

**DISCLAIMER:**

**THIS TRANSLATION OF THE “Ordnung zur Änderung der Promotionsordnung der Philosophischen Fakultät der Universität zu Köln vom 16.06.2016” PUBLISHED IN “Amtliche Mitteilungen 74/2016” IS NOT LEGALLY BINDING.**

**Regulation on Modifying the Doctoral Regulations  
of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities  
of the University of Cologne**

**16 June 2016**

Pursuant to section 2.4 and section 67.3 of the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Hochschulgesetz – HG*), in the 16 September 2014 version of the Future Higher Education Act (*Hochschulzukunftsgesetz – HZG*) (GV NRW, p. 547), the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Cologne has set down the following regulations:

**Article I**

The Doctoral Regulations of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities as at 11 June 2015 (*Amtliche Mitteilungen* [Official Announcements] 53/2015) shall be amended as follows:

1. Section 4 par. 2 shall be amended as follows:
  - a) After no. 3, the following no. 4 shall be added:

*“4. If applicable, the application that an exemption from the proof of knowledge of German pursuant to Section 7 par. sent. 2 no. 6 is granted.”*
  - b) The previous no. 4 becomes no. 5, and the previous no. 5 becomes no. 6.
  - c) After no. 6, the following no. 7 shall be added:

*“7. Proof of university entrance qualification.”*
  
2. Section 7 par. 1 sent. 2 shall be amended as follows:
  - a) No. 3 shall be deleted.
  - b) The subsequent numbers shift forward accordingly by one number.

c) No. 5 (new) shall be replaced by the following:

*“Upon submitting the dissertation, proof of knowledge of German at the C1 level CEF, and in case of a dissertation written in a foreign language, proof of knowledge of German at the B2 level CEF is to be provided; in well-founded exceptional cases, if the applicant so requests, an exemption of proof of knowledge of German can be made by the doctoral committee if all supervisors are in favour of this. The application must be submitted together with the application to admission to the doctoral programme (Section 4 par. 2 no. 4). If such an exception is granted, instead of the proof of knowledge of German, the notification of the exemption is to be presented.”*

3. Section 10 shall be amended as follows:

a) Paragraph 2 shall be replaced by the following:

The consultants appraise the dissertation within eight weeks and propose its acceptance or refusal. Upon substantiated request from a consultant, the chairperson of the doctoral committee can grant a one-off extension of the appraisal period of a maximum of four weeks. If the appraisal has not been received after an additional four weeks, the chairperson of the doctoral committee can appoint a new consultant. If accepted, the consultants propose the grades at the same time. The possible grades are:

rite (satisfactory): 3.0;

cum laude (good): 2.0;

magna cum laude (very good): 1.0;

and – for extraordinary academic performance –

summa cum laude (with distinction): 0.0.

The intermediate grades 0.7; 1.3; 1.7; 2.3 und 2.7 may be given. If the dissertation is accepted, the grade results from the arithmetic mean of the grades of the consultants; this reads:

for a numerical value of 0.0: summa cum laude

for a numerical value above 0.0 to 1.5: magna cum laude

for a numerical value above 1.5 to 2.5: cum laude

for a numerical value above 2.5 to 3.0: rite.

Only the first decimal place after the decimal point is taken into account; all other decimal places are dropped without rounding. The ranking “summa cum laude” can only be given if all consultants have awarded the dissertation “summa cum laude”. If all consultants have awarded the dissertation “summa cum laude”, the chairperson of the doctoral committee should obtain an opinion from a professor from outside in consultation with the primary consultant. An objection to the opinion is not possible. If the ranking “summa cum laude” is not confirmed, the board of examiners and the dean determine the final grade.

b) Paragraph 3 shall be replaced by the following:

*“(3) If objections to the research approach, execution of research or research results are an obstacle to acceptance of the dissertation, a consultant can – in case of the need for significant changes or additions – make acceptance of the dissertation dependent on a prior revision (return for revision). This is to be carried out by a deadline determined by the chairperson of the doctoral committee in consultation with the consultants. The original version with the consultants’ comments, if applicable, is to be re-submitted together with the new version.”*

c) Paragraph 4 shall be replaced by the following:

*“(4) If slight modifications or additions are necessary to make the dissertation ready for printing, a consultant can link acceptance of the dissertation to requirements to make changes that are to be completed before publication (conditional acceptance). Complying with these requirements to make changes is confirmed with the certificate of revision (Sect. 17 par. 3).”*

4. Section 17 par. 3 shall be replaced by the following:

*“(3) The dissertation must be presented immediately before publication to the first consultant. If a consultant imposes requirements to make changes in accordance with Sect. 10 par. 4, the dissertation must be presented to all consultants. They ensure that publication takes place in an appropriate form and takes into account any requirements to make changes that may have been made upon acceptance of the dissertation, approve possible changes compared to the version submitted in the course of the doctoral procedure, and grant approval by signing the certificate of revision (Appendix 4 of these regulations). The latter is to be forwarded by the doctoral student to the chairperson of the doctoral committee. Should the consultants come to differing results as relates to the appropriateness of the form and the changes, the chairperson of the doctoral committee shall decide.”*

5. Appendix 1 (Disciplines) shall be amended as follows:

- a) In paragraph (1) the words “*Educational Science subject to paragraph (2)*” will be deleted.
- b) In paragraph 1 the discipline “Linguistics” will be inserted after the discipline “Latin Philology”.
- c) Paragraph 2 shall be replaced by the following:

*“(2) The subject Geography can only be selected for doctoral studies if a consultant is available to whom the Faculty of Arts and Humanities has conferred the right to confer doctorates in accordance with Sect. 8 par. 1 sent. 3.”*

6. In Appendix 2 (Language Requirements) the following sentence shall be deleted:

“Slavonic Studies: Knowledge of Latin in the scope of the kleines Latinum is required.”

7. The text in Appendix 4 (Review Certificate) shall be replaced by the following:

*“I was presented with the version of the dissertation named above which it is intended to publish. If requirements to make changes were imposed upon acceptance of the dissertation, these have been satisfied. I hereby issue my Imprimatur (“ready for press”) for publication in the planned form.”*

## **Article II**

These regulations go into effect on the day after their publication in the *Amtliche Mitteilungen* [Official Announcements] of the University of Cologne.

Issued on the basis of the resolution of the faculty proper of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Cologne from 27 April 2016 as well as the resolution of the rectorship of the University of Cologne from 14 June 2016.

Cologne, 16 June 2016

The Dean  
of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Cologne

University Professor Dr. Stefan Grohé