

*This English version of the doctoral degree regulations for the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Hamburg, dated 7 July 2010, is for information only and is not legally binding*

## **The doctorate regulations for the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Hamburg**

Dated, 7 July 2010

The Presidium of the University of Hamburg approved on 26 July 2010, in accordance with § 108 paragraph 1 of the Hamburg Higher Education Law (HmbHG) of 18 July 2001 (HmbGVBl. p. 171) in the version of 8 June 2010 (HmbGVBl. p. 431), the Doctorate Regulations authorized by the faculty council of the Faculty of Humanities on 7 July 2010 in accordance with § 91 paragraph 2 number 1 of the HmbHG.

### **§1**

Definition of the doctorate and the doctor title

(1) The Faculty of Humanities at the University of Hamburg awards the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (abbreviated as: Dr. phil.) upon completion of the doctoral procedures in accordance with the following provisions. For the subjects at the Department of Protestant Theology, the Faculty of Humanities in cooperation with the Department of Protestant Theology awards the degree of Doctor of Theology (abbreviated as: Dr. theol.).

(2) The award of a doctoral degree is testimony to the capacity for in-depth academic work through independent research activities.

(3) Doctoral achievements consist of:

– a written academic piece of work (dissertation) or several individual pieces of work (cumulative work)

and

– the oral defence (disputation)

in English or German.

(4) For outstanding academic achievements in a doctoral subject, the degree of Honorary Doctor of Philosophy (Doctor philosophiae honoris causa, abbreviated as: Dr. phil. h.c.) may be awarded. For outstanding academic achievements in the subjects at the Department of Protestant Theology, the degree of Honorary Doctor of Theology (Doctor theologiae honoris causa, abbreviated as: D. theol. h. c.) may be awarded in cooperation with the Department of Protestant Theology.

(5) A degree in accordance with paragraph 1 can only be awarded once in the same doctoral subject.

### **§2**

Doctoral committee

(1) The responsible faculty body appoints a doctoral committee to carry out the doctoral procedures. This committee is an examination committee in accordance with § 63 paragraph 1 of the HmbHG in conjunction with § 59 of the HmbHG and possesses the authority therein described. The committee consists of at least one member of the faculty who has been authorized to participate in the doctoral procedures as well as a research assistant holding a doctoral degree and eight professors, each of whom represents a department at the faculty, and of whom one is a member of the dean's office. A deputy must be appointed for each member. Committee members serve for two years, while the member authorized to participate in the doctoral procedures serves for one year. It is possible for a member to be re-elected. If a member leaves his/her post before the end of the period of office, a successor will be found for the remaining period. The doctoral committee selects the chairperson and his/her deputy from amongst the members of the group of professors belonging to the doctoral committee.

(2) The doctoral committee decides on the admission of the applicants and whether or not to accept their dissertation proposals for the doctoral procedures. It is obliged to advise the applicants. In the case of interdisciplinary doctoral proposals, the doctoral committee ensures that there is adequate participation from the other disciplines in the evaluation. The doctoral committee does not meet in public.

(3) The doctoral committee can delegate decisions in individual cases or specific powers in more general cases to the chairperson of the committee or to sub-committees. The doctoral committee may revoke this delegation at any time.

(4) The doctoral committee is accountable to the faculty council and must inform the council once per year of its decisions.

### §3

#### Admission requirements

(1) The application for admission of the doctoral proposals must be submitted to the doctoral committee before any work is begun on the dissertation proposal. As a rule, the condition required for admission to the doctoral procedures is the successful completion at a university under the jurisdiction of the German Basic Law of a degree program that is closely related to the subject of the doctorate by providing:

- a Master's certificate in a research-oriented course worth a total of at least 300 credit points – incl. the previously completed course,
- a Magister certificate in a course at a university or equivalent higher education institution,
- a Diploma certificate in a course at a university or equivalent higher education institution,
- a certificate for the First Public Examination for the teaching profession at the upper level of general education schools,
- a certificate for the First State Law Examination or a certificate for the First Theological Examination.

(2) If the applicant has a different degree to those described in paragraph 1, he/she may still be admitted to the doctoral procedures if his/her qualifications for the subject of the doctorate are appropriate. This shall apply if the applicant can provide:

- a Master's certificate in a course worth fewer than 300 credit points – incl. the previously completed course,
- a certificate for the First Public Examination for teaching at a different level to the upper level of general education schools, or
- a Master's certificate in a non-research-oriented course.

The doctoral committee can require applicants to provide proof of qualifications within a set period that are standard for the required university studies in accordance with paragraph 1 or that are necessary to supplement the knowledge and skills already documented by the applicant in order to begin the proposed doctorate.

(3) An equivalent degree from a university outside the jurisdiction of the German Basic Law may also be accepted in accordance with paragraph 1. If there are any doubts regarding the equal value of the degree, a certificate of equivalence must be obtained from the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany. The responsible representative of the doctoral committee will examine the comparability of this degree with an overall grade of at least "good". If equivalence cannot be established, the doctoral committee will check whether equivalence can be fulfilled in accordance with paragraph 2.

(4) If the applicant holds a diploma from a university of applied sciences or a university of cooperative education, the corresponding qualification must be provided in the form of a final examination from the university of applied sciences or university of cooperative education in a course that is relevant to the doctorate with the best

possible overall grade according to the grades issued by the respective examination regulations. The doctoral committee can require applicants to provide proof of qualifications within a set period that are standard for the required university studies in accordance with paragraph 1 or that are necessary to supplement the knowledge and skills already documented by the applicant in order to begin the proposed doctorate.

(5) The applicant can provide evidence that he/she possesses the necessary language skills to be able to carry out the doctoral procedures:

– Applicants with a degree from a foreign university or equivalent institution, whose mother tongue is not German and who wish to complete their doctorate in German by passing the German language examination for university admission (DSH) or equivalent certification.

– If the doctorate is to be completed in English, certification of English language skills must be provided in the form of the B1 level in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

– If the doctoral procedures are carried out in another language as per § 7 (2) and § 11 (1), the doctoral committee will specify the necessary requirements and certificates.

– For admission to the doctorate, certain disciplines require certification proving that the applicant's language skills correspond to the doctorate regulations in Appendix 1. These language skills must be verified at the latest by the time the dissertation is submitted.

#### §4 Admission procedures

(1) Applications for admission to the doctorate must be submitted to the doctoral committee and state the planned subject of the doctorate and the targeted grade, together with the following documents:

- a) Certificates and proof of qualifications in accordance with § 3,
- b) A CV,
- c) A statement on whether or not the applicant has previously applied for a doctorate or if doctoral procedures are being pursued at another university or faculty, in which case all details on registration and doctoral proposals must be provided,
- d) A declaration that the applicant is familiar with the valid doctorate regulations,

e) Certification of sufficient language skills as per § 3 (5),

f) Applicants for the Dr. theol. must provide a statement that they are members of a Christian church. The doctoral committee may make exceptions to this rule upon the recommendation of the member from the Department for Protestant Theology.

(2) Applicants must provide a statement on the objectives and methods of their dissertation proposals ("exposé") together with their application. The dissertation proposals must be supported by at least one professor or habilitated member of the Faculty of

Humanities who represents the planned subject of the doctorate. The person providing this support must also declare their willingness to supervise the dissertation.

(3) As a rule, the doctoral committee decides on applications for admission to doctorates within one month. Rejections must be explained in writing.

(4) The application will be rejected if:

a) the requirements as per § 3 are not met, b) the documents as per paragraphs 1 and 2 are missing, c) doctoral procedures in the subject of the doctorate or in part of the subject of the doctorate have already been successfully completed,

d) the applicant has already been admitted to doctoral procedures in the subject applied for

or e) the declaration made as per paragraph 1 c) is untrue.

The application can be rejected in the event of academic unsuitability.

#### §5 Enrolment as a doctoral student

(1) Doctoral candidates must enrol at the University of Hamburg as doctoral students.

(2) If enrolment is not applied for within the period stipulated by the decision on admission to the doctoral procedures or within the extension, admission to the doctoral procedures will become invalid. A renewed application to the doctoral procedures will not be excluded for that reason.

#### §6

##### Supervision of dissertation, standard period of time required

(1) After admitting the doctoral candidate to the doctoral procedures, the faculty pledges to secure the supervision and subsequent evaluation of the dissertation. It must also ensure at the beginning of the doctoral procedures that the doctoral candidates receive a valid copy of the "Guidelines for Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice and Avoiding Scientific Misconduct at the University of Hamburg" dated 9 September 1999.

(2) Supervisors of a dissertation are generally professors or habilitated members of the faculty. The supervisors are obliged to supervise the dissertation continuously and they may not delegate this responsibility. The doctoral committee appoints the supervisor at the suggestion of the applicant upon admission in accordance with § 4. The doctoral committee sets up a supervisory commission of at least two persons for each doctoral procedure in which the doctoral candidate is a member of a Graduate School. The supervisory commission comprises at least one full-time professor of the Faculty of Humanities who is

generally appointed as the evaluator of the dissertation.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph 2, other persons involved in the doctoral procedures of the Faculty of Humanities also hold the rights and duties of professors and habilitated members of this faculty:

Members of non-university research institutions and centres of education who have been granted the right to participate in doctoral procedures as supervisors, evaluators or examiners by the University of Hamburg as part of cooperation agreements and in agreement with the faculty.

Externally funded junior research group leaders who have been accepted into the University of Hamburg and who have been granted via a legal contract the right to supervise doctoral candidates throughout their doctoral procedures. In this case, the doctoral committee sets up a supervisory commission of at least two persons. The supervisory commission comprises at least one full-time professor of the Faculty of Humanities who is generally appointed as the evaluator of the dissertation.

(4) In reasonable cases, professors who do not belong to the faculty may also be appointed by the doctoral committee as supervisors. In such cases, the doctoral committee sets up a supervisory commission of at least two persons. The supervisory commission comprises at least one full-time professor of the Faculty of Humanities who is generally appointed as the evaluator of the dissertation. If their professional field of activity is largely outside the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, the external supervisors must guarantee regular supervision and ensure that they will have personal contact with the doctoral candidate.

(5) The dissertation topic may be freely chosen, although the choice must be approved by the supervisor. The doctoral candidate and supervisor draw up a supervision agreement in which the dissertation topic, reciprocal rights and obligations, and a work schedule based on the standard period of time required for a dissertation are arranged. The reciprocal rights and obligations contain, amongst other things, a binding and regular exchange on the progress of the dissertation and regular feedback on the work and potential of the doctoral candidate.

(6) During their doctoral studies, the doctoral candidates should have the opportunity to report on the progress of their dissertation in an appropriate framework.

(7) As a rule, the dissertation should be submitted after three years and the procedure should be completed after four years (standard period of time required). For doctoral candidates who have not fully satisfied all the language requirements (see Appendix 1) upon their admission,

the doctoral committee will set appropriate deadlines.

(8) In a statement to the doctoral candidate and the faculty, the supervisor pledges to supervise the dissertation for the period of time agreed upon in the work schedule. In agreement with the supervisor, the doctoral committee will decide on a period of time that goes beyond the agreed supervision if such an application is made. The doctoral candidate must apply for an extension to the doctoral committee in good time before the end of the period of supervision. If the supervisor or doctoral candidate feel compelled for good reason to terminate the supervision relationship, they are obliged to inform the chairperson of the doctoral committee of this decision immediately, stating the reasons.

(9) If the supervisor's membership of the University of Hamburg comes to an end, he/she will retain the right for five years to supervise an ongoing dissertation until its completion and the right to remain a voting member of the doctoral commission. This time limitation does not apply to former full-time professors of the University of Hamburg, who retain the right to teach and examine.

#### §7 Dissertation

(1) The written dissertation should attest to the capacity for in-depth, independent academic work and document progress in academic knowledge.

(2) A dissertation, which is to be written in German, English or, upon application, in another language can be submitted as

a) a dissertation comprised of a single, coherent description of research work and results,  
or

b) a dissertation comprised of published and/or unpublished individual pieces of work (cumulative work) that, in their entirety, are equivalent to a dissertation in accordance with a). A cumulative dissertation, which must have an overall title, consists of a list with the titles of the individual pieces of work, an introduction and a text which interprets, assesses and discusses the individual pieces of work, in addition to the information in § 7 paragraph 5.

(3) For written dissertations in accordance with paragraph 2, which result from a collaboration with other academics, the doctoral candidate's contribution must be clearly definable and assessable. The doctoral candidate is obliged to state his/her contribution in terms of the conception, realization and documentation in detail.

(4) The doctoral candidate must reference all forms of resources and aids received and declare upon oath to have written the dissertation independently and not to have used any other resources and aids than those stated. The dissertation may not have already been accepted in earlier doctoral procedures or evaluated as insufficient. In case of

doubt, works from previous doctoral procedures must be submitted for comparison.

(5) The title page of the dissertation must include the name of the author, the name of the faculty, the description as a dissertation submitted to the University of Hamburg and the year of submission. It must also include a cover page with the names of the evaluators. The appendix must contain a short summary of the results of the dissertation in English and German as well as a list of any earlier publications derived from the dissertation.

(6) Five copies of the dissertation must be submitted to the dean's office or to an examination office appointed by the dean's office. Each evaluator receives a copy and one copy is kept and archived by the faculty.

#### §8 Examination commission

(1) For each doctoral procedure, the doctoral committee appoints an examination commission after the doctoral candidate has submitted the dissertation. As a rule, the examination commission consists of both evaluators for the dissertation in accordance with §9. The doctoral committee appoints a chairperson and a deputy chairperson of the examination commission, who must both be either a professor or habilitated member of the faculty.

(2) The examination commission consists of at least three persons who are entitled to perform examinations in the doctoral procedures, of whom at least two must be either professors or habilitated member of the faculty. In the case of a Dr. theol., all professors of the Department of Protestant Theology are members of the examination commission. The examination commission must not consist of more than one professor who has been relieved of his/her duties or who has retired. § 6 paragraph 3 remains unaffected.

(3) The doctoral committee will replace any members of the examination commission who leave or are hindered for any length of time for important reasons in accordance with measures in paragraph 2.

(4) The duties of the examination commission are: a) evaluation of the dissertation based on the submitted evaluations and comments in accordance with § 9 paragraph 5, 6,

b) scheduling and carrying out the oral defence,

c) evaluating the oral defence,

d) determining the overall grade, taking into consideration the individual grades for the dissertation and the oral defence in accordance with §§ 10, 11, 12.

(5) The examination commission does not meet in public.

(6) Decisions are made in the examination commission by majority. All votes on the dissertation evaluations are held by open ballot; abstentions are not permitted. The decisions regarding dissertation evaluations can only be made by all members of the examination commission.

§9 Evaluation of the  
dissertation

- (1) The doctoral committee appoints the evaluators for the dissertation after it has been submitted by the doctoral candidate.
- (2) The supervisor of the dissertation is appointed as the evaluator of the dissertation. The doctoral committee will also appoint another evaluator. At least one evaluator must be a professor. At least one evaluator must be a member of the Faculty of Humanities. At least one evaluator must belong to the area of expertise of the dissertation. If important methodological or subject-specific aspects of the dissertation lie in a field primarily taught by another faculty, another evaluator must be appointed from the respective faculty. § 6 paragraph 3 remains unaffected. The doctoral candidate can recommend the evaluators. Where possible, this recommendation should be accepted.
- (3) The evaluations must be written independently of each other and submitted within twelve weeks after they are requested. Extensions must be explained in writing to the doctoral committee. The members of the doctoral committee and the examination commission must treat the evaluations confidentially. The evaluations must acknowledge the significance of the dissertation and its results within a larger context and indicate any deficiencies. In the overall evaluation, each evaluator must recommend that the dissertation be accepted with a grade in accordance with § 10 or be rejected. If the evaluation does not clearly indicate the overall assessment, the doctoral committee will return the evaluation for revision.
- (4) If the evaluations differ by more than one grade, the doctoral committee will appoint an additional evaluator.
- (5) If both evaluators grade the dissertation as “summa cum laude”, this evaluation must be confirmed by a third, external evaluator. This evaluator must be appointed unanimously by the doctoral committee.
- (6) After completion of the evaluation process, the dissertation and the evaluations must be made available to the university public for two weeks, or four weeks during the semester holidays, in the dean’s office or in a place designated by the dean’s office. All faculty members entitled to supervise a dissertation in accordance with § 6 paragraphs 2 and 3 may read the dissertation and evaluations, and submit their statements on them in writing, which must be attached to the doctoral file. This group of people must be appropriately informed by the doctoral committee that the dissertation has been made publicly available. While the dissertation is available for public inspection, all members of the doctoral committee and the respective examination commission are entitled to read the dissertation and the evaluations. The doctoral committee may appoint an external evaluator in the event that statements are submitted during the period of public inspection.

§10

Decision on the dissertation and  
scheduling of the oral defence

- (1) At the end of the dissertation’s public presentation period, the examination commission will decide whether to accept or reject the dissertation, to admit the doctoral candidate to the oral defence and to award a grade to the dissertation.

If the dissertation is accepted, the following grades are used:

with distinction (summa cum laude, 0.7) for work from the respective area of expertise that results in new, significant academic findings accompanied by the fundamental creation of new facts and/or methodological innovation.

very good (magna cum laude, 1) for work from the respective area of expertise that results in new academic findings accompanied by the original creation of new facts and/or methodological innovation.

good (cum laude, 2) for work from the respective area of expertise that results in academic findings based on the creation of new facts and/or methodological innovation.

satisfactory (rite, 3) for work from the respective area of expertise that includes new facts and/or methodological innovation.

The grade “summa cum laude” may only be awarded for the dissertation if the third evaluation recommends this in accordance with § 9 paragraph 5. If the dissertation is rejected, the examination commission will not arrange an oral defence and will declare the doctorate to have failed, providing the reasons for its decision. The doctoral candidate is informed of the rejection in writing by the chairperson of the doctoral committee, who will provide the reasons for this decision made by the examination commission.

- (2) After the dissertation has been accepted, the examination commission informs the doctoral candidate of its decision and sets the date for the oral defence, which should be held no later than two months after the last evaluation has been submitted. Exceptions and the reasons for them must be submitted to and decided on by the chairperson of the doctoral committee. The chairperson of the doctoral committee then submits invitations to the oral defence.

- (3) If the doctoral candidate declares his/her decision to forgo the oral defence, the doctorate will be graded as failed. The chairperson of the doctoral committee must inform the doctoral candidate of this in written form.

§11

Oral defence

- (1) The purpose of the oral defence is for the doctoral candidate to demonstrate his/her ability to orally present and discuss academic issues. The candidate may choose to do the oral defence in English or German. The examination commission will decide upon request by the doctoral candidate whether the oral defence can be conducted in another language. The oral defence is open to the university public unless the candidate objects.

If necessary for an orderly oral defence, the chairperson can exclude the public; the members of the doctoral committee do not constitute the public in this context. The members of the examination commission are obliged to take part in the oral defence.

(2) The oral defence begins with an approx. 20-minute presentation in which the doctoral candidate highlights and discusses the results of the dissertation and their significance in a wider academic context. Afterwards, the doctoral candidate defends the dissertation and answers questions from the examination commission. The questions will address the issues presented in the dissertation and their relationship to larger academic concerns. In an oral defence for the Dr. theol., the questions should relate to at least three disciplines within the Department of Protestant Theology. The discussion must last at least 40 minutes but no longer than 70 minutes.

(3) The chairperson of the examination commission coordinates the academic discussion and decides on the priority and, if necessary, the permissibility of questions.

(4) The members of the examination commission appoint one of their members to take minutes of the oral defence. This member is then charged with the task of taking the minutes of the oral defence. The minutes are to be attached to the doctoral file and must contain the following details:

Date/time/location of oral defence  
Attendance list of the members of the examination commission  
Dissertation grade  
Notes on the main points made in the contributions to the discussion  
Grade for the oral defence  
Overall grade in accordance with § 12  
Any special incidents

The minutes must be signed by all members of the examination commission.

(5) If the doctoral candidate fails to attend the oral defence without providing a reason, he/she will be failed and notified of this in writing.

#### §12

##### Decision on the oral defence and doctorate

(1) After the oral defence, the examination commission meets privately to evaluate the oral defence by applying the grading system stated in § 10 paragraph 1. The examination commission then awards the overall grade according to the grading system stated in § 10 paragraph 1. The evaluation of the dissertation counts for three-quarters of the overall grade and the oral defence counts for one quarter. After rounding up the corresponding weighted average, the overall grade of the doctorate is determined as follows:

below 0.90: "with distinction" (summa cum laude),  
from 0.91 to 1.50: "very good" (magna cum laude),  
from 1.50 to 2.50: "good" (cum laude),  
from 2.50: "satisfactory" (rite).

The grade "with distinction" (summa cum laude) may only be awarded as the overall grade if the dissertation was awarded this grade.

The examination commission informs the doctoral candidate of the individual grades for the dissertation and oral defence as well as of the overall grade.

(2) After the examination commission has determined the overall grade, the doctoral candidate receives a preliminary certificate bearing the title of the dissertation, the individual grades of the dissertation and the oral defence and the overall grade. This preliminary certificate does not authorize use of the doctor title.

(3) If the oral defence has been failed, the chairperson of the doctoral committee must communicate this in writing to the doctoral candidate and include reasons within four weeks. The oral defence may be repeated once, at the earliest after one month and at the latest after three months.

(4) If the second oral defence is also failed, the examination commission will declare the doctorate to have failed and will explain its reasons for doing so. The chairperson of the examination commission will explain the decision to the doctoral candidate in writing within two weeks.

#### §13

##### Publication and submission requirements

(1) The dissertation must be published within two years after completion of the doctorate. If it cannot be published in this period, the chairperson of the doctoral committee can extend the deadline upon request.

(2) In agreement with the requirements of the State and University Library, the doctoral committee decides how many copies of the dissertation, printed or otherwise, must be provided by the doctoral candidate. It also decides in what form the printed copies may be replaced by other information carriers.

#### §14

##### Doctorate certificate

(1) A doctorate certificate is issued in German and, upon request, in English. The certificate bears the subject of the doctorate, the title of the submitted dissertation, the grades of the dissertation and the oral defence, the overall grade and the date of the successfully completed oral defence.

(2) If any reasons arise for revoking the doctorate certificate before it has been issued, the certificate will not be presented. In this case, the applicant will be informed of the reasons for refusal to issue the certificate. Furthermore, he/she will be informed of the possibility of appealing against this decision.

(3) The doctorate certificate should be issued within four weeks after notification of the obligation to fulfil the publication requirement in accordance with § 13. The doctorate certificate authorizes the use of the doctor title.

#### §15

##### Appealing against and reviewing the procedures

Provided that instructions on the right to appeal have been issued, appeals against decisions made by the examination commission must be submitted within a month, otherwise within a year, following

notification by the chairperson of the examination commission. If the appeal is not recognized by the examination commission, the case must be forwarded to the university's Appeals Committee of Doctoral Affairs for a decision (§ 66 of the Hamburg Higher Education Law of 18 July 2001, last amended on 26 January 2010). The candidate can also appeal against the decisions made by the doctoral committee.

#### §16

##### Joint doctorate with foreign institutions

(1) The doctoral procedures can be pursued jointly with foreign universities or equivalent educational or research institutions if

a) the applicant fulfils the requirements for admission to the doctoral procedures at the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Hamburg

and

b) the foreign institution is entitled in accordance with its national legal regulations to award doctorates, and the degree conferred by this institution is recognized under the jurisdiction of the German Basic Law.

(2) The pursuit of a joint doctorate must be governed by contractual agreement. The contractual regulations apply, in addition to the provisions of these doctorate regulations. Upon their agreement, the provisions of these doctorate regulations must be taken into account with regard to the requirements and procedures for ensuring equivalence. There must be agreement regarding which doctorate regulations apply. The foreign doctorate regulations must be presented, if applicable, in a German or English translation in order to determine if they are equivalent to the requirements and procedures of the faculty's doctorate regulations. If the foreign doctorate regulations are to be applied, it must be ascertained that the essential provisions of the doctorate regulations of the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Hamburg are also adhered to.

(3) The doctoral candidate must be admitted to both participating institutions.

(4) The language in which the dissertation can be written must be contractually agreed upon. If applicable, the dissertation must include a summary in the third language, in addition to the German and English summaries.

(5) The examination commission consists of two professors or habilitated members of the participating faculties of the universities or equivalent research or educational institutions involved. Both evaluators are members of the commission. Upon request, the commission can be expanded by up to two more professors or habilitated members of the participating faculties, although equal representation must be maintained. It must be guaranteed that the members of the examination commission are proficient in the language in which exams are held.

(6) In the event of divergent grading systems in the two countries, there must be an agreement on ascertaining and documenting a uniform, jointly awarded grade.

(7) Both universities jointly issue a bilingual doctorate certificate using the template issued by the German Rectors' Conference. This entitles the doctoral candidate to use the doctor title in either its German or foreign variation. However, only one doctor title is awarded.

#### §17

##### Honorary doctorate

(1) In recognition of outstanding academic achievements, the Faculty of Humanities can award the rank and honour of an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy (Dr. phil. h.c.) or an Honorary Doctor of Theology (D. theol. h.c.).

(2) The award must be recommended in writing together with reasons by at least two professors or habilitated members of the faculty and sent to the dean's office or to the dean.

(3) The recommendation is accepted if at least three quarters of the members of the faculty council are in favour of it.

(4) The honorary doctorate is awarded when a certificate is issued attesting to the academic achievements of the honorary doctor.

#### §18

##### Revocation of the doctor title

Legal regulations apply with regard to the revocation of the doctor title.

#### §19

##### Ending doctoral procedures, withdrawal, new doctoral procedures

(1) If more than eight years have passed since the candidate's admission to the doctoral procedures, the doctoral committee can terminate the procedures after obtaining written consent and a statement by the supervisor, and following a hearing with the doctoral candidate. The notification of termination must be explained in writing by the chairperson of the doctoral committee. A renewed application for admission to the doctoral procedures will not be excluded for that reason.

(2) The doctoral candidate can withdraw at any time prior to the receipt of the first evaluation. Following a withdrawal, the previous procedural steps are no longer considered to constitute a doctoral procedure.

#### §20

##### Taking effect, expiration and interim regulations

These doctorate regulations take effect one day after their publication. They are effective for all doctoral candidates who apply for admission to the doctoral procedures after these regulations take effect. Doctoral candidates who are already enrolled for doctoral studies in the Faculty of Humanities or are in employment at the University of Hamburg at the time that these regulations take effect, have the opportunity for five years after these regulations take effect to carry out the doctoral procedures in the version that is applicable for the subject of the doctorate at the time of enrolment or commencement of employment.

Hamburg, 19 August 2010

**University of Hamburg**

Public register p. 1771

### **Appendix 1**

Language requirements for the doctoral subjects at the  
Faculty of Humanities

(1) For admission to a doctorate for the title of Dr. theol., candidates require a certificate in Ancient Greek, Classical Hebrew and Latin. Doctoral candidates with a certificate for the First Public Examination for the teaching profession at the upper level of general education schools can apply for exemption from providing a certificate in either Latin or Classical Hebrew. Exemption from Classical Hebrew is not permitted for a doctorate in one of the exegetical subjects, and exemption from Latin is not permitted for a doctorate in Church History or Systematic Theology. In special exceptions, foreign doctoral candidates can be exempted from having to provide a certificate in Classical Hebrew or Latin if they

- a) can show sufficient knowledge of the language in question in any other way or
- b) can prove a special knowledge of other foreign languages.

(2) Besides the language skills required for the dissertation, the following requirements must be met for the Dr. phil.:

Ancient History,  
Classical Archaeology,  
Byzantine and New Greek Philology:

Latin and Ancient Greek; Medieval and Modern History: Latin (if emphasis is on Medieval History), Basic Latin (if emphasis is on Modern History); Social and Economic History: Latin (if emphasis is on Medieval History), Basic Latin (if emphasis is on Modern History); Greek Philology: Latin, Latin Philology: Ancient Greek.

“Basic Latin”, “Latin” and “Ancient Greek” certificates provide sufficient language skills based on the respective examinations, as is attested by the successful completion of the corresponding university courses (Basic Latin: Latin course 2, Latin: Latin course 3, Greek/Ancient Greek: Greek I + II).

If a dissertation topic is selected from the subject of Modern History or Social and Economic History with an emphasis on Modern History, applicants from other cultural regions can provide evidence of their knowledge of another classical language instead of Latin. The faculty council may make special agreements for applicants from a cultural region that does not have its own classical languages.

If a dissertation topic is selected from the subject of Modern History or Social and Economic History with an emphasis on Modern History and the processing of which does not require any knowledge of Latin, the doctoral committee may, upon request, waive the applicant’s requirement to provide a certificate in Latin if the application is supported by the supervisor.