

Under Section 36 (2) of Act 111/1998 Sb. on Higher Education and on Changes in and Amendments to some other acts (the Higher Education Act), the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports registered the Rigorosum Examination Code of Charles University in Prague under Ref. No. 23 586/99-30 on June 17, 1999.

The amendments to the Rigorosum Examination Code of Charles University in Prague were registered under Section 36 (2) and (5) of the Higher Education Act by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports under Ref. No. 12 120/2006-30 on April 28, 2006.

**FIRST CONSOLIDATED
RIGOROSUM EXAMINATION CODE
OF CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE
OF APRIL 28, 2006**

Under sections 9 (1) (b) and 17 (1) (i) of Act No. 111/1998 Sb., on Higher Education and Changes in and Amendments to some other Acts (The Higher Education Act) the Academic Senate of Charles University has adopted the following Rigorosum Examination Code of Charles University, as an internal regulation of the University.

Article 1

Introductory Provisions

The Code herein shall govern the procedure of admission of applications for such State Rigorosum Examination which does not represent an inherent part of study (hereinafter referred to as “State Rigorosum Examination”), details concerning the organisation of this Examination at the Faculties of Charles University (hereinafter referred to as “University”), their course and evaluation, as well as the rules regulating the fees charged for submitting applications and taking the Rigorosum Examination (hereinafter referred to as “fees”) and the payment of costs connected with these examinations and their preparation.*

Article 2

Organisation of State Rigorosum Examinations at University Faculties

1. A State Rigorosum Examination, after which the following academic title is awarded
 - a) in the field of law “Doctor of Law” (abbreviated to “JUDr.” preceding the name)

* Translator’s note: Words importing the masculine shall include the feminine, and unless the context otherwise requires, words in the singular shall include the plural and words in the plural shall include the singular.

- b) in the field of humanities, pedagogical and social sciences, “Doctor of Philosophy” (abbreviated to “PhDr.” preceding the name),
 - c) in the field of natural sciences “Doctor of Natural Sciences” (abbreviated to “RNDr.” preceding the name),
 - d) in the field of Pharmacy “Doctor of Pharmacy” (abbreviated to “PharmDr.” preceding the name),
 - e) in the field of theology “Licentiate of Theology” (abbreviated to "ThLic." preceding the name) or “Doctor of Theology” (abbreviated to “ThDr.” preceding the name), or for the field of Roman Catholic Theology “Licentiate of Theology”,
- may be organised at a Faculty implementing a Master’s programme of study in the accreditation of which authority to award the respective academic degree specified in (a), (b), (c), (d), or e) (s. 78 (3) of the Higher Education Act) has been granted, namely
- in the field of law at the Faculty of Law,
 - in the field of humanities, pedagogical and social sciences at the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts, Pedagogical Faculty, Faculty of Social Sciences and Faculty of Physical Education and Sport,
 - in the field of natural sciences at the Faculty of Natural Sciences and the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics,
 - in the field of pharmacy at the Faculty of Pharmacy,
 - in the field of non-Roman Catholic theology at the Hussite Theological Faculty and Protestant Theological Faculty; in the field of Roman Catholic theology at the Catholic Theological Faculty.
2. State Rigorosum Examinations may be held and respective academic degrees awarded also in other fields of study than those given in paragraph (1), provided the Faculty implements a Master’s programme of study in the accreditation of which authority to award the respective academic degree specified in paragraph (1) (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) has been granted, and it has the right to carry out procedures for the appointment of associate professors (“venium docendi” or “Habilitation Procedure”) and full professors in a branch in the given subject-area.

Article 3

Submitting Applications

1. A State Rigorosum Examination application may be submitted by an applicant who
 - a) has completed a Master’s programme of study and has been awarded the academic degree of “Master” under s. 46 of the Higher Education Act,
 - b) has been awarded the academic degree of “Doctor” under s. 21 (2) or S. 43 (2) of Act No. 172/1990 Sb. on Higher Education, unless he has been awarded the degree of “Doctor” under S. 22 in accordance with the aforementioned Act and unless his is a case specified in S. 99 (4) of the Higher Education Act.

2. The application must be submitted on a prescribed form accompanied by authenticated copies of a Higher Education Diploma and the attachment to the Diploma or a Certificate of State Final Examination, or documents in accordance with s. 25 or s. 43 (2) of Act No. 172/1990 Sb. on Higher Education, and other supplementary documentation whose contents, form and other formalities, including the method of proving the payment of fees, shall be determined by the Dean. The name and basic outline of the intended State Rigorosum Thesis shall be part of the application.
3. A written application signed by the applicant shall be delivered to the relevant Faculty. The due form of the application, the fees as well as the amount and the form of payment of the costs under Art. (6) shall be posted on the official noticeboard of the Faculty.
4. If the application form has not been properly filled in or the application fails to provide the required supplementary documentation or the fees have not been paid, the Faculty shall ask the applicant to correct the deficiencies and shall determine a reasonable time for that purpose. Failure to correct the deficiencies in the time allocated shall result in considering the application as never having been submitted. The fees are irrecoverable.
5. If the Faculty is not able to hold a State Rigorosum Examination in the field of study in which the applicant has been awarded the academic degree of “Master”, the Faculty shall return the application to him accompanied by an appropriate explanation.
6. In cases under paragraphs (4) and (5) where the costs have been paid, the Faculty shall return to the applicant a sum amounting to the costs paid minus a lump sum for administrative fees determined by the Dean.
7. Within 60 days of receipt of the application the Faculty shall notify the applicant of detailed information on the organisation and requirements of the State Rigorosum Examination and on rules specified for the use of equipment and information technologies necessary for preparation for the Examination; the time period under paragraph (4) shall not be included in this time period.

Article 4

State Rigorosum Examination

1. A State Rigorosum Examination shall consist of two parts, namely an oral examination and a defence of the Rigorosum Thesis.
2. The oral examination shall be taken in a subject the content of which shall form part of a State Final Examination or State Doctoral Examination at the Faculty. The content of the subject must however be in accordance with the programme of study or the branch of study which the applicant has completed.
3. The Rigorosum Thesis proves the capability of independent activity in the field of research and development or of independent creative activity; the provisions of paragraph (2) shall apply to the topic of the Rigorosum Thesis accordingly.

4. Further detailed information on the State Rigorosum Examination including the specification of its content shall be attached to an application for obtaining the accreditation of a Master's programme of study specified in Art. 2 (1).
5. The Faculty shall notify the applicant of the date of the State Rigorosum Examination within 30 days from the delivery of the Rigorosum Thesis to the Faculty.
6. A State Rigorosum Examination shall be taken before a Board of Examiners (hereinafter referred to as "the Board"); its course and announcement of its results shall be public.
7. The President and members of the Board shall be appointed by the Dean from among Professors, Associate Professors, and specialists approved by the Research Board of the Faculty. Other members of the Board shall be appointed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry"). A record of the course of the State Rigorosum Examination or its part shall be taken and it shall be signed by the President or by an authorised member of the Board acting on his behalf and by all the members of the Board present; at least three members of the Board must be present. The President shall appoint at least one external examiner who shall prepare an external examiner's report on the submitted Rigorosum Thesis.
8. The State Rigorosum Examination shall be assessed using the marking grades of "pass"- "fail" ("prospěl/a" – "neprospěl/a"); the Board shall use the grade of "pass" if and only if the applicant has passed the oral examination and defended the Rigorosum Thesis.
9. The oral examination and defence of the Rigorosum Thesis may be repeated only once. Should the Board decide that the applicant has failed to defend his Doctoral Dissertation, it shall determine whether the Dissertation must be re-done or supplemented; the defence may be repeated not earlier than in six months time.

Article 5

Issuance of Diploma

Upon passing the State Rigorosum Examination, the applicant shall be awarded a University Diploma by the University in a manner determined by the Rector.

Article 6

Fees and Costs Payment

1. The fees shall be determined by a measure of the Dean.
2. The costs connected with the use of equipment and information technologies and consultation provided by academic staff in connection with work on the Rigorosum Thesis and preparation for the State Rigorosum Examination shall be borne by the applicant if he accepts the services offered. The amount of the costs shall be determined by the Dean.

3. Costs connected with the graduation ceremony and decorative execution of the Diploma shall be borne by the applicant if he accepts the offer. The amount of the costs shall be determined by a measure of the Rector.
4. The receipt and evaluation of an application, assessment of a Rigorosum Thesis and organisation of a State Rigorosum Examination shall be considered to be the implementation of educational activity for the purpose of reimbursement of costs.

Article 6a

Making Rigorosum Theses Available to the Public

1. A Rigorosum Thesis submitted for defence shall be made available to the public for inspection not later than five working days before the defence at the place where the defence takes place according to the measure of the Dean; the measure shall also determine the time period for which the Rigorosum Thesis shall be available to the public and other organizational and administrative conditions.
2. The measure of the Dean under paragraph (1) shall determine the calculation of costs of making extracts, duplicates or copies and the manner in which they can be made if the Rigorosum Thesis or its part is not in written form.
3. The person inspecting the Rigorosum Thesis must be advised of the fact that information thus acquired may not be used for any profit-making activity or passed as study, research or other creative work of a person other than the author. The Faculty may request a written confirmation that the inspecting person is aware of these restrictions.
4. The measure of the Dean under paragraph (1) shall be published on the official notice board of the Faculty along with the names of students who have submitted the theses for defence, the titles of the Rigorosum Theses and the dates of defences.
5. Rigorosum Theses which have been defended, reviewers' evaluations and results achieved in defences shall be published through a subject-matter or electronic database.
6. Organizational and administrative conditions for inspections in a subject-matter database shall be determined in a measure of the Dean, which shall be published on the official notice board of the Faculty and to which the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (3) shall apply by analogy. Rigorosum Theses and documents under paragraph (5) shall be published not later than twenty one days after the date of defence and they must be made available at least for the period when they are not accessible through an electronic database.
7. Details of publishing through an electronic database shall be provided in a measure of the Rector under Article 17 (4) of the Constitution.
8. All Rigorosum Theses shall be submitted for defence also in electronic form within the time limit determined by the Dean unless it is made impossible by its nature.
9. All Rigorosum Theses shall contain an abstract. The applicant shall submit the abstract of the Rigorosum Thesis separately within the time limit and in the manner prescribed under

paragraph (8) in Czech and English; the contents of this abstract must be identical with the abstract in the Rigorosum Thesis.

Article 7
Common, Transitional, and Final Provisions

1. The Board may recognise a Master's Thesis defended in accordance with Act No. 172/1990 Sb. on Higher Education, or a Master's Thesis defended in accordance with the Higher Education Act, which has met the requirements of Art. 4 (3) and (4), as a Rigorosum Thesis under the Code herein.
2. Under the Code herein, the Board may recognise as a Rigorosum Thesis, or as an oral examination, a Doctoral Dissertation defended in accordance with s. 22 (2) of Act No. 172/1990 Sb. on Higher Education or the Higher Education Act, or a State Rigorosum Examination taken in accordance with s. 22 (2) of Act No. 172/1990 Sb. on Higher Education, or a State Doctoral Examination taken in accordance with the Higher Education Act. If the Doctoral Dissertation under the first sentence was defended within the framework of a Doctoral programme of study commenced prior to May 29, 1998 as postgraduate study (s. 98 (1) (c) of the Higher Education Act), it shall be recognised as a Rigorosum Thesis under the Code herein; in such a case costs shall be waived. Provisions of the second sentence shall apply also in the case of recognising a State Rigorosum Examination or State Doctoral Examination as an oral examination under the Code herein.
3. A Faculty may hold State Rigorosum Examinations provided it has an internal regulation governing the details in accordance with the Code herein and provided it satisfies the requirements stipulated in s. 98 (2) of the Higher Education Act.
4. The Code herein was approved by the Academic Senate of the University on January 22, 1999*.
5. The Code herein shall come into force on the date of registration by the Ministry¹.
6. The Code herein shall become effective on the first day of the academic year of 1999/2000.

*) Changes carried out during the course of registration were approved by the Senate on June 4, 1999.

Prof. RNDr. Jan Bednář, Csc.
President of the Academic Senate

Prof. JUDr. Karel Malý, DrSc.
Rector

¹ S. 36 (2) of the Higher Education Act. Registration was carried out on April 26, 1999.

The change in the Rigorosum Examination Code (the first change) was approved by the Academic Senate of Charles University in Prague on April 21, 2006. This change came into force on the date of registration by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, which was carried out on April 28, 2006, and became effective on the first day of the calendar month following the date of its legal force.

To witness that the First Consolidated text is correct:

JUDr. Ing. Josef Staša, CSc.
Chairman of the Legislative Commission of AS CU
(Academic Senate of Charles University in Prague)

RNDr. Tomáš Jelínek
Chancellor of CU