A. PhD programme of study named *Astronomy* in the discipline of Astronomy, conducted in English

Formal requirements for entering the admission procedure

Candidates eligible for admission to the *Astronomy* programme of study at the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences are the holders of *Magister*, *Magister inżynier*, or equivalent professional title awarded in the field of exact sciences.

In exceptional cases, given the outstanding quality of candidate's academic achievements, a person referred to in Article 186 of the Act who does not hold a *Magister* title, who has completed the undergraduate (first-cycle) programme, or who has completed the third year of long-cycle graduate programme but holds the status of student of a programme in the field indicated above or has graduated from a programme in that field, may also apply for admission to the programme.

In order to confirm the fulfilment of the condition referred to in Article 186, section 2 of the Act, the candidate shall be obliged to submit:

two opinions confirming the high quality of the research work carried out and the high level of advancement of such work, issued by academic tutors holding at least the postdoctoral degree or being employees of a foreign university or scientific institution who have significant achievements in scientific issues related to the curriculum, or

Whether the candidate meets the condition referred to in Article 186 section 2 of the Act shall be decided by the Director in consultation with the chair of the committee.

Qualification criteria

Candidates are placed on the ranking list in order determined by their final result, calculated on the basis of:

1. candidate's grade average from the undergraduate (first-cycle) program and from the graduate (second-cycle) program, excluding the last year of studies, calculated in accordance with the regulation in power at the university of graduation (or candidate's grade average from the first 4 years on long-cycle graduate program), calculated on the basis of the following formula (0–50 points):

$$W_1 = \left(\frac{S_1}{S_{1Max}}\right) \times 30 + \left(\frac{S_2}{S_{2Max}}\right) \times 20$$

where:

W_1 stands for the grade average described above, in points,

S_1 stands for the grade average from undergraduate (first-cycle) programme,

S_{1Max} stands for the maximum (best) grade on the scale in power at the university of graduation,

S_2 stands for the grade average from graduate (long-cycle) programme, excluding the last year of studies,

S_{2Max} stands for the maximum (best) grade on the scale in power at the university of graduation,

For candidates who have graduated from long-cycle graduate programmes, grade average from the first four years of their studies, S, is used in the calculation based on

the formula above, using the following substitution of each S_1 and S_2 element: $S_1 = S_2 = S$.

For grading systems with descending grading scales, where S^* stand for the worst grade and S^{**} stands for the best grade, the respective grade average S_i ($i = 1, 2$) is substituted by the difference $S^* - S_i$, and S_{Max} is substituted by the difference $S^* - S^{**}$.

2. interview result W_2 (0–50 points).

Admission procedure

The admission procedure is divided into two stages.

During the first stage, the committee awards points for the grade averages from the undergraduate (first-cycle) programme S_1 and from the graduate (second-cycle) programme S_2, in accordance with the formula outlined in the point 2.1 above. To be allowed to take part in the second stage of the procedure, candidates need to have earned, for each grade average calculated by the formula above, a result of S_1/S_{1Max} and S_2/S_{2Max} of at least 0.60. If even one of the grade averages is lower, the candidate cannot take part in the interview, and they are awarded the ranking list result $W_2 = 0.00$.

During the second stage, the candidate takes part in an interview.

Before the interview begins, the committee may review the documents submitted by the candidate, in particular with their curriculum vitae, information about exam results from the course of their studies, and (if available) the copy or draft of the *Magister* thesis.

During the interview, a selected committee member asks questions about the course of studies, previous achievements, and about the subject and preliminary results of their *Magister* thesis, as well as about the academic work and research projects which the candidate would like to carry out while enrolled at the doctoral school. Committee members may ask supplementary questions, including questions related to the courses the candidate has taken during their university education.

Candidate's answers are assessed separately and secretly by all committee members, on a scale from 0 to 50 points. The final interview results W_2 is an arithmetic average of the grades awarded by all committee members.

The interview may be conducted in Polish or in English.

Final result calculation

The final admission procedure result W is expressed as a number on a scale from 0 to 100 points, calculated for all candidates in accordance with the following formula:

$$W = W_1 + W_2$$

where:

W_1 stands for the computed grade average,

W_2 stands for the interview result.

Candidates who are awarded the highest W results will be qualified for admission to the programme, provided that their result is not lower than 67.00 points, while admission depends on candidate's position on the ranking list and on the number of places available within the programme.