ESTABLISHMENT AND ACCREDITATION OF DOUBLE-DEGREE PROGRAMS

– QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND LEGAL ISSUES –

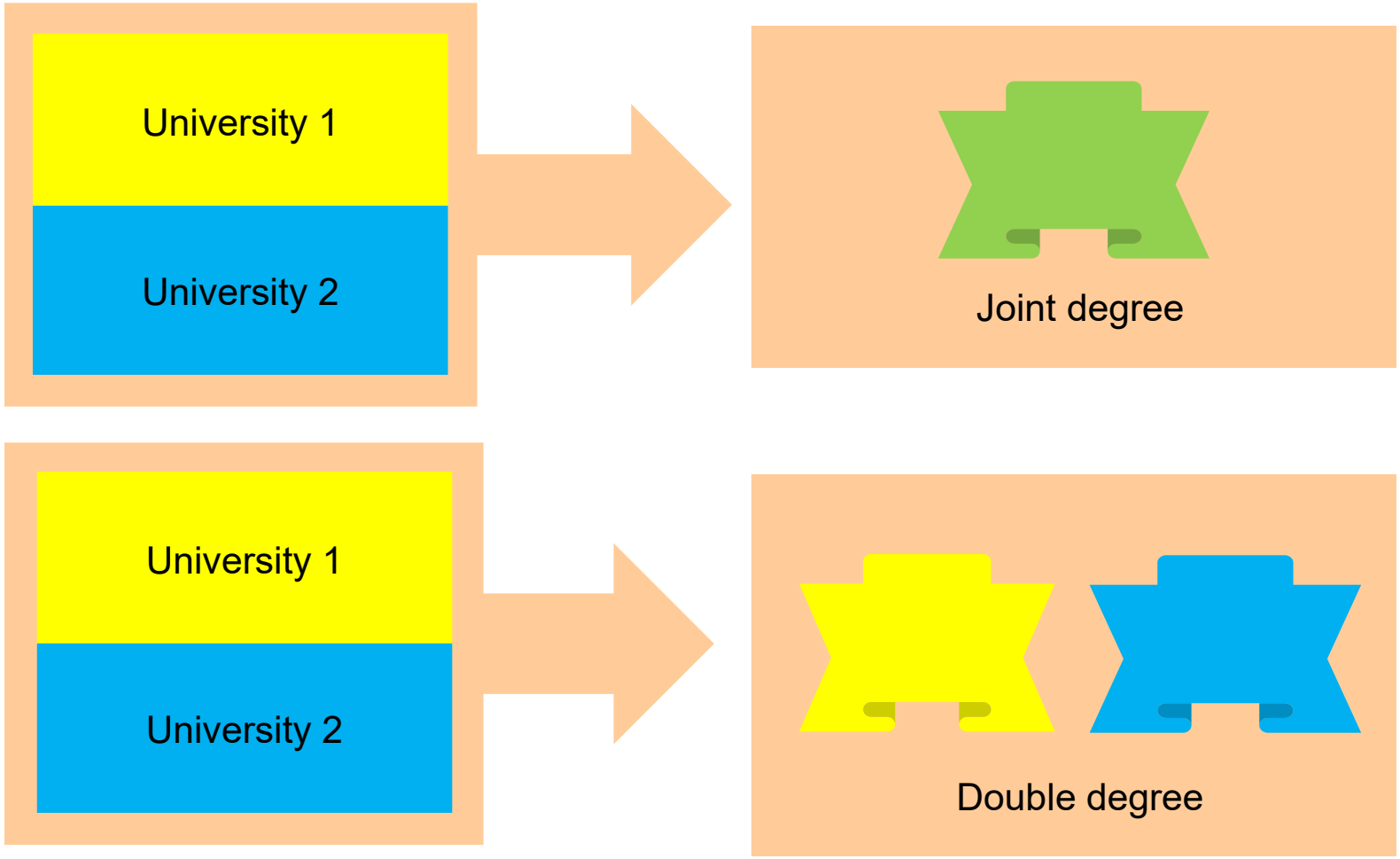
Overview

1) Definition of double/joint degrees
2) Legal basis and general elements
3) Elements in detail (according to ESG)
4) Best practice recommendations by HRK
5) Experiences at FAU
   - QM regarding Double Degrees
   - Sample of Co-operation Agreement
   - Double Degrees at FAU

Definition of double/joint degrees

Definition of double-degree programs

Joint programs



Source: FH Münster

Legal basis and general elements

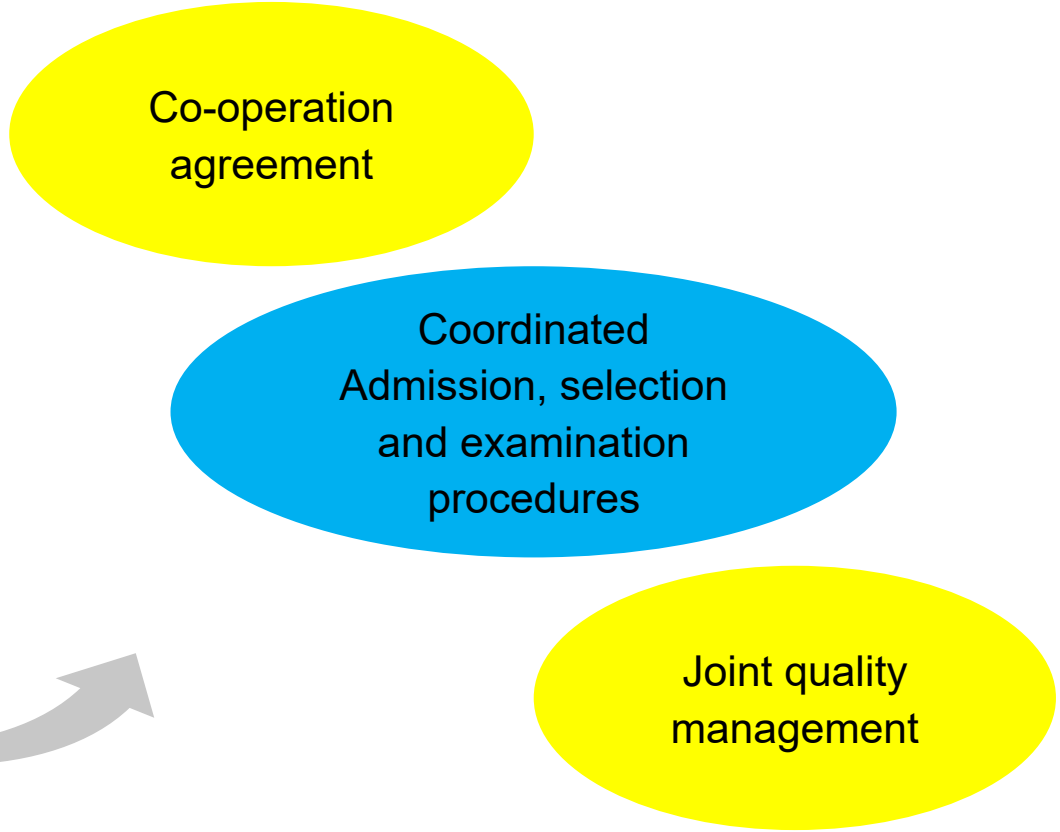
Establishment of double-degree programs

Legal regulations and General Elements

Legal regulations

- German Law (in Bavaria: BayHIG Art.2 paragraph 4 und Art.6),
- regulations on accreditation (MRVO) (§§ 10,12,16,33)
- Study and examination regulations of the Higher Education Institutes (HEI)

General Elements of double-degree programs



Elements in detail (according to ESG)

Establishment of double-degree programs

Standards for Quality Assurance of Joint Programs in the EHEA (European higher Education Area) according to ESG (European Standards and Guidelines)

1. Eligibility	
1.1 Status	• Only elegible for Higher Education Institutions • National legal framework must allow participation in joint programs/ joint degrees • Double degrees must fit to both (!) degree systems
1.2 Joint design and delivery	• All cooperation insitutions should be envolved
1.3 Cooperation Agreement	Proposed content: • Denomination of degrees • Coordination and responsibilities regarding management and financing (including funding, sharing of costs and income etc.) • Admission and selection procedures for students • Mobility of students and teachers • Examination regulations, student assessment methods, recognition of credits and degree awarding procedures

Establishment of double-degree programs

Standards for Quality Assurance of Joint Programs in the EHEA (European higher Education Area) according to ESG (European Standards and Guidelines)

2. Learning Outcomes	

2.1 Level [ESG 1.2]	• Learning outcomes must fit to
	  • corresponding level in the Framework for Qualifications in the European Higher Education Area (FQ-EHEA)
	  • applicable national qualifications framework(s)

2.2 Disciplinary field	• learning outcomes should comprise knowledge, skills, and competencies in the respective disciplinary field(s)
2.3 Achievement [ESG 1.2]	• Demonstration of achieved learning outcomes must be possible
2.4 Regulated Professions (if releveant)	Take into account minimum training conditions • under EU Directive 2005/36/EC • under common trainings frameworks established under the Directive

Establishment of double-degree programs

Standards for Quality Assurance of Joint Programs in the EHEA (European higher Education Area) according to ESG (European Standards and Guidelines)

3. Study Program	
3.1 Curriculum	• Structure and content must fit to intended learning outcomes
3.2 Credits	• European Credit Transfer Systems (ECTS) must be applied • Distribution of credits should be clear
1.3 Workload	Joint Bachelor Program: • total student workload of 180-240 ECTS-credits Joint Master Program: • typically 90-120 ECTS-credits • not less than 60 ECTS-credits at second cycle level (credit ranges according to the FQ-EHEA) Joint Doctorates: • no credit range specified Workload and the average time to complete the program should be monitored

Establishment of double-degree programs

Standards for Quality Assurance of Joint Programs in the EHEA (European higher Education Area) according to ESG (European Standards and Guidelines)

4. Admission and Recognition			
4.1 Admission	admission requirements selection procedures	⟷	program level discipline
4.2 Recognition	Recognition of qualifications and of periods of studies (including recognition of prior learning)	⟷	Lisbon Recognition Convention subsidiary documents

Establishment of double-degree programs

Standards for Quality Assurance of Joint Programs in the EHEA (European higher Education Area) according to ESG (European Standards and Guidelines)

5. Learning, Teaching and Assessment	
5.1 Learning and teaching	• program should be designed to correspond with the intended learning outcomes, • learning and teaching approaches applied should be adequate to achieve learning outcomes • diversity of students/their needs to be respected • especially in view of potential different cultural backgrounds
5.2 Assessment of students	• examination regulations and the assessment should correspond with intended learning outcomes. • should be applied consistently among partner institutions.

Establishment of double-degree programs

Standards for Quality Assurance of Joint Programs in the EHEA (European higher Education Area) according to ESG (European Standards and Guidelines)

6. Student Support [ESG 1.6]	• student support services should contribute to the achievement of the intended learning outcomes. • They should take into account specific challenges of mobile students.
7. Resources [ESG 1.5 & 1.6]	
7.1 Staff	• sufficient and adequate (qualifications, professional and international experience) to implement the study program
7.2 Facilities	• sufficient and adequate in view of the intended learning outcomes
8. Transparency and Documentation [ESG 1.8]	• relevant information about the program (e.g. admission requirements and procedures, course catalogue, examination and assessment procedures) should be well documented and published • Take into account specific needs of mobile students
9. Quality Assurance [ESG 1.1 & part 1]	• cooperating institutions should apply joint internal quality assurance processes in accordance with part one of the ESG

Best practice recommendations by HRK

Establishment of double-degree programs

10 golden rules by HRK (German university rectors' conference)

1. Know your **motivation and aims** for establishing the double degree programm
2. **Choose your partner carefully** (good communication and mutual trust are basic for developing learning outcomes and standards and for recognition of academic archievements)
3. Develop **learning outcomes and aims** together
4. Assure **institutional support** of your own HEI
5. Assure sufficient **academic and administrative ressources**
6. Enhance **Sustainable financial planning**
7. Make **information** about the study program **easily accessible**
8. Plan **sufficient meetings** with the partner HEIs
9. Develop a **comon strategy** with regard to **language** (courses): In which language is the study program and what are the possibilities to learn the language of the country?
10. **Define responsibilities** between the partner HEIs clearly

Experiences at FAU

Establishment of double-degree programs at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)

First step: agree with your partner(s) on

detailed **study plan**

detailed **process for application and admission** to the study program

Equivalence table/ Grade conversion table

Recognition of qualifications and of periods of studies at the partner HEI

Further documents/details of the contract: time, language, financing, ECTS credits, certifcate, Diploma Supplement…

Implementation of the study program in the processes of **quality management** (incl. evaluation regulations) **at your own and at your partner HEI**

Establishment of double-degree programs at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)

Sample (word document) for a

CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT FOR A DOUBLE BACHELOR'S/MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM

https://www.intern.fau.de/lehre-und-studium/studienprogrammentwicklung/#double-degree

Paragraph on quality management in the agreement:

"The Coordination Committee (mentioned in § 8) is responsible for quality assurance of the double degree program. At least every other year the committee discusses the results of evaluations at each partner institution in written or oral form. For reasons of documentation the discussions should be followed by a results protocol containing concrete measures developed from the discussion results. There are regular evaluations of the double degree program. In case of a continued negative evaluation, such as non-fulfillment of the mobility objectives, the cooperation can be terminated.

The partner universities confirm that their study programs involved in this co-operation agreement are accredited. If for any reason, one of the partner universities is no longer authorized to award its degree, this institution shall immediately notify the partners, and will be excluded from the program up to a new accreditation, without that it affects the students in the course of the year"

Quality management and accreditation at FAU

Monitoring

- Matrix
- Localisation in the portfolio of the faculty
- Responsible persons available
- Student (representatives) within the board
- Meetings at least once a semester
- Development of study program
- Documentation of development
- Documentation of quality assurance measures (Evaluation, surveys and statistics
- External experts

Formal and Legal Control

- Study conditions and examination regulations
- module catalogue
- Diploma Supplement
- Tanscript of Records

Special conditions for double degree programs

- One person from each partner university is part of the commission board
- Evaluation results of every partner have to be shared and discussed in the comission board

Number of double degree programs at FAU

Winter semester 2022/23

- 1 Chemistry (MSc)
- 1 Computational Engineering (MSc)
- 1 Deutsch-Französisches Recht (Staatsexamen)
- 1 Germanistik (BA)
- 1 Iberoromanistik (BA)
- 2 International Business Studies (MIBS) (MSc)
- 1 International Production Engineering and Management (BSc)
- 1 Italoromanistik (BA)
- 2 Management (MSc)
- 1 Marketing (MSc)
- 1 Molecular Science (MSc)
- 1 Wirtschaftswissenschaften (BA) mit Spezialisierung
- 7 Lexikographie (MA) (7x Double, 1x Joint)

→ 21 Double Degrees [+ 2 study programs with a Joint Degree: Lexikographie & Literatur und Buch]

Cooperation FAU – Ukraine

- Support for students: FAU Entry Fund
- FAU scholarships and fellowships for students and scholars/scientists at risk from Ukraine
- 20. April 2023: Networking Event for Ukrainian students at FAU
- Partner universities:
  - Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (KNU)
  - Ivan Franko National University of Lviv
  - V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University
  - Simon Kuznets Kharkiv National University of Economics (KhNUE)
  - Mariupol State University
  - Kherson State University (KSU)

image: pixabay

https://www.fau.eu/solidarity-with-ukraine/; https://www.knu-fau-alliance.fau.de/; fau4ukraine@fau.de; PACT4Ukraine Project

Thank you for your attention!

Дякую за увагу!

Further plan

Overview of the next activities

Planned activities March 2023 – December 2023	Time for realization
Ongoing requests from Ukrainian researchers	During the project
Exchanging of the experience seminar for Ukrainian administrative staff (vice-rectors, heads of departments)	16-17 March 2023
Digital courses catalogue for Ukraine	February –March 2023
Series of a joint interviews	April 2023
Ukrainian students networking event	20th of April 2023
Evening language courses organization	February – July 2023
EU writing proposal seminar for Ukrainian academics	May 2023
Matching Ukrainian academics for mutual funding programs (Erasmus, DAAD)	Depending on calls
Language courses for Ukrainian Universities with common use of Digital platforms (courses are part of mandatory education)	September – December 2023
Support for DSH courses	During the project
Constant identification of needs, problems, and preferences of project participants (Ukrainian bachelor students, masters, Ph.D. students, academics in Germany)	During the project
Ongoing network with Ukrainian academics in FAU and partner Universities	During the project
Organisation of courses Academic writing for PhD	September 2023
Matching the joint PhD supervision	During the project
Constant KNU-FAU Alliance support	During the project