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Faculty of Social Sciences:

Following the decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Social Sciences on 26 June 2024, the Presidential Board of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen approved the examination and study regulations for the doctoral programme in Social Sciences on 16 October 2024 (Sections 44 para. 1 sentence 2, 9 para. 3 sentence 1 NHG in the version published on 26 February 2007 (Nds. GVBl. p. 69), last amended by Article 12 of the Act of 14 December 2023 (Nds. GVBl. p. 320); Section 37 para. 1 sentence 3 no. 5 letter b) NHG).

**Examination and study regulations
for the doctoral programme in Social Sciences
of the Georg-August-University Göttingen**

Part I

General regulations

§ 1 Scope of application; purpose of the doctoral examination

(1)¹ These regulations govern doctoral studies and the doctoral procedure, including the awarding and withdrawal of the doctoral degree, within the framework of the doctoral programme in Social Sciences at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. ²The doctoral programme consists of the doctoral studies and the doctoral examination.³ In addition, the subject-specific provisions of a programme (e.g. Research Training Group) apply, which are regulated in the annexes and, if applicable, in supplementary programme regulations or separately published module lists. ⁴Conflicting or deviating subject-specific provisions are invalid unless these regulations expressly permit deviations.

(2)¹ The doctoral degree programme enables students to develop a research project in a social science subject area and to work on it in a methodologically controlled manner as part of a dissertation, to present the results appropriately and to integrate the insights gained and further questions into a broader field of research. ²It thus qualifies students for independent, in-depth academic work in the social sciences.

(3)¹ The doctoral examination demonstrates that the candidate is able to independently conceptualise and carry out significant research projects with scientific integrity, independently identify scientific issues, develop new and complex ideas based on their own critical analysis and contribute to scientific and/or cultural progress. ²He or she has a systematic understanding of his or her social science subject area and, where applicable, related subject areas, as well as comprehensive knowledge of the relevant literature. ³By submitting a scientific paper, he or

she has made a contribution to research that extends the boundaries of knowledge and stands up to the scrutiny of the scientific community. ⁴He or she has demonstrated the ability to discuss findings from his or her area of specialisation with other researchers and to present and communicate them to an audience in an appropriate manner.

(4) These regulations also govern the awarding of the degree and dignity of an honorary doctor of social sciences (Doctor disciplinarum politicarum honoris causa).

(5) These regulations also govern the withdrawal of the doctoral degree as well as the degree and dignity of an honorary doctor of social sciences, insofar as these were acquired or awarded in a doctoral procedure at the Faculty of Social Sciences or a faculty in whose legal succession it stands, prior to the establishment of the doctoral programme in Social Sciences.

§ 2 University degree

(1) The Georg-August-Universität Göttingen awards the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences (Dr. disc. pol.) through the Faculty of Social Sciences.

(2) Upon application by the doctoral candidate, the degree "Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)" may be awarded instead of a degree in accordance with paragraph 1.

(3) The degree of Doctor of Social Sciences may be awarded on an honorary basis following an extraordinary doctorate.

§ 3 Graduate Committee; Office of the Dean of Studies

(1)¹ The Faculty of Social Sciences shall form a Graduate Committee for the organisation and quality assurance of examinations and to perform all tasks assigned by these regulations. ²In addition to the Dean of Studies, this committee consists of two members from the group of professors, one member of academic staff with a doctorate and one doctoral student from the doctoral degree programme. ³One of the professorial members or the Dean of Studies is a member of the Executive Board of the Göttingen Graduate School of Social Sciences (GGG). ⁴The Dean of Studies can be represented by a member of the group of professors. ⁵The other members are appointed by the respective group representatives in the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Social Sciences, the doctoral candidate by the group representatives of the student group. ⁶At the same time, a deputy is appointed for each member. ⁷The term of office of the members is two years, that of the doctoral candidate one year. ⁸If a member or deputy leaves prematurely, a replacement is appointed for the remaining term of office. ⁹If no authorised examiner becomes a voting member of the Graduate Committee for one of the subject areas taught at the Faculty of Social Sciences and approved for a doctoral procedure due to the composition according to sentences 2 and 5, the Faculty Council shall appoint an additional member with an advisory vote for this subject area from the group of university lecturers or doctoral research assistants.

(2)¹ The committee is chaired by the Dean of Studies. ²The Graduate Committee elects a deputy chairperson from the group of university lecturers.

(3)¹ The meetings of the Graduate Committee are not public. ²The members are subject to official secrecy. ³If they are not in public service, they must be sworn to secrecy by the chairperson.

(4)¹ The Graduate Committee decides by a simple majority of votes; in the event of a tie, no decision is reached. ²The Graduate Committee shall constitute a quorum if the majority of its members, including the majority of members of the group of university lecturers, are present; if the Dean of Studies belongs to the group of university lecturers, he or she shall also be counted towards this group with regard to this determination. ³Student members only have an advisory vote in the assessment and recognition of study and examination achievements.

(5)¹ The Graduate Committee may revocably delegate powers in matters of day-to-day management to the Dean of Studies; this does not apply to decisions on appeals. ²Minutes shall be kept of the meetings of the Graduate Committee; the main topics of discussion and the resolutions of the Graduate Committee shall be recorded therein.

(6)¹ Decisions of the Graduate Committee must be communicated immediately to the person concerned, at least in text form. ²Incriminating decisions must be substantiated and accompanied by information on legal remedies.

(7)¹ The offices of the Dean of Studies organise the examination procedure in accordance with the requirements of the Graduate Committee and the Dean of Studies. ²Office staff responsible for matters in accordance with these Doctoral Degree Regulations may attend meetings of the Graduate Committee in an advisory capacity.

(8) The Graduate Committee may adopt rules of procedure.

§ 4 Examination authorisation

(1)¹ All academics with a doctorate who carry out research or research and teaching tasks at a university or non-university research institution and are authorised to award doctorates in a social science or closely related subject area may be granted authorisation to take examinations. ²The doctoral authorisation is proven by a successful habilitation or appointment procedure or an equivalent procedure.

(2)¹ The Graduate Committee is responsible for appointing authorised examiners in accordance with paragraph 1. ²The authorisation to examine may be granted for one or more subject areas or doctoral programmes.

(3)¹ By way of derogation from paragraphs 1 and 2, the Graduate Committee may, in exceptional cases, grant authorisation to examine (individual examination authorisation) to a doctoral candidate limited to a specific doctoral procedure, insofar as their participation in the doctoral examination is necessary or advantageous, e.g. in the case of interdisciplinary or

cross-site research work. ²An individual examination authorisation is not associated with the right to grant supervision commitments to applicants, unless the Graduate Committee additionally grants this right in rare individual cases.

Part II

Supervision; doctoral studies

§ 5 Thesis Committee

(1)¹ Upon commencement of the doctoral studies, but no later than 3 months after submission of the exposé, the Graduate Committee shall, after hearing the doctoral candidate, appoint a supervisory committee consisting of at least two further persons with a doctorate, including at least one further person authorised to conduct examinations, in addition to the supervisor authorised to conduct examinations on the basis of whose confirmation of supervision the admission was granted (first supervisor). ²The members of the supervisory committee who are authorised examiners should not be dependent on each other. ³At least one member of the supervisory committee must be a full-time member of the university teaching staff of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Göttingen; the Graduate Committee may grant exceptions to this rule upon request, particularly in the context of interdisciplinary doctoral programmes or interdisciplinary work.

(2)¹ The supervisory committee supervises and supports the doctoral candidate. ²The doctoral candidate must report to the supervisory committee regularly, but at least once a year, in detail on the status of the doctoral project and the academic achievements to date. The content of the meetings must be documented.

(3)¹ The members of the supervisory committee and the doctoral candidate shall conclude a supervision agreement following the appointment of the supervisory committee in accordance with the model in Annex 1, which should be available no later than three months after submission of the exposé. ²The supervision agreement must contain at least the information listed there; it should also describe in particular which resources will be made available to the doctoral candidate for his or her project. ³The Graduate Committee may order the adaptation of supervision agreements within the framework of the applicable legal provisions; it may also stipulate that supervision agreements are to be concluded via an online system provided by the University.

(4)¹ At the request of a member of the supervisory committee or the doctoral candidate, the Graduate Committee may change the composition of the supervisory committee. ²A change of the first supervisor is only possible if the supervision of the doctorate can no longer be guaranteed for an important reason, in particular due to his or her permanent absence, or if the continuation of the supervision is unreasonable due to a breakdown of the relationship of trust. ³The doctoral candidate must be heard before a decision is made in accordance with

sentence 1; in the event of a change in the first supervisor, he or she has a right of proposal, which does not constitute a legal claim. ⁴In the event of conflicts between the supervisors and the doctoral candidate, an attempt at mediation should first be made by a person of trust from the Graduate School or the Faculty.

**§ Section 6 Duration, type and scope of the doctoral programme;
cheating; termination for special reasons**

(1)¹ The standard period of study is three years. ²The doctoral candidate must be enrolled for the duration of the doctoral programme and the doctoral examination.

(2)¹ The standard period of study is extended by up to two semesters if there is an important reason. ²An important reason exists in particular if

- a) if the amount of empirical work or source work is considerably higher than average,
- b) the necessity of acquiring dissertation-related foreign language skills.

³The decision on the extension of the standard period of study shall be made by the Graduate Committee upon application by the doctoral candidate following an opinion by the Supervisory Committee. ⁴In the event of approval, the period according to paragraph 1 sentence 2 shall be extended accordingly.

(3)¹ Part-time study is possible on application if there is an important reason. ²An important reason is, in particular, a full-time job that is not related to the doctoral project or caring for children or close relatives. ³A decision on the application is made by the Dean of Studies following an opinion from the Supervision Committee. ⁴The provisions of the regulations on part-time study at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen apply accordingly; the deadline according to paragraph 1 sentence 2 is extended accordingly in the event of approval.

(4)¹ During the doctoral programme, doctoral candidates must carry out their academic research work. ²The preliminary topic and work plan for the research work must be agreed between the first supervisor and the doctoral candidate before the start of the doctoral project and documented in the supervision agreement. ³Furthermore, doctoral candidates must successfully complete coursework totalling at least 20 and no more than 30 credits (hereinafter referred to as C) in accordance with the subject-specific provisions of a programme or a separately published list of modules.

(5) Doctoral candidates are entitled to complete voluntary, freely selectable additional coursework in addition to the minimum coursework requirements, in particular from the Graduate School's programme.

(6)¹ Coursework completed on the basis of an agreement concluded between the University of Göttingen, the doctoral candidate and another university will be recognised without an equivalence assessment. ²Coursework completed at other universities or outside a university will be recognised if equivalence is established. ³The doctoral candidate must submit the

documents required for recognition. ⁴Coursework shall not be recognised if it was completed in the degree programme or consecutive degree programmes that formed the basis for admission to the doctorate and was required for the completion of this degree programme or these degree programmes. ⁵The university is obliged to justify any non-recognition (reversal of the burden of proof within the meaning of the Lisbon Convention). ⁶The Graduate Committee decides on credit transfer.

(7)¹ If the doctoral candidate attempts to influence the result of coursework to his/her own or another's advantage by cheating or using unauthorised aids or by influencing an examiner, even retrospectively (hereinafter referred to collectively as "cheating"), the coursework in question shall be deemed to have been assessed as "failed". ²The consequences provided for in sentence 1 may also be recognised if the doctoral candidate carries unauthorised aids. ³A doctoral candidate who grossly violates the regulations may be excluded by the respective examiners or supervisors from continuing the coursework in question; in this case, the coursework in question is deemed to have been assessed as "failed". ⁴In serious cases, the Graduate Committee may exclude the doctoral candidate from completing further examinations or coursework. ⁵In less serious cases, the imposition of a sanction may be waived. ⁶If it is suspected that unauthorised aids are being used, the doctoral candidate is obliged to cooperate in the clarification and to hand over the aids; in the event of refusal, the coursework in question is deemed to have been assessed as "failed". ⁷The doctoral candidate must be heard before a decision is made in accordance with sentence 4.

(8)¹ The doctoral programme ends with

- a) revocation or withdrawal of admission, acceptance as a doctoral candidate or admission to a programme or
- b) the termination or cancellation of the doctoral candidate relationship.

²Cancellation, withdrawal or termination can take place if there is good cause; the Graduate Committee is responsible. ³Good cause is generally deemed to exist if a doctoral candidate

- a) proves to be permanently unsuitable despite adequate supervision,
 - b) has repeatedly or significantly failed to fulfil the duties incumbent upon him or her, in particular has violated his or her reporting obligations despite repeated requests to do so,
 - c) has violated the regulations for safeguarding good scientific practice,
 - d) has wrongfully obtained his or her admission, acceptance as a doctoral candidate or admission to a programme by deceiving himself or herself as to the existence of the admission requirements,
- or
- e) if the relationship of trust with the doctoral candidate is definitively broken and the doctoral candidate is responsible for this.

⁴Furthermore, the doctoral programme ends when the doctoral candidate's de-registration takes effect by means of a corresponding declaration.

**§ 7 Modules; certificates of achievement;
courses with a limited number of places**

(1)¹ Coursework in accordance with Section 6 (4) sentence 3 is generally completed in modules. ²Modules may consist of different types of courses.

(2)¹ modules are completed through the successful completion of performance assessments, which are generally graded as "passed" or "failed". ²If a grade is shown, this will be included in the certificate at the request of the doctoral candidate.

(3) Voluntary additional services are included in the certificate upon request.

(4)¹ Certain modules can be organised with a limited number of participants. ²The relevant module coordinators shall provide appropriate information about the intended number of participants. ³Priority for admission to modules with a limited number of participants shall be given to doctoral students who must attend this course in order to fulfil the admission requirements for the doctoral examination. ⁴Priority is given to those doctoral students who are in the highest semester and can prove that they have studied properly or are not responsible for a delay in their studies. ⁵The selection among those with equal rights is to be made by drawing lots. ⁶Deferral in accordance with sentence 2 is permitted no more than twice.

(6) Module descriptions and a programme-related module overview are published separately in an electronic version (module directory); they are part of these regulations or the applicable subject-specific provisions.

Part III

**Doctoral examination; examination prerequisites,
requirements and procedure**

§ 8 Doctoral examination

(1) The degrees to be awarded in accordance with Section 2 (1) and (2) shall be awarded on the basis of a successful doctoral examination.

(2) The doctoral examination consists of a scientific paper (dissertation) and an oral examination (defence).

(3) The Graduate Committee shall suspend the doctoral procedure if it becomes aware that proceedings are pending against the doctoral candidate due to a violation of good scientific practice or an investigation or criminal proceedings in connection with the doctorate.

(4)¹ If the doctoral candidate attempts to influence the result of the examination by cheating, in particular by unauthorised assistance in the preparation of the dissertation, or by exerting

influence on an examiner, even retrospectively, the examination results in question shall be deemed to have been assessed as "failed". ²If a doctoral candidate grossly violates the regulations, the examination committee may decide to terminate the oral examination; in this case, the oral examination is deemed to have been assessed as "failed". ³In serious cases, the Graduate Committee may exclude the doctoral candidate from taking further examinations; in particular, an offence under Section 9 (3) sentence 1 letter a) shall be considered a serious case. ⁴In less serious cases, the imposition of a sanction may be waived. ⁵The doctoral candidate must be heard before a decision is made in accordance with sentence 3.

§ 9 Requirements for admission to the doctoral examination

(1)¹ Admission to the doctoral examination requires that the doctoral candidate

- a) has been enrolled as a doctoral student at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen in accordance with the statutory provisions since acceptance as a doctoral student,
- b) has duly completed the doctoral programme in accordance with § 6 (4),
- c) has independently prepared a written scientific paper (dissertation) and provides written confirmation,
 - ca) that he or she has written it independently and has not used any sources and aids other than those specified, and
 - cb) that no corresponding doctorate has been applied for elsewhere and the submitted dissertation or parts thereof have been submitted.

(2) Admission to the doctoral examination shall be refused or cancelled at any time after admission if it has been simultaneously applied for at another faculty or university, unless this is permitted under Part VII.

(3)¹ In particular, the following shall not be admitted to the doctoral examination

- a) has not prepared parts of the dissertation himself/herself, but has used the help of third parties in a manner contrary to examination law and scientific honesty; scientific honesty includes strict compliance with the citation requirement, so that the adoption of other people's ideas in the dissertation is clearly labelled, as well as maintaining strict honesty with regard to contributions from other persons;
- b) has engaged intermediaries for a fee for the purpose of identifying promotion opportunities;
- c) pays fees or provides services equivalent to fees in connection with the doctoral procedure and its preparation, or makes use of services free of charge that contradict the purpose of an examination procedure;
- d) The doctoral candidate does not fulfil the requirements for which the doctoral examination could be declared invalid or the doctoral degree could be revoked.

²In these cases, a new application for admission to the doctoral examination is excluded.

³Admission to the doctoral examination may be withdrawn or revoked at any time in the cases referred to in sentence 1.

§ 10 Application for admission to the doctoral examination

(1) After completion of the dissertation, an application for admission to the doctoral examination and opening of the doctoral examination procedure must be submitted to the Graduate Committee in text form.

(2) The application must be accompanied or submitted in addition:

- a) at least four copies of the academic paper (dissertation) in written form, one copy in digital form on a standard data carrier or by uploading to a university server specified by the office of the Dean of Studies or by sending to an e-mail address specified by the office of the Dean of Studies in the format of a commonly used word processing programme or as an unprotected (text extraction-enabling) PDF document, as well as any additional published writings by the doctoral candidate in connection with the dissertation, in writing or in text form; the conformity of the digital form with the written scientific treatise must be bindingly confirmed by the doctoral candidate;
- b) a summary of the dissertation in German and English, presenting the research question, methodology, results and conclusions;
- c) the academic degree to be awarded in accordance with § 2;
- d) a proposal for the reviewers of the dissertation and for the other members of the examination committee;
- e) a curriculum vitae written in German or English, which also provides information on the doctoral candidate's academic development;
- f) proof of proper enrolment;
- g) Proof of successful completion of the coursework in accordance with § 6 para. 2 sentence 3;
- h) an insurance policy in accordance with § 9 para. 1 letter c).

(3)¹ After submission of the application and examination of the formal requirements, the Graduate Committee decides on admission to the doctoral examination. ²If all requirements are met, it opens the doctoral examination procedure and appoints the examination committee and its chair. ³By being admitted to the doctoral examination, the doctoral candidate acquires the right to have his or her dissertation assessed.

(4) The applicant shall receive notification of admission or rejection in text form, in the case of rejection with information on legal remedies.

(5)¹ Withdrawal of a doctoral application is permitted as long as no decision has been made on the acceptance or rejection of the dissertation. ²In the event of a lawful withdrawal, the doctoral attempt shall be deemed not to have been undertaken.

§ 11 Dissertation, cumulative dissertation

(1) The topic of the dissertation must be chosen from a subject area represented at the Faculty of Social Sciences.

(2)¹ The dissertation must be an independent scientific achievement by the doctoral candidate and make a significant and innovative contribution to the advancement of scientific knowledge. ²It should demonstrate that the doctoral candidate has the ability to solve scientific questions in the chosen field independently and methodologically sound and to present the findings clearly in a form that is customary for the field. ³If the topic of a dissertation arises from the research work of a group, the doctoral candidate must document his or her individual, clearly definable and assessable contribution in a separate submission for which he or she is solely responsible. ⁴In addition to the written presentation, the dissertation may also consist of a film or another audiovisual media format.

(3)¹ The dissertation may not have been or be used in any other doctoral procedure or comparable procedure at a university in Germany or abroad, unless otherwise stipulated in these regulations. ²Sentence 1 applies accordingly to the use in the context of other own examinations, in particular in a Master's, Magister or Diplom thesis, unless otherwise authorised.

(4)¹ As a rule, the dissertation shall be written in German or English. ²It must be accompanied by a declaration in accordance with the model in Annex 2 and a short curriculum vitae containing the academic background³ The dissertation may be written in another language in deviation from sentence 1; the Graduate Committee shall decide on such an exception at the request of the doctoral candidate; the request may be rejected without justification. ⁴All members of the examination committee must have a sufficient command of the examination language. ⁵Irrespective of the language chosen, a summary must be submitted in German and English.

(5)¹ Results already published before acceptance as a doctoral candidate may be included as part of a dissertation, provided they do not together comprise more than 30 per cent of the total scope of the dissertation; they must be labelled in the usual academic manner. ²Results of other own examinations may be used to the extent of no more than 30% of the total scope of the dissertation; they must be labelled in the usual academic manner.

(6)¹ A dissertation is also deemed to be the submission of at least three thematically independent, but publishable scientific contributions to the same field of research if the doctoral candidate is the sole author or first author of at least one contribution and at least one

contribution has been accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal following an external scientific review process (so-called cumulative dissertation); The reviewers also decide on the eligibility for publication according to generally accepted scientific standards in the respective subject area. ²In the case of a publication with several authors, the doctoral candidate's contributions must be clearly distinguishable and assessable; a declaration of the doctoral candidate's own contribution to the work must be submitted. ³The contributions must be supplemented by a meaningful introduction to the underlying scientific question as well as an overarching discussion with a summary in which the candidate's own results are placed in the disciplinary context, and a bibliography; the supplements must be included in the assessment. ⁴The cumulative dissertation must be submitted in a bound form; Section 10 (2) (a) applies accordingly. ⁵If individual contributions have not yet been published, the submission of a letter from the publisher stating that the contribution has been accepted for publication and will essentially correspond to the submitted version in terms of content is sufficient to fulfil the publication obligation in accordance with Section 21. ⁶The possibility of publishing the cumulative dissertation as a whole in accordance with § 21 remains unaffected.

§ 12 Reviewers; Examination board

(1)¹ The Graduate Committee appoints at least two reviewers for the assessment of the dissertation who are authorised examiners in the respective subject area, including at least one member of the supervisory committee, usually the first supervisor. ²In exceptional cases, it appoints further authorised reviewers, particularly in the case of interdisciplinary or cross-faculty theses. ³At least one of the reviewers must be a full-time member of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the time of appointment; this may be waived if one of the reviewers was a full-time member and left the faculty no more than one year before the appointment due to maternity leave, parental leave, leave of absence at their own request or retirement. ⁴The doctoral candidate has a right of nomination for the appointment of reviewers, which does not constitute a legal claim. ⁵Reviewers may not be dependent on one another. ⁶In the case of § 11 para. 6, it must be ensured that at least two reviewers were not involved in the creation of the submitted contributions, e.g. through co-authorship.

(2)¹ In addition to the reviewers in accordance with paragraph 1, the examination board consists of the members of the supervisory committee authorised to conduct examinations and any other authorised examiners. ²It has at least three members. ³At least two members must be authorised to conduct examinations in the respective subject area; the remaining members must at least be authorised to conduct examinations in a related subject area, provided that the expertise required for the examination procedure is available. ⁴The members, including the chairperson, are appointed by the Graduate Committee. ⁵The doctoral candidate has a right of nomination, which does not constitute a legal claim.

(3)¹ Professors who have retired or been relieved of their duties should not be involved in doctoral procedures as reviewers or examiners for more than three years after the end of their period of service. ²The Graduate Committee decides on exceptions upon application; exceptions should be granted in particular if the professor continues to provide research or teaching services on an ongoing basis.

(4)¹ If additional assessors or examiners are appointed in the course of the examination procedure, they shall become members of the examination board in accordance with the provisions of these regulations. ²If the award of the grade "summa cum laude" appears possible, the supervisory committee may propose the appointment of an additional reviewer in advance of the examination procedure; this reviewer may not be a member of the University of Göttingen, unless one of the already appointed reviewers is an external reviewer.

(5) Abstention from voting on examination decisions is not permitted.

§ 13 Acceptance and rejection of the dissertation

(1) Each reviewer shall prepare and propose a review of the dissertation within three months of receiving the dissertation:

- a) to accept the dissertation,
- b) to reject the dissertation or

c) return the dissertation for revision if he or she would otherwise recommend rejection.

(2) At the request of at least one reviewer, the submitted dissertation may be checked using suitable software to determine whether it was prepared independently and without unauthorised assistance, in particular using plagiarism detection software to check for any unidentified text passages or other sources.

(3) If acceptance of the dissertation is recommended, a grade in accordance with § 17 shall be awarded at the same time as the review in accordance with paragraph 1.

(4) If all reviewers agree on the acceptance or rejection of the dissertation, it is accepted or rejected, subject to an objection in accordance with Section 14 (2).

(5)¹ If the reviewers do not agree on acceptance or rejection, or if the assessments differ by more than one grade value, the examination committee makes a final decision on acceptance and grade, rejection or return of the dissertation for revision with the assistance of an additional reviewer. ²The additional reviewer becomes a member of the examination committee; the additional review is to be treated in the same way as the reviews already prepared. ³Otherwise, in particular in the case of an objection in accordance with § 14 Para. 2, the Examination Board shall decide on the basis of the available reviews whether to accept, grade, reject or return the dissertation for revision. ⁴The grade "summa cum laude" can only be awarded if it was awarded unanimously and by at least three reviewers, including at least one external reviewer. ⁵Objections in accordance with § 14 para. 2 must be recognised in an appropriate manner.

(6)¹ The examination committee shall set a reasonable deadline for the revision. ²If a dissertation returned for revision is not submitted within this deadline, it shall be deemed to have been rejected. ³If the dissertation is submitted within the deadline, the further procedure shall be determined in accordance with paragraphs 1 to 5; however, the dissertation may not be returned for revision.

(7)¹ If the dissertation is rejected, a new application for admission to the doctoral examination is only possible once and not before one year has elapsed. ²A new or significantly improved dissertation must be submitted. ³The failed attempt must be reported. ⁴If this dissertation is also rejected, the doctoral examination is definitively failed.

(8)¹ The Dean of Studies informs the doctoral candidate of the decision to accept or reject the dissertation in text form. ²If the dissertation is accepted, admission to the oral examination shall be determined at the same time. ³In the case of a first rejection, the notification shall be made with reference to the provision in paragraph 7 on the possibility of a renewed application, in the case of a final rejection with information on legal remedies.

(9) The doctoral candidate shall be notified of the expert reports on which the procedure is based together with the notification pursuant to paragraph 8 sentence 1.

§ 14 Display

(1) After receipt of the reviews and assessments in accordance with § 13 (1) and (3), the members of the Faculty of Social Sciences who are authorised to examine shall receive notification of the reviews received and the Office of the Dean of Studies shall set a deadline of at least five working days during the lecture period or ten working days during the lecture-free period for confidential inspection of the reviews and the dissertation.

(2)¹ If an authorised examiner raises written objections to the proposed acceptance or rejection of the dissertation or the proposed grading within the period specified in paragraph 1, the Graduate Committee may appoint an additional reviewer for the dissertation. ²The additional reviewer shall become a member of the examination committee; the additional review shall be treated in the same way as the reviews already prepared.

§ 15 File copy

At least one submitted copy of the dissertation remains in the examination files together with all reviews.

§ 16 Oral examination (disputation)

(1)¹ The oral examination is conducted in the form of a defence (disputation) in German or English. ²On the doctoral candidate's reasoned proposal, the Graduate Committee may authorise a different language, provided that all members of the examination committee have the required command of the examination language; the proposal does not constitute a legal claim.

(2)¹ The date of the disputation is set by the office of the Dean of Studies after the decision on the acceptance of the dissertation. ²The defence should take place no later than four months after submission of the dissertation.

(3)¹ The defence is open to the university public and is announced in an appropriate manner. ²At the request of the doctoral candidate, the university public may be excluded if there is an important reason; the Examination Board shall decide on this. ³Notwithstanding sentence 1, guests of the doctoral candidate may also attend the defence.

(4) The duration of the defence shall be a minimum of 60 minutes and a maximum of 90 minutes.

(5)¹ The defence is conducted by the examination committee. ²At least three members of the examination committee must be present, including at least two reviewers of the dissertation. ³The examination committee may allow questions from the public to be put to the doctoral candidate. ⁴The Examination Board may decide that the defence may be conducted in whole or in part with the support of a video and audio transmission system, in particular for the participation of external members of the Examination Board, provided that the doctoral candidate agrees to this procedure at least in text form. ⁵Members of the examination committee who are involved in this way are deemed to be present within the meaning of sentence 2. ⁶ If more than one member of the examination committee is to be involved with the support of a video and audio transmission system, this requires the approval of the Graduate Committee.

(6)¹ The defence consists of two parts. ²In the first part, the doctoral candidate should explain the aims and results of their dissertation in a presentation lasting a maximum of 20 minutes. ³In the second part of the defence, the doctoral candidate should answer questions from the examiners which also relate to the wider scientific context in which the dissertation is situated, as well as to subject areas and methodological questions which concern the subject area as a whole and related subject areas.

(7)¹ Minutes are to be taken of the disputation, which are to be confirmed by the members of the examination committee present. ²The examination committee may call in an assessor with a doctorate to draw up the minutes.

(8) Following the oral examination, the examination board decides whether the oral examination has been passed.

Part IV

Passing, failing, objection procedure; completion of the doctorate; impairment of university operations

§ 17 Individual grades and overall assessment of the doctorate

(1)¹ The grades of the individual assessments for the dissertation and for the oral examination may be awarded:

summa cum laude	(excellent)	(0)
magna cum laude	(very good)	(1)
cum laude	(good)	(2)
rite	(passed)	(3).

²The grade values can (with the exception of the grade summa cum laude) be reduced by 0.3 or (with the exception of the grade rite) increased.

(2) A grade calculated as the arithmetic mean of several assessments is as follows:

up to and including	0.30	summa cum laude,
up to and including	1.50	magna cum laude,
up to and including	2.50	cum laude,
up to and including	3.00	rite .

(3)¹ The grade of the dissertation is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the grades of the individual reviewers. ²In the case of Section 13 (5) sentences 1 and 3, the examination committee shall determine the grade on the basis of the available reviews, in deviation from sentence 1.

(4) If the oral examination is passed, the grade shall be the arithmetic mean of the grades of the individual assessments, whereby each member of the examination board shall assess the entire oral examination with a grade in accordance with paragraph 1.

(5)¹ Following the oral examination, the examination committee determines the overall grade for the doctorate. ²The overall grade is calculated as the weighted arithmetic mean of the grade of the dissertation and the grade of the oral examination. ³The dissertation is included in the calculation with a factor of 2 and the oral examination with a factor of 1.

(6) Notwithstanding paragraphs 3 and 5, the grade of the dissertation and the overall grade shall be "magna cum laude" with a grade value of 0.31 if not all reviewers have assessed the

dissertation as "summa cum laude" and the respective weighted arithmetic mean would result in a grade value up to and including 0.3 and the grade "summa cum laude".

(7)¹ The result of the doctoral examination shall be communicated to the doctoral candidate immediately after it has been determined. ²In the event of a pass, the Chair of the Examination Board shall inform the doctoral candidate that the doctoral degree may not be awarded until the doctorate has been completed. ³Upon completion of the doctoral examination, the doctoral candidate shall receive a certificate of the examination result; this must also state that the doctoral degree may not be awarded before the doctorate is completed.

§ Section 18 Failure, cancellation, repetition of the oral examination

(1)¹ In the event of unsatisfactory performance, the oral examination is assessed as "failed". ²If the person to be examined misses the examination date or cancels the examination, the examination is deemed to have been "failed" unless there is an important reason. ³The important reason must be reported to the Graduate Committee immediately, at least in text form, and made credible. ⁴In the event of cancellation or absence due to illness, a medical certificate stating the expected duration of the illness leading to the inability to take the examination must be submitted immediately, unless the illness is obvious. ⁵If the reason is recognised, a new examination date will be scheduled.

(2)¹ A failed oral examination can be repeated within one year, but at the earliest after three months, at the request of the doctoral candidate. ²A second repetition is excluded; unsuccessful examinations in a comparable doctoral procedure at other universities shall be taken into account. ³If the oral examination is definitively failed, the doctoral examination is definitively failed.

(3)¹ A repeat attempt should be taken before the same examination board. ²If necessary, the Graduate Committee shall appoint new examiners.

§ 19 Protective provisions

(1)¹ If a doctoral candidate can credibly demonstrate that he or she is not able to take examinations in the intended form, in whole or in part, e.g. due to a prolonged or permanent physical disability or chronic illness, he or she should be able to complete the corresponding work in an extended processing time or equivalent work in another form. ²An original medical certificate must be submitted for this purpose. ³The submission of a copy is not sufficient. ⁴The decision is made by the Graduate Committee.

(2)¹ Insofar as compliance with deadlines for first-time registration for examinations, the resitting of examinations, the reasons for missing examinations and compliance with processing times for examination papers are affected, the illness of the candidate is equivalent

to the illness and necessary sole care of a close relative. ²Close relatives are own children, parents, grandparents as well as spouses and partners and their children.

(3)¹ Expectant mothers are not permitted to take examinations or study if, according to a medical certificate, the life or health of the mother or child is endangered. ²Furthermore, the protective provisions according to §§ 3, 4, 6 and 8 of the Maternity Protection Act apply.

(4)¹ The doctoral candidate must not suffer any disadvantages as a result of complying with the provisions of paragraph 3. ²The fulfilment of the requirements of paragraphs 1 to 3 must be proven by means of suitable documents, e.g. specialist medical certificates, birth certificates, certificates from the residents' registration office, etc.

§ 20 Decision, objection

(1)¹ Rejection decisions and other onerous administrative acts made in accordance with these regulations must be justified, accompanied by information on legal remedies and notified to the doctoral candidate. ²An appeal against these decisions may be lodged within one month of notification of the decision, insofar as the decision relates to the assessment of an examination.

(2) The objection must be made in writing or for the record.

(3) The Graduate Committee shall decide on the objection in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraph 4, unless the objection is upheld.

(4)¹ If the objection is directed against an exam-specific assessment by an examiner, the Graduate Committee shall forward the objection to this person for review. ²If the examiner amends the assessment as requested, the Graduate Committee shall remedy the objection. ³Otherwise, it shall review the decision on the basis of the examiner's statement, in particular as to whether

- a) the examination procedure has been conducted properly,
- b) generally applicable valuation principles have been observed,
- c) the examiner has not been guided by irrelevant considerations.

⁴The same applies if the objection is directed against the assessment by several examiners.

⁵If there is an offence according to sentence 3, a further expert opinion on the dissertation will be obtained or the oral examination will be repeated with examiners who have not previously been involved. ⁶The reassessment may not lead to a worsening of the examination grade.

(5)¹ If the objection is not upheld, a notice of objection will be issued. ²This shall be issued by the Dean of Studies. ³The notice of objection must be justified, include information on legal remedies and be delivered.

§ 21 Publication of the dissertation

(1)¹ The dissertation must be published by the doctoral candidate at their own expense. ²Publication shall be in the form of a printed dissertation, in a scientific journal, in a scientific publication series, as an independent publication in the publishing book trade in printed or electronic form or as an electronic publication via the document server of the Göttingen State and University Library or a comparable scientific information infrastructure. ³The Graduate Committee may authorise other forms of publication in individual cases.

(2)¹ The dissertation must be published in full no later than two years after the date of the passed oral examination. ²The Graduate Committee may grant an extension of the deadline upon reasoned request, but for no longer than a further year. ³If this deadline is missed, all rights acquired through the examination expire.

(3)¹ At the request of the doctoral candidate, the examination committee may authorise the publication of an abridged version of the dissertation in a scientific journal. ²In this case, the version intended for publication requires the approval of the first supervisor.

(4)¹ When publishing, the reviewers' requirements regarding changes to the content must be taken into account. ²In the event of differences, the Graduate Committee shall decide. ³The first supervisor must approve the final version for publication on a revision certificate (Annex 3) immediately after fulfilment of the conditions; if he or she was not the reviewer, the Examination Board shall appoint one of its members to issue the revision certificate.

(5)¹ Proof of publication is provided by the provision of deposit copies free of charge to the office of the Dean of Studies within the period specified in paragraph 2; the number of deposit copies to be submitted for each form of publication is determined by the Graduate Committee.

(6)¹ The deposit copies must be provided with a title page, the front and back of which must be designed in accordance with the model in Annex 4. ³A short curriculum vitae describing the doctoral candidate's academic career must be printed at the end of the dissertation, insofar as this has been specified by the Graduate Committee; this does not apply to copies of the dissertation published in bookshops and electronic publications.

(7)¹ If the dissertation is published cumulatively, the publications must reflect the content of the dissertation as a whole. ²This shall be confirmed in the revision certificate. ³The provisions of paragraph 6 apply accordingly. ⁴If the dissertation is published in parts in accordance with sentence 1, but without reproducing the content as a whole, the provisions of paragraphs 1 to 6 shall apply to the parts not yet published.

(8)¹ If there is good cause, the doctoral candidate and the first supervisor may, at the joint request of the doctoral candidate and the first supervisor, initially publish the thesis in such a way that only an abstract is made publicly accessible for a certain period of time, but not the complete dissertation. ²An important reason exists in particular if

- a) parts of the dissertation have been accepted for publication by a journal or publisher and prior publication of these parts is not permitted under the underlying contract,

b) this is necessary to protect intellectual property, because otherwise the registration of intellectual property rights would be jeopardised, the publication depends on the consent of third parties or scientific data directly related to the dissertation is to be published in another way first.

³The period in accordance with sentence 1 ends six months after the date of the passed oral examination; the period may be extended once by a further six months upon justified request.

⁴The examination board shall decide on this. ⁵The application should be submitted before the date of the oral examination. ⁶The mandatory copies according to paragraph 5 must be submitted by the end of the period according to sentences 1 and 3 at the latest.

§ 22 Completion of the doctorate

(1)¹ If the doctoral candidate has fulfilled all the obligations incumbent on him or her under these regulations, in particular by submitting the mandatory copies, the Dean shall award the doctorate by issuing the examination certificate (Annex 5) and the doctoral degree certificate (Annex 6); the certificate and the degree certificate shall be issued in German or English, at the doctoral candidate's discretion. ² If they are in German, an "Official Translation" shall also be issued in English. ³Those who request this will receive the examination certificate and the doctoral degree certificate in adapted wording without gender-typifying forms of address and personal pronouns.

(2) At the same time as the examination certificate and the doctoral degree certificate pursuant to paragraph 1 sentence 1 and, if applicable, the "Official Translation" pursuant to paragraph 1 sentence 2, the doctoral candidate may be provided with digital images of these documents in text form; these shall each contain a password-protected link to retrieve a scan of the signed original document from the University's server.

(3)¹ The date of issue of the certificate is the date on which the deposit copies of the dissertation are received by the faculty. ²The date of the passed oral examination is deemed to be the date of the doctorate.

(4)¹ Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2, the doctorate may be completed before the deposit copies are submitted in accordance with § 21 paragraph 5 if

- a) a publishing contract with a recognised academic publisher is submitted in place of the deposit copies and the publisher also declares in writing that printing and delivery of the deposit copies are guaranteed within a maximum period of one year after the oral examination, and
- b) a publication is made in accordance with Section 21 (8).

²In this case, completion of the doctorate is subject to fulfilment of the obligation under Section 21 (5).³ Failure to comply with this obligation shall result in the loss of all rights acquired through

the examination, in particular the right to use the doctoral degree. ⁴The doctoral certificate must be returned immediately.

(4)¹ The doctoral degree may not be used before the doctoral certificate is issued. ²The title "Dr des." may not be used.

(5) The doctorate is completed with the award of the doctoral certificate.

§ 23 Inspection of the examination files

¹In the period between completion of the oral examination and completion of the doctorate or within four weeks after a rejection or rejection of the dissertation or after failing the oral examination, the doctoral candidate may inspect the examination records. ²Copies of these documents may also be handed over.

§ Section 24 Measures in the event of significant impairment of university operations

¹In the event of a significant disruption to university operations lasting more than four weeks or of indefinite duration, in particular in the event of an epidemic or pandemic, the Graduate Committee may decide the following to ensure teaching and examination operations, deviating from the subject-specific provisions if necessary:

- a) for individual or several courses or modules, the suspension of attendance requirements or other coursework or preliminary examination work that requires attendance on university premises; in this case, the module or programme coordinator may determine an appropriate substitute coursework;
- b) the possibility of conducting an oral course assignment or an oral assessment, in whole or in part, by means of a suitable system of video and audio transmission (e.g. video conferencing), insofar as this is organisationally possible and reasonable;
- c) the waiver of written form requirements in accordance with these regulations in favour of text form; instead of the dissertation, a digital version in the format of a commonly used word processing program or as an unprotected (text extraction-enabling) PDF document must be submitted and a declaration must be made that this digital version corresponds to the written scientific treatise;
- d) the conduct of oral examinations (disputations) by means of a suitable system by way of video and audio transmission (e.g. video conference) by decision of the examination board, provided that the candidate agrees to this procedure at least in text form; in this case, the university public should be involved in such a way that interested parties are enabled to participate, e.g. in a video conference, insofar as this is technically reasonable and does not jeopardise the undisturbed conduct of the examination;

e) the possibility for students on leave of absence to participate in coursework and examinations, insofar as the leave of absence is based on the same reason as the significant impairment of university operations;

f) the possibility for former students to participate in examinations, provided that they were enrolled in the doctoral programme before the start of the significant impairment of university operations and the right to take examinations has not lapsed for other reasons; the date of enrolment must not be more than one year ago.

²The Graduate Committee, programme and module coordinators must take into account that the purpose of the coursework to be replaced can also be achieved to the greatest possible extent by the type of coursework to be replaced. ³A decision in accordance with sentence 1 can be made for one or more subject areas; the doctoral candidates must be informed of this in an appropriate manner. ⁴If a piece of coursework is carried out in a form other than that stipulated in the regulations or module catalogue, the doctoral candidate must declare his or her consent in text form or, in the case of an oral examination, at the start of the examination, waiving any objections; if doctoral candidates do not participate in a piece of coursework carried out in a form other than that stipulated in the regulations or module catalogue or, in the case of a disputation, do not declare their consent in accordance with sentence 1 letter d), any failure to meet the deadline due to this non-participation shall be deemed not to be the responsibility of the doctoral candidate."

Part V

Honorary doctorate

§ 25 Conferral of an honorary doctorate

(1)¹ The Faculty Council may award the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences honoris causa (Doctor disciplinarum politicarum honoris causa, abbreviated to "Dr. disc. pol. h.c.") as a rare distinction for outstanding academic achievements or other outstanding services to the advancement of science. ²Only members and affiliates of the Faculty of Social Sciences are entitled to submit proposals for persons to be honoured. ³ Honorary doctorates are awarded by resolution of the Faculty Council, which requires a majority of two thirds of the members entitled to vote, including a majority of four fifths of the members of the group of university lecturers. ⁴The decision should be prepared by a committee of the Faculty Council made up of members from different groups.

(2)¹ The honorary doctorate is awarded by the Dean presenting the certificate. ²The certificate must recognise the academic or academic-promoting merits of the honorary doctorate holder.

Part VI
Double doctorate

§ Section 26 Requirements for a joint doctoral procedure

- (1) A doctoral procedure conducted jointly with a foreign university or faculty requires that
- a) an agreement has been concluded with the foreign university or faculty on the cross-border supervision of this doctorate or an individual cooperation agreement has been concluded with the foreign university or faculty for the realisation of a double doctorate and
 - b) admission to doctoral studies or acceptance as a doctoral candidate was granted both at the University of Göttingen and at the foreign university or faculty.
- (2)¹ The dissertation may be submitted at the University of Göttingen or at the foreign university or faculty in accordance with the detailed provisions of the agreement referred to in paragraph 1. ²A dissertation that was submitted to the foreign university or faculty prior to the conclusion of the agreement pursuant to paragraph 1 and was accepted or rejected there cannot be resubmitted to the University of Göttingen. ³The agreement pursuant to paragraph 1 must ensure that a dissertation submitted to the University of Göttingen prior to the conclusion of the agreement and accepted or rejected there cannot be resubmitted to the foreign university or faculty.
- (3) If the dissertation is submitted at the University of Göttingen, Section 27 shall apply. If the dissertation is submitted at the foreign university or faculty, § 28 shall apply.

§ 27 Submission to the University of Göttingen

- (1)¹ During the doctoral procedure, supervision is provided by at least one person authorised to conduct examinations at the University of Göttingen and one person authorised to conduct examinations at the foreign university or faculty. ²The organisation of the supervision is set out in the agreement pursuant to Section 26 (1).
- (2)¹ Notwithstanding Section 12, the Graduate Committee shall appoint an examination committee in agreement with the foreign university or faculty, which should consist of equal numbers of academics from both institutions; the details of the composition are regulated in the agreement in accordance with Section 26 (1). ²Both supervisors of the dissertation should be appointed as examiners.
- (3)¹ If the dissertation has been accepted at the University of Göttingen, it will be forwarded to the foreign university or faculty for approval of the continuation of the procedure. ²If the foreign university or faculty approves the continuation of the procedure, an oral examination shall take place at the University of Göttingen in accordance with the provisions of §§ 16-18; in justified exceptional cases, the provisions of §§ 16-18 may be deviated from in accordance with the agreement pursuant to § 27 (1).

(4)¹ If the dissertation has been accepted at the University of Göttingen, but the foreign university or faculty has refused to agree to the continuation of the procedure, the joint procedure is terminated. ²The doctoral procedure is continued in accordance with the general provisions of these regulations. ³A new examination board must be appointed for the examination in accordance with § 12.

§ 28 Submission to the foreign university or faculty

(1)¹ If the dissertation is submitted to the foreign university or faculty, the foreign university or faculty shall decide on its acceptance or the continuation of the procedure after reviewing the dissertation. ²If the decision is positive, the University of Göttingen will decide on the acceptance of the dissertation in accordance with Section 13 after submission of all necessary reviews, including the review by the supervisor at the University of Göttingen. ³The Dean of Studies shall inform the foreign university or faculty of the result. ⁴He or she will also provide the names of the examiners to be appointed. ⁵The oral examination takes place at the foreign university or faculty.

(2)¹ If the dissertation is rejected at the University of Göttingen, the joint procedure is terminated. ²The rejected dissertation may not be resubmitted to the University of Göttingen. ³The provisions on the repetition of the doctorate remain unaffected.

(3) If the foreign university or faculty has rejected the dissertation, the joint procedure shall be terminated. ²The procedure shall be continued in accordance with the provisions of §§ 9-23.

§ 29 Joint doctoral certificate

¹After successful completion of the doctoral procedure under joint supervision with a foreign university or faculty, a joint doctoral certificate signed by both universities will be issued, stating that the doctoral degree was awarded jointly by the participating universities for academic achievement. ²If it is not possible to issue a joint doctoral degree certificate, the doctoral degree certificate of the University of Göttingen will be endorsed with the addition that the doctoral degree was awarded on the basis of a joint doctoral degree procedure with the foreign university or faculty.

Part VII

Invalidity of the doctoral examination; withdrawal of the doctoral degree

§ Section 30 Invalidity of the doctoral examination; withdrawal of the doctoral degree

(1) The doctoral examination may be declared invalid and the doctoral degree may be revoked,

- a) if it transpires that the doctoral degree was obtained by deception or if the requirements for admission to the doctoral examination or the awarding of the doctoral degree were wrongly assumed to have been met,
- b) if it subsequently transpires that the holder of the doctoral degree has been found guilty of grossly negligent or wilful breach of his or her duty to maintain academic integrity
 - ba) was unworthy of the award of the doctoral degree or
 - bb) has shown himself or herself to be unworthy of holding a doctoral degree through his or her subsequent behaviour.

(2) In the event of a final conviction for a criminal offence relating to the doctorate, the doctoral examination shall be declared invalid and the doctoral degree withdrawn.

(3)¹ The Faculty Council shall make decisions in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 by a majority of its members holding a doctorate; in cases of suspected academic misconduct, the decision shall be preceded by a procedure in accordance with the current version of the Georg-August University's regulations for safeguarding good academic practice. ²The decision shall be made by the Dean. ³The decision shall be sent to the person concerned.

Part VIII

Final provisions

§ 31 Entry into force and transitional provisions

(1)¹ These regulations come into force retroactively from 1 October 2024 following their publication in the Official Notices I of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. ²They shall expire at the same time:

- the examination regulations for the doctoral programme in Social Sciences in the version published on 17 July 2009 (Amtliche Mitteilungen 17/2009 p. 1735), last amended by resolution of the Presidential Board on 3 September 2013 (Amtliche Mitteilungen I 40/2013 p. 11473),
- the study regulations for the doctoral programme in Social Sciences in the version published on 17 July 2009 (Amtliche Mitteilungen 17/2009, p. 1755).

(2)¹ Notwithstanding paragraph 1, doctoral candidates who commenced their studies before these Examination and Study Regulations came into force and have been continuously enrolled since then shall continue to be examined in accordance with the provisions of the regulations within the meaning of paragraph 1 sentence 2. ²An examination in accordance with the provisions of the regulations within the meaning of paragraph 1 sentence 2, including the assessment procedure, must have been carried out by the summer semester 2027 at the latest; the provisions of these Examination and Study Regulations shall apply to the publication of the dissertation and completion of the doctorate after the summer semester 2027.

(3) Upon application, doctoral candidates within the meaning of paragraph 2 shall be examined as a whole in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.

Appendix 1

Supervision agreement (sample)

between the doctoral candidate and the supervisors of a doctorate at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. This planning serves to ensure transparency and good communication between the doctoral candidate and the supervisor. The aim is to ensure a work process that serves the successful completion of the doctorate.

Mrs/Mr* _____ [Doctoral candidate]

and

Mrs/Mr* _____ [First supervisor]

and

Mrs/Mr* _____ [second supervisor]**

and

Mrs/Mr* _____ [other supervisor]**

and

Mrs/Mr* _____ [additional supervisor if applicable]**.

(* please delete as appropriate

** later notification possible, if the corresponding order permits this)

The applicable doctoral or examination regulations (hereinafter: doctoral regulations) conclusively regulate the implementation of the doctoral procedure including the doctoral programme, in particular the rights and obligations of the doctoral candidates. This agreement is intended to concretise the doctoral regulations and ensure both the academic supervision required for the success of the doctoral project and participation in adequate doctoral preparation in terms of content and methodology. In detail, the following is agreed for this purpose:

1. the doctoral project is part of the doctoral programme in Social Sciences.

If applicable, name of the doctoral programme (e.g. Research Training Group):

Aimed degree: Dr disc. pol.

 Ph.D.

(later notification possible)

2. planned topic of the dissertation (working title):

Start of the doctoral project (month/year): _____

Planned end of the doctoral project (month/year): _____

3. the supervisors give a binding assurance that they will supervise the doctoral candidate. (Doctoral regulations according to which the supervisory relationship can be terminated under certain conditions remain unaffected by this).

4. the doctoral candidate will enrol with proof of health insurance and participate in the courses offered by the doctoral programme.

5. the doctoral candidate shall report regularly to the supervisory committee, usually once a semester, but at least once a year, on the preparation, development and implementation of the research project (progress report). The basis for the discussion is the implementation plan (appendix), which can be changed in agreement with the supervisory committee, particularly at the request of the doctoral candidate. The report can also be submitted as part of a colloquium or a comparable event.

6. once a year, the doctoral candidate must document the progress report (update of the implementation plan) and the meetings held for this purpose in text form.

7. the supervisory committee undertakes to regularly monitor the preparation of the progress report and the (scheduled) progress of the work and to comment on the contributions provided at the agreed meeting dates to the extent necessary - in oral and/or written form - and to check compliance with the implementation plan.

8. in the event of the dissolution of the supervisory relationship for reasons for which the doctoral candidate is not responsible, the Faculty of Social Sciences shall endeavour to find an alternative, professionally appropriate supervisory relationship.

10 [Agreements on resources made available to the doctoral candidate].

Göttingen, [DATE]

_____ Doktorand/in

_____ Erstbetreuer/in

_____ ggf. Zweitbetreuer/in**

_____ ggf. further counsellor**

_____ ggf. further counsellor**

(** later notification possible)

Implementation plan

Work steps	Time/space

Appendix 2

Doctoral candidate declaration of the Georg-August-University Göttingen

Name
(surname, first name)

Address
(street, postcode, place of residence)

Dissertation topic
.....

First supervisor:

I make the following declaration:

1. the opportunity for the present doctoral project has not been arranged for me commercially. In particular, I have not engaged any organisation that seeks supervisors for the preparation of dissertations in return for payment or that performs all or part of the duties incumbent on me with regard to the examinations.

2. assistance from third parties has been and will only be utilised to an extent that is academically justifiable and permissible under examination law. In particular, all parts of the dissertation have been prepared by myself; I have not accepted any external help, either free of charge or for a fee, and will continue to do so in the future.

3. the regulations for safeguarding good scientific practice at the University of Göttingen are observed by me.

4. a corresponding doctorate has not been applied for at any other university in Germany or abroad; the submitted dissertation or parts of it have not been/will not be used for another doctoral project. Otherwise, I have provided relevant information on the topic, period, university and supervisor.

Furthermore, I am aware that untruthfulness with regard to the above declaration will exclude admission to the doctoral examination or will subsequently entitle me to cancel the procedure or withdraw the degree obtained.

....., the
(location)

.....
(Signature)

Appendix 3 Sample of the audit certificate

Audit certificate

The master copy of the dissertation by Mrs/Mr*

.....

with the title:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

has been submitted to me. I have no objection to the printing of the dissertation and certify this in accordance with Section 21 (4) of the Examination and Study Regulations for the Doctoral Programme in Social Sciences.

I confirm that the published publications reflect the content of the dissertation as a whole.*

Göttingen,

.....

[Signature of the first supervisor]

* Delete as appropriate

Appendix 4 Cover sheet of the dissertation

Front page

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

(Title of the dissertation)

Dissertation
for the award of the doctoral degree
of the Faculty of Social Sciences
of the Georg-August-University Göttingen

submitted by

.....
(name)

born in

Göttingen,
(year of publication)

Back

Supervision committee

First supervisor:
(name)

Other supervisors:
(names)

.....
(names)

Other members of the examination board:

.....
(names)

Day of the oral examination:
(date)

Appendix 5 Examination certificate (sample)

Georg-August-University Göttingen
Faculty of Social Sciences

Certificate of the doctoral examination in social sciences

Mr/Mrs*

born on in.....

has passed the doctoral examination in accordance with the Examination and Study
Regulations for the Doctoral Programme in Social Sciences of

with the overall rating

am.....bestanden.

Modules in the doctoral programme:

	Credits
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.

Topic of the dissertation:
.....
.....

Grade of the dissertation:

Grade of the defence

Göttingen,

The dean

Appendix 6 Doctoral certificate

The Georg-August-University Göttingen
under the President

.....

lends
by the Faculty of Social Sciences
under the dean

.....

Mrs/Mr*

born in

the degree of Doctor of Social Sciences (Dr. disc.pol.) / Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

She/He/Name* has, in the proper doctoral procedure, through the dissertation

.....

.....

.....

(Title of the dissertation)

and the oral examination (disputation)

at

demonstrated his/her* scientific aptitude and received the overall judgement of

.....

has received.

Göttingen,

(Seal of the University)

The dean

Appendix 6: Sample of the doctoral certificate (*English*)

The Georg-August-University Göttingen
under the presidency of

.....
[name]

through the Faculty of Social Sciences
under the deanship of

.....
[name]

confers upon

Ms / Mr*
[name of the postgraduate]

born in

the degree Doktorin/Doktor* der Sozialwissenschaften / Doctor of Philosophy*

She/He/[name]* has proven pursuant to the regulations by
successful completion of a doctoral thesis (dissertation)

.....
.....
.....
[title of thesis]

and an oral defence (disputation) on

her / his* scientific competence and thereby reached the final grade

.....
[grade]

Göttingen, the [seal of the university]
Dean*

* delete as applicable