Examination Board. Lecturers from the participating departments of TU Dortmund University and other persons authorized to conduct examinations within the meaning of Section 65 (1) HG NRW may be appointed as examiners. Observers may be appointed who themselves have acquired at least the qualification to be determined by the examination or a comparable qualification.
- (2) The examiners are independent in their examination activities.

- (3) Candidates may propose examiners for the Master's thesis. The candidate's proposals shall be taken into account as far as possible. However, the proposals do not constitute a legal claim.
- (4) For examinations taken during the course of study, the examiners are generally the same persons as the respective responsible teachers/lecturers. Deviations and information on additional examiners shall be communicated to the candidates by the Examination Board no later than four weeks before the examination.

Section 17

Recognition of examination achievements, placement in advanced program semesters

The currently valid regulations on the recognition of examination achievements for all Bachelor's and Master's degree programs at TU Dortmund University (*Anerkennungsordnung der TU Dortmund*) apply to the recognition of examination achievements and placement in advanced program semesters.

Section 18

Absence, withdrawal, deception, and violation of regulations

- (1) An examination is considered to have been graded "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed" if the candidate does not appear at an examination date without good reason or if he or she withdraws from the examination after it has begun without good reason. The same applies if a written examination is not completed within the specified time limit.
- (2) The reasons given for withdrawal or absence must be reported to the Examination Board in writing without delay and substantiated. In the event of illness of the candidate or a child for whom the candidate is primarily responsible, a medical certificate in German must be submitted. In the event of illness of the candidate, the medical certificate must prove that the candidate is unable to take the examination. In the event of subsequent withdrawal from an examination that has already been taken, the medical certificate must show that the impairment of performance during the examination was not apparent to the student for health reasons and that there was no reasonable cause to doubt the student's performance. If the Examination Board does not recognize the reasons for the withdrawal or absence, the candidate will be notified in writing.
- (3) If an examination performance is influenced by deception (e.g., use of unauthorized aids, copying text passages without attribution as quotations, cheating or allowing others to cheat, or other forms of assistance in attempts to deceive others, late submission, etc.), the examination in question shall be graded as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed." This also applies to attempts at deception. Failure of the examination results in failure of the module. If an attempt at cheating or cheating within the meaning of sentence 1 is detected by the supervisor during an examination, the supervisor shall record the attempt at deception or cheating. The decision as to whether an attempt at deception or an act of cheating has taken place and whether the examination is therefore graded as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed" is made by the respective examiner. A candidate who disrupts the proper conduct of the examination may be excluded from continuing the examination by the respective examiner or supervisor, usually after a warning. In this case, the examination in question shall be graded as "insufficient" (5.0) or "failed." The respective reasons for the decision must be recorded. In serious cases of cheating or disruption, the Examination Board may exclude the candidate from taking further examinations.

- (4) For module examinations or partial performances, the Examination Board may require candidates to submit a written declaration stating that they have written the work independently - in the case of group work, a correspondingly marked portion of the work - and have not used any sources or aids other than those specified, and have indicated any direct and indirect quotations. Section 21 (7) remains unaffected.
- (5) The candidate may request that decisions pursuant to subsection 3 be reviewed by the Examination Board within a period of 14 days. Adverse decisions shall be communicated to the candidate in writing without delay, stating the reasons and providing information on the right of appeal. The candidate shall be given the opportunity to be heard before the decision is made.

II. The Master's examination

Section 19

Admission to Master's examination

- (1) Upon enrollment in the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism at TU Dortmund University or admission as a cross-registered student in accordance with Section 52 (2) HG, students are considered admitted to the examinations of this degree program, unless enrollment or admission is to be refused in accordance with subsection 2.
- (2) Enrollment respectively admission shall be refused if
 - a) the candidate has definitively failed an examination required under these Examination Regulations in the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism at TU Dortmund University or in another degree program that is substantially similar in content to this program, or
 - b) the candidate has not yet received a final and legally binding decision on the definite final failure of an examination in one of the aforementioned degree programs due to a subsequent challenge to the examination notice.

Section 20

Scope of Master's examination

- (1) The Master's examination consists of examinations taken during the course of study and practical phases/internships. A total of 120 credit points must be earned; of these, 51 credit points must be earned in the study unit Journalism in the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism*, 45 credit points in the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism*, a further 45 credit points in the study unit Business and Economics, and 18 credit points through the Master's thesis, including its presentation. In addition, there are the respective editorial internships with a scope of 12 or a total of 15 credit points.
- (2) The modules to be selected depending on the study profile, including the respective credits to be earned, are described and specified in the appendix to these Examination Regulations.

Section 21

Assessment of course-related examination performances, acquisition of credit points, calculation of grades

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

1 = very good	= an outstanding performance;
2 = good	= a performance which significantly exceeds average requirements;
3 = satisfactory	= a performance which meets average requirements;
4 = sufficient	= a performance which still meets requirements despite its shortcomings;
5 = insufficient	= a performance with significant shortcomings which no longer meets the requirements.

By lowering and raising the individual grades by 0.3, intermediate values can be formed for a differentiated assessment of the examinations taken during the course of study; the grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7, and 5.3 are excluded.

- (2) In consultation with the Examination Board, examination performances that are not included in the final cumulative grade may be assessed either according to the grading scale specified in subsection 1 or according to the following simplified scale:

passed	= a performance which at least meets the requirements;
failed	= a performance which no longer meets the requirements due to significant deficiencies.

- (3) The number of credit points assigned to the respective module is earned if the module has been graded at least "sufficient" (4.0) or as "passed".

- (4) A written examination which was conducted entirely using the multiple-choice format (Section 10 (7)) is considered passed if

- 60% of the total number of available points have been achieved, or
- the achieved score is no more than 22% below the average examination performance of candidates who took the examination for the first time.

- (5) If the candidate has achieved the minimum number of points in accordance with subsection 4 and thus passed the examination, the grade is as follows:

"very good" (1.0) if at least 75%,
"very good" (1.3) if at least 66.6% but less than 75%,
"good" (1.7) if at least 58.3% but less than 66.6%,
"good" (2.0) if at least 50% but less than 58.3%,
"good" (2.3) if at least 41.6% but less than 50%,
"satisfactory" (2.7) if at least 33.3% but less than 41.6%,
"satisfactory" (3.0) if at least 25% but less than 33.3%,
"satisfactory" (3.3) if at least 16.6% but less than 25%,
"sufficient" (3.7) if at least 8.3% but less than 16.6%,
"sufficient" (4.0) if none or less than 8.3%

of the points to be achieved above the minimum score were achieved.

- (6) For the assessment of written examinations in which only individual tasks are completed using the multiple-choice procedure, subsections 4 and 5 apply accordingly to these tasks; the grade for the entire written examination is determined by the weighted results of all tasks in accordance with the specifications of the task.
- (7) If a module is completed by a module examination, this grade is also the module grade. In the case of partial assessments, the module grade is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the unrounded grades of the individual partial assessments completed within the module, weighted with the corresponding credit points. If, within a module, further examinations are taken in addition to the minimum number of credit points required, the student has the right to choose which of the individual grades are included in the calculation of the module grade. The module grades are then expressed in words as follows for a mean value

up to 1.5 = "very good",

above 1.5 to 2.5 = "good",

above 2.5 to 3.5 = "satisfactory",

above 3.5 to 4.0 = "sufficient",

above 4.0 = "insufficient".

When calculating module grades, only the first decimal place after the comma is taken into account; all further decimal places are deleted without rounding.

- (8) The subject grade for the Master's examination is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the unrounded module grades, whereby the individual module grades are weighted with the respective number of credit points. Subsection 7 applies accordingly. Only the MA-1 and MA-2 modules are not included in the subject grade.
- (9) The final cumulative grade for the Master's examination is calculated from the subject grade and the grade for the Master's thesis (module EJ-6), whereby the subject grade is weighted by a factor of 2 and the grade for the Master's thesis by a factor of 1. Subsection 7 applies accordingly.
- (10) The final cumulative grade is issued in the form of a grade according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). In addition, ECTS grades can be reported for all graded examinations. This requires a corresponding decision by the Examination Board. ECTS grades are reported as follows:

A = generally the top 10% of successful students;

B = generally the next approx. 25% of successful students;

C = generally the next approx. 30% of successful students;

D = generally the next approx. 25% of successful students;

E = generally the next approx. 10% of successful students.

As an alternative to the ECTS grade, the grade distribution can be shown in the form of an ECTS grading table.

- (11) The ECTS grades or the reference group for the ECTS classification table are generally determined by comparing the cohorts of the last six semesters. If this group is smaller than 50 people, the reference group must be determined from the last 10 semesters. The current semester should not be taken into account when forming the ECTS reference group. As long as no statistical data are available for calculating a relative assessment,

no ECTS grades will be shown. For reasons of legal certainty, the Examination Board may decide not to issue ECTS grades. The same applies to the creation of the ECTS grading table. When composing the reference group, a distinction must be made according to the degree and the degree program. In addition, the composition of the reference group may be changed in objectively justified cases. This requires a corresponding decision by the Examination Board.

Section 22 Master's thesis

- (1) The Master's thesis, together with the subsequent presentation, is part of the academic education in this degree program. The Master's thesis should demonstrate that the candidate is able to independently work on a problem from their field within a specified period of time using scientific findings and methods. The content of the Master's thesis should be designed to bridge the gap between research and practice as well as between the subjects of journalism and business/economics. Ideally, it should deal with the problem of journalistic communication of complex, politically and/or socially relevant economic content in terms of content and methodology. A total of 18 credit points is awarded for the Master's thesis and its presentation.
- (2) The Master's thesis is supervised by university teachers/lecturers from the professorships of Economic Policy Journalism or Journalism with a focus on the economic fundamentals of journalism, as well as by university lecturers from the Departments of Business and Economics at TU Dortmund University and the Ruhr University Bochum. Other university lecturers who meet the requirements of Section 65 (1) HG NRW may, with the approval of the Examination Board, assign and supervise the Master's thesis.
- (3) If the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism* is studied, the Master's thesis must be written in English.
- (4) The topic is issued at the request of the candidate via the Chairperson of the Examination Board. Before the Master's thesis is issued, the candidate must have successfully completed the compulsory modules EJ-1 to EJ-4 or WPQ-1 to WPQ-3 as well as elective compulsory modules worth at least 30 credit points. Proof of fulfillment of these requirements must be enclosed with the application. The date of assignment must be recorded. Upon assignment of the Master's thesis topic, the candidate receives the *Rules of Good Scientific Practice* of TU Dortmund University and the corresponding guidelines of the German Research Foundation (*Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*, DFG). The candidate may make suggestions regarding the supervisor or topic in the application. If the candidate waives the right to make suggestions, the Chairperson of the Examination Board assigns a topic and a supervisor for the Master's thesis. The Master's thesis may also be written in English by mutual agreement between the supervisor and the candidate.
- (5) The topic of the Master's thesis may only be returned once and only within two weeks of being assigned; the Master's thesis is then considered not to have been started.
- (6) The processing time for the Master's thesis is 16 weeks. The topic and the task must be devised in such a way that the thesis can be completed within this period. Upon justified request by the candidate, the Examination Board may, in agreement with the supervisor, grant a one-time extension of the processing time by up to four weeks for an empirical,

experimental, or mathematical Master's thesis, and by up to eight weeks in exceptional cases. A request for an extension must be submitted to the Examination Board at least 14 days before the end of the processing time. In the event of illness, the deadline for submission may be extended by a maximum of half of the processing time. A medical certificate must be submitted for this purpose. The extension corresponds to the period of illness. If the period of illness exceeds half of the processing time, the candidate will be given a new topic without recognition of an examination attempt.

- (7) The length of the Master's thesis should not exceed 120 DIN A4 pages (excluding appendices) as a rule. If a topic is worked on in a working group, the restriction applies separately to each candidate.
- (8) The Master's thesis must always be written independently as an individual piece of work. However, this does not preclude the topic of the Master's thesis from being worked on within a working group. In this case, it must be ensured that the individual's contribution to be assessed as an examination performance is clearly distinguishable and assessable according to objective criteria and meets the requirements of subsection 1. The number of pages specified in subsection 6 must exceed the requirements for an individual piece of work.
- (9) Upon submission of the Master's thesis, the candidate must swear an oath that he or she has written the thesis independently (*affidavit*) — in the case of group work, a correspondingly marked portion of the thesis — and has not used any sources or aids other than those indicated, and has identified all direct and indirect quotations. Unpublished contributions must also be included in the list of sources. A standard form provided by the Central Examinations Office has to be used for the affidavit, signed and included as an integral part of the Master's thesis when it is submitted, or uploaded as a file together with the thesis in accordance with the digital submission procedure pursuant to Section 23 (1).

Section 23

Submission and assessment of the Master's thesis

- (1) The provisions of the Regulations for the Submission of Theses (Bachelor's/Master's) of TU Dortmund University (*Ordnung zur Abgabe von Abschlussarbeiten (Bachelor/Master) der TU Dortmund*), as amended, apply to the submission of the Master's thesis. If the uploading of individual theses or parts of theses is not feasible for technical reasons and/or if there is a contractual agreement with third parties that excludes the publication of theses or parts of the theses, the previous analog procedure for submitting theses in accordance with subsection 2 shall apply by decision of the Examination Board.
- (2) In the analog procedure, the Master's thesis must be submitted in duplicate in bound form and additionally in an electronic version suitable for use with plagiarism detection software to the office of the Institute of Journalism of the Department of Cultural Studies at TU Dortmund University by the deadline. The date of submission must be recorded. For postal deliveries, the date of the postmark shall apply. If the Master's thesis is not submitted by the deadline, it shall be graded as "insufficient" (5.0).
- (3) The Master's thesis must be assessed and evaluated by two examiners. One of the examiners should be the supervisor of the thesis (first assessor). The second examiner (second assessor) is appointed by the Chairperson of the Examination Board. University teachers/lecturers from the relevant study unit Business and Economics are particularly suitable for this role.

- (4) The individual assessment shall be carried out in accordance with Section 21 (1) and justified in writing. The grade for the Master's thesis is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the individual assessments, provided that the difference is no more than 2.0. If the difference is more than 2.0 or if only one examiner grades the Master's thesis with at least "sufficient" (4.0), the Examination Board shall appoint a third examiner to assess the Master's thesis. In this case, the grade for the Master's thesis shall be calculated as the arithmetic mean of the two better grades. However, the Master's thesis can only be graded as "sufficient" (4.0) or better if at least two grades are "sufficient" (4.0) or better. Section 21 (7) shall apply accordingly.
- (5) The candidate shall be notified of the grade for the Master's thesis together with the grade for the oral presentation of the Master's thesis, as a rule, no later than three months after submission.

Section 24

Presentation of the Master's thesis

- (1) The oral presentation of the Master's thesis should demonstrate that the candidate is able to present the research question, methodology, and results of the Master's thesis orally, place them in the overall context of the subject, and answer questions about the scientific rationale and classification.
- (2) The date of the oral presentation of the Master's thesis should be no later than 3 months after the submission deadline for the Master's thesis. The date on which the oral presentation takes place must be communicated to the Central Examinations Office of TU Dortmund University in good time.
- (3) The oral presentation is held in front of the two examiners of the Master's thesis.
- (4) The oral presentation lasts approximately 30 minutes.
- (5) Section 10 (10) sentences 2 to 4 apply to the assessment of the oral presentation. The result of the oral presentation shall be communicated to the candidate after the examination, together with the assessment of the Master's thesis.

Section 25

Additional qualifications

- (1) Students may take examinations in modules other than those prescribed before passing or failing definitively. No credit points can be earned with these examinations.
- (2) Additional qualifications are not included in the determination of the final cumulative grade. At the student's request, the results of the examinations are included in the transcript of records.
- (3) Additional qualifications in modules of the Department of Business and Economics can only be obtained within the framework of the regulations of the current minor subject agreements.

Section 26

Certificate, documents for a change of university

- (1) The candidate will generally receive a certificate confirming that they have passed the Master's examination within six weeks of the assessment of the last examination. The

certificate bears the date on which the last examination was taken. The certificate must include the final cumulative grade for the Master's examination, including the ECTS grade in accordance with Section 21 (10), the topic and grade for the Master's thesis, the modules and module grades, and the number of credits earned in each module.

- (2) If an ECTS classification table is created for the degree program in accordance with Section 21 (11), this will be made available to students separately.
- (3) The certificate specifies the candidate's study profile.
- (4) A diploma supplement is issued together with the certificate. It describes the essential course content underlying the degree, the study plan, the skills acquired with the degree, and the awarding university. The diploma supplement is issued in German and English. In addition, an overview of the achievements in the module examinations (Transcript of Records) is also attached to the certificate.
- (5) At the candidate's request, the Transcript of Records can show additional achievements and coursework that were not included in the module, subject and final cumulative grade. In addition, voluntary internships completed during the studies that have been approved by the Examination Board upon request and that are related to the content and subject matter of the chosen degree program can also be included.
- (6) At the candidate's request, a confirmation of the examination achievements already completed (*Notenbescheinigung*/grade certificate) shall also be issued before the completion of the Master's examination, which shall contain a list of the modules successfully completed with the credit points and examination achievements and the grades in accordance with Section 21 (1).
- (7) The certificate shall be signed by the Chairperson of the Examination Board and bear the seal of the Department of Cultural Studies.
- (8) At the request of the candidate and in consultation with the Examination Board, the certificate and other documents can also be issued in English.

Section 27 **Master's Diploma**

- (1) The candidate will be issued a Master's Diploma in German and English with the date of the certificate. This certifies the award of the Master's degree in accordance with Section 4. The graduate's degree program must be specified in the Master's Diploma.
- (2) The Master's Diploma shall be signed by the Dean of the Department of Cultural Studies and the Chairperson of the Examination Board and bear the seal of the Department of Cultural Studies.

III. Final provisions

Section 28 **Invalidity of examination results and revocation of the Master's degree**

- (1) If the candidate has deceived/cheated in an examination and this fact only becomes known after the certificate has been issued, the Examination Board may subsequently correct the grades for those examination performances in which the candidate deceived and declare the examination wholly or partially failed.

- (2) If the requirements for admission to an examination were not met without the candidate intending to deceive, and this fact only becomes known after the certificate has been issued, this deficiency shall be remedied by passing the examination. If the candidate has intentionally obtained admission under false pretenses, the Examination Board shall decide on the legal consequences under consideration of the Administrative Procedure Act NRW (*Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetz für das Land Nordrhein-Westfalen, VwVfG NRW*).
- (3) Before a decision is made in accordance with subsection 1 and 2, the concerned person shall be given the opportunity to comment orally or in writing.
- (4) In the case of a decision pursuant to subsection 1 or subsection 2 sentence 2, the incorrect certificate shall be withdrawn and, if necessary, a new one shall be issued. A decision pursuant to subsection 1 or subsection 2 sentence 2 shall be excluded after a period of five years following the issuance of the certificate.
- (5) The Master's degree shall be revoked and the certificate shall be withdrawn if it subsequently transpires that it was obtained by deception or if essential requirements for its award were mistakenly considered to have been met. The Department Council of the Department of Cultural Studies shall decide on the revocation.

Section 29

Viewing of examination records

- (1) After the examination results have been announced, the examination records are open for viewing. Copies or other faithful reproductions may be made during the viewing. The use of copies and other reproductions of the examination is only permitted for personal use for the purpose of reviewing the examination. In particular, publication, duplication, distribution, and any kind of exploitation, as well as disclosure to third parties, is not permitted. Violations will result in significant legal consequences.
- (2) The time and place of viewing shall be determined by the examiners and announced in a suitable form at the latest when the examination results are announced.
- (3) Students shall be granted access to the results of other written examinations upon request. The request must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Examination Board within one month.
- (4) Students may view the assessments of the examiners of the respective examinations and the examination records of the oral examinations upon request. This request must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Examination Board within three months of the announcement of the examination results. The Chairperson of the Examination Board determines the place and time of the viewing.

Section 30

Publication, entry into force, and scope of application

- (1) These Examination Regulations are published in the Official Communications of TU Dortmund University and come into force on 1 October 2026.
- (2) They apply to all students who are enrolled in the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism at TU Dortmund University for the first time in the Winter semester 2026/2027 (1 October 2026).
- (3) Enrollment in the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism* is going to be possible

for the first time in the Winter semester 2026/2027 (1 October 2026). The regulations governing this study profile (Section 2 (2), Section 3 (4) and (6) lit. d), Section 6 (4) and (5), Section 7 (1) and (2), Section 8 (3), Section 20 (1), and Section 22 (3)) apply to all students who have been enrolled in the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism with a specialization in the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism* for the first time as of Winter semester 2026/2027.

- (4) From the Winter semester 2029/2030 onwards, only the current version of these Examination Regulations shall apply ex officio to all students enrolled in the Master's degree program Economics and Journalism at TU Dortmund University, unless new Examination Regulations for the Master's program in Economics and Journalism at TU Dortmund University have already come into force.
- (5) After the transition period has expired, all credits earned under the previous Examination Regulations, including failed attempts, will be officially credited. In cases of particular hardship, the responsible Examination Board is going to decide on possible exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

Issued on the basis of the resolutions of the Department Council of the Department of Cultural Studies dated 11 March 2026 the Department Council of the Department of Business and Economics dated 1 July 2026, as well as the resolution of the Rectorate of TU Dortmund University dated 4 February 2026.

Note:

Attention is drawn to the fact that, pursuant to Section 12 (5) of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Hochschulgesetz*, HG NRW), a violation of procedural or formal requirements of the university's regulatory or other autonomous law can no longer be asserted after the expiry of one year from the date of this announcement, unless

1. the regulations have not been duly published,
2. the Rectorate has previously objected to the decision of the committee adopting the regulations,
3. the formal or procedural fault has been notified to the university in advance and the violated legal provision and the fact giving rise to the fault have been indicated, or
4. the legal consequence of the exclusion of the right to complain was not pointed out when the regulations were publicly announced.

Dortmund, 4 August 2026

The President
of TU Dortmund University

Professor Dr. Manfred Bayer

Appendix: Module overview

- (1) The study unit Journalism in the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism* consists of the following compulsory modules (CP = credit points):

Module		CP	Type of examination	Requirements for module completion
WPQ-1	Theory-Practice Project I: Print and online	15 CP	Module examination (graded)	
WPQ-2	Theory-Practice Project II: Radio	15 CP	Module examination (graded)	
WPQ-3	Theory-Practice Project III: Television	15 CP	Module examination (graded)	
WPQ-4	Fundamentals of computer-assisted text analysis	6 CP	Module examination (graded)	

- (2) The study unit Journalism in the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism* consists of the following compulsory modules (CP = credit points):

Module		CP	Type of examination	Requirements for module completion
EJ-1	Economic Policy and Journalism	14.5 CP	2 partial assessments (graded)	
EJ-2	Journalism Practice I	7.5 CP	Module examination (graded)	
EJ-3	Journalism Practice II	7.5 CP	Module examination (graded)	
EJ-4	Narrative Economics and the Media	7.5 CP	Module examination (graded)	
EJ-5	Analysis and Coverage	5 CP	Module examination (graded)	

- (3) In both study profiles, the study unit Journalism also includes the following compulsory modules (CP = credit points):

Module		CP	Type of examination	Requirements for module completion
EJ-6	Master's thesis (Colloquium and Master's thesis)	18 (3+15) CP	2 partial assessments (graded)	EJ-1 to EJ-4 or WPQ-1 to WPQ-3 as well as compulsory elective modules equivalent to 30 LP
J/ WPQ-J	Integrated editorial internships	6/15 CP*	**	

- * For the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism*, 6 credit points are earned for the editorial internship. In the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism*, a total of 15 credit points is earned for the two required editorial internships.
 - ** The editorial internship in the study profile *Economic Policy Quality Journalism* is completed without an examination in accordance with Section 8 (5). For successful completion of the WPQ-J module in the study profile *Economic Policy and Journalism*, an internship report must be submitted in accordance with Section 8 (5).
- (4) In addition to 75 credit points in the compulsory modules of the study unit Journalism, students must earn a further 45 credit points in the compulsory elective modules of the study unit Economics. In addition to compulsory elective modules from the Master's degree program Business and Economics at the Department of Business and Economics at TU Dortmund University, students may also choose compulsory elective Master's modules in economics from the Faculty of Management and Economics at the Ruhr University Bochum, which are offered at the respective universities in the respective semester, whereby no more than 15 credit points may be earned at the Ruhr University Bochum. The individual compulsory elective modules offered at TU Dortmund University in the study unit Economics can be found in the module handbook for the Master's degree program in Economics, while the compulsory elective modules offered at the Ruhr University Bochum can be found in the module handbook for the Master's degree programs of the Faculty of Management and Economics. The scope of 45 credit points is both the minimum and maximum limit for credit transfer to the Master's examination. Sections 21 (7) and 21 (9) apply accordingly to the calculation of the module grade and the subject grade. Further details are regulated in the module descriptions in the module handbook.