



university of
 groningen

FACULTY OF ARTS

TEACHING AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS (TER)

Part B: Bachelor's degree programme in Media Studies
ISAT 50906

for academic year 2026-2027

Content:

- 1 General provisions**
- 2 Entry requirements**
- 3 Content and structure of the degree programme**
- 4 The first year of the degree programme**
- 5 The second and third years of the degree programme**
- 6 Minor**
- 7 Tests and examinations of the degree programme**
- 8 Transitional and final provisions**

SECTION 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1.1 Applicability

These Regulations comprise two parts – Part A and Part B. This degree programme-specific Part B accompanies Part A, which contains general provisions which apply to the teaching, examinations and final assessments of Bachelor's degree programmes provided by the Faculty of Arts, hereinafter referred to as **the Faculty**. Part B contains degree programme-specific provisions which apply to the Bachelor's degree programme in **Media Studies**.

SECTION 2 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Article 2.1 Admission to the programme *with profile requirement*

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2.1 of Part A, it is additionally required for this degree programme that: N/A

Article 2.2 Educational deficiencies

1. 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 to the satisfaction of the Admissions Board: N/A
2. Under certain circumstances, the Admissions Board can request a University Lecturer in the relevant subject to arrange one or more examinations.

Article 2.3 – Starting date

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2.7 of Part A, the following additional requirement 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 requirement for these course units.

SECTION 3 CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 3.1 Learning outcomes of the degree programme

1. Knowledge and understanding
 - a. have broad comparative and interdisciplinary knowledge and understanding of media in their cultural, historical, institutional, political, economic, social and technological contexts;
 - b. have knowledge and understanding of the role and impact of media in their global context, in (inter-)national, regional and local communities, and in the daily lives of audiences and users;
 - c. have an understanding of cultures and practices of media use and production, including the role of platforms and institutions;
 - d. have knowledge and understanding of new media forms and their relation to earlier and established forms in the domain of media and information;
 - e. have general knowledge and understanding of key theories and concepts in the domain of media studies;
 - f. have general understanding of the main methodologies used in the domain of media studies to study media content, use and production.
 - g. have demonstrated knowledge and understanding of a complementary discipline domain, delivered as a designated minor programme, aimed at deepening or broadening the major programme
 - h. has knowledge of one or two overarching themes within the humanities, and can explain the consequences of these themes for the knowledge domain of Media Studies.
2. Applying knowledge and understanding
 - a. can apply the requisite research skills to gather, process and critically evaluate information relating to media;
 - b. are able to critically examine media content, use and production in relation to their diverse social and cultural contexts, applying the acquired methodological skills and tools;
 - c. are able to apply knowledge of key theories and scholarship to academically and socially relevant issues and debates in the domain of media and information;
 - d. can produce conceptually, methodologically and theoretically sound essays, empirical research papers and other academic output;
 - e. are able to devise creative and feasible solutions for problems related to media and information, demonstrating the ability to adopt multiple perspectives and tools;
 - f. are able to plan, manage and execute individual and group projects, work under time pressure and show initiative ;
 - g. are able to develop various media products, applying acquired knowledge, methodological tools and practical skills.
3. Making judgments
 - a. are able to conduct guided and semi-independent research, to evaluate relevant primary and secondary sources and other information within the domain of media studies;

- b. are able to develop empirically and/or theoretically informed judgments about transformations in the field of media and information and their impact on culture and society;
 - c. are able to critically engage with different theories and approaches in media studies and reflect on their historical and (inter-)cultural specificity;
 - d. are able to critically engage with different methods in media studies and reflect on their limitations
 - e. are able to reflect critically on the strengths and limitations of their own work and that of peers
4. Communication
- a. have the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, the results of research and to present complex information in a clear and concise manner to specialist and non-specialist audiences;
 - b. is able to select the most effective media format for different audiences, communicative purposes and contexts;
 - c. have the skills to interact respectfully and constructively with others, share and discuss academic knowledge, and work towards attaining common goals;
 - d. have acquired the requisite intercultural awareness and respect to act ethically and effectively in an international academic environment, and in future international employment contexts.
5. Learning skills
- a. have the ability to collect, select and process relevant information quickly and efficiently, demonstrating a high level of responsibility, self-discipline and initiative;
 - b. have the ability to think in a problem- and solution-oriented way and possess the appropriate learning skills and strategies to independently identify, analyse and evaluate specific knowledge gaps and stay up-to-date with developments in the field of media studies;
 - c. have the ability to successfully undertake specialized second cycle degree programs requiring BA-level domain-specific knowledge and understanding as well as independent research skills, in particular in media studies and related fields, as well as research master programmes.

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

Article 3.2 Language of instruction

1. The degree programme is taught in *English*.
2. The thesis/final assignment must be written in English. A thesis/final assignment may only be written in a language other than English if the Board of Examiners has given permission to do so.

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 years of the degree programme comprises a minimum of 360 contact hours a year.
3. The contact hours in the first year are divided as follows:

Nature of contact time	Number of contact hours in the first year
Lectures/Seminars	305

Study progress supervision/mentor system/lecturer supervision	70
Exams /assessment incl. postmortem	24
Other regular hours	120
Total	519

Article 4.1 Structure of the first year

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

Year 1

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
1	Media Pasts, Presents and Futures	10
2	Introduction to Media Studies	10
3	Media and Everyday Life	10
4	Faculty-wide Course: Theme B (Stories we live by) OR Theme C (Humane AI & the Digital Society)*	10
5	Media Theory: Audiences and Uses	5
6	Professional Writing: From Page to Platform	5
7	How to Study Media	5
8	Designing Digital Futures	5

*Students choose one of the two courses open to BA Media Studies students.

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

- 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.
- 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.

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

Article 5.1 Structure of the second and third years

- The second and third years comprises the following course units with their related workload:

Year 2

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
9	Analyzing Media: Texts, Production, Use	10
10	Media Theory: Media and Power	10
11	Representations in Media (Archives)	5
12	Media, Networks and Platforms	5
13	Technology and Creative Destruction OR Political Action in the Network Society*	5
14	Faculty-wide Course: Theme A (Global Change) OR Theme B (Stories we live by) OR Theme C ((Humane AI & the Digital Society) OR Theme D (Cultural Heritage)*	10
15	Research Seminar Media Studies	10
16	Thematic Specialization I	5

	Thematic Specialization II Thematic Specialization III**	
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*Students choose one of the two courses offered.

**Students choose one of the three thematic specializations offered.

Year 3

17	Minor (see article 6.1. Of part A of this TER)	30
18	Thinkers and Theories	5
19	Media Research: Advanced Methods	5
20	Content Creation Digital Curation*	5
21	Media Careers: Prospects in the Market	5
22	BA Thesis**	10

*Students choose one of two options.

** Those students who are unable to complete their BA Thesis at the end of the third year of their BA programme due to severe personal or medical reasons that are reported to the study adviser in a timely manner, may start their BA Thesis in block 1b, in a remedial BA Thesis class. Students who have failed their BA Thesis at the end of their BA programme, may also apply to this remedial class with the understanding that they will start their BA Thesis with a new supervisor and a new topic.

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

- o. 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.
- o. 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.

SECTION 6 – MINOR

Article 6.1 Structure of the faculty minor “Journalism/Journalistiek”

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

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
1	Analyzing Media: Texts, Production, Use	10
2	Disruption and Innovation in Journalism	5
3	Introduction to Journalism Studies	5
4	Introduction Journalism Studies II	5
5	Journalistic Writing/Journalistiek Schrijven	5

Article 6.2 Structure of the faculty minor “Media Studies”

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

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
1	Analyzing Media: Texts, Production, Use	10
2	Representations in Media (Archives)	5
3	Theory Pathways	5
4	Political Action in the Network Society OR Technology and Creative Destruction	5
5	Professional Skills	5

SECTION 7 TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 7.1 Compulsory order

The course units listed below and their related examinations may not be taken before the examinations for the associated course units have been passed, or, if explicitly stated, the course units have been satisfactorily followed – unless the Board of Examiners has made a different decision in a particular case:

no.	Course unit	no.	After passing course unit
11	Representations in Media (Archives)	2	Introduction to Media Studies
15	Research Seminar Media Studies	5	Media Theory: Audiences and Uses
		9	Analyzing Media: Texts, Production, Use
		13	Technology and Creative Destruction OR Political Action in the Network Society
12	Media, Networks and Platforms	1	Media Pasts, Presents and Futures
22	Bachelor's Thesis		At least a total of 110 ECTS from the first two years of the bachelor (60 ECTS from the first year, and 50 ECTS from the second year of which 10 and 15 must be a part)
		10	Media Theory: Media and Power
		15	Research Seminar Media Studies

SECTION 8 – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 8.1 – Transitional arrangements

Transitional arrangements for YEAR 1

Students who started the degree programme on 1 September 2025 or earlier can replace previous modules from year 1 of the degree programme as indicated below.

Note that these transitional arrangements are only valid for the academic year 2026/2027.

Previous course unit 1st year	Substitutional course unit 1st year
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Media Platforms and Industries	Students follow the course “Media Pasts, Presents and Futures”.
Media, Culture and Society	Students will be offered two additional exam moments (final exam and resit opportunity). The lecture slides of last year will be made available to the students as well as office hours to ask questions. Exam questions will be based on the literature assigned in the academic year 2025-2026.
Studying Media in Everyday Life	Students follow the course “How to Study Media”.
Media History	Students will be offered two additional exam moments (final exam and resit opportunity). The lecture recordings and lecture slides of last year will be made available to the students as well as office hours to ask questions.
Academic Skills	Students follow a 5 EC tutorial connected to the module “Introduction to Media Studies”.
Professional Writing	Students follow the course “Professional Writing: From Page to Platform”.
Media Spaces and Practices	Students will be offered two additional exam moments (final exam and resit opportunity). The lecture recordings and lecture slides of last year will be made available to the students as well as office hours to ask questions. If needed – pending the decision on the transferral of partial grades from academic year 2025-2026 to year 2026-2027 – a replacement assignment for the exhibition will be offered.
Imagining the Digital	Students follow the course “Designing Digital Futures”.
Social Lab	Students take a 5 EC tutorial mimicking the course set up of ‘Social Lab’ either individually or in a small group depending on the number of students who will make use of the transition rule.

Transitional agreements for YEAR 2

Transitional agreements YEAR 2 for courses that cease to exist

Students who started their studies before the academic year 2025/26 and still need to (re)take one or more courses listed in the table below, should follow the substitutional module.

<u>Previous modules 2nd year</u>	<u>Substitutional module 2nd year</u>
<u>Audiovisual Culture</u>	Students follow the course “Representations in Media (Archives)”.
<u>Analysing Media Texts</u>	Students follow a 5 EC tutorial connected to the module “Analysing Media: Texts, Production, Use”.
<u>Analysing Media Production and Use</u>	Students follow a 5 EC tutorial connected to the module “Analysing Media: Texts, Production, Use”.
<u>Methods in Media Studies</u>	Students follow a 5 EC tutorial.
<u>Transmedia Production</u>	Students follow a 5 EC tutorial.
<u>RS Politics and Global Citizenship</u>	Students follow the course “Research Seminar Media Studies”.
<u>RS Journalism Studies</u>	Students follow the course “Research Seminar Media Studies”.
<u>RS Digital Cultures</u>	Students follow the course “Research Seminar Media Studies”.
<u>RS Audiovisual Culture</u>	Students follow the course “Research Seminar Media Studies”.

Transitional arrangements YEAR 2 for all other courses:
(Applies to students who started their studies on 1 September 2025 or earlier)

Students who started their studies on 1 September 2025, will follow the course package stated below in their second year of studies. These courses are also open to students who started their studies before academic year 2025/26 and still need to (re)take one or more courses listed in the table below.

Note that this course package for year 2 will only be valid for the academic year 2026/2027.

Courses offered as transitional arrangements for Year 2	Student workload in ECTS
Analysing Media: Texts, Production, Use	10
Theory Pathways	5
Representations in Media (Archives)	5
Professional Skills	5
Technology and Creative Destruction Political Action in the Network Society*	5
Media Theory	10
Research Seminar Media Studies	10
Faculty-wide course**: Theme A (Global Change) OR Theme B (Stories we live by) OR Theme C ((Humane AI & the Digital Society) OR Theme D (Cultural Heritage)	10

*Students choose one of the two courses offered

**Students choose one of the four courses offered.

Transitional arrangements YEAR 3:
(Applies to students who started their studies on 1 September 2024 or earlier)

Students who started their studies on 1 September 2024, will follow the course package stated below in their third year of studies. These courses are also open to students who started their studies before academic year 2024/25 and still need to (re)take one or more courses listed in the table below.

Note that this course package for year 3 will only be valid for the academic year 2026/2027.

Courses offered as transitional arrangements for Year 3	Student workload in ECTS
Minor (see article 6.1. Of part A of this TER)	30
Thinkers and Theories	5
Research Seminar Media Studies I	10
Media Careers: Prospects in the Market	5
BA Thesis	10

Article 8.2 – 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 students.

Article 8.3 – 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 8.3.1 are available from the Faculty Office. These documents can also be found on the Faculty website via the Student Portal.

Article 8.4 – Date of commencement

These Regulations shall take effect on September 1 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 .

Appendices

Appendix 1: Assessment Plan