Informative Talk

For students according to §31 (3) GET
Regulation according to GET 5th Novella

- According to §31 (1) GET only three attempts per exam are possible.

- According to §32 (1) GET a supplementary oral exam is possible once per study program, if an exam has been failed three times.

- According to §33 (1) GET The total examination is failed if the second repeat examination according to §31 section 1 was rated “insufficient” even after a supplementary oral examination.
Supplementary Oral Examination

- Only if the third attempt was in written form

- Only if the third attempt has been taken in a proper way (e.g. no empty exam submitted)

- Is slightly based on the third attempt

- No independent grading, only 4,0 is possible

- Registration at latest one month after the results have been published in TUCaN

- More information and the registration form in the examination office
§30 (5) und (6) GET

- The department has decided to introduce §30 (5) GET for areas containing examinations
  - One removal per area is always possible
  - But only before attending the second repeat exam

- The department has decided to introduce §30 (6) GET for areas containing „course-related achievements“
  - It is possible to remove an arbitrary number of „open“ achievements before the third attempt
Reasons for failure

- Examination to difficult
- Personal problems (temporary)
- Handicap
- Inaccurate learning
- Bad time management
Reasons for failure

- Examination to difficult
- Personal problems (temporary)
- Handicap
- Inaccurate learning
- Bad time management
Examination to difficult

- Just this one exam?
  - Maybe bad time management/wrong learning is the real reason?

- Does it apply for an area or in general?
  - Was Computer Science at the TU Darmstadt the right choice?
  - Shall I study something else?
Reasons for failure

- Examination too difficult
- Personal problems (temporary)
- Handicap
- Inaccurate learning
- Bad time management
Personal problems (temporary)

- There can always occur a problematic situation e.g.
  - Divorce
  - Case of illness in the family
  - Imprisonment
  - ...

- Every case is different

- See the Student Advisory Service
Reasons for failure

- Examination to difficult
- Personal problems (temporary)
- Handicap
- Inaccurate learning
- Bad time management
Handicap

- Chronic or long-term impairment to health e.g.
  - Depression
  - ADD/ADHD
  - Exam anxiety
  - Diabetes
  - …

- Every case is different

- See the Student Advisory Service
Advisory services

- Sozial- und Behindertenberatung des Studentenwerks
- Rechtsberatung des Studentenwerks oder des AStA
- Psychotherapeutische Beratungsstelle

- See the Student Advisory Service
Reasons for failure

- Examination to difficult
- Personal problems (temporary)
- Handicap
- Inaccurate learning
- Bad time management
Inaccurate learning

- To less learned
- Always with the same material
- Always with the same methods
- Learned with inappropriate methods
- Learned with the wrong learning partners
What can I do?

- Get additional material
  - Old exercises/exams
  - Books
  - …

- Visit the Library
  - Of course for borrowing/copying
  - Additionally just for reading
What can I do?

- Find a learning group
  - But use it in an efficient way
  - Try to do everything on your own before meeting the group

- Change or extend your methods e.g.
  - Write your results down
  - Ask each others questions
  - Explain the topics to somebody
  - Draw Mind-Maps
What can I do?

- Start early
  - Saves you a lot of stress in the end
  - Enables the possibility for more feedback/questions

- Get Feedback/ask questions
  - It is important to verify learning progress
  - Important to eliminate unnecessary risks in the third attempt
  - Use the most optimal feedback via the academic staff
Potential contact persons

- Lecturer
- Academic staff
- Tutors
- Fellow students
- The rest of the world
Reasons for failure

- Examination to difficult
- Personal problems (temporary)
- Handicap
- Inaccurate learning
- Bad time management
Bad time management

- Started too late

- Wrong order of priorities (work/private life)

- No coordination between different courses

- No validation of the time spent
Bad time management
Time exposure: Example 1

- 4 courses each with 4.5 hours per week (lecture, exercise, lab)
- 4 hours per lecture for homework/additional tasks → in total 40 hours for courses each week
- 49 hours of sleep (7 x 7 hours)
- 14 hours for eating (7 x 2 hours)
- 14 hours for commuting (7 x 2 hours)
- 14 hours for housework and body care (7 x 2 hours)
- In total 131 hours per week
- 168 hours (one week) - 131 hours = 37 hours
- That means you have round about 5 hours per day on average left
Bad time management
Time exposure: Example 2

- Time exposure per course
  - Slides/script
    - 500 slides à 3 minutes
    - 25 hours
  - Exercises
    - 12 exercises each with 6 tasks à 30 minutes
    - 12 homeworks with 2 tasks à 30 minutes
    - 48 hours
  - Labs
    - 6 Labs each with 5 tasks à 20 minutes
    - 10 hours
- Time exposure per course in total 83 hours per semester
- 4 courses in total 332 hours
- At 40 hours/week this means 8 weeks
- Not included e.g.
  - Attending the lectures, working on other material, learning group meeting, office hours
Accurate time management Possibilities

- Start early enough
  - Preferably in the first week
  - Enables additional verification
  - Enables better coordination
  - Avoids stress

- Create a learning plan/timetable
  - Regularity is important for progress during the semester
  - Serves as reminder/reward/warning
Accurate time management

Possibilities

- Keep a learning diary
  - Write down results
  - Keep track of your progress

- Define control points
  - Keep track of your progress
  - Improve your time management
Accurate time management
Possibilities

- Use self-control methods
  - Am I making the most out of my time?
  - Am I meeting my deadlines?
  - Am I reaching my objectives?
When shall I take the exam?

- Do not delay the exam for too long
  - The loss is higher if you finally fail

- But change something
  - Otherwise you may have the same problems in the exam

- Do the exam after the best possible preparation
  - e.g. when the lecture takes place
  - e.g. when you found the optimal learning group
Finally failed?

- It is not possible to go on with the same study program
  - Maybe there are alternatives at TU Darmstadt
  - Maybe there are alternatives at some other university
Change of study regulations/study program/university

- Changing the study regulation for your master program is NOT possible after finally failing an achievement in the respective program.

- Changing the study program is only possible, if the finally failed achievement is not mandatory (or equivalent to a mandatory achievement) in the new program.

- The decision about the admission to another university is made by the respective departments.
  - Make sure to contact them early in order to clarify the relevant questions.
Student Advisory Service

- beratung@informatik.tu-darmstadt.de

- Make an appointment if there is a larger necessity to talk

- Otherwise see me during the open office hours
  - Tuesday 10:00 – 11:00 Uhr
  - Wednesday 10:00 – 11:00 Uhr