

You have a 5 – what now?

Below you will find an overview of various cases of insufficient final grades or insufficient final assessments and their respective legal consequences in bachelor's and master's degree programs. The legal basis for this information is provided by the General Examination Regulation Guidelines for Universities of Applied Sciences (Rahmenprüfungsordnung für die Fachhochschulen (RaPO), the University Examination Regulations (Allgemeine Prüfungsordnung, APO/ASPO) of the Nuremberg Institute of Technology as well as the corresponding Study and Examination Regulations (Studien- und Prüfungsordnung, SPO). All legal and statutory provisions can be found at the following link:

<https://www.th-nuernberg.de/einrichtungen-gesamt/abteilungen/studierendenservice-studienbuero/rechtsgrundlagen/>

In general, examinations can only be **repeated**, if they had been **failed**, § 10 sec. 1 s. 1 RaPO/§ 22 ASPO.

1. Legal Consequences of Insufficient Final Grades

- 1.1 You have obtained a grade of 5 or the assessment “failed” (“ohne Erfolg”) in your **first attempt** of a module examination or partial module examination **o r** have been assigned a grade of 5 for exceeding **examination deadlines**.
⇒ **You must retake the examination at the next regular examination date, i.e. in the following semester.**^{1) 2)}
- 1.2 You have obtained a grade of 5 or the assessment “failed” (“ohne Erfolg”) in your **first retake of a module examination (=second attempt)** or partial module examination or have been assigned a grade of 5 for exceeding examination deadlines (see 1.1).
⇒ **The second retake examination must be taken within twelve months.**^{1) 2)}
- 1.3 You have obtained a grade of 5 or the assessment “failed” (“ohne Erfolg”) in your **second retake of a module examination (=third attempt)** or partial module examination or have been assigned a grade of 5 for exceeding examination deadlines (see 1.2). A third retake is permitted for a maximum of **one** module examination or partial module examination; this does not apply to examinations of the first study phase in bachelor degree programs.
⇒ **A third retake examination, if permitted, must also be taken within twelve months.**^{1) 2)}
⇒ **If a third retake examination should be needed for more than one module examination or partial module examination, the bachelor's/master's degree is definitively failed. The maximum number of retakes may never be exceeded, not even in cases of extreme personal circumstances or hardship.**
- 1.4 You have obtained the grade of 5 or the assessment “failed” (“ohne Erfolg”) in the **third retake examination (=fourth attempt)** of a module examination or partial module examination – which is only possible in the second study phase – or have been assigned a grade of 5 for exceeding examination deadlines (see 1.3).
⇒ **The bachelor's/master's degree is definitively failed.**

Please note and observe any differing regulations in the respective SPOs for each degree program.

2. Examination Deadlines

2.1 General Deadlines according to the Study and Examination Regulations

As far as deadlines for the Foundation Courses or Examinations of the First Study Phase/Basic Modules have been defined in the [Study and Examination Regulations](#) of the respective bachelor degree programs, failure to comply with these deadlines results in these examinations being considered as having been taken once and failed (grade of 5 assigned by the Student Office – see 1.1).

2.2. Maximum Duration of Studies

In bachelor and master programs, the bachelor's or master's degree will be considered as failed once, if you exceed the standard program duration **by more than two** semesters. This means that students will be assigned a grade of 5 for all pending examinations counting toward the final grade for exceeding the deadlines (grade of 5 assigned by the Student Office – see 1.1).

Attention: [Accredited semesters or transfer credits](#) will shorten the above mentioned duration correspondingly. They will reduce the maximum amount of semesters available to complete the degree program.

3. Bachelor's / Master's Thesis

If students have achieved the grade of 5 for the first attempt of the final thesis or have been assigned a grade of 5 due to exceeding the maximum duration of studies (see 2.2), they can **rewrite** the final thesis **once**.

3.1 Registration

Within six months of the notification of the first (failed) result, students have to **register** for the repeated **final thesis**.

⇒ **Failure to meet this deadline will result in dismissal from the university!**²⁾

3.2 Submission

The repeated **bachelor's thesis** has to be submitted not later than **six months** after its registration, except in degree programs in which the respective Study and Examination Regulations stipulate a shorter time period. The repeated **master's thesis** has to be submitted not later than **nine months after its registration**, except in degree programs in which the respective Study and Examination Regulations stipulate a shorter time period.

⇒ **Failure to meet these deadlines will result in dismissal from the university!** ²⁾

⇒ **A second repeat of the final thesis is not possible. The bachelor's/master's degree is considered as definitely failed.**

Footnotes:

- ¹⁾ Failure to meet the deadline will result in the Student Office assigning a grade of 5 (so-called, Administrative 5).
- ²⁾ The examination board may only [grant requests for extensions of deadlines](#) in exceptional cases. **Without delay** after the reason for the extension request becomes known, a request for an extension must be submitted **in writing** with **documentation of the reason** for the request to the Student Office (it is also possible to submit the request via email as a scan to studienbuero@th-nuernberg.de). Requests for extensions may be submitted, if students are prevented from attending (repeat) examinations **due to reasons they are not responsible for**, for example due to illness or a semester abroad. In the case of **illness**, a medical certificate is required. The last date for filing (that means, received by the Student Advisory Service of the university) a request for extension is the day of the respective examination or the submission date for the assessment (e.g., paper). The examination board of the respective Faculty decides on the request. In case of a positive decision, the deadline will be extended.