

Teaching and Examination Regulations

Master's programme in Philosophy Faculty of Humanities

Academic year 2021-2022

- A. Faculty section
- B1. Programme specific section - general provisions
- B2. Programme specific section – content of programme

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Section A: Faculty section

1. General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations

1. These Regulations apply to anyone enrolled in the programme, irrespective of the academic year in which the student was first enrolled in the programme.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. These Regulations enter into force on 1 September 2021.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
3. An amendment to the Teaching and Examination Regulations is only permitted to concern an academic year already in progress if this does not demonstrably damage the interests of students.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 1.2 Definitions

The following definitions are used in these Regulations (*in alphabetical order*) :

- a. academic year: the period beginning on 1 September and ending on 31 August of the following calendar year;
- b. CvB: the Executive Board of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
- c. EC (European Credit): an EC credit with a workload of 28 hours of study;
- d. educational component: a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;
- e. examination: the final examination of the Master's programme;
- f. FGV: Faculty joint assembly – assembly of the faculty student council and faculty staff council;
- g. interim examination: an assessment of the student's knowledge, understanding and skills relating to a course component. The assessment is expressed in terms of a final mark. An interim examination may consist of one or more partial examinations. A resit always covers the same material as the original interim examination;
- h. joint degree: a degree awarded by an institution together with one or more institutions in the Netherlands or abroad, after the student has completed a study programme (a degree programme, a major or a specific curriculum within a degree programme) for which the collaborating institutions are jointly responsible;
- i. OLC: programme committee;
- j. period: a part of a semester;
- k. practical exercise: the participation in a practical training or other educational learning activity, aimed at acquiring certain (academic) skills. Examples of practical exercises are:
- researching and writing a thesis or dissertation
 - carrying out a research assignment
 - taking part in fieldwork or an excursion
 - taking part in another educational learning activity aimed at acquiring specific skills, or
 - participating in and completing a work placement;

l. programme:	the totality and cohesion of the course components, teaching activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and recommended literature;
m. SAP/SLM:	the student information system (<i>Student Lifecycle Management</i>);
n. semester:	the first (September - January) or second half (February - August) of an academic year;
o. specialization	optional route of study within a degree programme indicating a deepening of the (inter/multi) disciplinary context of the programme;
p. study guide:	the guide for the study programme that provides further details of the courses, provisions and other information specific to that programme. The Study Guide is available electronically at: https://www.vu.nl/en/study-guide/ ;
q. study monitor (<i>studiemonitor</i>):	dashboard for students and academic advisors with data of the student and that provides insight into the student's study progress;
r. subject	see 'educational component';
s. track	a study pathway within a broader Bachelor's or Master's degree programme, such as a fully English-language study pathway within a Dutch-language Bachelor's or Master's degree;
t. thesis:	a component comprising research into the literature and/or contributing to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;
u. university:	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam;
v. WHW:	the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (<i>Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek</i>);
w. workload:	the workload of the unit of study to which an interim examination applies, expressed in terms of credits = EC credits (ECTS = European Credit and Transfer Accumulation System). The workload for 1 year (1,680 hours) is 60 EC credits.

The other terms have the meanings ascribed to them by the WHW.

2. Study programme structure

Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and educational components

1. The study programme will be offered in a year divided into two semesters.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
2. Every semester consists of three consecutive periods of eight, eight and four weeks	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
3. An educational component comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
4. By way of exception to paragraph 3, the Executive Board may in special cases and on request of the Faculty Board, stipulate that a unit of study comprises 3 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3

3. Assessment and Examination

Article 3.1 Signing up for education and interim examinations

1. Every student must sign up to participate in the educational components of the programme, the examinations and resits. The procedure for signing up is described in	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
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an annex to the Student Charter.	
2. Signing up may only take place in the designated periods.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3

Article 3.2 Type of examination

1. At the examiner's request, the Examination Board may permit a different form of interim examination than is stipulated in the study guide.	Advice OLC, Approval FGV (7.13 l)
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Article 3.3 Oral interim examinations

1. An oral assessment is public unless the Examination Board in special cases determines otherwise.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l and n)
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Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results

1. The examiner determines the result of a written interim examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within ten working days. By way of departure from that stipulated in the first clause, the marking deadline for theses and final assignments (NB: this does not include tests, such as written assignments or papers, at the end of regular educational components) is no longer than twenty working days. The examiner will then immediately ensure that the marks are registered and also ensures that the student is immediately notified of the mark, taking due account of the applicable confidentiality standards.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
2. The examiner determines the result (i.e. mark) of an oral examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within two working days after the examination has finished and informs the student accordingly. The third clause of the first paragraph applies.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)
3. In the case of assessments other than oral or written examinations, the Examination Board determines in advance how and by what deadline the student will be informed of the results.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)

Article 3.5 Examination opportunities

1. a. Per academic year, two opportunities to take examinations per educational component will be offered. b. By way of exception to a., the options for retaking practical components, work placements and theses are detailed in the relevant work placement manual, teaching regulations or graduation regulations.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
2. The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit. A retake is allowed for both passed and failed units of study. A retake is not allowed for essays passed by the student.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
3. The resit for a (partial) interim examination must not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the result of the (partial) examination being resat.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 j)
4. The Examination Board may allow a student an extra opportunity to sit an examination if that student: a) is lacking only those credits to qualify for their degree; and b) has failed the examination during all the previously offered attempts unless participation in an examination was not possible for compelling reasons.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3

The extra opportunity can only be offered if it concerns a written examination, a paper or a take home examination. This provision excludes the practical assignments and the Master's thesis. Requests for an additional examination opportunity must be submitted to the Examination Board no later than 1 July. If necessary, the method of examination may deviate from the provisions in the study guide.	
5. If an educational component is no longer offered in the academic year following its termination, at least one opportunity will be provided to sit the interim examination(s) or parts thereof and a transitional arrangement will be included in the programme-specific section for the subsequent period.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (7.13 j)

Article 3.6 Marks

1. Marks are given on a scale from 1 to 10 with no more than one figure after the decimal point.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
2. A final mark between 5 and 6 will be rounded to the nearest whole number: up to 5.50, rounded down; 5.50 or higher, rounded up. All other final marks will be expressed in whole or half marks.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
3. To pass a given course or unit, a final mark of 6 or higher is required.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
4. The Examination Board can allow to use symbols rather than numbers, for example V(voldaan = pass), G(goed=good), NVD(niet voldaan=fail), etc.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3

Article 3.7 Exemption

1. At the written request of the student, the Examination Board may exempt the student from taking one or more examination components, if the student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> has passed a course component of a university or higher professional education programme that is equivalent in terms of content and level; has demonstrated through their work and/or professional experience that they have sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the relevant course component. 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 r)
2. The Master's thesis is excluded from this exemption possibility.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 3.8 Validity period for results

1. The validity period of interim examinations passed and exemption from interim examinations is unlimited, unless otherwise specified in Section B.	Legal provision
2. The validity period of a partial examination is limited to the academic year in which it was sat or until the end of the unit of study concerned, as stipulated for the relevant unit of study in Section B.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 3.9 Right of inspection and post-examination discussion

1. Within twenty working days after the announcement of the results of a written interim examination, but at least ten working days before the resit opportunity, the students can, on request, inspect their assessed work, the questions and assignments set in it, as well as the standards applied for marking. The place and time referred to in the previous clause will be announced on VUweb or Canvas in all cases.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p en q)
2. If a collective post-examination discussion has been organized, individual post-examination discussions will be held only if the student has attended the collective	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 q)

discussion or if the student was unable to attend the collective discussion through no fault of their own.	
3. Students who meet the requirements stipulated in paragraph 2 can submit a request for an individual post-examination discussion to the relevant examiner. The discussion shall take place at a time and location to be determined by the examiner.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p en q)

4. Academic student counselling and study progress

Article 4.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling

1. The faculty board is responsible for the correct registration of the students' study results. After the assessment of an educational component has been registered, every student has the right to inspect the result for that component and also has a list of the results achieved at their disposal in VUweb.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
2. Enrolled students are eligible for academic student counselling. Academic student counselling is in any case provided by <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Student General Counselling Service b. Student psychologists c. Faculty academic advisors 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)

Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability

1. A student with a disability can, at the moment of registration to VUweb, or at a later instance, submit a request to qualify for one or more special facilities with regard to teaching, practical training and interim examinations. These facilities will accommodate the student's individual disability as much as possible, but may not alter the quality or degree of difficulty of a unit of study or an examination. In all cases, the student must fulfil the exit qualifications for the study programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
2. The request referred to in the first paragraph must be accompanied by a statement from a doctor or psychologist. If possible, an estimate should be given of the potential impact on the student's study progress. In case of a chronic disability a single (one time) request suffices.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
3. Students who have been diagnosed with dyslexia must provide a statement from a BIG, NIP or NVO registered professional who is qualified to conduct psychological evaluation.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
4. The faculty board, or the responsible person on behalf of the faculty board, decides on teaching facilities and facilities regarding logistics. The Examination Board will decide on requests for facilities with regard to examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
5. In the event of a positive decision in response to a request as referred to in paragraph 1, the student can make an appointment with the study adviser to discuss the details of the provisions.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
6. A request for one or more facilities can be refused if it would place a disproportionate burden on the organization or the resources of the faculty or university were it upheld. Any such refusal will be substantiated.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
7. If the disability justifies an extension of the interim examination time, the responsible person on behalf of the Examination Board will register in SAP this entitlement to an extension. If a disability justifies other measures to be taken, the academic adviser can take the necessary measures. The student can consult the study monitor to check which facilities have been granted to them.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
8. The decision as referred to in paragraph 5 may specify a limited validity of the	Advice OLC;

facilities granted.	approval FGV (7.13 m)
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5. Hardship clause

Article 5.1 Hardship clause

In instances not regulated by the Teaching and Examination Regulations or in the event of demonstrable extreme unreasonableness and unfairness, the faculty board responsible for the study programme will decide, unless the matter concerned is the responsibility of the Examination Board.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Appendix I

Overview of articles that must be included in the OER

Based on Article 7.13, paragraph 2, of the WHW and other Articles of the Act.

Section A: Faculty section

2. Study programme structure	
Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and educational components	7.13 paragraph 2 sub e
3. Assessment and Examination	
Article 3.2 Type of examination	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, l, j
Article 3.3 Oral interim examinations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub l, n
Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub o
Article 3.5 Examination opportunities	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, j
Article 3.7 Exemption	7.13 paragraph 2 sub r
Article 3.8 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k
Article 3.9 Right of inspection and post-examination discussion	7.13 paragraph 2 sub p, q
4. Academic student counselling and study progress	
Article 4.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling	7.13 paragraph 2 sub u
Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability	7.13 paragraph 2 sub m

Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

6. General programme information and characteristics	
Article 6.1 Study programme information	7.13 paragraph 2 sub i, r
Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment	7.13 paragraph 2 sub l, x
[option:] Article 6.3 Academic student counselling	7.13 paragraph 2 sub u
7. Further admission requirements	
Article 7.2 Admission requirements	7.30b paragraph 1
Article 7.3 Selection criteria	7.30b paragraph 2, 5
8. Interim examinations and results	
Article 8.1 Sequence of interim examinations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, s, t
[option 1:] Article 8.2 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k
[option 2:] Article 8.2 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k

Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, tracks/specializations, exit qualifications and language	
Article 9.1 Workload	7.13 paragraph 2 sub g
Article 9.2 Tracks and/or specializations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.3 Programme objective	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.4 Exit qualifications	7.13 paragraph 2 sub b, c
Article 9.5 Language of instruction	9.18 (<i>implementation expected in 2020</i>)
10. Curriculum structure	
Article 10.1 Composition of the programme	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 10.2 Compulsory educational components	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
[Optional] Article 10.3 Elective educational components	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
[Optional] Article 10.4 Practical exercise	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
11. Evaluation and transitional provisions	
Article 11.1 Evaluation of the education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a1
Article 11.2 Transitional provisions	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a

Appendix II Overview of advisory and approval rights of Programme Committees (OLC) and Faculty Joint Assembly (FGV)

(English underneath)

Onderwerpen Onderwijs – en Examenregeling (OER) 7.13 lid 2 WHW	FGV		OLC	
	I	A	I	A
a. de inhoud van de opleiding en van de daaraan verbonden examens				
a1. de wijze waarop het onderwijs in de desbetreffende opleiding wordt geëvalueerd				
b. de inhoud van de afstudeerrichtingen binnen een opleiding				
c. de kwaliteiten op het gebied van kennis, inzicht en vaardigheden die een student zich bij beëindiging van de opleiding moet hebben verworven				
d. waar nodig, de inrichting van praktische oefeningen				
e. de studielast van de opleiding en van elk van de daarvan deel uitmakende onderwijseenheden				
f. de nadere regels, bedoeld in de artikelen 7.8b, zesde lid, en 7.9, vijfde lid (BSA)				
g. ten aanzien van welke masteropleidingen toepassing is gegeven aan artikel 7.4a, achtste lid (<i>verhoogde studielast</i>)				
h. het aantal en de volgtijdelijkheid van de tentamens alsmede de momenten waarop deze afgelegd kunnen worden				
i. de voltijdse, deeltijdse of duale inrichting van de opleiding				
j. waar nodig, de volgorde waarin, de tijdvakken waarbinnen en het aantal malen per studiejaar dat de gelegenheid wordt geboden tot het afleggen van de tentamens en examens				
k. waar nodig, de geldigheidsduur van met goed gevolg afgelegde tentamens, behoudens de bevoegdheid van de examencommissie die geldigheidsduur te verlengen				
l. of de tentamens mondeling, schriftelijk of op een andere wijze worden afgelegd, behoudens de bevoegdheid van de examencommissie in bijzondere gevallen anders te bepalen				
m. de wijze waarop studenten met een handicap of chronische ziekte redelijkerwijs in de gelegenheid worden gesteld de tentamens af te leggen				
n. de openbaarheid van mondeling af te nemen tentamens, behoudens de bevoegdheid van de examencommissie in bijzondere gevallen anders te bepalen				
o. de termijn waarbinnen de uitslag van een tentamen bekend wordt gemaakt alsmede of en op welke wijze van deze termijn kan worden afgeweken				
p. de wijze waarop en de termijn gedurende welke degene die een schriftelijk tentamen heeft afgelegd, inzage verkrijgt in zijn beoordeelde werk				
q. de wijze waarop en de termijn gedurende welke kennis genomen kan worden van vragen en opdrachten, gesteld of gegeven in het kader van een schriftelijk afgenomen tentamen en van de normen aan de hand waarvan de beoordeling heeft plaatsgevonden				
r. de gronden waarop de examencommissie voor eerder met goed gevolg afgelegde tentamens of examens in het hoger onderwijs, dan wel voor buiten het hoger onderwijs opgedane kennis of vaardigheden, vrijstelling kan verlenen van het afleggen van een of meer tentamens				
s. waar nodig, dat het met goed gevolg afgelegd hebben van tentamens voorwaarde is voor de toelating tot het afleggen van andere tentamens				
t. waar nodig, de verplichting tot het deelnemen aan praktische oefeningen met het oog op de toelating tot het afleggen van het desbetreffende tentamen, behoudens de bevoegdheid van de examencommissie vrijstelling van die verplichting te verlenen, al dan niet onder oplegging van vervangende eisen				
u. de bewaking van studievoortgang en de individuele studiebegeleiding				
v. indien van toepassing: de wijze waarop de selectie van studenten voor een speciaal traject binnen een opleiding, bedoeld in artikel 7.9b, plaatsvindt (<i>excellentietraject binnen een opleiding</i>)				
x. de feitelijke vormgeving van het onderwijs				
<i>alle overige onderwerpen die in de OER zijn geregeld maar die niet als zodanig zijn genoemd in art. 7.13 WHW onder a t/m x.</i>				

De lettering komt overeen met de lettering van artikel 7.13 lid 2 WHW

Afkortingen:

FGV:	Facultaire Gezamenlijke Vergadering
OplC:	Opleidingscommissie
I:	Instemmingsrecht
A:	Adviesrecht

Appendix II (English) Overview of advisory and approval rights of Programme Committees (OLC) and Faculty Joint Assembly (FGV)

Disclaimer: this is a translation which only serves as an aid. No rights may be derived from it. The Dutch document prevails.

Article 7.13, paragraph 2, of the Higher Education and Research Act	FGV		OLC	
	I	A	I	A
a. content of the programme and associated examinations				
a1. the manner in which teaching and education in the relevant programme are evaluated				
b. the content of the specializations offered as part of the programme				
c. the programme's final attainment levels with regard to the knowledge, understanding and skills				
d. where applicable, the design of practical exercises				
e. the study load of the programme and of each of its constituent educational units				
f. the detailed rules referred to in Article 7.8b, sixth paragraph, and Article 7.9, fifth paragraph (recommendation on continuation of studies)				
g. the Master's programmes to which Article 7.4a, eighth paragraph, applies (elevated study load)				
h. the number and sequence of examinations and the times at which these can be taken				
i. the full-time, part-time or work-study structure of the programme				
j. where necessary, the order, and the periods in which and the number of times per academic year that the opportunity to sit examinations and final degree assessments is given				
k. where necessary, the period of validity for pass grades awarded for examinations, notwithstanding the authority of the Examination Board to extend this period of validity				
l. whether examinations are administered in oral, written or another form, notwithstanding the authority of the Examination Board to decide otherwise				
m. the way in which students with a disability or chronic health condition are given a reasonable opportunity to take the examinations				
n. the public nature of oral examinations, subject to the right of the Examination Board to determine otherwise in special cases				
o. the period within which the results of an examination must be announced, together with details of whether this period can be altered and if so in what way				
p. the way in which and the period within which students who have taken an examination are given the opportunity to inspect their marked work				
q. the way in which and the period within which information can be provided about the questions asked and exercises given in the framework of a written examination and about the standards used for assessment				
r. the grounds on which the Examination Board could grant exemption from the taking of one or more examinations to students who have previously passed examinations in higher education or have acquired knowledge or skills outside higher education				
s. where necessary, the stipulation that students must pass certain examinations as a condition for admission to other examinations				
t. where necessary, the obligation to take part in certain practical exercises with a view to admission to the examination in question, subject to the authority of the Examination Board to grant exemption from this obligation, with or without the imposition of alternative requirements				
u. the monitoring of academic progress and individual student support and guidance;				
v. where applicable, the manner in which students are selected for a special track within a programme as referred to in Article 7.9b (excellence track within a programme)				
x. the actual design of the education provided.				
<i>All other matters that are regulated in the Academic and Examination Regulations but which are not mentioned as such in Article 7.13 of the Higher Education and Research Act under points a to x.</i>				

Abbreviations used:

- FGV: Faculty Joint Assembly
 OLC: Programme Committee
 I: right of approval
 A: right of advice

Appendix III Ordinances VU CvB and Binding Guidelines (richtlijn)

Section A, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
2.1.1, 2.1.2	Year planning two semesters 8-8-4 (uniforme jaarkalender VU-UvA)	29-9-2008 (period 2009-2015) 22-05-2014 (periode 2016-2025)
2.1.3, 2.1.4	Educational components	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
3.1	Signing up for education and interim examinations	CvB ordinance 30-09-2010, prior consent USR.
3.4.1	Determination and publication of the results (1) Grading deadline exams 10 workdays (2) Theses 20 workdays	(1) Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017 (2) Quality demand 11 from the VU assessment policy, CvB ordinance 15-05-2012
3.5.1	Two possibilities to take examinations per year	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
3.5.2	Retake: most recent grade is valid. A pass can be retaken	Taken from the UvA guidelines, as part of the harmonization, CvB ordinance 24-02-2014
3.5.4	Extra retake last year	Included in (prior) model OER 16-17 following a request from committee O&O and adopted by CvB op 27-10-2015
3.6	Grades	CvB ordinance 30-09-2010, with University council's consent. As a result of harmonization UvA, the guideline: 5.5 is a pass, has been added. CvB ordinance 24-02-2014.
Section B1, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
7.2	Admission criteria; at least WO Bachelor's degree	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
7.3	Selection criteria; type of criteria	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
Section B1, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
10.1	Composition programme	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
10.2	Categorization of components	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017

Appendix IV Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act (*Uitvoeringsbesluit*)
(English underneath)

1 De persoonlijke omstandigheden bedoeld in de artikelen 7.8b, derde lid, en 7.9, derde lid, van de wet, zijn uitsluitend:

- a. ziekte van betrokkene,
- b. lichamelijke, zintuiglijke of andere functiestoornis van betrokkene,
- c. zwangerschap van betrokkene,
- d. bijzondere familie-omstandigheden,
- e. het lidmaatschap, daaronder begrepen het voorzitterschap, van:
 1. bij universiteiten: de universiteitsraad, faculteitsraad, het orgaan dat is ingesteld op grond van de medezeggenschapsregeling, bedoeld in artikel 9.30, derde lid, onderscheidenlijk artikel 9.51, tweede lid, van de wet, het bestuur van een opleiding of de opleidingscommissie, alsmede het lidmaatschap van het bestuur van een stichting die blijkens haar statuten tot doel heeft de exploitatie van voorzieningen, behorende tot de studentenvoorzieningen, dan wel van een daarmee naar het oordeel van het instellingsbestuur gelet op de taak gelijk te stellen orgaan,
 2. bij hogescholen: de medezeggenschapsraad, deelraad, studentencommissie of opleidingscommissie.
- f. andere in de regelingen, bedoeld in de artikelen 7.8b, zesde lid, en 7.9, vijfde lid, van de wet door het instellingsbestuur aan te geven omstandigheden waarin betrokkene activiteiten ontplooit in het kader van de organisatie en het bestuur van de zaken van de instelling,
- g. het lidmaatschap van het bestuur van een studentenorganisatie van enige omvang met volledige rechtsbevoegdheid, dan wel van een vergelijkbare organisatie van enige omvang, bij wie de behartiging van het algemeen maatschappelijk belang op de voorgrond staat en die daartoe daadwerkelijk activiteiten ontplooit.
- h. andere in de onderwijs- en examenregeling, bedoeld in artikel 7.13 van de wet, op grond van artikel 7.13, tweede lid, onderdeel f, van de wet, vast te leggen persoonlijke omstandigheden,
- i. andere dan in de onderdelen a tot en met h bedoelde persoonlijke omstandigheden die, indien zij door het instellingsbestuur niet in de beoordeling zouden worden betrokken, zouden leiden tot een onbillijkheid van overwegende aard.

2 Het instellingsbestuur kan voor de toepassing van het eerste lid, onderdeel g, nadere regels vaststellen omtrent het aantal bestuursleden dat ten hoogste per organisatie per studiejaar in aanmerking komt, zomede omtrent welke bestuursfuncties in aanmerking komen.

Appendix IV (English) Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act

Disclaimer: This is a translation which only serves as an aid. No rights may be derived from it. The Dutch document prevails.

1. The extenuating personal circumstances referred to in Article 7.8b, paragraph 3 and 7.9, paragraph 3 of the Act (WHW) are limited to:

- a. illness of the person concerned,
- b. physical, sensory or other impairment of the person concerned,
- c. pregnancy of the woman concerned,
- d. extenuating family circumstances,
- e. membership, including the chairmanship of:

1. universities: the university council, faculty council, the body established under the participation regulation referred to in Article 9.30, paragraph 3 or Article 9.51, paragraph 2 of the Act, the programme management or the Programme Committee, or membership on the board of a foundation whose bylaws allow for the exploitation of facilities belonging to the student services, or an equivalent body with regard to its activities in the opinion of the board of the institution,
2. universities of applied sciences: the participation council, district council, student committee or Programme Committee.

- f. other circumstances to be designated by the board of the institution in the regulation as referred to in Article 7.8b, paragraph 6 and Article 7.9, paragraph 5 of the Act in which the person concerned engages in activities within the framework of the organization and the administration of the affairs of the institution,
- g. membership on the board of a student organization of a certain size with full legal capacity, or a similar organization of a certain size, whose primary task regards general societal interest and which actually develops activities for this purpose.
- h. other personal circumstances set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, pursuant to Article 7.13, paragraph 2, clause f of the Act,
- i. personal circumstances other than those referred to in a – h above which, if overlooked by the governing bodies of the institution, would lead to an obviously unfair outcome.

2. The institutional board may, for the purposes of the first paragraph, part g, establish specific rules regarding the maximum number of eligible board members per organization per academic year, as well as the eligible administrative offices.

Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

1.	The programme Philosophy CROHO number 60823 is offered on a full-time and part-time basis.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)
1a	The part-time programme has a nominal duration of study of 4 years.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)

Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

1.	1. The degree programme uses the following teaching formats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture • Seminar • Tutorial • Computer practical • Practical Training (PBH). 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 x)
2.	2. The programme uses the following assessment methods, as described in the Study Guide. The types of assessment that the students actually encounter may depend on which specialization they choose. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • Written assignment (e.g. paper, essay, lecture protocol, take home examination) • Oral examination / assignment (e.g. presentation, plea, quiz, podcast) • Participation • Thesis. 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l)

Article 6.3 Academic student counselling

1.	The programme offers the following counselling in addition to the student counselling mentioned in Section A: individual guidance from the coordinators.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
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7. Further admission requirements

Article 7.1 Intake date(s)

The programme starts on 1 September.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Article 7.2 Admission requirements

1. Admission criteria of the MA Philosophy tracks are as follows. Philosophy of Neuroscience PNS To be considered for admission to the two year Master's track Philosophy of Neuroscience students must hold a bachelor's degree obtained at an official institution for scientific education and meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and understanding of one or more of the fields of neuroscience; • knowledge, insight and skills in conducting and reporting research in accordance with current scientific conventions; 	Partly legal provision & ordinance CvB. Admission requirements excepted from participation in WHW
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<p>Specific admission requirements for this specialization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An academic (WO) Bachelor's degree in Biology, Biomedical Sciences, or Psychology with a Biological Psychology or Neuropsychology profile. Students with a BSc degree in a closely related discipline (e.g. Movement Sciences, Artificial Intelligence or Medicine) are also eligible to apply. • Eligibility to a Neuroscience Master or a closely related programme. (Explanation: in order to successfully complete the Master Philosophy, Philosophy of Neuroscience, students need to obtain 30 EC in neuroscience courses at master's level.) <p>Philosophy of Law and Governance PLG</p> <p>To be considered for admission to the Master's track Philosophy of Law and Governance (PLG) one must hold a bachelor's degree obtained at an institution for scientific education and meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic knowledge and understanding of law (at Bachelor level); • Academic legal research skills (at Bachelor level); • Admission requirements for PLG are, hence, the same as those for the master in Law at the VU and are specified in appendix 3. (Explanation: in order to successfully complete the Master Philosophy, Philosophy of Law and Governance, students need to obtain 36 EC in law courses at master's level.) <p>Philosophy of Bioethics and Health PBH</p> <p>To be considered for admission to the Master's track PBH one must hold a bachelor's degree obtained at an institution for scientific education and meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and understanding of one or more health-related fields; • academic knowledge, insight and skills that can be expected from a student who has completed a BA programme. <p>Specific admission requirements for the two-year Master's programme in Philosophy, track Philosophy, Bioethics and Health:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) An academic (WO) Bachelor's degree in Medicine, Health Sciences, Psychology, or another health-related discipline; 2) Eligibility to one of the three Health-related Masters: Medicine, Psychology, or Health Sciences or another health-related discipline. <p>(Explanation of requirement 2): since PBH applies philosophy to healthcare, 30 EC must be obtained in a health-related discipline at a master's level.)</p>	
<p>2. Applicants with a bachelor's degree obtained at an institution outside the Netherlands may be asked for additional methods to prove that they meet the admission requirements.</p>	<p>Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)</p>
<p>3. For the specializations PBH, PNS and PLG, an applicant should demonstrate that he or she has sufficient level of proficiency in English by meeting at least one of the following standards, no more than two (2) years before the start of the programme at the VU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (academic) IELTS: 7,0, with a minimum of 6,5 for each component; - TOEFL paper based test: 600, with a minimum of 55 for each component and 4.0 in TWE; - TOEFL internet based test: 100, with a minimum of 20-23 for each component. 	<p>Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)</p>

<p>4. Applicants who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - completed an English-taught secondary or higher education degree in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand or Australia, or - have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an English-taught programme accredited by NVAO in the Netherlands, or - have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an accredited English-taught programme in another member state of the European Union, or - have a Dutch VWO diploma, or - have obtained a Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) or a Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE) with a score of A, B or C <p>are exempted from the requirements referred to in paragraph 3.</p>	<p>Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)</p>
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Article 7.3 Selection criteria

Not applicable.

Article 7.3a Capacity restriction

Not applicable.

Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

Not applicable.

8. Interim examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of interim examinations

<p>1. A student must have obtained a total of at least 60 EC in philosophical and/or non-philosophical subjects before starting the master's thesis.</p>	<p>Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 h, s & t)</p>
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Article 8.2 Validity period for results

<p>1. If the student's knowledge assessed is demonstrably outdated, or if the student's evaluated skills assessed are demonstrably outdated, the Examination Board may impose a supplementary or replacement examination for a course for which an examination was passed more than 6 years ago.</p>	<p>Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)</p>
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Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, tracks/specializations, exit qualifications and language

Article 9.1 Workload

<p>1. The programme has a workload of 120 EC.</p>	<p>Advice OLC; (7.13 a)</p>
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Article 9.2 Tracks and/or specializations

The programme has the following tracks: - Philosophy, Bioethics and Health - Philosophy of Law and Governance - Philosophy of Neuroscience.	Approval OLC (7.13 b)
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Article 9.3 Programme objective

See appendix 2.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.4 Exit qualifications

1. See appendix 2.	Approval OLC (7.13 c)
2. Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of (interim) examinations	Approval OLC (7.13 c)

Article 9.5 Language of instruction

1. The language of instruction of the programme is English.	Approval OLC (9.18)
2. The 'Gedragcode vreemde taal' (code of conduct foreign languages) applies.	Ordinance CvB

10. Curriculum structure**Article 10.1 Composition of the programme**

1. The programme comprises at least a package of compulsory components and an individual Master's thesis.	Ordinance CvB
2. Additionally the programme can offer: - Practical exercises - Electives	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
3. Educational components are categorized as specialized (400), research oriented (500) and highly specialized (600) level.	Ordinance CvB

Article 10.2 Compulsory educational components

See appendix 4. A detailed description per educational component can be found in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 10.3 Elective educational components

1. See appendix 4. A detailed description per educational component can be found in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; (7.13)
2. If the student wishes to take a different educational component than listed, advance permission must be obtained in writing from the Examination Board. Non-philosophical optional subjects may only come from the programme of one other master's programme. Students who wish to choose non-philosophical electives from the programme of several master's programmes must discuss their wishes with the coordinator of their track and submit a proposal to the Examination Board for approval .	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)

Article 10.4 Practical exercise

The following components can be considered as practical exercises:				Approval OLC (7.13 d)
Name of educational component	course code	nr of EC	level	
Practical Training PBH	W_MAPT_PBH	12	500	

Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials

In case of mandatory participation, the requirements per module are specified in the study guide.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
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11. Evaluation and transitional provisions**Article 11.1 Evaluation of the education**

1. The education provided in this programme is evaluated in accordance with appendix 1. The faculty evaluation plan offers the framework.	Approval OLC (7.13 a1)
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Article 11.2 Transitional provisions

By way of departure from the Teaching and Examination Regulations currently in force, the following transitional provisions apply for students who started the programme under a previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations:		Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Cancelled module	Replacement module	
<i>Track: Philosophy of Neuroscience</i>		
Philosophical Approaches (W_MA_NSPA)	Philosophy of Mind, Brain and Behaviour (W_MA_NSPBB)	
Philosophy of Mind and Brain (W_MA_NSPMB)	Neuroscientific Explanation (W_MA_NSNX)	
<i>All tracks</i>		
Thesis Seminar (W_MA_THS)	Tutorial	

Advice and approval by the Programme Committee on 23 April 2021

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly on 16 June 2021

Adopted by the board of the Faculty on 22 June 2021

Appendices

- [Evaluation of the education in the Faculty](#)
- Programme objective and exit qualifications
- Admission requirements Law
- [Programme overview](#)
- [Addendum pertaining to the TER 2021-2022](#)

Appendix 2

Programme objectives and exit qualifications

Programme objectives

The specialization tracks in the present master's program aim at the acquisition of an interdisciplinary perspective, combining philosophical perspectives with those within the discipline of specialization. Courses in philosophy and the philosophy of the discipline of specialization help students to identify the historical background of theories and ideas, to provide a theoretical and ethical education that let them think carefully about the kinds of solutions that would be desirable for specific problems, and to give a training in philosophy of the discipline of their specialization that allows students to consider the epistemic and normative presuppositions of different approaches within their disciplines.

The philosophical education trains students to consider what solutions are possible and/or desirable, the education in the discipline of their specialization trains them to focus on solutions that are feasible. On their own, neither philosophical possibility and desirability nor discipline related feasibilities are sufficient for enacting successful solutions.

In addition to these general program objectives, the aims and objectives of the three tracks in the present program include:

I The specific and focused aim of the track *Philosophy in Neuroscience PNS* is

- (1) to train students to become conceptually sensitive in the translation of neuroscientific research findings to different fields of application (clinical, educational, public health)
- (2) to give students an idea of, and train them in, what it is to be 'a good scientist'.

This specific aim is embedded in a program with more general aims, which are

- (a) teaching students in-depth knowledge of, and insight into, the most important topics in philosophy of neuroscience and the relation of these topics to general philosophical issues
- (b) learning students to address, carry out research, formulate problems with respect to a broad domain of conceptual issues at the interfaces between neuroscience, other sciences, clinical practice, and society;
- (c) to enable students to acquire the competence of discussing the above issues and to report on them, both orally and in written form
- (d) to apply in a fruitful manner philosophical skills, knowledge and insights within the context of neuroscience as a practice, with special emphasis on the role of normative and contextual components in reaching an appropriate judgment;
- (e) discussions on-site and in class in order to prepare the student for the ethical demands that are part of becoming a good scientist
- (f) to be prepared for a PhD program in PNS.

II The track *Philosophy of Law and Governance PLG* aims at enabling students:

- a) to acquire a thorough knowledge of, and insight into, the major components of PLG, its foundations, methods, socio-cultural significance and ethical implications;
- b) to acquire a deeper and specialized knowledge of, and insight into, present-day topics and views within PLG, in order to teach the student how to contribute to discussions at national and international levels;
- c) to carry out research, to formulate a problematic issue, to participate in a (scientific) philosophical debate, adding one's own contribution by means of a philosophical

- treatise about central themes of an academic discipline, also in relation to wider philosophical issues and views;
- d) to apply in a fruitful manner philosophical skills, knowledge and insights within the context of a practice or profession in Law and Governance, in which the nature of Law and its socio-cultural and normative significance are relevant, and by so doing, to contribute to reaching an appropriate judgment;
 - e) to be prepared for a professional practice where knowledge, insights and skills related to philosophy of Law and Governance have an added value;
 - f) to be prepared for a PhD program in PLG.

III The aims for the track *Philosophy, Bioethics and Health PBH*:

Cognitive competences that students acquire on this track include knowledge of:

- a) various normative (medical) ethical theories; theory and methodology of empirical ethics research;
- b) recent developments in psychiatry and neuroscience and their relevance for moral philosophy and medical ethics – and vice versa;
- c) methodological, legal, and moral issues regarding medical research involving human subjects;
- d) the role of the state, insurance companies, health-care providers and patients in health-care systems; factors influencing costs and efficacy of health care;

Behavioral competences that students acquire on this track include:

- a) participating in moral case deliberation;
- b) integrating ethical reasoning, daily practices and legal rules and regulations;
- c) assessing the quality of cure and care from a philosophical and medical ethics perspective;
- d) writing texts, documents and background analyses to inform professionals, policy makers, and other participants in multidisciplinary discussions.

Learning outcomes

Based on the program's objectives, the qualifications to be achieved by the graduates in the area of specialization PNS, PBH, and PLG as specified below meet the qualifications outlined by the Dublin descriptors. Upon completion of the program, the students will be qualified, in general terms, for continuing education and research at a PhD level, and will also be strong candidates for employment in administration, politics, institutions of higher learning, and beyond.

A Knowledge and understanding

More specifically, graduates in the area of specialization PNS, PBH, and PLG of the present Master's program will have

1. an overview of important systematic and historical issues in philosophy, and a detailed knowledge of important issues in their area of specialization;
2. a mastery of the methodology appropriate to their area of specialization;
3. knowledge and understanding of key concepts and theories within the philosophy of their area of specialization as presented in their track;

B Applying knowledge and understanding

Graduates in the area of specialization PNS, PBH, and PLG of the present Master's program will have

4. an expertise in formulating clear and innovative research problems related to the state of the art in their area of specialization, as well as the literature;
5. experience in integrating philosophical research and developments in scientific fields related to their area of specialization;

6. the ability to apply established (disciplinary and interdisciplinary) approaches within philosophy and the discipline of their specialization to the analysis of complex societal questions, and to offer a contribution to their possible solution;

C Making judgments

Graduates in the area of specialization PNS, PBH, and PLG of the present Master's program

7. will have gained experience in the process of scientific research, including reporting on the results of their research, as reflected in their Master Thesis;

8. will have the ability to provide policy recommendations encompassing theoretical and normative considerations;

9. will have the ability to reflect upon the professional responsibility of researchers and practitioners, and incorporate these reflections into the analysis of societal questions;

10. are trained to conduct research in accordance to The Netherlands Code of Conduct for Scientific Practice (VSNU).

D Communication

Graduates in the area of specialization PNS, PBH, and PLG of the present Master's program

11. are trained in argumentation and academic writing.

12. are able to communicate with researchers and practitioners from different backgrounds.

13. are able to report on their research to specialists and non-specialists alike.

E Learning skills

Graduates in the area of specialization PNS, PBH, and PLG of the present Master's program will have developed the skills that enable them

14. to think analytically and critically;

15. to be flexible, take initiatives, and function as a professional.

Appendix 3

Admission requirements Law (for the track Philosophy of Law and Governance)

Admission to the Master's programme is possible for an applicant who:

- a) has obtained an academic Bachelor's degree, in:
 1. Law, or
 2. Notarial Law, or
 3. Tax Law (LL.B), or
 4. in a field other than mentioned under a, b and c,
 - a. which is relevant in preparation for the programme and the chosen specialization, and
 - b. where knowledge of and insight into at least one sub-area of law relevant to the specialization have been acquired at the level of the Bachelor's degrees' exit qualifications in Law or Notarial Law. To this end, at least 60 EC in legal course components must have been obtained or proportionate knowledge and/or experience in the legal field;
- b) has a Bachelor's degree of a university of applied science in Law (HBO Rechten, CROHO-code 39205 of 30108) and finished the SchakelzoneRecht VU programme (in Dutch) in collaboration with the Open Universiteit or a package of courses with the same content and the same level as the SchakelzoneRecht VU;
- c) has a Bachelor's degree HBO Rechten (CROHO code 39205), including the Doorstroomprogramma Rechtsgeleerdheid HvA-VU (in Dutch) in collaboration with the Hogeschool van Amsterdam (HvA);
- d) has completed the pre-Master Transnational Law and Society.

The Admission Board examines to what extent the applicant meets the requirements.