

# Teaching and Examination Regulations: Bachelor

Academic year 2025-2026

FGMW-25-F041

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Appendix 1: Degree programme-specific Teaching and Examination Regulations

Appendix 2: Degree programme-specific Assessment Plan

Appendix 3: 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 24 04 2025 and approved by the Faculty Council on 15 04 2025.

# 1 General provisions

## 1.1 Applicability of the Teaching and Examination Regulations

1. These Regulations apply to the teaching, examinations and final assessments of the Bachelor's degree programmes in Pedagogical Sciences (Central Register of Higher Education Programmes (CROHO)/Register of Institutions and Study Programmes (RIO)-code 56607), Psychology (CROHO/RIO-code 56604) and Sociology (CROHO/RIO-CODE 56601), hereinafter each referred to as '**the degree programme**' and to all students who are registered for these degree programmes (including all their variants).

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

Appendix 1. Bachelor's degree programme in Pedagogical Sciences;

Appendix 1: Bachelor's degree programme in AOLB (double degree programme);

Appendix 1. Bachelor's degree programme in Psychology;

Appendix 1. Bachelor's degree programme in Sociology;

Appendix 1. Educational Minor Programme (Master's degree programmes Teacher Education).

hereinafter referred to as Appendix 1.

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 Regulations also apply to students of other degree programmes, faculties or educational institutes, insofar as they follow course units in one of the degree programmes (including Minors) offered by the Faculty to which these Regulations apply.
4. Any students who follow course units of Minors within other degree programmes, faculties or educational institutes are subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of that programme, faculty or institute.
5. These Regulations also apply to those students who registered for the degree programme in order to follow a pre-master's programme, as referred to in Article 8.6.1.

## 1.2 Definitions

The following definitions apply to these Regulations:

- a. **academic year**: a period of time that starts on 1 September and ends on 31 August of the following year.
- b. **admissions Board**: the board that gives final decisions on admission to the degree programme, on behalf of the Faculty Board.
- c. **binding (negative) study advice**: negative study advice that is binding for the student, involving rejection from the degree programme-in accordance with Article 7.8b.3 of the Act.
- d. **board of Examiners**: an independent body charged 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 examination have been met.
- e. **course unit**: a teaching unit of the degree programme within the meaning of Section 7.4 of the Act.
- f. **definitive study advice**: study advice that is given once, which can involve rejection, -in accordance with Article 7.8b.1 and 7.8b.2 of the Act.
- g. **degree programme**: the Bachelor's degree programme referred to in Article 1.1 of these Regulations, comprising a coherent set of course units.
- h. **ECTS**: a credit within the meaning of Article 7.4 of the Act. The student workload of each course unit of a degree programme is expressed in ECTS credit points, whereby 1 ECTS

- credit point is equivalent to a student workload of 28 hours.
- i. examiner: a person appointed by the Board of Examiners to set examinations and determine their results.
  - j. extraordinary circumstances: circumstances as referred to in Article 7.51 of the Act, which must be taken into account when reaching a decision as referred to in Articles 5.4 and 9.9. Within the University of Groningen, the implementation of Article 7.51 of the Act is stipulated in the University of Groningen's Student Support Fund Regulations. In these Regulations, extraordinary circumstances include, in any case, an impairment or 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), membership of a consultative participation body.
  - k. final assessment: the final assessment for the Bachelor's degree, which is considered to be passed if all the requirements of the entire Bachelor's degree programme have been satisfied.
  - l. first year of the degree programme<sup>1</sup>: the first period in the degree programme, with a student workload of 60 ECTS.
  - m. major: all compulsory course units in the first, second and third years of the degree programme.
  - n. matching: the procedure regarding activities and issuing programme recommendations, 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.
  - o. minor component: the space available for students to specialize within the degree programme.
  - p. minor package: a coherent set of course units that can be followed within the Minor component.
  - q. OCASYS: the University of Groningen's online Course Catalogue.
  - r. practical: a practical exercise, as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, in one of the following forms:
    - a thesis;
    - a written assignment, paper or draft;
    - a research project;
    - participation in fieldwork or an excursion;
    - completion of a placement;
    - participation in another educational activity designed to teach certain skills.
  - s. preliminary study advice: a preliminary study advice based on a study progress overview, issued to students halfway through the academic year in the first year of the degree programme.
  - t. pre-Master's programme: a bridging programme that enables students to be admitted to Master's degree programmes.
  - u. programme Committee: the consultative participation body and advisory body that performs the tasks as described in Article 9.18 of the Act.
  - v. second and third years of the degree programme<sup>2</sup>: the part of the Bachelor's degree programme that follows the first year of the degree programme.
  - w. 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.
  - x. student: a person registered at the University of Groningen for the purpose of following course units and/or taking examinations leading to the conferral of a university degree;
  - y. study progress overview: a written overview of results with the associated ECTS credit points, which is sent to students by email.
  - z. test or examination: a test of the knowledge, understanding and skills of students, including an assessment of the results.
  - aa. the Act: the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW: *Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek*).
  - bb. vwo-diploma: the diploma awarded upon completion of Dutch pre-university education, in accordance with Article 2.58(2)(a) or Article 2.80(2)(a) of the Secondary Education Act 2020.

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

<sup>1</sup> For the AOLB, the term 'the first year of the degree programme' stands for the course units that comprise the first and a half years of the degree programme.

<sup>2</sup> For the AOLB, the term 'second and third years of the degree programme', stands for the course units that comprise the rest of the degree programme.

## 2 Educational prerequisites and admission

### 2.1 Admission to the programme

1. A VWO diploma (with any profile) grants admission to the degree programme.
2. In addition to the certificates that grant admission to the degree programme according to the Act, holders of an equivalent certificate as listed in Appendix 1 will also be granted admission to the degree programme.
3. Article 2.3.3 applies to holders of a certificate as referred to in Article 2.1.2 (N.B. For English-taught degree programmes only).

### 2.2 Admission to the programme based on a HBO, University or Open University propaedeutic certificate

A successfully completed first year of a Bachelor's programme followed at a University of Applied Sciences (HBO), University or Open University grants access to the degree programme after having demonstrated sufficient knowledge at pre-university (VWO) final examination level of Mathematics and English, in accordance with the admission requirements for VWO graduates.

### 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 a Dutch or English language test, depending on the language of the chosen degree programme, to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Board.
2. The Dutch language proficiency requirement that applies to the Dutch-taught Bachelor's degree programmes listed in Article 1.1 and the Dutch-taught variant of the Bachelor's degree programme in Psychology will, in any case, be met by passing the national examination in Dutch as a Foreign Language (NT2/B2).
3. The English language proficiency requirements that apply to the English-taught variant of the Bachelor's degree programme in Psychology are listed in Appendix 1.

### 2.4 Entrance examination

1. Students who do not meet the qualification requirements as referred to in Articles 2.1 and 2.2 may participate in an entrance examination (colloquium doctum), in accordance with Article 7.29 of the Act.
2. Students who wish to take the entrance examination must be aged 21 or over on the date on which the degree programme starts. This requirement can be waived if the student holds a diploma that was issued outside the Netherlands. The age requirements can also be waived if the student concerned had refugee status and for this reason is unable to present a degree certificate.
3. The entrance examination refers to the following subjects at VWO level:  
For the degree programme in Pedagogical Sciences: Mathematics and English  
For the degree programme in Psychology: Mathematics, English and Biology  
For the degree programme in Sociology: Mathematics and English.  
The provisions of Article 2.3 also 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 entrance examination was taken.

## 2.5 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. a member, also the chair, selected from the professors who teach in the degree programme;
  - b. one member/two members selected from among the other academic staff who teach in the degree programme.
3. The study advisor for the degree programme (or an equivalent member of Faculty staff), who acts as an advisory member and also secretary.
4. Nominations are made by the Faculty Board, which also determines the admission requirements.

## 2.6 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 re-register for the same degree programme.
3. In addition to this intake date, there are up to three application dates on which registration may take place upon the approval of the Admissions Board, namely 1 November, 1 February and 1 April.
4. Requests for admission after September 1<sup>st</sup> can be submitted to the Admissions Board by email. See Appendix 1 for the email address. A decision regarding this application will be taken within 4-6 weeks.

## 2.7 Matching

1. Prior to the first enrolment for the study programme, a prospective student is given the opportunity to participate in matching activities of the study programme as described in Appendix 1. After participating in the matching activities, the prospective student will receive a programme recommendation.
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. University of Groningen students who wish to enroll during the academic year for the first year of the degree programme in accordance with Article 2.6 and who meet the educational requirements, are given the opportunity to participate in intermediate matching activities as described in Appendix 1.

## 3 Content and structure of the degree programme

### 3.1 Aims and learning outcomes of the degree programme

The aims of the degree programme are set out in Appendix 1. The learning outcomes are set out in the Assessment Programme, in Appendix 2.

### 3.2 Conducting research

1. Students who conduct research as part of the degree programme do so in accordance with relevant legislation, the Dutch code of conduct for academic integrity and the requirements of ethical research.
2. During the entire research process, students adhere to policies and procedures that apply under the Faculty data management policy.
3. In general, the student holds the copyright on any theses or other independently written assignments that are intended to test their knowledge, understanding, and skills. If anyone else wishes to use the student's thesis or written work, the student must first give permission for them to do so. The University must be free to perform these procedures unconditionally if it is to archive theses and written assignments (whether or not these are under embargo) and to process them in accordance with the rules of the Dutch Inspectorate of Education and the Act. All students are obliged to give their unconditional consent to the aforementioned procedures.

### 3.3 Type of degree programme

The degree programme is full time.

### 3.4 Medium of instruction

1. The degree programme is taught in Dutch, with the exception of the English-taught variant of the Bachelor's degree programme in Psychology referred to in Article 1.1.1.
2. Contrary to Article 3.3.1, one or more course units in the degree programme may be taught in English in accordance with the UG Language Policy. The course units concerned are listed in Appendix 1.

### 3.5 Student workload

1. The degree programme has a student workload of 180 ECTS credits.
2. The first year of the degree programme has a student workload of 60 ECTS credits.
3. The student workload of the programme and of the propaedeutic phase is expressed in whole ECTS credits. Course units may have a workload that is expressed in half ECTS credits.

### 3.6 Practicals

Course units, as mentioned in article 4.1 and 7.1, include, in addition to teaching in the form of lectures, a practical. The form and stated duration are listed in Appendix 1.

### 3.7 Contact hours

1. The first year of the degree programme comprises a minimum of 320 contact hours a year.
2. The second and third years of the degree programme comprises a minimum of 280

contact hours a year.

3. Details of the contact hours are registered in OCASYS.

### **3.8 Organization and final assessments of the degree programme**

1. The programme is concluded by a final Bachelor's assessment.

### **3.9 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 Progress Portaal, if relevant.
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.
4. Students who are registered for the Bachelor's degree programme cannot access the course units of the Master's degree programme.

## 4 The first year of the degree programme

### 4.1 Structure of the first year of the degree programme

1. The course units in the first year of the degree programme, the related student workload and, if applicable, the related practicals are set out in Appendix 1.
2. All course units and their modes of instruction are listed in the digital University course catalogue OCASYS.
3. In situations of force majeure, where it is not reasonably possible to teach in the manner indicated in OCASYS, it is possible to temporarily switch to another format of teaching and examination. This is also subject to the condition that the adopted learning outcomes continue to be achieved after the change of format.

## 5 Binding Study Advice

### 5.1 Preliminary study advice

1. Halfway through the first semester of the first year of registration in the first year of the degree programme, students will receive a study progress overview specifying the student workload realized so far.
2. Students will receive a written preliminary study advice as soon as possible **after the first semester**, and in any case before March 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. The preliminary study advice will include a warning if the student had made insufficient progress with their studies, such that the student still has the opportunity to improve their performance.
4. If the study progress is insufficient to such an extent that a student cannot reasonably be expected to satisfy the conditions for receiving a positive study advice within the meaning of Articles 5.2.2.a and b, the student will be invited to attend a meeting with the study advisor. The aim of the meeting is to discuss the student's study habits, to reassess the choice of degree programme and, if necessary, to refer them to a different degree programme.

### 5.2 Definitive study advice

1. Students must earn at least 45 ECTS credits in their first year of registration in the first year of the degree programme. This is known as the binding (negative) study advice threshold.
2. A definitive study advice is issued at the end of the **first academic year**, by July 31<sup>st</sup> at the latest. This can be either:
  - a. Positive: if the student has earned at least 45 ECTS credits in the first year of the degree programme;
  - b. Negative: if the student has earned fewer than 45 ECTS credits in the first year of the degree programme. This study advice is binding on students (BSA) in accordance with Article 7.8b.3 of the Act.
3. In the event that the preliminary study results are insufficient to such an extent that the student cannot be reasonably expected to pass the 45 ECTS threshold by the end of their 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 described in Article 5.5 will apply.
4. Alternative BSA regulations apply to the AOLB variant of the degree programme in Pedagogical Sciences. These regulations are set out in Appendix 1.
5.
  - a. The Faculty Board will take extraordinary circumstances as referred to in Article 5.4 into account in its decision on which study advice to issue in the first year of registration for the degree programme.
  - 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 extraordinary circumstances in the first year, the assessment may be postponed until a later date within the first year of the degree programme.

- c. Students may be granted a lower BSA threshold in the case of structural circumstances, for instance when a student has a functional impairment.

### 5.3 Exceptions to the definitive study advice

#### **Multiple degree programmes at the University of Groningen**

Students who are registered for the first year of the degree programme 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 first year of one degree programme, he or she is exempt from the BSA requirements for the other programmes.

#### **Propaedeutic certificate previously gained**

If the student has already completed the first year of a university degree programme at the University of Groningen or another Dutch university, or – if this is not the case – if they have achieved the 60 ECTS credit points of the first year at the discretion of the Board of Examiners, then the student is not subject to the binding study advice rule for the University of Groningen degree programme for which they registered in the first year.

#### **Deregistration before March 1<sup>st</sup>**

No definitive study advice will be issued to students who submit a request for deregistration from the the degree programme before or as of 1 March of the first year of registration. If this student re-registers in a subsequent academic year, they will once again be subject to the procedure referred to in Article 5.1 in that subsequent academic year. The binding (negative) study advice regulations for the academic year in which they reregister for the degree programme will then apply.

#### **Registration as of February 1<sup>st</sup>**

An adapted BSA threshold will apply to students who register for a University of Groningen Bachelor's degree programme as of February 1<sup>st</sup> and have not previously been registered as students in the same academic year. At the end of the second semester of the first year of registration, students must have obtained 20 ECTS credits from the second semester of the first year of the degree programme. In all other respects, the provision of Article 5.2 are correspondingly applicable.

### 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 Faculty Board can thereupon decide to adjust the BSA threshold or to postpone issuing a study advice.

The student's study behaviour is also taken into account in this assessment, as are the agreements that they have made with their study advisor and/or their study schedule, the timing of notifications concerning extraordinary circumstances, and the study results they achieved at the end of their first academic year.

2. Students must report extraordinary circumstances to the study advisor as soon as possible in order to ensure optimum support. In the likely event of deferred advice or a modification to the binding study advice threshold, the Faculty BSA Committee will rule on this matter, at the student's request. If the study schedule drawn up with their study advisor is not met due to the binding study advice threshold (which may or may not

have been modified), the student must notify their study advisor about this as soon as possible.

3. If no assessment can be made at the end of the first year with regard to a student's suitability for the degree programme due to extraordinary circumstances, as referred to in Article 5.4.1, at the end of the first academic year that assessment may be postponed.
4. Any study advice that is deferred can still be given as long as the first year of the degree programme has not yet been completed.
  - a. The deferred advice is converted into positive advice if the binding study advice threshold (which may or may not have been modified) had been met.
  - b. The advice will be negative (and binding) if the student in question still fails to pass the (possibly adjusted) BSA threshold in the first year of the degree programme.
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 the study advisor of the degree programme, comprising at least the following:
  - a. the course units from the first year of the degree programme that have not yet been passed, with a relevant timeline;
  - b. the course units from the second and third year of the degree programme 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 Student Support Fund.

#### 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.

#### 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 for a period of two consecutive academic years from September 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

#### 5.7 Consequences of a positive study advice

1. Anyone who has received positive study advice from a degree programme at the University of Groningen can be admitted to the second and third years of the relevant degree programme.
2. Notwithstanding Article 5.7.1, 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 OCASYS and in Article 9.5 of these Teaching and Examination Regulations.

3. Admission based on a positive study advice does not apply to the Minor of the degree programme – this requires completion of the first year of the degree programme.

## 6 Admission to the second and third years of the degree programme other than from the propaedeutic phase

### 6.1 **Criteria for admission to the second and third years of the degree programme**

1. Subject to the approval of the Admissions Board, the following students will be admitted to the second and third years of the degree programme:
  - a. Holders of a propaedeutic certificate, or students who have earned 60 ECTS credits in the first year of study in a related degree programme.
  - b. The Admissions Board may grant exemption from the requirement stipulated in Article 6.1.1 to holders 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.
2. Notwithstanding the first paragraph, admission to the second and third years of the BSc Psychology is not possible.

### 6.2 **Admission to the second and third years of the degree programme: hardship clause**

In situations where a change to educational content/educational force majeure demonstrably leads to an unfairness of overriding nature, the Board of Examiners may deviate from the stipulations of Article 5.7 and 6.1. Such cases must involve a unique individual circumstance that is so distinctive that admission cannot reasonably be denied.

## 7 The second and third years of the degree programme

### 7.1 Structure of the second and third years of the degree programme

1. The course units in the second and third years of the degree programme, the related student workload and, if applicable, the related practicals are set out in Appendix 1.
2. In addition, all degree programmes except the AOLB, include Minor room with a student workload of 30 ECTS (or 2 x 15 ECTS). Students can fill their Minor room with the following components:
  - a. a societal placement (with a maximum of 5 ECTS);
  - b. a study period at a university abroad;
  - c. a broadening or deepening Minor comprising course units from within or outside their own Major.

The available Minor options are set out in Appendix 1 as well as in OCASYS.

3. All course units and their modes of instruction are listed in OCASYS, the University's digital course catalogue.
4. In situations of force majeure, where it is not reasonably possible to teach in the manner indicated in OCASYS, it is possible to temporarily switch to another form of teaching and examination. This is also subject to the condition that the adopted learning outcomes continue to be achieved after the change of format.

### 7.2 Substitutions and electives followed elsewhere

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.

### 7.3 Open Degree Programme

Students may choose to follow a degree programme's Open Degree Programme, which deviates from the adopted 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.

## 8 Other specializations

### **A. Minor**

#### **8.1 Minor**

1. The Minor component can involve any of the options listed in Article 7.1.2.
2. Students can choose between:
  - a. a University Minor;
  - b. a Faculty Minor package
  - c. a Personal Minor.

#### **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 room with a University Minor do not need explicit permission from the Board of Examiners.

#### **8.3 Faculty Minor package**

1. A Faculty Minor is a coherent set of broadening course units that students can follow either in their own degree programme or a different faculty.
2. When choosing a Faculty Minor package to fill the Minor suite of the degree programme, the permission of the Board of Examiners of the programme is assumed to have been given.

#### **8.4 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. Personal Minors must be presented to the Board of Examiners of the student's own degree programme for approval in advance.

#### **8.5 Authority of the Board of Examiners with regard to Minors**

1. Students must present their choice of Minor to the Board of Examiners of their degree programme for approval, except if they choose a University Minor in accordance with Article 8.2.2.
2. Minors that students of the degree programme follow at other degree programmes, faculties or educational institutes are subject to the authority of the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that sets the relevant examinations.
3. The Minor of other degree programmes, faculties or educational institutions are subject to the authority of the degree programme's Board of Examiners.
4. A responsible Board of Examiners will be assigned in the event of interfaculty University Minors.

## **B. Honours programme**

### **8.6 Bachelor's Honours Programme**

1. The Faculty participates in the Bachelor's Honours Programme organized by the University of Groningen Honours College. The Bachelor's Honours Programme does not form part of the regular Bachelor's curriculum.
2. Students admitted to one of the Faculty's Bachelor's degree programmes are permitted to 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 30 ECTS credits<sup>3</sup>, distributed 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**

### **8.7 Pre-master's programmes**

1. The Faculty offers pre-master's programmes designed to achieve admission to one of the Faculty's Master's Degree programmes.
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. 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.
3. The Admissions Board of the intended Master's degree programme rules on admission to the associated pre-master's programme.
4. The scope and content and the pre-master's programme is individually determined by the Admissions Board.
5. After admission to a pre-master's programme, that programme must be completed within two years.
6. Course units of the pre-master's programme are subject to the authority of the Bachelor's degree programme's Board of Examiners, as referred to in Article 1.1.1.
7. The University of Groningen's Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees provisions regarding pre-master's programmes apply.

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<sup>3</sup> For students that have enrolled before 2024-2025, the programme consists of 45 ECT

### 8.8 Design of the Pre-master's programme

1. The course units belonging the pre-master's programme, with the stated student workloads and, if applicable, the practicals, are listed in Appendix 1.
2. All course units and their modes of instruction are listed in OCASYS, the University's digital Course Catalogue.
3. In situations of force majeure, where it is not reasonably possible to teach in the manner indicated in OCASYS, it is possible to temporarily switch to another format of teaching and examination. This is also subject to the condition that the adopted learning outcomes continue to be achieved after the change of format.
4. Each course unit of the pre-master's programme concludes with an examination. The examinations are conducted in the manner stated in OCASYS.

## 9 Examinations and final assessment of the degree programme

### 9.1 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 lecturer affiliated with 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 sets out Rules and Regulations for the Board of Examiners, rules to assess and determine the results of examinations and final assessments.

### 9.2 Examinations; 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 students' academic development and mastery of the learning outcomes of the course unit.
4. The results of an examination are given as pass or fail, in numbers on a scale of 1 to 10, expressed as 5,5 or more for a pass and 5,4 or less for a fail.

### 9.3 Participation in examinations

1. In accordance with Article 3.9 of the OER, registration for a course unit of the degree programme also involves registration of the examination opportunity for that course unit.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 9.4.1, students can register and deregister for examinations during certain periods to be further defined.

### 9.4 Compulsory order

Certain course units in the degree programme may not be taken before the examination for the associated course units have been passed. Appendix 1 sets out when this is the case.

### 9.5 Examination frequency and periods

1. There will be an opportunity to sit the examinations for the course units listed in Article 4.1 and Article 7.1 at least twice per academic year.
2. The periods in which examinations can be taken are listed in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS. Partial exams can also be taken outside the periods indicated.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 9.5.1, there will be only one opportunity in a certain year to take the examination for non-compulsory course units not taught in that year.
4. 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.

### 9.6 Form of examinations

1. Examinations will be taken in the manner stated in OCASYS.
2. The language in which the examinations will be administered is stated in the Assessment Programme (see 10.6)
3. At a student's request, the Board of Examiners may allow an examination to be taken in a form different from that stipulated above.
4. For each official examination, a mock examination is made available.
5. In situations of force majeure, where it is not reasonably possible to conduct examinations in the manner indicated in OCASYS, it is possible to temporarily switch to another format of teaching and examination. This is also subject to the condition that the adopted learning outcomes continue to be achieved after the change of format.

### 9.7 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 or the examiner.
2. Oral examinations are public, unless the Board of Examiners or the relevant examiner stipulates otherwise due to extraordinary circumstances.

### 9.8 Assessment of placement or research assignment

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.

### 9.9 Bachelor's thesis

1. In general, each Bachelor's thesis is associated with a single University of Groningen degree programme. Full or partial exemption for a degree programme's Bachelor's thesis may be granted by the Board of Examiners on the basis of a Bachelor's thesis written for another degree programme.
2. Each Bachelor's thesis is assessed by at least two examiners.
3. The thesis is stored by the Faculty Board for a period of seven years.

4. The period(s) during which students are offered the opportunity to write their theses will be published in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS.
5. Further rules about the form, content, time schedule, and assessment of the thesis are included in the Regulations governing Bachelor's and Master's theses. Those regulations form part of these Teaching and Examination Regulations, in Appendix 3.
6. The Board of Examiners is the only body that can deviate from the provisions of this Article at the written request of a student.

#### 9.10 **Marking of examinations and publication of marks**

1. After an oral examination, the examiner will assess the examination immediately and shall, on request, provide the student with the relevant signed exam sheet.
2. The examiner will mark a written examination within ten 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. If there are unforeseen circumstances as a result of which the period of ten working days is not reasonably feasible, the examiner may request the programme director to grant an extension of the assessment and grading term of a maximum of five working days. This does not extend to exams in exam period 2b and exams in the first year of the bachelor's programme.
3. 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.
4. If the student wishes to lodge an appeal against the result of the examination, the student must submit this to the Central Portal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights (CLRS) within six weeks of the publication of that grade.

#### 9.11 **Validity**

1. Any completed course units remain valid indefinitely.
2.
  - a. Contrary to the provisions of Article 9.11.1, the Board of Examiners may decide to require a student to take a supplementary or substitute examination for a course unit taken more than six years previously before allowing that student to progress to the final assessment. This only applies if the student's knowledge, understanding or skills that are being assessed in this way are demonstrably outdated.
  - b. In the event of extraordinary personal circumstances, the term of validity will be extended to include the period during which the student in question receives support from the Student Support Fund.

#### 9.12 **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 9.12.1, 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 the inspection or perusal will take place at a certain place and at two set times at least. If a student can show that they were prevented by force majeure from attending at the indicated place and times, they will be offered another opportunity, if possible within the period stated in Article 9.12.1.

#### 9.13 Examination provisions

1. If not providing an individual examination were to lead to a 'special case of an unfairness of overriding nature', the Board of Examiners may decide to grant such a provision, contrary to the provisions of Article 9.6.
2. Requests for individual examination provisions, including documentary proof, must be submitted to the Board of Examiners as soon as possible.

#### 9.14 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 impairment. If necessary, the Board of Examiners will seek expert advice from a student counsellor of the Student Service Centre (SSC) before making a decision.
2. With regard to examinations for electives taken at other degree programmes 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.

#### 9.15 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 (or part thereof) on the basis of results earned previously (possibly elsewhere) 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 stipulations of Article 10.2 apply to exemptions.
3. The validity period of exemptions granted for course units or parts thereof is identical to that of examination results.

#### 9.16 Request for an extracurricular examination

1. Students can ask the Board of Examiners to grant them an extracurricular examination.
2. Such a request may be granted if the student in question failed the relevant examination due to extraordinary circumstances and if not granting the request for an extracurricular examination would result in unacceptable study delay.
3. The following criteria apply to granting a request for an extracurricular examination for the last course unit of the degree programme:
  - a. the course unit in question must be the last course unit to be obtained;
  - b. not granting the request for an additional resit would result in study delay of at least one semester;
  - c. the student must have participated in the last two regular examination opportunities for the course unit in question;

- d. the student must have been awarded at least a grade of 4 on at least one of the two previous regular examinations for the course unit in question;
- e. passing the course unit in question is the only possible way to satisfy the requirements of the final assessment.

#### 9.17 **Competent Board of Examiners for electives of another degree programme**

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 examination for an elective from another degree programme, and requests for alternative examination regulations, are subject to the authority of the Board of Examiners of that other degree programme. Article 10.2 applies.

#### 9.18 **Cheating and plagiarism**

1. Cheating is an act or omission by a student that partly or wholly hinders the forming of a correct assessment of their own or another's knowledge, understanding and skills.
2. Cheating also includes plagiarism, which means copying someone else's or your own work without correctly acknowledging the source.
3. Students who substitute their personal effort with work generated by artificial intelligence (AI) and present this as their own work will also be considered to have committed fraud.
4. The assessment of theses and written assignments requires a plagiarism check to be performed, by means of a plagiarism scanner accessed by the University. Students are individually responsible for maintaining academic integrity.
5. In the event of suspected fraud, the department may decide to perform a more in-depth review of a student's knowledge, understanding, and skills. This in-depth review will be separate from the examinations for the course unit.
6. 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.
7. In the event of serious cheating, the Board of Examiners can request the Board of the University to permanently terminate the relevant student's registration in the degree programme.
8. In any case, the following can be considered to be serious cheating:
  - a. impersonating someone else during the exam;
  - b. being represented by someone else during the exam;
  - c. have a third person sit the exam for them;
  - d. obtaining the assignments and/or model answers for the relevant examination before the time when the examination takes place;
  - e. fabricating and/or falsifying survey and/or interview answers and/or research data.
9. The Board of Examiners sets out its course of action in the event of cheating in its Rules and Regulations.

**9.19 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.

**9.20 Termination of enrolment (*Judicium Abeundi*)**

1. In extraordinary cases of reprehensible behaviour and/or statements made by a student, the Board of the University may, on the recommendation 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 10.8.1 until after the student in question has been given an opportunity to put their case, any interests of the student and the institution have been carefully assessed and it has been proven reasonable to assume that the student's behaviour 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 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 refusal of registration] as approved by the *Nederlandse Federatie van Universitaire Medische Centra* [Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres] on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.
3. The provisions in the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees apply.

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## 10 Final assessment

### 10.1 Final assessment

1. The degree programme is concluded with a final assessment.
2.
  - a. On the condition that the student's examination course units have 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 indicate that the student had achieved the necessary academic development. The Board of Examiners will issue a degree certificate to this effect.
  - b. If a student exceeds the relevant deadlines for approval of the study programme referred to under Article 10.2a, this may cause the Board of Examiners to schedule the examination for a later date. That could 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 itself decide to test the student's knowledge, insight and skills in one or more course units or aspects of the degree programme, if and in as much as the marks for these course units 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 10.1.2, and not the date on which the degree certificate is presented to the student.
6. If the student wishes to postpone their date of graduation in connection with additional examinations that they still need to sit, the student must submit this request to the Board of Examiners within two weeks of the moment at which the examination date was set.

### 10.2 Course units completed elsewhere

1. The award of the certificate for the Bachelor's examination of the degree programme is conditional on the completion of at least half of the degree programme by means of course units provided by the University of Groningen during the period in which the individual was registered as a Bachelor's student for that degree programme at the University of Groningen.
2. In double degree programmes, a Bachelor's degree can only be awarded if at least a quarter of the course units of the degree programme were offered by the degree programme during the Bachelor's student's period of registration at the University of Groningen as a student for that degree programme at the University of Groningen.

### 10.3 Degree certificate

1. Students shall 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.

2. The Board of Examiners will issue an International Diploma Supplement with each degree certificate.
3. If applicable, the results of the Bachelor's Honours Programme are listed in the Diploma Supplement that accompanies the Bachelor's degree certificate.

#### 10.4 Degree

1. A student who has satisfied all the requirements of the final assessment shall be awarded the degree 'Bachelor of Science'.
2. Details of the degree conferred are indicated on the degree certificate.

#### 10.5 Honours ('Cum Laude' / 'Summa cum laude')

1. The Board of Examiners assesses whether the Bachelor's degree should be awarded an honours predicate.
2. There are two types of honours predicates: 'Cum laude' and 'Summa cum laude'. The following conditions apply:
  - a. For 'Cum laude':
    - i. The Bachelor's thesis must have been awarded a non-rounded off mark of at least 8,0;
    - ii. The non-rounded off weighted average for all course units, excluding the Bachelor's thesis, within the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners must be at least 8,0.
  - b. For 'Summa cum laude':
    - i. The Bachelor's thesis must have been awarded a non-rounded off mark of at least 9,0;
    - ii. The non-rounded off weighted average for all course units, excluding the Bachelor's thesis, within the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners must be at least 9,0.
3. No honours predicate is awarded if the value of exemptions in ECTS credits is more than half the total number of ECTS for the degree programme. This stipulation does not apply to Double Degree programmes.
4. A honours predicate may only be awarded if the examinations for the course units were taken only once.
5. Honours predicates will only be awarded if no course unit has been awarded a mark of less than 7,0.
6. No honours predicate will be 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 cheating/plagiarism has been detected.
7. In extraordinary cases, the Board of Examiners may deviate from the provisions set out in Articles 10.5.2 to 10.5.6.

#### 10.6 Assessment Programme

An Assessment Programme has been approved by the Faculty Board. This Assessment Programme is an appendix to the TER and covers the following subjects:

1. The learning outcomes of the degree programme;
2. The course units and the learning outcomes of each course unit;
3. The relationship between course units and learning outcomes: how are the learning outcomes attained;
4. The mode of assessment and test moments for each course unit
5. The language of assessment

## 11 Tutoring

### 11.1 Study progress administration

The Faculty Board registers the individual results achieved by the students and provides each student with a summary of their results at least once a year.

### 11.2 Tutoring

The Faculty Board will organize the introduction and the tutoring of students registered for the degree programme, partly for the purpose of their progress during the course of study and partly to gain an impression of potential study options within and outside the degree programme.

## 12 Transitional and final provisions

### 12.1 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 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.

### 12.2 Publications

1. The Faculty Board will duly publish these Regulations as well as any amendments to them.
2. Copies of these Regulations are available from the Faculty Office. These documents in question are also digitally accessible on the Faculty website via the Student Portal.

### 12.3 Evaluation

1. The Faculty Board is responsible for the regular evaluation of the OER and, in any care, will consider the resultant demands on the student's time (for the purpose of monitoring and, if necessary adapting the student workload).
2. The Faculty Board evaluates the teaching in the degree programme as follows:
  - a. the annual Education Monitor that is discussed during the annual education interviews with the director of education;
  - b. The annual reports that are discussed during annual meetings with the Programme Committee and the Board of Examiners;
  - c. Course unit evaluations, National Student Survey and National Alumni Survey;
  - d. Student and lecturer panels.

### 12.4 Date of commencement

These Regulations will take effect on September 1<sup>st</sup> 2025.