SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

FINAL EXAM REGULATIONS

FOR ATTAINMENT OF THE

Master's Degree in International Security Studies

Emanated with DR n. 642 of 13 November 2017
art. 1
Objectives

1. The aim of the final exam is to evaluate the student’s ability to master the methods of economic, juridical, political, sociological and historical research. The level of autonomy achieved by the candidate in dealing with a topic important to the chosen course of study will be assessed along with critical and analytical abilities.
2. For this purpose, a written thesis on one of the main topics of the Master’s course is required. The thesis can cover specific projects carried out during a placement or other training experience, including during periods spent abroad under international agreements. The thesis can tackle themes of a theoretical and practical nature. The work must show original ideas.

art. 2
Supervisor

1. The role of supervisor is assumed by a lecturer at the University of Trento or at the Scuola Superiore S. Anna of Pisa or by a teacher of another course, run by the University of Trento or by the Scuola Superiore S. Anna, the contents of which are in line with the training objectives of the graduate’s degree program.

art. 3
Thesis in a foreign language

1. The thesis can be written in Italian, English or by prior agreement with the supervisor and permission of co-supervisors, in another language of the European Union.

art. 4
Submission of degree thesis title

1. The student is required to submit his or her thesis title at least four months before the date of proclamation by filling out the necessary form. The original form, signed by the supervisor, must be handed in original to the Master's Degree Secretary in Via T. Gar, 14 - Trento.

art. 5
Application for graduation

1. To be admitted to the master’s exam, the student must have passed all the examinations required by the academic regulations set out in the year of enrolment. The student must register for the master’s exam via Esse3, following the instructions available on the School's website, at least four weeks before proclamation.
2. In the event a student wishes to defer graduation or withdraw, a written statement must be submitted to the student support office (Ufficio Offerta Formativa e Gestione Studenti) for
Economics and Management, Law and School of International Studies in Via Inama, 5 - Trento. The statement may also be emailed to supportostudiantiecogiursi@unitn.it. To enrol for a later graduate appeal, the student will have to submit a new application for graduation, respecting the terms set out in art. 5 paragraph 1.

art. 6
Appointment of Examination Panels

1. Once the graduation application deadline has expired, the student support office (Ufficio Offerta Formativa e Gestione Studenti) for Economics and Management, Law and School of International Studies sends the list of students and their supervisors to the Director of the School of International Studies.

2. The Director of the School of International Studies appoints examination panels composed of at least five members, including the student's supervisor and co-supervisor, and guarantees the presence of professors from different disciplines at the University of Trento and the Scuola Superiore S. Anna of Pisa. Panels must include at least two lecturers from the Scuola Superiore S. Anna of Pisa.

3. According to art. 21 of the Educational Regulations of the University, at least three lecturers or researchers from the University of Trento must be on the panel; one of these is nominated Chairman.

4. Additional external experts, tutors and teaching staff can be added to the panel, including in the capacity of co-supervisor.

5. A copy of the appointment decree is sent to each member of the examinations panel. The date and location that the thesis will be discussed are included. A copy of the decree is published on the School of International Studies website.

art. 7
Thesis submission

1. At least two weeks before the proclamation, the master’s student must:

   1) upload the final version of his or her thesis in PDF/A format onto Esse3, after confirming his or her application;

   2) email the final version of the thesis as a PDF file to the supervisor, co-supervisor and chairman of the examination panel. A summary (maximum 5 pages) supplemented by the bibliography should be sent to the other two members of the panel. For theses written in languages other than Italian or English, this summary must be in Italian or English. The student must also hand in or send a paper copy of his or her master’s degree thesis to the supervisor and to the co-supervisor before the oral examination. The email’s time stamp is proof that the two-week limit was respected.

art. 8
Final exam assessment

1. The examination panel convenes on the date set in a session open to the public. After discussing the master’s thesis with the student, a score of 0 to 8 points is given for the written work and discussion.

2. Taking the overall mark allocated to the thesis and discussion into consideration, the panel complete the graduation report which then shows the final degree mark.
3. The final degree grade is shown out of 110 and is determined by adding the mark awarded by the panel for the thesis and discussion to the weighted average of marks relating to examinations sat during the two-year master's course.

4. In the case a mark equals 110/110 with a final score of 5 or more points and by unanimous agreement, the examination panel can award summa cum laude. The summa cum laude distinction reflects the presence of original points in the thesis, the achievement of results which interpret the reference material fully and with maturity, together with excellent argumentation skills demonstrated in the oral discussion.

5. The Chairman of the examination panel states the final mark out of 110 and any extra distinction and proclaims the candidate to be a master's graduate.

6. The graduation report is sent to the student support office (Ufficio Offerta Formativa e Gestione Studenti) for Economics and Management, Law and School of International Studies.