



university of groningen

faculty of religion, culture
and society

Teaching and Examination Regulations
Master's degree programme
Theology and Religious Studies

supplement prospectus 2026-2027

Contents

1. General provisions
2. Qualifications and Admission
3. Content and structure of the degree programme
4. Examinations
5. The examination
6. Tutoring
7. Transitional and final provisions

The Teaching and Examination Regulations set out the specific rights and obligations that apply to each degree programme taught at the University of Groningen, for both students and the degree programme. The University-wide section of the Student Charter sets out the rights and obligations that apply to all students.

These Regulations were adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Religion, Culture and Society on 27 august 2026 and approved by the Faculty Council and the Programme Committee where required by law on 8 July 2026.

Section 1 - General provisions

Article 1.1 – Applicability of the Teaching and Examination Regulations

1. These Regulations for the academic year 2026-2027 apply to the teaching, examinations and final assessment of the Master's degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies, ISAT degree programme code 60824, (hereinafter referred to as **the degree programme**), tracks, and to all students enrolled in this degree programme and in tracks within the degree programmes.
2. The degree programme is provided by the Faculty of Religion, Culture and Society of the University of Groningen, hereinafter referred to as **the Faculty**.
3. These Regulations also apply to students of other degree programmes, faculties or institutes of higher education, insofar as they follow course units in the degree programmes offered by the Faculty to which these Regulations apply.
4. Course units that students of the degree programme as referred to in Article 1.1.1 follow in other degree programmes or at other faculties or institutes of higher education are subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of that programme, faculty or institute.
5. These Regulations also apply to the admission of students to the Pre-Master's programmes referred to in Article 2.4 with a view to following the degree programme. In all other respects, the relevant Bachelor's TER will apply to students who are enrolled in a Pre-Master's programme.

Article 1.2 Definitions

The following definitions apply to these Regulations:

- The Act: the Higher Education and Research Act [WHW, Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek]
- Student: a person registered at the University of Groningen for the purpose of taking course units and/or examinations and the final assessment leading to the conferral of a university degree
- Degree programme: the Master's degree programme referred to in Article 1.1 of these Regulations, comprising a coherent set of course units;
- Course unit: a teaching unit of the degree programme within the meaning of Section 7.4 of the Act;
- OCASYS: the University of Groningen's online course units catalogue;
- ECTS credit points: credit points as referred to in Article 7.4 of the Act, which specify the scope of the degree programme's course unit, whereby 1 ECTS is equivalent to a student workload of 28 hours;
- Pre-Master's programme: a programme intended to remedy deficiencies for admission to the degree programme;
- Test or examination: a test of the knowledge, understanding and skills of students, including an assessment of the results;
- Final assessment: the final assessment for the Master's degree which is considered to be passed once all the requirements of the entire Master's degree programme have been satisfied;
- Academic year: the period of time that starts on 1 September and ends on 31 August of the following year;
- Semester: part of the academic year, either starting on 1 September and ending on a date to be determined by the Board of the University, or starting on the aforementioned date determined by the Board of the University and ending on 31 August;
- Board of Examiners: an independent body with the duties and powers as stated in Articles 7.11, 7.12, 7.12b and 7.12c of the Act, including assessing whether the requirements of the final assessment have been met;
- Examiner: a person appointed by the Board of Examiners to set examinations and determine their results

- Admissions Board: the board that has decision-making powers in matters concerning admission to the degree programme on behalf of the Faculty Board.
- Programme committee: the consultative and advisory body that fulfils the duties referred to in Article 9.18 of the Act.
- Track: a graduation specialization as approved by the Board of the University;
- Practical: a practical exercise, as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, in one of the following forms:
 - a thesis
 - a written assignment or a draft design
 - a written paper or draft
 - a research assignment
 - participation in a field trip or an excursion
 - completion of a placement/internship
 - participation in other educational activities designed to teach certain skills;
- Extraordinary circumstances: circumstances such as those referred to in Article 7.51 of the Act, which will be taken into account when formulating decisions within the meaning of Article 4.9. Article 7.51 of the Act is further elaborated in the University of Groningen Graduation Fund Regulations. In these Regulations, extraordinary circumstances include, in any case, a disability or chronic illness, illness, pregnancy and delivery, extraordinary family circumstances, a degree programme that is not feasible, students with an elite sports status (issued by the elite sports coordinator), students with a 'student entrepreneur status' (issued by the UGCE), and membership of a consultative participation body.

All other definitions will have the meaning that the Act ascribes to them.

Section 2 - Qualifications and admission

Article 2.1 Qualifications

1. Students with a Dutch or foreign certificate of higher education that, according to the Admissions Board, indicates that they have sufficient knowledge, insight and skills in the field of classical theology, theology or religious studies, or in a related field within the arts, philosophy, social sciences at University Bachelor's level, will be eligible for admission to the degree programme.
2. Holders of a Bachelor's degree in 'Godgeleerdheid', 'Theologie', 'Godsdienstwetenschap', 'Wetenschap van godsdienst en levensbeschouwing' or 'Religiewetenschappen' from the University of Groningen are considered to have the knowledge and skills referred to in Article 2.1.1 and are admissible to the degree programme on this basis.
3. A request for admission after 1 September may be submitted to the Admissions Board by email: studentoffice.rcs@rug.nl. A decision regarding this application will be taken within 4-6 weeks.
4. If a candidate does not have a Bachelor's degree certificate, the Admissions Board must assess whether they can be admitted based on the possession of knowledge, understanding and skills at the level of a Bachelor's degree.
5. Candidates who do not have a Bachelor's degree in Arts/Humanities or Behavioural and Social Sciences may be exempted from the requirement to complete the pre-Master's programme if they have:
 - a) completed a RCS university minor of 30 ECTS, i.e.:
 - Religion in the Modern World
 - Art and Religion
 - Anthropology: What it means to be Human
 - Climate Change and Inequality or

- b) can demonstrate completion of 30 ECTS worth of subjects in their previous degree programme that have introduced them to at least one of the following disciplines:
 - Politics/Political Sciences, Philosophy, Gender Studies, Migration, Development Studies, Human Rights (RCG);
 - History, Cultural Studies, Heritage Studies, Archaeology, Architecture, Art History, Spatial Sciences (Cultural Geography) (HR);
 - Archaeology, Ancient History, Ancient Languages, Ancient Philosophy (RP);
 - Sociocultural Anthropology, Non-Western Anthropology, or Medical Anthropology (ARC).
- c) proficiency in the language(s) used in the track, see art. 2.2.

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 required by the Admissions Board – before registration – to pass a Dutch or English language test, depending on the language of the chosen degree programme/track, to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Board.
2. Concerning the Master's degree programme A (Spiritual Care/Geestelijke Verzorging) the Dutch language proficiency requirement can in any event be met by passing the state examination in Dutch as a Second Language (NT2, programme II). The conditions listed in Article 2.2.3 apply to the English language proficiency requirement.
3. Concerning the Master's degree programme B t/m E the English language proficiency requirement can be met by passing an examination in English at the level of the VWO final exam or by passing the TOEFL 4.5 (internet-based) or higher (minimum scores for reading, listening and speaking 4, writing 4.5), an IELTS score of at least 6.5 overall (6.0 on each part), a Pearson Academic score of at least 66 (reading 62, listening and speaking 54, writing 62), a LanguageCert Academic score of at least 70 (65 on each part), or a comparable Cambridge Proficiency score (C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency). A certificate from the University of Groningen Language Centre with a CEFR B2-C1 or higher score will also be accepted.

Article 2.3 Pre-Master's programme

1. The Faculty offers Pre-Master's programmes to facilitate entry into a Faculty Master's degree programme.
2. Students who enroll in the Pre-Master's programme in Theology and Religious Studies/Religion and Pluralism are registered in the Bachelor's degree programme in Religious Studies.
Students who enroll in the Pre-Master's programme in Theology and Religious Studies/Religion, Conflict and Globalization are registered in the Bachelor's degree programme in Religious Studies.
Students who enroll in the Pre-Master's programme in Theology and Religious Studies/Heritage and Religion are registered in the Bachelor's degree programme in Religious Studies.
Students who enroll in the Pre-Master's programme in Theology and Religious Studies/Anthropology of Religion and Culture are registered in the Bachelor's degree programme in Religious Studies.
Students who enroll in the Pre-Master's programme in Theology and Religious Studies/Geestelijke Verzorging/Spiritual Care are registered in the Bachelor's degree programme in Theology.
3. The content and the student workload of the Pre-Master's programme are determined by the Admissions Board on a case-by-case basis.
4. The Admissions Board of the desired Master's degree programme will decide whether students are admitted to the Pre-Master's programme.

Article 2.4 Admissions Board

1. The Admissions Board has the authority to decide on behalf of the Faculty Board in matters concerning admission to the degree programme.
2. The Admissions Board of the degree programme in tracks B-E consists of:
 - a member, also the Chair, selected from the professors who teach the degree programme or a member from the academic staff, selected by the Faculty Board
 - three members selected from the other academic staff who teach the degree programme.
3. The Admissions Board of the degree programme in programme A Spiritual Care consists of:
 - a member, also the Chair, selected from the professors who teach the degree programme or a member from the academic staff, selected by the Faculty Board
 - one member selected from the other academic staff who teach the degree programme.
4. The study advisor for the degree programme (or an equivalent member of faculty staff) will be an advisory member and also secretary.
5. The selection will be made by the Faculty Board, which will also determine the admission requirements.

Article 2.5 Entrance examination: times

1. The entrance examination for the degree programme will be held once a year, as the degree programme commences in the first semester.
2. Applications for admission to the degree programme and a specific track must be submitted to the Admissions Board before 1 May (for the non EU/EER-students as well the EU/EER-students), depending on the desired starting date.
3. In special cases, the Admissions Board can handle a request that has been submitted after the closing date stated in Article 2.5.2.
4. The Admissions Board will decide before 15 June. Admission is granted on condition that on the start date concerned, the candidate satisfies the requirements of Article 2.1 concerning knowledge and skills, as evident from documentary proof of the programmes they have followed.
In the written statement regarding admission, the student is informed of the possibility of appeal to the Board of Appeal for Examinations.

Article 2.6 Validity of an admission decision

The decision of the Admission Board that a candidate is admitted to a Master's degree programme remains valid during two successive years.

Article 2.7 Registration (or reregistration) for a Master's degree programme

1. There is one intake date for admission, namely 1 September.
2. Students who were admitted to the Master's degree programme in a previous year can re-register as of September and February.

Section 3 - Content and structure of the degree programme

Article 3.1 Aim and learning outcomes of the degree programme

1. The degree programme is designed to:
 1. convey specialized knowledge, skills, and insight in the field of Theology and Religious Studies
 2. promote academic development. This is defined as the development of competences (knowledge, skills and attitudes) concerning:
 - independent academic thought, action and communication
 - the use of the relevant academic instruments

- academic communication in the mother tongue
- the use of specific knowledge of a field in a wider academic, philosophical and social/cultural context
- the necessary skills to conduct research in the field of Theology and Religious Studies, applying the relevant disciplinary standards of responsible research, and to report on such research in a way that satisfies the recognized standards in the field
- 3. prepare students for a further (study) career.
 - *For all Master's tracks:*
 - to provide an academic basis for the Master's degree programme Social Sciences and Humanities in Secondary Education, Theology and Religious Studies (certificate NT2, programme II is requested for non-Dutch students)
 - to prepare students for the training programme to become an academic researcher in the field of theology and/or religious studies.
 - *For all Master's tracks with exemption of the Master's track Spiritual Care:*
 - to provide an academic basis for a career in the field of policy, culture, church work, education and communication, for example in the media, government institutions, commercial companies, church congregations or various forms of special pastoral care and cultural institutions
 - *And for the Master's track in Spiritual Care:*
 - provide students with an academic basis for reflection on the function and position of a spiritual care giver in the current religious and cultural situation, and for academic research in this field
 - to provide a basis for a career as a spiritual care giver at an academic level
 - to prepare students for the training programme to become an academic researcher in the field of spiritual care.
- 2. The graduate who starts the Master's degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies will attain the following learning outcomes and is able to:

Knowledge and understanding

 1. demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of the most important scholarly debates, theoretical perspectives and relevant methodologies in one subfield (track) of theology and religious studies
 2. demonstrate extensive knowledge and understanding of scholarly debates, theoretical perspectives and methodologies in the field of at least one theme within a subfield (track) of theology and religious studies

Applying knowledge and understanding

 3. independently carry out an academic analysis of source materials and texts in the field of theology and religious studies
 4. independently and in scholarly sound fashion collect and process sources and literature in analogue or digital catalogues and databases in a subfield of theology and religious studies
 5. demonstrate their familiarity with the research methods commonly used in a subfield (track) of theology and religious studies
 6. independently design and implement a research project within a specific subfield (track) of theology and religious studies
 7. independently apply their acquired knowledge and understanding to develop specific products that are relevant in professional contexts

Forming judgements

8. weigh historical, methodological, social and ethical concerns in a specific subfield (track) of theology and religious studies in analyses of complex issues and independently form judgements about the matter
9. critically reflect on current scholarly and social debates regarding the role of religion in society
10. independently judge their own academic responsibility in a subfield of theology and religious studies

Communication

11. participate in discussions about the state of affairs regarding research within one or more subfields of theology and religious studies
12. translate professional insights and the results of their own and other people's academic research orally and in writing for a broad audience of specialists and non-specialists
13. report on their own research in a manner that satisfies current academic standards within the relevant subfield of theology and religious studies

Learning skills

14. possesses social and communication skills and can use them in collaborative situations;
 15. give fellow students constructive feedback and receive feedback from fellow students, and they can adequately process substantiated criticism;
 16. adequately process instructions and criticism from supervisors;
 17. work independently, including formulate a realistic plan and adhere to the agreed planning and priorities;
 18. independently gather information about relevant professional sectors and integrate their acquired knowledge and skills in relevant positions or working environments
3. Graduates of the track Spiritual Care qualify for registration in the Quality Register for Spiritual Care (SKGV: *Stichting Kwaliteitsregister Geestelijke Verzorgers*). The learning outcomes of this specialization are as follows. A graduate who successfully completes this specialization is able to:
1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the methods, theories and scholarly debates in the field of spiritual care
 2. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the complex organizations in which spiritual care counsellors are active
 3. demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of the psychological, ideological and ethical aspects of religion, health and Well-being and their interrelationships in the Western multicultural and multi-faith society
 4. demonstrate critical understanding (based on (1-3)) of the way in which people create meaning and belief in their specific context and the role of a spiritual care counsellor in this process
 5. collaborate with colleagues and representatives of other disciplines thanks to their understanding of the work fields of various closely related professions
 6. demonstrate the communicative and methodological skills required to work as spiritual care counsellors
 7. embody and combine their expertise, professional skills and personal faith and ideology in a well-thought out and credible manner.
4. The learning outcomes of the individual course units taught in the various tracks can be found in Ocasys (see Appendix 1)

Article 3.2 Conducting research

1. Students who conduct research in the context of the programme do so in accordance with relevant legislation, the Dutch code of conduct for academic integrity, and the requirements of ethically sound research.
2. Prior to the investigation, the student makes a risk assessment in which attention is paid both to reflection on the sources or persons to be investigated and to the (position of the) investigator themselves.
3. Throughout the entire research process, the student will adhere to the applicable policies and procedures, which are based on the faculty's data management policy.
4. Prior to the period of research, the student, together with their supervisor, can draw up a data management plan. This is then stored, in accordance with the faculty's data policy. At a minimum, this plan will address:
 - the student's responsibilities concerning the processing of personal data
 - the data storage measures (including security measures) used in the course of the research
 - archiving and retention period
 - the responsibility for reusing data after the research has been completed.
5. In general, the student holds the copyright on any theses or other independently written assignments that are intended to test their knowledge, understanding, and skills. If anyone else wishes to use the student's thesis/final project or written work, the student must first give permission for them to do so. The University must be free to perform these procedures unconditionally if it is to archive theses and written assignments (whether or not these are under embargo) and to process them in accordance with the rules of the Dutch Inspectorate of Education and the Higher Education and Research Act. All students are obliged to give their unconditional consent to the aforementioned procedures.

Article 3.3 Type of degree programme

The degree programme is full-time. The Master's track Spiritual Care is also available in part-time variant.

Article 3.4 Language of the degree programme

1. The degree programmes are taught in Dutch (A) and English (B, C, D, E).
2. Notwithstanding Article 3.4.1, one or more course units of the degree programme may be taught in English in line with the University of Groningen Language Policy.
3. In programme A Spiritual Care Dutch-speaking students may use the Dutch language in examinations (assignments, papers, exams)
4. In English taught course units of the Master's tracks Religion and Pluralism, Heritage and Religion, Religion, Conflict and Globalization and Anthropology of Religion and Culture Dutch-speaking students may use the Dutch language in assessments (papers, exams). In case the examiner is not sufficiently familiar, or feels he/she is not sufficiently familiar with the Dutch language in order to critically assess Dutch assignments, the assignment is to be assessed by a relevant teaching assistant, lecturer, or professor who Master's the Dutch language at C1 level, at the request of the examiner.
5. Individual non-Dutch students and examiners may make arrangements for examinations to be taken in a different language.

Article 3.5 Student workload

1. The degree programme has a student workload of 60 ECTS credit points.
2. The student workload is expressed in whole ECTS credit points.
3. The part-time variant has a student workload of 30 ECTS credit points a year.

Article 3.6 Tracks

The degree programme has the following tracks:

- A. Track Spiritual Care (GV) with placement

- B. Track Religion and Pluralism: Ancient and Modern (RP) with placement
- C. Track Religion, Conflict and Globalization (RCG) with placement
- D. Track Heritage and Religion (HR) with placement
- E. Track Anthropology of Religion and Culture (ARC) with fieldwork

Article 3.7 Content of the tracks

1. **Track A (Spiritual Care (full time and part time))** consists of the following theoretical course units with their related student workload:
 1. Perspectieven op Zingeving (7.5 ECTS)
 2. Methoden van de Geestelijke verzorging (7.5 ECTS)
 3. Psychopathologie en religie (5 ECTS)
 4. Social Scientific Research Methods (5 ECTS)

2. **Track B (Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern)** consists of the following theoretical course units with their related student workload (see appendix 1 – Joint Master's programme with Córdoba):
 1. The Construction of Religious Identities in Europe: Religious Diversity in the Greco-Roman World (10 ECTS)
 2. Choice (1 out of 3):
 - On the move: People(s), cultures and religions (5 ECTS)
 - Material Religion: Thinks, Places, Performances and Belief (5 ECTS)
 - Dark Heritage: Memorialising Death and Disaster (5 ECTS)
 3. Fragments and Ruins: Heritage and Historical Approaches to the Past (5 ECTS), or: Social Scientific Research Methods (5 ECTS)
 4. Choice (2 out of 5):
 - Apocalypse and Politics (5 ECTS)
 - Growth and Expansion of Religious Identities: Religious Disputes in the Formation of Christianity and Islam (5 ECTS)
 - Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding (5 ECTS)
 - Religion, Gender and Sexuality: from Politics to Everyday Life (5 ECTS)
 - AI in Religion and Culture (5 ECTS)

- *NB. If students want to choose course units from other tracks instead, this may also be possible. This requires the approval of the Board of Examiners, and is subject to scheduling options.*

- 1.3 **Track C (Religion, Conflict and Globalization)** consists of the following theoretical courseunits with their related student workload:
 1. Religion, Conflict and Globalization: A Critical Introduction (5 ECTS)
 2. Choice (2 out of 4):
 - On the move: People(s), cultures and religions (5 ECTS)
 - Ethnographic methods: Researching lifeworlds (5 ECTS)
 - Dark Heritage: Memorialising Death and Disaster (5 ECTS)
 - Material religion (5 ECTS)
 3. Social Scientific Research Methods (5 ECTS), or: Fragments and Ruins: Heritage and Historical Approaches to the Past (5 ECTS)
 4. Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding (5 ECTS)
 5. Choice (1 out of 5):
 - Religion, Gender and Sexuality: from Politics to Everyday Life (5 ECTS)
 - Creative Heritage: Practices, Communities and Institutions (5 ECTS)
 - Museums and Religion: Critical Approaches (5 ECTS)
 - AI in Religion and Culture (5 ECTS)
 - Psychopathologie en religie (Dutch taught) (5 ECTS)

- *NB. If students want to choose course units from other tracks instead, this may also be possible. This requires the approval of the Board of Examiners, and is subject to scheduling options.*

- 1.4 **Track D (Heritage and Religion)** consists of the following theoretical course units with their related student workload:
1. The Uses of the Past: Public History and Heritage (5 ECTS)
 2. Choice (2 out of 2):
 - Material Religion: Things, Places, Performances, and Belief (5 ECTS)
 - Dark Heritage: Memorialising Death and Disaster (5 ECTS)
 3. Fragments and Ruins: Heritage and Historical Approaches to the Past (5 ECTS) or: Social Scientific Research Methods (5 ECTS)
 4. Choice (2 out of 3):
 - Creative Heritage: Practices, Communities and Institutions (5 ECTS)
 - Museums and Religion: Critical Approaches (5 ECTS)
 - AI in Religion and Culture (5 ECTS)
- *NB. If students want to choose course units from other tracks instead, this may also be possible. This requires the approval of the Board of Examiners, and is subject to scheduling options.*
- 1.5 **Track E (Anthropology of Religion and Culture)** consists of the following theoretical course units with their related student workload:
1. Concepts and debates in Anthropology of religion 1: Understanding lifeworlds (5 ECTS)
 2. Ethnographic methods: Researching lifeworlds (5 ECTS)
 3. Choice (1 out of 3):
 - On the move: People(s), cultures, and religions (5 ECTS)
 - Dark Heritage: Memorialising Death and Disaster (5 ECTS)
 - Material religion (5 ECTS)
 4. Social Scientific Research Methods (5 ECTS), or: Fragments and Ruins: Heritage and Historical Approaches to the Past (5 ECTS)
 5. Concepts and debates in Anthropology of religion 2: Anthropology in dialogue (5 ECTS)
 6. Choice (1 out of 4):
 - Religion, Gender and Sexuality: from Politics to Everyday Life (5 ECTS)
 - Museums and Religion: Critical Approaches (5 ECTS)
 - AI in Religion and Culture (5 ECTS)
 - Psychopathologie en religie (Dutch taught) (5 ECTS)
- *NB. If students want to choose course units from other tracks instead, this may also be possible. This requires the approval of the Board of Examiners, and is subject to scheduling options.*
2. Track A Spiritual Care also contains the following compulsory course units with their related student workload:
- (a) a placement or a research placement (15 ECTS)
 - (b) a thesis/final project (20 ECTS)
3. Tracks B-E also contain the following compulsory course units with their related student workload
- (a) a placement (track B, C, D) or fieldwork (track E) (10 ECTS)
 - (b) a thesis/final project (20 ECTS)
- With the approval of the Board of Examiners, a student may select, instead of a placement, a tutorial or course unit (10 ECTS) from a different specialization of the Master's degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies or from the Master's degree programme of another Faculty or University.
4. All course units and their modes of instruction are listed in the digital University course catalogue OCASYS.
 5. 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.

6. The appendix describes the content and teaching method of the compulsory components of the various tracks in more detail, stating the prior knowledge required to successfully participate in the component in question.

Article 3.8 Electives

1. Following a student's substantiated request, the Board of Examiners can grant prior permission to:
 - a. replace part of the examination programme with another course unit offered by the University of Groningen or another university in the Netherlands or elsewhere that is in keeping in with the examination programme, or
 - b. replace one of the examinations programme's electives with one or more course units followed at the University of Groningen or another university in the Netherlands or elsewhere.
2. When assessing the request, the Board of Examiners will in any case evaluate the coherence of the set of course units (or part thereof) and the level of the course units followed.

Article 3.9 Open Degree Programme

1. Students can choose one of the degree programme's Open Degree Programmes that deviates from the adopted degree programme (or degree programmes). An Open Degree Programme must always be approved in advance by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme for which the student is registered.
2. The following additional requirements apply to Open Degree Programmes:
 - a. Meet the learning outcomes of the Master's degree programme
 - b. Meaningful relationship

Article 3.10 Practicals

1. With regard to the following course units, successful participation in the relevant practical is considered to mean passing the examination:

Methoden van de Geestelijke verzorging,
 Perspectieven op zingeving,
 Social Scientific Research Methods,
 Stage Geestelijke Verzorging,
 Dark Heritage,
 Material Religion,
 The Uses of the Past,
 Creative Heritage: Practices, Communities and Institutions,
 Fragments and Ruins: Heritage and Historical Approaches to the Past,
 Museums and Religion,
 Internship Master's THRS,
 Master's thesis,
 Ethnographic Methods,
 Concepts and Debates in Anthropology of Religion 2: Anthropology in Dialogue,
 Religion, Gender and Sexuality: from Politics to Everyday Life,
 Ethnographic Research,
 Religion, Conflict and Globalisation,
 The Construction of Religious Identities in Europe: Religious Diversity in the Greco-Roman World,
 Growth and Expansion of Religious Identities,
 Apocalypse and Politics,
 Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding,
 Religion, Gender and Sexuality,
 On the move,
 Thesis Seminar,
 Concepts and debates in Anthropology of religion 1: Understanding lifeworlds,
 AI in Religion and Culture.

Article 3.11 Contact hours

1. Details of the contact hours are registered in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS (see Appendix 1).

Article 3.12 Participation in course units

1. If they have registered for a specific course unit of the programme in good time, by means of Progresswww (<https://progresswww.nl/rug/>), students can then participate in that course unit.
2. The maximum number of students for each course unit is listed in OCASYS.
3. Participation in course units with a limited capacity takes place in the order of registration, subject to the proviso that students registered for the degree programme have priority for the course units in the compulsory part of their degree programme.
4. Students who are registered for the Master's degree programme cannot access the course units of a Bachelor's degree programme.

Section 4 - Examinations

Article 4.1 Examination; general

1. Each course unit of the degree programme is assessed by means of an examination.
2. An examination can comprise a number of partial exams. The results of these partial exams together determine the examination result.
3. The examination assesses students' academic development and mastery of the learning outcomes of the course unit.
4. A resit opportunity is offered for each partial exam (summative assessment) of a course unit. This resit may comprise resits of various different partial exams previously taken. The lecturer is responsible for the design of such resits.
5. The following stipulations apply to participation in course units with seminars or working groups as teaching method and practicals with compulsory attendance:
 1. In this article, 'practicals' are understood to be practical exercises as referred to in Article 1.2.d and their associated lectures.
 2. If a practical incorporates lectures, an 75 % attendance requirement will apply to these lectures.
 3. Students who attend fewer than 75% of the lectures will not be allowed to sit the examination for the course unit in question and must repeat the course unit.
 4. The stipulations in Article 4.1.5 concerning the practicals c.q. the course units with compulsory attendance will apply if they are listed in the course unit description in Ocasys.
 5. In exceptional cases, the Board of Examiners may decide to deviate from the stipulations of the previous articles in favour of a student. Such a decision must be supported by reasons.
6. For courses in which academic writing- or presenting skills are embedded, the compulsory attendance of 75% applies to both the core course as well as the skills component. The following stipulations apply to participation in examinations:
 1. Students who do not satisfy the stipulations listed in Articles 4.1.5. 1 to 4 are banned from participating in the examination.
 2. In accordance with the stipulations of Article 4.1.5 with regard to compulsory attendance at practicals or course units, students who attend fewer than 75% of the lectures of the following course units will be banned from participation in the examination:
 - Spiritual Care: Roles and Methods
 - Psychopathology and Religion
 - Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding
7. Papers that are not submitted before the original deadline will fall under the resit

regulations and must be submitted before the second deadline, which falls in the resit period.

8. Papers that are submitted before the original deadline but are awarded a fail mark can be resat/improved and must then be resubmitted before the second deadline, in the resit period of the relevant teaching block or semester.
9. Papers that are not submitted before the resit deadline will not be marked. The student in question will have to write a new paper on a new topic in the next academic year.
10. The results of an examination are expressed in grades with one decimal place and are either pass or fail, in numbers on a scale of 1 to 10, expressed as 5.5 or more for a pass and 5.4 for a fail.
11. The (weighted) final mark for a course unit must be 5.5 or higher. If the final mark is based on several partial exam results, then each part must have been awarded at least a 5.5.
12. An examination that has been passed (5.5 or higher) may not be taken again.
13. If a student has completed all the compulsory parts of a course unit to the best of their ability but has still not passed, then the examiner may give them the opportunity to take a supplementary or replacement test. Granting this opportunity is subject to approval by the Board of Examiners.

Article 4.2 Sitting examinations

1. Registration for a part of the degree programme means registration for the examination for that part.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4.2.1, students can register and deregister for examinations during certain periods to be further defined.

Article 4.3 – Compulsory order of examinations

The examinations for the course units listed below may not be taken until after the examinations for the associated course units have been passed:

Course unit name	after has been passed
Methoden van de Geestelijke verzorging	the specifically preparatory course units of the pre-Master's / minor Spiritual Care
Placement in track Spiritual Care	Methoden van de Geestelijke verzorging*; and sufficient progress in the course unit Psychopathologie en Religie
Ethnographic Research	Ethnographic Methods
Master's thesis	One of the following course units: Onderzoeksmethoden (5 ECTS), Conducting Research on Religion, Health and Well-being (5 ECTS), Research Lab (5 ECTS), New Historical Methods for the Study of Christian Pluralism (5 ECTS), Fragments and Ruins: Heritage and Historical Approaches to the Past (5 ECTS), Historical Methods in Early Christianity (5 ECTS), Social Scientific Research Methods (5 ECTS), or Research methods and skills in Heritage and Historical Studies (5 ECTS)

*Or successful completion of the course unit Geestelijke Verzorging: rollen en methoden.

Article 4.4 Examination frequency and periods

1. There will be an opportunity to sit one examination and one resit for the course units listed in Article 3.6. For partial examinations, one resit for all partial examinations

- together may be opted for.
2. The periods in which examinations can be sat are listed in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS. Partial exams can also be taken outside the period indicated.
 3. An exam in conclusion of a course unit must be taken not later than the end of the academic year (examination term)
 4. If the course unit is not completed within the examination term, the exam results for that course unit will lapse and the student in question must take the entire course unit again the following year. This rule counts also for papers, these must be rewritten on a new topic.
 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 4.4.1, there will be only one opportunity in a certain year to take the examination for a course unit not taught in that year.
 6. Students may resit an examination for a course unit that is no longer offered at least twice during the first year after it has been removed from the curriculum.
 7. If a student has fulfilled the best-efforts obligation with respect to a course unit but has still not passed, then the examiner can give them the opportunity to take a supplementary or replacement test.

Article 4.5 Assessment of placement or research placement

The assessment of the placement or research placement will be conducted by the Faculty supervisor, on the basis of the placement report and after consultation with the supervisor at the host institution or placement organization. Assessment of placements conducted within the framework of the Master's track Spiritual Care is also in consultation with the professional development supervisor.

Article 4.6 Thesis/final project

1. In principle, the thesis/final project applies to one degree programme at the University of Groningen. Full or partial exemptions for a degree programme's thesis/final project may be granted by the Board of Examiners based on a thesis/final project written for another degree programme.
2. Each thesis/final project is assessed by at least two examiners.
3. Theses/final projects are kept by the Faculty Board for a period of seven years.
4. Students will be given the opportunity to submit a final-year thesis/final project (at least) once per academic year.
5. The period during which students can write theses/final projects will be published in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS.
6. More detailed regulations on the design, content, time frame and assessment of the thesis/final project can be found in the Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's theses, which form part of these Teaching and Examination Regulations. This includes, for example, the following regulations:
 - The thesis/final project must be completed within the current academic year. Students who do not complete their thesis/final project within the academic year in which they started it must submit a reasoned request for extension of the completion term to the Board of Examiners.
Upon the student's request, the Board of Examiners may take the student's extraordinary circumstances into account in its assessment of a request for extension, as well as their study behaviour, any agreements made or study plan drawn up in consultation with the study advisor, and the student's plan for completing the thesis/final project. The Board of Examiners will also consult the supervisor before making a decision.
 - Thesis/final project terms can be extended for a period of up to one semester at a time.
 - No more than two extensions will be granted.
 - The draft version of the thesis/final project must be submitted on 1 June at the latest, the definitive version on 1 July and the deadline for the revised version should be decided in consultation with the supervisors. This deadline should be before 1 September.

- At least 3 but no more than 7 supervision meetings are held for Master's theses/final projects.
- 7. The final mark of the Master's thesis/final project should be at least a (not rounded off) 6.0.
- 8. If by the end of the period referred to in Article 4.6.6 the assessors are of the opinion that the thesis/final project cannot be awarded a pass mark, the student will be given one opportunity to revise the work within a time frame defined by the degree programme. This revision is formally the resit.
- 9. The Board of Examiners is the only body that can deviate from the provisions of this Article at the written request of a student.
- 10. Students must have successfully completed the research methods course unit of the relevant track in order to qualify for supervision and assessment of the final-year thesis/final project for the degree programme.

Article 4.7 Form of Examinations

1. Examinations will be taken in the manner stated in OCASYS.
2. In situations of force majeure where it is not reasonably possible to provide the teaching and examinations in the manner stated in OCASYS, another form of teaching and examination may be temporarily switched to. This is subject to the condition that the established learning objectives are achieved upon completion of the study programme, even after the change of form, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners).
3. Examinations will be administered in English. Dutch-speaking students may use the Dutch language during assessments (assignments, papers, exams, oral examinations).
4. At the student's request, the Board of Examiners may allow an examination to be taken in a form different from that stated in Article 4.7.1.
5. Mock versions of each examination will be made available to practise.

Article 4.8 Oral Examinations

1. Unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise, an oral examination may only be taken by one student at a time. A second examiner may attend the oral exam at the request of the student and/or the examiner. In case the oral exam is held by an examiner, the exam must be audio-recorded. Recordings will be deleted immediately after the (normal) period for perusal.
2. Oral examinations are not public, unless the Board of Examiners stipulates otherwise or the student motivates his objection to the public nature of the examination.

Article 4.9 Request for an extracurricular examination

1. Students can ask the Board of Examiners to grant them an extracurricular examination.
2. Requests of this kind can be granted if, due to extraordinary circumstances, the student has failed the examination concerned and the failure to grant an extracurricular examination would result in an unacceptable study delay.
3. The following criteria apply to granting a request for an extracurricular examination for the last course unit in the degree programme:
 - it must be the last examination result needed
 - not granting the request would result in study delay of at least one semester
 - the examinee must have taken the last two regular exam opportunities for the course unit in question.

Article 4.10 Competent Board of Examiners for the electives or another degree programmes

1. A request to take an elective at another degree programme must be approved by the Board of Examiners of the student's own degree programme.
2. The Board of Examiners of the other degree programme is authorized to set and assess the examinations and decide upon requests for alternative exam regulations. The provisions of Article 5.2 on course units obtained elsewhere apply.

Article 4.11 Exemptions

1. At the student's request, the Board of Examiners, having discussed the matter with the examiner in question, may grant exemption from an examination on condition that the student:
 - a. has completed part of a university or higher vocational degree in the Netherlands or abroad that is equivalent in content and level,
 - b. can demonstrate by work experience that they has sufficient knowledge and skills with respect to the course unit in question.
2. The provisions of Article 5.2 on course units obtained elsewhere apply to the granting of exemptions.
3. The same period of validity applies to exemptions for examinations (or parts thereof) as to examination results.

Article 4.12 Examinations and functional impairments

1. Students with a functional impairment will be given the opportunity to take examinations in a form that will compensate as far as possible for their individual impairment. If necessary, the Board of Examiners will seek expert advice from the student counsellor of the Student Service Centre (SSC) before making a decision.
2. With regard to examinations for electives taken by students with a functional impairment, the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that sets the examination will comply with the facilities permitted by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme for which the student is registered.

Article 4.13 Examination provisions

1. If not granting a student an individual examination provision would lead to an 'exceptional instance of unfairness of overriding nature', the Board of Examiners may decide to grant such a provision contrary to the stipulations of Article 4.4.
2. Requests for individual examination provisions, including documentary evidence, must be submitted to the Board of Examiners as soon as possible.

Article 4.14 Determining the examinations results and publication thereof

1. After an oral examination, the examiner will assess the examination immediately and shall, on request, provide the student with the relevant signed exam sheet.
2. The examiner will mark a written examination within ten working days of the day on which it was taken, and will provide the Faculty's Administration Office with the necessary details for registration of the result in Progress.
3. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, as a result of which the period of ten working days is not reasonably feasible, this period can be extended by a maximum of five working days. The programme director/programme management must grant permission for this. Extending the term is not possible in Block 2b.
4. The examiner will mark a paper which is submitted in time within fifteen working days of the deadline for submission, unless the examiner and the student have made other agreements. The examiner will provide the Faculty's Administration Office with the necessary details for written confirmation of the result to be sent to the student.
5. If an examination is taken in a form other than oral or written, the Board of Examiners will determine in advance how and when the student will receive written confirmation of the result.
6. The written confirmation of the result of an examination will inform students of their right of inspection, as stipulated in Article 4.16.1, as well as of his right to appeal.
7. Students can lodge an appeal against the results of an examination with the Central Portal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights (CLRS) within six weeks of the date on which the result was announced.

Article 4.15 Validity

1. The validity period of completed components is unlimited.
2. A. Contrary to the provisions of Article 4.15.1, the Board of Examiners may decide that the validity of a course unit is limited. The Board of Examiners can only decide that a course unit is no longer valid if the student's skills and knowledge are demonstrably outdated. The Board of Examiners may then decide to require a student to take a supplementary or substitute examination before allowing that student to progress to the final assessment.
B. In the event of extraordinary personal circumstances the period of validity will be extended throughout the period during which the student receives a provision from the Student Support Fund.
3. Any partial examinations and assignments that the student has passed within a course unit that has not been successfully completed will lapse after the end of the academic year in which they were passed.

Article 4.16 Right of Inspection

1. On request, students have the right to inspect their marked work during a period of 30 working days after the results of a written examination have been made known. If students make use of this opportunity, they will be provided (upon request) with a copy of their work at cost price.
2. Within the timeframe stipulated in Article 4.16.1, any person may request that they be allowed to peruse the examination paper and the assessment criteria.
3. The Board of Examiners can determine that this inspection or perusal will take place at a certain place and at two set times at least. If the person concerned can show that they were prevented by force majeure from attending at the indicated place(s) and time(s), they will be offered another opportunity, if possible within the period stated in Article 4.16.1.

Article 4.17 Board of Examiners and examiners

1. 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.
2. The Faculty Board appoints the members of the Board of Examiners on the basis of their expertise in the field of the degree programme (or group of degree programmes) in question.
3. The Board of Examiners must comprise at least:
 - a. One member who is a lecturer affiliated with the degree programme (or to one of the degree programmes that belong to the group of degree programmes); and
 - b. One member from outside the degree programme (or one of the degree programmes that belong to the cluster of degree programmes)
4. Members of the Board or other people who have financial responsibilities within the institution may not be appointed as members of the Board of Examiners.
5. The Board of Examiners appoints examiners to conduct examinations and determine the results obtained.
6. The Board of Examiners sets the 'Rules and Regulations' of the Board of Examiners to assess and determine the results of examinations.

Article 4.18 Cheating and plagiarism (see appendix 3)

1. Cheating is, whether or not on purpose, an act or omission by a student designed to partly or wholly hinder the forming of a correct assessment of their - or another's- knowledge, understanding and skills.
2. Cheating also includes committing plagiarism, which means copying someone else's or one's own knowledge, insight and skills without correctly acknowledging the source.
3. Fraud is also defined as the outsourcing of work by the student to artificial intelligence (AI) and presenting it as the student's own work.

4. By submitting written assignments for the purpose of assessment within the degree programme, students implicitly give the University permission to use a plagiarism scanner to check their assignments for plagiarism. Each student is individually responsible for maintaining academic integrity.
5. In the event of suspected fraud, further investigation of the student's knowledge, understanding and skills may be conducted. This in-depth review will be separate from the examinations for the course unit.
6. If a student cheats, the Board of Examiners may exclude that student from participation in one or more examinations or final assessments for a maximum of one year.
7. In the event of serious cheating, the Board of Examiners can advise to the Board of the University to permanently terminate a student's registration in the degree programme.
8. In any case, serious cheating can be regarded as:
 - a. impersonating someone else during the exam
 - b. being represented by someone else during the exam
 - c. have a third party (service) sit the exam for hem
 - d. obtaining the assignments and/or model answers for the relevant examination before the time when the examination takes place
 - e. fabricating and/or falsifying survey and/or interview answers and/or research data
9. The Board of Examiners will set out its course of action in the event of cheating in its Rules and Regulations (see appendix 3).

Article 4.19 Invalid examination

In the event of irregularities with regard to an examination that are so serious that an accurate assessment of the examinee's knowledge, understanding and skills cannot be made, the Board of Examiners may declare the examination invalid for either an individual examinee or a group of examinees.

Article 4.20 Termination of registration (Iudicium Abeundi)

1. In extraordinary cases of reprehensible behaviour and/or statements made by a student, the Board of the University may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners or the Faculty Board, terminate that student's registration.
2. The Board of the University will not make a decision as referred to in Article 4.20.1 until after the student in question has been given the opportunity to respond to the proposed decision, the interests of the student and the institution have been carefully assessed, and it is reasonable to assume that the student's behaviour and/or statements prove them to be unsuitable for one or more of the professions for which they is being trained in their degree programme, or for the practical preparation for the profession.
3. In such cases the Faculty Board, the Board of Examiners and the Board of the University will follow the Protocol Iudicium Abeundi [Protocol for termination of registration] as approved by the Nederlandse Federatie van Universitaire Medische Centra [Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres] on 1 November 2010.
4. The stipulations in the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees apply.

Section 5 - The final assessment

Article 5.1 Final assessment

1. The degree programme is concluded with a final assessment.
2. On the condition that the student's study programme has been approved, the Board of Examiners will determine the result of the final assessment as soon as the student has passed all the required examinations. The Board of Examiners may define terms to this end. The result of the final assessment indicates that the student has acquired the necessary academic training. The Board of Examiners will issue a degree certificate

indicating this.

If a student fails to meet the relevant deadlines for approval of the study programme referred to under a, the Board of Examiners may postpone their graduation date. This date may be in the academic year following the year in which the last examination was passed

3. Before the result of the final assessment can be determined, the Board of Examiners may decide to test the student's knowledge of one or more course units or components of the degree programme, if and in as much as the marks for the relevant examinations provide a reason for doing so.
4. By determining the result of the final assessment, the Board of Examiners also commits itself to a speedy processing of the degree certificate ceremony.
5. Students who wish to postpone the date of graduation due to extra examinations that they must still take must submit a written request to this end to the Board of Examiners within two weeks of the date on which the graduation date is determined.
6. The graduation date is the date on which the final assessment is passed, as determined by the Board of Examiners in accordance with the provisions of Article 5.1.2, and not the date on which the degree certificate is presented to the student.

Article 5.2 Course units completed elsewhere

1. As a condition for obtaining the Master's degree certificate, at least half of the degree programme must have been achieved through components provided by the Faculty, during registration as a Master's student for that degree programme at the University of Groningen.
2. In the case of a double or joint degree Master's degree programme with a foreign educational institution, at least a quarter of the degree programme must have actually been taken at the degree programme during registration as a Master's student of the University of Groningen for that degree programme at the University of Groningen.
- 2b. The provisions in article 4.6.1 with regard to the thesis/final project, must also be taken into account.

Article 5.3 Degree certificate

1. The student shall receive a certificate issued by the Board of Examiners as proof that they have passed the final examination. Even if a student successfully completes more than one specialization within a degree programme, they will receive only one degree certificate.
2. The Board of Examiners will issue an International Diploma Supplement with each degree certificate.

Article 5.4 Degree

1. A student who has satisfied all the requirements of the final assessment shall be awarded the degree of 'Master of Arts'.
2. The degree awarded is stated on the degree certificate.

Article 5.5 Honours ('Cum Laude'/'Summa Cum Laude')

1. The Board of Examiners assesses whether the Master's degree certificate should be awarded an honours predicate.
2. The following conditions apply:
 - a) Cum laude: the mark for the thesis/final project must be at least 8.0 as well as the weighted average (not rounded off) for all course units, excluding the thesis, within the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners is greater than or equal to 8.0
 - b) Summa cum laude: the mark for the thesis/final project must be at least 9.0 as well as the weighted average (not rounded off) for all course units, excluding the thesis, within the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners is greater than or equal to 9.0
3. No honours predicate is awarded if the value of the exemptions in ECTS credit points is

- more than half of the total number of ECTS credit points for the degree programme. This stipulation does not apply to Double Degree or joint degree programmes.
4. Honours predicates may only be awarded if the examinations for the course units were taken only once.
 5. An honours predicate will only be awarded if no single course unit has been awarded a mark of less than 7.0.
 6. No honours predicate will be awarded if a decision by the Board of Examiners has been taken to the effect that a student is no longer eligible for an accolade because cheating/plagiarism has been detected.
 7. In extraordinary cases, the Board of Examiners may deviate from the provisions of Articles 5.5.2 to 5.5.6.

Article 5.6 Assessment Programme

The Faculty Board sets an Assessment Programme. The Assessment Programme is part of the TER of each degree programme and includes the following topics:

1. the learning outcomes of the degree programme (see art. 3.1);
2. the course units, and the learning outcomes for each course unit (see appendix 1);
3. the relationship between course units and learning outcomes: how are the learning outcomes attained (see assessment matrix);
4. the mode of assessment and test moments for each course unit (see appendix 1 or the Assessment plan of the Faculty)

Section 6 – Study progress supervision

Article 6.1 Study progress administration

1. The Faculty Board is responsible for registering the individual results of students.
2. The Faculty Board will provide students with an overview of their results via the registration system.

Article 6.2 Super progress supervision

The Faculty Board will organize the introduction and the study progress supervision of students enrolled in the degree programme, partly to promote their progress and also with a view to potential study options within and outside the degree programme.

Section 7 - Transitional and final provisions

Article 7.1 Amendments

1. Any amendments to these Regulations will, following a recommendation by and/or upon the approval of after due consultation with the Programme Committee and in consultation with – and where necessary upon the approval of - the Faculty Council, be confirmed by the Faculty Board in a separate decree.
2. 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.
3. In addition, an amendment may not influence any other decision concerning a student taken by the Board of Examiners under these Regulations to the detriment of students.

Article 7.2 Publication

1. The Faculty Board will duly publish these Regulations as well as any amendments to them.
2. Copies of these Regulations are available from the Faculty Office. These documents can also be found on the Faculty website via the Student Portal or <https://www.rug.nl/rce/education/studyguide/>.

Article 7.3 Evaluation

1. The Faculty Board is responsible for regular evaluation of these Regulations and in any case takes into account – for the purpose of monitoring and, if necessary, adjusting the student workload – the resulting time commitment for the student.
2. The Faculty Board evaluates the teaching in the Master's degree programme as follows:
 - course unit evaluations
 - programme evaluations

Article 7.4 Date of Commencement

These Regulations will take effect on 31 August 2026.

Appendices to the Teaching and Examination Regulations for the Master's degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies, 2026-2027

Appendix 1 Overview of course units MA Theology and Religious Studies

MA track	OCASYS Link
Anthropology of Religion and Culture	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-MAARC
Religion, Conflict and Globalization	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-MARCG
Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-MARPAM
Heritage and Religion	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-MAHR
Spiritual Care / Geestelijke Verzorging (full time)	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-MAGV
Spiritual Care / Geestelijke Verzorging (part time)	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-MAGVDLT

Appendix 2: Pre-Master's programmes for the Master's degree programmes Theology and Religious Studies

A. Pre-Master's programme for Master's programme Spiritual Care (60 ECTS)

In addition to the provisions of Article 2.1, the following entry requirements apply to specialization A Spiritual Care: prior education must have included the following course units with at least the stated student workload, either within the university minor Spiritual Care of the Bachelor's programme Religious Studies or Theology (30 ECTS), or by following the pre-Master's programme (60 ECTS):

Programme	OCASYS link
Minor Spiritual Care	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-FMGV
Pre-Master's programme Spiritual Care (full time)	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-PMGVVLT
Pre-Master's programme Spiritual Care (part time)	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-PMGVDLT

In addition, an assessment procedure applies to specialization A (Spiritual Care), which must be completed before the start of the Master's degree programme. The assessment procedure will comprise tests paid for by the student, a role play (dialogue skills and group dynamics) and an interview with a psychologist. A positive assessment after the procedure is a condition for admission to the Master's degree in Spiritual Care. Further, a letter of motivation including a reflection on the portfolio forms part of the admission procedure to this Master's programme.

B. Pre-Master's programme (60 ECTS) for Master's tracks Religion and Pluralism; Religion, Conflict and Globalization; Heritage and Religion; Anthropology of Religion and Culture

Programme	OCASYS link
Pre-Master's programme MA Theology and Religious Studies, tracks Religion and Pluralism; Religion, Conflict and Globalization; Heritage and Religion; Anthropology of Religion and Culture	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-PM4

1. Students wanting to be admitted to the track B, C, D or E must submit a list of marks for the degree programme on which admission will be based to the Admissions Board of the Master's degree.
2. In addition to the provisions of Article 2.1 and written above, admission to the track B, C, D and E may include studying a reading list for the specialization in question of 800 to 1000 pages.
3. Transferring from one of the specializations to another is only possible with the permission of the Board of Examiners.
4. Course units already passed in one of the tracks B, C, D or E will not result in compensation in a different specialization of the Master's degree in Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Groningen, unless the Board of Examiners gives permission.

**C. Pre-Master's programme (30 ECTS) for the educational Master's LVHO
Mens en maatschappijwetenschappen: Godsdienst en levensbeschouwing
(NL-taught)**

Programme	OCASYS link
Pre-Master's programme for the educational Master's: LVHO Mens en Maatschappijwetenschappen: Godsdienst en Levensbeschouwing (NL-taught)	https://ocasys.rug.nl/2026-2027/catalog/programme/RCS-PMLO

Appendix 3 Regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism (art. 4.18)

1. Cheating and plagiarism are acts or omissions, regardless of whether these are intentional, by a student designed to partly or wholly hinder the forming of a correct assessment of their own or someone else's knowledge, understanding and skills (see the Teaching and Examination Regulations, Article 4.18).
2. Cheating includes acts such as the following:
 - Cheating during an examination. Anyone who deliberately enables someone else to cheat is considered complicit;
 - Bringing aids (pre-programmed calculators, mobile phones, books, syllabi, notes, etc.) to the examination, consultation of which is not explicitly permitted;
 - Having others complete an assignment or part thereof on one's behalf;
 - Taking possession of the relevant exam questions or assignments before the date or time of the examination;
 - Faking questionnaire or interview answers or research data;
 - Copying fellow students' work and presenting this as one's own work;
 - Students who substitute their personal effort with work generated by artificial intelligence (AI) and present this as their own work will also be considered to have committed fraud.
 - Resubmitting assignment that has been awarded marks in a previous course unit;
 - Submitting assignments acquired from a commercial institution or written by someone else (whether paid for or not);
- 3.a Plagiarism is a specific type of fraud, where in a thesis/final project or other assignment data or sections of one's own or someone else's work are copied without properly referring to the source. Plagiarism includes acts such as the following:
 - Copying text from digital sources such as encyclopaedias or digital journals without using quotation marks or references;
 - Copying text from the internet without using quotation marks and references.
 - Copying text from printed media such as books, journals or encyclopaedias without using quotation marks or references;
 - Including translations of texts such as the ones listed above without using quotation marks or references;
 - Paraphrasing texts such as the ones listed above without properly acknowledging the source – a paraphrase must be indicated as such, by explicitly linking the text to the original author in either the body of the text or a note, to prevent the impression being formed that it represents the student's own ideas;
 - Copying video, audio or test material from others without mentioning the source and thus presenting it as one's own work;
 - Submitting previously submitted own work without stating the source and presenting it as original work produced for the course unit in question, unless the course unit or the lecturer explicitly permit this;
 - Copying fellow students' work and presenting it as one's own work. A student who gives a fellow student permission to copy their work is considered complicit to plagiarism;
 - If one of the authors collaborating on a joint assignment commits plagiarism, the other authors are complicit to this plagiarism if they could or should have known that the other author was committing plagiarism;
 - Submitting assignments acquired from a commercial institution (such as a website containing extracts or papers) or paying someone else to write them.
- 3.b Electronic detection programs may be used to detect plagiarism in texts. When submitting a text, the student in question implicitly grants permission for the text to be included in the database of the relevant detection program.
4. Lecturers are required to report suspected cases of cheating and plagiarism.
 - a. If an act of cheating or plagiarism has been detected or is suspected, the Board of Examiners will launch an investigation, during which the student and the lecturer will be heard.
 - b. The Board of Examiners will then determine whether an act of cheating or plagiarism has been committed.
5. Once cheating or plagiarism is detected, the Board of Examiners will take the following measures:

- a. In all cases:
 - declare the assignment or examination invalid
 - issue a reprimand, which is recorded in the student's file
 - b. In certain cases, depending on the nature and extent of the cheating or plagiarism, and on the study phase of the examinee, one or more of the following sanctions:
 - expulsion from the course unit
 - denial of permission to participate in examinations or other modes of assessment relating to the relevant course unit for the current academic year, or for a period of 12 months
 - denial of permission to participate in all exams or other modes of assessment for a period of 12 months
 - c. If the student has already been reprimanded in the past: denial of permission to participate in all exams or other modes of assessment for a period of 12 months.
 - d. In the event of very serious cheating or repeated cheating, the Board of Examiners may propose to the Board of the University that the student's registration be definitively terminated.
6. The term 'Board of Examiners' refers to the Board of Examiners of the Faculty of Religion, Culture and Society.
 7. The term 'examination' or 'exam' refers to the assessment (including marking) for each course unit of students' knowledge, understanding or skills.
 8. If, in case of detected fraud and/or plagiarism, the student has been sanctioned before, he/she will be fully prohibited to participate in exams or other forms of assessments in the programme, or the university as a whole, for a maximum period of 12 months, and will be advised to leave the programme.

These Regulations took effect on 1 September 2024 and may be cited as the 'Regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism' of the Faculty of Religion, Culture and Society.