



Faculty of Science and Engineering

Teaching and Examination Regulations 2021-2022

Bachelor's degree programmes in:

1. Applied Mathematics
2. Applied Physics
3. Artificial Intelligence
4. Astronomy
5. Biology
6. Biomedical Engineering
7. Chemistry
8. Chemical Engineering
9. Computing Science
10. Industrial Engineering and Management Science
11. Life Science and Technology
12. Mathematics
13. Pharmacy
14. Physics

These Regulations were decreed by the Board of the Faculty of Science and Engineering on 12 May 2021, with approval from the Faculty Council and the Programme Committees for the sections requiring this by law dated 12 May 2021.

The Teaching and Examination Regulations (TER, in Dutch: OER: *Onderwijs- en Examenregeling*) set out the specific rights and obligations that apply to each degree programme taught at the Faculty of Science and Engineering, for both students and the degree programmes. Please note the TER is updated every year. The TER for this academic year is applicable to all students registered in one of the programmes mentioned above, regardless of the starting date of students. If there are significant changes in the TER that might have a negative effect on students who are already registered in the programme transitional provisions are in place.

The University-wide section of the Student Charter sets out the rights and obligations that apply to all students.



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Section 1 General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability

1. These Regulations for the academic year 2021-2022 apply to the teaching and examinations of the Bachelor's degree programmes in Applied Mathematics, Applied Physics, Artificial Intelligence, Astronomy, Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Computing Science, Industrial Engineering and Management Science, Life Science and Technology, Mathematics, Pharmacy and Physics hereinafter referred to as the degrees programme(s), and to all students enrolled in this degree programme.
2. The degree programmes are provided by the Faculty of Science and Engineering (FSE) of the University of Groningen (UG), hereinafter referred to as 'the Faculty'.
3. These Teaching and Examination Regulations also apply to students of other faculties or institutes of higher education, insofar as they follow course units organised by one of the degree programmes (including Minors) to which these Regulations apply.
4. Course units or Minors that students follow which are organised by other degree programmes, other faculties, or other institutes of higher education, are subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of that programme, faculty or institute.
5. These Regulations also apply to students enrolled in the degree programme for the purpose of following a pre-master's programme as referred to in Article 8.8.

Article 1.2 Definitions

The following definitions apply to these Regulations:

- a. Act: the Higher Education and Research Act (in Dutch WHW: Wet op het Hoger onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk onderzoek)
- b. Student: a person registered at the University for the purpose of taking course units and/or examinations leading to the conferral of a university degree
- c. Degree programme: the Bachelor's degree programme referred to in Article 1.1 of these Regulations, comprising a coherent set of course units
- d. Course unit: a teaching unit of the degree programme within the meaning of the Act, included in OCASYS
- e. OCASYS: the University of Groningen's digital course catalogue
- f. ECTS credit point: a credit point within the meaning of Article 7.4 of the Act. The student workload of each course unit is expressed in ECTS credit points, whereby 1 ECTS is equivalent to a student workload of 28 hours
- g. Propaedeutic phase: the first 60 ECTS credit points of the formal Bachelor's degree programme as defined in Article 7.8 of the Act
- h. Post-propaedeutic phase: that part of the Bachelor's degree programme following the propaedeutic phase



- i. Study progress overview: a written overview of study results accompanied by a preliminary study advice, which is issued to students halfway through the academic year;
- j. Preliminary study advice: preliminary study advice based on an overview of study results, issued to students halfway through the academic year in the propaedeutic phase
- k. Definitive study advice: a study advice that is issued only once at the end of the first year and which may result in rejection of the student in question, in accordance with Article 7.8b.1 of the Act
- l. Binding study advice: a negative definitive study advice that is binding for the student in question and means the student may not continue with the degree programme, in accordance with Article 7.8b.3 of the Act
- m. Major: the set of course units in the propaedeutic and post-propaedeutic phases that forms the main focus of the degree programme (150 ECTS)
- n. Minor slot: the space available for students to specialize within the degree programme (2 x 15 ECTS)
- o. Minor: a coherent set of course units that can be followed within the Minor room
- p. University Minor: a coherent set of broadening course units or deepening course units that students can follow either at their own or a different Faculty
- q. Personal Minor: a coherent set of broadening and deepening course units, approved by the Board of Examiners, that students can choose themselves and follow either at their own or different Faculty
- r. Test or examination: an assessment of students' knowledge, understanding and skills at the end of a course unit
- s. Final assessment: the final assessment for the Bachelor's degree which is considered to be passed once all the requirements of the entire Bachelor's degree programme have been satisfied
- t. Academic year: the period of time that starts on 1 September and ends on 31 August of the following year
- u. Semester: part of the academic year, either starting on 1 September and ending on a date to be determined by the Board of the University on or around 31 January, or starting on the aforementioned date determined by the Board of the University and ending on 31 August
- v. Practical: a practical exercise, as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, in one of the following forms:
 - a written assignment, paper or draft
 - a research assignment
 - active participation in fieldwork or an excursion
 - completion of a placement
 - a thesis
 - active participation in another educational activity designed to teach certain skills
- w. Board of Examiners: an independent body with the duties and powers as stated in Articles 7.11, 7.12, 7.12b and 7.12c of the Act, including assessing whether the requirements of the final assessment have been met
- x. Admissions Board Bachelor's programmes FSE: the board that has decision-making powers in matters concerning admission to the degree programme on behalf of the Faculty Board;
- y. Examiner: a person appointed by the Board of Examiners to set examinations and determine their results



- z. VWO diploma: pre-university certificate in accordance with Article 13.1 of the Secondary Education Act or Article 7 of the Secondary Education Act BES
- aa. Programme Committee: the consultative and advisory body that fulfils the duties referred to in Article 9.18 and 9.38c of the Act
- bb. Regular student: a student who is not a part-time, Minor or non-degree exchange student
- cc. Matching: The procedure concerning the provision of matching activities and the issuing of degree programme advice in accordance with Article 7.31a ff. of the Act, further elaborated in Chapter 3 of the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees
- dd. Extraordinary circumstances: circumstances such as those referred to in Article 7.51 of the Act, and which will be taken into account when formulating a decision within the meaning of Article 5.4. For the UG, the Graduation Fund Regulations contain an elaboration of Article 7.51 of the Act. In these Regulations, extraordinary circumstances include, in any case, a disability of chronic illness, illness, pregnancy and delivery, extraordinary family circumstances, a degree programme which is not feasible, students with an elite sports status (issued by the elite sports coordinator), students with a 'student entrepreneurship status' (issued by the UGCE), membership of a consultative participation body
- ee. Track: a graduation specialization as approved by the Board of the University.
- ff. Open University: a government-funded university in accordance with Article 1.8 of the Act that develops and offers distance learning at university level
- gg. SSE: the School of Science and Engineering
- hh. UGCE: University of Groningen Centre of Entrepreneurship
- ii. Academic integrity: information about academic integrity and the related procedures can be found on the UG website: <https://www.rug.nl/about-ug/organization/rules-and-regulations/general/gedragscodes-nederlandse-universiteiten/wetenschappelijke-integriteit>

All other definitions shall have the meaning that the Act ascribes to them.

Section 2 Qualifications and admission

Article 2.1 Admission to the propaedeutic phase of the degree programme

Holders of a VWO diploma with the right profile grants admission to the degree programme (as in Appendix V, part A).



Article 2.2 Admission to the propaedeutic phase of the programme with deficiencies and admission based on a University of Applied Sciences (HBO), University or Open University propaedeutic certificate

The following applies to students with Dutch qualifications:

1. Deficiencies in the qualifications in a VWO diploma may be compensated by passing the relevant examinations at the level of the VWO final examination. The relevant subjects and examinations are listed in Appendix V, part A1.
2. Holders of a propaedeutic certificate from a University of Applied Science Bachelor's programme or an (Open) University Bachelor's programme will be granted admission to the degree programme after having demonstrated sufficient knowledge at VWO final examination level in accordance with the entry requirements for VWO graduates. The relevant subjects and examinations are listed in Appendix V, part B.
3. The Admissions Board of the FSE Bachelor's programmes will determine whether the deficiencies have been compensated satisfactorily.

Article 2.3 Language requirement for foreign certificates

1. Students who have been admitted to a degree programme on the basis of a foreign certificate or degree may be required by the Admissions Board – before registration – to pass an English language test, to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Faculty Board.
2. The English language proficiency requirement can be met by passing an examination in English at the level of the VWO final exam or by passing the test mentioned in Appendix V, part B2, C3 and D3.

Article 2.4 Equivalent qualifications

1. Holders of a certificate of a foreign secondary education institute that has not been designated by ministerial regulation as equivalent to the qualification requirements listed in Article 7.24 of the Act may be granted exemption from the qualification requirements.
2. Equivalence will be revealed after an assessment by the Admissions Board.

Article 2.5 Entrance examination

1. Students who do not satisfy the entry requirements set out in Articles 2.1 and 2.2 may take an entrance examination in accordance with Article 7.29 of the Act.



2.
 - a. Students who wish to take the entrance examination must be aged 21 or over on the date on which the examination is held.
 - b. An exception to the age requirement may be made if the student in question has gained a certificate abroad or if the student has the status of refugee and for this reason is unable to present a degree certificate.
3. The entrance examination concerns the relevant subjects and examinations listed in Appendix V part A1 and will be assessed by the Admissions Board Bachelor's programmes FSE. The provisions of Article 2.3 apply.
4. A successfully completed entrance examination will grant admission to the University of Groningen degree programme for which it was taken for the duration of two academic years after the date on which the examination was taken.

Article 2.6 Preparatory year

1. Higher educated foreigners who do not satisfy the entry requirements set out in the articles 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 may participate in the Preparatory Year for higher educated foreigners, offered by the Alfa-College for Hanze University of Applied Sciences and University of Groningen.
2. A successfully completed entrance examination of the Preparatory Year will grant admission to the University of Groningen degree programme for which it was taken for the duration of two academic years after the date on which the examination was taken.

Article 2.7 Admissions Board Bachelor's degree programmes FSE

1. The Admissions Board Bachelor's degree programmes FSE has the power to decide on behalf of the Faculty Board in matters concerning admission to the degree programme.
2. The Faculty Board is responsible for appointing members of the Admissions Board Bachelor's programmes FSE and will set out the entry requirements.

Article 2.8 Intake date and application dates

1. There is one intake date per academic year, namely 1 September of each year.
2. The provisions of this Article also apply to students who reregister for the same degree programme.
3. In addition to this intake date, registration on other dates may take place in accordance with the *Intake and application policy Bachelor's degree programmes FSE*.



4. The *Intake policy Bachelor's degree programmes FSE* will be announced in the same way as is stated in article 12.3.2.

Article 2.9 Matching

1. Prospective students are required to attend the matching activities related to the degree programme in question. Prospective students will be issued with a degree programme advice based on their participation in the matching activities.
2. The stipulations in Chapter 3 of *the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees (RIC)* and the Faculty matching procedure apply.
3. Intake into the propaedeutic phase of the Bachelor's programme is impossible after 1 September.
4. Students who want to switch to a different degree programme within the same BSA cluster (see Appendix VI) are obliged to have a talk with the academic advisor.

Section 3 Content and structure of the degree programme

Article 3.1 Aims and learning outcomes of the degree programme

1. The degree programme is designed to:
 - a. impart knowledge, skills and understanding in the field of the degree programme, and to enable the learning outcomes of the programme listed in Appendix I to be attained;
 - b. promote academic development. This is defined as the development of competences (knowledge, skills and attitudes) concerning:
 - independent academic thought and action
 - scientific communication
 - the use of the relevant academic instruments
 - the use of specific knowledge of a field in a wider academic, philosophical and social/cultural context
 - behavioural norms that apply during the degree programme and in the academic world
 - a professional approach to work or profession while fulfilling the relevant (disciplinary) standards of responsible research;
 - c. prepare students for a further study career. Students become familiar with the theory and practice of academia from the very start of their Bachelor's degree programme.
2. The learning outcomes of the various course units are stated in OCASYS.



Article 3.2 Type of degree programme

The degree programme is full time.

Article 3.3 Language of instruction

The Bachelor's degree programmes of the Faculty of Science and Engineering are taught in English.

Article 3.4 Student workload

1. The degree programme has a student workload of 180 ECTS credit points.
2. The propaedeutic phase has a student workload of 60 ECTS credit points.
3. The student workload is expressed in whole ECTS credit points.

Article 3.5 Contact hours

1. The propaedeutic phase of the degree programme comprises a minimum of 480 contact hours a year.
2. The post-propaedeutic phase of the degree programme comprises a minimum of contact hours a year, as listed in Appendix VIII.
3. The structure of the contact hours is set out in Appendix VIII.

Article 3.6 Organization and assessments of the degree programme

1. The Bachelor's degree programme is concluded with a final assessment.
2. The degree programme is divided into a propaedeutic phase and a post-propaedeutic phase.
3. The entire degree programme comprises a Major (150 ECTS) and a Major related minor (30 ECTS) or a Minor slot (2 x 15 ECTS).
4. A list of Majors and available Minors can be found in Appendix II to these Regulations.



Article 3.7 Participation in course units

1. Participation in a course unit may only take place after proper and timely registration. All information about the enrolment procedure for FSE course units can be found on the Student Portal: <https://student.portal.rug.nl/infonet/studenten/fse/faculty-sp-content/snel-naar/vakintekening-procedure>
2. The maximum number of students for each course unit is listed in OCASYS.
3. Admission to course units with limited capacity is arranged according to predefined and published admission criteria and priority regulations. Students who are registered for the degree programme will be given priority for the compulsory course units in their Major.

Section 4 The propaedeutic phase of the degree programme

Article 4.1 Content of the propaedeutic phase

1. A list of course units in the propaedeutic phase can be found in Appendix III to these Regulations.
2. Any deviations from the set of propaedeutic course units referred to in Article 4.1.1. must be presented to the Board of Examiners for approval.
3. All course units and their modes of instruction are listed in the University's digital course catalogue OCASYS.
4. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide teaching in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative modes of instruction and assessment may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the prescribed learning outcomes are still achieved upon completion of the degree programme.

Section 5 Binding study advice

Article 5.1 Preliminary study advice

1. Halfway through the first semester of the first year of registration in the propaedeutic phase of the degree programme, students will receive a study progress overview specifying the student workload realized thus far.
2. Students will receive a written preliminary study advice as soon as possible after the first semester, and in any case before March 1st.



3. The preliminary study advice should be considered as a warning if there is a question of insufficient study progress, giving students the chance to improve their performance.
4. If the study progress is such that the student cannot reasonably be expected to satisfy the conditions for receiving a positive study advice as listed in Article 5.2.2a, he or she will be invited to a meeting with the academic advisor. The aim of the meeting is to discuss the student's study habits, to reassess the choice of degree programme and perhaps to refer to a different degree programme.

Article 5.2 Definitive study advice

1. Students must earn at least 45 ECTS credit points in their first year of registration in the propaedeutic phase of the degree programme. This threshold is known as the BSA threshold.
2. A definitive study advice is issued at the end of the first year of study, by July 31st at the latest. This can be either:
 - a. positive, for students who have earned at least 45 ECTS of the propaedeutic programme.
 - b. negative, for students who have earned fewer than 45 ECTS of the propaedeutic programme. This study advice is binding for students (BSA) in accordance with Article 7.8b.3 of the Act.

When determining the number of credit points earned, the results of individual parts of examinations (tests, partial exams and projects) do not count.

3. In the event that the preliminary study results are insufficient to such an extent that the student cannot reasonably be expected to pass the 45 ECTS threshold by the end of the first year of study, a binding (negative) study advice may be issued subsequently to the preliminary study advice as referred to in Article 5.1 before the end of the academic year. This may also be at the request of the student. The procedure set out in Article 5.5 will apply.
4.
 - a. The Faculty Board will take extraordinary personal circumstances as referred to in Article 5.4 into account in its decision about which study advice to issue in the first year of registration.
 - b. Notwithstanding the stipulations in Article 5.2.2, if no assessment can be made with regard to a student's suitability for the degree programme due to personal circumstances for the first year, the assessment may be postponed until a later date within the propaedeutic phase.



Article 5.3 Exemptions to the definitive study advice

Multiple degree programmes at the University of Groningen

1. Students who are registered for the propaedeutic phase of two or more University of Groningen degree programmes in their first year of registration, and by the end of the year satisfy the BSA threshold as referred to in Article 5.2.1 for one degree programme, will not have to satisfy the BSA threshold for the other programme(s) in that year. Once a student has successfully completed the propaedeutic phase of one degree programme, he or she is exempt from the BSA requirements for all other programmes.

Propaedeutic certificate previously gained/completion of the propaedeutic phase

2. Students who have already completed the propaedeutic phase of a degree programme at the University of Groningen or another Dutch university, or (for degree programmes that do not issue propaedeutic certificates) in the opinion of the Board of Examiners have earned 60 ECTS credit points in their first year of study, will not fall under the BSA system for the degree programme for which they enrol in the propaedeutic phase.

Deregistration before 1 March

3. No definitive study advice will be issued to students who submit a request for deregistration before or as of 1 March of the first year of registration for the propaedeutic phase of the degree programme or a degree programme in the same degree programme cluster (see Appendix VI). The procedure set out in Article 5.1 will apply again to students who reregister in a subsequent academic year. The BSA regulations for the academic year in which they reregister will then apply.

Deregistration before 1 March + registration as of 1 February

4. Article 5.2 applies in full to students who deregister from a degree programme before 1 February and register for a degree programme in the same degree programme cluster, see Appendix VI, as of 1 February of the same academic year.

Registration as of 1 February

5. An adapted BSA threshold will apply to students who register for a University of Groningen Bachelor's degree programme as of 1 February and have not previously been registered as students in the same academic year. These students must have earned 20 ECTS in the propaedeutic phase of the degree programme by the end of the second semester of the first Academic Year of registration. In all other cases, the provisions of Article 5.2 will apply mutatis mutandis.



Article 5.4 Extraordinary circumstances

1. When deciding whether to issue a binding (negative) study advice, the Faculty Board will take a student's extraordinary or personal circumstances into account at that student's request.
The evaluation of extraordinary circumstances will also take into account the student's study behaviour, the agreements made and/or the study plan drawn up in consultation with the academic advisor, when the extraordinary circumstances were reported and the study results achieved by the end of the first year of study.
2. Students must report extraordinary circumstances to the academic advisor as soon as possible in order to ensure optimum support. The Faculty Board, or the Faculty BSA Committee on its behalf, will make a decision in response to a student's request for a postponed advice or an adapted BSA threshold. Students must also report to the academic advisor as soon as possible, if they are unable to complete the study plan drawn up in consultation with the academic advisor and based on the original or adapted BSA threshold.
3. Only in the case of extraordinary circumstances as referred to in Article 5.4.1 can, if no assessment can be made at the end of the first year with regard to a student's suitability for the degree programme, this assessment be postponed until a later date within the propaedeutic phase.
4. Postponed advice will be issued no later than by the end of the second year of registration for the degree programme, and in any case no later than 31 July.
 - a. The advice will be positive if the (possibly adapted) threshold has been passed.
 - b. The advice will be negative (and binding) if the student in question still fails to pass the (possibly adapted) BSA threshold in the propaedeutic phase.
5. All students whose study advice has been postponed (whether or not combined with an adaptation of their BSA threshold) are expected to draw up a study plan in consultation with their academic advisor, comprising at least the following:
 - a. the propaedeutic course units that have not yet been passed, with a related timeline
 - b. the post-propaedeutic course units that may be followed in addition to the course units listed under a.
6. Circumstances as referred to in Article 5.4.1 do not automatically lead to a successful application for a grant from the Graduation Fund.



Article 5.5 Procedure for issuing a definitive study advice

1. The definitive study advice is issued by the Faculty Board on behalf of the Board of the University. The decision will also state the applicable safeguards of legal rights.
2. Before a binding (negative) study advice is issued, students will receive notice of the intention to issue one, after which they will be given the opportunity to put their case to the Faculty Board or its representative.

Article 5.6 Consequences of a binding (negative) study advice

1. Students who have received a binding (negative) study advice may not register for the degree programme, or for any other degree programme in the cluster of related degree programmes listed in Appendix VI, for a period of two consecutive years from 1 September of the next academic year.
2. Students who have been issued a binding (negative) study advice are not permitted to follow course units in this degree programme via a different degree programme or educational institution in order to avoid the consequences of their binding (negative) study advice. No exemptions will be granted for course units completed in this way, nor will such completed course units be recognized within the framework of the degree programme in any other way.

Article 5.7 Consequences of positive study advice

1. Holders of positive study advice for the degree programme in question at the University of Groningen will be admitted to the post-propaedeutic phase of the degree programme.
2. Notwithstanding Article 5.7.1, the requirement that a previous course unit must have been successfully completed may apply to some course units. This compulsory order of course units is set out in OCASYS and in Article 9.3 of these Teaching and Examination Regulations.
3. The admission does not apply to the Minor of the degree programme. For this, completion of the entire propaedeutic phase is a requirement.



Section 6 Admission to the post-propaedeutic phase of the degree programme

Article 6.1 Admission to the post-propaedeutic phase

1. The following candidates will be admitted to the post-propaedeutic phase of the degree programme:
 - a. Students who have been issued a positive study advice from the degree programme in question
 - b. Students who have been issued a positive study advice from one of the degree programmes listed in Appendix VII.
2. The Admissions Board may grant an exemption for the requirement stipulated in Article 6.1.1. to the holder of a diploma gained in the Netherlands or elsewhere and considered by the Admissions Board to be at least equivalent to the propaedeutic certificate referred to in Article 6.1.1.
3. Notwithstanding Article 6.1.1, the requirement that a previous course unit must have been successfully completed may apply to some individual course units. This compulsory order of course units is set out in the digital University course catalogue OCASYS and in Article 9.3 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations.
4. Students must have successfully completed the propaedeutic phase of the degree programme to be admitted to the Minor of the degree programme.

Article 6.2 Admission to the post-propaedeutic phase: hardship clause

The Board of Examiners may deviate from the stipulations of Article 6.1.1 and 5.7 in situations where changes to the curriculum or educational force majeure would demonstrably lead to a situation of unfairness of an overriding nature. This is only possible in unique personal circumstances that are so unusual that admission cannot in all reasonableness be denied.

Section 7 The post-propaedeutic phase of the degree programme

Article 7.1 Structure of the post-propaedeutic phase

1. The post-propaedeutic phase comprises the following course units with their related student workloads:
 - a. Major course units (90 or 105 ECTS)
 - b. Major related minor (30 ECTS) or a Personal/University Minor (2x15 or 30 ECTS).



A list of course units in the post-propaedeutic phase can be found in Appendix IV of these Regulations.

2. Students can fill in their Minor slot with the following components:
 - a research traineeship
 - a placement/internship
 - a study period at another university (national or abroad)
 - a broadening or deepening Minor, comprising course units from outside their own major.
3. Any deviations from the set of post-propaedeutic course units referred to in Article 7.1.1.a and the filling in of the minor slot referred to in Article 7.1.1.b must be presented to the Board of Examiners for approval.
4. All course units and their modes of instruction are listed in the digital University course catalogue OCASYS.
5. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide teaching in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative modes of instruction and assessment may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the prescribed learning outcomes are still achieved upon completion of the degree programme.

Article 7.2 Substitutions and electives followed elsewhere

1. Following a substantiated request by a student, the Board of Examiners may grant permission to:
 - a. substitute a course unit in the examination programme with another course unit offered by the University of Groningen or another university in the Netherlands or abroad that dovetails well with the degree programme, or
 - b. use one or more course units followed at the University of Groningen or another university in the Netherlands or abroad as electives in the degree programme.
2. When assessing such a request, the Board of Examiners will in any case evaluate the coherence of the set of course units (or parts thereof) and the level of the course units followed.

Article 7.3 – Open Degree Programme

1. Students may choose to follow a degree programme's Open Degree Programme, which deviates from the regular specialization(s) of the degree programme. An Open Degree Programme must always be approved in advance by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme in which the student is registered.



2. The additional requirements to Open Degree Programmes are listed in Appendix X

Section 8 Other programmes

A. Minor

Article 8.1 Minor

1. The Minor framework can be filled using any of the options listed in Article 7.1.2.
2. Students can choose between:
 - a. a University Minor
 - b. a Personal Minor.

Article 8.2 University Minor

1. A University Minor is a coherent set of broadening course units that students can follow either at their own or a different Faculty.
2. Students who choose to fill their Minor framework with a University Minor do not need explicit permission from the Board of Examiners.

Article 8.3 Personal Minor

1. A personal Minor is a coherent set of broadening or deepening course units that students can compile themselves and follow either at their own or a different Faculty.
2. The demand of a coherent set does not apply to the Personal Minor when this will be filled with a study period at a university abroad.
3. Personal Minors must be presented to the Board of Examiners for approval in advance.

Article 8.4 Authority of the Board of Examiners with regard to the Minors

1. Students must present their choice of Minor to the Board of Examiners of their own degree programme for approval, except if they choose a University Minor in accordance with Article 8.2.2.
2. Minors followed in other degree programmes or at other faculties or institutes of higher education are subject to the authority of the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that sets the relevant examinations.



3. Minors in the degree programme followed by students of other degree programmes, faculties or institutes of higher education are subject to the authority of the Board of Examiners of the degree programme.
4. A responsible Board of Examiners will be assigned in the event of inter-faculty University Minors.

Article 8.5 University Minors of the faculty of Science and Engineering

1. In the academic year 2021-2022 the Faculty of Science and Engineering offers four University Minors. Their content, student workload and responsible committees are set out in Appendix IX.
2. The entry requirements for these Minors are set out in Article 6.1.4 and in OCASYS.
3. The Minors are taught in English, unless indicated otherwise.

Article 8.6 Educative minor and supplementary teaching qualification

1. A Bachelor's degree of one of the degree programmes in the table, in combination with the educative minor, provides the qualification to teach in the school subject (at levels vmbo-tl and lower levels havo-vwo). This concerns a limited qualification.

CROHO	Bachelor's degree programme	School subject
56860 B	Biology	Biology
56981 B 56978 B	Artificial Intelligence Computing Science	Computing Science
50206 B 56962 B 50205 B 56226 B	Physics Applied Physics Astronomy Biomedical Engineering	Physics
56857 B 56960 B 56286 B 56157 B 56226 B	Chemistry Chemical Engineering Life Science and Technology Pharmacy Biomedical Engineering	Chemistry
56980 B 56965 B 50205 B 50206 B 56962 B 56994 B	Mathematics Applied Mathematics Astronomy Physics Applied Physics Industrial Engineering and Management	Mathematics



2. The Educative Minor is Dutch-taught and organized by the department of Teacher Education. The Teaching and Examination Regulations of the faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences apply.
3. The application deadline for the educative minor is 1 June 2021.

B. Honours programme

Article 8.7 Bachelor's Honours programme

1. The Faculty participates in the Bachelor's Honours Programme organized by the University of Groningen Honours College. The Honours Programme does not form part of the regular Bachelor's curriculum.
2. Students admitted to one of the Bachelor's degree programmes offered by the Faculty can participate in the Bachelor's Honours Programme if they are selected by the Dean of the University of Groningen Honours College. Please consult the Teaching and Examination Regulations of the University of Groningen Honours College for the selection procedure.
3. The Bachelor's Honours Programme has a total student workload of 45 ECTS credit points, divided over the three years of the Bachelor's programme. The Bachelor's Honours Programme, including the deepening Faculty part, is subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of the University of Groningen Honours College.
4.
 - a. As the Honours Programme is not part of the regular Bachelor's curriculum, the results and marks do not count towards the awarding of an honours predicate for the Bachelor's programme.
 - b. The Diploma Supplement that accompanies the Bachelor's degree certificate will also list the results gained in the Bachelor's Honours Programme.

C. Pre-master's programmes

Article 8.8 Pre-master's programmes

1. The Faculty offers pre-master's programmes to facilitate entry into a Faculty Master's degree programme.
2. Students who enrol in a pre-master's programme are registered in the therefore appointed Bachelor's degree programme.
3. The Admissions Board of the desired Master's degree programme determines on a case-by-case basis the content and student workload of the pre-master's programme.
4. The Admissions Board of the desired Master's degree programme will decide whether students are admitted to the pre-master's programme.



5. Applicants must meet the language requirements as listed in Article 2.2 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations for the FSE Master's degree programmes.
6. Students must complete the pre-master's programme within one year.
7. The Board of Examiners of the student's Bachelor's degree programme has the authority to decide in matters concerning course units in the pre-master's programme.
8. The stipulations concerning pre-master's programmes in the *University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees* apply.

Section 9 Examinations of the degree programme

Article 9.1 General

1. Each course unit is assessed by means of an examination.
2. An examination can comprise a number of partial exams. The results of these partial exams together determine the examination result.
3. The examination assesses the student's sufficient academic development and mastery of the learning outcomes of the course unit.
4. Assessment is expressed in whole and half numbers greater than or equal to 1 or less than or equal to 10, or by the qualifications 'Pass' (P) or 'Fail' (F). A course unit is passed when a mark of at least 6 is achieved or when the qualification 'Pass' (V) is awarded. The mark 5.5 is not awarded.

Article 9.2 Participation in examinations

A student who registers for a course unit in the degree programme in accordance with Article 3.7 of the OER is automatically registered for the examination for that course unit.

Article 9.3 Compulsory order of examinations

The examinations for some course units may not be taken before the exams of certain other course units have been passed. Appendix III (propaedeutic phase) and Appendix IV (post-propaedeutic phase) to these Regulations provides an overview of course units to which this stipulation applies.



Article 9.4 Examination frequency and periods

1. There will be an opportunity to sit the examinations for the course units listed in Articles 4.1 and 7.1 twice per academic year.
2. The periods in which examinations can be sat are listed via a link in OCASYS to the schedules. Partial exams can also be taken outside the period indicated.
3. Practicals organised by the degree programme, as listed in Appendices IV and V, will be offered at least once a year. Students will be offered the opportunity to participate in the practicals once a year.
4. Contrary to the provisions of Article 9.3.1, for course units which are not taught in a specific academic year, standard examination opportunities will be offered in that same year.
5. Contrary to the provisions of Article 9.3.1, for course units which are taught for the last time in a specific academic year, standard examination opportunities will be offered in the following year.
6. Students are not allowed to take part in an examination of a course unit they have already passed. Students can request the Board of Examiners for an exception to this rule if they can specify a higher grade is required for the application procedure of a specific MSc-programme or a specific job application. The Board of Examiners can set further conditions in its Rules and Regulations.
7. If a student has fulfilled his or her effort obligation to complete all the compulsory parts of a course unit but has still not passed, then the examiner may give him or her the opportunity to take a supplementary or replacement test.

Article 9.5 – Assessment of placement or research assignment

A placement or research assignment is assessed by an internal, first, examiner who is appointed by the Board of Examiners. External, on-site, supervisors may be appointed as second examiner by the Board of Examiners. The criteria for appointing examiners are set out in the Rules and Regulations of the Boards of Examiners.

Article 9.6 – Thesis/Bachelor project

1. A thesis can in principle be used for only one University of Groningen degree programme. Full or partial exemptions for a degree programme's thesis may be granted by the Board of Examiners on the basis of a thesis written for another degree programme.
2. Each thesis is assessed by at least two examiners.
3. Article 10.1.8 on the storage period for theses applies.



4. Students will be given the opportunity to write a final-year thesis at least twice per academic year.
5. The period(s) during which students can write theses will be published in OCASYS.
6. If by the end of the period referred to in Article 9.6.5 the assessor(s) is/are of the opinion that the thesis cannot be awarded a pass mark, the student will be given one opportunity to remedy the work in order to be awarded a pass mark within a time frame defined by the degree programme.
7. Students must satisfy the following requirements in order to qualify for supervision and assessment of the final-year thesis for the degree programme:
 - They must have completed all course units from the propaedeutic phase
 - they must have earned at least 60 ECTS credit points from the post-propaedeutic phase of the programme
 - their Bachelor's specialization must have been approved by the Board of Examiners.
8. The Board of Examiners is the only body that can deviate from the provisions of this Article at the written request of a student.
9. All copyrights to theses and other independently written assignments that aim to assess a student's knowledge, understanding and skills in principle remain with the student in question. Anyone else who wishes to use the thesis or written assignment will need the student's permission. However, the University needs unconditional freedom to handle theses and written assignments in order to archive (possibly under embargo) and process them in accordance with the Dutch Inspectorate of Education and the WHW. All students are therefore required to give the University unconditional permission to perform these actions and must bear in mind that as students they are individually responsible for maintaining academic integrity.

Article 9.7 Mode of assessment

1. Examinations will be taken in the manner stated in OCASYS.
2. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide examinations in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative modes of instruction and assessment may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the prescribed learning outcomes are still achieved upon completion of the degree programme.
3. At the student's request, the Board of Examiners may allow an examination to be taken in a form different from that stated in Article 9.4.1.
4. For each written examination, representative questions will be available to practise.



Article 9.8 – Request for an additional examination opportunity

1. Students may submit a request for an additional examination opportunity to the Board of Examiners.
2. Such a request may be granted if the student in question failed the relevant exam due to extraordinary circumstances and if not granting the request for an additional examination opportunity would result in unacceptable study delay.
3. The following criteria apply to granting a request for an additional examination opportunity for the last course unit in the degree programme:
 - the course unit in question must be the last course unit that must be passed
 - not granting the request for an additional examination opportunity would result in study delay of at least one semester
 - the examinee must have participated in the last two regular exam opportunities for the course unit in question and have gained marks of at least 4 and 5.

Article 9.9 Authority of the Board of Examiners regarding electives offered by other degree programmes

1. A request to take an elective at another degree programme must be approved by the Board of Examiners of the student's own degree programme.
2. The Board of Examiners of the other degree programme is authorized to set and assess the examinations and decide upon requests for alternative exam regulations. Article 10.2 applies.

Article 9.10 Examinations and functional impairments

1. Students with a functional impairment will be given the opportunity to take examinations in a way that is tailored to their impairment as much as possible. The Board of Examiners seeks expert advice from a student counsellor of the Student Service Centre (SSC) before making a decision.
2. With regard to examinations for electives taken by students with a functional impairment, the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that sets the examination shall comply with the facilities permitted by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme for which the student has registered.

Article 9.11 Oral examinations

1. Unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise, an oral examination may only be taken by one student at a time.
2. An oral examination is attended by an independent observer with sufficient knowledge of the content of the examined topic(s).



Article 9.12 Marking of examinations and publication thereof

1. After an oral examination, the examiner will assess the examination immediately and submit the result to the Faculty's administration department (SSE).
2. The examiner will mark a written examination within 10 working days of the day on which it was taken, and will provide the Faculty's administration department (SSE) with the necessary details for registration of the result in Progress.
3. Written examinations for propaedeutic course units specified by the Educational Management Team will be assessed within 5 working days of the day on which they were taken. The examiner will provide the Faculty's administration department (SSE) the necessary details of the result for registration and determination whether a binding (negative) study advice is in order.
4. The examiner will assess practicals within 10 working days of the day on which the course unit must be completed, with the exception of practicals for which the Board of Examiners has set an alternative assessing period of no more than one month. The examiner will provide the Faculty's administration department (SSE) with the necessary details for registration of the result.
5. If an examination is taken in a form other than oral, written or via a practical, the Board of Examiners will determine in advance how and when students will receive written confirmation of the result.
6. Students can lodge an appeal against the results of an examination with the Central Portal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights (CLRS) within 6 weeks of the date on which the result was announced.

Article 9.13 Validity of course units

1. Examinations that have been passed remain valid indefinitely.
 - a. Contrary to the provision mentioned in Article 9.11.1, the Board of Examiners may decide that the validity of a passed examination is limited. The Board of Examiners can only decide a passed examination is no longer valid if the student's knowledge, understanding or skills are demonstrably outdated.
 - b. In the event of extraordinary personal circumstances the validity term will be extended for the period during which the student in question is receiving support from the Graduation Fund.
2. Partial examinations and assignments passed within a course unit that has not been successfully completed will lapse at the end of the academic year in which they were passed, unless otherwise indicated in Ocasys.



Article 9.14 Right of inspection

1. On request, students have the right to inspect their marked work during a period of four weeks after the results of a written examination have been announced.
2. Within the time frame stipulated in Article 9.14.1, any participant in the examination may request to be allowed to peruse the examination paper and the assessment criteria.
3. The Board of Examiners can determine that this inspection or perusal will take place at a certain place and time. This inspection and perusal may be organized collectively. Students who can show that they were prevented by force majeure from attending at the indicated places and time will be offered another opportunity, if possible within the period stated in Article 9.14.1.

Article 9.15 Exemptions

1. At the student's request, the Board of Examiners, having discussed the matter with the examiner in question, may grant exemption from an examination (or part thereof) on the basis of results earned previously (possibly elsewhere) on the condition that the student:
 - a. has completed a course unit of an academic or higher vocational degree that is equivalent in content and level, or
 - b. can demonstrate by work experience that they have acquired sufficient knowledge and skills with respect to the course unit in question.
2. The validity period of exemptions granted for course units or parts thereof is identical to that of examination results.
3. The Board of Examiners may also grant exemption from participation in practical exercises. Such exemptions can be granted, for example, based on recognized conscientious objections. In such cases, the Board of Examiners will determine the way the practical exercise has to be performed.
4. Article 10.2 applies to granting exemptions.

Article 9.16 Board of Examiners and examiners

1. The Board of Examiners is the independent body that determines whether individual students have the knowledge, understanding and skills required to be awarded the degree.
2. The Faculty Board appoints the members of the Board of Examiners on the basis of their expertise in the field of the degree programme (or related degree programmes) in question.
3. The Board of Examiners must comprise at least:



- a. one member who is a lecturer in the degree programme (or in one of the degree programmes that are part of the relevant group of degree programmes)
 - b. one member from outside the degree programme (or one of the degree programmes that are part of the relevant group of degree programmes).
4. Members of the Faculty Board or other people who have financial responsibilities within the institution may not be appointed as members of the Board of Examiners.
5. The Board of Examiners will appoint examiners to set examinations and determine the results.
6. The Board of Examiners must set out in the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners rules for assessing and determining the results of examinations and final assessments.

Article 9.17 Cheating and plagiarism

1. Cheating is an act or omission by a student designed to partly or wholly hinder the forming of a correct assessment of his or her own or someone else's knowledge, understanding and skills.
2. Cheating also includes plagiarism, which is copying someone else's or own work, insights and skills without correct reference to the source.
3. The University may use a plagiarism scanner to check students' theses and written assignments for plagiarism. Each student is individually responsible for maintaining academic integrity.
4. If a student cheats, the Board of Examiners may exclude that student from participation in one or more examinations or final assessment for a maximum of one year.
5. In the event of very serious cheating, the Board of Examiners may request the Board of the University to terminate the student's registration definitively.
6. The Board of Examiners will set out its course of action in the event of cheating in its Rules and Regulations.

Article 9.18 Invalid examination

In the event of irregularities with regard to an examination that are so serious that an accurate assessment of the examinee's knowledge, understanding and skills cannot be made, the Board of examiners may declare the examination invalid for either an individual examinee or a group of examinees.



Article 9.19 Termination of registration (*Iudicium Abeundi*)

1. In cases of serious reprehensible behaviour or statements made by a student, the Board of the University may in certain cases, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners or from the Faculty Board, terminate that student's registration.
2. The Board of the University will not make a decision as referred to in the first paragraph until after the student in question has been given an opportunity to put their case forward, any interests of the student and of the institution have been carefully assessed and it has been proven reasonable to assume that the student's behaviour and/or statements prove that they are unsuitable for one or more of the professions for which they are being trained in their degree programme, or for the practical preparation for the profession. In such cases the Faculty Board, the Board of Examiners and the Board of the University will follow the *Protocol Iudicium Abeundi* [protocol for termination of registration] as approved by the Nederlandse Federatie van Universitaire Medische Centra [Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres] on 1 November 2010.
3. The stipulations in the *University of Groningen Regulations for registration and Tuition fees* apply.

Section 10 Final assessment of the degree programme

Article 10.1 Final assessment

1. The degree programme is concluded with a final assessment.
2. On the condition that the student's study programme has been approved, the Board of Examiners will determine the result of the final assessment as soon as the student has passed all the required examinations. The Board of Examiners may define terms to this end. If the final assessment results in a pass, the student has proven to have acquired the necessary academic training.
3. If a student exceeds the relevant deadlines for approval of the study programme referred to under 2, the Board of Examiners may postpone his or her graduation date. This date may then be in the academic year following the year in which the last examination was passed.
4. Before the final assessment can be determined, the Board of Examiners may decide to test the student's knowledge of one or more course units or components of the degree programme, if and in as much as the marks for these course units provide a reason for doing so.
5. By determining the result of the final assessment, the Board of Examiners also commits itself to a speedy processing of the degree certificate ceremony.



6. If a student wishes to postpone the date of graduation due to extra examinations that still need to be taken, he or she must submit a request to this end to the Board of Examiners within two weeks after the date of the final assessment has been set.
7. The graduation date is the date on which the final assessment is passed, as determined by the Board of Examiners in accordance with the provisions of Article 10.1.2, and not the date on which the degree certificate is presented to the student.
8. The successfully passed final assessment as referred to in Article 10.1.1, and all assignments submitted within the framework of this assessment, will be kept on file by the Faculty Board for a period of at least 7 years.

Article 10.2 Conditions for awarding a University of Groningen degree

1. Students can only be awarded a Bachelor's degree for the degree programme if at least half of the programme was followed at the University of Groningen during the student's period of registration as a student at the University of Groningen.
2. Students who wish to obtain a second Bachelor's degree within the Faculty of Science and Engineering can use a maximum of 120 ECTS from their first Bachelor programme in the second study programme they submit at the Board of Examiners for approval. Of these 120 ECTS a maximum of 60 ECTS can be obtained in the post-propaedeutic phase. The Board of Examiners can specify these conditions for obtaining a second Bachelor's degree in their Rules and Regulations.
3. For Double Degree Bachelor's degree programmes offered together with an institution abroad, at least one quarter of the programme must have been followed at the University of Groningen during the student's period of registration as a student at the University of Groningen.

Article 10.3 Degree certificate

1. Students will receive a certificate issued by the Board of Examiners as proof that they have passed the final assessment. Even if a student successfully completes more than one specialization within the degree programme, he/she will receive only one degree certificate. Article 10.2 applies.
2. The Board of Examiners will issue an International Diploma Supplement with each degree certificate.
3. The Major and Minor followed will be stated in the Diploma Supplement that accompanies the Bachelor's degree certificate.
4. If relevant, the results obtained in the Bachelor's Honours Programme will also be stated in the Diploma Supplement that accompanies the Bachelor's degree certificate.



Article 10.4 Degree

1. Students who have successfully passed the final assessment are awarded the degree 'Bachelor of Science'.
2. The degree awarded will be indicated on the degree certificate.

Article 10.5 Honours ('Cum Laude'/'Summa Cum Laude')

1. The Board of Examiners will determine whether or not the certificate will be awarded an honours predicate.
2. To the Bachelor's degree programme certificate the following conditions apply.
For the predicate 'Cum Laude':
 - a) The mark for the Bachelor's project must be at least 8.0, and
 - b) The weighted average (not rounded off) for all course units within the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners, excluding the Bachelor's project, must be at least 8.0.

For the predicate 'Summa Cum Laude':

- a) The mark for the Bachelor's project must be at least 9.0, and
 - b) The weighted average (not rounded off) for all course units within the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners, excluding the Bachelor's project, must be at least 9.0.
3. No honours are awarded if the student workload of the exemptions in ECTS credit points is greater than or equal to half the total number of ECTS for the degree programme. This stipulation does not apply to double degree programmes.
 4. Honours may only be awarded if the examinations for the course units were taken only once.
 5. Honours may only be awarded if no single course unit was awarded a mark less than 7.0.
 6. No honours are awarded if a decision by the Board of Examiners has been taken to the effect that a student is no longer eligible for an honours predicate because fraud/plagiarism has been detected.
 7. In certain circumstances, the Board of Examiners may depart from the provisions set out in Articles 10.5.2-6.

Article 10.6 Assessment plan

An assessment plan has been approved by the Faculty Board, comprising the following topics:

1. the learning outcomes of the degree programme



2. the course units of the degree programme with their student workload in ECTS, and the learning outcomes of each course unit
3. the relationship between course units and learning outcomes
4. the assessment mode to be used and the test moments for each course unit
5. the test design and assessment procedures and assessment criteria used
6. the responsibilities in terms of implementing the various elements of the assessment policy
7. the method of regular evaluation.

Section 11 Study progress supervision

Article 11.1 Study progress administration

1. The Faculty Board registers individual study results for the students.
2. The Faculty's administration department (SSE) upon a student's request will provide authenticated overviews.

Article 11.2 Study progress supervision

The Faculty Board will organize the introduction and the study progress supervision for students enrolled in the degree programme, partly to promote their progress and also with a view to potential study options within and outside the degree programme.

Section 12 Transitional and final provisions

Article 12.1 Transitional provisions

The transitional provisions are listed in Appendix XI.

Article 12.2 Amendments

1. Any amendments to these Regulations will, following a recommendation by and/or upon the approval of the Programme Committee and in consultation with – and where necessary upon the approval of - the Faculty Council, be confirmed by the Faculty Board in a separate decree.
2. Any amendments to these Regulations will not apply to the current academic year, unless it may reasonably be assumed that the amendment will not harm the interests of students.



3. In addition, an amendment may not influence any other decision concerning a student taken by the Board of Examiners under these Regulations to the detriment of that student.

Article 12.3 Publication

1. The Faculty Board will duly publish these Regulations, any rules and guidelines formulated by the Board of Examiners, and any amendments to these documents.
2. The documents referred to in Article 12.3.1 can be found on the Faculty website via 'Student Portal' and 'My University'.

Article 12.4 Evaluation

The Faculty Board will ensure that the TER is regularly evaluated, assessing at least – for the purpose of monitoring and if necessary adapting the student workload – the amount of time students need to complete their duties as set out therein.

Article 12.5 Legal validity

The Dutch text of the model Teaching and Examination Regulations of the Department of Legal Affairs shall be binding in the event of differences of opinion on the interpretation of the Dutch or English version of these Teaching and Examinations Regulations.

Article 12.6 Appeal procedure

1. Appeals against decisions made by an examiner or a Board of Examiners may be filed with the Board of Appeal for Examinations.

Article 12.7 Date of commencement

These Regulations shall take effect on 1 September 2021.