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**Faculty of Humanities:**

Following the resolution of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities of 02.02.2022, the Senate of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen passed the third amendment to the Regulations on Admission Requirements and Admission for the consecutive Master's degree programme "East Asian Studies/Modern Sinology" in the version of the announcement of 13.05.2015 (Official Announcements I No. 27/2015 p. 505), last amended by the Statutes of 04.05.2020 (Official Announcements I No. 23/2020 p. 431), the regulations are valid due to the resolution of the Foundation's University Committee of the University of Göttingen Public Law Foundation of 10.07.2019 as approved (§ 44 section. 1 sentence 2 NHG (Lower Saxony Higher Education Act) in the version published on 26.02.2007 (Nds. GVBl (Lower Saxony Law and Official Gazette) p. 69), last amended by Article 1 of the Act of 27.01.2022 (Nds. GVBl. p. 54); § 41 section 1 sentence 1 NHG in conjunction with § 18 section 6 sentence 3, section 8 sentence 4 NHG and section 7 section 1 sentence 1 NHZG in the version of the announcement of 29.01.1998 (Nds. GVBl. p. 51), last amended by Article 2 of the Act of 19.11.2019 (Nds. GVBl. p. 333); § 62 section 4 sentence 1 NGH, § 60 a section 1 sentence 1 NHG in conjunction with § 18 section 6 sentence 3, section 8 sentence 4, section 14 NHG and § 7 section 2 NHZG (Lower Saxony Higher Education Admissions Act).

**Regulations on the admission requirements and on admission  
for the consecutive Master's degree programme "East Asian Studies/Modern  
Sinology"  
of the Georg-August University Göttingen**

**I. Scope**

**§ 1 Scope**

- (1) These regulations govern access and admission to the consecutive Master's degree programme "East Asian Studies/Modern Sinology".
- (2) In accordance with the following provisions, the university shall conduct an internal university procedure to determine the admission requirements for all places on the degree programme "East Asian Studies/Modern Sinology".
- (3) <sup>1</sup>If more applicants meet the admission requirements than there are places available, the university shall allocate the places according to the results of a university selection procedure.

<sup>2</sup>If not more applicants meet the admission requirements than there are places available, a selection procedure shall not take place.

## **II. Authorisation for admission**

### **§ 2 Qualifications for entry**

(1) <sup>1</sup>It is a requirement for entrance to the Master's degree programme that the applicant possesses the professional competence. <sup>2</sup>Candidates shall be deemed to possess the relevant professional competence if they have completed a technically relevant course of studies to Bachelor's degree level with a standard course length of at least six semesters and a total of at least 180 ECTS credits, or an equivalent degree in a degree programme at a German University or at a university belonging to the Bologna signatory states in accordance with section 3 in a Sinology degree programme or in a technically closely related subject area. <sup>3</sup>Final examinations which have been passed in a country outside the Bologna signatory states require the determination of equivalence with the qualifications according to sentence 1, taking into account the proposals of the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) at the Office of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Federal States in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK) for the recognition and assessment of foreign certificates of academic qualification, which can be found under the URL <http://anabin.kmk.org> . <sup>4</sup>The grades of the foreign educational certificates must be converted into the German grading system.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Notwithstanding section 1, provisional admission shall be granted those applicants who have not yet completed their course of studies at the time of application, but have acquired at least 150 credits in a relevant Bachelor's degree programme according to section 3 or in an equivalent degree programme. <sup>2</sup>The average grade calculated from the previous examination results shall also be taken into account in the selection procedure in place of the Bachelor's grade or the grade of an equivalent certificate of academic qualification, irrespective of whether the result of the Bachelor's examination deviates from this.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The decision as to whether a previous study programme is relevant within the meaning of sections 1 and 2 is made by the selection committee. It is a requirement for the technical relevance of the previous course of studies that proof is provided of at least the following academic achievements:

Achievements amounting to at least 120 credits in Sinology, including at least 24 credits from at least two of the following fields of study: History, religion, politics, society, philosophy, linguistics, economics or law of modern China.

<sup>2</sup>The selection committee may approve provisionally the technical relevance of the previous course of studies dependent on the completion of pending achievements according to sentence 1, within two semesters; in this case, the determination of the technical relevance and the admission are conditional until the proof of the still missing achievements, which must be received by the university within two semesters from the time of enrolment at the university (closing date). <sup>3</sup>If proof of the pending achievements is not submitted by the deadline, the determination of the technical relevance and an admission decision based on it shall become ineffective. <sup>4</sup>The determination of the technical relevance shall not be possible if the pending achievements amount to more than 15 credits.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Applicants whose native language is not modern Mandarin must have sufficient knowledge of modern Mandarin. <sup>2</sup>Sufficient language skills are demonstrated by passing an examination at level 5 of the Hànyǔ Shuǐpíng Kǎoshì (HSK) or at Band B Level 3 of the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL); instead of proof of an HSK or TOCFL examination, the required language skills at level 5 of the HSK or at band B level 3 of the TOCFL can be proven by successful participation in the practical language aptitude test of the Georg-August University in accordance with the following provisions:

- a) The aptitude test shall take place at least once within two semesters; the dates shall be announced in an appropriate manner in good time.
- b) The aptitude test comprises a written examination (90 minutes) and an oral examination (approx. 15 minutes).
- c) The applicant must be able to understand and edit oral or written texts related to the study situation and to compose such texts him/herself. This includes the mastery of approx. 1800 characters (short and long) and, in detail, the following proofs:
  - aa) Listening: The candidate can understand the main points of speeches and presentations if he or she is basically familiar with the subject. He or she can extract the main information from radio or television broadcasts on current events and on topics related to his or her profession or field of interest, provided that standard language is spoken.
  - bb) Speaking: The candidate can give a clear and detailed oral presentation on a wide range of topics from his/her fields of interest. She or he can explain her or his point of view on a topical issue and give advantages and disadvantages of different options.
  - cc) Reading: The candidate can understand the main ideas of complex texts on concrete and abstract topics; he or she can read and understand articles and reports on contemporary problems in which the writers express a particular attitude or point of view.
  - dd) Writing: The candidate can write clear and detailed texts on a variety of subjects that interest him or her. She or he can reproduce information in an essay or report or

present arguments and counter-arguments for or against a particular point of view. She or he can write letters making clear the personal significance of events and experiences.

d) The Executive Board of the East Asian Seminar of the Georg-August University decides on the details of the test, in particular the form and deadline of the registration as well as the dates of the test, and announces this in an appropriate manner.

e) The aptitude test can be repeated any number of times in case of failure.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Applicants whose native language is not English must have sufficient knowledge of the English language. <sup>2</sup>Sufficient knowledge of English must be demonstrated with standardised or accredited certificates at least at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages of the Council of Europe (CEFR). <sup>3</sup>In particular, the following serve as proof:

a) UNlcert®: min. certificate UNlcert® II;

b) NULTE certificates: min. level B2;

c) Cambridge English Scale: min. 160 points;

d) "International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic): min. band 5.5;

e) "Test of English as a Foreign Language, internet-based test" (TOEFL iBT): min. 59 points;

f) Global Scale of English (Pearson Academic): min. 59 points;

g) Other evidence at level B2 or higher according to GeR.

<sup>4</sup>Successful completion of the test (a-f) may not have taken place more than three years before receipt of the application for admission. <sup>5</sup>At least one year of residence in an English-speaking country for the purpose of study or work, or the successful completion of an English-language degree programme lasting at least two years, also constitutes proof of adequate English language proficiency. <sup>6</sup>Proof according to sentences 1 to 5 must be provided within one semester after enrolment; in this case, enrolment is conditional until the applicant has provided the missing certificates. <sup>7</sup>The selection committee decides on the equivalence of knowledge in individual cases; it may obtain an expert opinion from another institution (e.g. ZESS) for its decision.

(6) German language skills do not have to be demonstrated.

(7) <sup>1</sup>In all other respects, the general provisions for enrolment as stipulated in the Enrolment Regulations of the University of Göttingen remain unaffected. <sup>2</sup>The enrolment of applicants who are considered provisionally entitled to admission according to § 2 is conditional upon submission of proof of successful completion of the Bachelor's programme or an equivalent programme. <sup>3</sup>In the case of enrolment for the winter semester, the proof must be provided by the end of 15 November.

### **§ 3 repealed**

## **III. Selection procedure**

### **§ 4 Start of studies, application for admission, closing date**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Master's programme starts in each winter semester. <sup>2</sup>Applications for admission must be submitted via an online portal of the university. They must be received by the university together with the application documents required in accordance with § 2 by 01.06. (closing date) for the winter semester; if an internal university selection procedure is not carried out (cf. § 1 section 3 Sentence 1), applications received after this date shall be considered, provided that proof of eligibility for admission in accordance with § 2 section 1 or 2 is provided by no later than 15 November when applying for a winter semester; the other provisions on admission requirements remain unaffected. <sup>3</sup>The application applies only to the awarding of university places for the relevant admission date. <sup>4</sup>The university is not obliged to review the applicants' details ex officio.

(2) The following documents must be enclosed with the application for admission; they must be uploaded to the university server over the online portal:

- a) the applicant's degree certificate(s) in German or English translation, if the originals are not in English or German; if a degree certificate is not yet available, a certificate of the examination results acquired, the credits and the average grade must be submitted;
- b) a curriculum vitae in tabular form written in English with a meaningful presentation of the educational background;
- c) a statement of the motivation for taking up the selected degree programme with reference to the educational background to date, max. 2 pages in length;
- d) proof of sufficient English language skills according to § 2 section 5;
- e) proof of sufficient knowledge of modern Mandarin, unless participation in the aptitude test according to § 2 section 4 is applied for;
- f) Excerpts from the module handbook or other documents on the basis of which the academic achievements according to § 2 section 3 can be verified;
- g) a declaration as to whether the applicant has so far successfully, unsuccessfully or not yet completed a Master's degree programme in a similar discipline;
- h) a declaration as to which module package or module packages the applicant intends to take on the basis of his/her previous education.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Applications that are not received in full, in due form or on time are excluded from the further procedure. <sup>2</sup>The documents submitted remain with the university.

(4) If an applicant can credibly demonstrate that he or she is disadvantaged by the selection procedure compared to other applicants due to a disability, he or she shall be granted upon application a suitable compensation for disadvantages.

### **§ 5 Selection Committee for the Master's Programme**

(1) The Faculty of Humanities at the university shall form at least one selection committee to prepare the decision on selection for this degree programme.

(2) <sup>1</sup>A selection committee includes two members eligible to vote, who belong to the full-time academic staff or to the group of university professors, and one member of the student group with an advisory vote. <sup>2</sup>At least one member must belong to the group of university professors. <sup>3</sup>The members are appointed by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities. <sup>4</sup>The term of office of the members is two years, that of the student member one year. <sup>5</sup>Reappointment is possible. <sup>6</sup>The selection committee has a quorum if at least two voting members are present.

(3) The tasks of the selection committee are:

- a) Examination of the incoming applications for admission for formal correctness,
- b) Examination and, if necessary, assessment of the of the qualifications for entry,
- c) Conducting the selection interviews according to § 7,
- d) Decision on the admission or rejection of the applicants.

(4) The selection committee shall report to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities after the conclusion of the award procedure on the experience gained and, if necessary, submit proposals for the further improvement of the award procedure.

### **§ 6 Selection procedure**

(1) Selection is made on the basis of a combination of the following criteria:

- a) on the basis of the Bachelor's grade or the grade of an equivalent academic certificate and
- b) on the basis of a selection interview with the applicant.

(2) The selection committee shall make a pre-selection from the applications received in accordance with section 3 and a selection from the pre-selected candidates on the basis of the selection criteria mentioned in section 1 and 4.

(3) <sup>1</sup>A pre-selection from the applications received shall be carried out in order to limit the number of participants in the interviews to twice the number of university places to be awarded in accordance with the selection procedure. This should also include applications from persons who have already participated in an early interview in accordance with § 7 section 5. <sup>3</sup>For this

purpose, a ranking shall be generated according to the result of the Bachelor's grade or the grade of an equivalent academic certificate. <sup>4</sup> In the event of identical ranking, all applicants with the highest ranking shall be permitted to participate.

(4) The selection shall be made on the basis of a ranking generated as follows:

a) Depending on the result of the Bachelor's grade or the grade of an equivalent academic certificate, points will be credited to the applicant as follows:

1.00 up to and including 1.1	40 points,
over 1.1 up to and including 1.2	38 points,
over 1.2 up to and including 1.3	36 points,
over 1.3 up to and including 1.4	34 points,
over 1.4 up to and including 1.5	32 points,
over 1.5 up to and including 1.6	30 points,
over 1.6 up to and including 1.7	28 points,
over 1.7 up to and including 1.8	26 points,
over 1.8 up to and including 1.9	24 points,
over 1.9 up to and including 2.0	22 points,
over 2.0 up to and including 2.1	20 points,
over 2.1 up to and including 2.2	18 points,
over 2.2 up to and including 2.3	16 points,
over 2.3 up to and including 2.4	14 points,
over 2.4 up to and including 2.5	12 points,
over 2.5 up to and including 2.6	10 points,
over 2.6 up to and including 2.7	8 points,
over 2.7 up to and including 2.8	6 points,
over 2.8 up to and including 2.9	4 points,
over 2.9 up to and including 3.0	2 points,
over 3.0 up to and including 4.0	0 points.

(b) Depending on the assessment of the applicant's level of suitability in the selection interview, points will be credited to the applicant as follows:

ba) Depending on the nature and extent of the special professional knowledge, points shall be credited to the applicant as follows:

The applicant has:

Very good knowledge	6 points,
Good knowledge	4 points,
Satisfactory knowledge	2 points,
Limited knowledge	0 points.

bb) Depending on the nature and extent of the applicant's reflection on the specialist experience acquired, points shall be credited to the applicant as follows:

The reflection is:

very convincing	6 points,
convincing	4 points,
Not very convincing	2 points,
hardly convincing	0 points.

bc) Depending on the statement of the motivation to study, points shall be credited to the applicant as follows

The statement is:

very convincing	6 points,
convincing	4 points,
Not very convincing	2 points,
hardly convincing	0 points.

(c) The points obtained under (a) and (b) shall be added together.

(5) <sup>1</sup>If there is identical ranking after generating the ranking, the ranking shall be determined by the result of the Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree. <sup>2</sup>Otherwise, in the event of a tie, the decision shall be made by drawing lots.

(6) <sup>1</sup>In all other respects, the general provisions of the regulation applying to enrolment at the university remain unaffected. <sup>2</sup>The admission of applicants who are considered provisionally entitled to admission according to § 2 section 2 is conditional upon submission of proof of successful completion of the Bachelor's programme or an equivalent programme. <sup>3</sup>Proof must be submitted by 15 November for enrolment in the winter semester.

## **§ 7 Selection interview**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The selection interview is intended to show the extent to which the applicant is suitable for the selected degree programme. <sup>2</sup>The following principles apply for conducting the interview:

a) The selection interview is usually held at the university by 30 July at the latest for the winter semester. The exact dates as well as the location of the selection interview will be announced by the university in a reasonable period of time before the start of the selection interviews. The university shall invite candidates to the interview with sufficient notice. A video conference or a telephone interview is permitted for applicants residing abroad and in justified exceptional cases, provided that the identity of the applicant can be determined beyond doubt. The selection committee shall determine the details of the procedure in such cases.



b) The selection committee shall conduct a selection interview lasting about 15 minutes with each applicant. The selection interview can be conducted with up to four applicants at the same time.

c) Minutes of the essential questions and answers of the selection interview must be kept and signed by the members of the selection committee. The minutes must show the date and place of the selection interview, the names of the committee members, the name of the applicant and the assessment.

(2) The selection interview shall cover the following suitability parameters:

a) special technical knowledge, especially with regard to the subject areas to be covered in the Master's programme (modern Chinese history, politics, society and economy as well as Chinese law),

b) ability to reflect and analyse on the specialist experience gained,

c) motivation to study.

(3) After the interview, the members of the selection committee shall assess the applicant's degree of aptitude for the selected degree programme on a scale according to § 6 section 4 letter b).

(4) <sup>1</sup>An applicant who fails to appear at the interview without good cause shall be excluded from the further procedure. <sup>2</sup>If there is a good cause, the selection committee shall set a new date for the selection interview upon request. Proof of the good cause should be provided and an application for rescheduling a new date should be made promptly to the selection committee, at the latest within two days after the date first scheduled. <sup>4</sup>An unsuccessful applicant is entitled to participate again in the next possible selection procedure.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Within the framework of a undergraduate degree programme, an early selection interview can be conducted with students of the university who are enrolled in an undergraduate degree programme, which this Master's degree programme consolidates and continues, <sup>2</sup>In the event that the student has applied for this Master's degree programme, this early selection interview replaces the selection interview. <sup>3</sup>It may be held at the beginning of the sixth semester at the earliest. <sup>4</sup>This early selection interview must be equivalent to the selection interview in terms of form and content. <sup>5</sup>The provisions of section 1 to 4, § 6 section 4 letter b) and § 5 section 2 to 4 shall apply accordingly. <sup>6</sup>The early selection interview shall be taken into account instead of the selection interview only if it was conducted no more than six months prior to the selection decision and the applicant is one of the persons preselected for a selection interview in accordance with § 6, section 3. <sup>7</sup>If this condition is not met, the applicant shall be excluded from the further selection procedure in the present round of applications. <sup>8</sup>Notification of the result of the early selection interview shall only be given under the prerequisite that the applicant is preselected for a selection interview in accordance with § 6 section 3.

### **§ 8 Letter of admission, letter of rejection and procedure for subsequent admissions**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Applicants who can be admitted shall receive a written letter of admission from the university. <sup>2</sup>This shall specify a deadline within which the applicant must enrol or declare in writing whether he or she accepts the university place. <sup>3</sup>If the enrolment or the declaration in accordance with sentence 2 is not submitted in due time and form, the letter of admission shall become invalid. <sup>4</sup>This legal consequence shall be pointed out in the letter of admission.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Applicants who cannot be admitted shall receive a letter of rejection stating the rank achieved and the rank of the last applicant admitted. <sup>2</sup>The letter of rejection shall provide information on rights of legal recourse. <sup>3</sup>In the case of applicants who are entitled to admission, it shall also contain a request to declare in writing within a certain period of time whether the application for admission shall be held for a subsequent procedure. <sup>4</sup>If the applicant does not submit this declaration in due time or form, he or she shall be excluded from the subsequent procedure. <sup>5</sup>This legal consequence must be pointed out.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The procedure for subsequent admissions shall be carried out based on the ranking generated in accordance with § 6, sections 4 and 5. <sup>2</sup>If all applicants ranked according to sentence 1 are already admitted, a ranking shall be generated according to the result of the Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree and the procedure for subsequent admissions shall be carried out on the basis of this ranking. <sup>3</sup>Thereafter, in the event of a tie, the decision shall be made by drawing lots. <sup>4</sup>The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply accordingly.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The selection procedures are completed no later than 15 November for admission to a winter semester. <sup>2</sup>University places still available after this date shall be awarded by lot to applicants with admission entitlement upon informal application. <sup>3</sup>The application period for this shall begin two weeks before the start of the semester for which admission is to be granted and ends with the conclusion of the selection procedure. <sup>4</sup>Due to the advanced period of lectures, the awarding of university places by lot shall be completed no later than 30 November in the case of admission to a winter semester.

### **§ 9 Admission for higher semesters**

(1) Free university places in a higher semester with restricted admission are awarded to applicants in the following order,

a) those who are in the same or a comparable degree programme

aa) who are or were enrolled at another German university or at a university of another member state of the European Union or of another contracting member state of the Agreement on the European Economic Area,

bb) who are or were enrolled at a foreign university

and possess German nationality or are subject to the same university admissions laws and regulations as German citizens,;

b) those for whom a rejection of admission for reasons related to their person would mean extraordinary hardship,

(c) those who assert other reasons.

(2) Within each of the three case groups of section 1, the result of the Bachelor's degree programme examination or an examination equivalent to the Bachelor's degree programme examination shall be decisive, followed by social, in particular family-related and economic reasons decisive for the choice of the university's location and finally by lot in cases that are still identical.

#### **IV. Final provision**

##### **§ 10 Entry into force; final provisions**

(1) <sup>1</sup>These regulations shall enter into force on the day after they are published in the Official Announcements I of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. <sup>2</sup>It shall apply for the first time to the award procedure for the winter semester 2015/2016.

(2) At the same time, the Regulations on Admission Requirements and on Admission to the Consecutive Master's Programme "East Asian Studies/Modern Sinology" in the version of the announcement of 04.07.2012 (Official Announcements I No. 21/2012 p. 1089) shall expire.

(3) By way of derogation from § 4 section 1, the application for admission shall be submitted in writing using the forms provided for download in the online portal and shall be submitted together with the documents referred to in § 4 section 2 within the period specified in § 4 section 1 if an online application for admission is not provided; the university shall announce the details within a reasonable period of time before the application deadline.

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