university of groningen

FACULTY OF ARTS

TEACHING AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS (OER)

Part B: Master's degree programme in European Studies

ISAT 60847 (120 ECTS)

Master's track Euroculture

for academic year 2025-2026

Content:

1. **General provisions**
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Section 1 General provisions

Article 1.1 - Applicability

These Regulations comprise three parts – Part A and Part B and Part C.

- Part A contains general provisions which apply to the teaching, examinations and final assessments of the Master's degree programmes provided by the Faculty of Arts of the University of Groningen, hereinafter referred to as the Faculty.
- Part B contains degree programme-specific provisions which apply to the degree programme in European Studies, Master's track Euroculture, Croho 60847, hereinafter referred to as the degree programme, as provided by the Faculty of Arts of the University of Groningen.
- Part C contains the Study and Examination Regulations of the Joint Master's Programme in Euroculture as jointly established under the framework of the "Consortium Agreement for the Establishment of a Joint Master's Degree Programme in Euroculture", hereinafter referred to as the Consortium Agreement, to which the University of Groningen is signatory, and which applies to the aforementioned degree programme of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Groningen. Additional agreements and amendments concluded under the framework of the Consortium Agreement, including related bilateral agreements, are considered part and parcel of the Consortium Agreement in these regulations.

Due to the specific joint nature of this degree programme, the following order of precedence applies for students registered for the degree programme at the University of Groningen, insofar stipulations may contradict each other:

- The Dutch Higher Education Research Act (WHW) takes precedence over
- The Consortium Agreement, which takes precedence over
- Part C of these regulations, which takes precedence over
- Part B of these regulations, which takes precedence over
- Part A of these regulations.

Article 1.2 - Definitions

Due to the specific joint nature of the degree programme, the following definitions in article 1.2 of Part A of these regulations shall be read and understood as follows:

b. Student: a person registered at the University of Groningen for the purpose of taking course units and/or examinations leading to the conferral of a university degree. Students from partner universities who study at the University of Groningen as part of the Consortium Agreement shall have the same rights as students in the preceding definition.

f. ECTS credit point: a credit point within the meaning of the Dutch Higher Education and Research 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 for courses taught at the University of Groningen in accordance with article 7.4 of the Act. ECTS credit points awarded by other partner universities under the Consortium Agreement shall represent a student workload equivalent to what the respective national legislation stipulates.

m. Semester: part of the academic year, either starting on 1 September and ending on a date to be determined by the Euroculture Master's Board of Directors as mandated through the Consortium Agreement by the Board of the University, or starting on a date determined by the Euroculture Master's Board of Directors as mandated through the Consortium Agreement by the Board of the University and ending on 31 August.

o. Board of Examiners: an independent body with the duties and powers as stated in articles 7.11, 7.12, 7.12b, 7.12c of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act, including assessing whether the requirements of the final assessment have been met. The Board of Examiners at the University of Groningen has delegated authority from the Euroculture Master's Board of Directors, which functions as the joint Board of Examiners on Consortium level, to make decisions in relation to the implementation of assessment standards, the Teaching and Examination Regulations in place at the University of Groningen, and other related issues under the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act, insofar as they regard situations within the sphere of the University of Groningen and do not have direct bearing upon the wider cooperation within the consortium. Concerning matters that have wider implications for the consortium, the Euroculture Board of Examiners at the University of Groningen is required to at least consult or otherwise pass the matter on to the Euroculture Master's Board of Directors at Consortium level.

p. Admissions Board: the board that has decision-making powers in matters concerning admission to the degree programme on behalf of the Faculty Board. As the Consortium

Agreement stipulates that admission to the degree programme is at the discretion of the Euroculture Master's Board of Directors, the Admissions Board at the University of Groningen, functions as the local Selection Committee, representing and answering to the Euroculture Master's Board of Directors in agreement with the Study and Examination Regulations in Part C of these regulations.

Section 2 Admission

Article 2.1 - Entry requirements

1. Students with a Dutch or foreign certificate of higher education that indicates that they have satisfied the following admission criteria shall be admitted to the degree programme:
    1. university Bachelor's degree from an Arts, Humanities or Social Sciences programme, which equals a first cycle of a European research university[1]
    2. sufficient knowledge of English to be able to follow the degree programme successfully, certified by a formal test or a proven record of acquisition (see Article 2.3.2)
    3. demonstrated evidence of academic writing skills to follow and finish the degree programme successfully.

Article 2.2 - Admissions Board

Due to the specific joint nature of the degree programme, the first clause of article 2.3 of Part A of these regulations shall be read and understood as follows:

1. The Euroculture Master's Board of Directors shall have the power to decide on behalf of the Faculty Board in matters concerning admission to the degree programme. The Admissions Board shall function as the local Selection Committee as meant by article 4.3.1 of Part C of these regulations.
2. As stipulated in article 4.3. of Part C of these regulations, the admissions board consists of at least two members. The chairperson of the local Admissions Board of the Euroculture Programme in Groningen, is the Director of Studies of the degree programme. The Admissions Board will appoint a secretary from among its members.

Article 2.3 - Language requirement for foreign certificates

1. Students who have been admitted to this degree programme will be asked by the Admissions Board – before registration – to show proof of their English proficiency. This proof needs to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Admissions Board.
2. The English language proficiency requirement will be met by passing the TOEFL iBT with a score of 93, or an IELTS score of 6,5 with no part (listening, reading, writing, speaking) scoring below 6.5. , or Cambridge CAE (C1) or CPE (C2) according to the CEFR. These results may not be older than 5 years. Students may apply for exemption from this condition to the Board of Examiners for the Euroculture degree programme.

Article 2.4 – Admission to Master's tracks

In addition to the provisions of Article 2.1, the following admission requirements apply to the various Master's tracks in this degree programme: N/A

Article 2.5 - Admission Documents

Students register online at www.euroculturemaster.eu for the admissions procedure by submitting the following documents:

- certificate of an English language proficiency test (see Article 2.3.2)
- certified BA or MA degree certificate in one of the disciplines listed under Article 2.1.1a
- certified list of marks
- registration form for the degree programme
- motivation for the degree programme (max. 1 page)
- two letters of recommendation
- curriculum vitae
- one passport photo
- photocopy of passport
- proof of academic writing

[1] Students with other qualifications can be admitted at the discretion of the Admissions Board as stated in the Entry requirements 1a.

Article 2.6 - Admissions procedure for the degree programme

1. Bearing in mind the admissions procedure for the degree programme within the meaning of Article 2.1.1, the Admissions Board shall assess the knowledge and skills of the candidate. The Admissions Board will assess the written documentation and determine whether the prospective student can be admitted directly to the programme. In addition to the certified written proofs of degree programme(s) already followed, the Board may ask experts from within or outside the University to test certain areas of knowledge and skills. Rejected candidates may appeal. In the event of an appeal, the Admissions Board may reconsider its decision on the basis of additional and new information.
2. Students who have not yet obtained their BA degree at the time of the selection procedure but who would normally do so before the Master's degree programme begins, may be granted provisional admission. Students must submit a declaration from the relevant Board of Examiners that they have satisfied the requirements of a BA degree before 1 September.

Article 2.7 - Admission procedure: times

1. There are two deadlines per year for applying to the degree programme.
2. Students who wish to apply for both the degree programme and an Erasmus Mundus scholarship must submit their applications before 10 January of the year of the start of the programme to the Admissions Board via the online application tool. The last deadline is 1 May for regular students, applications are accepted on a rolling basis.
3. Only in exceptional cases will the Admissions Board consider an application submitted after 1 May. There is no guarantee that applications will be dealt with in time if they are submitted after this date, however.
4. Admission will be on condition that the candidate has satisfied the requirements set out in Article 2.1 concerning knowledge and skills by the starting date of the degree programme at the latest, supported by certificates from the degree programmes followed. The written admission decision will include information for the student about the possibility of an appeal to the Board of Appeal for Examinations.

Article 2.8 - Limited numbers

1. According to the Consortium regulations, a maximum of 25 students will be admitted to the first semester of the degree programme per European partner university
2. The Admissions Board will create a ranking order in the applications on the basis of the selection criteria listed in Article 2.1.1.
3. The Admissions Board will issue proofs of admission in the order of its own ranking list.

Section 3 Content and structure of the degree programme

Article 3.1 – Student workload

1. The degree programme has a student workload of 120 ECTS whereby one credit is the equivalent of 28 hours of study for course units followed at the University of Groningen.
2. The student workload is expressed in whole ECTS credit points.

Article 3.2 – Learning outcomes of the degree programme
Graduates with a MA degree in European Studies, Master's track Euroculture are expected to have acquired the following programme learning outcomes at graduation:
Learning outcomes of the degree programme Euroculture

QF EHEA 2nd cycle descriptors I, III-V	**SQF Humanities dimensions Level 7**	**EQF descriptor knowledge Level 7** ***highly specialised knowledge, some of which is at the forefront of knowledge in a field of work or study, as the basis for original thinking and/or research - critical awareness of knowledge issues in a field and at the interface between different fields***	**EQF descriptor skills Level 7** ***Specialised problem-solving skills required in research and/or innovation in order to develop new knowledge and procedures and to integrate knowledge from different fields*** ***QF EHEA 2nd cycle descriptor: 2.can apply their knowledge and understanding….***	**EQF descriptor Wider Competences Level 7** ***- Manage and transform work or study contexts that are complex, unpredictable and require new strategic approaches*** ***- Take responsibility for contributing to professional knowledge and practice and/or for reviewing the strategic performance of teams***
Special feature degree programme	a. The Human Being	*Analytical understanding of European identity/is, civil society/ies, the ongoing European integration process in itself, its cultural and social dynamics and the consequences for its citizens and for the wider world*	*Identification and problematisation of what Europe and the EU represents for its citizens and for the wider world*	*Analytical and interpretative skills to engage with current issues, notably the handling of issues related to multicultural society, turning perceived problems into feasible solutions and transferring this knowledge to relevant audiences*
I. have demonstrated knowledge and understanding ….	b. Cultures and Societies c. Texts and Contexts	1. Thorough knowledge and understanding of the phenomena of multiculturalism, national and European identity, political and legal aspects of (European) governance, and evolving social-political processes; 2. Thorough (historical) understanding of the European integration process in a global perspective by having studied the most relevant texts in context;	8. High level analysing and synthesising competency to identify and problematise issues related to inter-, trans- and multiculturalism; 9. Ability to locate, select from a variety of sources and manage information required for addressing problems related to key issues as identity/ies and civil society/ies;	15. Ability to put theoretical knowledge in practice by offering context-based guidance and workable and acceptable approaches with a high awareness of the sensitivity of the issues at stake; 16. Application of appropriate management skills, such as leadership, decision-making,

				motivation to work effectively in a multicultural / transnational setting;
III. have the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity, and formulate judgments …	d. Theories and Concepts e. Initiative and Creativity f. Interdisciplinarity	3. Thorough knowledge and understanding of theoretical and methodological approaches, in particular constructivism and comparativism which allow for independent research in the academic field involved; 4. Thorough knowledge and understanding of different regional and national perceptions of the European integration process from a cultural-social perspective including awareness of the push and pull factors in the process of European identity formation and in relation to third countries; 5. High level of sensitivity, based on knowledge and insight, regarding cultural-social differences and comparabilities at group, local, regional, national, European and global level;	10. Capacity to make judgements by integrating complex (and conflicting and insufficient) data with the intention to identify rational and sustainable solutions for identified problems; 11. Ability to independently prepare and write project applications by identifying the project's contribution to existing knowledge and experience, the most effective approach to and structuring of it, cost effectiveness, and the relevant audiences/project beneficiaries; 12. Ability to Identify topics in the public debate in a reflexive way and with an eye for socio-culturally sensitive matters;	17. Experience in and knowledge of successfully planning, designing and managing complicated medium-term (research) projects in a transnational and multicultural environment; 18. Ability to identify a suitable work placement or research project as a preparation for the occupational field meeting the profile of the programme; outline a related work plan and participate in placement or project successfully; 19. Capability for self-analysis, that is the ability to accept and give critical constructive feedback, on the basis of a well-developed awareness of one's own identity and related norms and values;
IV. can communicate …	g. Communication	6. Performing and presentation of the outcomes (in oral and written form) of independent research by making efficient use of primary and secondary sources (e.g. libraries, computerised material, bibliographical material);	13. Ability to communicate and transfer politicised and sensitive information in oral and written form to different types of addressees/ audiences;	20. Productive participation in group work and taking the lead on occasion, presiding over debates and discussions in an international / multicultural group.
V. have the learning skills …..	h. Professional Development	7. Having insight into one's personal strengths, weaknesses, and abilities, and the capacity to select the learning methods necessary for the chosen profession or range of professions.	14. Ability to apply different methods and strategies of study to different tasks and to undertake independent study.	21. Capability to learn from and respond accurately to unexpected developments, taking these into account to accommodate and develop suitable strategies accordingly.

The LOs cover the five items identified in the Qualifications Framework for the European Higher Educational Area (Dublin descriptors): (1) demonstration of knowledge and understanding, (2) identifying and solving problems, (3) formulating judgments, (4) communication and (5) learning abilities

See appendix 1 for the *Matrix of realized learning outcomes / course units* in the degree programme.

Article 3.3 – Specializations
The degree programme has the following specializations:

No.	Specialization
1	Euroculture

which consists of two tracks between which students have to select either number one or number two:

no.	Track
1	Track Euroculture/ Professional Pathway
2	Track Euroculture/ Research Pathway

Article 3.4 – Content of the curriculum
1. The degree programme comprises the following course units and student workload:

Track Euroculture/ Professional Pathway

No.	Semester I Module:	Study load
1	Cultural History: Domains of European Identity	10 ECTS
2	The Cultural Construction of Europe	5 ECTS
3	The Political Construction of Europe	5 ECTS
4	The Legal Construction of Europe	5 ECTS
5	Eurocompetence seminar I	5 ECTS
	Semester II Module:	
6	Eurocompetence seminar II	5 ECTS
7	Intensive Programme Euroculture	5 ECTS
8	Research Seminar Euroculture I or II	10 ECTS
9	Theory & Methodology	10 ECTS
	Semester III Module:	
10	MA Thesis Euroculture: initial research	5 ECTS
11	Euroculture work placement	25 ECTS
	Semester IV Module:	
12	Eurocompetence III	5 ECTS
13	MA Thesis Euroculture: research and writing	25 ECTS

All course units are listed in the online course catalogue OCASYS.

Track Euroculture/ Research Pathway

No.	Semester I Module:	
1	Cultural History: Domains of European Identity	10 ECTS
2	The Cultural Construction of Europe	5 ECTS
3	The Political Construction of Europe	5 ECTS
4	The Legal Construction of Europe	5 ECTS
5	Eurocompetence seminar I	5 ECTS
	Semester II Module:	
6	Eurocompetence seminar II	5 ECTS
7	Intensive Programme Euroculture	5 ECTS
8	Research Seminar Euroculture I or II	10 ECTS
9	Theory & Methodology	10 ECTS
	Semester III Module:	
14	Research Seminars	25 ECTS
10	MA Thesis Euroculture: initial research	5 ECTS

	Semester IV Module:	
12	Eurocompetence III	5 ECTS
13	MA Thesis Euroculture: research and writing	25 ECTS

All course units are listed in the online course catalogue OCASYS.

2. The modes of instruction and assessment for the course units listed above are set out in the syllabus of each individual course unit and the assessment plan of the degree programme.
3. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide teaching in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative modes of instruction and assessment may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the prescribed learning outcomes are still achieved upon completion of the degree programme

Article 3.5 - Course units completed elsewhere
Due to the specific joint nature of the degree programme and in conformity with the Consortium Agreement and the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act, article 3.4 of Part A of these regulations shall be read and understood in its entirety as follows:
1. A Joint Master's degree can only be awarded by the University of Groningen if at least a substantial part of the course units of the degree programme were followed at the University of Groningen.
2. A substantial part of the course units as meant in the previous clause is considered:
   - 30 ECTS of the degree programme followed at the University of Groningen and
   - the thesis jointly supervised with the University of Groningen.

Section 4 Tests and examinations of the degree programme

Article 4.1 – General
1. The language of instruction and assessment for the components of the degree programme taught at the University of Groningen is English.
2. The results of tests and examinations 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 less than 5.5 for a fail.
3. The results of tests and examinations achieved at the partner universities under the Consortium Agreement shall be converted, and vice versa, in accordance with the conversion table in the annex of Part C of these regulations.

Article 4.2 – Board of Examiners and examiners
1. Due to the specific joint nature of the degree programme, the first, second and fifth clause of article 4.2 of Part A of these regulations shall be read and understood as follows:
2. The Board of Examiners is the independent body that determines whether individual students have the knowledge, understanding and skills required to be awarded the degree. In the degree programme, the Euroculture Master's Board of Directors functions as the joint Board of Examiners of the Consortium in accordance with article 4.1 of Part C of these regulations, and the Board of Examiners at the University of Groningen ('Examencommissie') functions as the local examination board as defined by article 4.2 of Part C of these regulations.
3. The Faculty Board shall appoint the members of local board of Examiners of Euroculture on the basis of their expertise in the field of the degree programme. In accordance with article 1.2 of Part C of these regulations, the Director of Studies is the chairperson.
4. The Board of Examiners of Euroculture at the University of Groningen shall appoint examiners to set examinations and determine results concerning assessments taking place at the University of Groningen. The Board of Examiners at the University of Groningen shall automatically accept and recognise examiners of partner universities to set examinations and determine results as regards assessments at the partner universities under the Consortium Agreement and in agreement with the procedures and rules in force at the partner universities concerning the appointment of examiners.

Article 4.3 – Compulsory order
The examinations for the course units listed below may not be taken before the examinations for the associated course units have been passed:

1. The student can only commence with second semester Euroculture modules after having passed successfully first semester Euroculture modules with a total load of 20 ECTS credits.

2. The student can only commence with third semester modules after having passed successfully all first semester Euroculture modules and 20 out of 30 ECTS-credits of second semester Euroculture modules.
3. The student can only commence with fourth semester Euroculture modules, that is no. 12 *Eurocompetences III* and no. 13. *MA Thesis Euroculture: research and writing* after having passed all first and second semester modules successfully, as well as having passed module no. 9. *MA Thesis Euroculture: initial research*.

Article 4.4 - MA Internship
A work placement internship plan comprising a list of the characteristics of the placement and a plan of activities must be drawn up before the placement commences. This plan must be approved by the supervisor of the placement providing organisation and by the Board of Examiners in Groningen (examencommissie). The final assessment of the placement will be by the supervisor from the degree programme after taking into account the assessment by the supervisor from the placement providing institution and the self-evaluation report by the student.

Article 4.5. - MA Thesis
1. The MA thesis will be assessed by two examiners appointed by the Board of Examiners. One of the examiners will be a member of the academic staff of a partner university participating in the Euroculture Erasmus Mundus Consortium. Supervision and assessment will be conducted in line with the 'Thesis Guidelines' compiled by the Consortium.
2. A student who is following two degree programmes must submit a separate thesis for each programme. (see also Article 3.14, number 4 of these Regulations).
3. The thesis must be written in English.

SECTION 5 TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 5.1 – Amendments
1. Any amendments to part A of these Regulations will, following the recommendation by and/or upon the approval of the Faculty Council, be confirmed by the Faculty Board in a separate decree.
2. Any amendments to part B of these Regulations will, following the recommendations by and/or upon the approval of the Programme Committee and the Faculty Council, be confirmed by the Faculty Board in a separate decree.
3. 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.
4. In addition, an amendment may not influence any other decision concerning a student taken by the Board of Examiners under these Regulations to the disadvantage of students.

Article 5.2 – Publication
1. The Faculty Board shall duly publish these Regulations, any rules and guidelines formulated by the Board of Examiners, and any amendments to these documents.
2. Copies of the documents referred to in Article 5.2.1 are available from the Faculty Office. These documents can also be found on the Faculty website via the 'Student Portal'.

Article 5.3 – Date of commencement
These Regulations shall take effect on 17 October 2025.
These Regulations were decreed by the Board of the Faculty of Arts on 17 October 2025 and approved by the Faculty Council and the Programme Committee where required.

Appendices:
Appendix 1: Assessment Plan
Appendix 2: Regulations for Master's theses (joint Master Thesis Guide)