

Deviations from the provisions stipulated in Section 12 of the Doctoral Regulations of the School of Theology at FAU (FPromoTheol) with respect to oral doctoral examinations

Implementation provisions

[based on the Regulations of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU) concerning Deviations from Degree Programme and Examination Regulations and the Doctoral Degree and Habilitation Regulations due to Restrictions to Teaching and Examinations imposed as a result of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 – Coronavirus Regulations –]

Passed by the Speaker of the School of Theology on 30 April 2020 following the resolution by the Doctoral Affairs Committee.

1. If everyone involved in the examination agrees and it is possible for them to travel to the location where the examination will be held, the examination can be held in person, provided the rules and regulations stipulated in the Second Bavarian Infection Protection Regulations and FAU's hygiene guidelines are complied with. The public may not attend the Disputation. Only the doctoral candidate, the examiners and the chairperson may attend.
2. The examination can also be held online as a video conference, after the doctoral candidate sends an informal application to the Speaker of the School in her position as chair of the Doctoral Affairs Committee, stating the reasons for the request. In this case, it is obligatory that the camera is switched on and a video conference tool provided by FAU is used.
3. The doctoral candidate must submit a written declaration with the application stating that no other person will be present in the room during the examination and that no other aids will be used apart from the computer required to take part in the video conference. The application can be submitted electronically. The signed original must be submitted at a later date.
4. The examination can also be held online as a video conference if health considerations make it infeasible for the examiner to attend the examination in person and the examiner sends a request to this effect to the Speaker of the School in her position as chair of the Doctoral Affairs Committee, provided the doctoral candidate agrees in writing. The doctoral candidate must also submit a written declaration stating that no other person will be present in the room during the examination and that no other aids will be used apart from the computer required to take part in the video conference. Declarations may be submitted electronically. The signed originals should be submitted at a later date.

5. The Office of Doctoral Affairs shall provide the members of the examining committee with the doctoral thesis and all documents required for the examination electronically in good time before the examination.
6. The chairperson of the examining committee shall invite participants to attend the video conference and shall keep a written record of the examination proceedings. His or her signature serves as confirmation of the grade awarded. In the event that the chairperson also acts as a subject examiner, another member of the examining committee will be responsible for keeping a written record of proceedings for this part of the examination.
7. If the audio-visual connection is interrupted for any length of time, the chairperson of the examining committee shall discontinue the examination and it shall be repeated at a later date.
8. These implementation provisions shall automatically cease to be valid as soon as the Coronavirus Regulations cease to be in force.
9. These implementation regulations shall be published in two ways. Firstly, they shall be sent by e-mail to all those entitled to award doctoral degrees at the School of Theology with the request to forward them to the doctoral candidates in their area. In addition, they will also be published on the website of the School of Theology and the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology.