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**Study and Examination Regulations  
for the doctoral degree programme in "Theology"  
at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen**

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**I. General Regulations**

**§ 1 Scope**

**Purpose of the doctoral studies and the doctoral examination**

(1) <sup>1</sup>These regulations provide for the doctoral studies and the doctoral process, including the award and withdrawal of the doctorate, within the framework of the doctoral programme in theology at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. <sup>2</sup>The doctoral programme comprises the doctoral studies and the doctoral examination.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral programme qualifies the students to develop a research project in a theological discipline as well as to process it as part of a dissertation in a methodically controlled manner, appropriately present its results and apply the gained insights and ongoing issues within the overall area of theology. <sup>2</sup>It thus qualifies the students for independent in-depth scientific work as a theologian.

(3) <sup>1</sup>By completing the doctoral examination, the candidate proves his or her ability to autonomously design and carry out substantial research projects with scientific integrity, therein to independently identify scientific issues, to develop new and complex ideas based on individual critical analysis, and hence to contribute to scientific advancement. <sup>2</sup>He or she possesses a systematic understanding of his or her research area and any related research areas, also extensive knowledge of the relevant literature. <sup>3</sup>By submission of a scientific dissertation, he or she has made a personal contribution to research that serves to expand the horizons of knowledge and that withstands critical appraisal by the scientific community. <sup>4</sup>He or she has demonstrated a personal ability to discuss insight from his or her specialist field with other researchers, and to present and communicate this insight to an audience in a suitable form.

(4) Moreover, this regulation describes the terms under which an honorary doctorate is awarded by the Faculty of Theology at Georg-August-Universität Göttingen.

(5) This regulation also provides for the withdrawal of the doctoral degree, even insofar as it was earned in a doctoral programme outside of the doctoral programme in theology at the Faculty of Theology of Georg-August-Universität.

## **§ 2 University degree**

(1) The Faculty of Theology at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen awards the doctorate degree in theology (Doctor of theology) (*Doctor theologiae*, in short: "Dr. theol.").

(2) The honorary title of doctor of theology can also be awarded following extraordinary doctoral studies.

## **§ 3 Standard course length, doctoral studies**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The standard course length is six semesters. It is extended by up to two semesters in the event of an important reason. <sup>2</sup>An important reason is present especially if

- a. it involves work with a considerably above-average workload involved in empirical work or work with documentary material,
- b) it is necessary to acquire dissertation-related foreign-language skills.

<sup>3</sup>The decision on the extension of the standard course length is made by the Dean of Studies upon application by the doctoral candidate in consultation with the thesis committee.

(2) The doctoral candidate must enrol for the duration of the doctoral studies and the doctoral examination.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral candidates are obligated to complete the doctoral studies of the Faculty of Theology comprising 24 C according to the prerequisite of the module overview (**appendix 1**). <sup>2</sup>Appropriate entry requirements are met through proof of regular participation in a structured doctorate programme as part of the Graduate School for Humanities in Göttingen (GSGG). <sup>3</sup>If examination components under line 1 cannot be completed due to reasons for which the doctoral candidate is not responsible or their completion means unreasonable hardship, then the doctoral committee can decide upon application that proof of individual examination components is waived for admission to the doctoral examination.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Successful participation in examination prerequisites is demonstrated by the assessment "passed". <sup>2</sup>A corresponding certificate will be issued once the necessary credits are acquired and assessed; instead of a certificate, an entry can be made in the electronic examination management system.

(5) An examination prerequisite is graded "failed" when it is not taken or the doctoral candidate withdraws from an enrolled examination prerequisite, unless the existence of an important reason is shown.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Should the doctoral candidate undertake by means of deception or the use of unauthorised aids or by subsequent exertion of influence on a person involved in the examination to distort the results of examination prerequisites to his or her own benefit or to the benefit of a third party (hereafter in general: deception), the examination prerequisites in question shall be assessed as 'failed'. <sup>2</sup>From the consequences mentioned in line 1 it can also be recognised whether the doctoral candidate carries any prohibited aids with himself or herself. <sup>3</sup>The examiner or adjudicator in question can exclude any doctoral candidate who grossly violates this regulation from a continuation of the examination prerequisites; in this case, the examination prerequisites in question shall be assessed as 'failed'. <sup>4</sup>In the event of severe cases, the doctoral committee is entitled to exclude the doctoral candidate from the completion of any further examination or degree prerequisites. <sup>5</sup>A decision may be made to refrain from imposing sanctions in less serious cases.

<sup>6</sup>If there is suspicion of the use of prohibited aids, the doctoral candidate is obligated to assist in the clarification and return the aids; should this be refusal, the relevant study or examination prerequisites are assessed as 'failed'. <sup>7</sup>Before a decision under sentence 4, the doctoral candidate should be heard.

(7) Failed modules can be retaken twice.

(8) The doctoral committee decides – upon recommendation of the thesis committee – on the transfer of credits acquired outside the doctoral programme as examination prerequisites.

(9) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral studies end with

- a) revocation or withdrawal of admission of the doctoral candidate or
- b) cancellation or lapse of the doctoral candidate relationship.

<sup>2</sup>Withdrawal, revocation or termination may take place for good cause; the doctoral committee is responsible in this respect. <sup>3</sup>In general, an important reason is deemed to exist if the doctoral candidate

- a) proves consistently unsuitable despite sufficient supervision,
  - b) fails repeatedly or to a significant extent in fulfilling the tasks with which he or she has been charged, in particular if he or she repeatedly and despite caution violates his or her reporting duties,
  - c) has breached the regulation to ensure good scientific practice,
  - d) his or her acceptance as doctoral candidate was acquired wrongfully by means of deception as concerns provision of the qualifications for entry,
- or
- e) if the relationship of trust with the doctoral candidate is irretrievably broken for reasons for which the he or she must carry responsibility.

<sup>4</sup>Moreover, the doctoral degree studies end upon declaration in this respect by the doctoral candidate.

#### **§ 4 Examination components**

(1) The degrees to be awarded under § 2 sections 1 are awarded on the basis of a doctoral examination.

(2) The doctoral oral exam includes a scientific treatise (thesis) and an oral exam (oral defense or oral examination).

(3) The doctoral committee shall suspend the doctoral process in the event that it becomes aware that proceedings are pending against the doctoral candidate concerning a breach of good scientific practice or that a judicial inquiry or criminal proceedings are pending in connection with the doctoral studies.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Should the doctoral candidate undertake to influence the results of the examination by means of deceit, in particular through the use of unauthorised aids in producing the dissertation or by retroactive exertion of influence on a person involved in the examination, the examination components in question shall be assessed as 'failed'. <sup>2</sup>Should the doctoral candidate grossly violate the regulations, the doctoral committee may decide on termination of the oral examination; in this case the oral examination shall be assessed as 'failed'. <sup>3</sup>The doctoral committee is entitled in serious cases to exclude the doctoral candidate from the completion of any further examination components; any breach of § 8 section 3 sentence 1 letter a) in particular shall be deemed a serious breach. <sup>4</sup>It is permitted to refrain from imposing a sanction in less serious cases. <sup>5</sup>Before a decision under sentence 3, the doctoral candidate should be heard.

## **§ 5 Doctoral Committee**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Faculty of Theology shall convene a doctoral committee in order to organise and assure the quality of examinations and all tasks assigned in this regulation.

(2) <sup>2</sup>This committee is composed of the Dean of Studies, three members of the professorial group and a PostDoc as well as a doctoral student in the degree programme in an advisory capacity. <sup>3</sup>The members of the professorial group, the PostDocs and the student body as well as their deputies will be appointed by the respective group representatives on the faculty council at the Faculty of Theology. <sup>4</sup>The tenure of the members is two years, while that of the student member is one year. <sup>5</sup>Reappointment is possible.

(2) The dean of studies shall chair the doctoral committee. The doctoral committee shall select from its members of the professorial group a deputy chairperson.

(3) The Doctoral Committee supports the Dean of Studies in doctoral matters and reports to the Faculty Council regularly on the finished and on-going procedures.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral committee does not meet in public. <sup>2</sup>The members are bound to professional non-disclosure. <sup>3</sup>Unless they are in public service, they are to be obligated to discretion by the chairperson.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral committee decides by simple majority; resolutions are not passed if there is a tied vote. <sup>2</sup>The professorial committee constitutes a quorum if the majority of the members eligible to vote are present.

(6) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral committee may, until further notice, transfer powers as concerns matters of ongoing management to the Dean of Studies; this shall not apply to rulings on objections. <sup>2</sup>Minutes are kept of the meetings of the doctoral committee. <sup>3</sup>They shall state the main topics of discussion and the resolutions by the doctoral committee.

(7) <sup>1</sup>Decisions by the doctoral committee must be communicated to the person affected without delay and in writing. <sup>2</sup>Negative decisions should be communicated in writing with reasons and instruction on legal recourse.

## **§ 6 Thesis committee**

(1) <sup>1</sup>For the thesis supervision during the doctoral studies graduation, a thesis committee is individually created for each doctoral candidate and it usually consists of at least three members, including at least two authorised examiners and the first academic advisor whose confirmation of supervision was the prerequisite for enrolment. <sup>2</sup>The members are appointed by the Dean of Studies in consultation with the first academic advisor at the latest six months following enrolment; the doctoral candidate has at the same time a right to make proposals which does not lead to any legal entitlement to any preferred composition of the thesis committee. <sup>3</sup>At least one member of the thesis committee must belong to the professorial group. <sup>4</sup>All members of the thesis committee must hold a doctorate; the members of the thesis committee who are authorised examiners must not be in a dependent relationship to each other. <sup>5</sup>The thesis committee can also include scientists from another university or research institution.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The thesis committee provides support and assistance to the doctoral candidate. <sup>2</sup>He or she must report regularly to the thesis committee, at least once each year, in detail about the status of the doctoral project undertaken.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The members of the thesis committee and the doctoral candidate shall conclude a supervision contract within three months following appointment of the thesis committee. <sup>2</sup>The contract must at least contain the details listed in **appendix 2**. <sup>3</sup>The doctoral candidate must submit the agreement to the office of the Dean of Studies in the Faculty of Theology as soon as the signatures from all members of the thesis committee have been obtained. <sup>4</sup>The doctoral candidate must submit to the thesis committee a preliminary schedule for the doctoral project by no later than upon conclusion of the contract.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Upon application of a member of the thesis committee or the doctoral candidate, the Dean of Studies can change the composition of the thesis committee; the doctoral candidate has at the same time a submit proposals, which does not lead to any legal entitlement to the preferred composition of the thesis committee. <sup>2</sup>It is only permitted to change the first academic advisor if the assistance for the doctoral studies is no longer guaranteed due to his or her prolonged absence or continuation of support is unreasonable in the event of important reason, especially due to a breakdown in mutual trust. <sup>3</sup>In the event of conflict between the academic advisor and the doctoral candidate, there should be an initial attempt by a person of trust at GSGG to mediate between the parties.

## **§ 7 Withdrawal of an academic advisor**

(1) If the first academic advisor of a dissertation leaves the faculty, then he or she has the option to assist the dissertation until completion of the doctoral studies.

(2) If the first academic advisor cannot continue support due to health or other serious reasons, the Dean of Studies appoints a replacement in consultation with the doctoral candidate.

## II. Requirements and procedure of the doctoral examination

### § 8 Prerequisites for admission to sit the doctoral examination

- (1) Admission to the doctoral examination has the prerequisite that the applicant
- a) according to the statutory provisions is enrolled in the doctoral programme in theology as a doctoral candidate since the time of acceptance,
  - b) has properly completed the doctoral studies in accordance with § 3 section 3, and
  - c) has independently completed a written scientific treatise (dissertation) and has provided written assurance
    - ca) that he or she has independently written the dissertation,
    - cb) that he or she has not infringed any obligations defined in section 3,
    - cc) that the examination rights, including the principle of scientific integrity – encompassing strict adherence to annotation requirements to ensure that intellectual property belonging to other persons is marked clearly in the dissertation – were adhered to, and
    - cd) no equivalent doctoral studies have been applied for elsewhere, and that the proposed thesis or parts thereof have not been submitted elsewhere.
- (2) Admission to the doctoral examination must be refused, or the admission suspended at any time, insofar as it was simultaneously applied for with a faculty or at a different university.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>Persons shall be ineligible for admission to the doctoral examination in particular if they
- a) they did not personally author parts of the dissertation, and instead availed themselves of assistance from third parties in a manner that contradicts examination rights and the principles of scientific integrity;
  - b) use the services of a paid agent for the purpose of obtaining information on doctorate opportunities;
  - c) in the context of the doctoral process and its preparation have paid fees or have provided or obtained paid or unpaid services that are contrary to the meaning and purpose of an examination procedure;
  - d) satisfy requirements for which the doctoral examination might be declared void or the doctoral degree withdrawn.

<sup>2</sup>In these cases, reapplication for permission to take the doctoral examination exam is not permitted.

## **§ 9 Application for admission to the doctoral examination**

(1) After completion of the dissertation, a written application for permission to take the doctoral examination and commencement of the doctoral examination procedure should be submitted to the Dean of the Faculty of Theology.

(2) The following should be enclosed with the application:

- a) at least four copies of the academic treatise (dissertation) in a written form, each with a bound declaration according to § 8 section 1,
- b) one copy of the dissertation in a digital form on an industry standard data carrier and in the format of a standard word processing program, or as an unprotected (allowing text extraction) PDF document; the doctoral candidate must provide firm assurance that the digital version and the written academic treatise are identical,
- c) a proposal for the reviewers of the dissertation and the other members of the examination board,
- d) possibly also proof of successful completion of examination prerequisites or language skills, upon which admission to the course of study and the ascertainment of eligibility for admission were made dependent,
- e) the proof of successful completion of the doctoral studies,
- f) a curriculum vitae in tabular form,
- g) a police clearance certificate whose issue is no longer than three months in the past,
- h) the proof of proper enrolment, and
- i) proof of membership in a protestant church, i.e. a church or denomination belonging to the World Council of Churches.

(3) <sup>1</sup>After submission of the application and review of the formal prerequisites, the Dean of Studies decides on admission to take the doctoral examination. <sup>2</sup>Once all prerequisites have been satisfied, he or she shall thereupon open the doctoral process and shall appoint the examination board. <sup>3</sup>In the admission to the doctoral examination, the doctoral candidate acquires the rightful claim to a review of the academic treatise he or she has submitted.

(4) The applicant receives a written notice regarding the admission, and in the case of rejection, along with information on legal remedies.

(5) <sup>1</sup>It is permitted to withdraw an application for admission to the doctoral examination, provided a decision on acceptance or rejection of a thesis is not pending and the oral examination has not begun. <sup>2</sup>An attempt to take the doctoral examination does not count as taken in case of a legal withdrawal.

## **§ 10 Thesis**

(1) The topic of the dissertation is to be chosen from one of the following seven research areas: Old Testament, New Testament, church history, systematic theology, practical theology, religious studies, Jewish studies.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The thesis must be an independent scientific achievement by the doctoral candidate, and must represent a substantial and innovative contribution to the advancement of scientific knowledge. <sup>2</sup>It must demonstrate that the doctoral candidate possesses the capability to independently apply flawless methodologies to resolve scientific issues in the selected research area and to present the results clearly and in a manner typical of the research area. <sup>3</sup>The thesis must not have been or be used for any other doctoral or comparable process at a university in Germany or abroad, unless otherwise specified in these regulations. <sup>4</sup>Sentence 3 applies accordingly to use within the context of other, individual examination components, in particular a master, Magister or Diplom thesis, unless section 4 sentence 2 specifies a different procedure.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Group work can be regarded as independent scientific work, if the contribution of each doctoral candidate can be clearly demarcated and assessed as an individual contribution. <sup>2</sup>Each contribution is to be separately assessed as a thesis.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Results that are already published can be incorporated in the thesis, provided in an aggregate sense they do not account for more than 50 per cent of the overall scope of the thesis; they must be annotated according to good scientific practice. <sup>2</sup>Results of other examination components produced by the doctoral candidate may be used up to an aggregate amount of one third of the total scope of the thesis; they must be annotated according to good scientific practice.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The thesis must be written in German. <sup>2</sup>The thesis committee, consulting with the Dean of Studies, will decide on exceptions as described in sentence 1 upon application by the doctoral candidate; the decision must be placed on file; the doctoral committee will make a final decision

insofar as no amicable solution can be reached; the application can be rejected without statement of reasons. <sup>3</sup>All members of the examination board must have a sufficient command of the examination language.

### **§ 11 Review, examination board**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Dean of Studies appoints two reviewers for the dissertation, who are authorised examiners in accordance with § 12 and are generally members of the thesis committee. <sup>2</sup>In exceptional cases, he or she names additional reviewers, especially for interdisciplinary or inter-faculty papers. <sup>3</sup>Only members of a protestant church can be appointed as first reviewer. <sup>4</sup>The doctoral committee may allow in exceptional cases the appointment of a member of another (non-protestant) church or denomination as first reviewer, as far as this church or denomination is represented in the World Council of Churches and protestant theological research, especially its ecumenical relations are promoted through the appointment. <sup>5</sup>In this case, at least two other reviewers are appointed, who are members of an protestant church.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The examination board will be appointed by the Dean of Studies; besides the reviewers as stated in sentence 1, it shall furthermore comprise at least two other members who are authorised examiners; the doctoral candidate is entitled to table proposals, but this shall not constitute any legal entitlement to decide on members of the board. <sup>2</sup>The members of the examination board must belong to at least three research areas within theology. <sup>3</sup>Contrary to sentence 2, one representative of a research area of relevance to the dissertation, but not belonging to the area of theology, may also be appointed in addition to the two members belonging to the theological research areas. <sup>4</sup>The Dean of Studies appoints the first reviewer of the dissertation as the chairperson of the examination board.

(3) Professors in retirement or otherwise relieved of duties shall not be appointed reviewers or members of the examination board; this is without prejudice to appointments made before retirement or the granting of leave.

(4) In the event that additional reviewers or examiners are appointed over the course of the examination process, they shall also be appointed members of the examination board.

(5) Abstentions are not permitted in rulings by the examination board.

## **§ 12 Authorisation to take the examination**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Members of the professorial group at the Faculty of Theology are authorised examiners. <sup>2</sup>Die Moreover, members and staff of the Faculty of Theology can be appointed authorised examiners if they carry the title of "associate professor" "extraordinary professor" or were previously authorised examiners according to sentence 1. <sup>3</sup>In established exceptional cases, a postdoc member of another faculty or university or a non-university research institution can also be appointed as the reviewer or examiner. <sup>4</sup> 1The responsibility for appointments as authorised examiners in accordance with sentences 2 and 3 is within the remit of the faculty council. <sup>5</sup>Examination authorisation can be granted for one or several research areas.

(2) At least one of the reviewers must be a full-time member of the professorial group of the Faculty of Theology at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen.

## **§ 13 Acceptance or rejection of the dissertation**

(1) Each reviewer should produce an assessment of the dissertation within three months after filing the dissertation and propose:

- a) to accept the thesis,
- b) to reject the thesis or
- c) to return the thesis for revision, if he or she would recommend a rejection otherwise.

(2) Upon request by at least one reviewer, the submitted dissertation can be subjected to an examination by means of suitable (plagiarism detection) software to ensure that it was completed in compliance with the examination rights and the principles of scientific integrity.

(3) If acceptance of the dissertation is recommended, one of the grades according to § 20 section 2 must also be proposed.

(4) If all reviewers agree on acceptance and/or rejection of the dissertation, it is accepted or rejected, subject to an appeal as stated under § 14 section 2.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Insofar as the evaluators do not agree on acceptance or rejection, or insofar as their assessments deviate by more than one grade, the examination board will, upon consultation of a further review, make a final decision on acceptance and grade, rejection or return of the thesis for revision. <sup>2</sup>The additional evaluator becomes a member of the examination board; the additional review is to be treated in the same manner as the reviews previously carried out. <sup>3</sup>The examination board shall otherwise decide on the acceptance and grade, rejection or return of the thesis for revision based on the assessments on hand, especially in the case of an objection in accordance with § 14 section 2.

(6) <sup>1</sup>The examination board must set an appropriate deadline for completion of the revision. <sup>2</sup>If a dissertation returned for revision is not resubmitted within this deadline, it is regarded as rejected. <sup>3</sup>In the event that the thesis is submitted within the specified deadline, the further procedure will be decided based on sections 1 to 5; however, the thesis may not be returned for revision on another occasion.

(7) <sup>1</sup>In the case of rejection of thesis, reapplication for permission to take the doctoral examination is possible only once and not before the end of a year. <sup>2</sup>In this case, a new or considerably improved thesis must be submitted. <sup>3</sup>Here, notification of the unsuccessful attempt must be made. <sup>4</sup>If this thesis is also rejected, then the doctoral examination is definitively failed.

(8) <sup>1</sup>The Dean of Studies informs the doctoral candidate in writing of the decision to accept or reject the dissertation. <sup>2</sup>Acceptance of the dissertation shall also constitute admission to the oral defense. <sup>3</sup>In the event of rejection on the first occasion, notification will be provided with reference to the terms of section 7 concerning the option to resubmit the proposal. Instructions on the rights of legal recourse will be provided with a notice of rejection.

## **§ 14 Reassessment**

(1) Following receipt of the review and the proposals as specified under § 13 section 1, the Dean of Studies notifies the authorised examining members at the Faculty of Theology of the received votes and sets a deadline of at least five working days during the period of lectures or ten working days during the lecture-free period for a confidential review of the dissertation.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral committee may appoint a further reviewer for the dissertation insofar as an authorised examiner raises written and reasoned objections to the proposed acceptance or rejection of a dissertation or its grade. <sup>2</sup>The objections must be reasoned in writing.

(3) The additional reviewer becomes member of the examination board; the additional review is to be treated in the same manner as the already carried out reviews.

### **§ 15 Reference copy**

A submitted copy of the dissertation remains with all reviews at the faculty archive.

### **§ 16 Form of the oral examination**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The oral examination can be conducted as oral defense or oral examination depending on the preference of the doctoral candidate. <sup>2</sup>The first academic advisor should advise the doctoral candidate on the selection of form for the oral examination.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The examination language is German. <sup>2</sup>The thesis committee, consulting with the Dean of Studies, will decide on exceptions upon application by the examinee; the doctoral committee will make a final decision insofar as no amicable solution can be reached; the application can be rejected without statement of reasons. <sup>3</sup>All members of the examination board must have a sufficient command of the examination language.

### **§ 17 Date of the oral examination**

<sup>1</sup>The Dean of Studies shall schedule the oral examination upon or after the decision on admission to the oral examination; the doctoral candidate shall receive notification of the date in a text form at least one week in advance of the date. <sup>2</sup>The oral examination should not be later than 16 weeks after admission to the doctoral examination. <sup>3</sup>The deadline for submitting the dissertation returned for revision is extended by this time for revision.

## **§ 18 Oral defense**

(1) In the oral defense, the doctoral candidate should prove that he or she has thorough specialised knowledge and can independently reason out, illustrate plausibly and defend scientific problems.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The oral defense consists of two parts. <sup>2</sup>In the first part, the doctoral candidate should explain the goals and results of his or her dissertation in the form of a presentation lasting for a maximum of 20 minutes. <sup>3</sup>In the second part of the oral defence, the doctoral candidate should respond to questions placed by the examiners that relate to the subject areas and methodical questions concerning the speciality as a whole and related research areas, also on the larger scientific context that includes the dissertation. <sup>4</sup>This may take place based on a thesis paper that makes reference to other research areas represented on the examination board.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The oral defense lasts no more than 120 minutes. <sup>2</sup>In the case of group work in accordance with § 10 section 3, the joint examination will last no more than 240 minutes.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The examination is taken before the examination board. <sup>2</sup>The examination board is entitled to allow questions to be put to the doctoral candidate from the university public.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The oral defense is open to the university public. <sup>2</sup>Upon application of the doctoral candidate, the university public may be excluded, provided there is an important reason. <sup>3</sup>Ruling thereon is passed by the examinations board. <sup>4</sup>The authorised examining members of the Doctoral Committee have the right to participate in the oral defense and advice the examination board about the review, even in the case the public of the university is excluded.

(6) A written record on the course of the oral exam should be prepared.

## **§ 19 Doctoral viva**

(1) In the doctoral viva the doctoral candidate should prove thorough and interdisciplinary theological education and decision-making capability.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The exam covers three of the research areas, namely Old Testament, New Testament, systematic theology, church history, practical theology and religious studies. <sup>2</sup>In this case, the research area of the dissertation is examined as the main subject for about 60 minutes and two other research areas as subsidiary subjects for about 30 minutes; one of the research areas of the exam must be dogmatics and moral theology, another one must be Old Testament or New Testament.

(3) The doctoral viva lasts no more than 120 minutes.

(4) The examination is accepted by the examination board.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Doctoral candidates, who will soon be holding the oral examination themselves, can follow the examination, provided the examinee provides consent. <sup>2</sup>This right does not extend to advice and notification of the examination result.

(6) A written record on the course of the oral exam should be prepared.

### **III. Pass, fail, completion of the doctoral studies**

#### **§ 20 Individual and overall grades of the doctoral studies**

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

(2) <sup>1</sup>The following can be awarded as grades of the single reviews for the dissertation and for the oral examination:

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

<sup>2</sup>The grades (apart from the grade summa cum laude) can be increased by 0.3 or (with the exception of the grade rite) reduced by the same amount; it is also possible to grade certain parts of the doctoral viva examination as "non rite" (insufficient).

(3) The grade of the dissertation results from the arithmetic average of the grades given by each of the reviewers, unless otherwise specified in § 13 section 5 sentence 1:

up to and including 0.50 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.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The grade of the oral defense results from the weighted arithmetic mean of the grades awarded by each member of the examination board. <sup>2</sup>The provisions of section 3 apply correspondingly to the calculation of the current average grade.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The grade in the oral examination represents the weighted grade point average of the grades in the individual examination subjects; an assessment of individual examination parts as "non rite" constitutes the award of a grade point of 4. <sup>2</sup>In doing this, the main subject is included with the factor 2 in the calculation, whereas the two subsidiary subjects with the factor 1. <sup>3</sup>The provisions of section 3 apply correspondingly to the calculation of the grade in the doctoral viva.

(6) <sup>1</sup>The current average grade results as a weighted arithmetic average from the grade of the oral examination and the grade of the dissertation. <sup>2</sup>The dissertation with the factor 2 and the oral examination with the factor 1 are included in the calculation. <sup>3</sup>The provisions of section 3 apply correspondingly to the calculation of the current average grade.

(7) <sup>1</sup>The result of the doctoral examination is disclosed to the doctoral candidate immediately after the assessment. <sup>2</sup>Upon application, the doctoral candidate receives a certificate on the examination result; this must also show that the doctoral degree may not be held before award of the doctoral studies.

### **§ 21 Failure, discontinuance, retake of the oral examination**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The oral defense will be graded as not passed if the performance is inadequate; a doctoral viva is considered not passed if the average grade is higher than 3.00 in accordance with § 19 section 5. <sup>2</sup>If the examinee fails to attend the examination or withdraws from the examination, then the examination is considered failed, unless an important reason occurs. <sup>3</sup>Important reasons must be notified immediately in writing to the examination board and must be made plausible. <sup>4</sup>In case of

withdrawal or failure to attend due to illness, a medical certificate specifying the expected duration of the disease causing the inability to take the examination should be produced immediately, unless the illness is obvious. <sup>5</sup>If the reasons are accepted, a new examination date is scheduled.

(2) <sup>1</sup>A failed oral examination can be repeated within a year upon application of the doctoral candidate; however, this shall be no earlier than after six months. <sup>2</sup>A second retake is not allowed; unsuccessful exams in a theological doctoral process at other universities are considered as attempts in the examination of the doctoral degree programme in theology at the Georg-August-Universität. <sup>3</sup>If the oral examination has been irrevocably failed, the doctoral examination shall also be deemed irrevocably unsuccessful.

## **§ 22 Safeguarding provisions**

(1) <sup>1</sup>If the examinee makes it plausible that he or she is not in a position (e.g. due to long-lasting or permanent physical impairment) to complete the examination components entirely or partly in the intended form, then he or she should be able to complete the examination components in an extended processing time or equivalent examination components in another form. <sup>2</sup>A medical certificate from a <sup>3</sup>specialist physician must be produced in original. <sup>3</sup>Submission of a copy is not sufficient. <sup>4</sup>The examination board rules in this effect.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Insofar as compliance with the deadlines for the initial registration for examinations, retake, reasons for not attending the examinations and compliance with processing times for examination papers are affected, the illness of the examinee and the necessary sole care by one or a near relative are considered equivalent. <sup>2</sup>Close relatives are the candidate's children, parents, grandparents, married partner and life partner, also their children.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Study or examination components may not be fulfilled by pregnant women, if the life or health of the mother or child is endangered according to the medical certificate. <sup>2</sup>Furthermore, the safeguarding provisions corresponding to §§ 3, 4, 6 and 8 of the Maternal Protection Act apply.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral candidate must not be placed at a disadvantage due to the provisions under section 3. <sup>2</sup>Fulfilment of the prerequisites under sections 1 to 3 should be evidenced through suitable documents, for example medical certificates from specialist physicians, birth certificates, certifications of the local residents' registration office, etc.

## § 23 Publication of the thesis

- (1) Doctoral candidates must publish their thesis.
- (2) During publication, the doctoral candidate should consider recommendations by the reviewers on content-related changes.
- (3) This is always predicated upon the first reviewer confirming upon a corrections slip (**Appendix 4**) that the work satisfies the formal requirements for publication.
- (4) Publication takes place in the form of printing of the thesis in an academic journal, in an academic series, as an independent printed or electronic publication in the publishing trade, as an electronic publication on the document server of the Göttingen State and University Library or by a comparable academic information infrastructure.
- (5) The faculty council may permit other publication forms in individual cases.
- (6) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral candidate must submit a definite number of printed copies of the publications or his/her dissertation (obligatory copies) to be specified by the faculty council's decision for the respective publication form, free-of-charge to the faculty. <sup>2</sup>They must be submitted to the faculty within two years of passing the oral examination. <sup>3</sup>If the doctoral candidate fails to meet this deadline, all rights acquired through the examination become void. <sup>4</sup>The Dean of Studies can extend the deadline for submission, but by no more than a further year. <sup>5</sup>This requires a reasoned application filed by the doctoral candidate before expiry of the annual deadline.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>The submitted parts should be provided with a title page, whose front and rear side should be designed according to the template in **appendix 3**. <sup>2</sup>The dissertation should be followed by a short printed c.v. that depicts the scientific educational career of the doctoral candidate besides details about date and place of birth, nationality and duration of study at each one of the universities according to the sequence of their attendance. <sup>3</sup>The faculty can permit exemption from these provisions. <sup>4</sup>They do not apply to the copies of the work appearing in the book-trade.
- (8) <sup>1</sup>Publication in the form of single contributions in publications with external review procedures is also considered a publication, insofar as the publications represent the contents of the dissertation

as a whole. <sup>2</sup>This is confirmed in the revision slip (section 3). <sup>3</sup>The provision of the section 7 applies correspondingly.

(9) If the dissertation writing is published in parts in accordance with section 8, but without reflecting the contents as a whole, the provisions of the sections 2 to 7 apply to the as yet unpublished parts.

(10) <sup>1</sup>Should there be an important reason and upon joint application of the doctoral student and his or her first academic advisor, publication may be managed initially in the manner that only the abstract is made publicly available for a certain period and not the complete dissertation manuscript. <sup>2</sup>An important reason is present especially when

- a) parts of the thesis were accepted for publication in a journal or a publishing house and prior publication of these parts is inadmissible according to the underlying contract, or
- b) this is required for the protection of intellectual property.

<sup>3</sup>The period under sentence 1 ends six months after the date of the passed oral examination; provided a reasoned application is submitted, the period can be extended once by an additional six months. <sup>4</sup>Ruling thereon is passed by the examinations board. <sup>5</sup>The application should be placed before the oral examination scheduled. <sup>6</sup>At the latest with the expiry of the time period under lines 1 and 3, the obligatory copies under section 6 line 1 must be submitted.

## **§ 24 Award of the doctorate**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Once the doctoral candidate has completed all of the requirements stipulated by the doctoral degree regulations and has, in particular, submitted the compulsory copies, the Dean shall then award the doctoral deed and the doctoral certificate, each with an English translation (**Appendix 5** and **Appendix 6**). <sup>2</sup>The doctoral certificate can be issued in Latin instead of German, subject to application (**Appendix 7**). <sup>3</sup>The day of the passed oral examination is considered the date of doctoral graduation.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Contrary to section 1 line 1, the doctorate can be awarded before the mandatory copies are submitted, if

- a) instead of the compulsory copies, a publishing house contract with an accredited scientific publishing house is submitted and moreover declares in writing that the printing and submission of

the obligatory copies are guaranteed within a maximum period of a year following the oral examination, and

b) publication takes place in accordance with § 23 section section 10.

<sup>2</sup>The doctorate is awarded in this case under reservation of the fulfilment of obligations according to § 23 section 6. <sup>3</sup>If this obligation is violated, all rights acquired through the examination, especially the right to carry the doctoral degree, become void. <sup>4</sup>The doctoral certificate shall be returned immediately in this case.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral degree may not be used before award over the doctoral certificate. <sup>2</sup>The title "Dr. des." must not be used.

(4) Doctoral studies are complete upon award of the doctoral certificate.

### **§ 25 Inspection of the Examination Records**

In the period between conclusion of the oral examination and awarding the doctorate or within four weeks after return or rejection of the dissertation or after failure of the oral examination, the doctoral candidate is entitled to inspect the written reviews and the minutes of the examination at the Dean of Studies.

### **§ 26 doctoral album**

The faculty keeps a doctoral album, in which the name, date and place of birth of the doctoral graduate, the title of the dissertation, the names of the reviewers, the date of the oral examination, the names of the members of the examination board, the examination subjects, the current average grade and the doctoral graduation date are entered.

#### **IV. Invalidity of the doctoral examination Withdrawal of the doctoral degree**

##### **§ 27 Invalidity of the doctoral degree examination; withdrawal of the doctorate**

- (1) The doctoral examination can be declared void and the doctorate can be withdrawn,
- a) if it is subsequently ascertained that the doctorate was acquired through fraudulence, or if essential prerequisites for the admission to the doctoral examination were wrongly presumed to be fulfilled,
  - b) if it is subsequently ascertained that the holder of the doctoral degree did, due to grossly negligent or intentional conduct in violation of the obligation to uphold scientific integrity,
    - ba) prove unworthy of being awarded a doctoral degree, or
    - bb) prove unworthy of holding an academic degree due to his or her subsequent behaviour.
- (2) In the event that there is a lawful conviction for a criminal offence in connection with the doctoral studies, the doctoral examination shall be declared void and the doctorate shall be withdrawn.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The faculty council shall rule in cases governed by sections 1 and 2 by a majority vote of its members holding a doctoral degree; in cases in which there is a suspicion of scientific misconduct, the ruling shall be preceded by an arbitration procedure as defined in the regulations of Georg-August-Universität intended to safeguard good scientific practice. <sup>2</sup>Notification is issued by the dean. <sup>3</sup>The notice must be sent to the recipient in question.

#### **V. Honorary doctorates**

##### **§ 28 Awarding the honorary doctorate**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The honorary doctorate in theology is awarded by the faculty council as a rare distinction for outstanding scientific merit; this is decided by two-thirds of the members, (which also includes two-thirds of the professoral group) who are eligible to vote. <sup>2</sup>The Faculty Council passes by-laws for this. <sup>3</sup>Exclusively members and fellows of the Faculty of Theology are entitled to submit proposals for persons to be honoured in this way.

(2) The honorary doctorate will be awarded when the dean submits the degree certificate. In the degree certificate, the scientific merits of the honorary doctoral graduate should be mentioned.

## **VI. Joint supervision procedure**

### **§ 29 Prerequisites for a joint supervision procedure**

(1) A doctoral process carried out jointly with a foreign university or faculty sets the prerequisites that

1. an agreement on the international supervision of this doctoral studies has been made with the foreign university or faculty

or

an individual cooperation contract for completion of a double doctoral degree has been concluded with the foreign university or faculty;

2. admission to the doctoral degree or acceptance as a doctoral candidate has been granted both at the University of Göttingen and the foreign university or faculty.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The dissertation can be submitted at the University of Göttingen or the foreign university or faculty according to more detailed regulation in the agreement under section 1 no. 1. <sup>2</sup>A dissertation that has been submitted at the foreign university or faculty and has been accepted or rejected there cannot be resubmitted at the University of Göttingen. <sup>3</sup>The agreement under section 1 no. 1 must guarantee that a dissertation submitted at the University of Göttingen and accepted or rejected there cannot be resubmitted at the foreign university or faculty.

(3) <sup>1</sup>During the execution of the doctoral process, the thesis supervision is provided by at least one authorised examined at the University of Göttingen or one professor at the foreign university or faculty. <sup>2</sup>The organisation of supervision is specified in the agreement under section 1 no. 1.

(4) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is submitted at the University of Göttingen, then § 30 should be applied. <sup>2</sup>If the dissertation is submitted at the foreign university or faculty, then § 31 should be applied.

### **§ 30 Submission at the University of Göttingen**

(1) If the dissertation is submitted at the University of Göttingen, then § 10 section 5 applies.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Notwithstanding § 11 (provision on composition of the examination board), the faculty executing the doctoral degree appoints in agreement with the foreign university or faculty an examination board, which must comprise scientists and scholars of both universities; further information on composition must be regulated in the agreement under § 29 section 1 no. 1. <sup>2</sup>Both academic advisers to the dissertation should be appointed as reviewers.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation was accepted at the University of Göttingen, then it is transferred to the foreign university or faculty for approval on the continuation of the process. <sup>2</sup>If the foreign university or faculty issues the approval on continuation of the process, then an oral examination takes place according to the provisions of §§ 16–19; a different procedure as described in §§ 16–19 may be applied according to the terms of the agreement in § 29 section 1 no. 1 in justified exceptions.

(4) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is accepted by the University of Göttingen, but the approval for continuing the process is rejected by the foreign university or faculty, the joint procedure is terminated. <sup>2</sup>The doctoral process is continued according to the general provisions of these regulations. <sup>3</sup>A new examination board is to be appointed for the examination in accordance with § 11.

### **§ 31 Submission at the foreign university or faculty**

(1) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is submitted at the foreign university or faculty, then the foreign university or faculty decides on its acceptance and/or continuation of the process after reviewing the dissertation. <sup>2</sup>If the decision is positive, the Faculty of Theology decides on the acceptance of the dissertation according to §13, after submission of all of the necessary reviews, in consideration of the review of the academic advisor of the University of Göttingen. <sup>3</sup>The dean announces the result to the foreign university or faculty. <sup>4</sup>Furthermore, he or she notifies the names of the reviewers to be appointed in Göttingen. <sup>5</sup>The oral examination takes place at the foreign university or faculty.

(2) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is rejected at the University of Göttingen, then the joint procedure is concluded. <sup>2</sup>The rejected dissertation may not be resubmitted at the University of Göttingen. <sup>3</sup>The decisions on the reassessment of the doctoral degree remain unaffected.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is rejected at the foreign university or faculty, then the joint procedure is concluded. <sup>2</sup>The dissertation can be submitted at the University of Göttingen. <sup>3</sup>The doctoral process is continued according to the general provisions of these regulations. <sup>4</sup>A new examination board is to be appointed for the examination in accordance with § 11.

### **§ 32 Joint doctoral certificate**

<sup>1</sup>Successful completion of the doctoral process in co-supervision with a foreign university or faculty is followed by the award of a joint doctoral certificate, which is signed by both universities and from which it is clear that it is a doctoral degree for scientific achievement awarded jointly by the concerned universities. <sup>2</sup>In the event that it is not possible to issue a joint doctoral certificate, the doctoral certificate of the University of Göttingen will be issued with the addendum that the doctoral degree was earned based on a joint doctoral process conducted with the foreign university or faculty.

## **VII. Decision, objection**

### **Entry into force; interim regulations**

### **§ 33 Decision, objection**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Rejections and other negative acts of administration that are ruled according to these regulations or other programme regulations must be reasoned in writing and provided with information on legal remedies and communicated to the doctoral candidate. <sup>2</sup>These decisions can be contested within one month after publication of the notice, as far as this notice concerns the assessment of an examination result.

(2) The Doctoral Committee decides on the objection in consideration of the procedure under section 3, unless the objection is cleared off.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Insofar the objection is against an assessment by an examiner, the doctoral committee forwards the objection of this person for review. <sup>2</sup>If the examiner changes the assessment according to the objection, then the Doctoral Committee clears off the objection. <sup>3</sup>Otherwise, it reviews the decision based on the statement by the examiner, especially based on whether

- a) the examination procedure has been properly carried out,
- b) the generally valid assessment principles have been followed,
- c) the assessment has been based completely on relevant facts,
- d) all justifiable solutions and those consistently established with serious arguments have been assessed as correct,
- e) the examiner has not been influenced by irrelevant considerations.

<sup>4</sup>The same applies if the appeal is against an assessment by several examiners. <sup>5</sup>In the event that there should be a violation in accordance with sentence 3, a further review on the dissertation shall be obtained accordingly or the oral examination will be repeated with an examiner as yet uninvolved in the procedure. <sup>6</sup>Reassessment must not lead to deterioration in the examination assessment. <sup>7</sup>A ruling on the appeal must be issued as quickly as possible.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The appeal must be lodged in writing or as a written record with the department that passed the decision. <sup>2</sup>Deadline is maintained through submission at the Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Theology.

(5) <sup>1</sup>If the objection is not sustained, a notice of rejection is issued. <sup>2</sup>In the event of any conflict, the Dean of Studies will make a ruling. <sup>3</sup>The notice of objection must be reasoned, provided with instructions on rights of appeal and delivered.

### **§ 34 Entry into force and provisional regulations**

(1) This regulation enters into force following its promulgation in the official bulletin I of Georg-August-Universität Göttingen as per 01.04.2016.

(2) At the same time, the examination and study regulations for the doctoral degree programme in theology in the version contained in the announcement dated 14.09.2009 (official announcements no. 22/2009 p. 2085) shall be rendered ineffective.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Doctoral candidates enrolled in the doctoral programme in theology before these regulations come into force and have since then remained enrolled without interruption shall be examined upon application according to the terms of regulations as set forth in sentence 2. <sup>2</sup>An examination according to the provisions of the regulations set forth in section 2 will be provided for the last time in the summer semester 2019.

## Appendix 1 Degree programme

### a. Module overview

Modules with a minimum rating of 24 credits should be successfully completed in accordance with the following provisions:

**aa.** The following 3 modules with a rating of 18 credits should be successfully completed:

- P.Theo.010 "Doktorandenkolloquium I: Forschungsmethodik sowie Konzeption und Planung einer theologischen Forschungsarbeit" (6 C / 2 WLH)
- P.Theo.020 "Doktorandenkolloquium II: Forschungsbericht, Präsentation und Entwicklung eines theologischen Forschungsprozesses" (6 C / 2 WLH)
- P.Theo.030 "Doktorandenkolloquium III: Forschungsbericht, Präsentation, Auswertung und Integration neuester theologischer Forschungen" (6 C / 2 WLH)

**bb.** At least one of the following modules with a rating of 6 credits should be successfully completed.

- P.Theo.041 "Hochschuldidaktik: Konzeption und Durchführung einer Lehrveranstaltung in der Theologie" (6 C / 2 WLH)
- P.Theo.042 "Schlüsselkompetenz: Erschließung relevanter Philologien" (6 C / 2 WLH)
- P.Theo.043 "Schlüsselkompetenz: Wissenschaftsorganisation" (6 C / 2 WLH)

**cc.** Instead of the module P.Theo.041, 042 and 043, corresponding modules from those offered by the Graduate School GSGG should be completed.

## b. Module descriptions

<b>Georg-August-Universität Göttingen</b> <b>Doctoral degree programme in theology</b> <b>P.Theo.010 "Doktorandenkolloquium I: Forschungsmethodik sowie Konzeption und Planung einer theologischen Forschungsarbeit"</b>				
<b>Learning outcome and skills</b>  Students acquire the ability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to review the relevant methods,</li> <li>• to develop suitable questions in respect to their own doctoral project,</li> <li>• to identify scientific problems and to develop possible solutions,</li> <li>• to find and apply appropriate methods, and</li> <li>• to discuss their project with fellow scientists.</li> </ul> Moreover, they acquire profound knowledge of the respective theological discipline and its fields of research.	<b>Workload</b>  6 C / 2 WLH  Workload: 180 hrs Contact hours 28 hrs Self-study 152 hrs			
<b>Courses and performance record</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Doktorandenkolloquium I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and discussion (approx. 30 minutes).</td> </tr> </table>	Doktorandenkolloquium I	Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and discussion (approx. 30 minutes).	<b>WLH individual</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>2 WLH</td> </tr> </table>	2 WLH
Doktorandenkolloquium I				
Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and discussion (approx. 30 minutes).				
2 WLH				
<b>Options</b> Compulsory module	<b>Qualifications for entry</b> None			
<b>Reassessment</b> Twice	<b>Applicability</b> Doctoral degree programme in theology			
<b>Frequency of course</b> <b>Relevant semester</b> Each winter semester (1st year of study)	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester			
<b>Language</b> German, possibly English	<b>Maximum number of students</b> 10			
<b>Person responsible for module</b> Dean of Studies				

<b>Georg-August-Universität Göttingen</b> <b>Doctoral degree programme in theology</b> <b>P.Theo.020 "Doktorandenkolloquium II: Forschungsbericht, Präsentation und Entwicklung eines theologischen Forschungsprozesses"</b>				
<b>Learning outcome and skills</b>  Within the framework of their advanced doctoral project and their own re- search work, the students shall acquire the skill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to present and discuss with other doctoral candidates and teachers certain aspects of their research,</li> <li>• to develop and present their own thesis, and</li> <li>• to maintain a clear structure in their own research.</li> </ul> Moreover, they shall acquire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advanced and comprehensive knowledge of the state of current research in their areas, and also in adjacent and other areas,</li> <li>• a comprehensive understanding of their discipline,</li> <li>• to make profound theological judgements.</li> </ul>	<b>Workload</b>  6 C / 2 WLH  Workload: 180 hrs Contact hours 28 hrs Self-study 152 hrs			
<b>Courses and performance record</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Doktorandenkolloquium II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and discussion on the re- search field (approx. 30 minutes).</td> </tr> </table>	Doktorandenkolloquium II	Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and discussion on the re- search field (approx. 30 minutes).	<b>WLH individual</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>2 WLH</td> </tr> </table>	2 WLH
Doktorandenkolloquium II				
Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and discussion on the re- search field (approx. 30 minutes).				
2 WLH				
<b>Options</b> Compulsory module	<b>Qualifications for entry</b> None			
<b>Reassessment</b> Twice	<b>Applicability</b> Doctoral degree programme in theology			
<b>Frequency of course</b> <b>Relevant semester</b> Each winter semester (2nd year of study)	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester			
<b>Language</b> German, possibly English	<b>Maximum number of students</b> 10			
<b>Person responsible for module</b> Dean of Studies				

<b>Georg-August-Universität Göttingen</b> <b>Doctoral degree programme in theology</b> <b>P.Theo.030 "Doktorandenkolloquium III: Forschungsbericht, Präsentation, Auswertung und Integration neuester theologischer Forschungen"</b>				
<b>Learning outcome and skills</b>  Within the framework of the (preliminary) results of their dissertation and their own research work, the students acquire the ability to present and take responsibility for their own insight and research results in discussions with colleagues in the same discipline. Moreover, they shall acquire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advanced and comprehensive knowledge of the state of current research in their areas, and also in adjacent and other areas,</li> <li>• a comprehensive understanding of their discipline,</li> <li>• to make profound theological judgements.</li> </ul>	<b>Workload</b>  6 C / 2 WLH  Workload: 180 hrs Contact hours 28 hrs Self-study 152 hrs			
<b>Courses and performance record</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Doktorandenkolloquium III</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and evaluation discussion with colleagues (approx. 30 minutes).</td> </tr> </table>	Doktorandenkolloquium III	Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and evaluation discussion with colleagues (approx. 30 minutes).	<b>WLH individual</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>2 WLH</td> </tr> </table>	2 WLH
Doktorandenkolloquium III				
Course assessment: Talk (approx. 30 minutes) and evaluation discussion with colleagues (approx. 30 minutes).				
2 WLH				
<b>Options</b> Compulsory module	<b>Qualifications for entry</b> None			
<b>Reassessment</b> Twice	<b>Applicability</b> Doctoral degree programme in theology			
<b>Frequency of course</b> <b>Relevant semester</b> Each winter semester (3rd year of study)	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester			
<b>Language</b> German, possibly English	<b>Maximum number of students</b> 10			
<b>Person responsible for module</b> Dean of Studies				

<b>Georg-August-Universität Göttingen</b> <b>Doctoral degree programme in theology</b> <b>P.Theo.041 "Hochschuldidaktik: Konzeption und Durchführung einer Lehrveranstaltung in der Theologie"</b>				
<b>Learning outcome and skills</b>  The students acquire knowledge of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the concept and design of learning/teaching processes</li> <li>• the options to evaluate/review learning results</li> </ul> Within the framework of their own, supervised work in university teaching, they furthermore acquire the ability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to design a course in independently and with self-reflection,</li> <li>• to plan and hold a course in a manner that suits the recipient group,</li> <li>• to review the learning success among students and to evaluate their own didactic performance.</li> </ul>	<b>Workload</b>  6 C / 2 WLH  Workload: 180 hrs Contact hours 28 hrs Self-study 152 hrs			
<b>Courses and performance record</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Lecture course in Teaching in Higher Education</td> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">2 WLH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Course assessment: Trial lesson (approx. 45 min.), incl. written preparation and follow-up (approx. 10 p).</td> </tr> </table>	Lecture course in Teaching in Higher Education	2 WLH	Course assessment: Trial lesson (approx. 45 min.), incl. written preparation and follow-up (approx. 10 p).	<b>WLH individual</b>
Lecture course in Teaching in Higher Education	2 WLH			
Course assessment: Trial lesson (approx. 45 min.), incl. written preparation and follow-up (approx. 10 p).				
<b>Options</b> Optional required module (alternatively; s. module overview)	<b>Qualifications for entry</b> None			
<b>Reassessment</b> Twice	<b>Applicability</b> Doctoral degree programme in theology			
<b>Frequency of course</b> <b>Relevant semester</b> Each winter semester	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester			
<b>Language</b> German, possibly English	<b>Maximum number of students</b> 10			
<b>Person responsible for module</b> Dean of Studies				

<b>Georg-August-Universität Göttingen</b> <b>Doctoral degree programme in theology</b> <b>P.Theo.042 "Schlüsselkompetenz: Erschließung relevanter Philologien"</b>				
<b>Learning outcome and skills</b>  Consulting with their first academic advisor in their dissertation project, the students attend a language course that provides them with the requisite skills to advance their understanding of their research field or its closely related context. Insofar as the students already possess understanding of the relevant language, the course will provide them with more profound understanding (e.g. Hebraic poetry); elementary skills are otherwise sufficient.  In the event that the language is a modern philology (e.g. "academic French"), the students will also acquire instruction in an – advanced – communication skill ("verbal competency").	<b>Workload</b>  6 C / 2 WLH  Workload: 180 hrs Contact hours 28 hrs Self-study 152 hrs			
<b>Courses and performance record</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Language course in an old or new philology of relevance to the research project</td> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">2 WLH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Course assessment: Qualified certificate of participation in the language course</td> </tr> </table>	Language course in an old or new philology of relevance to the research project	2 WLH	Course assessment: Qualified certificate of participation in the language course	<b>WLH individual</b>
Language course in an old or new philology of relevance to the research project	2 WLH			
Course assessment: Qualified certificate of participation in the language course				
<b>Options</b> Optional required module (alternatively; s. module overview)	<b>Qualifications for entry</b> None			
<b>Reassessment</b> Twice	<b>Applicability</b> Doctoral degree programme in theology			
<b>Frequency of course</b> <b>Relevant semester</b> Each semester	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester			
<b>Language</b> German, possibly English	<b>Maximum number of students</b> 10			
<b>Person responsible for module</b> Dean of Studies				

<b>Georg-August-Universität Göttingen</b> <b>Doctoral degree programme in theology</b> <b>P.Theo.043 "Schlüsselkompetenz: Wissenschaftsorganisation"</b>						
<b>Learning outcome and skills</b>  The students acquire knowledge of, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the institutional circumstances of academic research,</li> <li>• the design and structure of relevant organisations and funding scholarship support programmes for research into theology and the humanities (e.g. DGF, foundations),</li> <li>• the organisation and implementation of a scientific congress,</li> <li>• fundamental options of scientific organisation.</li> </ul> Within the framework of their own, supervised work in research, they furthermore acquire the skills and fundamental experience, e.g. in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• competent communication of their research results before an academic audience,</li> <li>• writing an academic paper,</li> <li>• proper preparation of a topic within their specialist field for an academic conference,</li> <li>• formulation and completion of research proposals.</li> </ul>	<b>Workload</b>  6 C / 2 WLH  Workload: 180 hrs Contact hours 28 hrs Self-study 152 hrs					
<b>Courses and performance record</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Seminar course on the topic "knowledge management"</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2 WLH</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Course assessment: Independent research contribution (writing and publication of a scientific paper, participation in a scientific conference with a conference contribution or preparation of a research proposal)</td> </tr> </table>	Seminar course on the topic "knowledge management"	2 WLH	Course assessment: Independent research contribution (writing and publication of a scientific paper, participation in a scientific conference with a conference contribution or preparation of a research proposal)		<b>WLH individual</b>  <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2 WLH</td> </tr> </table>	2 WLH
Seminar course on the topic "knowledge management"	2 WLH					
Course assessment: Independent research contribution (writing and publication of a scientific paper, participation in a scientific conference with a conference contribution or preparation of a research proposal)						
2 WLH						
<b>Options</b> Optional required module (alternatively; s. module overview)	<b>Qualifications for entry</b> None					
<b>Reassessment</b> Twice	<b>Applicability</b> Doctoral degree programme in theology					
<b>Frequency of course</b> <b>Relevant semester</b> Each semester	<b>Duration</b> 1 semester					
<b>Language</b> German, possibly English	<b>Maximum number of students</b> 10					
<b>Person responsible for module</b> Dean of Studies						

**Appendix 2 Template for a supervision contract (cf. § 6 section 3)**

**Agreement on the provision of specialist supervision  
and advice in the doctoral process**

Surname and first name(s) of the doctoral candidate: .....  
Date of birth: .....  
Place of birth: .....  
Address: .....  
E-mail: .....  
Working title of the thesis: .....

Members of the thesis committee (first name(s), surname, university):

- 1) .....
- 2) .....
- 3) .....

1 The members of the thesis committee hereby undertake to provide suitable support to the thesis stated herein, that is, to provide the doctoral candidate with advice and assistance in the selection (and subsequent modification) of the topic, through joint regular reviews of progress in work and by the provision of timely responses to parts of the thesis that are submitted.

2 The doctoral candidate does hereby declare that he/she is aware of the examination and study regulations applicable to the doctoral programme at the Faculty of Theology and that he/she does hereby agree to adhere to the provisions contained therein. In particular, this includes enrolment for the entire period of his/her doctoral project, the submission of a preliminary work schedule that must be provided no later than upon conclusion of the doctoral contract, and the preparation of an annual report on the state of research, also documentation of progress in the doctoral project. This shall be submitted to the thesis committee.

3 The members of the thesis committee and the doctoral candidate undertake to abide by the rules of good scientific practice as set forth in § 1 "Regulations of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen to uphold good scientific practice".

4 [other agreements]

Signature of the doctoral candidate

.....

Signatures of the members of the thesis committee

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

**Appendix 3 Cover sheet for the dissertation according to § 23 section 7**

Front page

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

(Dissertation title)

Dissertation  
in order to acquire the doctoral degree in theology  
from the Faculty of Theology  
at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

Submitted by

.....

(Name)

Born in .....

Göttingen, .....

(Year of publication)

Back

Thesis Committee

First academic advisor: .....  
(Name)

Other advisors: .....  
(Names)  
.....  
(Names)

Other members of the Examination Board:  
.....  
(Names)

Date of the oral examination: .....  
(Date)

**Appendix 4 Correction slip**

Correction slip\*

The manuscript of the thesis by  
Mr/Ms .....  
with the original title .....  
was submitted to me.

The conditions are satisfied.\*\* I have no objections to printing in the version in my possession.

I agree to the change in title  
to ..... \*\*

.....  
(Signature of the first reviewer)

\* The signed correction slip must be submitted together with the obligatory copies and the original thesis to the Dean's Office.

\*\* Delete where inapplicable.

**Appendix 5 Examination certificate**

**a) German**

Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

Theologische Fakultät

Zeugnis über die theologische Doktorprüfung

Herr/Frau ..... geboren am .....  
in.....

hat die Doktorprüfung gemäß der Prüfungs- und Studienordnung für den Promotionsstudiengang  
Theologie

vom ..... mit dem Gesamturteil .....

am.....bestanden.

Module im Promotionsstudium:

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

Thema der Dissertation: .....  
.....  
.....

Note der Dissertation: .....

Note der Disputation/des Rigorosums .....

Göttingen, the ..... .....

Die Dekanin oder der Dekan

**b) English**

University of Göttingen  
Faculty of Theology

Certificate of Doctoral Examination

..... born .....

in.....

has completed the doctoral examination in accordance with the examination and study regulations  
of the doctoral degree programme in Theology  
of ..... with the overall grade .....  
on.....

Modules in doctoral studies:

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

Dissertation title .....

Dissertation grade: .....

Disputation / viva grade: .....

Göttingen,.....  
(date) Dean

**Appendix 6 Doctoral certificate in German and English**

**a) German**

Die Georg-August-Universität Göttingen  
unter der Präsidentin oder dem Präsidenten

.....

verleiht

durch die Theologische Fakultät  
unter der Dekanin oder dem Dekan

.....

den Hochschulgrad einer Doktorin oder eines Doktors der Theologie (Dr. theol.) an

.....

geboren in .....

nachdem sie oder er im ordnungsgemäßen Prüfungsverfahren durch die Dissertation

.....

.....

.....

(Titel der Dissertation)

sowie durch die mündliche Prüfung

am .....

ihre oder seine wissenschaftliche Befähigung erwiesen und dabei das Gesamturteil

.....

.

Göttingen, den .....

(Siegel der Universität)

Die Dekanin oder der Dekan

**b) English**

The University of Göttingen  
under President

.....

confers  
through the Faculty of Theology  
under Dean

.....

the academic degree of  
  
Doctor Theologiae (Dr. theol.)

on

.....

born ..... in .....

after proving his/her scientific qualifications  
with the dissertation

.....

and the oral examination on .....,

receiving the overall assessment

.....

Göttingen, .....

(Seal)

(Dean)

## Appendix 7 Doctoral certificate in Latin

VNIVERSITAS • GEORGIA • AVGVSTA • GOTTINGENSIS

PRAESIDE • MAGNIFICA/MAGNIFICO

[TITEL, NAME PRÄSIDENT/IN MIT FACHBEZEICHNUNG]

AMPLISSIMO • ORDINE • THEOLOGICO • ASSENTIENTE

DECANA/DECANO

[TITEL, NAME DEKAN/IN MIT FACHBEZEICHNUNG]

FEMINAM • EXIMIAM / VIRVM • EXIMIVM

[NAME]

NATAM/NATVM • DIE • ### • MENSIS • ### • ANNI • #####

DOCTOREM • THEOLOGIAE

CREAVIT • ET • RENVNTIAVIT

QVAE/QVI • LEGITIMO • PROMOTIONIS • RITV

TAM • DISSERTATIONE • CVI • TITVLVS • EST

[TITEL]

CONSCRIPTA

QVAM • COLLOQVIO • EXAMINATORIO

DIE • ### • MENSIS • ### • ANNI • #####

FELICITER • SVPERATO

SE • AD • RES • SCIENTIFICE • INVESTIGANDAS • VEL • TRACTANDAS

APTAM/APTVM • ATQVE • IDONEAM/IDONEVM • ESSE • PLANE • PROBAVIT

IDEOQVE • TOTVM • EXAMEN

(SVMMA • / MAGNA •) CVM • LAVDE • (/ RITE)

ABSOLVIT

GOTTINGAE • DIE • ### • MENSIS • ### • ANNI • #####

DECANA / DECANVS