

**General report from the Chairmanship**

**1. Consultation**

As in previous years, efforts of the Censor Board over the last year have been invested in ongoing censor allocation and dialogue with the supervisors aimed at obtaining realistic assessments of which thesis students would submit within their deadline, in addition to getting suggestions for appropriate censors in each case. On the basis of the suggestion from the supervisors the Censor Chair selects the censor for the exam, just as is the case for the courses, with a view to ensuring rotation among the censors and to preserve the principle of “arms’ length” between the supervisors and the censors. This process has meant that the administrative effort in terms of planning the exam (formal censor appointment, registration of these for thesis access, and booking of rooms) is reduced and can focus only on those students who will actually hand in on time. Only in a few cases have such estimates proven not to be accurate, and therefore the process has proven to be useful for all involved. This process keeps the responsibility of the Censor Chair to ensure on an ongoing basis that the majority of the censors are all given a fair opportunity to be active during the period, which to a large extent has been achieved during the period covered by this report, as in previous years.

**2. Feedback**

For the period covered by this report, no complaints were filed, and no cases of suspected plagiarism or other regularities were reported.

Throughout the reporting period the Censor Board continues to experience significant problems getting the assessment/feedback forms back from censors after completed exams – with very few exceptions the censors simply do not provide their feedback systematically after each exam. As was the case last year, during the period covered by this report the Censor Chair received no censor reports.

According to the guidelines for exams from the Faculty of Theology administration sent to the censors, they have to download, fill out and send the form. For the coming period, this will be an area to be addressed through the dialogue between the Censor Board, and the censor secretariat at UCPH, with a view to ensuring that the censor feedback process becomes effective. One possible solution is to use the electronic format developed by Aarhus University that is available and where CAS is already included. This format is simpler but lives up to what is required in the form of assessment.

The Administration at the Faculty of Theology has translated the Pdf file into a Word file in the hope that this will make it easier for censors to return the form based on experiences at Theology. Furthermore, contrary to what is the case today, the form should be provided to the censors together with the formal notice confirming allocation from the Exam Administration together with date/location, and doing so may increase the likelihood of the form being filled out by each censor directly after the exam.

With the changes in the administration of exams at KU, including the increased application of digital solutions, the Censor Board will await further development and the establishment of a new management system to replace Digital Exam from 2026.

### **3. AI**

Over the course of the reporting period a few censors have brought up the need for further clarification on how to address the (possible) use of AI by students submitting synopses and theses. It is therefore proposed that this topic is included in the upcoming Censor Board meeting.

### **4. Censors and censor meeting**

The members of the new board were formally appointed and initiated their mandate as of 1 April 2022 for the period until 2026.

A priority for the allocation of the censors to exams has been to ensure that as many censors as possible are given the opportunity to be active during the period, and this has largely been successful, so that the majority of the members of the censor corps were involved in either thesis or course exams over the period or were offered the opportunity but had to decline.

The Censor Board last met virtually on 16 May 2022, and another meeting (hybrid, i.e., virtual/in person) is under preparation for October/November 2025.

Following a centralized open application procedure for censor corps appointments, with a deadline for applications on 15 September, by October 2025 the selection process is well under way for a new Board to be appointed for the period 2026 – 2030, effective by 1 April 2026.

With best regards,

Lone Lindholt, Chair

Peter Kragelund, Deputy Chair

## Annex 1 Key data

The following sections aim to follow up on the data collection and analysis that over the years have provided a diversified overview of key aspects relating to CAS at a more overall level. However, with the shift in administrative practice, where key data will no longer be harvested by the KU Administration, the decade-long tracking of key developments will unfortunately no longer be provided as part of this report in the coming years. Instead, going forward, the data will be included in the report provided by the Head of the Study Programme.

### a. Exams

In terms of exam registrations, the total number for recent years has fluctuated: from 422 in 2015/2016, down to 368 in 2016/2017, to an all-time low of 277 in 2017/2018; and back up to a total of 358 for the 2018/2019 term. For the period 2019/2020, the total number of exams reached a new high of 399. **Due to the administrative reform of Copenhagen University (KU), updated data for the term of this report (winter 2023 – summer 2024) are no longer provided and no update is therefore available.**

The figures for the last four periods in this way serve as a baseline for further trend analysis in the coming years. In 2020/2021, the total number of registrations for the two exam periods was 324, significantly lower than the 399 for 2019/2020 and closer to the figures of previous years. For 2021 – 2022, a significant increase was observed, up to a total of 386 registrations for the two terms altogether. For 2022 – 2023 this level was almost reached with a total of 373 exam registrations; however, it dropped sharply in 2023-2024 to a total of only 269, even lower than at any earlier point in time. **Due to the administrative reform of Copenhagen University (KU), updated data for the term of this report (winter 2023 – summer 2024) are no longer provided and no update is therefore available**

Out of these 269 the total number of ordinary exams (including courses, internships and theses) for the period was 297, with 76 re-exams equal to a ratio of 20%, i.e., ranging close to the 24% for 2021, above the ratio of 16 for 2020 and similar to the 24 and 25% for 2019 and 2018 respectively. For 2023-24, the ratio was 228 ordinary exams and 41 reexams, giving a ratio of only 15% for the reexams. This is actually a positive new development, in the sense that this means that more students follow a direct course towards finalization, reducing delays, as well as administrative efforts. **Due to the administrative reform of Copenhagen University (KU), updated data for the term of this report (winter 2023 – summer 2024) are no longer provided and no update is therefore available**

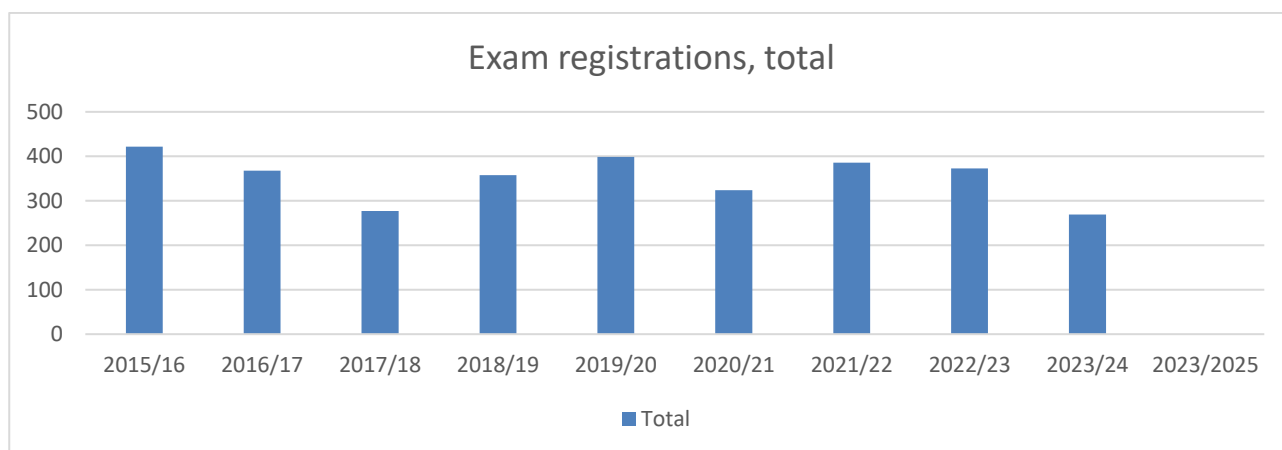


Table 1 Exam registrations

Looking at the two terms in comparison, the summer 2023 term had a total of 132 exams, significantly lower than the 208 exams in the summer term 2022, which was again a significantly high number compared to 164 in 2021 and 188 in 2020, reaching the pre-COVID-19 level of 214 in 2019.

The winter 2023-2024 term registered a total of 137, again significantly lower than the 2022-2023 result of 165 exams (compared to 222 in 2021, 136 in 2020 and 195 in 2019). This means that whereas a slightly higher proportion of the exams (58% in 2020-2021 and 52% in 2019-2020) were taking place during the summer term, this percentage again shifted down to 42% in the 2021-2022 winter term, went up slightly to 44% in 2022-2023, and in 2022-2023 reached 51%, almost the same level as previously.

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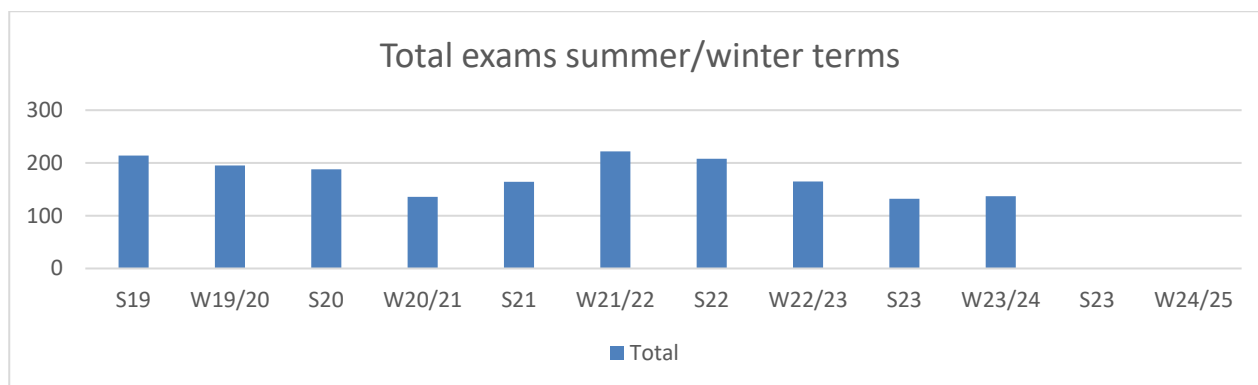


Table 2 Exams

In terms of grade levels, the pattern for this reporting year varies between the two exam periods (summer 2024 – winter 2024/2025). For the summer 2024 exam, the grade levels for the eight exams ranges between 7.4 and 10.8, thus higher than in previous years. For the winter 2024/2025 term, one out of the 5 exams had a grade average at 6.6, whereas the other 4 ranged between 7.3 and 8.5 grade levels, – i.e. more similar to the trends of previous terms.

The trend of 2023-2024 was similar to the stable trend of previous years. In 2023/2023, only a few courses had grade levels falling below an average of 7, and the majority between 8 and 10 for all exams including thesis. For the summer exam 2023, out of 9 exams, no course had average grade levels below 6 (compared to 4 in the year before), with the remaining 5 courses between 6.1 (previous year 7.8) and 9.3 (previous year 10.7). For the winter 2023-2024 exam, the 5 courses all fell between 6.6 and 8.5. This is similar to previous years where for both the summer 2022 and winter 2022-2023 term grade levels for the total 15 courses, where all (with the exception of one Professional Master at 02,) were just under 7 and above, with 9 of them at an average grade level of 9 or above.

#### b. Theses

After the period 2020/2021 saw an unprecedented low number of 25 completed thesis exams, the total number of 44 thesis exams for the period 2021-2022 had risen up to the previous level of 43 for the period 2019-2020, 46 for the period 2018-2019 and 44 for 2017-2018. **Due to the administrative reform of**

**Copenhagen University (KU), updated data for the term of this report (winter 2023 – summer 2024) are no longer provided and no update is therefore available.**

Also, for the same reason, no data is available on the number of attempts that each student uses.

Going forward, as mentioned in previous reports as well, it would be useful for CAS and the Faculty to collect data on the average and mean completion time for the entire MA, the development of which could then be tracked for the annual censor report as well.

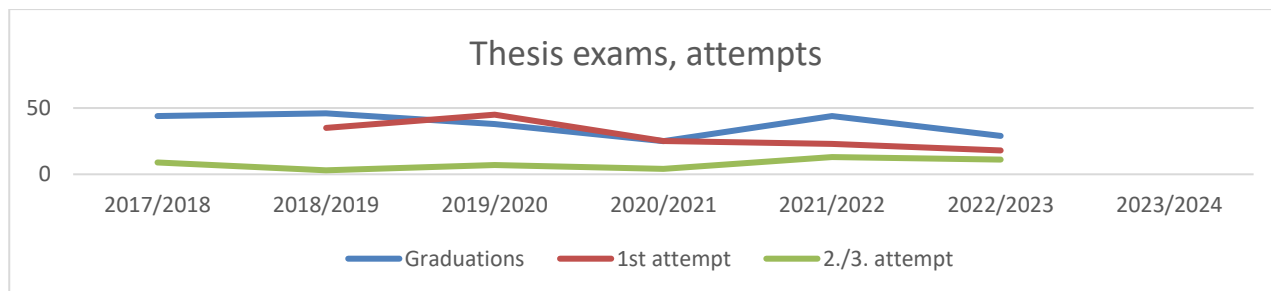


Table 3 Thesis contracts and exams.

The average grade level for the theses actually passed went up to a 12 during the summer 2024 term, while remaining at 8.00 for the winter 2024 term, the latter thus corresponding to that of previous terms. **Unfortunately, due to the administrative reform of Copenhagen University (KU), updated data for the term of this report (winter 2023 – summer 2024) are no longer provided and no update is therefore available.**

### 2.3 Student population

In terms of student population, CAS has seen a gradual decrease in numbers of graduate students registered – from 130 in 2015-2016, over 113 in 2016-2017, to 92 in 2017- 2018, further down to 86 for the period 2018-2019, down to 81 in 2019-2020, even further down to 77 in 2020, 76 in 2021, and 75 in 2022. As of 1 October 2023, this number had dropped further down to 63.

By October 2024, the total number of registered ordinary students had increased to 71. However, this increase should be viewed in light of the dropping number of graduates as outlined below.

**Unfortunately, due to the administrative reform of Copenhagen University (KU), updated data, including for gender disaggregation and in terms of ordinary vs. other students for the term of this report (winter 2023 – summer 2024) are no longer provided and no update is therefore available.**

In terms of intake, the figure as of 1 October 2024 sharply increased to 35, viewed against 22 in October 2023, and the sharp drop in the previous year to 21 in 2022, against 33 in 2021, 27 in 2020, and 25 in 2019.

On the other hand, with respect to graduates, the total number as of October 2024 had dropped significantly to 2023 compared to 29 for the period 1 October 2022 until 30 September 2023 represents a sharp increase from 18 for the period 1 October 2022 until 30 September 2022 bringing the number up closer to the 23 in 2021, and even going above the 28 in 2020 and 23 in 2019.

All in all, this means that CAS’s total student population has fallen from approximately 207 in 2014, over 190 in 2015 and 164 in 2016, around 140 in 2017, 133 in 2018, and slightly up to a total of 137 in 2019; but dropping again to a total of 116 in 2020, 119 in 2021, 111 in 2022, and all the way down to 91 as of October

2023. As no data are available on “ono-ordinary” students from 2024 due to the administrative reform, the total student population number cannot be calculated.

Also, KU no longer provides gender disaggregated data on any aspect of the student population.

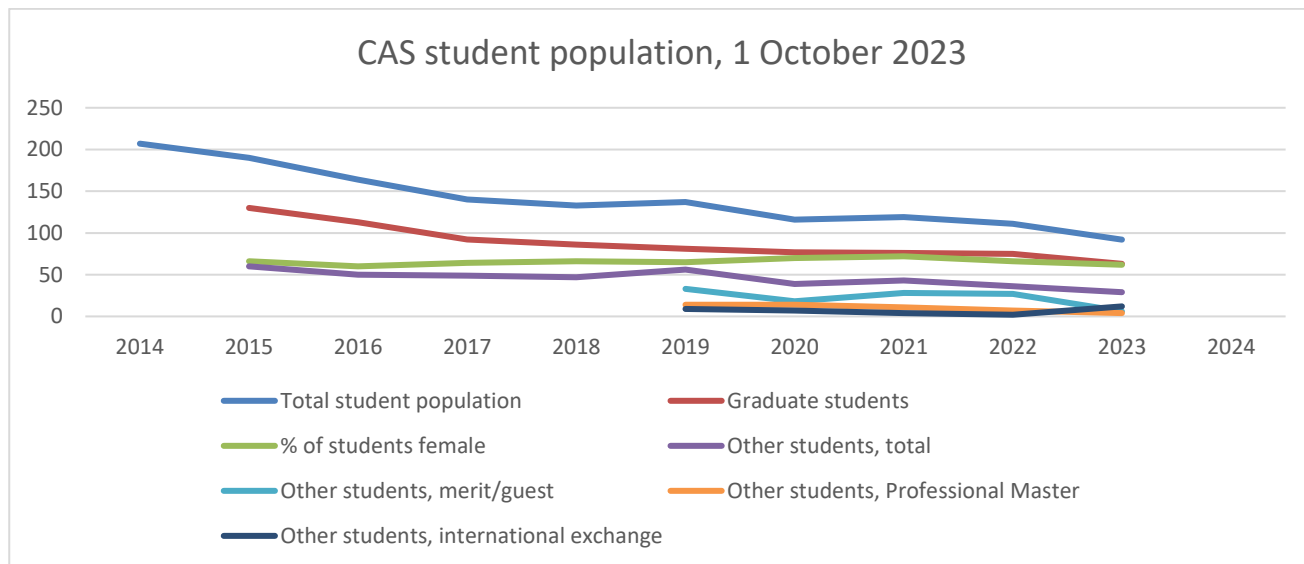


Table 4 CAS student population.