



university of
 groningen

FACULTY OF ARTS

TEACHING AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS (OER)

**Part B: Bachelor's degree programme in Communication and
Information Studies (CIS)**

ISAT 56826

for the academic year 2026-2027

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SECTION 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1.1 – Applicability of the Teaching and Examination Regulations

These Teaching and Examination Regulations are divided into two sections, Part A and Part B. This degree programme-specific Part B supplements Part A, which contains general stipulations for the teaching and examinations of the Bachelor's degree programmes taught at the Faculty of Arts, hereinafter referred to as the Faculty. Part B contains stipulations that specifically concern the Bachelor's degree programme in **Communication and Information Studies (CIS)**.

SECTION 2 - ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Article 2.1 – Admission to the degree programme *with profile requirement*

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2.1 of Part A of these Teaching and Examination Regulations, the following supplementary requirements apply to this degree programme: N/A.

Article 2.2 – Educational deficiencies

Deficiencies in educational qualifications in the subjects listed below may be compensated for by passing the relevant examinations at the level of the VWO final examination (Dutch pre-university education) to the satisfaction of the Admissions Board: N/A.

Under certain circumstances, the Admissions Board can request an assistant professor in the relevant subject to arrange one or more examinations.

Article 2.3 - Language requirement for foreign certificates

Students who have been admitted to a degree programme on the basis of a foreign certificate or degree may be asked by the Admissions Board – before registration – to pass an English language test, to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Board. The required English language proficiency can be demonstrated by presenting one of the following documents: a) a VWO diploma b) a subject certificate for VWO English (mark 6 or higher) c) the iBT TOEFL test: with a minimum score of 90 and a minimum score of 21 on all components. TOEFL tests taken after 21 January 2026 will use TOEFL's new 1-6 scoring system with a minimum overall score of 4.5 (min. 4 in reading and speaking, min. 4.5 in listening and writing) d) IELTS Academic Module 6.5, with a minimum score of 6.0 on all components e) course a certificate from the University of Groningen Language Centre, at least CEFR C1 with B2 for no more than two components. f) Cambridge: C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency with a minimum score of 180 g) Other documentary proof of the required language proficiency may be submitted to the admission committee for assessment.

Language requirement for admission to the Dutch Track:

1. Students who have been admitted to the degree programme on the basis of a foreign certificate or degree may be required by the Admissions Board – before registration – to pass a Dutch language test, to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Admissions Board.
2. The Dutch language proficiency requirement can be met by passing the State Examination in Dutch as a Second Language (NT2-II, at least B2 level).

Article 2.4 – Starting date

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2.7 of Part A, the following applies to this degree programme: Students who have previously been enrolled in this degree programme or who wish to start in a higher year may apply to the Admissions Board for permission to start on a date other than 1 September. The Admissions Board will grant permission for an alternative starting date if the specific course units that the student in question wishes to follow start on this date and if the student has satisfied the entry requirements for these course units.

SECTION 3 - CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

Table 1. Learning outcomes

Article 3.1. – Learning outcomes of the degree programme- Description of the Bachelor's level in accordance with the Dublin descriptors	Learning outcomes of the degree programme Graduates must be able to:
1. Knowledge and understanding: Graduates have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in a field of study that builds upon and exceeds the level achieved in secondary education, and is typically at a level which, whilst supported by specialist textbooks, includes some aspects that require knowledge of the latest developments in the field.	1.1 Describe theories and research methods for understanding, analysing, and assessing the complexity of communication in its various forms and contexts. 1.2 Explain the foundational aspects of the field of Communication and Information Studies (CIS) and the relationships with and within its various subfields. 1.3 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of an additional field of study through a Minor. 1.4 The student has knowledge of one or two overarching themes within the humanities, and can explain the consequences of these themes for the knowledge domain of CIS
2. Applying knowledge and understanding: Graduates are able to apply their knowledge and understanding in a manner that demonstrates a professional approach to their job or profession, and have competences typically demonstrated through devising and sustaining arguments and solving problems within their field.	2.1 Analyze and appraise communication in its various forms and contexts by sustaining arguments and using relevant knowledge, skills, theories and methods. 2.2 Evaluate concepts, ideas, and data, identify and analyse complex (societal) problems and issues, and propose solutions. 2.3 Select and apply appropriate qualitative and quantitative research methods to new data in the field of communication. 2.4 Design and conduct research projects of limited scope, applying appropriate theories and methodologies according to academic and professional standards, with limited supervision. 2.5. Plan and carry out individual and team projects within the field of communication in a professional way, for instance by collaborating, managing time, giving peer feedback, and critically reflecting on the outcomes. 2.6. Apply relevant literacy skills and resources for data collection, analysis, and problem solving within the field of communication.
3. Opinion forming: Graduates are able to collect and interpret relevant data (usually in the field of study) to form an opinion that is also based on the consideration of relevant social, academic, or ethical aspects.	3.1 Critically assess research methods, data, outcomes and implications within communication and information studies, taking into account relevant social, academic, and ethical aspects.

	3.2 Collect and interpret data to inform opinions on relevant professional and societal challenges within the field of communication.
4. Communication: Graduates are able to communicate information, ideas, and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.	4.1 Accurately communicate relevant topics, ideas, and results within CIS according to academic standards to academic and professional audiences.
5. Learning skills: Graduates have the learning skills required to undertake further study with a high degree of autonomy.	5.1 Develop and apply appropriate transferable learning skills, such as self-initiative and self-awareness, time-management, and the identification of (future) learning needs and opportunities for life-long learning.

See **Appendix 2** for the *Matrix of learning outcomes achieved/course units passed* of the degree programme.

Article 3.2 – Language of instruction

This is an English-taught degree programme. Therefore, the following applies to the degree programme in general:

1. The language of instruction is English.
2. The thesis/final assignment must be written in English, unless the student is following the Dutch Track. Students enrolled in the regular degree programme may only write their thesis/final assignment in a language other than English with prior permission from the Board of Examiners.

During registration, students enrol in either the regular degree programme or in the Dutch Track. The program modules in the Dutch track answer the following criteria:

- The language of instruction in the seminars is Dutch.
 - A. Case material discussed in the seminars is in the Dutch language.
 - B. Seminar assignments are presented in Dutch and are carried out or reported using the Dutch language.
 - C. All graded course assessments (including exams, written reports, oral presentations) are presented in Dutch, containing Dutch case materials, and are carried out using the Dutch language.
 - D. Language proficiency and text quality in written as well as in oral exams are assessed in relation to general standards for Dutch language use and in relation to the learning outcomes of the programme.

Students who successfully complete the **Dutch Track** will have this acknowledged on their degree certificate. This is subject to the condition that they have completed the entire degree programme, which consists of attending Dutch-language seminars and passing the Dutch-language examination of the following course units:

For students starting September 2026:

Year 1:

1. Essential Skills
2. Text and Cognition
3. Language in Interaction

Year 2:

- o. Design and Evaluation

Year 3:

- o. Literacy in Society
- o. Case Study CIS
- o. BA Thesis

For students who started BEFORE September 2026:

Year 1:

1. Taaloptimalisatie (LCX023P05)
2. Tekstanalyse 1 (LCX010P05)

3. Gespreksanalyse 1 (LCX011P05)

Year 2:

- o. Pragmatiek (LCX058B05)
- o. Gespreksanalyse 2 (LCX027B05)
- o. ASP voor NL track (LCX051B05)
- o. Tekstanalyse 2 (LCX026B05)

Year 3:

- o. BA-scriptie (LCX995B10)

Course titles printed in **greyscale**: courses that are no longer offered

The course units offered as part of the Dutch Track have their own course codes, which differ from the course codes for international variants of the course units. To facilitate the administrative monitoring of the Dutch Track, course results must be registered under the correct code. Students can switch from the Dutch Track to the international variant during the course of the degree programme, without this having any repercussions. However, students can only switch from the international variant to the Dutch Track if they pass the Dutch Track variants of previously completed course units.

Article 3.3 – Contact hours

1. The first year of the degree programme comprises a minimum of 480 contact hours a year.
2. The second and third year of the degree programme comprises a minimum of 360 contact hours a year.
3. The contact hours are divided as follows:

For students starting September 2026:

Table 2a. Contact hours

Contact time	Number of contact hours per year
Lectures/seminars	350
Study progress supervision/mentor programme/lecturer supervision	30
Exams/assessment incl. feedback session	95
Other regular hours	15
Total	490

For students who started BEFORE September 2026:

Table 2b. Contact hours

Contact time	Number of contact hours per year
Lectures/seminars	350

Study progress supervision/mentor programme/lecturer supervision	30
Exams/assessment incl. feedback session	95
Other regular hours	15
Total	490

SECTION 4 - THE FIRST YEAR OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 4.1 – Structure of the FIRST YEAR

1. The first year comprises the following course units and student workloads:

For students starting September 2026:

Table 3a. course units and student workloads in Year 1

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
	Materiality of Communication	10
	Changing Minds: Persuasion and Argumentation	10
	Essential Skills for Academics	5
	Intercultural Communication	5
	Observing Communication in the Wild: Qualitative Methods	10
	Text and Cognition	5
	Language in Interaction	5
	<i>Humane AI and Digital Society Year 1</i>	10
	<i>Stories We Live By Year 1</i>	10

Course titles set in *italics* are elective courses.

- o. The modes of instruction and assessment for the course units listed above are set out in the syllabus for each individual course unit (available in Student Portal) and in the Assessment Plan for the degree programme (see Appendix 1). All course units are listed in the online University course catalogue, Ocasys.

For students who started BEFORE September 2026:

Table 3b. course units and student workloads in Year 1 2025-2026 (courses no longer available)

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
	Corporate and and Organisational Communication 1: Introduction	5
	Persuasive communication	5
	Academic Skills 1	5
	Academic Skills 2	5
	Language Optimization	5
	Intercultural Communication	5
	Text Analysis 1	5
	Qualitative Methods	5
	Digital Communication	5
	Conversation Analysis 1	5
	Quantitative Methods	5
	Multimodal Communication	5

These course units will no longer be offered, but are - for practical reasons - still listed in the online University course catalogue, OCASYS.

3. For students who did not partake in ("NA") or failed (grade <5.5) one or more of the course units listed in Table 3b, transitional arrangements are set out in section 5.2 below.

SECTION 5 - THE SECOND AND THIRD YEARS OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 5.1 – Structure of the SECOND and THIRD YEAR

1. The second and third years of the degree programme comprise the following course units with their related student workloads:

For students starting September 2026:

SECOND YEAR

Table 4a. course units and student workloads in Year 2

Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
Corporate and Workplace Communication	10

Analysing Communication: Quantitative Approaches	10
Social Media Discourses and Affordances	5
Statistics	5
Design and Evaluation	10
Health Communication	5
Language in Context	5
Faculty Wide Course Year 2	10

THIRD YEAR

Table 5a. course units and student workloads in Year 3

Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
Minor	30
Communication and Societal Change	5
Literacy in Society	5
CIS Bachelor Thesis and Research Seminar	10
CIS Case Study	10

2. Students doing the Dutch Track must write their Thesis in Dutch

For students who started BEFORE September 2026:

SECOND YEAR

Table 4b. course units and student workloads in Year 2

Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
Pragmatics	5
Statistics	5
Conversation Analysis 2	5
Corporate and Organisational Communication 2: Marketing and Branding	5

Questionnaire and Interview Design	5
Design and Evaluation	10
Text Analysis 2	5
Social Media	5
ASP for Dutch Track	5
Faculty Wide Course Year 2	10
<i>Health Communication</i>	5
<i>Webdesign</i>	5
<i>CIS Diversity Management 1: Cultural Diversity</i>	5
<i>L&S 3: Language Learning</i>	5

Course titles set in *italics* are elective courses.

3. Students in the International Track who started before September 2026 should select one of the elective courses, for students in the Dutch Track, there are no electives in Year 2: ASP for Dutch Track is compulsory.

THIRD YEAR

Table 5b. course units and student workloads in Year 3

Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
Minor	30
Case Study CIS	10
CIS BA Thesis and Seminar	10
<i>Usability</i>	5
<i>Webdesign</i>	5
<i>Health Communication</i>	5
<i>Corporate and Organizational Communication 3: Responsible Communication</i>	5
<i>Statistics 2</i>	5
<i>CIS Diversity Management 1: Cultural Diversity</i>	5
<i>CIS Diversity Management 2: Linguistic Diversity</i>	5
<i>L&S 3: Language Learning</i>	5

	<i>Faculty Wide Course Year 1</i>	10
	Literature Review*	5

Course titles set in *italics* are elective courses.

* This course is part of the Premaster Programme only.

4. For students who started before September 2026, Case Study CIS, Minor, and CIS Bachelor's thesis and seminar are compulsory components in the third year of the Bachelor's degree programme. In this year, the students also complete their elective CIS course units; students following the Dutch Track must write their Bachelor's thesis in Dutch.

Article 5.2 – Transitional arrangements

Students who started in 2020-2021

Students who passed the exam of Corporate and Marketing Communication 2 in 2021-2022 or CIS Diversity Management in 2022-2023 cannot select CIS Diversity Management I: Cultural Diversity as an elective course. The contents of these courses are overlapping.

Students who started in 2022-2022

Students who passed the exam of CIS Diversity Management in 2022-2023 cannot select Diversity Management I: Cultural Diversity as an elective course. The contents of these courses are overlapping.

Students who started in 2023-2024 or before

Students who started the degree programme on 1 September 2023 or earlier can replace profile modules as indicated below:

Previous module:	Substitutional module
Corporate and Marketing Communication 1	Corporate and Organisational Communication 1: Introduction
Corporate and Marketing Communication 2	Corporate and Organisational Communication 2: Marketing and Branding
Corporate and Marketing Communication 3	Corporate and Organisational Communication 3: Responsible Communication

Students who started in 2025-2026 or before

For students who started the degree programme in September 2025, and who did not take part in ("NA") or failed (grade<5.5) one or more of the courses listed in Table 3b, transitional arrangements are provided in [Appendix TA](#)

SECTION 6 – MINOR

Article 6.1 Structure of the faculty minor "Communication and Information Studies"

- The minor consists of the following course units with the assigned workload in ECTS:

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
1	Changing Minds: Persuasion and Argumentation	10

2	Materiality of Communication	10
3	Pragmatics	5
4	Intercultural Communication	5

Article 6.2 Structure of the faculty minor “Digital Humanities”

- The minor consists of the following course units with the assigned workload in ECTS:

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
1	Digital Humanities: The digital turn	5
2	Digital Skills	5
3	Introduction to GIS (elective)	5
4	Grondslagen van de Taaltechnologie (elective)	5
5	Digital Humanities: Distant Reading	5
6	Digital Humanities: Introduction to Data	5
7	Professional Skills	5

SECTION 7 - TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 7.1 – Compulsory order

Unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise in a particular case, students will not be able to participate in the course units listed below, or sit the corresponding examinations, until they have passed the examinations for the associated course units:

For students starting September 2026:

Table 7a. Compulsory order of courses

Course unit	After passing course unit
Social Media	Materiality of Communication
CIS BA Thesis and Seminar	Observing Communication in the Wild: Qualitative Methods
CIS BA Thesis and Seminar	Analysing Communication: Quantitative Approaches
CIS BA Thesis and Seminar	60 ECTS from the first year

For students who started BEFORE September 2026:

Table 7b. Compulsory order of courses

	Course unit	After passing course unit
	Social Media	Digital Communication
	CIS BA Thesis and Seminar	Qualitative Methods
	CIS BA Thesis and Seminar	Quantitative Methods
	CIS BA Thesis and Seminar	60 ECTS from the first year

SECTION 8 – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 8.1 – Amendments

1. Any amendments to part A of these Regulations will, following a recommendation by and/or subject to the approval of the Programme Committee and in consultation with – and where necessary subject to the approval of – the Faculty Council, be adopted by the Faculty Board in a separate decision.
2. Any amendments to part B of these Regulations will, following a recommendation by and/or subject to the approval of the Programme Committee and in consultation with – and where necessary subject to the approval of – the Faculty Council, be adopted by the Faculty Board in a separate decision.
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 that student.

Article 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. Any interested party may obtain a copy of the documents referred to in Article 8.2.1 from the Faculty Office. These documents can also be found on the Faculty website via the Student Portal.

Article 8.3 – Entry into force

These Regulations shall take effect on 1 September 2026.

These Regulations were decreed by the Board of the Faculty of Arts on 23 June 2026 and approved by the Faculty Council and the Programme Committee where required on 18 June 2026.

NOTE 1. FACULTY MINOR CIS

For students starting September 2026:

Table 8a. Course units in the Minor CIS 2026-2027

	Course unit	ECTS
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	Materiality of Communication	10
	Pragmatics	5
	Intercultural Communication	5
	Persuasion and Argumentation	10

For students who started BEFORE September 2026:

Table 8b. Course units in the Minor CIS 2025-2026

	Course unit	ECTS
	Questionnaire and Interview Design	5
	Statistics	5
	Persuasive Communication	5
	Pragmatics	5
	Intercultural Communication	5
	Language Optimization	5

Course titles printed in greyscale: courses that are no longer offered

NOTE 2. PREMASTER PROGRAMME for MA CIW: Communicatiekunde

For students starting September 2026:

Table 8a. Course units in the Premaster Programme 2026-2027

	Course unit	ECTS
	Materiality of Communication	10
	Essential Skills	5
	Statistics	5
	Questionnaire and Interview Design	5
	Intercultural Communication	5
	Qualitative Methods	10
	Text and Cognition	5
	Language in Interaction	5
	Design and Evaluation	10

For students who started BEFORE September 2026:

Table 8b. Course units in the Premaster Programme 2025-2026

	Course unit	ECTS
	Persuasive Communication	5
	Academic Skills 1	5
	Corporate and Organisational Communication 1	5
	Corporate and Organisational Communication 2	5
	Language Optimization	5
	Intercultural Communication	5
	Text Analysis 1	5
	Qualitative Methods	5
	Quantitative Methods	5
	Statistics	5
	Conversation Analysis 1	5
	Literature Review	5

Course titles printed in greyscale: courses that are no longer offered