

**Please note: The English translation below is an aid to understanding. Only the German version is legally binding.**

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## Doctoral degree regulations for the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences

### § 1 Definition of the Doctorate, Doctoral Degree

(1) The School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Hamburg awards the degree of Doctor of Business, Economics and Social Sciences. The *Doctor rerum politicarum* (abbreviated as Dr. rer. pol.) is awarded for dissertations with a focus primarily on business or economics. The *Doctor philosophiae* (abbreviated as Dr. phil.) is awarded for dissertations with a focus primarily on social science. Doctoral students can apply for the appropriate degree title. The doctoral committee decides upon the acceptance of the application and admission to the procedures governing doctoral studies in accordance with § 4.

(2) A doctoral degree testifies to the capacity for in-depth academic work through independent and individual research activities.

(3) Doctoral work consists of:

- At least 12 credit points in accordance with appendix A of these regulations
- a written academic paper (dissertation) submitted as a monograph or in the form of individual research papers
- the oral defense of the dissertation (*Disputation*).

(4) An honorary doctorate in Economics or Social Sciences, the *Doctor rerum politicarum honoris causa* (Dr. rer. pol. h.c.) or *Doctor philosophiae honoris causa* (Dr. phil. h.c.), can be awarded for outstanding academic achievement.

(5) In accordance with paragraph 1, a doctoral degree can only be awarded once.

### § 2 Doctoral Committee

(1) The relevant faculty body appoints a doctoral committee for a period of three years to supervise the procedures governing doctoral studies. This is an examination committee in accordance with § 63, paragraph 1 of the *HmbHG i.V.m. § 59 HmbHG* (Hamburg Higher Education Law) with all of the rights and responsibilities described therein. The committee consists of a faculty member who has been admitted to the procedures governing doctoral studies, an academic staff member of the faculty who holds a doctoral degree, and four full-time professors of the university whose primary affiliation is to the faculty. The committee must consist of professors representing all departments of the faculty. Every member must have a deputy. Re-appointment to the committee is possible. If a member resigns prematurely from the committee, a successor is chosen for the remainder of the resigning member's term.

(2) The doctoral committee elects a chairperson and deputy chairperson from among the members of the professorial staff.

(3) The doctoral committee can delegate certain responsibilities to the chair of the committee.

(4) The doctoral committee establishes department-based subcommittees. Their responsibilities are enumerated in appendix B of these regulations. Committee members are chosen in accordance with paragraph 1, lines 1 to 3 and lines 5 to 7.

(5) Doctoral committee meetings are not open to the public. The doctoral committee is accountable to the faculty council.

### **§ 3 Admission Requirements**

(1) Before the dissertation proposal is accepted, doctoral candidates must apply to the doctoral committee for admission to the procedures governing doctoral studies. As a rule, candidates are admitted if they have completed a degree in a university program with a relevant business, economic or social sciences orientation within the scope of the German Basic Law, and have passed:

- a Master's exam of at least 300 credit points (this includes the previously completed program)
- a *Magister* exam from a university program
- a *Diplom* exam from a university program
- the first state exam for teachers trained to teach in general schools or vocational schools

All exams must have received an overall grade of at least „good“ (2.5 or better).

(2) An outstanding Bachelor exam in a program relevant to doctoral studies can lead to admission on the condition that the Master will be successfully completed in the graduate school of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences within the subject-based specification (Master in Economic Research/Social Science Research/Business Research).

(3) If the applicant has a university degree other than those specified in paragraphs 1 and 2, he or she can also be admitted to the doctoral studies program if the doctoral committee determines that the applicant possesses the requisite qualifications. The doctoral committee can also require the applicant to acquire further credit points within a specific period to meet standard university requirements in accordance with paragraph 1 or to supplement knowledge and skills required for the doctoral degree. As a rule, the necessary credit points can be acquired in the faculty's graduate school program.

(4) The dissertation project must be approved by at least one professor from the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences.

(5) Applicants who have not received their degree in a German or English language program must prove that their language skills are sufficient to pursue a doctorate:

Applicants with a degree from a non-German language program who would like to pursue a doctorate in German must pass the *DSH* (language exam for university entry) or equivalent. Equivalency is determined by the doctoral committee.

Applicants with a degree from a non-English language program who would like to pursue a doctorate in English must prove that their English skills correspond to level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Equivalency is determined by the doctoral committee.

If a doctoral program is to be pursued in any further scientific language in accordance with § 6 (2) and § 10 (1), the doctoral committee must determine which requirements are to be fulfilled and what certification of ability is to be submitted.

## **§ 4 Admissions Procedure**

(1) Applications for admission to the doctoral studies program must be submitted to the doctoral committee in writing and include the following supporting documents:

- (a) Transcripts of records, certificates and proof of qualifications in accordance with § 3,
- (b) A tabular resumé with an overview of activities and experience relevant to the intended doctoral project,
- (c) A declaration attesting to whether or not the applicant has previously applied for a doctorate or whether he or she is pursuing a course of doctoral studies at another university or in another faculty of the university; if applicable, this should include comprehensive information about previous applications or the intention to pursue a course of doctoral studies
- (d) An exposé of the dissertation in German or English formulating the line of questioning; a sketch of the current state of research; the candidate's methodological approach as well as a time-line and work plan. The exposé should also include the application for the doctoral degree.
- (e) A written statement of opinion regarding the exposé and doctoral degree, including a declaration of agreement to supervise the doctoral research, by a university professor from the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences
- (f) A declaration that the applicant is familiar with the valid doctoral degree regulations
- (g) Proof of sufficient language skills in accordance with § 3 (5).

(2) As a rule, the doctoral committee will decide on applications for admission to doctoral studies within a month, during the lecture period. The doctoral committee can request a second opinion on the exposé regarding the dissertation in accordance with paragraph 1, points d and e.

(3) Doctoral candidates who are members of externally-funded graduate schools can be admitted providing there is a written agreement with the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences.

(4) The doctoral application will be rejected if:

- (a) Requirements in accordance with § 3 have not been fulfilled;
- (b) Supporting documents in accordance with paragraph 1 have not been submitted;
- (c) Doctoral research in the doctoral subject or a sub-field of the doctoral subject has already been completed;
- (d) The applicant has already been admitted to a course of doctoral study in the doctoral subject;
- (e) The declaration in accordance with paragraph 1, point c is untruthful;
- (f) The dissertation topic belongs to a subject area for which the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences is not responsible.

Reasons for a rejection must be provided in writing. The candidate must be informed.

(5) Admission to the doctoral program requires enrolment in the graduate school of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences.

## **§ 5 Supervision of the Dissertation, Standard Time Period for Completion**

(1) Once the School has admitted a candidate to the doctoral program, it is obligated to supervise and evaluate the dissertation project. It also ensures that doctoral candidates receive the „Guidelines to Ensure Good Scientific Practice and to Prevent Academic Misconduct at the Universität Hamburg“ at the beginning of a course of doctoral study.

(2) The doctoral committee establishes a two-person supervisory commission for each doctoral project. As a rule, the supervisory commission consists of university professors or academic staff members of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences who have received their *Habilitation*. At least one member of the supervisory commission must be a full-time university professor in the School. The academic and procedural supervision of a dissertation is an ongoing obligation of the supervisory commission. The members of the supervisory commission can be recommended by the doctoral candidate. If the doctoral committee rejects the recommendation, the doctoral committee must find suitable members for the supervisory commission.

(3) Upon application, the doctoral committee can confer the rights and obligations of a professor on other academics with doctorates if:

- They are the heads of externally-funded research groups for which the Universität Hamburg is the institution of admission;
- They are academics with extraordinary responsibilities at external research institutions to whom cooperation agreements in collaboration with the School have granted the right to supervise doctorates.

(4) As a rule, at least one consultation per semester should take place. The basis of this consultation is a written intermediate progress report by the doctoral student. This report should be submitted, unsolicited, by the candidate. The supervisory commission submits the intermediate report to the doctoral committee.

(5) While the student is working on his or her dissertation, he or she should have a regular opportunity to present the progress of his or her work in a suitable context.

(6) As a rule, the dissertation should be submitted within three years and doctoral studies should be completed within four (standard period of doctoral studies). For doctoral candidates permitted to pursue doctoral work in accordance with § 3 (2), the doctoral committee sets appropriate deadlines. Applications for extensions must be submitted informally to the doctoral committee. The doctoral committee approves or rejects applications in agreement with the supervisory commission. Regulations regarding the protection of working mothers (*MuSchG*) must be considered if the candidate submits such an application. This is also true for applications with regard to parental leave in accordance with laws regarding child support and parental leave (*BErzGG*). The doctoral committee grants extensions to complete dissertation work by the respective period of time required for maternity and/or parental leave.

If a supervisor is compelled for significant reasons to terminate the supervisory relationship, he or she is obligated to inform the chair of the doctoral committee and to provide his or her reasons immediately.

(7) If a supervisor's membership at Universität Hamburg ends, he or she maintains the right to continue supervising a dissertation for five years and to remain a voting member of the exam commission. This time limitation does not apply to former full professors of Universität Hamburg, whose teaching and exam privileges continue indefinitely.

(8) The Faculty Council appoints an ombudsperson for three years on the recommendation of the Dean's office. In cases of conflict with a supervisor, the doctoral candidate can contact the ombudsperson. A deputy is also named at the same time the ombudsperson is appointed.

## **§ 6 Dissertation**

(1) The written dissertation attests to the capacity for in-depth academic work through independent research.

(2) Candidates can submit the following as a written dissertation:

(a) A monograph or paper which constitutes a coherent presentation of research and results. Parts of the work may have been published previously.

(b) A cumulative dissertation comprising, as a rule, three published and/or unpublished individual papers which, taken as a whole, are equivalent to a dissertation as described in a). The cumulative dissertation must be given an overall title, an introduction and a chapter which interprets, evaluates and discusses the relationship of the individual papers therein. In addition to the information detailed in paragraph 5, a list containing the titles of individual papers must be submitted.

(3) For written dissertations which have been developed in cooperation with other academics or scholars, the candidate's contribution must be clearly defined and independently assessable. If several contributions are submitted in accordance with § 6, paragraph 2, letter b), at least one of the submitted contributions must be written independently by the candidate. The doctoral candidate is obligated to explain in

detail his or her individual contribution to the design, execution and drafting of the dissertation.

(4) Doctoral candidates must reference all sources and aids and declare upon oath that they have written the dissertation independently in accordance with paragraph 3 and have not used any sources or aids other than those stated. They must declare that they have not used commercial doctoral advisory services. The dissertation may not have been accepted in any other doctoral procedure or deemed to be insufficient in any other doctoral procedure. In cases of doubt, work from any earlier doctoral procedure must be submitted for comparison.

(5) The title page of the dissertation must contain the candidate's name and the name of the faculty at the University of Hamburg to which the dissertation is being submitted, together with the date of submission. The name of the evaluators must be given on a separate page. As an appendix, a synopsis of the findings in both German and English must be included as well as a list of any publications ensuing from or based on the submitted dissertation.

(6) Five copies of the dissertation must be submitted to the doctoral committee. In addition, a copy which is suitable for publication on the internet must be submitted. This may only be used in accordance with § 12, paragraph 3. The supervisor and every member of the examination commission receive a copy; one copy remains in the School's graduate school archives.

(7) Proof that additional requirements in accordance with § 3, paragraph 3, and 12 credit points in accordance with § 1, paragraph 3 have been acquired, must be submitted together with the dissertation.

## **§ 7 Examination Commission**

(1) The doctoral committee establishes an examination commission for every doctoral procedure within four weeks of the submission of a dissertation and the additional requirements in accordance with § 3, paragraph 3 and § 1, paragraph 3. The commission's members can be suggested by the doctoral candidate. The doctoral committee appoints a chair, who must be a full-time university professor in the School.

(2) The examination commission is composed of at least three university professors or people who have been granted the respective rights and privileges of a university professor in accordance with § 5, paragraph 3. The majority of the examination commission's members must be full-time university professors in the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences at Universität Hamburg.

As a rule, the supervisor is an evaluator on the examination commission. The second supervisor is also a member of the examination commission but in general not as an evaluator.

(3) If, for compelling reasons, members of the examination commission cannot fulfill their obligations for an extended period of time, the doctoral committee will supplement the examination commission in accordance with the measures detailed in paragraph 2 accordingly.

(4) The examination commission's duties are as follows:

- (a) To evaluate the dissertation on the basis of the expert assessments and in some cases to provide an opinion in accordance with § 8, paragraphs 2, 4, 5 and 7;
- (b) To set up and oversee the oral defense (*Disputation*);
- (c) To evaluate the oral defense (*Disputation*);
- (d) To determine the final overall grade which includes individual evaluations of the dissertation and oral defense in accordance with §§ 9 and 10.

(5) The examination commission's meetings are held in closed session.

(6) The examination commission passes resolutions based on a majority of its voting members provided that these regulations do not stipulate otherwise. All votes on evaluations are by open ballot; abstentions are not permissible. Decisions about evaluations can only be made based on a vote by all members of the examination commission.

## **§ 8 Evaluation of the Dissertation**

(1) For every dissertation, two evaluation reports are to be compiled. As a rule, the examination commission appoints a dissertation supervisor as well as another member of the examination commission, excepting the chair, as evaluators. At least one evaluator must be a full-time professor in the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences.

(2) At least one of the evaluators must not have co-authored any of the submitted individual papers in accordance with § 6, paragraph 2, point b). This is also true for contributions in connection with work in accordance with § 6, paragraph 2, point a). The second evaluator may have co-authored a maximum of half the submitted individual papers. The evaluator must inform the doctoral committee if parts of the dissertation have been co-authored. The doctoral committee can appoint a further evaluator to evaluate those parts of the dissertation which have been co-authored by the evaluator in question.

(3) The evaluations must be made independently of one another and submitted within three months of their solicitation. The evaluations must acknowledge the significance of the dissertation and its findings in a larger context and highlight any deficiencies. In the overall evaluation, each evaluator must recommend accepting the dissertation in accordance with § 9, a revision of the dissertation in accordance with paragraph 6, or a rejection of the dissertation. If an evaluation is not clear as required, the doctoral committee will return the evaluation for revision.

(4) If the expert evaluations deviate from one another, the examination commission can recommend, based on discussion, a grade for the written work. If the commission cannot agree, the doctoral committee can appoint a further evaluator to the examination commission.

(5) If the dissertation receives a unanimous „summa cum laude“ from both evaluators, the doctoral committee appoints another evaluator to the examination commission.

(6) An evaluator can demand, once, a fundamental revision of the dissertation. In this case, the evaluator does not evaluate the work; he or she identifies deficiencies and, if necessary, recommends appropriate measures for addressing these. If an evaluator recommends a revision, the examination commission returns the dissertation to the candidate for re-submission and declares a deadline for the revision. If the revised dissertation is submitted by the deadline, it must be evaluated anew. Otherwise, the candidate has not passed the doctoral procedure. The examination commission can make exceptions to this ruling.

(7) Once evaluations have been completed, the dissertation and evaluations must be made available for two weeks in the graduate school of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences. All members of the School endowed with the right to supervise the dissertation in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 can read the dissertation and grade recommendation and submit a written opinion to add to the doctoral file. These members must be duly informed by the doctoral committee that the dissertation is available. In addition, members of the doctoral committee and the respective examination commission maintain the right in these two weeks to see the evaluations. The doctoral committee can appoint an external evaluator if other opinions are submitted during these two weeks. The evaluations will be made available to the doctoral candidate one week before the oral defense (*Disputation*) at the latest if no further requirements for the written work in accordance with § 9, paragraph 8 have been made.

## **§ 9 Decisions regarding the Dissertation and Scheduling the Oral Defense (*Disputation*)**

(1) Following the two-week period, the examination commission accepts or rejects the dissertation and decides upon admission to the oral defense (*Disputation*) as well as the classification of the dissertation.

(2) The classification must be awarded unanimously unless a further evaluator has been appointed in accordance with § 8, paragraph 4. In this case, a commission majority decides upon the classification. The classification “summa cum laude” for a dissertation may only be granted if all evaluators recommend it.

(3) The exam commission uses the following classifications if a dissertation has been accepted:

- *summa cum laude* (Outstanding)
- *magna cum laude* (Very Good)
- *cum laude* (Good)
- *rite* (Sufficient)

(4) Classifications are to be awarded on the basis of the following criteria:

- Capacity for in-depth, independent academic work
- Independent research achievements

- Originality and relevance
- Clarity of argumentation
- Strength of reasoning
- Methodological coherence
- Style and formal correctness
- Critical treatment of relevant literature
- Discussion of findings

(5) The exposé of the dissertation and the relationship between the content of the exposé and the final dissertation are not significant for the final evaluation.

(6) If the dissertation is rejected, the examination commission declares that the dissertation has „not passed“ the doctoral procedure and provides reasons for its decision. It does not schedule the oral defense. The chair of the doctoral committee must inform the doctoral candidate of the rejection and the reasons for the rejection in writing.

(7) Once the dissertation has been accepted, the exam commission informs the doctoral candidate and schedules the oral defense. The oral defense should take place within two months following the submission of the final evaluation. The exam commission informs the doctoral candidate of the evaluation prior to the oral defense.

(8) If the evaluations contain written conditions, the oral defense can only proceed when and if the conditions for the written dissertation have been fulfilled. The requirements are defined and reviewed by the exam commission. Insofar as the doctoral procedure ends with the conclusion of the *Disputation*, the dissertation is free for publication.

## **§ 10 Oral Defense (Disputation)**

(1) The purpose of the oral defense is to demonstrate the doctoral candidate's ability to articulate and explain academic problems. The oral defense can be held in German or English in accordance with the wishes of the doctoral candidate. The oral defense is open to the university public. If there are compelling reasons to do so, the chair of the exam commission can close procedures to the university public upon request by the doctoral candidate. The members of the doctoral committee do not constitute the university public in this case. Members of the exam commission are obliged to take part in the *Disputation*.

(2) The oral defense begins with an oral presentation in which the doctoral candidate introduces and explains the dissertation's main findings and their significance by putting them in a larger subject-related context. Subsequently, the doctoral candidate defends his or her dissertation and answers questions by members of the exam commission. The questions must be based on the dissertation and its significance in a larger academic context. Finally, the chair of the exam commission permits questions on the topic of the oral defense by the general university public. The oral defense lasts approximately 60 minutes.

(3) The chair of the exam commission coordinates the academic defense and determines both the order and, where necessary, the admissability of questions.

(4) The members of the exam commission appoint one of its members to take the minutes of the proceedings. These are added to the doctoral file. The minutes must include the following:

- Day/time/location of oral defense
- A list of of exam commission members in attendance
- Dissertation grade
- Discussion contributions in bullet point format
- Oral defense grade
- Overall classification in accordance with § 11
- Special explanatory notes

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

(5) In cases of a candidate's unexcused absence from the oral defense, the oral defense is deemed as having been "not passed". The doctoral candidate must be informed in writing.

## **§ 11 Decisions regarding the Oral Defense and Doctorate**

(1) Following the oral defense, the exam commission confers in closed session to determine the results of the oral defense and the overall classification of the doctorate. If the oral defense receives a passing grade, the overall classification corresponds to that of the written dissertation, unless the exam commission decides unanimously that, due to the results of the oral exam, there will be a deviation from the grade for the written dissertation. The exam commission informs the doctoral candidate of the individual grades for the dissertation and oral defense as well as of the overall classification.

(2) Once the overall classification has been determined by the exam commission, the doctoral candidate receives a transcript of records containing the dissertation's title, individual grades for the dissertation and oral defense and the final classification.

(3) If a candidate has not passed the oral defense, the chair of the doctoral committee must inform the doctoral candidate of the reason in writing within two weeks. The oral exam can be retaken once between three and six months following the first defense.

(4) If a candidate also fails the second oral exam, the exam commission declares the doctorate as failed and provides reasons for this decision. The chair of the doctoral committee must inform the candidate of the decision within two weeks.

## **§ 12 Obligations regarding Publication and Submission**

(1) The dissertation must be published within 12 months of the successful completion of the doctorate. If it cannot be published within this period, the chair of the doctoral committee can extend the deadline upon request.

(2) In compliance with the requirements of the State and University Library, the doctoral committee determines how many copies of the printed dissertation the doctoral candidate must submit. It also determines how printed material may be replaced by alternative data carriers.

(3) If deadlines and extensions in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 have passed, the dissertation (and those parts of cumulative dissertations which have not yet been published) will be published on the internet by the State and University Library.

## **§ 13 Doctoral Certificate**

(1) A doctoral certificate in German and a copy in English will be issued. The certificate contains the subject area in which the doctorate was pursued, the title of the dissertation, the overall grade and the date of the oral defense. Doctoral candidates who have written their dissertation within the framework of an externally-funded graduate school can request a certificate containing the name of their graduate school providing cooperation was based on a written agreement.

(2) The doctoral certificate contains the signatures of the Dean of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences and the director of the graduate school in the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences and bears the seal of the latter.

(3) If reasons arise for revoking the doctoral certificate before it has been issued, the certificate will not be presented to the candidate. In this case, the candidate will be informed of the reasons why the certificate has been revoked. He or she will also be notified of how to appeal the decision.

(4) The doctoral certificate must be issued within four weeks of the oral defense and entitles the certificate holder to carry the title "Dr."

## **§ 14 Lodging an Appeal and Reviewing Procedures**

Appeals must be submitted within a month if an explanation of the rights of appeal has been issued, and otherwise within a year following the commission's decision, to the chair of the exam commission. If the appeal cannot be settled by the exam commission, the case must be forwarded to the Appeals Committee of Doctoral Affairs at the University of Hamburg (§ 66 of the Hamburg Higher Education Law of 18 July 2001, last amended on 26 January 2010). The doctoral candidate can also appeal the decision of the doctoral commission.

## **§ 15 Joint Doctorate with Foreign Institutions**

(1) The doctoral procedure can be pursued jointly with a foreign university or equivalent educational or research institution if:

- (a) The doctoral candidate fulfills requirements for admission to the doctoral procedure in the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences 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 within the scope of the German Basic Law.

(2) Pursuit of a joint doctoral degree must be governed by contractual agreement. The contractual provisions of this agreement also apply concurrently to the doctoral degree regulations herein. To ensure the equivalency of degree requirements and procedures, the contractual agreement must take the regulations contained herein into consideration. There must be agreement regarding which doctoral degree regulations apply. Foreign doctoral degree regulations must be submitted, if applicable, in German or English translation in order to determine if they are equivalent to the requirements and procedures detailed in these doctoral degree regulations. If the foreign doctoral degree regulations are to be applied, it must be ascertained that the essential regulations in the doctoral degree regulations of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences at Universität Hamburg are adhered to.

(3) The doctoral candidate must be enrolled in the participating institutions.

(4) The languages in which the dissertation can be written must be contractually agreed upon. If applicable, the dissertation must include a synopsis in the agreed-upon third language as well as the German or English synopsis.

(5) The exam commission consists of two full university professors from the participating schools of each university or equivalent research or educational institutions. Both evaluators are members of the exam commission. Upon request, the exam commission can be expanded by two further university professors from the participating schools. Parity of representation must be ensured. Members of the exam commission must be proficient in the language in which exams are held.

(6) In the case of divergent grading systems, agreement must be reached on ascertaining and documenting a uniform, jointly-awarded grade.

(7) Both universities jointly issue a bilingual doctoral certificate using the template developed by the German Rectors' Conference (*HRK*). This entitles the doctoral candidate to carry the title "Dr." in either its German or foreign variation. However, only one doctoral title is awarded.

## **§ 16 Honorary Doctorate**

(1) The conferral of an Honorary Doctor of Economics and Social Sciences (*Doctor rerum honoris causa* or *Dr. phil. h. c.*) is granted in recognition of outstanding academic achievement and on the recommendation of at least one departmental chair member of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences.

(2) Academic achievements must be ascertained by a commission appointed by the doctoral committee. Three-fourths of the members of the Faculty Council must vote in favor of the conferral.

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

## **§ 17 Revocation of the Doctorate**

(1) A doctorate can be revoked if the candidate has engaged in deception with regard to the admission requirements or doctoral work. The School's doctoral committee passes a resolution following a hearing with the candidate. Candidates can appeal against the revocation.

(2) In addition, legal regulations apply with regard to the revocation of a doctorate.

## **§ 18 Discontinuing or Terminating Procedures**

(1) If more than eight years have passed since a candidate's admission to a course of doctoral studies, the doctoral committee can terminate the doctoral procedure 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 and is to be written by the chair of the doctoral commission. This does not, however, preclude re-application by the candidate for admission to a doctoral program.

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

## **§ 19 Statement of Effect, Expiration and Interim Regulations**

(1) These doctoral degree regulations are effective one day after their authorization by the executive of the University of Hamburg.

(2) For doctoral procedures which have commenced by 30 September 2010, the doctoral degree regulations of the Department of Economics and the Department of Philosophy and Social Sciences from 17 June 1998, the Department of Social Sciences from 08 November 2000 and the Hamburg University of Economics and Politics from 29 June/ 27 September 1989, most recently amended on 8 January 2004, apply as long as a transitional period of five years, until 30 September 2015, has not expired. The School's doctoral committee determines in what manner the commencement of doctoral studies is to be proven.

(3) For doctoral procedures which have not commenced by 30 September 2010 or in which dissertations have not been submitted to the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences by 30 September 2015, these doctoral regulations apply.

(4) Doctoral candidates pursuing a doctorate in accordance with the doctoral regulations of paragraph 2 can apply to pursue their studies in accordance with these

regulations by submitting a written statement to the graduate school of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences.