

# PROGRAMME REGULATIONS

## for the Ph.D. in Law at the University of St.Gallen

dated 14 November 2016

The Senate of the University of St.Gallen  
has decreed the following regulations

pursuant to Art. 88 para. 1 (h) of the University statutes  
dated 25 October 2010<sup>1</sup>:

### I. General provisions

Art. 1. <sup>1</sup>These regulations govern special conditions for the Ph.D. in Law (DLS) at the University of St.Gallen regarding

- a) admission;
- b) programme structure;
- c) examinations and their evaluation.

Scope of applica-  
tion

### II. Admission

Art. 2. <sup>1</sup>Under Art. 15 of the Award Regulations [PromO 17], applicants may be admitted to the Ph.D. programme in Law, if they

- a) have a Master's degree in law or a Licentiate in law from the University of St.Gallen (HSG);
- b) hold a recognised completed Master's degree or a Licentiate (university degree) in law from another university.

Terms of admis-  
sion

Art. 3. <sup>1</sup>In addition to the conditions laid down in Art. 16 of the Pro-mO 17, the following conditions apply for admission:

- a) the submission of application documents in due form and before the deadline;
- b) proof of language proficiency to level C1 (GER) in the language in which the programme is studied
- c) simultaneous matriculations at two universities in the same or a different subject area are only possible if the other university provides written confirmation that the other university waives the contribution payments under the Inter-Cantonal University Agreement dated 20 February 1997 [sGS 217.81].

Further terms of  
admission

Art. 4. <sup>1</sup>When the average grade is between 4.85 and 5.00, the Supervisor shall provide a reasoned application to the Programme Committee.

Art. 5. <sup>1</sup>Admission to the Ph.D. programme is based on the Programme Committee's evaluation of the submitted application documents

---

<sup>1</sup> sGS 217.15

(‘sur dossier’).

<sup>2</sup>The Programme Committee may also carry out interviews with applicants.

<sup>3</sup>Admission is communicated through a decree issued by the Dean of Studies.

Art. 6. <sup>1</sup>On admission to the Ph.D. programme, additional entry requirements totalling a maximum of 20 ECTS credits may be imposed.

Additional entry requirements

<sup>2</sup>These additional entry requirements involve introductory courses and courses in the core discipline.

<sup>3</sup>For applicants accepted under Art. 2 the following applies:

- a) Accepted candidates who hold a Bachelor of Law degree do not need to complete any additional requirements.
- b) The additional entry requirements for applicants who do not hold a Bachelor of Law degree are defined jointly by the Supervisor and the Programme Committee and communicated to the student through a decree issued by the Dean of Studies.

Art. 7. <sup>1</sup>The additional entry requirements are deemed to have been completed once all relevant courses have been passed with a minimum grade of 4.00.

Passing additional entry requirements

<sup>2</sup>One further attempt is permitted on failure to pass an examination.

<sup>3</sup>If the additional entry requirements are not passed at the second attempt, the student may not continue with the Ph.D. studies.

### III. Programme structure

Art. 8. <sup>1</sup>The programme is conducted in German.

Language of the Programme

<sup>2</sup>However, the programme shall be set up in such a way that it can also be completed in English.

Art. 9. <sup>1</sup>The coursework phase comprises 12 ECTS credits.

Coursework phase

<sup>2</sup>The coursework phase is split between compulsory elective and non-compulsory elective courses:

<sup>3</sup>Students must earn at least 4 ECTS credits by taking compulsory elective courses, and maximum 8 ECTS credits by taking the non-compulsory elective courses.

Art. 10. <sup>1</sup>The compulsory electives offered by the Ph.D. programme include courses in advanced basic subjects, method-oriented subjects as well as interdisciplinary subjects.

Course subject matter

<sup>2</sup>The non-compulsory elective courses may be selected from other Ph.D. programmes at the University of St.Gallen or the Global School in Empirical Research Methods of the University of St.Gallen (GSERM).

Art. 11. <sup>1</sup>Up to 8 ECTS credits earned in non-compulsory elective courses may be credited towards the degree requirement.

Credits

<sup>2</sup>The Programme Committee can credit the following, on request:

- a) a qualifying scientific publication for up to max. 4 ECTS credits;
- b) an externally completed course at Ph.D. level for up to max. 4 ECTS credits

<sup>3</sup>The Programme Committee shall issue guidelines relating to the requirements for accepting credits.

Art. 12. <sup>1</sup>The Course Scheme spells out in detail what must be done in order to successfully complete the Ph.D. programme.

Course Scheme

#### IV. Examinations and their evaluation

Art. 13 <sup>1</sup>The types of examinations for the courses are:

Types of examination

- a) Individual examinations:
  - 1. Written examination;
  - 2. Written paper;
  - 3. Oral examination (including presentations)
- b) Group evaluations:
  - 1. Written paper;
  - 2. Oral examination (including presentations)

<sup>2</sup>Active participation by the Ph.D. student in classes can influence grades up to a maximum of 20%.

Art. 14. <sup>1</sup>The courses during the coursework phase are graded as "passed" or "not passed".

Grading

#### V. Final provisions

Art. 15. <sup>1</sup>These regulations will come into effect as of 1 August 2017.

Date of application

<sup>2</sup>They apply to students who start a Ph.D. programme at the University of St.Gallen from the autumn semester 2017 onwards.

<sup>3</sup>From 1 August 2020 these regulations will apply to all Ph.D. students.

Art. 16. <sup>1</sup>For students who start their Ph.D. studies before 1 August 2017 and who have completed courses in the coursework phase at the end of the 2017 spring semester, the Course Regulations of 4 June 2007 shall apply until 31 July 2020.

Transitional Rules

<sup>2</sup>The Course Scheme covers the transitional provisions.

<sup>3</sup>The Senate Committee is authorised, as necessary in urgent cases, to issue transitional provisions, to the benefit of the students, as part of the Course Scheme.

Art. 17. <sup>1</sup>The Course Regulations for the Doctorate in Law from the University of St.Gallen dated 4 June 2007 will be suspended with effect from 1 August 2020.

Suspension of currently applicable rules

On behalf of the Senate,

The President:  
Prof. Dr Thomas Bieger

The General Counsel:  
lic.iur. Hildegard Kölliker