

Annex V

European Master in Law and Economics

Exam and Thesis Regulations

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§ 1 Programme Aim

- (1) The *European Master Programme in Law and Economics (EMLE)* is a study programme for graduate students with a background in law and/or economics. It aims at teaching students the main concepts, methods and techniques of the Economic Analysis of Law ('EAL'), familiarize them with 'the state of the art' in the major fields of EAL and to let them grasp and assess the differences and similarities between national legal systems from an economic perspective in a number of specific areas of EAL.
- (2) The primary assessment method consists of written exams. In the exams the student must prove that he or she has mastered the methods of the Law and Economics approach and that he or she is able to apply them in a scientific manner within a selected area. Exam results obtained at any partner university are fully recognized by all the universities in the Consortium.

§ 2 Term Exams

- (1) Each EMLE student must participate in ten term exams.
- (2) The term exam of a full course (of 5 ECTS) consists of a written test of at least three hours, in case of a half course at least two hours. In addition, the course instructor may require the students to submit essays and/or assignments.
- (3) The term exams are anonymous, in the sense that the person grading the exam does not know whose exam he or she is grading.
- (4) Exams must be written in English.

§ 3 Final Exam

The final exam consists of the term exams and a thesis.

§ 4 Evaluation of the Term Exams

- (1) The term exams must be evaluated by the course lecturers.

- (2) The evaluation can take into account the contributions of the candidate during the lectures. The written test must be given a weight of at least 50% of the final grade, and the lecture contributions can at most amount to 10%. The essays and/or assignments may have a weight of at most 50%.
- (3) A term exam is passed if the grade is 5.0 points or higher. A term exam is failed if the grade is 4.5 points or lower. In case the course grade consists of the average of two separate exams, the average grade will be considered.
- (4) During the academic year, up to four term exams may be repeated once if the student does not attempt the exams but provides substantial reasons, or fails. Exceptions may be granted in extraordinary cases only upon request to and subject to approval by the Director.
- (5) Grades for the term exams are awarded on a scale from 0 to 10 points and may be converted using ECTS Grading Table 1 at the end of these Regulations.

§ 5 Thesis

- (1) The student must write a thesis during the third term. The thesis is intended to prove the ability of the student to work in the field of Law and Economics in a scientific manner.
- (2) The student proposes a subject for the thesis. The proposal is discussed with representatives of the relevant third-term Partner University during the Midterm Meeting and is approved by the Board, along with a preliminary thesis title. The thesis topic and title that was agreed upon may be changed only with the consent of the supervisor and the Director; the student must provide good reasons for the change of topic and/or title.
- (3) The supervisor must be a professor, lecturer, assistant professor, or external lecturer. The supervisor is member of the faculty at which the student is studying during the third term.
- (4) The thesis is written in English or in the language of the European country where the student spends the third term. This latter option is allowed when the language is not the student's mother tongue and both a supervisor and an external examiner are available to evaluate the thesis in this fashion.
- (5) The preparation period for the thesis is April to mid-August.
- (6) The student must add an authorship declaration to the thesis in which he or she declares and affirms that:

- a) the thesis is entirely the result of his or her own work except where otherwise indicated;
 - b) the thesis is not used as part of any other examination; and
 - c) the thesis has not yet been published.
- (7) The length of the thesis is approximately 15,000 but not more than 16,000 words, including footnotes and appendices, but excluding the bibliography. The Board will reduce the grade of theses exceeding the maximum length. In extreme cases, either the supervisor or the external examiner (see § 6) may ask the Director to reject the thesis.

§ 6 Evaluation of the Thesis

- (1) The thesis shall be evaluated by the supervisor and by an external examiner. The external examiner does not belong to the same University as the supervisor. He or she is designated by the Director in cooperation with the Local Coordinators.
- (2) Grades for the thesis are awarded on a scale from 0 to 30 points and may be converted using ECTS Grading Table 2 at the end of these Regulations.
- (3) If the supervisor and the external examiner evaluate the thesis with at least 12 points each, the thesis is accepted. If the thesis is awarded with less than 24 points in total, the thesis is not accepted and the student has to submit a new thesis on a different topic, to be approved by the Director. The decision on rejection of the thesis is taken by the Board in the October Board meeting. The time given for working on the new thesis is the same as the time that was available for the original thesis. If the thesis is awarded with less than 12 points by one examiner, but the sum of the points awarded by both examiners is at least 24 points, a procedure of re-evaluation (subsection 4) is triggered. This procedure is also triggered if the marks of the two examiners differ by more than 5 points.

- (4) If a re-evaluation procedure is triggered according to subsection (3), the two examiners consult with each other to reduce the difference or to re-evaluate the grade lower than 12 points. If, following the consultation, the conditions triggering the re-evaluation procedure mentioned in subsection (3) still hold, a third examiner is designated by the Director. The sum of the points awarded by the two examiners is then replaced by $\frac{2}{3}$ of the sum of the points awarded by all three evaluators, if necessary rounded up or down to the closest full or half point. The thesis is accepted if the number of points calculated in this fashion is at least 24.
- (5) If, following consultation, the difference in grades between the supervisor and the external examiner exceeds 10 points and the evaluation by the third examiner differs by no more than three points from that of either the first or external examiner, the total thesis grade is based on the two evaluations which are close to each other, while the dissenting evaluation is ignored.

§ 7 Successful Completion

- (1) The final grade is calculated as follows: The grades of the ten term exams and the grades for the thesis are added together, resulting in a maximum score of 160 points (100 for the courses and 60 for the thesis). This total score is divided by 16 and rounded off to two digits, resulting in a grade on a scale from 0 to 10. These final grades may be converted using ECTS Grading Table 3 at the end of these Regulations.
- (2) Successful completion of the programme requires:
 - a) the points awarded in the term exams total at least 50 points (see ECTS Grading Table 4 at the end of these regulations);
 - b) not more than one term exam is awarded less than 5 points;
 - c) the thesis has been accepted according to §6 (see ECTS Grading Table 5 at the end of these Regulations) and
 - d) the final mark according to §7 subsection (1) is at least 5.00 points.

§ 8 Missing Classes and Exams, Cheating and Plagiarism

- (1) Except in case of absence for documented medical reasons, mutually agreed absences or other exceptional circumstances, if a student is absent from class for the first time, the Local Coordinator issues a warning. If the student is absent without a valid reason for a second time, the Director is informed. He or she may decide on a proportionate sanction, which consists in a reduction of the exam grade for the course concerned. Repeated absence may increase the size of this sanction and may lead to a non-passing grade for the term exam. Any sanction shall be subject to the final ratification by the Board.
- (2) A term or re-exam is considered as not passed and rewarded with 0 points if the candidate does not appear for the written test without being excused. A candidate who has been excused from attending the term exam and subsequently fails in the re-exam will be granted one additional attempt to pass the exam.
- (3) The Local Coordinator must be notified of the reasons for non-appearance immediately and in writing. In case of illness the candidate may be asked to submit a medical certificate. The Local Coordinator decides whether or not to accept the reasons given.
- (4) If the thesis is not completed within the given time period, the thesis is not accepted. The Board in the October meeting decides whether the student has to submit a new thesis or whether the original thesis will be evaluated in accordance with §6.
- (5) Any attempt to cheat will lead to a term exam being evaluated with a grade of zero (0). The Local Coordinator, after consulting with the Director, decides whether to allow a student found cheating to take part in the re-exam. If a student attempts to cheat in a re-exam, the Local Coordinator, after consulting with the Director, decides on a grade which lies between zero (0) and the original grade awarded for the term exam.
- (6) If the cheating is discovered only after the degree has been awarded, the Local Coordinators of the Partner Universities which have awarded the degree declare, in accordance with the regulation of those Partner Universities, that the relevant exams were not passed. Any degrees and certificates already issued are voidable on this basis, and they must be returned.
- (7) The candidate must be notified of any decisions under the above subsections in due course. All decisions must be motivated. The candidate must be given the opportunity to reply.

- (8) Plagiarism is the use of another author's words or ideas without due reference. Depending on the severity of the violation the sanction ranges from a deduction of points to the rejection of the thesis. The Board is responsible for the decision in cases of plagiarism. The procedures are as follows:
- a) An electronic version of the written work will be electronically checked for possible indications of plagiarism.
 - b) The supervisor and the external examiner comment on any electronic indications of plagiarism.
 - c) The Board decides on the consequences of plagiarism during the October Board Meeting.

EMLE ECTS Grading Tables based on the results of the previous five academic years

Table 1 – Term Exam Grades

EMLE Term Exam Grades	Grading percentage	Cumulative percentage
10	1.23%	1.23%
9.5	1.84%	3.07%
9	6.77%	9.84%
8.5	8.11%	17.95%
8	18.19%	36.14%
7.5	12.86%	49.00%
7	15.87%	64.87%
6.5	9.36%	74.23%
6	12.23%	86.46%
5.5	3.92%	90.38%
5	4.73%	95.11%
4.5	1.38%	96.49%
4	2.15%	98.64%
3.5	0.55%	99.19%
3	0.48%	99.67%
2.5	0.07%	99.74%
2	0.15%	99.89%
1.5	0.04%	99.93%
1	0.07%	100.00%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

Table 2 – Thesis Grades (separate grades from supervisors and external examiners)

EMLE Thesis Grades	Grading percentage	Cumulative percentage	EMLE Thesis Grades	Grading percentage	Cumulative percentage
30	0.61%	0.61%	16	2.07%	92.21%
29.5	0.12%	0.73%	15.5	0.49%	92.70%
29	0.85%	1.58%	15	2.80%	95.50%
28.5	0.12%	1.70%	14.5	0.24%	95.74%
28	2.19%	3.89%	14	0.49%	96.23%
27.5	0.36%	4.26%	13.5	0.00%	96.23%
27	4.14%	8.39%	13	1.09%	97.32%
26.5	0.49%	8.88%	12.5	0.00%	97.32%
26	6.69%	15.57%	12	1.09%	98.42%
25.5	0.85%	16.42%	11.5	0.00%	98.42%
25	8.88%	25.30%	11	0.36%	98.78%
24.5	0.85%	26.16%	10.5	0.00%	98.78%
24	11.80%	37.96%	10	0.24%	99.03%
23.5	0.24%	38.20%	9.5	0.00%	99.03%
23	10.83%	49.03%	9	0.36%	99.39%
22.5	0.73%	49.76%	8.5	0.00%	99.39%
22	7.91%	57.66%	8	0.12%	99.51%
21.5	0.97%	58.64%	7.5	0.00%	99.51%
21	9.85%	68.49%	7	0.12%	99.64%
20.5	0.97%	69.46%	6.5	0.00%	99.64%
20	7.66%	77.13%	6	0.12%	99.76%
19.5	1.22%	78.35%	5.5	0.00%	99.76%
19	4.38%	82.73%	5	0.12%	99.88%
18.5	0.24%	82.97%	4.5	0.00%	99.88%
18	3.65%	86.62%	4	0.00%	99.88%
17.5	0.36%	86.98%	3.5	0.00%	99.88%
17	2.80%	89.78%	3	0.12%	100.00%
16.5	0.36%	90.15%	Total	100.00%	100.00%

Table 3 – Final Exam Grades

EMLE Final Exam Grades		Grading percentage*	Cumulative percentage
10	(9.875 - 10.00)	0.00%	0.00%
9.75	(9.625 - 9.874)	0.00%	0.00%
9.5	(9.375 - 9.624)	0.00%	0.00%
9.25	(9.125 - 9.374)	0.75%	0.75%
9	(8.875 - 9.124)	0.50%	1.24%
8.75	(8.625 - 8.874)	1.24%	2.49%
8.5	(8.375 - 8.624)	4.98%	7.46%
8.25	(8.125 - 8.374)	5.97%	13.43%
8	(7.875 - 8.124)	9.20%	22.64%
7.75	(7.625 - 7.874)	7.96%	30.60%
7.5	(7.375 - 7.624)	15.67%	46.27%
7.25	(7.125 - 7.374)	12.69%	58.96%
7	(6.875 - 7.124)	9.45%	68.41%
6.75	(6.625 - 6.874)	9.70%	78.11%
6.5	(6.375 - 6.624)	6.47%	84.58%
6.25	(6.125 - 6.374)	4.98%	89.55%
6	(5.875 - 6.124)	2.99%	92.54%
5.75	(5.625 - 5.874)	2.99%	95.52%
5.5	(5.375 - 5.624)	2.49%	98.01%
5.25	(5.125 - 5.374)	1.24%	99.25%
5	(5.00 - 5.124)	0.75%	100.00%
Total		100.00%	100.00%

* The 'final exam grade' is only calculated for graduating students, so the students who failed the EMLE are not included in this table.

Table 4 – Term Average Grades Courses

EMLE Term Exam Grades	Grading percentage	Cumulative percentage
10	0.00%	0.00%
9.5	0.00%	0.00%
9	2.69%	2.69%
8.5	8.07%	10.76%
8	15.89%	26.65%
7.5	23.47%	50.12%
7	19.32%	69.44%
6.5	14.43%	83.86%
6	8.80%	92.67%
5.5	3.67%	96.33%
5	2.20%	98.53%
4.5	0.73%	99.27%
4	0.49%	99.76%
3.5	0.24%	100.00%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

Table 5 – Final Thesis Grades (added grades from supervisors and external examiners)

EMLE Thesis Grades	Grading percentage	Cumulative percentage	EMLE Thesis Grades	Grading percentage	Cumulative percentage
60	0.00%	0.00%	40	4.22%	77.67%
59.5	0.00%	0.00%	39.5	0.50%	78.16%
59	0.25%	0.25%	39	3.23%	81.39%
58.5	0.00%	0.25%	38.5	0.00%	81.39%
58	0.25%	0.50%	38	2.48%	83.87%
57.5	0.00%	0.50%	37.5	0.00%	83.87%
57	0.50%	0.99%	37	2.98%	86.85%
56.5	0.00%	0.99%	36.5	0.25%	87.10%
56	0.25%	1.24%	36	1.74%	88.83%
55.5	0.25%	1.49%	35.5	0.50%	89.33%
55	1.49%	2.98%	35	2.23%	91.56%
54.5	0.25%	3.23%	34.5	0.25%	91.81%
54	0.25%	3.47%	34	1.49%	93.30%
53.5	0.00%	3.47%	33.5	0.00%	93.30%
53	2.48%	5.96%	33	1.24%	94.54%
52.5	0.25%	6.20%	32.5	0.25%	94.79%
52	3.72%	9.93%	32	0.00%	94.79%
51.5	0.00%	9.93%	31.5	0.00%	94.79%
51	4.22%	14.14%	31	1.49%	96.28%
50.5	0.74%	14.89%	30.5	0.00%	96.28%
50	4.22%	19.11%	30	0.50%	96.77%
49.5	0.25%	19.35%	29.5	0.00%	96.77%
49	6.20%	25.56%	29	0.25%	97.02%
48.5	0.74%	26.30%	28.5	0.00%	97.02%
48	4.22%	30.52%	28	0.25%	97.27%
47.5	0.25%	30.77%	27.5	0.00%	97.27%
47	6.45%	37.22%	27	1.49%	98.76%
46.5	0.74%	37.97%	26.5	0.00%	98.76%
46	8.19%	46.15%	26	0.00%	98.76%
45.5	0.50%	46.65%	25.5	0.00%	98.76%
45	6.70%	53.35%	25	0.50%	99.26%
44.5	0.00%	53.35%	24.5	0.00%	99.26%
44	4.71%	58.06%	24	0.00%	99.26%
43.5	0.25%	58.31%	23.5	0.00%	99.26%
43	4.96%	63.28%	23	0.00%	99.26%
42.5	0.74%	64.02%	22.5	0.00%	99.26%
42	3.23%	67.25%	22	0.25%	99.50%
41.5	0.50%	67.74%	21.5	0.25%	99.75%
41	4.96%	72.70%	21	0.25%	100.00%
40.5	0.74%	73.45%	Total	100.00%	100.00%