



**university of  
 groningen**

faculty of behavioural  
 and social sciences

graduate school

## **Teaching and Examination Regulations**

### **Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences**

**2018-2019**

**Programme and complementary regulations  
 to the BSS teaching and examination regulations  
 for the Master's degree programmes**

## Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| SECTION 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS.....   | 3  |
| Article 1.1 Aim of the degree programme .....                                     | 3  |
| Article 1.2 Language .....  | 3  |
| SECTION 2 STRUCTURE OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME.....                                  | 3  |
| Article 2.1 Study load.....   | 3  |
| Article 2.2 Study programme variants and transitional provision.....              | 3  |
| Article 2.2.1 Programme variants .....  | 3  |
| Article 2.2.2 Transitional provision .....  | 3  |
| Article 2.3 Study programme as of 2018-2019 .....                                 | 4  |
| Article 2.3.1 Domains.....  | 4  |
| Article 2.3.2 Compulsory content of the degree programme .....                    | 4  |
| Article 2.3.3 Elective modules.....   | 6  |
| Article 2.3.4 Traineeship, Master's thesis and Clinical Science Traineeship ..... | 7  |
| Article 2.3.5 Specialization label .....  | 8  |
| Article 2.4 Study programme - 2017-2018 or earlier.....                           | 10 |
| Article 2.4.1 Specializations .....   | 10 |
| Article 2.4.2 Compulsory content of the degree programme .....                    | 10 |
| Article 2.4.3 Optional modules .....  | 13 |
| Article 2.4.4 Traineeship, Master's thesis and Clinical Science Traineeship ..... | 15 |
| SECTION 3 EXAMINATIONS AND FINAL ASSESSMENT OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME .....         | 16 |
| Article 3.1 General .....   | 16 |
| SECTION 4 SELECTION PROCEDURE .....   | 17 |
| Article 4.1 Admission to the degree programme .....                               | 17 |
| Article 4.2 Conditional admission .....   | 18 |

## **SECTION 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 1.1 Aim of the degree programme**

The RMSc programme aims to provide a thorough specialist training in the theoretical basis and state of the art research methods in the field of social and behavioural sciences. Graduates have a broad view on this research area, have in-depth knowledge and understanding in a specific part of the area, and are capable to recognize the need for and participate in multidisciplinary research. Graduates have the necessary skills to independently identify, formulate, analyse and suggest solutions to problems in the field. Graduates have the necessary skills to conduct research in the field and to report research according to recognized standards in the field, and are able to communicate their research. The programme prepares its graduates to embark on a solid scientific career in the area, starting with a PhD project or a research position in a public or private organization.

### **Article 1.2 Language**

The programme courses and exams are offered in the English language.

## **SECTION 2 STRUCTURE OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME**

### **Article 2.1 Study load**

The study programme has a study load of 120 ECTS credit points.

### **Article 2.2 Study programme variants and transitional provision**

#### **Article 2.2.1 Programme variants**

Students who enter the programme in the academic year 2018-2019 or later follow the degree programme as described in Article 2.3.

Students who entered the programme in the academic year 2017-2018 or earlier follow the degree programme as described in Article 2.4 and have to complete the programme before 1-9-2020. If this programme is not completed by 1-9-2020, the student has to comply to the provisions described in Article 2.3.

#### **Article 2.2.2 Transitional provision**

For students who entered the programme in the academic year 2017-2018 or earlier and have passed one or more but not all of the examination components on 1-9-2020 as described in Article 2.2.1, the Board of Examiners shall propose a transitional arrangement, with due regard for the provisions regarding final examinations and final examination components.

## Article 2.3 Study programme as of 2018-2019

### Article 2.3.1 Domains

The degree programme prepares for conducting academic research in the multidisciplinary field of human behaviour and social sciences, with a first step into specialization in one of the following domains:

1. Deficits, Distress, and Disorders
2. Lifespan Development and Socialization
3. Sustainability in a Changing Society

### Article 2.3.2 Compulsory content of the degree programme

The programme contains modules that are compulsory for all students, and compulsory modules that are domain-specific. All compulsory modules and their study load are listed in Table 1 and 2.

| <b>Table 1. Compulsory modules for all students</b>  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>Module</b>  | <b>ECTS</b> |
| How to Theorize  | 2.5         |
| Reflecting and integrity in science  | 7.5         |
| Multidisciplinary research in action (not in 2018-2019)  | 5           |
| Advanced statistics  | 7.5         |
| Applied statistics   | 10          |
| Elective statistics course, to be selected from:<br><br>Structural equation modelling;<br><br>Multilevel analysis;<br><br>Statistical analysis of social networks;<br><br>Statistical modelling of single cases. | 5           |
| Seminar  | 2.5         |
| Traineeship <sup>1</sup>   | 10          |
| Master thesis  | 35          |
| <b>Sum</b>   | <b>85</b>   |

<sup>1</sup> Students who want to qualify for the post-master programme for health care psychologists will have the option to do a Clinical Science Traineeship of 20 EC.

| <b>Table 2. Compulsory domain-specific modules</b>  |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Module</b>   | <b>ECTS</b> |
| <b>Domain Deficits, Distress, and Disorders</b>   |             |
| Deficits, distress, and disorders: a multidimensional perspective   | 5           |
| Deficits, distress, and disorders: Advanced research methods  | 5           |
| Choice between: Clinical interventions and e-health for adults and youth<br>- Neuropsychological assessment | 5           |
| <b>Domain Lifespan Development and Socialization</b>  |             |
| Lifespan development  | 5           |
| Modelling interactions between persons and variables over time  | 5           |
| Socialization   | 5           |
| <b>Domain Sustainability in a Changing Society</b>  |             |
| Theorizing change   | 7.5         |
| From problem analysis to intervention design  | 7.5         |

### Article 2.3.3 Elective modules

Elective modules totalling 20 ECTS may be chosen from the modules listed in Table 3. Furthermore, the modules listed in Table 1 (Compulsory modules for all students) and in Table 2 (Compulsory domain-specific modules) may be chosen as elective modules, in as far as the modules have not been taken to fulfill the compulsory parts of the programme. The Examinations Committee can approve one or more courses from other Master programmes in or outside the University of Groningen within the degree programme.

| <b>Table 3. Elective courses</b>  |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Module</b>   | <b>ECTS</b> |
| Evidence-based interventions  | 5           |
| Experimental psychopathology  | 5           |
| Clinical neuropsychology – Present and defend your research                                       | 5           |
| Development, learning and instruction   | 5           |
| Complexity, dynamics and development  | 5           |
| Critical reflection: Alternative views on lifespan development                                    | 5           |
| Economy and society: Critical transitions in Advanced Industrialised Societies (not in 2018-2019) | 5           |
| Solidarity and social contexts  | 5           |
| Researching power and leadership  | 5           |
| Understanding working life: Major Theories and Research Trends in Organizational Psychology       | 5           |
| Cultural psychology   | 5           |
| Environmental psychology  | 5           |
| Current topics of intergroup relations in society   | 5           |
| Multilevel analysis   | 5           |
| Structural equation modelling   | 5           |
| Statistical analysis of social networks   | 5           |
| Statistical modelling of single cases   | 5           |
| Literature study  | 5           |

#### **Article 2.3.4 Traineeship, Master's thesis and Clinical Science Traineeship**

With regard to the following practical modules, passing the examination requires several specific activities:

1. Traineeship
  - a. Writing a traineeship proposal that is judged as sufficient and complete by the domain coordinator, before the start of the project. The topic should fall in at least one of the specializations associated with the student's domain, as indicated in Table 4.
  - b. Work placement at a research institute or department whose area of expertise is closely related to one of the Research Master specializations. This can be at a department or research group at our own faculty or at an external institution.
  - c. Writing a traineeship report that is judged as sufficient and complete (and graded accordingly) by the traineeship supervisors (and co-assessor, if applicable).
  
2. Master's thesis
  - a. Writing a Master's thesis proposal that is judged as sufficient and complete by the Master's thesis committee, before the start of the project. The topic should fall in at least one of the specializations associated with the student's domain, as indicated in Table 4.
  - b. The execution of a research assignment, as specified in the thesis proposal.
  - c. Writing a Master's thesis that is judged as sufficient and complete (and graded accordingly) by the thesis supervisor and co-assessor.
  
3. For students from the domains Deficits, Distress, and Disorders, and Lifespan Development and Socialization it is possible to arrange a Clinical science traineeship (20 ECTS) by the student and/or the programme, when
  - I. a traineeship is offered by an institution that is suitable for the student (e.g., w.r.t. language and quality of supervision), and
  - II. the student is invited for the traineeship, for example after application
  - III. the traineeship is approved by the staff member who is responsible for the Clinical Science Traineeship.
  - a. Writing a traineeship proposal that is judged as sufficient and complete by the domain coordinator, before the start of the project.
  - b. Doing a clinical traineeship.
  - c. Writing a clinical traineeship report.
  - d. Writing an extended report containing a single case treatment study report and / or Critically Appraised Topics (CATs)
  - d. Attending three intervision meetings during the traineeship.
  - e. Doing an additional assignment, consisting of a presentation of a single case treatment study and / or a Critically Appraised Topic (CAT).

### **Article 2.3.5 Specialization label**

The domain of specialization will be indicated on the diploma supplement. From each domain, it is possible to further specialize into a specific field. Specialization into a specific field will be acknowledged on the diploma supplement by mentioning an associated specialization label.

The specialization labels are: Clinical Psychology and Experimental Psychopathology, Clinical Neuropsychology, Developmental Psychology, Pedagogical and Educational Sciences, Sociology, Social Psychology, Organizational Psychology, Environmental Psychology, Psychometrics and Statistics.

From each domain, only a limited set of specialization labels can be acquired, as indicated in rows 1 and 2 of Table 4.

In order to obtain a specialization label, the following requirements should be met:

1. Traineeship: the topic of the traineeship is within the specific field
2. Master's thesis: the topic of the Master's thesis is within the specific field
3. Elective modules: minimally 10 ECTS of the elective modules are in the specific field. In Table 4, the courses meeting this criterion are indicated per specialization label.



**Table 4. Electives related to the specialization labels**

| Specialization label <sup>2</sup>   | Clinical Psychology and Experimental Psychopathology | Clinical Neuropsychology | Developmental Psychology | Pedagogical and Educational Sciences | Sociology | Social Psychology | Organizational Psychology | Environmental Psychology | Psychometrics and Statistics <sup>3</sup> |
|---|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| From domain <sup>4</sup>  | DDD  | DDD                      | DDD /LDS                 | LDS                                  | LDS/SCS   | SCS               | SCS                       | SCS                      | DDD/ LDS/ SCS                             |
| Evidence-based interventions  | X  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   |                           |                          |   |
| Experimental psychopathology  | X  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   |                           |                          |   |
| Clinical neuropsychology – Present and defend your research                                 |  | X                        |                          |                                      |           |                   |                           |                          |   |
| Development, learning and instruction   |  |                          | X                        | X                                    |           |                   |                           |                          |   |
| Complexity, dynamics and development  |  |                          | X                        |                                      |           |                   |                           |                          |   |
| Critical reflection: alternative views on lifespan development                              |  |                          | X                        |                                      | X         |                   |                           |                          |   |
| Economy and society: Critical transitions in Advanced Industrialised Societies              |  |                          |                          |                                      | X         |                   |                           |                          |   |
| Solidarity and social contexts  |  |                          |                          |                                      | X         |                   |                           |                          |   |
| Researching power and leadership  |  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   | X                         |                          |   |
| Understanding working life: Major Theories and Research Trends in Organizational Psychology |  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   | X                         |                          |   |
| Cultural psychology   |  |                          |                          |                                      |           | X                 |                           |                          |   |
| Environmental psychology  |  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   |                           | X                        |   |
| Current topics of intergroup relations in society   |  |                          |                          |                                      |           | X                 |                           |                          |   |
| Multilevel analysis   |  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   |                           |                          | X   |
| Structural equation modelling   |  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   |                           |                          | X   |
| Statistical analysis of social networks   |  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   |                           |                          | X   |
| Statistical modelling of single cases   |  |                          |                          |                                      |           |                   |                           |                          | X   |
| Literature study, in area of specialization   |  | X                        |                          | X                                    |           |                   |                           | X                        |   |

<sup>2</sup> Choose minimally two courses from a column for a specialization label.

<sup>3</sup> For this label, choose courses that have not been chosen as the elective statistics course.

<sup>4</sup> DDD: Deficits, Distress, and Disorders; LDS: Lifespan Development and Socialization; SCS: Sustainability in a Changing Society

## Article 2.4 Study programme - 2017-2018 or earlier

### Article 2.4.1 Specializations

The degree programme prepares for conducting academic research in one of the following specializations:

1. Social and Organizational Psychology
2. Psychometrics and Statistics
3. Sociology
4. Education and Development
5. Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology

### Article 2.4.2 Compulsory content of the degree programme

There are eight compulsory modules for all students, listed in Table 5:

| Module   | ECTS |
|--|------|
| 1. Seminar   | 2.5  |
| 2. Traineeship <sup>5</sup>  | 10   |
| 3. Master's thesis   | 35   |
| 4. Behavioural and Social Sciences: An Introduction (not in 2018-2019) | 5    |
| 5. Reflecting on Science (not in 2018-2019)                            | 5    |
| 6. Applied Statistics  | 10   |
| 7. Integrating Research findings across disciplines (not in 2018-2019) | 5    |
| 8. Starting the first paper (not in 2018-2019)                         | 5    |
| Sum:   | 77.5 |

Furthermore, each specialization has a number of additional compulsory modules: 15 ECTS theoretical modules and 10 ECTS statistical/methodological modules. Also each specialization has a number of optional modules: 17.5 ECTS. These modules are listed in the following tables.

| Module   | ECTS |
|--|------|
| 1. Controversies in Social Psychology (not in 2018-2019)                           | 5    |
| 2. Modules selected from the S&O modules #1-7 in table 11                          | 10   |
| 3. Advanced Research methods in Social and Organizational Psychology (methodology) | 5    |
| 4. Multivariate Models (not in 2018-2019) or Repeated Measures                     | 5    |
| Sum:   | 25   |

---

<sup>5</sup> Students who want to qualify for the post-master programme for health care psychologists will have the option to do a Clinical Science Traineeship of 20 EC, including 5 EC worth of single case methodology.

| Table 7. List of compulsory modules for the specialization<br><i>Psychometrics and Statistics</i> |      |
|---|------|
| Module  | ECTS |
| 1. Matrix Algebra   | 5    |
| 2. Statistical consultation   | 5    |
| 3. Modules selected from the list of statistical or methodological modules (see table 12)         | 15   |
| Sum:  | 25   |

| Table 8. List of compulsory modules for the specialization<br><i>Sociology</i>                             |      |
|--|------|
| Module   | ECTS |
| 1. Solidarity and Social Contexts (not in 2018-2019)   | 7.5  |
| 2. One theory-oriented module from the <i>italic</i> Sociology-specific theoretical courses (see table 13) | 7.5  |
| 3. At least 2 modules from the list of statistical or methodological modules in table 12                   | 10   |
| Sum:   | 25   |

| Table 9. List of compulsory modules for the specialization<br><i>Education and Development</i>   |      |
|--|------|
| Module   | ECTS |
| 1. Development, Learning, and Instruction (not in 2018-2019) OR (Development, learning and instruction and Critical reflection: alternative views on lifespan development) | 10   |
| 2. Complexity, Dynamics, and Development   | 5    |
| 3. Multilevel Analysis   | 5    |
| 4. Repeated Measures   | 5    |
| Sum:   | 25   |

| Table 10a. List of compulsory modules for the specialization<br><i>Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology</i> (for students in the <i>Clinical Psychology</i> track). |      |
|---|------|
| Module  | ECTS |
| 1. Cognitive Models of Psychopathology (not in 2018-2019)   | 5    |
| 2. Cognitive Paradigms and Psychophysiological Measurements in Experimental Psychopathology (not in 2018-2019)  | 5    |
| 3. Evidence-based Interventions   | 5    |
| 4. Repeated Measures  | 5    |
| 5. One module selected from the list of statistical or methodological modules (see table 12)  | 5    |
| Sum:  | 25   |

| Table 10b. List of compulsory modules for the specialization<br><i>Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology</i> (for students in the <i>Clinical Neuropsychology</i> track). |      |
|--|------|
| Module   | ECTS |
| 1. Advanced Clinical Neuropsychology   | 5    |
| 2. Neuropsychological Assessment   | 5    |
| 3. Clinical Neuropsychology – Present and defend your research (only open for students in de Clinical Neuropsychology track)   | 5    |
| 4. Repeated Measures   | 5    |
| 5. Research methods in Clinical Neuropsychology (methodology)<br>Neuropsychology (not in 2018-2019)  |      |
| Sum:   | 25   |

### Article 2.4.3 Optional modules

The student chooses additional modules in order to complete the total study load of 120 ECTS. This can be from his/her own specialization *and/or from other specializations*. The *specialization-specific* optional modules are listed in the tables below.

| Table 11. Optional modules within the specialization<br><i>Social and Organizational Psychology</i> |      |
|---|------|
| Module  | ECTS |
| 1. Personal, Social and Cultural Change   | 5    |
| 2. Advances in Organizational Psychology (not in 2018-2019)   | 5    |
| 3. Cultural Psychology  | 5    |
| 4. Creativity and Innovation in Organizations   | 5    |
| 5. Health Psychology  | 5    |
| 6. Environmental Psychology   | 5    |
| 7. Current Topics of Intergroup Relations in Society  | 5    |
| 8. How to Theorize  | 2.5  |
| 9. Literature study   | 5    |
| 10. Researching Power and Leadership  | 5    |
| 11. Understanding Working Life: Major Theories and Research Trends in Organizational Psychology     | 5    |

| Table 12. Optional modules within the specialization<br><i>Psychometrics and Statistics</i> |      |
|---|------|
| Module  | ECTS |
| 1. Item Response Theory (not in 2018-2019)  | 5    |
| 2. Multilevel Analysis  | 5    |
| 3. Factor Analysis (not in 2018-2019)   | 5    |
| 4. Repeated Measures  | 5    |
| 5. Multivariate Models (not in 2018-2019)   | 5    |
| 6. Probability Theory (not in 2018-2019)  | 5    |
| 7. Statistical Analysis of Social Networks  | 5    |
| 8. Advanced Statistics  | 7.5  |
| 9. Capita Selecta Advanced Statistics   | 2.5  |
| 10. Transparency in Science (not in 2018-2019)  | 5    |
| 12. Structural Equation Modelling   | 5    |
| 13. Literature study  | 5    |

| Table 13. Optional theoretical courses within the specialization<br><i>Sociology</i> |      |
|--|------|
| Module   | ECTS |
| 1. <i>Economy and Society</i> (not in 2018-2019)                                     | 7.5  |
| 2. <i>Sociological Theory Construction and Model Building (Utrecht)</i>              | 7.5  |
| 3. <i>Social Networks-theory and empirics (Utrecht)</i>                              | 7.5  |
| 4. <i>Family and Social Inequality (Utrecht)</i>                                     | 7.5  |
| 5. Literature study  | 5    |

| Table 14. Optional modules within the specialization<br><i>Education and Development</i> |      |
|--|------|
| Module   | ECTS |
| 1. Cognition and Instruction (not in 2018-2019)  | 5    |
| 2. Education and Society (not in 2018-2019)  | 5    |
| 3. Literature study  | 5    |

| table 15. Optional modules within the specialization<br><i>Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology</i> |      |
|---|------|
| Module  | ECTS |
| 1. Clinical Interventions and E-health for Adults and Youth   | 5    |
| 2. Neuropsychology and Psychiatric Disorders  | 5    |
| 3. Building Experiments and Measuring Performance (not in 2018-2019)  | 5    |
| 4. Experimental Skills Advanced (not in 2018-2019)  | 5    |
| 5. Selected Topics Clinical Neuropsychology   | 5    |
| 6. Literature study   | 5    |

In addition to the optional modules listed above, the compulsory modules listed in Article 2.4 may also be chosen as optional modules in other specializations. However, practical modules may require specific background knowledge, as indicated by the module information in the course catalogue.

With regard to the modules *Repeated Measures*, *Multivariate Models*, *Advanced Statistics* and *Capita Selecta Advanced Statistics*, there are restrictions to the way in which these courses can be combined. As *Advanced Statistics* is the joint of the modules *Repeated Measures* and *Multivariate Models*, students who want to do both *Repeated Measures* and *Multivariate Models* have to take the module *Advanced Statistics* instead of the two separate modules. That is, students can follow either:

- a) *Repeated Measures* (but not *Multivariate Models* or *Advanced Statistics*), or
- b) *Multivariate Models* (but not *Repeated Measures* or *Advanced Statistics*), or
- c) *Advanced Statistics* (but not *Repeated Measures* or *Multivariate Models*).

In addition, the module *Capita Selecta Advanced Statistics* (2.5 ECTS) can only be taken in addition to *Advanced Statistics*.

In addition to the courses listed under articles 2.3 and 2.4, the Board of Examiners may permit the student to select one or more modules from a Master's degree programme at another faculty or university.

#### **Article 2.4.4 Traineeship, Master's thesis and Clinical Science Traineeship**

With regard to the following practical modules, passing the examination requires several specific activities:

1. Traineeship
  - a. Writing a traineeship proposal that is judged as sufficient and complete by the specialization coordinator, before the start of the project.
  - b. Work placement at a research institute or department whose area of expertise is closely related to one of the Research Master specializations. This can be at a department or research group at our own faculty or at an external institution.
  - c. Writing a traineeship report that is judged as sufficient and complete (and graded accordingly) by the traineeship supervisors (and co-assessor, if applicable).
2. Master's thesis
  - a. Writing a Master's thesis proposal that is judged as sufficient and complete by the Master's thesis committee, before the start of the project.
  - b. The execution of a research assignment, as specified in the thesis proposal.
  - c. Writing a Master's thesis that is judged as sufficient and complete (and graded accordingly) by the thesis supervisor and co-supervisor.
3. For students from the Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology specialization it is possible to arrange a Clinical science traineeship (20 ECTS) by the student and/or the programme, when
  - I. a traineeship is offered by an institution that is suitable for the student (e.g., w.r.t. language and quality of supervision), and
  - II. the student is invited for the traineeship, for example after application
  - III. the traineeship is approved by the staff member who is responsible for the Clinical Science Traineeship.
    - a. Writing a traineeship proposal that is judged as sufficient and complete by the specialization coordinator, before the start of the project.
    - b. Doing a clinical traineeship.
    - c. Writing a clinical traineeship report.
    - d. Writing an extended report containing a single case treatment study report and / or Critically Appraised Topics (CATs)
    - d. Attending three intervision meetings during the traineeship.
    - e. Doing an additional assignment, consisting of a presentation of a single case treatment study and / or a Critically Appraised Topic (CAT).

## **SECTION 3 EXAMINATIONS AND FINAL ASSESSMENT OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME**

### **Article 3.1 General**

1. The results of an examination are rated on a scale from 1 to 10, with 10 being the best grade.
2. For all modules and individual study parts (i.e. literature studies, traineeship, Master's thesis) grades must be expressed as a multiple of .5 (with the exception of 5.5).
3. For each module, students are given the opportunity to resit the examination if they fail or miss the first examination, or if they pass the first examination, but want to improve their grade. The dates for these exams, if not planned in advance, are to be determined in direct consultation with the student(s).
4. If from an examination for a module several valid results are registered or known, including exemptions, the most recent result will apply.
5. In case of partial exams *only the final grade for a course* is used to determine whether a student graduates (summa) cum laude. That is, possible resits of partial exams are no impediment to graduating (summa) cum laude.
6. At the student's request, the Board of Examiners may grant exemptions for course units up to a maximum of 15 ECTS. It is not possible to be exempted from the requirements of the Traineeship and/or from the Master's thesis.



## **SECTION 4 SELECTION PROCEDURE**

### **Article 4.1 Admission to the degree programme**

1. The admission requirements include the following:
  - a. The student must have a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Sociology or Educational Sciences obtained at the University Groningen or at another Dutch university; or a Bachelor's degree obtained at another programme judged suitable by the Admissions Board.
  - b. Excellent grades (average BA grade at least 7.5 or equivalent).
  - c. Sufficient knowledge of the English language.
  - d. Sufficient knowledge of the sciences relevant to the degree programme.
  - e. Sufficient knowledge of and experience with basic statistical techniques.
  - f. An attitude, motivation and talent fitting the degree programme.
  
2. A student's application for admission to the programme must comprise the following documents:
  - a. A completed admission form;
  - b. A curriculum vitae;
  - c. Certified copies of university diplomas and academic transcripts;
  - d. A letter (1000 words at maximum) in which the student explains why he/she wishes to follow this particular degree programme and what his expectations and ambitions are;
  - e. Two letters of recommendation by experts of relevance (only for students with diplomas from universities other than the University of Groningen);
  - f. Proof of sufficient knowledge of the English language (see 4.1.3).
  - g. (Optional) other documents the student feels may contribute to a positive impression of suitability with regard to the degree programme, e.g. publications, theses etc.

For non-EU students, these documents have to be in the possession of the institute on 1 March preceding the beginning of the degree programme; for EU students this deadline is 1 April. The documents mentioned under a, b, c and d must be written in English. The documents mentioned under e, f, and g must be in Dutch or English.

3. As proof of sufficient knowledge of the English language, as mentioned in Article 4.1.2.f, the following qualifications at least apply:
  - a. Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English or Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English with a minimum score of 185;
  - b. An overall score of 7 or higher with a at least 7 on speaking and writing in the International English Language Testing System (Academic version);
  - c. An overall score of at least 100 with at least a score of 25 on speaking and writing on the internet-based form of the Test of English as a Foreign Language.

An authentic test certificate, no more than two years old, needs to be submitted. The Admissions Board may also accept other evidence (e.g., the successful completion of an English bachelor programme, extended stays abroad) that, according to the Board's judgement, guarantees sufficient knowledge of the English language.

4. Based on the written material sent in by the student, the Admissions Board determines whether the student is invited for an interview. If this is not the case, the student will be notified of the decision and of the reasons of rejection.
5. As an additional requirement, students may be asked to complete a written assignment. Upon successful completion of this assignment, students are invited for an interview with the Admissions Board.
6. During the admission interview, the Admissions Board determines whether the student has the appropriate motivation and aptitude for taking part in the degree programme. The submitted written material is also taken into account.
7. The Admissions Board grants a certificate of admission to those students who comply with the admission requirements.
8. Any student in possession of a certificate of admission is allowed to take part in the degree programme.
9. A certificate of admission is only valid for the academic year immediately following the date on which it was granted.
10. The certificate of admission may include further conditions. These conditions must be met before a student is allowed to start the degree programme. See article 4.2 for further details.
11. The student will be informed of the Board's decision or issued a (conditional) certificate of admission no later than 1 July.
12. Appeal against decisions of the Admissions Board is possible at the Committee of Appeal for the Final Assessments.

## **Article 4.2 Conditional admission**

1. At the request of a candidate who is preparing for the final examination for a Bachelor's degree programme listed in Article 4.1.1, the Admissions Board may admit the candidate to the degree programme on condition that he/she has passed all the modules in the Bachelor's degree programme before 1 September of the year in which the student wants to start the Research Master's degree programme.
2. A student who is admitted to the Research Master's programme on the basis of a Master's degree from another programme, is admitted on the condition that he/she has finished this other programme before 1 September of the year in which he/she wants to start the Research Master's programme.

Appendix 1:  
Graduation guide for the Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences ([available on the student portal](#))