

**Statutes governing the exam regulations for
external candidates in the “Digital Business
Management” Master of Science - M.Sc. program
of Nürtingen-Geislingen University
dated 13 February 2024**

Legal basis:

Based on section 8 (6) in conjunction with section 30 (1) and sections 32 (3) and 33 of the state higher education act in Baden-Württemberg (“Landeshochschulgesetz” - LHG) dated 01 January 2005 (law gazette 2005, page 1), last amended by article 8 of the act dated 07 February 2023 (law gazette pages 26, 43), the senate of Nürtingen-Geislingen University has agreed the following exam regulations for external candidates on 25 January 2024.

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sect. 1 Scope

These exam regulations apply to the master’s examination for non-enrolled students (examination for external candidates) leading to the Master of Science degree in the “Digital Business Management” program.

Sect. 2 Relevance of the course and exam regulations of Nürtingen-Geislingen University

The course and exam regulations of Nürtingen-Geislingen University - general provisions for bachelor’s and master’s programs (SPO-AT) of 24 January 2022 in the currently valid version also apply to the examination for external candidates, unless stipulated differently in these exam regulations. Sect. 4 (1) SPO-AT is excluded.

Sect. 3 Admission requirements

- (1) Admission to the examination for external candidates may only be granted if the following requirements are met:
 1. Candidates must have successfully completed a degree program at a German university or a Cooperative State University or hold an equivalent degree from a university abroad which should comprise at least 210 ECTS credit points. If it comprises less than 210 ECTS credit points, the missing qualification must be provided in accordance with subsection 2. Proof of the degree must be supplied in the form of an officially certified copy or photocopy; in the case of an educational qualification from abroad, a certificate of “Studienkolleg Konstanz” recognizing the qualification must also be supplied.
 2. Proof of having successfully prepared for the examination for external candidates must be provided. This requires taking part in a preparatory course which is carried out in accordance with the cooperation agreement between Nürtingen-Geislingen University and ‘WAF Weiterbildungsakademie an der Hochschule Nürtingen-Geislingen e.V.’ (Nürtingen-Geislingen University’s continuing education academy). The preparatory course run by WAF Weiterbildungsakademie must have been certified by an accreditation agency recognized by the Accreditation Council.
- (2) As far as bachelor’s degrees comprising less than 210 ECTS credit points are concerned, separate documentation in accordance with sect. 2 (10) SPO-AT must be supplied as proof for the missing qualification. Since the program is run part-time, the candidates can apply to have any professional experience of at least 6 months’ duration to count for up to 30 ECTS towards skills and competencies acquired outside of the higher education system.

- (3) Any application for admission to the examination for external candidates must also be accompanied by a résumé outlining any previous higher education courses and relevant professional experience.
- (4) The examination committee of the faculty of business administration and international finance at Nürtingen-Geislingen University will make the final decision on whether applicants are allowed to take part in the examination for external candidates.

Sect. 4 Module content and module examinations

- (1) The module examinations generally take place following the relevant preparatory courses of the respective semester.
- (2) The master's thesis consists of a written academic paper in English. The time allowed for composing it is six months. Upon application, the master's thesis can also be written in German.
- (3) Written assignments, presentations, research papers and the master's thesis can also be set as group work. The individual candidates' contributions must be clearly delineated so that they can be assessed separately.
- (4) It is possible to take a module in a different semester from the one specified in the addendum.
- (5) A module examination may only be retaken as a whole. It is not possible to retake only parts of it.
- (6) The addendum of these exam regulations stipulates the weighting factors for calculating the grades.

Sect. 5 Language of instruction and examinations

- (1) As a rule, the language used for teaching and in the examinations is English.
- (2) The decision on whether individual classes or modules are held in English or German is taken by the academic director of the study program in conjunction with the lecturers concerned.
- (3) The examination is usually set in the language of instruction.

Sect. 6 Degree certificate and academic title

- (1) Once all the module examinations leading to the master's examination have been passed, the examination for external candidates is deemed as having been completed successfully. A master's degree certificate (M.Sc.) will be issued containing the results of the master's examination and a note that the master's examination was taken as an external candidate.
- (2) The master's degree certificate (M.Sc.) contains the module grades, the topic of the master's thesis and the overall grade.
- (3) On successful completion of the master's examination, Nürtingen-Geislingen University will award the 'Master of Science' academic degree in the subject area "Digital Business Management". In addition, a diploma supplement (DS) according to the European Diploma Supplement Model (European Union/European Council/UNESCO) will be issued.

Sect. 7 Examination fees

Candidates must pay examination fees in accordance with Nürtingen-Geislingen University's statutes on fees and expenses (university fee statutes) dated 29 January 2015 in the currently valid version. They are due immediately upon admission to the examination for external candidates (sect. 3 (4)). The admission only becomes valid once the examination fee has been paid.

Section 8 Commencement

These statutes will come into effect on 01 September 2024.

B. ADDENDUM

1) Proof of sufficient preparation for the examination for external candidates

The part-time master's program comprises 3 theory semesters with a workload reduced to 73% of a full-time program of study (i.e. on average 22 CR per semester). The candidates are normally required to compose the master's thesis in semester 4. Proof of sufficient preparation for the examination for external candidates is normally accepted if the candidates can supply evidence that they have attended the relevant preparatory courses. The content and structure of the preparation is outlined in a separate agreement with the provider who is offering the preparatory course.

As regards sect. 2 (9) SPO-AT, classes and examinations of the preparatory courses are normally held online with most of them in synchronous mode.

Therefore, students must ensure they have the necessary prerequisites available for taking part in the online classes of the preparatory courses, especially an internet-ready device with a camera and a microphone and access to the internet.

2) Modules and module examinations

Semester	Module number	Modules	CR	PV	MP	GM	NG	Comments
1-3	110-001	Digital Business Innovation	6		StA		6	
	110-002	Digital Business Planning, Steering & Valuation	6		StA		6	
	110-003	AI Based Customer Experience Management	6		StA		6	
	107-035	Machine Learning & Big Data Analytics	6		StA		6	
	110-004	Blockchain Technology & Web3 based Business Models	6		StA		6	
	110-005	Immersive Web & 3D-Technologies	6		StA		6	
	110-006	Digital Marketing	6		StA		6	
	110-007	Digital Sales & E-Commerce	6		R		6	
	110-008	Digital Leadership	6		StA		6	
	110-009	Digital Transformation	6		R		6	
	110-010	Master Research Seminar	6		S		6	
	Total semester 1 to 3			66				66
4	110-011	Master's Thesis	24		MA 6Mo		24	
	Total for semester 4			24			24	
Grand total for complete program			90				90	

Legend:

CR	= Credits
GM	= Weighting for module grade (in %)
MA	= Master's thesis
Mo	= Months
MP	= Module examination ("Modulprüfung")
NG	= Weighting of grades for overall grade ("Notengewichtung für die Gesamtnote")
PV	= Prerequisites for admission to examination ("Prüfungsvorleistung")
R	= Presentation ("Referat/Präsentation")
S	= Written work ("schriftliche Arbeit")
StA	= Research paper ("Studienarbeit")

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IMPORTANT NOTICE
COURTESY TRANSLATION
Please refer to the German original version for the official document.