Teaching and Examination Regulations MA

Academic year 2021-2022

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Appendix 1. Degree programme-specific Teaching and Examination Regulations
Appendix 2. Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences Regulations for Bachelor’s and Master’s theses

The Teaching and Examination Regulations (OER: Onderwijs- en Examenregeling) set out the specific rights and obligations that apply to each degree programme taught at the University of Groningen, for both the students and the degree programme. The University-wide section of the Student Charter sets out the rights and obligations that apply to all students.

These Regulations were decreed by the Faculty Board on April 22 of 2021 and approved by the Faculty Council on April 20th of 2021.
1 General provisions

1.1 Applicability
1. These Regulations apply to the teaching, examinations and final assessment of the following Master’s degree programmes and all their tracks, and to all students enrolled in them, for the academic year 2021-2022:

- Educational Sciences (CROHO code 60099);
- Pedagogical Sciences (CROHO code 66607);
- Psychology (CROHO code 60260);
- Sociology (CROHO code 66601);
- Research Master in Behavioural and Social Sciences (CROHO code 60654);
- Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534);
- Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535);
- Language and Culture Education (CROHO code 68536);
- Social Sciences and Humanities Education (CROHO code 68532)

Specific information about the curriculum and design of each of these degree programmes can be found in the appendix:

- Appendix 1 Master’s degree programme in Educational Sciences;
- Appendix 1 Master’s degree programme in Pedagogical Sciences;
- Appendix 1 Master’s degree programme in Psychology;
- Appendix 1 Master’s degree programme in Sociology;
- Appendix 1 Research Master in Behavioural and Social Sciences;
- Appendix 1a Language Teaching in Secondary Education;
- Appendix 1a Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education;
- Appendix 1a Career-preparatory part of the degree programme in Language and Culture Education;
- Appendix 1a Career-preparatory part of the degree programme in Social Sciences and Humanities Education;
- Appendix 1b Subject-specific parts of the degree programme in Language and Culture Education;
- Appendix 1b Subject-specific parts of the degree programme in Social Sciences and Humanities Education.

Hereinafter referred to as Appendix 1 (a and b).

2. The degree programme is provided by the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences of the University of Groningen, hereinafter referred to as the Faculty.

3. These Teaching and Examination Regulations also apply to students of other degree programmes, faculties or institutes of higher education, insofar as they follow course units in the degree programme to which these Regulations apply.

4. Course units that students of the degree programme as referred to in Article follow in other degree programmes or at other faculties or institutes of higher education are subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of that programme, faculty or institute.

5. These Regulations also apply to the admission of students to the Pre-Master’s programmes referred to in Article 2.3 with a view to following the degree programme. In all other respects, the relevant Bachelor’s OER will apply to students who are enrolled in a Pre-Master’s programme.
1.2 Definitions

The following definitions apply to these Regulations:

a. **The Act**: the Higher Education and Research Act (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 and a final assessment leading to the conferral of a university degree;

c. **Degree programme**: the Master's degree programme referred to in Article 1.1 of these Regulations, comprising a coherent set of course units;

d. **Course unit**: a syllabus unit or other part of the degree programme within the meaning of Article 7.3 of the Act, included in OCASYS;

e. **OCASYS**: the University of Groningen’s online course catalogue;

f. **ECTS credit point**: a credit point within the meaning 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;

h. **Pre-Master’s programme**: a programme intended to remedy deficiencies for admission to the degree programme;

i. **Test or examination**: a test of the knowledge, understanding and skills of students, including an assessment of the results;

j. **Final assessment**: the final assessment for the Master’s degree which is considered to be passed once all the requirements of the entire Master’s degree programme have been satisfied;

k. **Academic year**: the time period that starts on 1 September and ends on 31 August of the following year;

l. **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, or starting on a date to be determined by the Board of the University and ending on 31 August;

m. **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;

n. **Examiner**: a person appointed by the Board of Examiners to set examinations and determine their results;

o. **Admissions Board**: the board that has decision-making powers in matters concerning admission to the degree programme on behalf of the Faculty Board;

p. **Programme Committee**: the consultative and advisory body that fulfils the duties referred to in Article 9.18 of the Act;

q. **Track**: A specialization within the degree programme that has been approved by the Board of the University as such;

r. **Practical**: a practical exercise, as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, in one of the following forms:

   - A Master’s thesis;
   - a written assignment, paper or draft;
   - a research assignment;
   - participation in fieldwork or an excursion;
   - completion of a placement;
   - participation in another educational activity designed to teach certain skills.

s. **Extraordinary circumstances**: circumstances as defined in Article 7.51 of the Act, which have to be taken into consideration in the decision as defined in Article 5.4.2. The implementation of Article 7.51 of the Act is set out in the Regulations governing the UG Graduation Fund. In any case, these regulations define extraordinary circumstances as: disability or chronic illness, illness, pregnancy and delivery, extraordinary family circumstances, an insufficiently feasible degree programme, students with elite sport status (as issued by the elite sport coordinator), students with the status of ‘top student entrepreneur’ (as issued by the UGCE) and membership of a consultative participation body.

s. **Academic integrity**: information about academic integrity and the related procedures can be found on the UG website: [https://www.rug.nl/about-](https://www.rug.nl/about-)
All other definitions will have the meaning that the Act ascribes to them.
2 Admission

2.1 Entry requirements

1. Students with a Dutch or foreign certificate of higher education that indicates that they have knowledge, understanding and skills at the level of a university Bachelor’s degree (or a Master’s degree for the Teaching in Secondary Education programmes) and who can demonstrate the following specific knowledge, understanding and skills will be admitted to the degree programme.

2. Holders of a certificate from the Bachelor’s degree programme in Pedagogical Sciences of the University of Groningen or from another Dutch university are expected to have the knowledge, understanding and skills referred to in Article 2.1.1 and will be admitted to the Master’s degree programme in Pedagogical Sciences on that basis.

b. Holders of a certificate from the Bachelor’s degree programme in Sociology of the University of Groningen or from another Dutch university are expected to have the knowledge, understanding and skills referred to in Article 2.1.1 and will be admitted to the Master’s degree programme in Sociology on that basis.

c. Holders of a certificate from the Bachelor’s degree programme in Pedagogical Sciences of the University of Groningen are expected to have the knowledge, understanding and skills referred to in Article 2.1.1 and will be admitted to the Master’s degree programme in Educational Sciences on that basis.

3. Admission to the Master’s degree programme in Psychology is arranged by means of a selection procedure, of which both the conditions for admissions and the procedure itself are described in Appendix 1.

4. The regulations for admission to the Master’s degree programmes in Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534), Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535), Language and Culture Education (CROHO code 68536) and Social Sciences and Humanities Education (CROHO code 68532) are set out in Appendix 1.

5. Admission to the Research Master in Behavioural and Social Sciences is arranged by means of a selection procedure, of which both conditions for admission and the procedure itself are described in Appendix 2.

6. There are two starting dates per academic year, namely September 1st and February 1st of each year. However, the Research Master in Behavioural and Social Sciences (CROHO 60654), the tracks Clinical Psychology and Clinical Forensic Psychology and Victimology of the Master Psychology (CROHO 60260), the track Deaf Blindness of the Master Pedagogical Sciences (CROHO 66607), Sociology (CROHO 66610) and the Master’s degree programmes in Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534) and Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535) have one starting date per academic year, namely September 1st of each year.

7. The Admissions Board will decide in cases where a candidate does not have a Bachelor’s degree as referred to in Article 2.1.2 a-d or does not satisfy the admission requirements listed in Appendix 1.

8. In extraordinary circumstances, the Admissions Board may grant a student who is preparing for the final assessment of the Bachelor’s degree programme admission to their Master’s degree programme for the academic year 2022-2023. If applicable, the conditions are laid down in appendix 1 / 1b.
2.2 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 a Dutch or English language test, depending on the language of the chosen degree programme, to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Admissions Board.

2. The Dutch language proficiency requirement can in any event be met by passing the state examination in Dutch as a Second Language (NT2).

3. The English language proficiency requirements are listed in Appendix 1.

2.3 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 the Pre-Master’s programme in Psychology are registered in the Bachelor’s degree programme in Psychology as referred to in Article 1.1.1 of the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences Teaching and Examination Regulations for Bachelor’s degree programmes. Students who enrol in the Pre-Master’s programme in Sociology are registered in the Bachelor’s degree programme in Sociology as referred to in Article 1.1.1 of the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences Teaching and Examination Regulations for Bachelor’s degree programmes.

3. The content and the student workload of the Pre-Master’s programmes are determined by the Admissions Board on a case-by-case basis.

4. The Admissions Board of the desired Master’s degree programme will decide whether a student is admitted to a Pre-Master’s programme.

5. Admission to the Pre-Master’s programmes takes place once a year, at the start of the programme in the first semester.

6. The Board of Examiners of the Bachelor’s degree programme as referred to in Article 1.1.1 of the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences Teaching and Examination Regulations for Bachelor’s degree programmes has the authority to decide in matters concerning course units in the Pre-Master’s programme.

7. A Pre-Master’s programme must be completed within two years.

8. The stipulations concerning Pre-Master’s programmes in the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees apply.

2.4 Admissions Board
1. The Admissions Board has the power to take decisions on behalf of the Faculty Board in matters concerning admission to the degree programme.

2. The Admissions Board consists of:
   - a member who acts as the chair, preferably selected from the professors who teach in the degree programme;
   - one member / two members selected from the other academic staff who teach in the degree programme.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2.4.2, for the Master’s degree programmes in Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534), Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535), Language and Culture Education (CROHO code 68536) and Social Sciences and Humanities Education (CROHO code 68532), one member representing each school subject will be appointed
by the faculty that teaches the subject-specific component of the school subject in question.

4. The study advisor for the degree programme (or an equivalent member of Faculty staff) will be appointed as an advisory member.

5. The selection will be made by the Faculty Board, which will also determine the admission requirements.

2.5 Entrance examination: Criteria

1. Bearing in mind the admissions procedure for the degree programme within the meaning of Article 2.1.1, the Admissions Board will investigate whether the candidate satisfies the conditions concerning knowledge, expertise and skills.

2. When conducting its investigation, the Board will also consider the motivation and ambitions of the candidate concerning the degree programme in question, as well as the candidate’s proficiency in the language in which the programme will be taught.

2.6 Entrance examination: Times

The deadlines for admission requests, admission dates, and dates and times of entrance examinations are set out in Appendix 1.

2.7 Re-registration for a Master’s degree programme

Students who were admitted to the Master’s degree programme in a previous year can re-register as of September or February. Registration for the Research Master in Behavioural and Social Sciences (CROHO60654), tracks Clinical Psychology and Clinical Forensic Psychology and Victimology of the Master Psychology (CROHO 60260), the track Deaf Blindness of the Master Pedagogical Sciences (CROHO 66607), Sociology (CROHO 66610) and the Master’s degree programmes in Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534) and Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535) in such cases can only take place as of September 1st.
3 Content and structure of the degree programme

3.1 Aim and learning outcomes of the degree programme

1. The aims and learning outcomes of the degree programme are set out in Appendix 1.

2. The subject-specific learning outcomes of the various Master’s degree programmes are set out in Appendix 1.

3.2 Type of degree programme

1. The degree programme is full time.

2. Notwithstanding Article 3.2.1, the Master’s degree programmes in Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534) and Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535) as well as the career-preparatory parts of the degree programmes in Language and Culture Education (CROHO code 68536) and Social Sciences and Humanities Education (CROHO code 68532) are offered in both full-time and part-time variants.

3.3 Language

1. The degree programmes are taught in Dutch, with the exception of the Research Master in Behavioural and Social Sciences, which is taught completely in English.

2. Notwithstanding Article 3.3.1, one or more course units or tracks in the Dutch-taught degree programmes may be taught in English in line with the University of Groningen Code of Conduct: Languages Used in Teaching and Examinations. The course units and tracks concerned are listed in Appendix 1/1b.

3.4 Student workload

1. The Master’s degree programmes in Educational Sciences, Pedagogical Sciences, Psychology, Sociology, Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534) and Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535) have a student workload of 60 ECTS credits.

2. The Master’s degree programmes in Language and Culture Education (CROHO code 68536) and Social Sciences and Humanities Education (CROHO code 68532) and the Research Master in Behavioural and Social Sciences (code 60654) have a student workload of 120 ECTS credits.

3. The student workload is expressed in whole ECTS credits. Course units may have a workload that is expressed in half ECTS credits.

3.5 Tracks

1. Appendix 1/1b sets out the content and modes of instruction of the compulsory course units in the various tracks in more detail.

2. All course units and their modes of instruction are listed in the digital University course catalogue OCASYS.

3. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide teaching and 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 in the opinion of the Board of Examiners.

3.6 Participation in course units

1. Students may participate in course units of the degree programme if they register in good time via Progress Portaal.
2. The maximum number of students for each course unit is listed in OCASYS.

3. Students can also register for course units at the Education Office during the first week of the period in which the course unit is taught. Students who wish to register for a practical after the start of the course unit may only do so upon the approval of the lecturer.

4. Admission to course units with limited capacity is arranged according to the order of registration. Students who are registered for the degree programme will be given priority for the course units in their programme.

5. For a number of course units of the various tracks additional provisions may apply with regard to the prior knowledge that is desired or required to be able to successfully participate in the relevant course unit. These provisions are mentioned in Appendix 1 and/or Appendix 1b.

3.7 Electives

1. Following a student’s substantiated request, 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 part thereof) and the level of the course units followed.
### Examinations and final assessment of the degree programme; general provisions

#### 4.1 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 a 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 cluster of degree programmes) in question.

3. The Board of Examiners must comprise at least:
   a. One member who is a lecture in the degree programme;
   b. One member from outside the degree programme.

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 will draw up the Rules and Regulations for the Board of Examiners.

#### 4.2 Assessment Plan
An Assessment Plan has been approved for each degree programme 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 ETCS, and the learning outcomes of each course unit;
3. the relationship between curriculum components and learning outcomes;
4. the mode of assessment used and the assessment moments for each course unit;
5. the test design, assessment procedures and assessment criteria used;
6. a list of who is responsible for the implementation of the various components of the assessment policy;
7. the manner of regular evaluation.

#### 4.3 Examination: general
1. Every course unit has a related examination.

2. An examination can comprise a number of partial exams. The results of these partial exams together determine the examination result.

3. Examinations, both interim and final, provide students with the information they need to assess whether they have achieved or will achieve the required learning outcomes.

4. The results of an examination are given as pass or fail, in numbers on a scale of 1 to 10, expressed as 6 or more for a pass and 5 or less for a fail.

5. If a student has completed all the compulsory parts of a course unit to the best of their ability but has still not passed, then the Board of Examiners may decide to request the examiner to give them the opportunity to take a supplementary or replacement test.

#### 4.4 Registering for course units and exams
1. Students must register for all course units they wish to follow via Progress Portaal before the start of the block in which the course unit is taught.
2. Students can also register for course units at the Education Office during the first week of the block in which the course unit is taught.

3. Students who are not registered for a course unit are not permitted to take the examination for this course unit.

4. Students who register for a course unit in the degree programme in accordance with Article 3.6 of the OER are automatically registered for the next examination opportunity for that course unit.

5. Students who fail this examination will automatically be registered for the next resit. Students who have **not taken** the first examination will not be automatically registered for the resit.

6. Students can register for up to four course units per block.

7. Students may register for more than four course units upon presentation to the Education Office of a study plan that they have drawn up in consultation with the study advisor.

### 4.5 Compulsory order of examinations

The examinations for some course units may not be taken before the examination for a specific other course unit has been passed. Appendix 1 sets out when this is the case.

### 4.6 Examination frequency and periods

1. A student who registers for a course unit is automatically registered for the examination for that course unit.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4.6.1, students can register and deregister for examinations during certain periods to be further defined.

3. The opportunity to take examinations for the course units in the tracks referred to in Article 3.5 is provided twice in the academic year in which the course unit in question is offered.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4.6.3, the opportunity to sit an examination for a course unit in the Psychology degree programme that has not been taught in a certain academic year will only be provided once in that year.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4.6.3, the degree programmes in Sociology, Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534), Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535), Language and Culture Education (CROHO code 68536) and Social Sciences and Humanities Education (CROHO code 68532) offer individual students the opportunity to sit an additional examination if they have yet to pass one last course unit in the final Master’s assessment and no more regular resits are offered for this course unit in the current academic year, which would mean that the student in question would be unable to complete their Master’s degree within this year. This only applies to course units for which no examinations are scheduled in the first block of the next academic year.

6. Examinations for course units that are part of a previously passed final assessment as referred to in Article 6.1 may not be taken again.

7. Students may resit an examination for a course unit that is no longer offered at least twice during the first year after it has been removed from the curriculum.
4.7 Assessment of placement or research assignment

1. The assessment of a placement or research assignment will be conducted by the on-site supervisor and a supervisor from the degree programme who will be appointed as examiner by the Board of Examiners. The supervisor from the degree programme will in all cases be the official examiner.

2. Notwithstanding Article 4.7.1, placements followed within the frameworks of the Master’s degree programmes in Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534), Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535), Language and Culture Education (CROHO code 68536) and Social Sciences and Humanities Education (CROHO code 68532) are always assessed by an examiner from the degree programme.

4.8 Form of examinations

1. Examinations will be taken in the manner stated in OCASYS.

2. At a student’s request, the Board of Examiners may allow an examination to be taken in a form different from that set out in OCASYS.

3. Sample exam questions of each written examination, including answer keys/models, will be made available to practise with. These mock exams will be representative of the real examination in terms of form, content and level. In addition, an indication will be given of the size (i.e. the number of questions for each question type) of the real examination. The number of sample questions must be such that the transparency of the examination is guaranteed.

4. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide teaching and 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 in the opinion of the Board of Examiners.

4.9 Oral examinations

1. Unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise, an oral examination may only be taken by one student at a time. A second examiner may attend the oral exam at the request of the student and/or the examiner.

2. Oral examinations are public, unless the Board of Examiners or the examiner stipulate otherwise or the student objects to the public nature of the examination.

4.10 Marking of examinations and publication of marks

1. After an oral examination, the examiner will assess the examination immediately and provide the student with a statement upon their request. The examiner will provide the Faculty’s administration department with the necessary details for registration of the result in Progress Portaal.

2. The examiner will mark a written examination with open-ended questions within 10 working days and a multiple-choice examination within five working days of the day on which it was taken, and will provide the Faculty’s administration department with the necessary details for registration of the result in Progress Portaal.

3. The written exam sheet with the results of an examination will inform the student of their right of inspection, as stipulated in Article 4.12.1, as well as of the possibility of an appeal to the Board of Appeal for Examinations.

4. If an examination is taken in a form other than oral or written, the Board of Examiners will determine in advance how and when students will receive written confirmation of the result.
5. Students can lodge an appeal against the results of an examination with the Central Portaal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights (CLRS) within 6 weeks of the date on which the result was announced.

4.11 Validity of course units
1. Completed course units remain valid indefinitely.

2. a. Contrary to the provisions of Article 4.11.1, the Board of Examiners may decide to require a student to take a supplementary or substitute examination for a course unit taken more than five years previously before allowing that student to progress to the final assessment, if the student’s knowledge is demonstrably outdated.
   b. In the event of extraordinary circumstances, the term of validity will be extended to include the period during which the student in question receives support from the Graduation Fund.

3. Partial examinations and assignments passed within a course unit that have not been successfully completed will lapse at the end of the academic year in which they were passed unless Appendix 1 states otherwise.

4. Article 4.11.3 will not apply if it has serious negative consequences for the feasibility of the degree programme. The applicability of the article is set out in Appendix 1.

4.12 Right of inspection
1. On request, students have the right to inspect their marked work during a period of six weeks after the results of a written examination have been made known.

2. Within the time frame stipulated in Article 4.12.1, any participant in the examination may request to be allowed to peruse the examination paper and the assessment criteria.

3. The inspection or perusal session will enable students to peruse all examination questions and answers, ask questions to the responsible lecturer or their subject expert substitute, and take notes, which they may take home – all this without prejudice to the provisions with regard to the public nature of examination questions.

4. The Board of Examiners can determine that this inspection or perusal will take place at a certain place and at two set times at least. The place and times must be announced at least five days in advance. If the person concerned can show that they were prevented by force majeure from attending at the indicated places and times, they will be offered another opportunity, if possible within the period stated in Article 4.12.1.

4.13 Master’s thesis
1. A Master’s thesis can in principle be used for only one UG degree programme. Full or partial exemption for a degree programme’s Master’s thesis may be granted by the Board of Examiners on the basis of a Master’s thesis written for another degree programme.

2. Master’s theses are stored by the Faculty Board for a period of at least 7 years.

3. Students will be given the opportunity to write a Master’s thesis at least twice per academic year.

4. The period(s) during which students can write theses will be published in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS.

5. The examiner, in consultation with the student concerned, sets the marking period for the final version of the Master’s thesis. The examiner determines the result within 10
working days and provides the faculty’s administration with the necessary data for registration of the result in Progress Portaal. The examiner can only deviate from the provision in this article in consultation with the student concerned and in coordination with the Examinations Committee.

6. If by the end of the period referred to in Article 4.13.4 the assessors are of the opinion that the Master’s thesis cannot be awarded a pass mark, the student will be given one opportunity to adjust the work in line with what is agreed upon with the supervisor in order to be awarded a pass mark within a timeframe defined by the degree programme.

7. More detailed regulations on the design, content, timeframe and assessment of the Master’s thesis can be found in the Graduation Regulations/Thesis Regulations that accompany the Teaching and Examination Regulations of the degree programme (see Appendix 1). These Graduation Regulations are a more detailed version of the Faculty Regulations for Bachelor’s and Master’s theses included in Appendix 2.

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. The copyrights of the student do not affect the rights of third parties with regard to the information, data and material used.
5 Examinations and final assessment of the degree programme; specific provisions

5.1 Examination provisions
1. Notwithstanding the stipulations of Article 4.6, the Board of Examiners may decide to grant individual students a specific examination provision if not doing so would lead to an ‘exceptional instance of unfairness of an overriding nature’.

2. Requests for individual examination provisions, including documentary evidence, must be submitted to the Board of Examiners as soon as possible.

5.2 Examinations and functional impairments
1. Students with a functional impairment will be given the opportunity to take examinations in a form that will compensate as far as possible for their individual functional impairment. If necessary, the Board of Examiners will seek expert advice from a student counsellor of the Student Service Centre (SSC) or other experts 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 will comply with the facilities permitted by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme for which the student is registered.

5.3 Exemptions
1. At a student’s request, the Board of Examiners, having discussed the matter with the examiner in question, may grant exemption from an examination on condition that the student:
   a. has completed part of a university or higher vocational degree in the Netherlands or abroad that is equivalent in content and level;
   b. can demonstrate by work experience that they have 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.

5.4 Request for additional resit
1. Students may submit a request for an additional resit to the Board of Examiners for course units other than the Master’s thesis.

2. Such requests may be granted if the examinee did not pass the examination in question due to special circumstances, if the examination is part of the compulsory programme, and if not granting an additional resit would result in unacceptable study delay.

3. In cases where Article 5.4.2 does not apply, the following criteria apply to granting a request for an additional resit for the last course unit in the degree programme:
   i. the course unit in question must be the last course unit that must be passed;
   ii. the course unit is part of the compulsory educational programme;
   iii. not granting the request for an additional resit would result in study delay of at least one semester;
   iv. the student must have participated in the last two regular examination opportunities for the course unit in question or special circumstances must have prevented the student to participate in the last two regular examination opportunities;
   v. passing the course unit in question is the only possible way to satisfy the requirements of the final assessment.
5.5 **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.

5.6 **Open Degree Programme**

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.

5.7 **Cheating**

1. Cheating is an act or omission by a student designed to partly or wholly hinder the forming of a correct assessment of their own or someone else’s knowledge, understanding and skills.

2. Cheating also includes plagiarism, which means copying someone else’s or a student’s own work without correct reference to the source.

3. In addition, cheating also includes the provision of incorrect information in order to obtain certain possibilities, facilities or provisions related to examination, assessment or participation in course units within the degree programme.

4. In order to be able to assess the Master’s thesis and other written assignments, students are obliged to allow a plagiarism check by means of a plagiarism scanner engaged by the university. Each student is individually responsible for maintaining academic integrity.

5. If a student cheats, the Board of Examiners may exclude that student from participation in one or more examinations or final assessments for a maximum of one year, or decide to apply a different, suitable measure.

6. In the event of serious cheating, the Board of Examiners can advise the Board of the University to permanently terminate a student’s registration in the degree programme.

7. The Board of Examiners sets out its course of action in the event of cheating in its Rules and Regulations.

5.8 **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. The stipulations in the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners also apply.

5.9 **Termination of registration (Iudicium Abeundi)**

1. In extraordinary cases of reprehensible behaviour and/or statements made by a student, the Board of the University may, on request of the Board of Examiners or the Faculty Board, terminate that student’s registration.

2. The Board of the University will not make a decision as referred to in Article 5.9.1 until after the student in question has been heard about the proposed decision, any interests of the student and the institution have been carefully assessed and it has been proven reasonable to assume that the student’s conduct and/or statements prove them to be unsuitable for one or more of the professions for which they are being trained in their
degree programme or for the practical preparation for that 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 refusal of registration] as approved by the Nederlandse Federatie van Universitaire Medische Centra [Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres] on November 1st 2010.

3. The stipulations in the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees apply.
6 Final assessment

6.1 Final assessment
1. The degree programme is concluded with a final assessment.

2. 
   a. 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. The results of the final assessment are an indication that the student has acquired the necessary academic training. The Board of Examiners will issue a degree certificate indicating this.
   b. If a student fails to meet the relevant deadlines for approval of the study programme referred to under a., the Board of Examiners may postpone the graduation date. This date may be in the academic year following the year in which the last examination was passed.

3. 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 inasmuch as the marks for the relevant examinations provide a reason for doing so.

4. By determining the result of the final assessment, the Board of Examiners also commits itself to a speedy processing of the degree certificate ceremony.

5. 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 6.1.2, and not the date on which the degree certificate is presented to the student.

6. Students who wish to postpone the date of graduation due to extra examinations that still need to be taken 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 successfully passed final assessment as referred to in Article 6.1.1, 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 seven years.

6.2 Course units completed elsewhere
1. A Master’s degree can only be awarded if at least two-thirds of the course units of the student’s programme were offered by the degree programme during the student’s period of registration as a student at the University of Groningen.

2. Specifically for double degree Master’s degree programmes offered in collaboration with a university abroad, a Master’s degree can only be awarded if at least one quarter of the course units of the student’s programme were offered by the degree programme during the student’s period of registration as a student at the University of Groningen.

3. The degree programmes Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534) and Teaching Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535) are excepted from Article 6.2.1. For these programmes a Master’s degree can only be awarded if at least half of the course units of the student’s programme were offered by the degree programme during the student’s period of registration as a student at the University of Groningen.

6.3 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 a degree programme, they will receive only one
degree certificate. Article 11.2 applies.

2. The Board of Examiners will issue an International Diploma Supplement with each
degree certificate.

3. If relevant, the results obtained in the Master’s Honours Programme will also be
listed on the Diploma Supplement that accompanies the Master’s degree certificate.

6.4 Degree
1. Students who have satisfied all the requirements of the final assessment will be awarded
the degree of ‘Master of Science’.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 6.3.1, students who have satisfied all the
requirements of the final assessment for the following Master’s degree programmes or
tracks will be awarded the degree of ‘Master of Arts’:
   a. Language Teaching in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68534)
   b. Language and Culture Education (CROHO code 68536)
   c. The following tracks within the Master’s degree programme in Teaching Social
      Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education (CROHO code 68535):
         - History (track number 8543);
         - Religion and Life Philosophy (track number 1511);
         - Philosophy (track number 8545).
   d. The following tracks within the Master’s degree programme in Social Sciences and
      Humanities Education (CROHO code 68532):
         - History (track number 8554);
         - Religion and Life Philosophy (track number 8556);
         - Philosophy (track number 8553).

3. The degree awarded will be registered on the degree certificate.

6.5 Honours predicate (‘Cum laude’/‘Summa cum laude’)
1. The Board of Examiners will determine whether or not the Master’s degree certificate
will be awarded an honours predicate.

2. There are two types of honours predicate: ‘Cum laude’ and ‘Summa cum laude’. The
following conditions apply:
   1. For ‘Cum laude’:
      i. The Master’s thesis must have been awarded a non-rounded off mark of at
         least 8;
      ii. The non-rounded off weighted average for all course units, excluding the
          Master’s thesis, within the examination programme approved by the Board of
          Examiners must be at least 8.
   2. For ‘Summa cum laude’:
      i. The Master’s thesis must have been awarded a non-rounded off mark of at
         least 9;
      ii. The non-rounded off weighted average for all course units, excluding the
          Master’s thesis, within the examination programme approved by the Board of
          Examiners must be at least 9.

3. No honours are awarded if the student workload of the exemptions in ECTS credits is
more than half the total number of ECTS for the degree programme.

4. Honours may only be awarded if the examinations for all course units except one were
taken only once. One course unit may be resat, and only one resit may be taken for this
course unit.
5. Honours as referred to in Article 6.4.2 may only be awarded if no resit opportunity was used for the Master’s thesis.

6. Honours may only be awarded if no single course unit was awarded a non-rounded off mark lower than 7.

7. In certain circumstances, the Board of Examiners may depart from the provisions set out in Articles 6.4.2–6.
7  Study progress supervision

7.1 Study progress administration
1. The Faculty Board will register individual results for students.

2. The Faculty Board will provide each student with a digital overview of their results.

7.2 Study progress supervision
The Faculty Board will organize the introduction and the study progress supervision of 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.
8  Transitional and final provisions

8.1 Amendments
1. Any amendments to these Regulations will, following a recommendation by and/or upon the approval of the Programme Committee and 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 in question 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 students.

8.2 Publication
1. The Faculty Board will duly publish these Regulations, the Rules and Regulations formulated by the Board of Examiners, and any amendments to these documents.

2. Copies of the Teaching and Examination Regulations are available from the Faculty Office. These documents can also be found on the Faculty website through the Student Portal (students) or My University (staff).

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

2. The Faculty Board evaluates the teaching in the degree programme via:
   - the annual Education Monitor that is discussed during the annual education interviews with the degree programme management;
   - The annual reports that are discussed during annual meetings with the Programme Committee and the Board of Examiners;
   - Course unit evaluations, the National Student Survey, the National Alumni Survey and the International Student Barometer;
   - Student and lecturer panels.

8.4 Date of commencement
These Regulations will take effect on September 1st 2021.