



university of
 groningen

FACULTY OF ARTS

TEACHING AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS (TER)

Part B: Research Master's degree programme in:

Linguistics

ISAT 60817

Research Master's track

- Clinical Linguistics (EMCL)
- Language and Cognition
- Natural Language Processing

for the academic year 2026-2027

Content:

- 1. General provisions**
- 2. Admission**
- 3. Content and structure of the degree programme**
- 4. Tests and examinations of the degree programme**
- 5. Transitional arrangements**
- 6. 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 the Master'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 degree programme in **Linguistics**.

SECTION 2 ADMISSION

Article 2.1 – Entry requirements

1. Students with a Dutch or foreign certificate of higher education that indicates that they have the following knowledge, understanding and skills are eligible for admission to the degree programme:
 - a) a BA degree in Linguistics or another relevant BA or BSc degree in addition to satisfying the following entry requirements:
 - b) sufficient knowledge of English to be able to follow the degree programme successfully (see Article 2.2)
 - c) sufficient knowledge, understanding and skills in the academic disciplines relevant to the degree programme, as shown by a list of grades, sample academic papers, and reference letters.^[1]

Article 2.2 – Language requirement for foreign certificates

1. Students who have been admitted to a degree programme on the basis of a foreign certificate or degree may be asked by the Admissions Board– before registration – to pass an English language test, to be administered by an agency stipulated by this Board.
2. The English language proficiency requirement will be met by passing an examination in English at the level of the VWO final exam, or by passing the TOEFL iBT with a score of at least 100 (with at least a score of 25 on the component 'writing') or an IELTS score of 7 or above with at least a score of 6.5 on all separate components.
3. For Clinical Linguistics a Cambridge C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency Certificate is also accepted. Furthermore, the proof of English skills may not be older than 2 years and only native speakers (i.e., UK, Ireland, Australia, New-Zealand, Canada, USA) do not need to hand in such proof.

Article 2.3 – Admission to Research Master's tracks

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

Admission to the regular NLP track is delegated to the Admission Board. Admission to the EMJD Language and Communication Technologies programme (embedded within the NLP track) is delegated to the local program coordinators of the various partner universities that participate in the Erasmus Mundus LCT program. This includes specific admission criteria for the provision of funding (Erasmus Mundus Scholarship) which can be accessed through the LCT website (<https://lct-master.org/>) and that are formally stated in the LCT Consortium Agreement and its eventual amendments.

Admission to Clinical Linguistics is delegated to the local directors of the consortium, one representative from the associated partners, and one external peer. This includes specific admission criteria for the provision of funding (Erasmus Mundus Scholarships) which can be accessed through the EMCL++ website (www.emcl.eu), and that are formally stated in the EMCL++ Consortium Agreement.

Article 2.4 – Registering for the admissions procedure

Students register for the admissions procedure by submitting the following documents:

- a completed registration form
- a curriculum vitae^[2]

- an overview of the results achieved so far within the Bachelor's degree programme and/or other university degree programmes^[3]
- a letter outlining the prospective student's motivation for selecting the programme and Research Master's track, including his or her expectations and interests
- if possible, written results of previous research, such as academic articles or a Bachelor's thesis

For the L&C track, in addition to the documentation listed above:

- two personal recommendations from relevant experts^[4]
- other documents, if available, which in the opinion of prospective students will highlight their eligibility for the programme and Research Master's track.

For the regular NLP track, in addition to the documentation listed above:

- Names and contacts of two referents

Article 2.5 – Admissions procedure for the degree programme

1. Bearing in mind the admissions procedure for the degree programme and the Research Master's track within the meaning of Article 2.1.1, the Admissions Board will 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 and the Research Master's track. In the event of doubt, the student will be invited to an admissions interview. The interview will be based on the submitted written documentation and may comprise an approx. 15-minute presentation on an academic subject related to the chosen programme.
2. If, on the basis of the submitted documentation, the Board is of the opinion that the student does not qualify for admission and that there is therefore no need for an interview, the student will be notified accordingly before 15 June. This is a *provisional* decision only. Prospective students may still request an interview, provided they do so within 15 working days. If prospective students do not avail themselves of this option, the provisional decision will become *definitive*. In the case of prospective students who are granted an interview, a formal decision will not be made until after the interview has taken place. Rejections will in all cases be substantiated in writing. Students who have been interviewed will be notified by 15 July whether or not they have been accepted.^[5]
3. Students who have completed a B.A. should have a thesis grade of an 8 (or equivalent) or higher (if applicable), plus a strong academic record overall. Students who have not yet obtained their Bachelor's degree at the time of the selection procedure but who would normally do so before the Research Master's degree programme begins may be granted provisional admission. Actual admission is based on two conditions: they a) obtain their Bachelor's degree before the beginning of the semester in which they intend to start the ReMa program and b) receive a mark for the BA thesis with the required level to follow the Research Master.
4. Students who already have a relevant university Master's degree may also apply for admission to the degree programme and the Research Master's track. The procedure as set out above will also apply to them. If they are admitted, the Board of Examiners will decide whether they can be granted exemptions on the basis of that Master's degree (up to a maximum of 60 ECTS credit points).
5. For Clinical Linguistics students who have doctorate degree (PhD), as well as students with a relevant Master's degree (up to a maximum of 60 ECTS credit points) may be granted exceptions.

Article 2.6 – Application and selection schedule

1. The entrance examination will be held twice a year. The Admissions Board will decide on admission before 15 June for a start in the first semester, or before 15 December for a start in the second semester. Requests for admission to the degree programme and the Research Master's track starting in the first semester must be submitted to the Admissions Board before 1 May (for EU students and non-EU students). Requests for admission starting in the second semester must be submitted to the Admissions Board before October 15. For NLP and Clinical Linguistics the entrance examination will be held once a year. The Admissions Board will decide on admission before 30 April for a start in the first semester, requests for admission to the degree programme and the Research Master's track starting in the first semester must be submitted to the Admissions Board before 1 December (for EU students and non-EU students).
2. The Admissions Board may decide to consider a request at a time other than that referred to in article

2.6.1.

3. Admission will be on condition that the candidate has satisfied the requirements set out in Article 2.4 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 statement will include information for the student about the possibility of an appeal to the Board of Appeal for Examinations.

[1] Sufficient knowledge, understanding and skills means that in the opinion of the Admissions Board, the student will be able to follow the programme without credit points having to be reserved to make up a shortfall in subject mix.

[2] For Clinical Linguistics a copy of passport or official ID card along with a CV in EuroPass format with photo on the first page is required.

[3] For Clinical linguistics this implies academic curriculum (official transcripts) and a copy of university degree certificate, plus authorised translations if these are not in English, Dutch, or Finnish.

[4] These are written reports from people recognized as experts by the Admissions Board that present a useful and reliable picture of the student's eligibility for the degree programme.

[5] Proof of admission is discussed in Article 7.30b of the Higher Education and Research Act.

Section 3 Content and structure of the degree programme

Article 3.1 – Learning outcomes of the degree programme

LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

<i>Description of Master's level according to the Dublin Descriptors</i>	<i>Learning outcomes of the Research Master's Programme in Linguistics</i> A Master Degree in Linguistics is awarded to students who:
Knowledge and understanding Have demonstrated knowledge and understanding that is founded upon and extends and/or enhances the level that is typically associated with Bachelor's level, and that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in developing and/or applying ideas, often within a research context.	1.1 have general knowledge and understanding of several subdisciplines in linguistics, their interpretations, methodologies and techniques 1.2 have a thorough knowledge of at least one theoretical and methodological approach within linguistics

Applying knowledge and understanding Can apply their knowledge and understanding, and problem solving abilities in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to their field of study.	2.1 are able to formulate an academic problem independently, and in so doing, to select, apply and where necessary adapt an adequate theoretical framework and one or more relevant research methods 2.2 are able to make an original contribution to knowledge in at least one subdiscipline in linguistics 2.3 are able to independently formulate a research proposal
Making judgements Have the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity, and formulate judgements with incomplete or limited information, but that include reflecting on social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgements.	3.1 make use of the research results of others and evaluate these critically 3.2 are able to make connections between their own specialist knowledge of a subdiscipline of linguistics and other subdisciplines of linguistics or and other related disciplines, for example, psychology, neurology or information science
Communication Can communicate their conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these, to specialist and non-specialist audiences clearly and unambiguously.	4.1 are able to participate actively in a research group working on an academic project 4.2 are able to work with other students and lecturers on an academic project 4.3 are able to participate in international academic debate in the chosen area of specialization and to present an academic problem convincingly in appropriate English, both orally and in writing
Learning Skills Have the learning skills to allow them to continue to study in a manner that may be largely self-directed or autonomous.	5.1 are able to keep abreast of the latest developments in linguistics and broaden and deepen their own knowledge and understanding 5.2 are able to reflect on the implications of one's work for the development of linguistic theories

Article 3.2.1 Structure of the ReMA track LANGUAGE AND COGNITION

- This track consists of the following course units with the assigned workload in ECTS:

Year 1

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS	
1	Basic Statistics *	5 ECTS	C
2	Linguistic Analysis	10 ECTS	C
3	Corpus Linguistics	5 ECTS	C
4	Designing your Research Project	5 ECTS	C
5	LOT Courses 1	5 ECTS	C
Course units (30 ECTS) to be selected from:			
6	- Language, Brain and Cognition	10 ECTS	E
7	- Research Training**	5 or 10 ECTS	E
8	- All courses from all tracks in M.A. Linguistics	5 or 10 ECTS	E
9	- All courses from all tracks in M.A. Communication and Information Science	10 ECTS	E
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10	- Summer School/Winter School/Tutorial***	5 or 10 ECTS	E
11	- Or other relevant course units in consultation with the <i>Director of Studies</i> and with permission from the Board of Examiners		

Year 2

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS	
1	Advanced Research Training	25 ECTS	C
2	LOT Courses 2	5 ECTS	C
3	Research Master Thesis in Linguistics, including Thesis Class	30 ECTS	C

* Students who enter the Research Master with a BA Linguistics from the University of Groningen are not required to take Basic Statistics. If they do not take it, they need to elect another 5-credit course instead. Students who enter with another BA and can show that they have sufficient statistics background, can do the same, but have to get approval from the Exam Board.

**The Research Training module may be taken in both semesters in both years and for up to 20 ECTS. If more than 10 ECTS are taken, this must include at least two different projects with different supervisors.

***Tutorials need to be approved by the Board of Examiners through a tutorial contract form. Summer schools and winter schools other than LOT need approval from the Director of Studies.

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.

Article 3.2.2 Structure of the ReMA Track NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

This track consists of the following course units with the assigned workload in ECTS:

Year 1

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS	
1	Language Models and Applications	10	C
2	Linguistic Analysis	10	C
3	Advanced Machine Learning (FSE)	5	E
4	Research Training	5	E
5	Societal Aspect of NLP	5	C
6	Corpus Linguistics	5	E
7	Language Brain and Cognition	10	C
8	Advanced Topics in NLP	5	C
9	Language Technology Project	5	C
10	Research Training	10	C
	Relevant course units at a different university within the consortium, in consultation with the <i>Director of Studies</i> and with permission from the Board of Examiners *		

Year 2

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS	
11	Deep Learning (FSE)	5	E
12	LOT Winter/Summer School	5	E
13	Computational Semantics	5	C
14	Research Seminar	5	C
15	Research Training**	10	C
16	Semantic Web Technology	5	C
17	Thesis	30	C
	Relevant course units at a different university within the consortium, in consultation with the <i>Director of Studies</i> and with permission from the Board of Examiners *		

* Alternative relevant courses at a different partner university are valid only for students enrolled in the EMJD Language and Communication Technologies.

** Research Training can be substituted with ReMa work placement / stage. The Research Training module may be taken in both semesters and for up to 25 ECTS.

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.

Article 3.2.3 Structure of the ReMA Track CLINICAL LINGUISTICS/EMCL25

This track consists of the following course units with the assigned workload in ECTS:

Term 1 (University of Eastern Finland)

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
17	Introduction to Developmental and Acquired Speech and Language Problems*	5

18	Language and Languages - A Course on General Linguistics	5
19	Linguistic Reading Group	3
20	Empirical Research Methods in Linguistics	5
21	Introduction to Python Programming for Linguistic Research	3
22	Introduction to Phonetics and the Praat Tool	2
23	Statistics and Data Visualisation for Linguistics	5
24	Introduction to Praat Script Programming for Clinical Linguistic Research	2

*This course is taught at the University of Eastern Finland by teachers of the University of Groningen.

Term 2 (Ghent University)

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
25	Statistics and Research Methods applied to the development and validation of language research tools	7
26	Reading Acquisition and Dyslexia	4
27	Bilingualism	4
28	Computational Models in Psycholinguistics	4
29	Advances in Psycholinguistics	3
30	Eye-tracking in Language Research	3
31	Internship Preparation + “Meet the Employer Event”	5

Term 3 & 4 (University of Groningen)

No.	Course unit	Student workload in ECTS
32	Advanced course in Developmental and Acquired Speech and Language Problems	5
33	Apps and Games in Clinical Linguistics	5
34	Language Testing during Awake Surgery (LTABS)	5
35	Neuroimaging and Language (NI&L)	5
36	ReMa Internship Linguistics EMCL*	10
37	Master's thesis Linguistics: EMCL*	30

*The ReMA Internship Linguistics EMCL and Master's thesis Linguistics: EMCL are taught under supervision of one of the Partners. All students have an EMCL internal advisor (i.e., a teacher of the program at the University of Groningen, University of Eastern Finland, or Ghent University) and can have an external advisor who is typically one of the associated partners of the program (e.g., a researcher/clinician at another university, a company, a medical center).

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 4 Tests and examinations of the degree programme

Article 4.1 – 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:

Language and Cognition

No.	Course unit	No.	After passing course unit
1	Advanced Research Training in Linguistics	1 3 2	Basic Statistics, Corpus Linguistics, Linguistic Analysis
3	Research Master Thesis in Linguistics, including Thesis Class	1 3 2	Basic Statistics, Corpus Linguistics, Linguistic Analysis

Natural Language Processing

No.	Course unit	No.	After passing course unit
17	Research Master Thesis in Natural Language Processing	6 2 1 8 9 14	Corpus Linguistics Linguistic Analysis Language Models and Applications Advanced Topics in Natural Language Processing Language Technology Project Research Seminar Information Science Societal Aspect in NLP

Clinical Linguistics

No.	Course unit	No.	After passing course unit
36	ReMa Internship Linguistics EMCL	17- 33	Introduction to Developmental and Acquired Speech and Language Problems* Language and Languages - A Course on General Linguistics Linguistic Reading Group Empirical Research Methods in Linguistics Introduction to Python Programming for Linguistic Research Introduction to Phonetics and the Praat Tool Statistics and Data Visualisation for Linguistics Introduction to Praat Script Programming for Clinical Linguistic Research Statistics and Research Methods applied to the development and validation of language research tools Reading Acquisition and Dyslexia Bilingualism Computational Models in Psycholinguistics Advances in Psycholinguistics Eye-tracking in Language Research Internship Preparation + "Meet the Employer Event" Advanced course in Developmental and Acquired Speech and Language Problems Apps and Games in Clinical Linguistics
37	Master's thesis Linguistics: EMCL++	36, 17- 35	ReMA Internship Linguistics EMCL Introduction to Developmental and Acquired Speech and Language Problems* Language and Languages - A Course on General Linguistics Linguistic Reading Group

			Empirical Research Methods in Linguistics Introduction to Python Programming for Linguistic Research Introduction to Phonetics and the Praat Tool Statistics and Data Visualisation for Linguistics Introduction to Praat Script Programming for Clinical Linguistic Research Statistics and Research Methods applied to the development and validation of language research tools Reading Acquisition and Dyslexia Bilingualism Computational Models in Psycholinguistics Advances in Psycholinguistics Eye-tracking in Language Research Internship Preparation + "Meet the Employer Event" Advanced course in Developmental and Acquired Speech and Language Problems Apps and Games in Clinical Linguistics Language Testing during Awake Surgery (LTABS) Neuroimaging and Language (NI&L)
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4.2 The provisions set out in Article 5.4 of the TER Part A (Honours predicate) do not apply to the Research Master Clinical Linguistics (EMCL). Instead, a student who passes this degree programme will receive an overall classification, which is expressed according to the following system:

- A = excellent
- B = very good
- C = good
- D = satisfactory
- E = sufficient

SECTION 5 – TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Article 5.1 – Transitional arrangements

For the NLP Track, students who started the programme on 1 September 2025 or earlier are not affected by the revised programme for 2026/2027 as they will complete or have completed all relevant courses for the EMJD Language and Communication Technologies at partner universities.

SECTION 6 – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 6.1 – 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 students.

Article 6.2 – Publication

- The Faculty Board shall duly publish these Regulations, any rules and guidelines formulated by the Board of Examiners, and any amendments to these documents.
- Copies of the documents referred to in Article 6.2.1 are available from the Faculty Office. These documents can also be found on the Faculty website via 'My University'.

Article 6.3 – Date of commencement

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.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Assessment Plan