

Passau, 15 July 2015

Special examinations for exchange students

The Faculty of Business Administration and Economics is aware that studying in a new environment abroad can be challenging for exchange students. Therefore, we offer exchange students the option of sitting an alternative examination that seeks to mitigate some of the difficulties international students may encounter.

Here is an example to illustrate how this works: At the end of the 'Marketing' course, the faculty sets a regular 'Marketing' examination and additionally a 'Marketing for Exchange Students' ('Marketing für Austauschstudierende') examination. Exchange students can choose which version they would like to sit when registering for the examination. Upon completion of the special examination for Marketing, the Transcript of Records will list 'Marketing for Exchange Students'.

While these special examinations cover the same course syllabus as the regular examinations, they are shorter than the regular ones in that students are required to answer a smaller set of questions, allowing them to allocate more time to each question attempted. This gives our international students more time to carefully craft their answers, which helps to mitigate linguistic and other problems international exchange students might face when sitting our examinations. As a consequence they are – technically speaking – slightly less challenging than the regular examinations.

While the faculty does not plan to introduce these examinations for regular degree-seeking students, we wish to emphasise that they are adequately challenging, so that achieving a pass mark on the examination proves that the student has achieved the desired learning outcomes of the relevant course and possesses the required knowledge to progress within the programme. We recommend that our exchange students' home universities regard these special examinations as equivalent to the regular examinations and give them full recognition.