

The following document is an English translation of the original and binding German language version of the document «Studien- und Prüfungsordnung für die Bachelor- und Masterstudiengänge in Gesundheitswissenschaften an der Fakultät für Gesundheitswissenschaften und Medizin der Universität Luzern»

Nr. 546b

Study and Examination Regulations for the Bachelor's and Master's programs in Health Sciences under the Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine at the University of Lucerne

From 19 October 2023 (as of: 1 February 2024)

The University Council of the University of Lucerne,

based on section 16 paragraph 1g of the University Act dated 17 January 2000¹,
at the Senate's request,

has concluded:

1 General provisions

§ 1 *Subject*

¹ These study and examination regulations lay down the principles for bachelor's and master's programs in Health Sciences and the associated credits at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine (hereinafter the faculty) and applies to all students studying these programs at the faculty.

² These study and examination regulations govern course admission, organization, and requirements for the awarding of degrees in the faculty's bachelor's and master's programs in Health Sciences.

³ These study and examination regulations also apply to:

- a. Students at other faculties, universities and higher education institutions who complete a minor subject or free academic achievements at the faculty;
- b. Exchange students who gain ECTS points at the faculty.

⁴ This shall not affect cooperation agreements with other universities and higher education institutions, and corresponding joint regulations.

§ 2 *Study programs, standard program duration, and beginning of studies*

¹ The faculty's study programs include:

- a. The bachelor's program BSc in Health Sciences (180 ECTS points) with a standard duration of six semesters;
- b. The master's program MSc in Health Sciences (120 ECTS points) with a standard duration of four semesters;
- c. The master's program MSc in Health Sciences (90 ECTS points) with a standard duration of three semesters.

² Other faculty programs are governed by separate regulations.

³ Studies may be undertaken part-time. The total duration of study increases accordingly.

¹ SRL no. [539](#)

⁴ Study programs generally begin in the autumn semester. Studies can begin in the spring semester. The details are governed by the guidelines.

§ 3 *Additional minor subjects*

¹ Students can complete a minor subject at the faculty to supplement a study program at another faculty.

² A minor amounts to 30 or 60 ECTS points.

³ Details of minor subjects are governed by the relevant guidelines.

§ 4 *Degree awarded*

¹ The faculty awards the following degrees:

- a. “Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Health Sciences of the University of Lucerne”
- b. “Master of Science (MSc) in Health Sciences of the University of Lucerne”

§ 5 *Model curriculum, organization of teaching, and teaching methods*

¹ To aid students and facilitate their study planning, the faculty produces model curricula for full-time studies and advises on planning part-time studies.

² Where possible, the faculty organizes studies to ensure that the courses listed in the model curricula are available regularly and that compulsory courses do not clash for full-time students.

³ The faculty ensures that:

- a. Lecturers use teaching methods that reflect the current state of higher education didactics;
- b. Lecturers receive further training in the field of higher education didactics and pedagogy.

§ 6 *Quality assurance*

¹ The quality of the study programs and of individual courses and study content is reviewed regularly based on the university's specifications. Additional quality assurance measures may be organized by the faculty management.

2 Governing bodies and responsibilities

§ 7 *Dean*

¹ The dean is responsible for the course of study and rules on all matters covered by these study and examination regulations, unless another governing body has been declared to be responsible within these study and examination regulations.

§ 8 *Faculty Assembly*

¹ The Faculty Assembly issues the guidelines for the study and examination regulations.

§ 9 *Academic director*

¹ The Faculty Assembly appoints a professor to serve as academic director, with responsibility for academic oversight of the bachelor's and master's programs in Health Sciences, and defines their roles and responsibilities.

§ 10 *Study and examination board*

¹ The Faculty Assembly may assign specific tasks to the study and examination board.

² The study and examination board is in particular responsible for organizing and implementing examinations, for making decisions within the faculty's purview regarding admission questions, and for handling requests in matters relevant to studies and examinations.

³ It sets the entrance examination types for applicants without a recognized university admission qualification.

⁴ It may delegate individual tasks to the dean's office.

§ 11 *Dean's office*

¹ The dean's office is responsible for the operational implementation of these study and examination regulations and the guidelines.

3 Admission and study requirements

§ 12 *General*

¹ Applicants who meet the conditions set out in section 31 of the University of Lucerne's statutes dated 12 December 2001² (university statutes) may be admitted to the study programs. Admission is granted in accordance with the provisions of the university's admission regulations.

§ 13 *Specific regulations for MSc in Health Sciences (120 ECTS points)*

¹ Admission to the MSc in Health Sciences (120 ECTS points) requires a minimum of a university bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification.

² Given the interdisciplinary character of the program, applicants may be admitted to the MSc in Health Sciences (120 ECTS points) from numerous fields of study. This is detailed in the guidelines to the study and examination regulations.

³ Admission to the MSc in Health Sciences (120 ECTS points) is granted based on a review of the application file (equivalence check) by the study and examination board, which determines whether the applicant has suitable qualifications. Admission may be granted with conditions attached.

⁴ Graduates of a university of applied sciences with a suitable professional qualification may be admitted to the MSc in Health Sciences (120 ECTS points) subject to obligations or conditions. The details are governed by guidelines to the study and examination regulations.

§ 14 *Specific regulations for MSc in Health Sciences (90 ECTS points)*

¹ Admission to the MSc in Health Sciences (90 ECTS points) requires a minimum of a university bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification.

² Applicants may only be admitted to the MSc in Health Sciences (90 ECTS points) from certain fields of study. This is detailed in the guidelines to the study and examination regulations.

³ Admission to the MSc in Health Sciences (90 ECTS points) may be granted with conditions attached.

² SRL no. [539c](#)

4 Study structure

§ 15 *Structure of study programs*

¹ The bachelor's program BSc in Health Sciences consists of compulsory modules, optional compulsory modules, open academic achievements, and a bachelor's thesis.

² The master's program MSc in Health Sciences (120 and 90 ECTS points) is divided into:

- a. Basic studies;
- b. In-depth studies (including research internship, master's thesis and oral master's examination), completed in a major of the student's choice.

§ 16 *Study language*

¹ Classes for the BSc in Health Sciences are predominantly conducted in German. Some classes may be offered in English.

² The study language for the MSc in Health Sciences (120 and 90 ECTS points) is English. Major courses, in particular those run in conjunction with other study programs, may be held in the relevant study language.

§ 17 *Detailed regulations*

¹ Registration processes, periods and detailed requirements regarding study structure and organization are set out in the relevant guidelines.

5 Academic achievements, ECTS points and examinations

§ 18 *Crediting academic achievements as ECTS points*

¹ The faculty credits academic achievements as ECTS points in accordance with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

² The study programs are based on academic achievements amounting to an average of 30 ECTS points per semester (for full-time studies).

³ One ECTS point represents an average student workload of 25 to 30 hours.

§ 19 *Acquiring ECTS points*

¹ ECTS points are acquired based on the successful completion of academic achievements, in particular:

- a. Written or oral examinations,
- b. Written assignments,
- c. Confirmation of active attendance at classes with or without assessment,
- d. Proof of academic achievements gained during self-study,
- e. Other proof defined by lecturers.

² Classes generally take the following forms: lectures, seminars, tutorials, or group project work.

§ 20 *Admission to courses*

¹ Admission to courses may require successful completion of other courses or the fulfillment of additional requirements. Details are announced via the course catalog.

§ 21 *Combining courses into modules*

¹ Courses can be combined to form individual modules.

² A module is considered to be passed once all of the academic achievements allocated to it have been passed.

³ Multiple courses within a module can be examined at the same time.

§ 22 *Performance records*

¹ Students receive a performance record for each academic achievement completed.

² Performance records note the title of the course or type of academic achievement, the number of ECTS points and the grade/assessment.

§ 23 *Assessments*

¹ Examinations and written assignments are awarded grades from 6 to 1 in whole or half grades. Individual academic achievements may be marked with the phases “passed” or “not passed”.

² A grade below 4 is an inadequate grade.

³ The individual grades correspond to the following assessments:

- 6 excellent
- 5.5 very good
- 5 good
- 4.5 satisfactory
- 4 sufficient
- 3.5 insufficient
- 3 poor
- 2.5 poor to very poor
- 2 very poor
- 1.5 poor to invalid
- 1 invalid or unfair use of resources during examinations

§ 24 *Accrediting external academic achievements*

¹ The study and examination board rules on accrediting external academic achievements.

² Accreditation requires performance records from the relevant faculties or universities and for the content to be equivalent to the relevant study program. Academic achievements gained during student mobility are accredited via the learning agreement.

³ No more than a third of the total number of ECTS points may be accredited from academic achievements gained externally.

⁴ Achievements that have already been accredited towards another study program may not be used for a further degree.

⁵ Only academic achievements completed during the eight years before the point of accreditation may be accredited towards a degree.

§ 25 *Mobility*

¹ During the study program, bachelor's and master's students may spend a maximum of two semesters at another university.

² The faculty promotes mobility for its students by concluding agreements with universities and higher education institutions at home and abroad.

§ 26 *Registering for examinations and academic achievements*

¹ Registration for examinations and other academic achievements is completed electronically within a registration period communicated in advance. It is not possible to register or deregister after this deadline.

§ 27 *Examination types*

¹ Examination sessions are held twice a year, generally at the end of courses. The dates are published in good time.

² The guidelines may combine the content from multiple classes into a single examination.

³ The type and duration of the examination are set by the lecturer and announced in the examination plan.

§ 28 *Examination language*

¹ Unless stated otherwise before the examination, the examination will use the same language as the course.

² A different examination language may be authorized upon application to the study and examination board. An application to this end must be submitted in writing at least four weeks before the examination and requires the examiner's consent.

§ 29 *Failure to attend examination, discontinuation of examination or failure to meet deadlines*

¹ Students who do not attend an examination or discontinue it without a valid reason will be deemed to have failed the examination and will be given a grade of 1 or an assessment of “not passed”. The same applies to written work not submitted or submitted late, and to the failure to meet deadlines for other academic achievements. Valid reasons are illness proven by a doctor's certificate, or a serious illness or death in the family. The details are governed by the guidelines.

§ 30 *Passing, failing, and resitting academic achievements*

¹ To pass an academic achievement, candidates must achieve a grade of at least 4, or an assessment of “passed” for ungraded academic achievements. Academic achievements that have been passed may not be repeated. An academic achievement that is not passed is recorded as a failed attempt.

² Failed academic achievements may be repeated a maximum of twice, provided that the course or academic achievement is still part of the course catalog and the provisions of section 31 regarding exclusion from studies are adhered to. This excludes bachelor's and master's theses, which may only be repeated once.

³ There is no entitlement to an immediate repetition of academic achievements. In general, the resit will be organized during the next examination session.

⁴ If a course or academic achievement is no longer being offered, it can be replaced with an equivalent course or academic achievement.

§ 31 *Improper conduct during examinations*

¹ During examinations, the following, in particular, are not permitted:

- a. Bringing or using any aids other than those permitted;
- b. Exchanging information with other people or helping them complete the examination;
- c. In written examinations, continuing to write after the examination supervisor has announced that the examination period is over;
- d. Making any other attempt to cheat;
- e. Causing a disturbance in the examination room.

² The following are also deemed improper conduct:

- a. Failing to attend on a set examination date without a prior written excuse. Only reasons for which the candidate is not responsible will be accepted as an excuse.
- b. Failure to submit written assignments or other assessments on time or at all.

³ Improper conduct will result in the academic achievement being deemed failed and a grade of 1 being awarded. The university reserves the right to impose penalties in accordance with section 36 of the University Statute³.

§ 32 *Plagiarism and ghostwriting*

¹ If part of an academic achievement is not independently completed or if creative work by third parties is not or not sufficiently identified, this element shall ultimately be deemed as failed and awarded a grade of 1.

² Repeated improper conduct or serious infringement will result in the candidate being excluded from the study program.

³ If the deception only comes to light after the studies are completed, the grade awarded may be withdrawn.

⁴ The university reserves the right to impose penalties in accordance with section 36 of the University Statute⁴.

§ 33 *Failed attempts and exclusion from studies*

¹ The ECTS points for all failed academic achievements (failed attempts) on the relevant bachelor's and master's programs will be totaled up, with the exception of a failed attempt at a bachelor's thesis, master's thesis, or oral master's examination. If the sum of all the failed academic achievements on the relevant study program reaches the following maximum number of permitted ECTS points for failed academic achievements, the candidate will be excluded from the study program:

- a. For the BSc in Health Studies, a maximum of 40 ECTS points are permitted for failed academic achievements;
- b. For the MSc in Health Studies (120 ECTS points), a maximum of 30 ECTS points are permitted for failed academic achievements;
- c. For the MSc in Health Studies (90 ECTS points), a maximum of 21 ECTS points are permitted for failed academic achievements.

² Students who fail to pass an academic achievement on the second resit attempt will be excluded from the study program.

³ Candidates who fail their bachelor's or master's thesis on the second attempt will also be excluded from the study program.

³ SRL no. [539c](#)

⁴ SRL no. [539c](#)

⁴ The exclusion from studies is issued by the faculty.

6 Bachelor's and master's thesis

§ 34 *Requirements*

¹ The requirements for admission to the bachelor's or master's thesis procedure are governed by the relevant guidelines.

§ 35 *Review and supervision of bachelor's and master's theses*

¹ Bachelor's and master's theses are reviewed and supervised by a professor or a lecturer at the faculty who holds a doctoral degree.

§ 36 *Passing, failing and resitting*

¹ A grade of at least 4 is considered to be a pass for the bachelor's or master's thesis. Bachelor's or master's theses that have achieved a pass may not be repeated.

² A bachelor's or master's thesis assessed as unsatisfactory may be revised and resubmitted within six weeks of the grade being issued, subject to the sanctions listed in section 32. If the revised version is still deemed unsatisfactory, the bachelor's or master's thesis is considered failed.

³ A failed bachelor's or master's thesis can be repeated a maximum of once using a new topic.

§ 37 *Detailed regulations*

¹ Registration processes, periods and detailed requirements for bachelor's and master's theses are set out in the relevant guidelines.

7 Graduation

§ 38 *Graduation and composition of the overall grade*

¹ A bachelor's or master's program is completed once all academic achievements have been passed in accordance with these study and examination regulations and the relevant guidelines.

² The overall grade for the bachelor's or master's degree is calculated as an average of all passed and assessed academic achievements, weighted by ECTS points. The grades are calculated exactly and the result is rounded to two decimal places.

§ 39 *Distinctions*

¹ Overall grades are assigned the following distinctions:

- a. Average of 5.75-6.00: summa cum laude;
- b. Average of 5.25-5.74: insigni cum laude;
- c. Average of 4.75-5.24: magna cum laude;
- d. Average of 4.25-4.74: cum laude;
- e. Average of 4.00-4.24: rite.

§ 40 *Diploma and diploma supplement*

¹ The diploma confirms successful completion of the relevant study program. It records the name of the study program, the degree title achieved, the number of ECTS points, the major selected for the MSc in Health Sciences, the overall grade and the distinction awarded.

² Graduates also receive a diploma supplement and a performance record with the diploma. These contain detailed information about the studies completed and the individual grades obtained for all academic achievements.

³ The diploma is signed by the dean. The names of graduates are published.

8 Final and transitional provisions

§ 41 *Fees*

¹ Fees for studies, examinations, diplomas, degree transcripts, and certificates are governed by the tuition fee regulations⁵.

§ 42 *Compensation for disadvantage and cases of hardship*

¹ The university's guidelines apply to compensation for disadvantage due to a physical, mental or psychological disability. The study and examination board is responsible for granting this.

² Upon request, the study and examination board may appropriately extend the duration of examinations and written work in individual cases if there are valid reasons to do so.

³ To avoid cases of hardship, upon written request, the dean may deviate from individual provisions of these study and examination regulations in specific cases.

§ 43 *Legal remedies*

¹ Administrative appeals against decisions based on these study and examination regulations may be filed with the responsible department in accordance with the provisions of the University Act⁶ and the Administrative Law Act⁷.

² The appeal period is 30 days.

§ 44 *Revocation of regulations*

¹ The study and examination regulations for the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences under the Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine at the University of Lucerne dated 6 July 2020⁸ are hereby revoked.

² The provisions of these study and examination regulations exclusively apply to the BSc in Health Sciences bachelor's study program.

§ 45 *Transitional provisions to the amendment dated 19 October 2023*

¹ From the spring semester of 2024 onwards, the MSc in Health Sciences (120 ECTS points) master's program will be conducted in accordance with these study and examination regulations, subject to paragraph 2 below.

⁵ SRL no. [44](#)
⁶ SRL no. [539](#)
⁷ SRL no. [40](#)
⁸ SRL no. [546e](#)

² For students of the MSc in Health Sciences (120 ECTS points) who began their studies before the spring semester of 2024 but have not yet completed them or not been definitively dismissed, the resitting of examinations (with the exception of resitting the oral master's examination), the procedure for written work deemed inadequate, and the review and repetition of a master's thesis are governed by the previous regulations (section 19 paragraph 2, section 20 paragraph 2, section 29 and section 30 paragraph 2 of the study and examination regulations dated 26 September 2019 in the version dated 1 May 2023) through to their individual graduation, until the autumn semester of 2025 at the latest. From the spring semester of 2026 onwards, all students will automatically be subject to the provisions of these study and examination regulations.

³ Paragraph 2 does not apply to students who re-register from the spring semester of 2024 onwards. They are subject exclusively to the provisions of these study and examination regulations.