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Faculty of Humanities:

Following the resolution of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities dated 25.01.2023, the Senate of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen approved the third amendment of the regulation concerning the qualifications for entry and admission for the consecutive Master's degree programme „Iranian and Persianate Studies“ on 22.02.2023 in the version of the announcement dated 04.05.2020 (Official Announcements I no. 23/2020 p. 406), last amended by the statute on 30.03.2022 (Official Announcements I no. 15/2022 p. 204); the regulations are deemed to have been approved on the basis of a resolution of the Foundation Committee of the University of Göttingen Foundation under Public Law dated 10.07.2019 (§ 44 section 1 sentence 2 NHG (Lower Saxony Higher Education Act)) in the version of the announcement dated 26.02.2007 (Nds. GVBl. (Lower Saxony Law and Official Gazette) p. 69), last amended by Article 7 of the Act dated 23.03.2022 (Nds. GVBl. p. 218); § 41 section 1 sentence 1 NHG in conjunction with § 18 section 6 sentence 3, section 8 sentence 3 NHG and § 7 section 1 sentence 1 NHZG in the version of the announcement dated 29.01.1998 (Nds. GVBl. p. 51), last amended by Article 2 of the Act dated 19.11.2019 (Nds. GVBl. p. 333); § 62 section 4 sentence 1 NHG, § 60 a section 1 sentence 1 NHG in conjunction with § 18 section 6 sentence 3, section 8 sentence 3, section 14 NHG and § 7 section 2 NHZG).

**Regulation concerning the qualifications for entry and admission
for the consecutive Master's degree programme “Iranian and Persianate Studies”
at the University of Göttingen**

I. Scope

§ 1 Scope

(1) These regulations govern entry and admission to the consecutive Master's degree programme “Iranian and Persianate Studies.”

(2) In accordance with the following provisions, the university carries out its own procedure to determine the qualifications for entry for all study places to be allocated in the "Iranian and Persianate Studies" degree programme.

(3) ¹If the number of applicants who meet the qualifications for entry exceeds the available university places, the university shall allocate the places based on the results of its own selection procedure. ²If the number of applicants who meet the qualifications for entry does not exceed the available places, no selection procedure shall take place.

II. Authorization for admission

§ 2 Qualifications for entry

(1) ¹It is a requirement for entrance to the Master's degree programme that the applicant possesses professional competence. ²Candidates shall be deemed to possess the relevant professional competence if they have completed a technically relevant course of studies to Bachelor's degree level with a standard course length of at least six semesters and a total of at least 180 ECTS credits, or an equivalent degree in a degree programme at a German university or at a university belonging to the Bologna signatory states in accordance with § 3 in Iranian Studies (in German *Iranistik*), Iranian and Persianate Studies, or in a technically closely related subject area. ³Final examinations which have been passed in a country outside the Bologna signatory states require the determination of equivalence with the qualifications according to sentence 1, taking into account the proposals of the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) at the Office of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Federal States in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK) for the recognition and assessment of foreign certificates of academic qualification, which can be found under the URL <http://anabin.kmk.org>. ⁴The grades of the foreign certificates of academic qualification must be converted to the German grading system.

(2) ¹Notwithstanding section 1, authorisation shall be considered proven by applicants who have not yet completed a course of studies at the time of application, but have acquired at least 150 credits in a relevant Bachelor's degree programme in accordance with section 3, or in an equivalent degree programme. ²The average grade calculated from previous examination components shall also be considered in the selection procedure in place of the Bachelor's grade or the grade of an equivalent certificate of academic qualification, irrespective of whether the result of the Bachelor's examination deviates from this.

(3) ¹The decision as to whether a preliminary course of studies is relevant within the meaning of sections 1 to 2 shall be made by the selection committee. ²Proof of at least the following achievements is a prerequisite for the subject relevance of the previous course of study:

Achievements amounting to 50 credits from Iranian Studies, including achievements in at least two of the following areas: History, Law, Politics, Sociology, Anthropology/Ethnology, Archeology and Art History, Literary Studies, Media Studies of Iran and the Islamic World, Religious Studies (not Theology), Islamic Philosophy, Linguistics, Translation Studies (e.g., Persian-English, Persian-German, Sanskrit-Persian, Arabic-Persian), or Didactics of the Persian Language. Achievements in the field of translation studies can only be taken into account for the same language combination up to a maximum of 18 credits.

³The selection committee may assess the relevance of the subject in accordance with sentence 2 dependent upon completion of pending examination components within two semesters. In this case, the assessment of subject relevance and admission are conditional on proof of the pending examination components, which should be submitted within two semesters from the time of enrollment at the university (closing date). ⁴If proof of the pending examination components is not submitted by the deadline, the assessment of the relevance of the subject and any letter of admission based on this shall become ineffective. ⁵Assessment of the relevance of the subject shall not be possible if the components in accordance with sentence 2 that have not yet been performed have a rating of more than 15 credits.

(4) ¹Applicants whose native language is not English must show adequate English language skills.

²Adequate knowledge of English must be demonstrated with standardised or accredited certificates at a minimum C1 level in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). ³The following in particular shall serve as proof:

- a) UNIcert®: min. certificate UNIcert® III;
- b) NULTE certificate: min. level C1;
- c) Cambridge English Scale: min. 180 points;
- d) International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic): min. band 6.5;
- e) Test of English as a Foreign Language, internet-based test (TOEFL iBT): min. 93 points;
- f) Global Scale of English (Pearson Academic): min. 76 points;
- g) Evidence from other institutions certified by CEFR: min. C1.

⁴Successful completion of the test (a-f) may not have taken place more than three years before the receipt of the application for admission. ⁵Proof of sufficient knowledge of the English language is also the successful completion of a degree programme in which English language skills at CEFR level C1 or higher are specified as an accredited competence target. ⁶Knowledge of German does not have to be proven.

(5) ¹Proof according to section 4 is not necessary for applicants who have a very good knowledge of the German language and sufficient knowledge of the English language. ²Applicants whose mother tongue is not German and who neither have a German university entrance qualification nor have obtained their Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree from a German university in a German-speaking course of study need to demonstrate very good knowledge of the German language in accordance with the examination regulations for the German language test for university admission (DSH) by passing an examination with the overall result DSH-2. ³Excluded from the obligation to take a test are applicants who are exempt from the German language test for university admission according to the examination regulations for the German language test for university admission (DSH) at the Georg-August University of Göttingen. This applies in particular to those applicants whose knowledge of the German language has been proven through the successful "Test German as a foreign language" (TestDaF) with at least four times TestDaF level 4 (TDN 4) or through the "German part of the examination" of the assessment test at preparatory colleges. ⁴The applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate sufficient English language skills with standardised or accredited certificates at least at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). ⁵The following in particular shall serve as proof:

- a) UNIcert®: min. certificate UNIcert® II;
- b) NULTE certificate: min. level B2;
- c) Cambridge English Scale: min. 160 points;
- d) International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic): min. band 5.5;
- e) Test of English as a Foreign Language, internet-based test (TOEFL iBT): min. 59 points;
- f) Global Scale of English (Pearson Academic): min. 59 points;
- g) Evidence from other institutions certified by CEFR: min. B2.

⁶Successful completion of the test (a-f) may not have taken place more than three years before the receipt of the application for admission. ⁷At least one year spent studying or working in a country in which English is the official language or the successful completion of an English-language course of at least two years also count as proof of sufficient English language skills.

(6) ¹Applicants whose mother tongue is not Persian must have sufficient knowledge of Persian. ²Sufficient knowledge of the language is proven by achievements in the area of the Persian language amounting to 36 credits. Instead of proof of credit points, the required language skills can be proven by successful participation in the practical language aptitude test of the Georg-August University in accordance with the following provisions:

- a) The aptitude test takes place at least once every two semesters; the dates will be announced in an appropriate manner in due time.

b) The aptitude test consists of a written exam (90 minutes) and an oral exam (approx. 15 minutes).

c) The applicant must be able to understand oral or written texts related to the study situation, analyze them, and compose required texts by himself/herself. This includes the following types of evidence in detail:

aa) Listening: The applicant can understand the main points of speeches and lectures if he or she is familiar with the topic. He or she can extract the main information from radio or television programs about current affairs and about subjects related to his or her profession or interests, provided standard language is spoken.

bb) Speaking: The applicant can give a clear and detailed oral presentation on various topics from his or her areas of interest. He or she can explain his or her point of view on an issue and compare the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

cc) Reading: The applicant can understand the main content of complex texts on concrete and abstract topics; he or she can read and understand articles and reports on contemporary issues in which the writers take a particular position or point of view. The applicant also knows the basic characteristics of pre-modern Persian texts and is able to translate such texts into German or English using tools (dictionary).

dd) Writing: The applicant can write clear and detailed texts on a wide range of topics that interest him or her. In an essay or report, he or she can reproduce information or present arguments and counter-arguments for or against a particular point of view. He or she can write letters highlighting the personal meaning of events and experiences.

d) The board of directors of the Institute of Iranian studies at the University of Göttingen decides on the details for implementation of the test, in particular the form and deadline for registration as well as the implementation dates, and announces this in an appropriate manner.

e) If the aptitude test is not passed, it can be repeated as often as desired.

(7) ¹Proof according to sections 4, 5, and 6 must be submitted to the Faculty of Humanities by September 30 for enrollment for a winter semester and by March 31 for enrollment for a summer semester. Such proof is a prerequisite for enrollment; conditional enrollment does not take place.

²The selection committee decides on the equivalence of further proof according to section 4

sentence 3, section 5 sentence 5, and section 6 sentence 2 in individual cases; it may require an expert's opinion from another institution (e.g., ZEISS) for its decision.

(8) ¹In all other respects, the general provisions of the regulation applying to enrollment at the University of Göttingen remain unaffected. ²Enrollment of applicants who are provisionally authorised for admission in accordance with section 2 is conditional upon submission of proof of successful completion of the Bachelor's degree programme or an equivalent programme. ³Proof must be provided by November 15 for enrollment for a winter semester and by May 15 for enrollment for a summer semester. ⁴Depending on the course of studies taken and, in particular, on the examination results obtained so far, if the dean's office decides that the applicant will attain the degree by the end of the first semester of the Master's programme at the latest, the deadline for enrollment for a winter semester will be extended to the end of March 31, for enrollment for a summer semester to the end of September 30, in accordance with sentence 3. This decision is only permissible if:

- a) only the thesis is missing as an examination result; or
- b) the thesis has already been submitted to the university and the amount of the examination components that are still missing does not exceed six credit points.

III. Selection procedure

§ 3 Start of program, application for admission, closing date

(1) ¹The Master's degree programme starts in both the summer and winter semesters. ²Applications for admission must be submitted via the university's online portal. They must be received by the university together with the application documents required in accordance with section 2 by June 1 (closing date) for a winter semester, and by December 1 (closing date) for a summer semester. If an internal university selection procedure is not carried out (cf., § 1 section 3 sentence 1), applications received after this date shall be considered provided authorisation for admission in accordance with § 2 section 1 or 2 has been proven by no later than November 15 for applications for a winter semester and no later than May 15 for applications for a summer semester; the other provisions on qualifications for entry remain unaffected. ³The application applies only to the allocation of university places for the relevant admission date. ⁴The university is not obliged to officially check the information provided by the applicant.

(2) The following documents must be enclosed with the application for admission; they must be uploaded to the university server over the online portal:

- a) the applicant's degree certificate(s) in German or English translation if the originals are not in German or English; if a degree certificate is not yet available, a certificate of the examination results acquired, the credits, and the average grade should be submitted;

- b) a curriculum vitae in tabular form written in German or English with a meaningful presentation of the educational background;
- c) proof of very good knowledge of the English language according to § 2 section 4 or proof of very good knowledge of the German language and sufficient knowledge of the English language according to § 2 section 5, as well as proof of sufficient knowledge of the Persian language according to § 2 section 6 insofar as participation in the aptitude test is not requested;
- d) a description of the motivation to study with regard to the selected course of study with reference to the previous educational background; no more than 2 pages;
- e) extracts from the Module Handbook or other documents, based on which the credits may be reviewed in accordance with § 2 section 3;
- f) a declaration as to whether the applicant has successfully, unsuccessfully, or not yet completed a closely related Master's degree;
- g) a declaration of which module package or packages the applicant intends to take based on his or her previous education.

(3) ¹Applications that are not submitted in full, or in due form and time, shall be excluded from the further procedure. ²The documents submitted shall be retained by the university.

(4) If a prospective student credibly demonstrates that he or she has been disadvantaged compared to other applicants due to an obstacle in the selection procedure, appropriate compensation for disadvantage is to be granted by the selection committee upon application.

§ 4 Selection committee for the Master's degree programme

(1) The Faculty of Humanities at the university shall form at least one selection committee to prepare the decision on selection for this degree programme.

(2) ¹A selection committee includes two members eligible to vote, who belong to the full-time academic staff or the professorial group, and a member of the students' group with an advisory vote. ²At least one member must belong to the professorial group. ³The members shall be appointed by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities. ⁴The tenure of the members is two years, while that of the student group member is one year. ⁵Reappointment is possible. ⁶The selection committee has a quorum if at least two members eligible to vote are present.

(3) The tasks of the selection committee are:

- a) examination of the incoming applications for admission for formal correctness;
- b) examination and, if necessary, assessment of the qualifications for entry;
- c) conducting interviews in accordance with § 6;
- d) decision on admission or rejection of applicants.

(4) The selection committee reports its findings to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Humanities after completing the allocation procedure. If necessary, the committee submits proposals for the further development of the procedure.

§ 5 Selection procedure

(1) Selection is made on the basis of a combination of the following criteria:

- a) on the basis of the Bachelor's grade or the grade of an equivalent certificate of academic qualification;
- b) on the basis of special knowledge that is advantageous to the successful completion of this degree programme, and
- c) on the basis of an interview with the applicant.

(2) The selection committee shall make a pre-selection from the applications received in accordance with section 3 and a selection from the screened applicants on the basis of the selection criteria listed in sections 1 and 4.

(3) ¹A pre-selection from the applications received shall be carried out in order to limit the number of participants in the interviews to twice the number of university places to be allocated in accordance with the selection procedure. ²These should also include applications from persons who have already participated in an earlier interview in accordance with § 6 section 4. ³A ranking shall be generated for this purpose according to the outcome of the assessment, in accordance with section 4 sentence 2 a) and b). ⁴In the event of identical ranking, all applicants with the highest ranking shall be permitted to participate.

(4) ¹Selection shall be made on the basis of ranking, where a maximum of 72 points is attainable.

²This is generated in accordance with the following provisions:

- a) Depending on the grade achieved in the Bachelor's degree or the grade of an equivalent certificate of academic qualification, points shall be awarded to the applicant as follows:

1.0 up to and including 1.1	49 points,
over 1.1 up to and including 1.2	47 points,
over 1.2 up to and including 1.3	45 points,
over 1.3 up to and including 1.4	43 points,
over 1.4 up to and including 1.5	41 points,
over 1.5 up to and including 1.6	39 points,
over 1.6 up to and including 1.7	37 points,
over 1.7 up to and including 1.8	35 points,
over 1.8 up to and including 1.9	33 points,
over 1.9 up to and including 2.0	31 points,

over 2.0 up to and including 2.1	29 points,
over 2.1 up to and including 2.2	27 points,
over 2.2 up to and including 2.3	25 points,
over 2.3 up to and including 2.4	23 points,
over 2.4 up to and including 2.5	21 points,
over 2.5 up to and including 2.6	19 points,
over 2.6 up to and including 2.7	17 points,
over 2.7 up to and including 2.8	15 points,
over 2.8 up to and including 2.9	13 points,
over 2.9 up to and including 3.0	11 points,
over 3.0 up to and including 4.0	0 points.

b) For special knowledge that is advantageous to the successful completion of this degree program, the applicant shall be credited with a maximum of 8 points as follows: 2 points in each case for evidence of particular specialized achievements, for which the following achievements, in particular, may be considered:

- research internship lasting for a total of at least 4 weeks,
- internship or work experience in subject-related areas lasting for a total of at least 4 weeks,
- semester abroad,
- voluntary commitment lasting at least one year.

c) Depending on the assessment of the applicant's level of suitability in the interview, points shall be credited to the applicant as follows:

ca) depending on the nature and extent of the special professional knowledge, points shall be credited to the applicant as follows:

the applicant has:

very good knowledge	5 points,
good knowledge	3 points,
satisfactory knowledge	1 point,
limited knowledge	0 points.

cb) Depending on the nature and extent of reflections on the specialist experience acquired, points shall be credited to the applicant as follows:

The reflections are:

very convincing	5 points,
convincing	3 points,
not very convincing	1 point,

hardly convincing 0 points.

cc) Depending on the reasons given for the motivation to study, points shall be credited to the applicant as follows:

The reasons are:

very convincing 5 points,

convincing 3 points,

not very convincing 1 point,

hardly convincing 0 points.

d) The points obtained under a) to c) shall be added together.

(5) ¹If there is an identical ranking after grading, the ranking sequence shall be determined based on the result of the points attained in accordance with section 4 sentence 2 a) and b), and then according to the result of the Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree. ²In all other cases where there is identical ranking, lots shall be drawn to decide the outcome.

(6) ¹In all other respects, the general provisions of the regulation applying to enrollment at the University of Göttingen remain unaffected. ²Enrollment of applicants who are provisionally authorized for admission in accordance with § 2 section 2 is conditional upon submission of proof of successful completion of the Bachelor's degree program or an equivalent program. ³Proof must be submitted by November 15 for enrollment in the winter semester and by May 15 for enrollment in the summer semester. ⁴Depending on the course of studies taken and, in particular, on the examination results obtained so far, if the dean's office decides that the applicant will attain the degree by the end of the first semester of the Master's programme at the latest, the deadline for enrollment for a winter semester will be extended to the end of March 31, for enrollment for a summer semester to the end of September 30, in accordance with sentence 3. This decision is only permissible if:

a) only the thesis is missing as an examination result; or

b) the thesis has already been submitted to the university and the amount of the examination components that are still missing does not exceed six credit points.

§ 6 Interview

(1) ¹The interview is intended to determine whether an applicant is suitable for the selected degree program. ²The following principles apply to carrying out the interview:

a) The interview shall normally be carried out at the university by no later than July 30 for the winter semester and by no later than January 31 for the summer semester. The exact dates, as well as the place of interview, shall be announced by the university within an adequate period before the interviews begin. The university shall invite candidates to the

interview with sufficient notice. A video conference or a telephone interview is permitted for overseas applicants as well as in justified exceptional cases, provided the identity of the applicant can be determined beyond doubt. The selection committee shall determine the details of the procedure in such cases.

- b) The selection committee shall conduct an interview lasting about 15 minutes with every applicant.
- c) The essential questions and answers of the interview must be recorded in a protocol to be signed by the members of the selection committee. The protocol must clearly show the date and place of the interview, the names of the committee members, the name of the applicant, and the assessment.

(2) ¹The interview shall cover the following suitability parameters:

- a) specific technical knowledge, in particular relating to the Iranian culture and language;
- b) the ability to reflect on and analyze the specialist experience acquired;
- c) motivation to study.

²The members of the selection committee shall assess the applicant after conclusion of the interview on a scale in accordance with § 5 section 4 sentence 2 c) in order to ascertain his or her suitability for the selected degree programme.

(3) ¹Any applicant who fails to attend the interview without any convincing reason shall be excluded from the further procedure. ²If a convincing reason is provided, the selection committee shall schedule a new date for the interview upon request. ³Proof of the convincing reason should be provided and an application for rescheduling a new date should be made promptly to the selection committee, at the latest within two days after the date first scheduled. ⁴An unsuccessful applicant is entitled to participate again in the next possible selection procedure.

(4) ¹As part of the undergraduate degree programme, an earlier interview may be conducted with students of the university who are enrolled in an undergraduate degree program that is consolidated by this Master's degree programme. ²This earlier interview replaces the selection interview if the student has applied for this Master's degree programme. ³This earlier interview must be equivalent to the standard interview that it replaces in terms of form and content. ⁴The provisions laid down in sections 1 to 3, § 5 section 4 sentence 2 c) and § 4 sections 2 to 4 apply accordingly. ⁵The earlier interview shall be taken into account in place of the standard interview only if it was not conducted more than six months before the closing date for application and the applicant is one of the persons pre-selected for an interview in accordance with the provisions under § 5 section 3. ⁶In the event that this condition is not satisfied, the applicant shall be excluded from the further selection procedure in the present round of applications. ⁷Notification of the result

of the earlier interview shall only be given under the prerequisite that the applicant has been pre-selected for an interview in accordance with § 5 section 3.

§ 7 Letter of admission, letter of rejection, and procedure for subsequent admissions

(1) ¹Applicants who may be admitted shall receive a letter of admission in text form from the university. ²This specifies the deadline by which the applicant must enroll or declare in text form whether he or she accepts the university place. ³If the enrollment or the declaration according to sentence 2 is not submitted in due time and in the correct form, the letter of admission becomes ineffective. ⁴This legal consequence should be pointed out in the letter of admission.

(2) ¹Applicants who are not entitled to admission shall receive a letter of rejection, in which the ranking achieved and the ranking of the applicant last admitted are listed. ²The letter of rejection shall provide information on rights of legal recourse. ³In the case of authorized applicants, it shall also contain a request that a declaration should be made in text form by a specified deadline as to whether the application for admission shall be held for a procedure for subsequent admissions. ⁴If the applicant does not submit this declaration by the deadline or in the correct form, he or she shall be excluded from the procedure for subsequent admissions. ⁵Reference must be made to this legal consequence.

(3) ¹The procedure for subsequent admissions is carried out based on the ranking generated in accordance with § 5 sections 4 and 5. ²If the ranking list according to sentence 1 is exhausted, a ranking according to the result of the Bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree shall be generated and the procedure for subsequent admissions carried out on the basis of this ranking. The provisions of section 1 apply correspondingly.

(4) ¹The admission procedures shall be completed no later than November 15 for admission to a winter semester or May 15 for admission to a summer semester. ²Any university places still available shall be allocated by lot to applicants authorized for admission, subject to informal application. ³The application period for this purpose shall begin two weeks before the start of lectures and end with the completion of the procedure. ⁴Due to the advanced period of lectures, the awarding of university places by means of drawing lots shall be completed no later than November 30 for admission to a winter semester and May 31 for a summer semester.

§ 8 Admission to higher semesters

(1) Free university places in a higher semester with limited admission shall be awarded to applicants in the following sequence:

- a. those who are in the same or a comparable degree programme

- aa. who are or were enrolled at another German university or at a university in another member state of the European Union or in another signatory state to the Agreement on the European Economic Area;
 - ab. who are or were enrolled at a foreign university and possess German nationality or are subject to the same university admissions laws and regulations as German citizens;
 - b. those for whom the rejection of admission would mean an extraordinary hardship for personal reasons,
 - c. those who assert other reasons.
- (2) Within each of the three case groups in section 1, the result of the Bachelor's degree programme examination or an equivalent examination is decisive, followed by social, especially family-related and economic reasons relevant for the choice of location, and finally the draw in cases that are still identical.

IV. Final provision

§ 9 Entry into force; final provisions

- (1) ¹These regulations shall enter into force on the day following their announcement in the Official Announcements I of the Georg-August Universität Göttingen. ²They apply for the first time to applicants for the winter semester of 2020/21.
- (2) At the same time, the regulations on qualifications for entry and admission to the consecutive Master's degree programme "Iranian Studies" in the version published on April 24, 2012 (Official Announcements I No. 14 part 1/2012 p. 675), last amended by the statute of June 3, 2016 (Official Announcements I No. 33/2016 p. 893) shall expire.
- (3) Notwithstanding § 3 section 1, the application for admission must be submitted using the forms available on the online portal and must be received by the university together with the documents specified in § 3 section 2 within the period specified in § 3 section 1 if an online application for admission is not provided; the details will be announced by the university in a reasonable period of time before the application deadline expires.
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