

English Translation of Parts of the IMIB Examination Regulations regarding the Master Thesis [May 2025]

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Introductory Note on this translation

This is a loose English translation of excerpts from the original German document. *Please note that only the German version, Prüfungsordnung für den Masterstudiengang „Internationale Migration und Interkulturelle Beziehungen (IMIB)“ Nr. 06/2022 vom 30.08.2022, S. 1115, is legally binding.*

Where applicable wording has been applied from the General Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Programs (APO) at Osnabrück University pursuant to Section 41 Paragraph 1 of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (NHG) published in the Official Gazette (AMBI) of Osnabrück University no. 01/2025 dated 20.03.2025, p. 78.

IMIB Section 9: Admission to the Master's thesis

(2) The application for admission to the Master's thesis must be submitted in writing to the Examination Board

(3) The following documents are to be attached to the application for admission to the Master's thesis:

- evidence of examination achievements per section 5
- a statement confirming the applicant has not failed a Master's examination in a Master's programme of equal content at a university or institute of higher education in Germany or abroad (*such a statement is worded and included in the application form and merely requires your signature*)
- First and second supervisor suggestions (*Please provide the signatures of the two suggested supervisors.*)
- topic proposal (this means that you write down your topic in the form of a working title. The exact wording of the title may change in the course of writing, but needs to remain close to the chosen topic.)
- presentation of educational background (*A short CV indicating schooling and achieved degrees*)

(5) The examination board decides on admission.

(6) The applicant will be notified in writing of admission, including the deadline for submission of the Master's thesis, or will be notified of refusal of admission.

IMIB Section 10: The Master's thesis

(1) ¹The Master's thesis should demonstrate that the candidate is in a position to work independently within a prescribed time period on a defined problem within the field of "International Migration and Intercultural Relations" using academic methods, and to present this work accordingly. ²The topic of the Master's thesis and the nature of the assignment must comply with the purpose of the examinations (section 2, item 3) and with the working period allocated in accordance with paragraph 3 (*of section 10*).

³The type of task and the nature of the assignment are to be specified upon assignment of the topic.

(2) ¹The Master's thesis can take the form of group work. ²The contribution of the individual candidate to be assessed must be clearly delineated and assessable in its own right through indication of sections, page numbers, or other objective criteria referring specifically to this contribution, and comply with the requirements in accordance with paragraph 1.

(3) ¹The time between the issuing of the topic and the submission of the Master's thesis is 6 months. ²The topic can only be handed back once and only within the first third of the working period allowed in accordance with item 1. ³The working period allowed, upon substantiated application by the candidate, can generally be extended by the examination board up to nine months.

(4) Upon submission of the thesis, the candidate has to confirm in writing that the thesis – or in the case of group work, the section of the work marked accordingly – was written independently and no other sources or resources other than those cited in the document were used.

(5) The Master's thesis is to be submitted to the Examination Office by the communicated deadline **in four printed and bound copies** (each with a declaration in accordance with paragraph 4) and a digital version (.pdf); the date of submission is to be officially recorded.

General Examination Regulations (APO)

Section 12: Bachelor's and Master's thesis

(4) ¹The first examiner or the person nominated as first examiner proposes the topic after hearing the examinee. ²On application by the candidate, the Chair of the Examination Board ensures that the candidate receives a topic in due time. ³The topic is assigned by the Chair of the Examination Board. ⁴When the topic is assigned, the Chair of the Examination Board appoints the examiner who specified the topic as first examiner and also appoints a second examiner. ⁵The candidate is to be supervised by the first examiner during the writing period of the thesis. The topic can only be resubmitted once within the first third of the completion period. ⁶The title of the Bachelor's or Master's thesis is generally identical to the topic assigned. ⁷The title of the Bachelor's or Master's thesis may be changed with the consent of the first examiner as long as the thematic focus of the thesis is retained.

(5) ¹The thesis is assessed by two examiners. ²At least one of the examiners must be a lecturer at the university, or have a postdoctoral qualification, or hold an interim professorship. ³At least one of the examiners must be a member of the department or faculty in which the Bachelor's or Master's thesis is being written. (...)

(7) ¹The Bachelor's thesis is generally graded by the examiners within six weeks, and the Master's thesis generally within eight weeks. ²If the Bachelor's or Master's thesis is submitted before the communicated deadline, the examiners are not obliged to begin correcting the thesis immediately after submission. ³They are entitled to start reviewing the thesis at the end of the submission deadline specified in the admission and to fully utilise the correction period specified in sentence 1. ⁴Grading is based on § 16 (2), (4) and (6) (*of the General Examination Regulation on the grading scale from 1 to 5 with the possibility to raise or lower by 0.3 for differentiation*). ⁵§ 10 (18) (*of the General Examination Regulation on checks of plagiarism*) shall apply accordingly.

Section 14: Repetition of Examination

(5) ¹If the Bachelor's or Master's thesis is graded as "insufficient" or is assessed as "failed", it can be repeated at the earliest six weeks and at the latest twelve months after assessment; the date of the application for admission to a repetition of examination is decisive. ²Immediately after the assessment of the failed Bachelor's or Master's thesis the candidate will be requested by the Chair of the Examination Board to repeat it within the next twelve months after notification; when doing so, the

Chair will point out that the Bachelor's or Master's thesis will be assessed as failed, if admission to a repetition of the examination is not applied for within the next year. ³When the candidate is admitted to a repetition of examination the Chair of the Examination Board will also inform the candidate that the examination is definitively failed if the repetition of the examination is missed or the candidate fails again.

IMIB Section 11: Overall results of the Master's thesis

(1) The Master's thesis is graded as passed if all achievements gained by continuous assessment (*this relates to classes, module theses, field trips, internship, colloquium as laid down in your course plan*) in accordance with section 5 and the Master's thesis have been assessed "sufficient" or better.

(2) The overall grade for the completed course-related examinations is calculated basing on the average of the unrounded grades of these examinations with the corresponding credit points as weights, as follows

Modul	Note		Leistungspunkte (Gewicht)		Ergebnis
SOZ-IMIB-01		x	18	=	
SOZ-IMIB-02		x	16	=	
SOZ-IMIB-04		x	10	=	
SOZ-IMIB-05		x	12	=	
SOZ-IMIB-06		x	14	=	
Gesamtnote studienbegleitende Prüfungen			(70)		Summe*: 70

*Summe aus Spalte „Ergebnis“ - Noten gewichtet - ungerundet

(3) ¹The final grade of the Master's examination is calculated at a ratio of 1:1 from the unrounded final grade for examination achievements gained by continuous assessment in accordance with paragraph 2 and the unrounded average of the two assessments of the Master's thesis. ²In the calculated overall grade, all decimal places except the first are cancelled without rounding. ³The overall grade can be valued as

bis einschließlich 1,5	sehr gut
von 1,6 bis 2,5	gut
von 2,6 bis 3,5	befriedigend
von 3,6 bis 4,0	ausreichend
ab 4,1	nicht ausreichend

(4) ¹If an average final grade within the range of 1.0 to 1.3 is achieved, the Chair of the Examination Board awards the student the attribute "passed with distinction". ²The attribute is to be noted on the diploma.

(5) The Master's examination is definitively failed if a collateral examination (= *any achievement laid down in your course plan*) or the Master's thesis is assessed as "failed", and whereby there is no remaining option for a retake.