

Introduction to model Teaching and Examination Regulations

General

Since the introduction of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (*Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek*, WHW) in 1993, it has been compulsory for institutions to record the broad outlines of the teaching programme and examination methods for each study programme or group of programmes in the Teaching and Examination Regulations (Article 7.13, paragraph 1, of the WHW). Article 7.13, paragraph 2, of the WHW lists the applicable procedures that must, as a minimum, be regulated in the Teaching and Examination Regulations. The WHW also includes a number of separate obligations relating to the inclusion of regulations in the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

Sections of the model Teaching and Examination Regulations

The model Teaching and Examination Regulations of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam consists of a Section A, Section B1 and Section B2. Section A is the faculty section of the document, which contains provisions that apply to all of a faculty's study programmes. The programme-specific provisions are included in the two B sections and are divided as follows:

- Section B1: programme-specific section – general provisions
- Section B2: programme-specific section – content of programme

Although the various sections belong together and form the Teaching and Examination Regulations of a study programme or group of programmes, they can be amended separately. The Faculty Board ultimately determines the content of all sections of the Teaching and Examination Regulations for the faculty's study programmes.

Type of provisions (Articles) included

- Articles based on the Higher Education and Research Act - Article 7.13, paragraph 2, or other Articles of the Act - that must be included in the Teaching and Examination Regulations. For each Article, where applicable, an indication has been given regarding which subject of Article 7.13, paragraph 2, is referred to and whether or not participation applies and if so, under whose authority.
- Articles based on Article 7.13 of the Higher Education and Research Act, or on other Articles of the Act, which must be included in the Teaching and Examination Regulations but which have already been laid down in VU-wide policy. Where applicable, participation has already been organised by the university's central participation body. The Faculty Board is not at liberty to depart from these procedures. The same holds for the Programme Committee and the Faculty Joint Assembly. An appendix refers to the existing VU policy (or guidelines for the Faculty Board, from Article 9.5 of the Higher Education and Research Act). If a Faculty Board wishes to depart from existing VU policy, then a written request should be submitted to the Executive Board.
- Articles which have been included with a view to providing clear and complete information or due to a regulation of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam [or the University of Amsterdam]. It is advisable for these Articles to be included in the Teaching and Examination Regulations, in accordance with the model. This means that a large part of the text from Section A can be replicated in its entirety for inclusion in the creation of the faculty Section A.
- Articles (or parts thereof) that do not apply to all programmes are indicated using square brackets: [*Keuze*:].

Participation

Changes to the model Teaching and Examination Regulations are submitted to the Joint Assembly (Gezamenlijke Vergadering) annually for its approval.

Faculty-level participation is arranged as follows:

- The Faculty Joint Assembly has right of approval with regard to Articles in Sections A and B1, and the Programme Committee has right of advice.
- With respect to Section B2, only the Programme Committee is involved in participation; the Faculty Joint Assembly has no involvement.

Procedure for faculties

If necessary, additional Articles can be added in Section B due to the specifics of a particular study programme. Depending on participation rights, additional Articles may be included in Sections B1 and B2. Any additional Articles should, wherever possible, be placed at the end of the chapter and given a higher number than the existing provisions. If an Article is placed between existing Articles, then this should be given an intermediary number by adding a letter to the number (for example, Article 1.1a). If a faculty or programme does not make use of a particular article or paragraph that appears in this model, that article or paragraph number should not be removed, but should be marked with 'N/A' (not applicable). This method promotes transparency and improves quality assurance if a specific subject is regulated under the same Article number in all Teaching and Examination Regulations. If you have any doubts about participation rights, please contact Administrative and Legal Affairs.

Scope of application of these Regulations

These regulations apply to education and examinations of the relevant faculty of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. The regulations may also apply to joint programmes and educational units, as referred to in Article 7.3c of the WHW, which are provided in part by the faculty.

Publication

The faculty is responsible for the publication of the Teaching and Examination Regulations and their inclusion in the online study guide.