

Regulations Concerning the Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programs and Evaluations of Students' Work at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern (Study Regulations RW [RSL RW])

of June 21, 2007, with amendments of May 14, 2009 and May 22, 2014

The Faculty of Law of the University of Bern,

based on Article 44(1)(c) of the University Act of September 5, 1996 (UniG)¹ and Article 43 of the University of Bern Bylaws of June 7, 2011 (Universitätsstatut, UniSt),

resolves:

I. General Provisions

SUBJECT MATTER

Art. 1 ¹ These regulations govern the study of law at the University of Bern and include the study programs, leading to the award of the titles "Bachelor of Law" and "Master of Law", as well as the minor programs at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern (hereinafter "Faculty").

² They also apply to exchange/mobility students from Switzerland and abroad.

STRUCTURE OF THE STUDIES AND DEGREES

Art. 2 ¹ The Bachelor's degree program serves as foundational legal training. It is divided into an introductory study period and a main study period (Art. 10 to 19).

² The Master's degree program provides in-depth study in individual areas of law based on the students' preferences (Art. 20 to 27).

³ In accordance with the requirements established by these regulations, the following titles may be attained:

a Bachelor of Law, University of Bern (B Law),

b Master of Law, University of Bern (M Law), with the option of a special qualification pursuant to Article 24. [Version of May 22, 2014]

¹ BSG 436.11.

STUDY OBJECTIVES

Art. 3 ¹ The law studies impart the following to students:

- a the necessary knowledge in the fields of private law, criminal law, public law, economic law, and the foundational modules, as well as international and European law;
- b the ability to independently identify, analyze, and solve legal problems;
- c the awareness of professional responsibility, including the necessity to continuously broaden and deepen professional knowledge and skills over the course of one's career.

² The specific study objectives for the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs are subject to separate rules (Art. 10, 13, and 20).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Art. 4 ¹ Anyone wishing to use the Faculty's academic services, in particular, to attend courses or to take part in examinations, must be enrolled (Art. 71 UniSt). Special requirements regarding admission for exchange/mobility students and for students auditing courses are reserved. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² Anyone who has been definitively denied a Bachelor of Law degree at another university, due to insufficient performance, will not be admitted to the single-subject Bachelor of Law degree program at the Faculty pursuant to Article 2(1). Admission to a minor study program remains possible pursuant to Article 28.

³ Anyone who has been definitively denied a Master of Law degree at another university, due to insufficient performance, will not be admitted to the single-subject Master of Law degree program at the Faculty pursuant to Article 2(2). Admission to a minor study program remains possible pursuant to Article 28.

STUDY PLAN

Art. 5 The Faculty determines the courses to be offered regularly. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

STUDENT ADVISING

Art. 6 ¹ The Dean's Office advises students on administrative questions concerning the organization of their studies. The Dean's Office sets weekly consultation hours.

² Students are entitled to receive academic advising. The departments are responsible for providing such services.

CALCULATION OF ACADEMIC CREDITS AND COMPOSITION OF STUDIES

Art. 7 ¹ Academic credits are calculated according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Generally, one ECTS credit corresponds to a student workload of 25 to 30 hours.

² The Bachelor's degree program is a single-subject study program and consists of 180 ECTS credits. Of these, 60 ECTS credits are allocated to the introductory study period and 120 ECTS credits to the main study period (including a Bachelor's thesis worth 10 ECTS credits).

³ The Master's degree program is a single-subject study program and consists of 90 ECTS credits (including a Master's thesis worth 20 ECTS credits).

⁴ The allocation of ECTS credits to the individual modules and courses is done in the Study Plan. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁵ ECTS credits earned can be recognized for the study program for a maximum of ten years after they are earned. The Dean's Conference may grant exceptions in individual cases. *[Inserted on May 22, 2014]*

STANDARD PERIODS
OF STUDY

Art. 8 ¹ The standard periods of study are as follows:

- a* two semesters for the Bachelor's introductory study period, four semesters for students pursuant to Article 12(2),
- b* four semesters for the Bachelor's main study period,
- c* three semesters for the Master's degree program.

² Anyone who, without proof of good cause (Art. 37):

- a* exceeds the standard period of study during the introductory study period will be excluded from further studies in the single-subject study program at the Faculty and cannot be awarded the title "Bachelor of Law" by the University of Bern,
- b* exceeds a study duration of 10 semesters in the Bachelor's main study period will be excluded from further studies in the single-subject study program at the Faculty and cannot be awarded the title "Bachelor of Law" by the University of Bern, *[Inserted on May 22, 2014]*
- c* exceeds a study duration of 9 semesters in the Master's degree program will be excluded from further studies in the single-subject study program at the Faculty and cannot be awarded the title "Master of Law" by the University of Bern.

³ Anyone who studies for more than twelve semesters without obtaining a degree is obligated to pay a tuition fee of 1500 Swiss francs in the first semester exceeding this limit. This fee is doubled for every additional semester (Art. 39(2) of the University Ordinance of September 12, 2012 [UniV]²). *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁴ In cases of hardship, the Executive Board of the University may waive the tuition fee pursuant to Paragraph 3 entirely or in part (Art. 39(3) UniV). *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

EXCHANGES/MOBILITY

Art. 9 ¹ The Faculty makes exchange/mobility opportunities possible within the framework of the Bachelor's main study period. Credits earned at other law faculties are recognized pursuant to Articles 46 and 47.

² BSG 326.111.1.

² The Faculty furthers exchange/mobility programs within the framework of the Master's degree program. The Faculty enables students to complete parts of their studies at other Swiss and foreign faculties within the framework of contractual agreements, in accordance with Paragraph 3. Credits earned at other faculties are recognized pursuant to Articles 46 and 47.

³ Students are entitled to attend courses and take part in examinations at another law faculty during the Master's degree program, consisting of up to half of their elective courses and up to a maximum of 35 ECTS credits. For this purpose, they conclude a "Learning Agreement" with the exchange/mobility program administrator of the Faculty. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

II. Bachelor's Degree Program (single-subject study program of 180 ECTS credits)

[Version of May 22, 2014]

1. Introductory Study Period

OBJECTIVE OF THE INTRODUCTORY STUDY PERIOD

Art. 10 ¹ The introductory study period imparts the fundamentals of the legal system and serves to assess the suitability of students for legal thinking and practice.

² For this purpose, the introductory study period conveys, in particular, basic knowledge in the fields of private law, criminal law, and public law (modules Private Law I, Criminal Law I, and Public Law I). *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATIONS

Art. 11 Anyone who is admitted to the study program pursuant to Article 4 will be admitted to the examinations for the introductory study period (Art. 12). *[Version of May 14, 2009]*

EXAMINATIONS

Art. 12 ¹ The three modules of the introductory study period are completed with the following examinations:

- a a two-hour written examination in the Private Law I module,
- b a two-hour written examination in the Criminal Law I module,
- c a two-hour written examination in the Public Law I module.

² Anyone who did not earn the study certificates required for admission (Art. 29(3) and (4) UniG) in the German language must take part in the examinations pursuant to Paragraph 1 no later than the end of the fourth semester. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

³ Students successfully complete the introductory study period if the average of all their grades for the examinations mentioned above reaches at least 4.00 and does not include more than one failing grade. In order to calculate the average grade, the third digit after the decimal point is rounded to the second, with numbers under five being rounded down.

⁴ Anyone who fails the examinations can repeat them but must do so in their entirety. The repetition must take place on the next date set (Art. 34(1)).

⁵ In order to postpone examinations or their repetition, a request showing good cause (Art. 37) must be submitted, about which the Head of the Dean's Office decides. [*Version of May 22, 2014*]

⁶ Anyone who, without good cause, fails to attend the examinations or who does not repeat them within the time limit will be excluded from further studies at the Faculty by decree of the Dean (Art. 8(2)(a)). [*Version of May 22, 2014*]

2. Main Study Period

OBJECTIVE OF THE MAIN STUDY PERIOD

Art. 13 ¹ The main study period imparts knowledge and skills that are necessary as a foundation for all legal career paths.

² Towards this goal, the main study period conveys in particular:

a knowledge in the fields of private law, criminal law, public law, and economic law (modules in Private Law II and III, Criminal Law II and III, Public Law II and III, and Economic Law I and II),

b the historical, philosophical, and theoretical foundations of law (Foundational module),

c an introduction to technical basics of legal work. [*Inserted on May 22, 2014*]

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATIONS

Art. 14 Students are admitted to the main study period (Art. 13 to 19), once they have passed the examinations for the introductory study period (Art. 12). [*Version of May 22, 2014*]

BACHELOR'S THESIS

Art. 15 ¹ During the main study period, a Bachelor's thesis comprised of 10 ECTS credits must be completed.

² The Bachelor's thesis consists of a problem set from the fields of private law or economic law and a problem set from the fields of public law or criminal law.

³ The solution to the problem set must be submitted within three weeks after the problem set is issued. Generally, it shall be evaluated with a grade pursuant to Article 31 within six weeks. The final grade for the Bachelor's thesis is based on the average of the two problem set grades rounded up to the next half grade.

⁴ The Faculty issues guidelines regarding the scope and form of the problem sets.

SEMINAR REQUIREMENT

Art. 16 ¹ During the main study period, a seminar requirement must be completed.

² The seminar requirement generally consists of an oral presentation and a written assignment. Generally, the seminar performance will be evaluated with a grade pursuant to Article 31 within six weeks.

WORKSHOP

Art. 16a When registering for the first written requirement pursuant to Article 15(2) or Article 16(2), proof of active participation in an "Introduction to Technical Basics of Legal Work" workshop must be provided. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

EXAMINATIONS IN THE
MODULES

Art. 17 ¹ The modules of the main study period are completed with the following written examinations:

- a a five-hour examination in the Private Law II and III module,
- b a five-hour examination in the Criminal Law II and III module,
- c a five-hour examination in the Public Law II and III module, including European Law and Public International Law,
- d a four-hour examination in the Economic Law I and II module,
- e one four-hour examination or two two-hour examinations in the Foundational module.

² The Faculty determines the details of the modalities regarding the examinations. For exchange/mobility students, separate examinations can be offered for individual courses. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

REPETITION OF FAILED
EXAMINATIONS
[Version of May 22, 2014]

Art. 18 ¹ Failed examinations pursuant to Articles 15 to 17 may be repeated once, even if the average grade pursuant to Article 19(1) is achieved; the result of the second examination will count.

² The repetition of the examination with a failing grade must take place, at the latest, on the first examination date after the 10th semester. After this timeframe elapses, all attempts at repetition will expire, and expulsion from the studies will follow. Article 37 is reserved. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

AWARD OF THE BACHELOR'S
DEGREE

Art. 19 ¹ The average grade of all evaluations of students' work pursuant to Articles 15, 16, and 17 must reach at least 4.00. In total, no more than two failing grades (Art. 31(2)) may be obtained. The grades of the evaluations of students' work pursuant to Article 15 and Article 17(1) will be weighted double. In order to determine the average grade, the third digit after the decimal point is rounded to the second, with numbers under five being rounded down. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² The title of Bachelor of Law at the University of Bern is awarded to anyone who:

- a completed the examinations and other graded work pursuant to Articles 15, 16, and 17,

b completed examinations and other graded work consisting of at least 60 ECTS credits during the main study period at the Faculty, and

c fulfilled the requirements pursuant to Paragraph 1.

³ Based on the overall performance, the diploma for the title of Bachelor of Law (B Law) is awarded with the following Latin honors:

4,00 to 4,49	rite
4,50 to 4,99	cum laude
5,00 to 5,49	magna cum laude
5,50 to 6,00	summa cum laude

⁴ The transcript (Diploma Supplement), handed out with the diploma, lists:

- a* the grades achieved pursuant to Articles 12 and 17 with a short reference to the subject assessed,
- b* the grade of the Bachelor's thesis pursuant to Article 15,
- c* the title and grade of the seminar requirement pursuant to Article 16,
- d* the ECTS credits allocated to the modules.

III. Master's Degree Program (single-subject study program of 90 ECTS credits)
[Version of May 22, 2014]

OBJECTIVE OF THE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM
[Version of May 22, 2014]

Art. 20 ¹ The Master's degree program imparts in-depth knowledge and strengthens the corresponding communicative, methodological, and linguistic skills. It enables students to concentrate on specific areas of law. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² For this purpose, the Faculty offers elective courses (Art. 22).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM AND THE EXAMINATIONS

Art. 21 ¹ Entitled to be admitted to the Master's program is anyone who

- a* obtained the title of Bachelor of Law at a Swiss faculty of law,
- b* obtained a Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree in law at a university abroad,
- c* at a Swiss university, completed a minor program in law comprised of 60 ECTS credits and who was not expelled from the single-subject degree program in law due to failing examinations. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² In the case of Paragraph 1(b), requirements from the Bachelor's degree program up to a maximum of 60 ECTS credits may be required. In the case of Paragraph 1(c), 60 additional ECTS credits from the Bachelor's degree program are required as prerequisites for the Master's degree. *[Inserted on May 22, 2014]*

ELECTIVE COURSES

Art. 22 ¹ Elective courses are independent courses in the field of law pursuant to the Study Plan. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² Courses from faculties other than the Faculty of Law (Art. 22(1)), that have been approved by the Dean, can be recognized as elective courses for the Master's degree, up to a maximum of 15 ECTS credits. *[Inserted on May 22, 2014]*

³ Elective courses last one semester; they comprise 2 or 4 weekly classroom hours per semester. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁴ Students must complete elective courses consisting of a minimum of 70 ECTS credits and a maximum of 80 ECTS credits and have them assessed, including at least one seminar, one Moot Court/Competition, or one Legal Clinic. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁵ Students are generally free to build their own schedule of elective courses. The selection and recognition of courses which, in terms of their scope and comparable depth, have already been the subject of completed examinations within the framework of another educational program are excluded. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁶ Beyond the 90 ECTS credits required for the Master's degree, additional courses can be completed on an extra-curricular basis. These courses will be listed in the Diploma Supplement. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁷ Anyone who, during the Bachelor's degree program, completed elective courses offered at the Master's level at the University of Bern or at another Swiss university can have them recognized, up to 15 ECTS credits. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

MASTER'S THESIS

Art. 23 ¹ During the Master's degree program, a Master's thesis comprised of 20 ECTS credits must be completed at the Faculty. In agreement with the supervising lecturer, the Master's thesis can be completed in the form of a written assignment of 15 ECTS credits and an oral seminar presentation of 5 ECTS credits.

² The object of the Master's thesis is an issue from a legal field.

³ The thesis must be submitted within fifteen weeks after the assignment of the topic. It is, in general, to be evaluated with a grade pursuant to Article 31 within two months.

⁴ The Master's thesis must earn at least a grade of 4.00. A Master's thesis that has been assessed as insufficient can be repeated once with a new topic. If the Master's thesis is repeated, it must be evaluated by two reviewers. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁵ The Faculty issues guidelines on the requirements for the scope and form of the Master's thesis.

SPECIAL QUALIFICATION
[Version of May 22, 2014]

Art. 24 ¹ With the Master's degree, a special qualification can be earned. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² The special qualification requires: *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

- a completed examinations and other graded work in the elective courses, with at least 40 ECTS credits in the area of the chosen special qualification,
- b a Master's thesis in the area of the chosen special qualification.

³ In the Study Plan, the Faculty determines the special qualifications and the eligible elective courses. Elective courses, up to a maximum of 25 ECTS credits, can be declared compulsory for a specific special qualification.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS'
WORK FOR
ELECTIVE COURSES

Art. 25 ¹ Evaluation of students' work can be carried out in the following forms: *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

- a as written or oral examinations,
- b as a seminar requirement with oral presentations and written assignments,
- c as oral presentations and written assignments during the semester,
- d as participation in a Moot Court/Competition or a Legal Clinic.

² The lecturer announces, at the latest in the fourth week of the semester, whether the examination pursuant to Paragraph 1(a) will be carried out in the form of a two-hour written or a twenty-minute oral examination and which supporting materials are permitted. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

³ For evaluations of students' work pursuant to Paragraph 1(c), the lecturer discloses, with the announcement of the course or at the latest in the first week of the semester, whether the evaluation will be carried out in the form of oral presentations or written assignments. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁴ Lecturers who conduct two subject-related electives of two weekly classroom hours each, over the course of two consecutive semesters, can also offer one overall examination. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁵ Completed examinations and other graded work will be credited up to the maximum of 80 ECTS points pursuant to Article 22(4). *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

REPETITION OF FAILED EXAMINATIONS
[Version of May 22, 2014]

Art. 26 Failed examinations may be repeated once; the result of the second attempt counts. For elective courses, the examination is repeated at the end of the courses of the following semester. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

AWARD OF THE MASTER'S DEGREE

Art. 27 ¹ The grades of the evaluations of students' work are weighted based on their ECTS credits. The average of all grades in the elective courses and the Master's thesis (Art. 23) must be at least 4.00; the Master's thesis must be sufficient. No more than three elective courses may be failed. In order to calculate the grade average, the third digit after the decimal point is rounded to the second, with numbers under five being rounded down (Art. 31(3)). *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² The title of Master of Law from the University of Bern is awarded, if

- a the examinations and other graded work, pursuant to Articles 22(4) and 23, have been completed, and [Version of May 22, 2014]
- b the requirements pursuant to Paragraph 1 have been fulfilled.

³ For the special qualification, the additional requirements pursuant to Article 24 must have been fulfilled. [Version of May 22, 2014]

⁴ Based on the overall achievement, the Master's diploma is awarded with the following Latin honors:

4,00 to 4,49	rite
4,50 to 4,99	cum laude
5,00 to 5,49	magna cum laude
5,50 to 6,00	summa cum laude

⁵ The transcript (Diploma Supplement), handed out with the Master's diploma, lists:

- a the completed examinations and other graded work pursuant to Article 25 with a short reference to the subject assessed,
- b the title and grade of the Master's thesis pursuant to Article 23,
- c where applicable, the special qualification pursuant to Article 24, [Version of May 22, 2014]
- d the ECTS credits allocated to the courses.

IV. Minor Study Programs

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Art. 28 ¹ For students from other faculties at the University of Bern, the Faculty of Law offers minor study programs on the Bachelor's level comprised of 15, 30, or 60 ECTS credits and on the Master's level comprised of 30 ECTS credits.

² The Study Plan regulates the requirements of the minor study program at the Master's level; special regulations in exchange/mobility agreements with other universities are reserved. [Version of May 22, 2014]

³ The Faculty issues study plans and elective course catalogs pursuant to Article 5 and determines the evaluations of students' work.

V. Examinations

AUTHORIZED EXAMINERS

Art. 29 The examinations are carried out by lecturers as defined in Article 49 UniV or, based on a Faculty resolution, by senior academic assistants authorized to conduct examinations. [Version of May 22, 2014]

TOPICS OF THE EXAMINATIONS

Art. 30 The subject and topics of the examinations are announced by the lecturers at the beginning of the semester.

EVALUATION OF EXAMINATIONS

Art. 31 ¹ Completed examinations are evaluated according to the following grading scale:

6	excellent
5,5	very good
5	good
4,5	satisfactory
4	sufficient

² Failed examinations are evaluated according to the following grading scale: 3,5; 3; 2,5; 2; 1,5; 1.

³ The double weighting of the grades (Art. 19 (1)) is not taken into account when determining the number of failing grades.

⁴ In the case of written examinations, correction is based on a grading key or sample solutions.

TIME AND DATE OF EXAMINATIONS

Art. 32 ¹ Examinations are carried out during the time period in which no courses take place. The Dean's Office periodically determines the dates.

² Examinations for exchange students from abroad may exceptionally be held during the last week of courses. *[Inserted on May 22, 2014]*

NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS
[Version of May 22, 2014]

Art. 33 ¹ Students will receive a notification of the results of each of their examinations. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² Students are informed that they can request in writing from the Dean's Office, within a specified period after the receipt of said notification, an appealable decree issued by the competent organizational unit of the Faculty. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

³ The Executive Board of the University regulates the details by way of directives. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁴ Students whose work, pursuant to Articles 12, 15-17, 22, and 23, has been determined to be failing are excluded from further studies at the Faculty by decree of the Dean. This decree can be appealed. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

REGISTRATION AND WITHDRAWAL

Art. 34 ¹ The Dean's Office announces the registration deadlines.

² The registration can be withdrawn at the latest three weeks before the start of the examinations pursuant to Article 17 and six weeks before the start of the individual examinations pursuant to Article 25 without giving a reason therefore. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

³ Anyone who registers late will not be admitted to the examination.

POSTPONEMENT	<p>Art. 35 Anyone unable to attend for good cause (Art. 37) may, upon request, take examinations and repeat examinations on the next set date.</p>
ABSENCE AND DISCONTINUATION	<p>Art. 36 ¹ Anyone who fails to attend or discontinues an examination pursuant to Articles 12, 17, and 25 without good cause (Art. 37), or who withdraws registration from an examination after the official withdrawal date without good cause, will be awarded a grade of 1 in the respective course.</p> <p>² In the case of permissible absence or discontinuation, the examination shall be taken on the next regular set date.</p>
GOOD CAUSE	<p>Art. 37 ¹ The period of study may be extended for good cause, in particular, employment, military service, civil service, pregnancy, care duties, illness, accident, or death of a close person.</p> <p>² Good cause for the absence, postponement, or discontinuation of an examination and other graded work is, in particular, illness, accident, or death of a close person.</p> <p>³ Illnesses and accidents must be verified by a medical certificate for the day on which the examination takes place; the Dean can consult with a trusted physician.</p>
LANGUAGE OF THE EXAMINATIONS	<p>Art. 38 ¹ The questions within the framework of the examination are presented in the language of the course. <i>[Version of May 22, 2014]</i></p> <p>² At examinations, candidates can express themselves in German, French, or, if the examiners agree, in English or Italian.</p>
CONDUCTING WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS	<p>Art. 39 ¹ The candidates are supervised during the entire duration of the examinations.</p> <p>² Candidates must provide identification upon entering the examination room.</p> <p>³ Only the candidate's matriculation number may be noted on the solution sheet, but not the name. Only official solution sheets from the Faculty may be used.</p> <p>⁴ The examiner declares in writing which supporting materials are permitted. <i>[Version of May 22, 2014]</i></p> <p>⁵ Students who have not attained the study certificates required for admission (Art. 29(3) and (4) UniG) in German and who are not native German speakers may apply at the Dean's Office for an extension of the examination time. The examination time may be extended by a maximum of one hour. <i>[Version of May 22, 2014]</i></p> <p>⁶ There shall be at least one day off between each written examination pursuant to Articles 12 and 17. <i>[Version of May 14, 2009]</i></p> <p>⁷ Students are not entitled to receive copies of written examinations. <i>[Version of May 14, 2009]</i></p>

CONDUCTING ORAL
EXAMINATIONS

Art. 40 ¹ The names of the examiners are announced to the candidates in advance.

² A third party attends the examination and takes minutes of the examination, generally reflecting the examination questions, the answers, and the examination sequence. An audio recording of the oral examination is made. *[Version of May 14, 2009]*

³ The examinations are open to the public within the framework of the available space.

⁴ The examiners determine what supporting materials are permitted.

USE OF NON-PERMITTED
SUPPORTING MATERIALS
DURING WRITTEN
EXAMINATIONS

Art. 41 ¹ Anyone who tries to influence the grade of an examination to his own or another person's advantage by deception, in particular by using non-permitted supporting materials, receives a grade of 1.

² Bringing non-permitted supporting materials to examinations or, if suspicion arises, refusing to participate in the clarification of the matter by the proctor, is in and of itself considered deception.

³ The proctor records any incident in writing and reports it to the examining lecturer.

⁴ In the event of a dispute, the Dean decides by decree. Further procedures are regulated by Articles 75 and 76 UniG.

⁵ Further disciplinary measures pursuant to the University Act and criminal prosecution are reserved.

VI. Written Works

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENT
WORK
[Version of May 22, 2014]

Art. 42 ¹ Written works can be submitted in German, French, or, if the supervising lecturer agrees, in English or Italian. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

² The written works must end with the following declaration, dated and signed by hand:

“I hereby declare that I have written this work independently and that I have not used any sources other than those indicated. All passages, whose wording or meaning was taken from any sources, are cited and distinctly noted as such. I am aware that, should the foregoing not be true, this work will be given the grade of 1.0 and that the University Senate can revoke any academic title obtained based on this work, pursuant to Article 36(1)(r) of the University Act of September 5, 1996 (UniG) and Article 69 of the University of Bern Bylaws of June 7, 2011 (UniSt). For the purpose of grading and verifying compliance with this Declaration of Independent Work and with the University's Regulations on Plagiarism, I hereby grant the University of Bern the right to process the necessary personal data and to use the written work, in particular to make copies, to store it permanently in a database, and to use it to verify the independence of works by others or to make it available for such purpose.” [Version of May 22, 2014]

VII. Award of Degrees and Diplomas

BACHELOR'S DEGREE
[Version of May 22, 2014]

Art. 43 ¹ Anyone who has completed the examinations and other graded work pursuant to Articles 15, 16, and 17 can apply at the Dean's Office for the completion of the Bachelor's degree program. The application must include: [Version of May 22, 2014]

- a the application form,
- b proof of matriculation,
- c the receipt showing payment of the fee pursuant to Article 45(1)(a).

² If the requirements of Article 19(1) and (2) are fulfilled, the Dean issues the Bachelor's degree and the diploma. [Version of May 22, 2014]

MASTER'S DEGREE
[Version of May 22, 2014]

Art. 44 ¹ Anyone who has completed the examinations and other graded work pursuant to Articles 23 and 25, and, if applicable, Article 24, can apply at the Dean's Office for the completion of the Master's degree program. The application must include:

- a the application form,
- b proof of matriculation,
- c the receipt showing payment of the fee pursuant to Article 45(1)(b).

² If the requirements of Article 27(1) are fulfilled, the Dean issues the Master's degree and the diploma.

VIII. Fees

Art. 45 ¹ The fees for the examinations are

a in the Bachelor's degree program, CHF 300.–

b in the Master's degree program, CHF 300.–

² Other University regulations concerning payment modalities are reserved.

³ The fee will not be refunded in the event of the student's discontinuation of the study program. The Head of the Dean's Office can grant exceptions.

IX. Responsibilities of the Dean or the Head of the Dean's Office

RECOGNITION OF STUDIES
COMPLETED ELSEWHERE

Art. 46 ¹ The Dean decides about the recognition and crediting of studies, that students of the Faculty have completed within the framework of the Bachelor's or Master's degree program at other Swiss or foreign law faculties.

² Agreements with the university involved as well as international agreements concerning the mutual recognition of equivalence in higher education are reserved.

TRANSFER TO THE UNIVERSITY
OF BERN

Art. 47 ¹ The Dean decides about the recognition of studies and degrees of students from other Swiss or foreign universities or from other institutions of higher education. He or she examines the studies and degrees for their equivalence with the law studies at the University of Bern.

² The recognition of studies pursued elsewhere may be subject to additional requirements.

³ For those who hold a Minor in Law, the Dean determines which examinations and other graded work consisting of 60 ECTS credits from the Bachelor's degree program are to be completed additionally and in which timeframe as additional requirements for the completion of the Master's degree program. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

⁴ Agreements concerning the mutual recognition of equivalence in higher education are reserved.

EXTENSION OF DEADLINES

Art. 48 The Head of the Dean's Office decides about the approval of requests for the extension of deadlines for examinations, pursuant to Articles 12, 17, and 25, for good cause. The decision is notified by decree. *[Version of May 22, 2014]*

ABSENCE, POSTPONEMENT OR
DISCONTINUATION OF
EXAMINATIONS

Art. 49 The Head of the Dean's Office decides about the legitimacy of absences from examinations, postponement of examinations, or discontinuation of examinations (Article 37(2)). If necessary, the examiners will take provisional measures.

EXTENSIONS OF THE PERIOD OF STUDY

Art. 50 The Head of the Dean's Office decides about the approval of requests for the extension of the study period pursuant to Article 37(1).

X. Administration of Justice

PROCEDURE

Art. 51 ¹ The procedure is governed by the University Act of September 5, 1996 (UniG) and the Act on Administrative Procedure of May 23, 1989 (VRPG).

² Decrees issued by bodies of the Faculty of Law can be appealed with the Appeal Committee within 30 days (Art. 76(1) UniG).

³ In the case of appeals concerning the results of examinations, the complaint of inadequate exercise of discretion is inadmissible (Article 76(4) UniG).

⁴ A decree pursuant to Article 33 may no longer be challenged on those points which have already been definitively decided by previous decrees.

XI. Transitional and Final Provisions

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Art. 52 ¹ Anyone who is enrolled in the introductory study period pursuant to the Regulations concerning the Studies and Evaluations of Students' Work at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern of April 24, 2003 (hereinafter: 2003 Regulations), when these Regulations enter into force, will complete the studies pursuant to previous law. The continuation of the studies is governed by the present Regulations.

² Anyone who is in the main study period pursuant to the 2003 Regulations when these Regulations enter into force will complete the Bachelor's program pursuant to previous law.

³ Anyone who is in the Master's degree program pursuant to the 2003 Regulations when these Regulations enter into force will complete the program pursuant to previous law.

⁴ The advanced study program pursuant to the Regulations concerning the Studies and Evaluations of Students' Work at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern of December 21, 2000, can be completed until July 31, 2010.

⁵ Students who are in a subsidiary subject program within the framework of previous regulations when these Regulations enter into force will complete their subsidiary subject program pursuant to the corresponding study plans, even if they took the subsidiary subject within the framework of a Minor. This subsidiary subject program must be completed by July 31, 2010.

REPEAL OF PREVIOUS LEGISLATION

Art. 53 ¹ The 2003 Regulations are repealed.

² The Regulations Concerning the Studies and the Evaluations of Students' Work in the Minor Program of the Faculty of Humanities at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern (RSP NF RWF) of August 23, 2001 are repealed.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISION
CONCERNING THE DOCTORATE

Art. 54 The Faculty issues separate regulations for obtaining a doctorate. Until the enactment of such regulations, the corresponding provisions of the 2003 Regulations shall apply.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

Art. 55 These Regulations enter into force on September 1, 2007.

Bern,

On behalf of the Faculty of Law
The Dean:

Approved by the Department of Education:

Bern,

Head of the Department of Education:

Amendments

Entry into force

Amendment of May 14, 2009, in force as of September 1, 2009

Amendment of May 22, 2014, in force as of August 1, 2015

Transitional Provisions

Transitional Provisions regarding the Amendment of May 14, 2009

The amendments in Articles 11 and 16a apply to students who start a new Bachelor's degree program in the Fall Semester of 2009.

Transitional Provisions regarding the Amendment of May 22, 2014

The amendments to the following provisions do not apply to students who are already studying in the study program in question when these amendments enter into force: Article 8(2)(b), Article 16a, second sentence of Article 19(1), Article 22(4), third sentence of Article 27(1).