
Appendix 3 to the European Languages and Cultures Teaching and Examination Regulations 2018-2019 (OER)

European Languages and Cultures Stay Abroad memo (for students from the 2018-2019 cohort or earlier)

1. Eligibility for a stay abroad

Students must have passed at least the following course units in order to be eligible for the stay abroad in the third year:

- a. Propaedeutic phase (60 ECTS)
- b. 35 ECTS from the post-prodaedeutic phase, including in any case:
 - 2x5 ECTS Language Major course units 3a and 3b
 - 3x5 ECTS Language-specific course units in Culture and Literature, Language and Society, and Politics and Society (in the language of the Major)
 - 2x5 ECTS from Profile courses (second or third-year course units)

2. Admission to the Language-specific 2 course units

Admission to the Language-specific 2 course units is possible once the Language Major course units up to and including 3a and 3b and the Language-specific 1 course unit (15 ECTS) have been successfully completed. See the OER.

3. Admission to the Bachelor's thesis phase

Admission to the Bachelor's thesis phase can only be granted if the language-deepening supervision course unit has been passed during the Stay Abroad (see the OER for the full admission requirements for the Bachelor's thesis phase).

What do you need to do if you have earned too few ECTS while abroad?

A. Retention of language specialization endorsement

Students who do not earn the requisite 25 ECTS credit points during the stay abroad but still wish to be eligible for a language specialization endorsement on their degree certificate must look for replacement course units in the language of their Major in or outside the University of Groningen themselves. These must then be submitted for approval to the Board of Examiners.

If a student earns 24 ECTS credit points during the stay abroad, there are two possible ways to compensate for the remaining 1 ECTS credit point.

- a. The language-deepening supervision course unit can be extended to 6 ECTS.
- b. One of the language-specific course units (2 x 5 ECTS) in the second semester can be extended to 6 ECTS.

This compensation must be specified by the relevant study abroad coordinator and approved by the Board of Examiners.

B. ETC without language specialization endorsement

During or after the stay abroad, students can decide not to follow their language specialization within the regular ETC programme. Using this option means that no language specialization endorsement will be included in the diploma supplement attached to the degree certificate. In that case, the Bachelor's thesis does not have to be written in the language of the Major (French, German, Italian, Spanish or Swedish), but can be written in English or Dutch. If Russian is the language of the Major, the Bachelor's thesis will in any case be written in English or Dutch.

If the student chooses during or after the stay abroad to give up the language specialization endorsement, and this results in too few ECTS credit points being earned during the stay abroad, a replacement course unit must be followed which fits the chosen profile. This does not necessarily have to be in the language of the Major.

This course unit must be submitted for approval to the Board of Examiners.

4. Conditions for resitting the Major language-deepening supervision course unit

The Major language-deepening supervision course unit (5 ECTS) is a permanent part of the stay abroad and must be followed remotely. Students who fulfil all entry requirements for the examination which concludes this course unit but do not pass it have the option of resitting before the start of the following semester. Students will be admitted to the resit if they have presented a clear plan of action to the stay abroad coordinator so as to reach the required language level. This could be done, for example, with a supplementary language course at an academic level, or by following extra course units at another university.

Students who do not meet the entry requirements for the supervision course unit examination must gain the permission of the Board of Examiners, in consultation with the study abroad coordinator, to follow a replacement course unit, perhaps at another university, in order to achieve the required language level.