

**Degree Program and Examination Regulations (Statutes) of  
Europa-Universität Flensburg  
for the  
Master's Degree Program in European Studies (PStO M.A. EUS 2023)**

Dates June 14, 2023

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Pursuant to § 52, paragraph 1, sentence 1 in conjunction with paragraph 10 of the Higher Education Act (HSG) as published on February 5, 2016 (GVOBl. Schl.-H. page 39), and most recently amended by article 1 of the Act published on February 3, 2022 (GVOBl. Schl.-H. page 102), the following statutes were enacted following resolution by the Convention of Faculty III of Europa-Universität Flensburg on May 17, 2023. Endorsement by the Executive University Board (*Präsidium*) of Europa-Universität Flensburg was granted on June 11, 2023.

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## Section 1 General Provisions

### § 1 Scope of the Degree Program and Examination Regulations

These Degree Program and Examination Regulations (PStO) outline the objectives and regulations for the master's degree program in European Studies, leading to conferral of the Master of Arts degree. They supplement the general provisions set forth in the General Examination Regulations (RaPO 2020) of Europa-Universität Flensburg.

### § 2 Entrance and admission requirements

- (1) The requirements for admission to the master's degree program in European Studies program are as follows:
1. A preliminary degree (e.g., a bachelor's degree, *Magister*, *Diploma*, or *Staatsexamen*) from a university within the Federal Republic of Germany or abroad, derived from a degree program with a minimum duration of three years (equivalent to at least 180 credit points/CP), in a subject area or combination of subject areas from the humanities, social sciences, law, or business studies in areas of relevance to the European Studies master's program, with proof that the applicant graduated in the top third of their graduation cohort.
  2. Proof of having met the language requirements stipulated in Europa-Universität Flensburg's statutes governing proof of foreign language proficiency or related practical experience (*Studienqualifikationssatzung*). In general, proof of having met these requirements is to be submitted by the application deadline.
  3. Proof of having obtained at least 15 CP in statistics or social science methods. Applicants who are missing up to 5 CP can still participate in the selection process. Upon admission, the admissions committee will determine the type and scope of any course(s) to be made up, and the deadline(s) by which this must be achieved.
- (2) The proof required under paragraph 1 must be presented in the form of officially certified or notarized copies. All required application documents must be submitted in the prescribed format to the responsible admissions office or unit by the application deadline. If, for reasons not attributable to the applicant, the applicant cannot provide the documentary proof of degree specified in paragraph 1.1 by the deadline, the applicant may still be admitted as long as the necessary documentation is submitted by December 1 of the semester of admission. This provision does not negate the obligation under paragraph 1 to provide the documentary proofs by the application deadline.
- (3) If the program has restricted admissions, the selection of applicants shall be governed by the Schleswig-Holstein laws and ordinances on university admissions (*Hochschulzulassungsgesetzes* and *Hochschulzulassungsverordnung*). The university selection procedure is outlined in the university selection regulations of Europa-Universität Flensburg. Decisions during the university selection procedure are made by the admissions committee.
- (4) Notwithstanding § 9, section 1, sentence 2 of the RaPO, the following applies for this degree program: Courses and examinations taken at other universities in the Federal Republic of Germany or abroad prior to the start of studies at Europa-Universität Flensburg shall be recognized if the recognition is applied for promptly upon commencing studies and, in any case, no later than three months after enrollment, and if the courses and exams do not differ substantially from those to be taken at Europa-Universität Flensburg.

### **§ 3 Program objectives, purpose of the examination, conferral of the master's degree**

- (1) The European Studies Master's program is a consecutive, English-taught, interdisciplinary, and research-oriented degree program. It imparts specialized knowledge, skills, and abilities in disciplines relevant to European studies, encompassing the humanities, political science, law, economics, and social sciences, as well as European research. Students have the option to select a focus in political and legal science, social and economic sciences, or the humanities. Rooted in contemporary, practice-oriented research topics, students gain specialized knowledge and skills. Upon successful completion, they are equipped to independently expand this knowledge and skill set.
- (2) After successfully completing the program, students are capable of:
  1. Addressing and resolving intricate subject-specific and academic questions and challenges in the field of European studies, both independently and in groups.
  2. Selecting, adapting, and applying appropriate methodologies for these purposes.
  3. Collaborating and communicating within intercultural contexts,
  4. Independently advancing their knowledge, abilities, and skills.
  5. Actively engaging in societal affairs.
- (3) Graduates are able to contextualize and apply academic insights and methodologies in a professional setting. The program prepares them for management and/or academic roles in universities, corporations, NGOs, and governmental and administrative institutions at the national, international, and transnational levels.
- (4) Program graduates are awarded the academic degree "Master of Arts (M.A.)" by the university.

### **§ 4 Standard period of study, structure of study**

- (1) The standard period of study needed to complete the master's degree is four semesters. Students must acquire 120 credit points in order to successfully complete the program.
- (2) The master's program consists of modules that may include practical study phases.
- (3) Modules range from 5 to 30 credit points (CP), corresponding to 150 to 900 hours of work. Modules with at least 10 CP can span two semesters. The scope of the bachelor's thesis is regulated in § 5 paragraph 6 of these Degree Program and Examination Regulations.
- (4) If cooperation agreements with partner universities allow dual degrees for this program, the degrees conferred by partner universities are deemed integrated into this program.

### **§ 5 Organization of studies**

- (1) In the first and second semesters, students attend required modules from the humanities, political science, law, social science, and economic sectors of this program. They deepen the competencies they have already gained from their foundational studies and acquire additional basic knowledge, skills, and abilities within the spectrum of European studies. In the third semester, students personalize and shape their academic studies by choosing elective modules. In so doing, they gain specialist knowledge or broadly deepen their expertise in each of the areas mentioned in sentence 1. They may also undertake an optional internship at this time. In the fourth semester, they write the master's thesis.

(2) In the required modules (modules 1 to 9) of the first and second semesters, students are introduced to topics of European law, the actors and decision-making processes of European politics, the history of European integration and European ideas, their underlying theories, and the context of European politics and economy. This also includes methods of empirical European and social research. They enhance their skills, knowledge, and abilities in areas like European domestic and foreign policy, European integration from a sociological perspective, European history, theories from the field of comparative economic policies, and philosophical concepts and theories that have significantly influenced Europe. They also deepen their skills in the foundations of sound academic practice (Critical Writing and Thinking, 5 CP). A particular focus (15 CP) here is on political science and sociology. Additionally, students gain 10 CP in topics from law, economics, research methods (Research Design for EU Studies), and the humanities. After successfully completing the modules of the first academic year, students are capable of understanding, analyzing, and assessing issues and problems from the aforementioned topics from across disciplines and from multiple perspectives.

(3) In the third professional semester, students choose a total of 30 CP in required elective modules (modules 10 to 16). They can select modules from European law and political science, social and economic science, and the humanities, thereby deepening their knowledge, skills, and skills in each area. In so doing, students learn how to discuss and assess strengths and weaknesses in each field, to justify their stance from a specific position during discussions, to defend their position in a reasoned way, and to transfer to it to other contexts. They also gain the ability to critically view, abstract, and develop further research questions in each area. Students are free to choose, and essentially have three options with which to shape their own academic profile. These are:

1. to specialize in two areas, each with 15 CP,
2. to specialize in one area with 15 CP and select 10 CP and 5 CP from each of the other two areas, or
3. to choose 10 CP from each area in order to train as a generalist.

Students may also opt to complete the "Internship" module (module 16, worth 5 CP), as a substitute for one of the modules within the three areas.

(4) The third semester is designated for study abroad. It is recommended that students prepare for this by taking language courses offered by the Language Center at Europa-Universität Flensburg.

(5) In the fourth semester, students write their master's thesis (30 CP) and take part in the master's colloquium.

(6) The following course sequence is recommended:

<b>1. Semester</b> <b>30 CP</b>	Module 1: 10 CP  European Law: An Introduction	Module 2: 10 CP  European Union Politics and Policies		Module 3: 5 CP  Critical Writing and Thinking	Module 4: 5 CP  European Political Economy	Module 5: 5 CP  History of European Societies and European Integration	
<b>2. Semester</b> <b>30 CP</b>		Module 6: 10 CP  Research Design for EU Studies		Module 7: 5CP  Introduction into the Europeanization of Societies	Module 8: 5 CP  Europe in the Global Economy	Module 9: 5 CP  Philosophy and Ideas of Europe	
<b>3. Semester</b> <b>30 CP</b>	<b>Required elective</b>						
	Area 1  Political and Legal Europe		Area 2  Societal and Economic Europe		Area 3  European Ideas and Diversity		Optional: Module 16:  5 CP  Internship
	Module 10: 10 CP  Current Topics in EU Law and Politics	Module 11: 5 CP  External Relations of the EU	Module 12: 5 CP  Transformation of European Economies	Module 13: 10 CP  Challenges to European Society	Module 14: 10 CP  Social and Political Philosophy of Europe: Current Topics and Debates	Module 15: 5 CP  Cultural Diversity in Europe	
<b>4. Semester</b> <b>30 CP</b>	Module 17:  30 CP  Master's thesis						

(7) The program is structured around the following modules:

<b>Modules</b>	<b>Class types (number, type, SWS)</b>	<b>Module requirements, Examinations</b>	<b>CP</b>
Module 1: European Law: An Introduction	1 V: 2 SWS 1 S: 2 SWS	Portfolio	10
Module 2: European Union Politics and Policies	2 V: je 2 SWS	Term paper (13-15 pages)	10
Module 3: Critical Writing and Thinking	1 S: 2 SWS	Written exam (portfolio 8-10 pages)	5
Module 4: European Political Economy	1 S: 2 SWS	<i>Klausur</i> exam (120 min) with Presentation (30 min)	5
Module 5: History of European Societies and European Integration	1 V: 2 SWS	Take-home exam (24h, maximum 8 - 10 pages) with group presentation (20 Min.) or portfolio (maximum 10-12 pages) with group presentation (20 minutes)	5
Module 6: Research Design for EU Studies	1 V: 2 SWS 1 S: 2 SWS	Take-home assignment (2000-2200 words; completion time: 14 days)	10
Module 7: Introduction into the Europeanization of Societies	1 V: 2 SWS	Take-home exam (24 h, maximum 8 pages) OR <i>Klausur</i> exam (60 minutes) OR oral group exam (30 minutes)	5
Module 8: Europe in the Global Economy	1 V: 2 SWS	Oral exam (20 min.) or <i>Klausur</i> exam (60 min) or term paper (10-12 pages) with presentation	5
Module 9: Philosophy and Ideas of Europe	1 S: 2 SWS	Term paper (10-15 Pages) with presentation (20 minutes), OR <i>Klausur</i> exam (90 minutes)	5
Module 10: (Required elective) Current Topics in EU Law and Politics	2 S: je 2 SWS	Term paper (3,500 words) with presentation (15-20 minutes)	10
Module 11: (Required elective) External Relations of the EU	1 S: 2 SWS	Oral exam (30 minutes) or term paper (10 – 12 pages) with presentation 15 minutes)	5

<b>Modules</b>	<b>Class types (number, type, SWS)</b>	<b>Module requirements, Examinations</b>	<b>CP</b>
Module 12 (Required elective): Transformation of European Economies	1 S: 2 SWS	<i>Klausur</i> exam (60 minutes) OR term paper (10 – 12 pages) with presentation (10–15 minutes) or oral exam (20 minutes)	5
Module 13: (Required elective) Challenges to European Society	1 S: 4 SWS	Written exam with Presentation (term paper (15- 20 pages) with presentation (20 minutes)	10
Module 14: (Required elective) Social and Political Philosophy of Europe: Current Topics and Debates	1 S: 2 SWS 1 S: 2 SWS	Term paper (10-15 pages) with presentation (20 minutes) or portfolio	10
Module 15: (Required elective) Cultural Diversity in Europe	1 S: 2 SWS	Term paper (12 – 15 pages) with presentation (20 minutes) or portfolio	5
Module 16: (Required elective) Internship	1 Pr: 3 Weeks	Internship report (7 – 10 pages)	5
Module 17: Master's thesis	1 Koll: 2 SWS	Academic poster, master's thesis (80 – 100 pages), <i>Disputation</i> (60 minutes)	30

## § 6 Types of courses

In addition to those specified in § 12 of RaPO 2020, this degree program offers the following types of courses:

Colloquium (Koll): The core element is the reasoned exchange about theories, concepts, research approaches, and methodologies. The aim – especially considering the master's thesis – is to enhance the student's reflective capacity and sensitivity to research problems and issues, and to deepen the ability to self-critically participate in academic discourse.

### Section 2 Module examinations and the master's examination

## § 7 Types of examinations and their specific regulations

In addition to those specified in § 15 of RaPO 2020, this degree program offers the following types of examinations:

Scientific poster: Concise presentation of a content area on a poster, including a brief academic talk and defense within a discussion format.

## § 8 Examiners

(1) Notwithstanding § 6, paragraph 6 of the RaPO, the master's thesis can also be evaluated by two examiners who hold doctoral titles.

(2) Notwithstanding § 6, paragraph 2 of the RaPO, the following applies: Upon request from the institute, the examination board can grant a special permission for an examiner from another university to serve as a secondary examiner.

## § 9 Calculation of grades

The overall grade for the M.A. program in European Studies is derived from the weighted arithmetic average of the module grades and the master's thesis. Credit points from modules solely graded as "Pass" [*bestanden*] are not taken into account." Only the first decimal place after the comma is considered in the final grade; all further places are discarded. The provisions of § 17, paragraph 3, RaPO shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

## § 10 Examination languages

English is the language used for teaching and examinations. However, when necessary other languages may also be used for teaching and examinations based on a decision by the Senate or a body it appoints. The designation of an alternate teaching or examination language shall be in accordance with the offering of courses and examinations as outlined in § 2 of the RaPO.

## § 11 Master's thesis

(1) The master's thesis should typically be completed by the end of the fourth semester. The working period for the thesis is five months.

(2) Editorial changes to the title of the master's thesis are permissible up until it is submitted. They require the written consent of the primary supervisor.

(3) No later than 8 weeks after submitting the master's thesis, a 60-minute examination defense (*Disputation*) is held. During this defense, the candidate presents the master's thesis and discusses it with both examiners. The overall grade for the written master's thesis accounts for 80% of the total grade for the master's thesis; the overall grade for the *Disputation* accounts for 20% of the total grade for the master's thesis. Minutes of defense are to be documented for the record. At the end of the defense, the candidate is informed of the overall evaluation of the master's thesis. The master's thesis is deemed passed if both the overall grade of the written master's thesis itself and the overall grade for the defense are "Sufficient (4.0)" or higher.

(4) Notwithstanding § 24 Section 12 of the RaPO, a master's thesis that was not passed can be repeated one time.

## § 12 Scope of the master's examination, passing the master's examination

(1) The master's examination comprises the required module exams and the master's thesis and the defense [*Disputation*]. In total, 120 credits must be acquired.

(2) When the student has successfully completed all of the examinations specified in paragraph 1 and has earned all of the required credits, the master's examination is deemed to have been passed.



### **Section 3 Final Provisions**

#### **§ 13 Transitional regulations**

These Degree Program and Examination Regulations apply for

1. students who will begin their studies in the master's degree program in European Studies in Fall Semester 2023/2024, and
2. students who began their studies in the master's degree program in European Studies before Fall Semester 2023/24

#### **§ 14 Entry into force**

These statutes enter into force on September 1, 2023.

Flensburg, June 14, 2023

Prof. Dr. Tabea Scheel

Dean of Faculty III at Europa-Universität Flensburg