Teaching and Examination Regulations – historical overview

Board of the University model 2026-2027

Faculty of ....

Model Teaching and Examination Regulations

Bachelor's degree programme in .....

Academic year 2026-2027

These Model Teaching and Examination Regulations (OER) set out the historical and legal bases for the articles. A grey text box indicates a quote of a legal provision. A blue text box indicates an explanatory note or reference to a legal provision or policy. In addition to the principles behind the legal provisions, this overview also addresses the participation rights (right of consent/right to prior consultation) that each of the consultative participation bodies (Faculty Council/Programme Committee) has. A purple text box provides information about the Faculty Council and/or Programme Committee's right of consent concerning the topic in question.

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

These Regulations were adopted by the Board of the Faculty of ..... on ..... (date) and approved by the Faculty Council and the Programme Committee where required on ..... (date).

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1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1.1 – Applicability

1. These Regulations apply to the teaching, examinations, and final assessment of the Bachelor's degree programme in ....., ISAT degree programme code .....hereinafter referred to as 'the degree programme' and to all students enrolled in this degree programme in the academic year 2026-2027.

2. The degree programme is offered by the Faculty of ..... 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 take course units in one of the degree programmes (including Minors) offered by the Faculty to which these Regulations apply.

4. Course units or Minors of the degree programme as referred to in Article 1.1.1 taken by students at other departments, 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 students enrolled in the degree programme for the purpose of taking a Pre-Master's programme as referred to in Article 8.7.1.

Section 7.13(1) of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (WHW) reads as follows <translated>: The board of the institution will approve a set of teaching and examination regulations for each of the degree programmes or clusters of degree programmes taught at the institution. The teaching and examination regulations will contain clear and adequate information about the degree programme or cluster of degree programmes.

As per Article 1.1(h) of the Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees (RIC), since 2010, pre-Master's students have been under the obligation to be enrolled in a Bachelor's degree programme.

Article 1.2 – Definitions

In these Regulations, the following definitions apply:

Academic year: the period starting on 1 September and ending on 31 August of the following year.

Act: the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Dutch acronym: WHW).

Admissions Board: the board that has decision-making powers in matters concerning admission to the degree programme on behalf of the Faculty Board.

Binding study advice: study advice that is binding on the student in question. If this advice is negative, the student will not be permitted to continue with the degree programme in accordance with Section 7.8b(3) of the Act.

Board of Examiners: the independent body entrusted with the tasks and powers as stated in Sections 7.11, 7.12, 7.12b, and 7.12c of the Act, including the decision of whether the requirements of the final assessment have been met.

Course unit: a teaching unit of the degree programme within the meaning of Section 7.4 of the Act.

Definitive study advice: a one-off study advice that entails an instruction in accordance with Section 7.8b(1) and (2) of the Act.

Degree programme: the Bachelor's degree programme referred to in Article 1.1 of these Regulations, comprising a coherent set of course units.

ECTS credit: a credit within the meaning of Section 7.4 of the Act. The student workload of each course unit is expressed in ECTS credits, where 1 ECTS is equivalent to a student workload of 28 hours.

Examiner: a person appointed by the Board of Examiners to administer examinations and determine their results.

Extraordinary circumstances: circumstances such as those referred to in Section 7.51 of the Act, which are to be taken into account in the decision-making referred to in Articles 5.4 and 9.9. Section 7.51 of the Act is further elaborated in the University of Groningen Student Support Fund Regulations. Under these Regulations, extraordinary circumstances will include, in any case, a disability or chronic illness, illness, pregnancy and delivery, extraordinary family circumstances, an insufficiently feasible degree programme, elite sports status (awarded by the elite sports coordinator)and membership in a consultative participation body.

Final assessment: the final assessment marking the end of the Bachelor's degree, which a student is considered to have passed if they meet every requirement of the Bachelor's degree programme.

First year of degree programme: the first period of a degree programme with a student workload of 60 ECTS credits.

Major: the entire set of required course units in the first, second, and third years of the degree programme.

Matching: the procedure involving matching activities and programme selection advice in accordance with Section 7.31a ff. of the Act, further elaborated in Chapter 3 of the Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees (RIC).

Minor: a coherent set of course units that can be taken as Minor electives.

Minor electives: the scope students have for specialization within the degree programme.

OCASYS: the University of Groningen's online course catalogue.

Practical: a practical project, as referred to in Section 7.13 of the Act, in one of the following forms:
- a thesis
- a written assignment, paper, or draft design
- a research project
- participation in fieldwork or an excursion
- completion of a placement
- participation in another educational activity designed to acquire certain skills

Preliminary study advice: a mid-year study advice that is issued to first-year students.

Pre-Master's programme: a programme intended to remedy deficiencies for admission to a Master's degree programme.

Programme Committee: the consultative and advisory body that fulfils the duties referred to in Section 9.18 of the Act.

Second and third years of degree programme: the stages of the Bachelor's degree programme following the first 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 a date to be determined by the Board of the University and ending on 31 August.

Student: a person enrolled at the University of Groningen for the purpose of taking course units and/or examinations leading to the conferral of a University degree.

Study progress overview: a written overview of academic results and the related ECTS credits, which is sent to students by email.

Test or examination: a test of the knowledge, understanding, and skills of students, including an assessment of outcomes.

Track: a programme within a bachelor's degree programme of which the student workload and the qualities in terms of knowledge, understanding, and skills that the

student must have acquired upon completion of the programme are equivalent to those of the degree programme.

VWO diploma: the diploma awarded upon completion of Dutch pre-university education, in accordance with Section 2.58(2)(a) or Section 2.80(2)(a) of the Dutch Secondary Education Act.

All other definitions will have the meaning ascribed to them in the Act.

Section 1.1 of the Act contains definitions.

On 6 June 2023, the Board of the University decided to retire the term 'propaedeutic phase' with effect from the academic year 2024-2025 and to replace it with the term 'first year of the degree programme'. This was further defined in the definitions (Article 1.2) as 'the first period of a degree programme with a student workload of 60 ECTS credits'. The term 'post-propaedeutic phase' was replaced by 'second and third years of a degree programme'.

On December 4, 2024, the Board of the University adopted the bachelor's track policy. The definition of a bachelor's track is: a programme within a bachelor's degree programme of which the student workload and the qualities in terms of knowledge, understanding, and skills that the student must have acquired upon completion of the programme are equivalent to those of the degree programme.

We distinguish between two types of bachelor's tracks:
- The track differs only in language from the main program;
- The track differs in content from the main program (and may or may not differ in language).

2. QUALIFICATIONS AND ADMISSION.

Please choose one of the versions of Article 2.1 listed below:

For degree programmes to which admission will be granted based on any VWO profile:

Article 2.1 – Admission to degree programme

1. A VWO diploma (with any profile, i.e. track) will grant admission to the degree programme.

2. In addition to the certificates that grant admission to the degree programme under the Act, holders of a certificate equivalent to that listed in Appendix 1 will also be admitted to the degree programme.
3. *Article 2.3.3 applies to holders of a certificate as referred to in Article 2.1.2 (N.B.: for English-taught degree programmes only).*

Sections 7.24 and 7.28 of the Act: admission requirements and exemption on the basis of other qualifications.

For degree programmes to which admission will be granted based on specific VWO profiles only:

Article 2.1 – Admission to programme with profile requirement

1. A VWO diploma with a …. profile (i.e. track) will grant admission to the degree programme.

3. Holders of:
   - a VWO diploma with a different profile;
   - another certificate listed in the Act that grants admission to the degree programme; or
   - a certificate of an equivalent qualification as listed in Appendix 1;

   will not be admitted to the degree programme unless the requirements set out in Article 2.1.3 have been satisfied.

4. Holders of one of the certificates listed in Article 2.1.2 will only be permitted to enrol in the degree programme after having demonstrated that they have sufficient knowledge, at VWO final exam level, of the following subjects in the required VWO profile:
   …….
   …….

5. Under certain circumstances, the Admissions Board may request a university lecturer in the relevant subject to arrange for one or more tests to determine the student's knowledge as referred to in Article 2.1.3.

Sections 7.24 and 7.28 of the Act: admission requirements and exemption on the basis of other qualifications. Section 7.25 of the Act: some degree programmes have additional admission requirements/require specific profiles.

Article 2.2 – Admission to degree programme based on first-year certificate (vocational, research, or Open University)

1. Holders of a first-year certificate for a Bachelor's degree programme in ……. awarded by a university of applied sciences/a Bachelor's degree programme in ……. awarded by a research university, or a Bachelor's degree programme in ……. awarded by Open University without holding a VWO diploma or equivalent certificate as defined in Article 2.1 will be granted direct admission to the degree programme.

2. Holders of a first-year certificate for a Bachelor's degree programme in ……. awarded by a university of applied sciences/a Bachelor's degree programme in ……. awarded by a research university, or a Bachelor's degree programme in ……. awarded by Open University will be granted admission to the degree programme after having demonstrated that they have sufficient knowledge, at VWO final exam level, of a number of subjects, in accordance with the admission requirements for VWO graduates:

These subjects are:
.....
.....

3. *Holders of a first-year certificate for a degree programme other than those listed above who do not have a VWO diploma or equivalent qualification may submit a request to the Admissions Board for admission to the degree programme. Such students will have to demonstrate that they have sufficient knowledge, at VWO final exam level, of a number of subjects, in accordance with the admission requirements for VWO graduates:*

   These subjects are:
   .....
   .....

Sections 7.24 and 7.28 of the Act: admission requirements and exemption on the basis of other qualifications.

Article 2.3 – Language requirement (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, to be administered by an agency designated by the Board.

2. The Dutch language proficiency requirement can in any case be met by passing the state examination in Dutch as a Second Language (NT2).

3. The English language proficiency requirement will be met by passing an examination in English at VWO final exam level or by passing the TOEFL test with a score of at least .. (computer TOEFL .., internet TOEFL ..), an IELTS score of .., or a Cambridge Proficiency score of ....

Section 7.28(2) of the Act reads as follows <translated>: If a certificate has been awarded outside the Netherlands, the board of the institution may decide that no final assessments or parts thereof will be administered until proof has been provided, to the satisfaction of the relevant Board of Examiners, that a sufficient level of Dutch has been achieved to successfully complete the degree programme. In addition, the board of the institution may decide that the student in question will not be permitted to register until the proof referred to in the previous sentence has been provided.

The Faculty Boards have delegated the power to grant admission to the Admissions Boards.

Article 2.4 – Entrance examination

1. Students who do not satisfy the admission requirements set out in Articles 2.1 and 2.2 may participate in an entrance examination in accordance with Section 7.29 of the Act.

2.a. Students who wish to take the entrance examination must be aged 21 or over on the date on which the examination is administered.
b. An exception to the age requirement may be made if the student in question has earned a foreign certificate that would grant admission to a university degree programme in their home country, or if the student has refugee status and for this reason is unable to present a degree certificate.

3. The entrance examination will be administered in the following subjects at the stated level:
.....
.....
.....

The provisions of Article 2.3 apply.

4. A successfully completed entrance examination will grant admission to the University of Groningen degree programme for which it was taken for the duration of one academic year (*or: two academic years*) after the date on which the examination was taken.

Section 7.29 of the Act reads as follows <translated>:
1. *The board of the institution may grant exemption from the admission requirements set out in Sections 7.24(1) or (2) to persons aged 21 years and over who do not satisfy these requirements and are not exempt from them on the grounds of Section 7.28 if they provide proof of their suitability for the degree programme in question as well as of a level of Dutch that is sufficient to successfully complete the degree programme in a test to be administered by a board-appointed committee.*
2. *The test criteria will be set out in the teaching and examination regulations.*
3. *The board of the institution can make an exception to the age requirement set out in (1) if the student in question has earned a foreign certificate that would grant admission to a higher education degree programme in their home country, The board of the institution can also make an exception to the age requirement if a student is unable to present a certificate due to extraordinary circumstances.*
4. *The board of the institution can make another exception to the age requirement set out in (1) in extraordinary cases concerning fine arts degrees.*

The legal basis for Article 2.4.3 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations can be found in Sections 7.24 and 7.25 of the Act.

Article 2.5 – Admissions Board

1. The Admissions Board has the power to decide on behalf of the Faculty Board in matters concerning admission to the degree programme.

2. The Admissions Board consists of:
   - a member, also the chairperson, selected from the professors who teach in the degree programme; and
   - one or two members selected from the other academic staff who teach in the degree programme.

3. The study advisor for the degree programme (or an equivalent member of Faculty staff) will be appointed as an advisory member and also as secretary.

4. The members will be appointed by the Faculty Board, which will also adopt the admission requirements.

> The legal basis can be found in Sections 7.24 ff. of the Act. The composition of the admissions boards is set out in the Faculty Regulations and is included for information purposes in the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

Article 2.6 – Intake date and registration dates

1. There will be one intake date per academic year, i.e. 1 September of each year.

2. The provisions of this article also apply to students who reregister for the same degree programme.
3. *In addition to the intake date, there will be no more than three dates for student registration conditional upon the approval of the Admissions Board. These are 1 November, 1 February, and 1 April.*

4. *If required, students can be classified into different categories (see letter of 9 October 2015, ref. 15/12981, to Faculty boards regarding intake in Bachelor's phase).*

5. After 1 September, requests for admission can be submitted to the Admissions Board by email: (insert email address). The Admissions Board will decide on a request within four to six weeks.

> The legal basis can be found in Section 7.32(4) of the Act.

Article 2.7 – Matching

Optional matching:

1. *Prospective students will be given the opportunity to participate in matching activities prior to their first registration for the degree programme. Prospective students who opt to participate in matching activities will be issued with programme selection advice.*

Required matching:

1. *Prospective students are required to participate in the matching activities offered by the department prior to their first registration for the degree programme. Prospective students will be issued with programme selection advice based on their participation in the matching activities.*

2. The provisions of Chapter 3 of the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees (RIC) and the Faculty matching procedure apply.

3. UG students who wish to register for the first year of the degree programme in the course of an academic year in accordance with Article 2.6 and satisfy the admission requirements, will be admitted upon completion of one ore more mid-term matching activities, i.e.:
   a) *completion of the UG-wide questionnaire; and*
   b) *a matching activity (to be determined by the Faculty, e.g. an interview with a study advisor, participation in a web class); and*
   c) *if needed, a second matching activity (to be determined by the Faculty).*

   Or:

3. *No new students will be admitted after 1 September in the first year of the Bachelor's degree programme.*

4. Students who switch to a different degree programme within the same BSA cluster will be exempt from having to participate in matching activities. *(N.B.: only include this if the degree programme falls into a BSA cluster.)*

Legal basis: Section 7.31b(1) and (2) of the Act (see also Chapter 3 RIC).

Matching Scheme, last amendment adopted by the Board of the University on 20 April 2015 (and by the University Council on 30 April 2015). Scheme adopted by Board of the University on 17 February 2014; by University Council on 27 February 2014.

3. SCOPE AND STRUCTURE OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 3.1 – Aim and learning outcomes of degree programme

1. The degree programme is designed to:
   a. impart knowledge, skills, and understanding in the field of ....., and to achieve the learning outcomes listed in Article 3.1.2;
   b. promote academic development. This is defined as the development of competences (knowledge, skills, and attitudes) concerning:

- independent academic thinking, practice, and communication;
- use of relevant academic instruments;
- academic and general communication;
- use of specific knowledge of a field in a broader academic, philosophical, and social/cultural context;
- behavioural standards that apply during the degree programme and in the academic world;

c. prepare students for a further academic career. Students will be educated on the theory and practice of academic research from the very start of their Bachelor's degree programme.

2. Graduates:
   a. have knowledge and understanding of the field of ....., in particular .....;
   b. have knowledge and understanding of the theoretical and methodological principles of .....;
   c. have mastered general academic skills, in particular with regard to: .....;
   d. are able to apply their knowledge and understanding such that they demonstrate a professional approach to their work or profession;
   e. are able to reformulate a practical question or problem in their field into a clear, researchable problem definition, adequately operationalize the concepts within this problem definition, study a topic through a synthesis of both theoretical and empirical perspectives, present the results of such study in a coherent argument with a clear, synthesizing conclusion, use the outcomes to answer the practical question or help clarify and, if possible, solve the problem, and form an opinion that weighs relevant social, academic, or ethical aspects;
   f. are able to communicate information, ideas, and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences;
   g. have the learning skills needed to continue on to a Master's degree programme.

3. The learning outcomes of the different course units have been listed in the appendix.

Legal basis: Section 7.13(2) of the Act; this is the Act's general provision on teaching and examination regulations.

As per Section 7.13(2)(c) of the Act, the Programme Committee has the right of consent concerning Article 3.1.2. However, the Minister has explained in a letter to the institutions that students should not be assessing their own learning outcomes. As the letter does not refer to (c) as conferring the right of consent to the Programme Committee, an amendment to the Act is to be expected.

Article 3.2 – Research

1. *Students conducting research as part of their degree programme will do so in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations, the Dutch Code of Conduct for Academic Integrity, and the principles of ethical research.*

2. *Throughout the research process, they will comply with the Faculty's data management policy and procedures.*

3. *Prior to conducting research, a student may engage with their supervisor to draft a data management plan, which will be stored in accordance with the Faculty's data policy. This plan will address as a minimum:*
   - *the student's responsibilities when processing personal data;*
   - *the data storage and security procedures followed during the research process;*
   - *data archiving and the data retention period; and*
   - *responsibilities governing data reuse after the research process.*

4. Copyright to theses and other independently written assignments that aim to assess a student's knowledge, understanding, and skills will belong to the student in question in principle. Anyone wanting to use a student's thesis or other written work will require this student's consent. In order to archive theses and written assignments (possibly under embargo) and process them in accordance with the rules set out by the Dutch Inspectorate of Education and the Act, the University needs to be able to perform these actions without conditions attached. All students are required to consent to the aforementioned actions unconditionally.

N.B.: this article is optional. Responsible data management in research is one of the priorities of the UG's data policy. This article will be relevant only if a student, rather than joining an existing research initiative, is expected to develop their own research plan. The Faculty policy should clearly address the scope of the student's and their supervisor's responsibilities. Data management plans must be stored such that they can be retrieved.

Article 3.3 – Format of degree programme

The degree programme will be offered on a full-time basis.

Examples of alternatives
1: The degree programme will be offered on a full-time and a part-time basis.
2: The degree programme will be offered on a full-time, part-time, and co-op basis.
3: The degree programme will be offered on a full-time and co-op basis.

Legal basis: Section 7.7 of the Act.

As per Section 7.13(2)(i) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent.

Artikel 3.4 – Tracks

The degree programme has the following tracks:

- *The track .....*
- *The track .....*

Article 3.5 – Medium of instruction

1. The degree programme will be taught in *Dutch/English/target language of the programme.*

2. *The track <name of track> will be taught in Dutch/English/target language.*

3. *<If Dutch/English/target language of the programme>: Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3.4.1, one or more course units of the degree programme can be taught in English/Dutch, in accordance with the UG Language Policy.*

Legal basis: Section 7.2 of the Act; as per the UG Language Policy, adopted by the Board of the University on 16 July 2024.

The Board of the University adopted the UG Language Policy on 16 July 2024. This policy superseded the UG Code of Conduct: Languages Used in Teaching and Examinations. The Language Policy stipulates that the media of instruction will be categorized based on the full curriculum within a programme. The medium of instruction of course units is the language in which tests are administered in principle. Required reading falls outside the categorization and will typically be in English or multilingual. The UG has defined the following categories:

- The programme is 100% Dutch-taught (D);
- The programme is 100% English-taught (E);
- The programme is Dutch-taught for at least two-thirds of its credits and has a number of English-taught course units (D/E);
- The programme is English-taught for more than two-thirds of its credits and has a number of Dutch-taught course units (D/E);
- The programme is taught (for more than one-third of its credits) in a language other than Dutch, which is also the target language of the programme, and has Dutch and English-taught course units as well (TL).

The Teaching and Examination Regulations will stipulate for the UG's Bachelor's degree programmes which of the categories applies. There are three possible categories: Dutch (which includes N and N/E), English (which includes E and E/N) or the Target Language (which includes TL). Article 3.4.2 offers scope for teaching course units in a different language than the programme's formal medium of instruction.

Article 3.6 – Student workload

1. The degree programme will have a student workload of 180 ECTS credits.
2. The first year of the degree programme will have a student workload of 60 ECTS credits.
3. The student workload is expressed in whole ECTS credits.
4. *The part-time variant will have a student workload of 30 ECTS credits per year.*

Legal basis for student workload: Sections 7.4(1) and (3), and 7.4a(1) of the Act. The transfer from credits to ECTS credits was agreed at European level in the Bologna Declaration.

As per Section 7.13(2)(e) of the Act, the Programme Committee has the right of consent concerning the student workload of the degree programme and individual course units in the degree programme.

Article 3.7 – Practicals

1. *In addition to lectures, the following course units, as listed under Articles 4.1 and 7.1, include a practical in a specified format and for a specific number of hours (duration):*
   no. 1: (format) ....., (duration) .. mornings/afternoons/weeks/months;
   no. 4: (format) ....., (duration) .. mornings/afternoons/weeks/months, etc.

2. *The examination for a course unit as referred to in this article cannot be taken until after the relevant practical has successfully been completed.*

3. *With regard to the course units, successful completion of the relevant practical is considered to mean passing the examination.*

Article 3.8 – Contact hours

1. The first year of the degree programme will comprise a minimum of ... contact hours per year for the *full-time variant and a minimum of ... contact hours per year for the part-time variant*.

2. The second and third years of the degree programme will comprise a minimum of ... contact hours per year for the *full-time variant and a minimum of ... contact hours per year for the part-time variant*.

3. The procedure for organizing contact hours has been formalized in the student handbook and/or OCASYS (*see also Appendix 2)*.

As per Section 7.13(2)(x), the Faculty Council has the right of consent as the number of contact hours has a bearing on the framework of instructional design.

Article 3.9 – Degree programme structure and examinations

1. The programme will be concluded with a final Bachelor's assessment.

2. *The entire programme will comprise a Major and a University/Personal Minor.*

Article 3.10 – Participation in course units

1. Students may participate in course units of the degree programme if they have duly registered for the programme in …

2. The maximum number of students for each course unit is listed in OCASYS.

3. Admission to course units with limited capacity will be granted based on order of registration. Students who are enrolled in the degree programme will be given priority for the required course units in their Major (*or Minor*).

   Alternative: admission to course units with limited capacity will be granted based on predefined and published admission criteria and priority regulations. Students who are enrolled in the degree programme will be given priority for the required course units in their Major.

4. Students enrolled in the Bachelor's degree programme will not be admitted to course units offered in the Master's degree programme.

As per Section 7.3(3) of the Act, every degree programme will be concluded with a final assessment and every course unit will be concluded with an examination.

As per Section 7.13(2)(x), the Faculty Council has the right of consent as participation in course units has a bearing on the framework of instructional design.

Paragraph 4 concerns the 'hard cut' between bachelor's and master's degree programmes. Until September 1, 2014, the WHW contained a provision (7.30a – now expired) on the 'transfer master's'. This provision made it possible for students who had not yet obtained a bachelor's degree to register in a master's degree programme under certain conditions. With the abolition of the transfer master's, a bachelor's degree programme must be fully completed before registration in a master's degree programme is possible.

4. FIRST YEAR OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 4.1 – Structure of first year of degree programme

1. The first year of the degree programme will comprise the following course units, involving the specified student workloads:
   1. ..... (.. ECTS credits)

2. .....(.. ECTS credits)
3. ..... (.. ECTS credits)
4. ..... (.. ECTS credits), etc.

2. *The <name of track> will comprise the following course units, involving the specified student workloads:*
   1. ..... *(... ECTS credits)*
   2. ..... *(.. ECTS credits) etc.*

3. All course units are listed in OCASYS, the online University course catalogue, specifying the teaching format.

4. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to offer teaching in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative teaching and assessment formats may temporarily be used, subject to the condition that the agreed learning outcomes continue to be achieved.

The legal basis can be found in Sections 7.13(2)(e) and (x) and 7.13(2)(a) of the Act. The scope of the degree programme and its examinations are set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

As per Section 7.13(2)(e) of the Act, the relevant Programme Committee has the right of consent concerning the student workloads of the various course units.

5. BINDING STUDY ADVICE

Section 7.8b of the Act (Study advice in propaedeutic phase) reads as follows <translated>:

1. *The board of a funded university, university of applied sciences, or ideological university must provide advice to each student on whether it would be wise to continue studying within or outside their Bachelor's degree programme no later than by the end of their first year of registration for the propaedeutic phase of a full-time or co-op programme. For part-time Bachelor's degree programmes, the board of the institution will determine when this advice is issued.*
2. *Notwithstanding the provisions of (1) above, advice may be issued to a student at any time until they have passed the propaedeutic assessment.*
3. *Advice as referred to in (1) and (2) above may result in rejection of the student in question for certain degree programmes designated by the board of the institution within the time period referred to in (2) above, but not before the end of the first year of registration. Such a rejection may only be issued if the student in question, bearing in mind their personal circumstances, should – in the opinion of the board of the institution – be considered unfit for the degree programme because their academic record does not satisfy the relevant requirements set by the board. Rejections may be issued subject to a deadline. Rejections may also be expanded to include degree programmes that share a joint propaedeutic assessment with the degree programme in question. The board of the institution may only exercise the power set out in this provision if it provides all the accommodations needed to enable students to achieve the required academic progress in the propaedeutic phase of the relevant degree programme.*
4. *Before issuing a rejection, the board of the institution will give the student a warning including a reasonable deadline by which to improve their academic record to the satisfaction of the board. In addition, the student will be granted the opportunity to argue their case before being rejected.*
5. *When a student is rejected on the grounds of (3) above, their enrolment in the degree programme in question at the relevant institution will be terminated. The student will not be able to reregister for the same degree programme at the same institution unless the board of the institution has applied the third sentence of (3) above or the student requests to register for the degree programme at a later time and can then demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the board, that they will be able to successfully complete the programme.*
6. *The board of the institution will define more detailed regulations for the implementation of the provisions set out above. These regulations will at least address a student's academic record and the accommodations referred to in (3) above, as well to the deadline referred to in (4) above.*
7. *An Order of Council will determine which personal circumstances as referred to in (3) above the board of the institution will take into account in its assessment.*
8. *For the purposes of this section, the term 'propaedeutic phase' will refer to the first period of an academic Bachelor's degree programme, with a student workload of 60 ECTS credits, and the term 'propaedeutic assessment' will refer to the set of examinations for the course units in the first period of an academic Bachelor's degree programme, with a total student workload of 60 ECTS credits.*

Policy, approved by the University Council on 29 March 2012, effective from academic year 2012-2013. Amended in response to a letter from the Minister of 12 September 2016 about discontinuation of the P-in-2 rule, confirmed by the Board of the University in its meeting on 24 October 2016.

Article 5.1 – Preliminary study advice

1. Mid-way through the first semester of the first year of registration in the first year of the degree programme, students will be issued a study progress overview specifying the student workload completed until then.
   Additional study progress overviews will be sent to students later in the academic year. (Section 7.8b(6) of the Act)

2. Students will be issued a written preliminary study advice as soon as possible **after the first semester**, and in any case before 1 March. (Section 7.8b(4) and (6) of the Act)

3. The preliminary study advice will entail a warning if a student's academic record is weak, giving them a chance to improve their performance. (Section 7.8b(4) of the Act)

4. If a student's academic record is so weak that they cannot reasonably be expected to satisfy the conditions for receiving a positive study advice within the meaning of Article 5.2.2.a and b, they will be invited to a interview with the study advisor. The aim of this interview is to discuss the student's study habits, to reassess their choice of degree programme, and if necessary to suggest a transfer to a different degree programme. (Section 7.8b(3), (6), and (7) of the Act)

Article 5.2 – Definitive study advice

1. Students are expected to earn at least 45 ECTS credits in their first year of registration in the first year of the degree programme. This is known as the BSA threshold.

2. The definitive study advice will be issued at the end of the **first year of study**, by 31 July at the latest. This can be either: (Sections 7.8b(1) and (2) of the Act)
   a. positive: for students who have earned at least 45 ECTS credits (*part-time students: 20 ECTS credits*) in the first year of the degree programme.
   b. negative: for students who have earned fewer than 45 ECTS credits (*part-time students: 20 ECTS credits*) in the first year of the degree programme. This study advice is binding for students as per Section 7.8b(3) of the Act.

3. *In the event that, as early as mid-way through the semester, a student's academic record is so weak that they cannot reasonably be expected to meet the BSA threshold of 45 ECTS credits (part-time students: 20 ECTS credits) by the end of the first year of study, a negative binding study advice may be issued following the preliminary study advice as referred to in Article 5.1 before the end of the academic year. The student may also request to receive a negative binding study advice. The procedure set out in Article 5.5 applies. (Section 7.8b(1) and (6) of the Act)*

4.a. The Faculty Board will take extraordinary personal circumstances as referred to in Article 5.4 into account in its decision which study advice to issue in the first year of registration. (Section 7.8b(6) of the Act)

b. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 5.2.2, if no opinion can be expressed on a student's suitability for the degree programme due to personal circumstances occurring in the first year, the opinion may be postponed until a later date in the first year of the programme. A different BSA threshold may be agreed upon in such cases.

BSA regime governing personal circumstances, adopted by the Board of the University on 8 June 2010. The discontinuation of the propaedeutic assessment was approved by the Board of the University in its meeting on 3 October 2016.

Article 5.3 – Exceptions to definitive study advice

The legal basis can be found in Section 7.8b(3) and (6) of the Act. Included in the Teaching and Examination Regulations since 2011-2012.

Multiple degree programmes at University of Groningen

1. Students who have registered for the first year of two or more UG degree programmes and who satisfy the BSA threshold as referred to in Article 5.2.1 for one degree programme will not have to satisfy the BSA threshold for the other programme or programmes in that year. Students who have successfully completed the first year of one degree programme are exempt from the BSA requirement for the other programmes.

Previously earned propaedeutic certificate

2. Students who have already completed the propaedeutic phase of a degree programme at the University of Groningen or another Dutch university, or (for degree programmes that do not issue propaedeutic certificates), in the opinion of the Board of Examiners, have earned 60 ECTS credits in the first year, will not fall under the BSA regime governing the UG degree programme for which they enrol in the first year.

Deregistration before 1 March

3. No definitive study advice will be issued to students who submit a request for deregistration before or with effect from 1 March of the first year of registration for the first year of the degree programme. The procedure set out in Article 5.1 will apply again to students who reregister in a subsequent academic year. They will then be subject to the BSA regime for the academic year in which they reregister.

Deregistration before 1 March and registration as of 1 February

4. Article 5.2 applies in full to students who deregister from a degree programme before 1 March and register for a degree programme in the same programme cluster (see Appendix xxx) as of 1 February of the same academic year.

5. Article 5.2 applies in full to students who deregister from the full-time variant of a degree programme before 1 March and register for the part-time variant of the same degree programme or a degree programme in the same programme cluster (see Appendix xxx) as of 1 February of the same academic year.

Registration as of 1 February

6. The BSA threshold will be adjusted for students who register for a University of Groningen Bachelor's degree programme as of 1 February and who were not previously registered as students in the same academic year. These students will be required to earn 20 ECTS credits from the second semester of the first year of the degree programme (*part-time students: 10 ECTS credits*) by the end of the second semester of the first year of registration. In all other cases, the provisions of Article 5.2 apply mutatis mutandis.

Article 5.4 – Extraordinary circumstances

The legal basis for Article 5.4 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations can be found in Section 7.8b(3) of the Act. Amended in response to the letter from the Minister about the application of the BSA regime.

1. When deciding whether to issue a negative binding study advice, the Faculty Board will make allowance for a student's extraordinary or personal circumstances if so requested by that student. The Faculty Board can thereupon decide to adjust the BSA threshold or postpone issuing study advice.

   The evaluation of personal circumstances will also take into account the student's study habits, the agreements made, and any academic plan drawn up in consultation with the study advisor, the time at which the extraordinary circumstances were reported, and the academic record achieved by the end of the first year of study.

2. Students are expected to report any extraordinary circumstances to the study advisor as soon as possible in order to ensure optimum support. The Faculty Board, or the Faculty BSA Committee on its behalf, will make a decision in response to a student's request for a postponed advice or adjusted BSA threshold. Students are also expected to report to the study advisor as soon as possible if they fail to adhere to the academic plan drawn up in consultation with the study advisor based on the original or adjusted BSA threshold. (Section 7.8b(6) of the Act)

3. If no opinion can be expressed at the end of the first year as to a student's suitability for the degree programme due to personal circumstances occurring as referred to in Article 5.4.1, the opinion may be postponed.

4. If the opinion has been postponed, the study advice can still be issued while the student has not completed the first year of the degree programme.
   a. The advice will be positive if the student has satisfied either the original or the adjusted BSA threshold.
   b. The advice will be negative (and binding) if the student has failed to satisfy either the original or the adjusted BSA threshold by the end of the first year of the degree programme.

5. All students whose study advice has been postponed (whether or not combined with an adjusted BSA threshold) are expected to draw up an academic plan in consultation with their *study advisor/mentor/assigned supervisor*, addressing at least the following:
   a. the first-year course units of the degree programme the student has failed to complete, including time to completion;
   b. the second and third-year course units of the degree programme the student might take besides the course units referred to under Article 5.4.5.a.

Policy based on Section 7.8b(6) of the Act.

6. Circumstances as referred to in Article 5.4.1 will not automatically lead to entitlement to a grant from the Student Support Fund.

Article 3 of the UG Student Support Fund Regulations, Part B, reads as follows:
In addition to the provisions of Article 2 of these Regulations, Bachelor's students who, during an academic year, are members of a consultative body, committee, or board as set out in Appendix 2b to these Regulations will be entitled to financial support if they were issued a provisional or definitive positive study advice in the first year of their degree programme.

Article 5.5 – Procedure for issuing definitive study advice

1. Definitive study advice is issued by the Faculty Board on behalf of the Board of the University. The decision will also set out the applicable legal protection provisions.

As per Section 7.8b(3) of the Act, the BSA will be issued by the board of the institution.

2. Before a negative binding study advice is issued, students will receive notice of the intention to issue such an advice, after which they will be given the opportunity to argue their case with the Faculty Board or its representative.

Legal basis: Section 7.8b(4) of the Act and Section 4:7 of the Dutch General Administrative Law Act.

Article 5.6 – Consequences of negative binding study advice

1. Students who have been issued a negative binding study advice will not be permitted to register for the degree programme, or for any other degree programme in the cluster of related degree programmes listed in Appendix xxx, for a period of *two consecutive academic years* starting from 1 September of the next academic year.

Legal basis: Section 7.8b(5) in conjunction Section 7.8b(3) of the Act.

2. Students who have been issued a negative binding study advice will not be permitted to take course units in this degree programme through a different degree programme or educational institution, thereby avoiding the consequences of their binding study advice. No exemptions will be granted for course units completed in this manner, nor will such completed course units be otherwise recognized within the framework of the degree programme.

Article 5.7 – Consequences of positive study advice

1. Holders of a positive study advice for a UG degree programme will be admitted to the second and third years of the degree programme.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 5.7.1, the requirement that a previous course unit must have been successfully completed may apply to some individual course units. The sequentiality of course units is set out in OCASYS and in Article 9.3 of these Teaching and Examination Regulations.

3. *Admission based on a positive study advice does not apply to the Minor of the degree programme. The requirement for admission to the Minor is the successful completion of the first year.*

6. ADMISSION TO SECOND AND THIRD YEARS OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 6.1 – Admission criteria

1. Subject to the assessment of the Admissions Board, students holding a first-year certificate or students who have earned 60 ECTS credits in the first year of study in a related degree programme, are admissible to the second and third years of the degree programme.

> *Section 7.30(1) of the Act reads as follows <translated>: Students who wish to register for the post-propaedeutic phase of a degree programme must have a certificate stating that they have successfully completed the propaedeutic assessment of the relevant degree programme or of a degree programme that uses the same propaedeutic assessment.*

2. The Admissions Board may grant an exemption from the requirement of Article 6.1.1 to holders of a diploma issued in the Netherlands or elsewhere that is considered by the Admissions Board to be at least equivalent to the certificate referred to in Article 6.1.1.

> *Section 7.30(2) of the Act reads as follows <translated>: The board of the institution may grant exemption from the requirement stipulated in (1) above to holders of a diploma issued in the Netherlands or elsewhere that is considered by the board of the institution to be at least equivalent to the certificate referred to in (1) above.*

Article 6.2 – Hardship clause

The Board of Examiners may deviate from the provisions of Articles 6.1 and 5.7 in situations where changes to the curriculum or educational force majeure would demonstrably lead to a situation of extreme unfairness, but only in unique personal circumstances that are so unusual that admission cannot in all reasonableness be denied.

As per Section 7.30(3) of the Act, the Board of Examiners may deviate from Section 7.30(1) of the Act.

7. SECOND AND THIRD YEARS OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 7.1 – Structure of second and third years

1. The second year of the degree programme will comprise the following course units, involving the specified student workloads:
    1. ..... (.. ECTS credits), (*Major*)
    2. ..... (..ECTS credits), (*Major*)
    3. etc.

Legal basis: Section 7.13(2)(a) of the Act. The scope of the degree programme and its examinations are set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

As per Section 7.13(2)(e) of the Act, the relevant Programme Committee has the right of consent concerning the student workloads of the various course units.

2. The third year of the degree programme will comprise the following course units, involving the specified student workloads:
    1. ..... (.. ECTS credits), (*Major*)
    2. 15 or 30 (2 x 15) ..... (.. ECTS credits), (*Minor electives*)

3. *The <name of track> will comprise the following course units, involving the specified student workloads:*
    1. ..... *(... ECTS credits)*
    2. ..... *(.. ECTS credits) etc.*

4. Students can opt for the following Minor electives:
    - *research placement*
    - *civil society placement*
    - *foreign exchange*
    - *teacher-trainer Minor in ... (subject)*
    - *broadening or deepening Minor, comprising course units other than those taught in a student's own Major (further details to be provided by the degree programme)*

Minor policy. Meeting of Board of the University on 31 October 2023.

5. *Students can choose from the following electives, subject to approval by the Board of Examiners:*
    1. *1a. ..... (.. ECTS credits), (Major/Minor)*
    2. *2a. ..... (.. ECTS credits), (Major/Minor)*
    3. *3a. ..... (.. ECTS credits), (Major/Minor)*

Legal basis: Section 7.12b of the Act (powers of Board of Examiners).

6. All course units are listed in OCASYS, the online University course catalogue, specifying the teaching format.

Policy; OCASYS is used to publish degree programme information and timetables.

7. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to offer teaching in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative teaching and assessment formats may temporarily be used, subject to the condition that the agreed learning outcomes continue to be achieved.

Article 7.2 – Substitution and electives taken elsewhere

Legal basis: Section 7.12b(1) of the Act (duties and powers of Board of Examiners).

1. *Following a substantiated request by a student, the Board of Examiners may grant permission to:*
   a. *replace a course unit in the examination programme by another course unit offered by the UG or another Dutch or foreign university that dovetails with the degree programme; or*
   b. *use one or more course units taken at the UG or another Dutch or foreign university as electives in the degree programme.*

2. *When assessing such a request, the Board of Examiners will in any case evaluate the interrelatedness of the curriculum and the level of the course units in question.*

As per Section 7.13(2)(r) in conjunction with Section 9.18(1)(a) and (c) of the Act, the Programme Committee has the right to prior consultation concerning the grounds on which the Board of Examiners can grant exemption from one or more examinations.

Article 7.3 – Open Degree Programme

1. Students can choose to take a department's Open Degree Programme, which will deviate from the regular degree programme or programmes. An Open Degree Programme is subject to the prior approval of the Board of Examiners of the degree programme in which the student is enrolled.

2. *The following additional requirements apply to Open Degree Programmes ….*

Legal basis: Section 7.3j in conjunction with Section 7.12b(1)(c) of the Act; choice and scope of Open Degree Programme subject to approval by most competent Board of Examiners.

8. OTHER SPECIALIZATIONS

Minor policy, adopted by Board of the University in its meeting on 31 October 2023.

A. Minor

Article 8.1 – Minor

1. Minor electives can be chosen from any of the options listed in Article 7.1.2.

2. Students can choose between:
   a) a University Minor;
   b) A Faculty Minor; and
   c) a Personal Minor.

Article 8.2 – University Minor

1. A University Minor is a coherent set of broadening course units that students can take either with their own or a different Faculty.

2. Students who opt for a University Minor do not require the Board of Examiners' explicit approval.

Article 8.3 – Faculty Minor

1. A Faculty Minor is a coherent set of broadening course units that students can take with their own department or Faculty.

2. Students who opt for a Faculty Minor do not require the Board of Examiners' explicit approval.

Article 8.4 – Personal Minor

1. A Personal Minor is a coherent set of broadening or deepening course units that students can self-curate and take either with their own or a different Faculty.

2. Personal Minors are subject to the Board of Examiners' prior approval.

Legal basis: Section 7.3d in conjunction with Section 7.12b(1)(c) of the Act; choice and scope of Open Degree Programme subject to approval by most competent Board of Examiners.

Article 8.5 – Powers of Board of Examiners regarding Minors

1. Students are required to submit their choice of Minor to the Board of Examiners of their degree programme for approval, except if they opt for a University Minor in accordance with Article 8.2.2 or a Faculty Minor in accordance with article 8.3.2.

2. Minors taken with other departments, faculties, *or educational institutes* will be overseen by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that administers the relevant examinations.

3. Minors in the degree programme taken by students of other departments, faculties, *or educational institutes* will be overseen by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme.

4. A coordinating Board of Examiners will be assigned in the event of interfaculty University Minors.

B. Honours programme

Section 7.9b of the Act offers the option of an excellence track (University Council, September 2009 and 28 January 2010).

Article 8.6 – Bachelor's Honours Programme

1. The Faculty will participate in the Bachelor's Honours Programme offered by the University of Groningen Honours College. The Bachelor's Honours Programme does not form part of the regular Bachelor's curriculum.

2. Students admitted to one of the Bachelor's degree programmes offered by the Faculty can participate in the Bachelor's Honours Programme if they are selected by the Dean of the University of Groningen Honours College. Please consult the Teaching and Examination Regulations of the University of Groningen Honours College for the selection procedure.
Optional: the following selection criteria apply to participation in the Honours Programme ….

Section 7.9b(2) of the Act reads as follows <translated>: The board of the institution will draw up rules for the selection referred to in (1) above.

As per Section 7.13(2)(v) of the Act, the Programme Committee has the right of consent concerning any additional selection criteria defined by the Faculty *(e.g. a minimum number of course units to be successfully completed).*

3. The Bachelor's Honours Programme has a total student workload of 30 or 45 ECTS credits, distributed over the three years of the Bachelor's programme. The Bachelor's Honours Programme, which includes deepening Faculty-taught courses, is subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of the University of Groningen Honours College.

Policy based on Section 7.9b of the Act. With effect from the academic year 2023-2024, the Bachelor's Honours Programme has been reduced from 45 to 30 ECTS credits. The two grandfathered cohorts will still be expected to earn 45 ECTS credits.

4.a. As the Honours Programme is not part of the regular Bachelor's curriculum, the results and marks will not count towards the awarding of an honours predicate for the Bachelor's programme.
b. The Diploma Supplement that accompanies the Bachelor's degree certificate will also list the academic performance in the Bachelor's Honours Programme.

Section 7.11(4) of the Act.

Sections 7.4 and 7.4a(1) of the Act. The student workload of an academic Bachelor's degree programme is 180 ECTS credits. The 30 or 45 ECTS credits associated with the Honours Programme fall outside the regular curriculum. Because of this, the associated marks will not count towards the honours predicates for the Bachelor's degree programme.

C. Pre-Master's programmes

Section 7.57i of the Act. Support to promote smooth progress from higher vocational education to an academic Master's degree programme.

Article 8.7 – Pre-Master's programmes

1. The Faculty offers Pre-Master's programmes to facilitate admission to a Faculty Master's degree programme.

2. Students who enrol in the Pre-Masters programme in ..... will be registered in the Bachelor's degree programme as referred to in Article 1.1.1. *(optional: expand if multiple Pre-Master's programmes).*

Chapter 6 of the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees (RIC).

3. The student workload and scope of a Pre-Master's programme will be determined on an individual basis by the Admissions Board.

4. The Admissions Board of the desired Master's degree programme will decide whether students will be admitted to the Pre-Master's programme.

5. Students are expected to complete the Pre-Master's programme within ..... (*assigned time period*).

6. *Supplemental to the provisions of Article 8.7.5, students cannot reregister for a Pre-Master's programme unless they have earned at least ..... ECTS credits.*

7. The Board of Examiners of the degree programme as referred to in Article 1.1.1 has the power to decide in matters concerning course units in the Pre-Master's programme.

8. The provisions concerning Pre-Master's programmes in the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees apply.

Article 8.8 – Nature of Pre-Master's programme

1. The Pre-Master's programme may comprise the following units, involving the specified student workloads:
    1. ..... (.. ECTS credits)
    2. ..... (.. ECTS credits)
    3. ..... (.. ECTS credits)
    4. ..... (.. ECTS credits), etc.

2. All units are listed in OCASYS, the online University course catalogue, specifying the teaching format.

3. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to offer teaching in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative teaching and assessment formats may temporarily be used, subject to the condition that the agreed learning outcomes continue to be achieved.

4. Each unit of the Pre-Master's programme is assessed by means of an examination. Examinations will be taken as specified in OCASYS.

9. EXAMINATIONS

Article 9.1 – General

1. Each course unit is assessed by means of an examination.

2. *An examination can comprise a number of partial exams. The results of these partial exams together will make up the examination result.*

3. The examination will assess a student's academic development and mastery of the learning outcomes of the course unit.

> *Section 7.3(3) of the Act reads as follows <translated>: Every degree programme will be concluded with a final assessment. Every course unit will be concluded with an examination.*

4. The results of an examination are given as either a pass or a fail, in numbers on a scale of 1 to 10, expressed as 6/*5.5* or higher for a pass and 5/*5.4* or lower for a fail.

> Article 13 of the Model Rules and Regulations for Boards of Examiners.

Article 9.2 – Participation in examinations

1. Students who register for a course unit in the degree programme in accordance with Article 3.7 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations will automatically be registered for the examination for that course unit.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 9.2.1, students can register and deregister for examinations during certain periods to be determined.

Policy on automatic examination registration. Effective since 1 September 2014, adopted by the Board of the University on 26 May 2014.

As per Section 7.13(2)(x) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the periods to be determined as referred to in Article 9.2.2.

Article 9.3 – Compulsory order of examinations

The examinations for the course units listed below cannot be taken before the examinations for the specified course units have been passed:

a. first year of degree programme:
   ..... after ..... has been passed
   ..... after ..... and ..... have been passed

b. second and third years of degree programme:
   ..... after ..... has been passed
   ..... after ..... and ..... have been passed
   etc.

Section 7.13(2) of the Act reads as follows <translated>:
Without prejudice to any other provisions of this Act, the teaching and examination regulations will set out the applicable procedures and rights and obligations with regard to teaching and examinations for each degree programme or cluster of degree programmes. This will include at least the following […]:
h. the number and sequentiality of the examinations, and when they can be taken;
j. where necessary, the order, the periods, and the number of times per academic year that examinations and final assessments can be taken;
s. where necessary, a statement that admission to examinations is subject to successful completion of other examinations.

As per Section 7.13(2)(h)(j) and (s) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning this article of the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

Article 9.4 – Examination frequency and periods

1. There will be an opportunity to take the examinations for the course units listed in Articles 4.1 and 7.1 at least twice in each academic year.

Policy based on Section 7.13(2)(h) of the Act.

As per Section 7.13(2)(h) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning any positive deviations from this provision.

2. The periods in which examinations can be taken are listed in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS. Partial exams can also be taken outside the period indicated.

Policy based on Section 7.13(2)(h) of the Act.

3. *Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 9.4.1, the opportunity to take an examination for a course unit that has not been taught in a certain academic year will only be provided once in that year.*

4. *Students can 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.*

5. *If a student has completed all the compulsory components of a course unit to the best of their ability but has still not passed, the examiner may give them the opportunity to take a supplementary or replacement test.*

Policy based on Section 7.13(2)(l) of the Act.

As per Section 7.13(2)(h) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning

Article 9.5 – Assessment of placement or research project

The assessment of a placement or research project will be conducted by the on-site supervisor and the original commissioner, who have both been appointed as examiners by the Board of Examiners.

Section 7.12c of the Act: appointment of examiners; Section 7.13(2)(d) and (t) of the Act: format of practicals and participation requirement.

As per Section 7.13(2)(d), the Programme Committee has the right of consent concerning the format of practicals, where needed. As per Section 7.13(2)(t), the Faculty Council has the right of consent if a provision is included about the participation requirement.

Article 9.6 – *Thesis/final project*

1. A *thesis/final project* can in principle only be used for one University of Groningen degree programme. Full or partial exemption from a degree programme's *thesis/final project* requirement may be granted by the Board of Examiners on the basis of a *thesis/final project* written for another degree programme.

Section 7.12b(1) of the Act: duties and powers of Board of Examiners, exemptions.

2. Each *thesis/final project* will be assessed by at least two examiners.

Section 12c of the Act: the Board of Examiners will appoint examiners.

3. The retention period for a *thesis/final project* is seven years (to be archived by the Faculty Board).

4. *Students will be given the opportunity to write a final-year thesis/final project at least twice every academic year.*

Section 7.13(2)(j) of the Act.

As per Section 7.13(2)(j), the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning how many times per year this opportunity is offered.

5. *The period or periods during which students can write theses/the final project will be published in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS.*

Section 7.13(2)(h) of the Act.

As per Section 7.13(2)(h) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning these periods.

6. *More detailed rules on the format, scope, time frame, and assessment of the thesis/final project can be found in the Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's theses/projects, which form part of these Teaching and Examination Regulations.*

7. *If, by the end of the period referred to in Article 9.6.5, an assessor is of the opinion that the thesis/final project cannot be awarded a pass mark, the student will be given one opportunity to remedy their work in order to be awarded a pass mark of 6/5.5 within a time frame defined by the department.*

8. *The Board of Examiners is the only body that can deviate from the provisions of this article at the written request of a student.*

Section 7.13(2)(l) of the Act.

Students are expected to satisfy the following requirements in order to qualify for supervision and assessment of the final-year thesis/final project for the degree programme:

- *the student has earned at least 60 ECTS credits for second and third-year course units;*

Section 7.13(2)(s) of the Act.

As per Section 7.13(2)(s), the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning any admission requirements for examinations, including the thesis.

- *the student's Bachelor's specialization has been approved by the Board of Examiners (if required under Article 9.6.7).*

Article 9.7 – Format of examinations

As per Section 7.13(2)(l) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the format of examinations as set out in the assessment plan.

1. Examinations will be taken as specified in OCASYS.

Based on Article 7.13(2)(l) and (m) of the Act.

2. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to offer examinations in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative teaching and assessment formats may temporarily be used, subject to the condition that the agreed learning outcomes continue to be achieved.

3. Examinations will be administered in *Dutch/English/ target language of the degree programme.*

   Or:

   The language in which examinations will be administered is:
   Name of examination: Dutch/English/target language
   Name of examination: Dutch/English/target language
   Name of examination: Dutch/English/target language
   Etc.

As per UG Language Policy. The language in which examinations are administered will be formalized in the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

4. At a student's request, the Board of Examiners may allow an examination to be taken in a format different from that stated above.

Section 7.13(2)(l) of the Act.

5. Mock versions of each examination will be made available to help students prepare for the actual test.

Policy on mock examinations. Decision by Board of the University, sent to faculties on 20 October 2014.

Article 9.8 – Oral examinations

Policy based on Section 7.13(2)(l) and (n) of the Act.

1. Unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise, an oral examination will be taken by one student at a time. *A second examiner may attend an oral examination at the request of the student and/or the examiner.*

2. Oral examinations are public, unless the Board of Examiners or the relevant examiner stipulates otherwise, *or the student objects to the public nature of the examination* due to extraordinary circumstances.

As per Section 7.13(2)(n) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the public nature of oral examinations, notwithstanding the Board of Examiners' power to decide otherwise in extraordinary circumstances.

Article 9.9 – Request for extra resit opportunity

1. Students can submit a request for an extra resit to the Board of Examiners.

2. Such a request may be granted if *the student in question failed the relevant exam due to extraordinary circumstances* and if not granting the request for an extra resit would result in an unacceptable delay in degree completion.

3. The following criteria will apply to granting a request for an extra resit for the last course unit in the degree programme:
   - the course unit qualifies as the examinee's last graduation requirement;
   - *not granting the request would result in a delay in degree completion by at least one semester*
   - *the examinee has taken the last two regular examinations for the course unit in question and have earned marks of at least 4 and 5.*

As per Section 7.13(2)(h) and (j) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the criteria for granting an extra resit.

Article 9.10 – Competent Board of Examiners – electives from other degree programmes

1. A request to take an elective from another degree programme is subject to the approval of the Board of Examiners of the student's own degree programme.

Section 7.12b(1)(c) of the Act.

2. When a student opts for an elective from a degree programme other than their own, the Board of Examiners of the other degree programme will be competent to administer and assess the examinations and decide upon requests for alternative examination regulations. Article 10.10.2 applies.

Existing policy based on Section 7.12b(1)(c) of the Act.

Article 9.11 – Exemptions

1. At a student's request, the Board of Examiners, having discussed the matter with the examiner in question, may grant an exemption from an examination (or partial examination) on the basis of results earned previously (possibly elsewhere) on condition that the student:
   a. has completed part of a university or higher vocational degree in the Netherlands or elsewhere that is equivalent in scope and level;
   b. can demonstrate by work experience that they have sufficient knowledge and skills with respect to the course unit in question.

2. The provisions of Article 10.2 apply to exemptions.

3. The validity period of exemptions granted for course units or partial course units will correspond to that of examination results.

Section 7.12b(1)(d) of the Act: the Board of Examiners is competent to grant exemptions from one or more examinations.

Section 7.13(2) of the Act reads as follows <translated>: Without prejudice to any other provisions in this Act, the teaching and examination regulations set out the applicable procedures and rights and obligations with regard to teaching and examinations for each degree programme or cluster of degree programmes. This will include at least the following […]:
k. where necessary, the validity period of successfully completed examinations, notwithstanding the Board of Examiners' power to extend this period.
r. the grounds on which the Board of Examiners can grant exemptions from one or more examinations on the basis of previously passed examinations or final assessments in higher education or knowledge and skills acquired outside the world of higher education.

As per Section 7.13(2)(r) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning Article 4.2.1 with regard to how this is effectively fleshed out.
As per Section 7.13(2)(k) of the Act, the Faculty Council also has the right of consent concerning Article 4.2.3, notwithstanding the powers of the Board of Examiners.

Article 9.12 – Examinations and students with special needs

1. Students with special needs will be given the opportunity to take examinations in a format that will accommodate them as much as possible. If necessary, the Board of Examiners will seek expert advice from the student counsellor of the Student Service Centre (SSC) before making a decision.

Section 7.13(2)(m) of the Act.

As per Section 7.13(2)(m), the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the procedure for reasonably accommodating students with special needs or a chronic illness in taking examinations.

2. With regard to examinations for electives taken at other degree programmes by students with special needs, the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that administers the examination will comply with the accommodations allowed by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme in which the student is enrolled.

Existing policy based on Section 7.12b(1)(c) of the Act.

Article 9.13 – Exam accommodations

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 9.4, the Board of Examiners may decide to grant individual students a specific exam accommodation if refusal to do so were to result in an exceptional case of extreme unfairness.

2. Requests for individual exam accommodations, including supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Board of Examiners as soon as possible.

Article 9.14 – Examination results – assessment and publication

1. After an oral examination, the examiner will finalize the examination results immediately and provide the student with a statement at their request.

Policy based on Section 7.13(2)(o) of the Act.

2. The examiner will mark a written examination within ten working days of the day on which it was administered, and will provide the Faculty's records office with the necessary details for registration of the result in Progress. *If, due to unforeseen*

circumstances, a written examination cannot reasonably be marked within ten days, the marking period can be extended by no more than five working days. This is subject to approval by the Programme Director/Office of the Programme Director. The marking period cannot be extended in Block 2b, nor can it be extended in the first year of the degree programme.

Policy based on Section 7.13(2)(o), (p), and (q) of the Act. The ten-day marking period requirement was adopted by the Board of the University on 2 December 2003. Section 7.13(2)(o) offers scope for extending this period. The marking period cannot be extended in Block 2b due to the planning of the academic year. In view of issuing the binding study advice, the marking period cannot be extended in the first year of the degree programme either.

3. If an examination is administered other than orally or in writing, the Board of Examiners will determine in advance how and when students will receive written confirmation of the result.

Policy based on Section 7.13(2)(o) of the Act.

4. 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 published.

Section 7.61(1)(e) of the Act.

Article 9.15 – Validity

Policy based on Sections 7.10(4), 7.13(2)(k) and 7.59a of the Act.

1. Credits for successfully completed course units will be valid indefinitely.

2.a. *Contrary to the provisions of Article 9.15.1, the Board of Examiners may decide to require a student to take a supplementary or substitute examination for a course unit taken more than (..) years previously before allowing that student to progress to the final assessment if the student's assessable knowledge, understanding, or skills are demonstrably outdated.*

b. In the event of extraordinary personal circumstances, the term of validity will be extended to include the period during which the student in question receives support from the Student Support Fund.

2. Credits earned through partial examinations and assignments within a course unit that was not successfully completed will lapse at the end of the academic year in which they were gained.

As per Section 7.13(2)(k), the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the limitation of the validity of earned credits where needed. This right will be limited by legal constraints, i.e. Section 7.10(4) of the Act, which came into force on 1 September 2017.

Article 9.16 – Right of inspection

Policy based on Section 7.13(2)(p) and (q) of the Act.

As per Section 7.13(2)(p) and (q) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the enforcement of the right of inspection.

1. On request, students have the right to inspect their marked work within a period of … days after the results of a written examination have been published. Students who exercise this right will be provided with a copy of their work at cost price at their request.

2. Within the time frame stipulated in Article 9.16.1, any person may request that they be allowed to peruse the examination paper and the assessment criteria.

3. *The Board of Examiners can decide that this inspection or perusal will take place at a certain place and at two set times as a minimum. If the person concerned can show that they were prevented by force majeure from appearing at the indicated places and times, they will be offered another opportunity, if possible within the period stated in Article 9.16.1.*

Article 9.17 – 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 a degree.

Section 7.12(2) of the Act.

2. The Faculty Board will appoint the members of the Board of Examiners on the basis of their expertise in the field of the degree programme (or cluster of degree programmes).

Sections 7.12a(1) and 9.15(1)(e) of the Act.

3. The Board of Examiners will comprise at least:
   a. one member who is a lecturer in the degree programme (*or in one of the degree programmes that are part of the relevant cluster of degree programmes*); and
   b. one member from outside the degree programme (*or one of the degree programmes that are part of the relevant cluster of degree programmes*).

Section 7.12a(3)(a) and (b) of the Act.

4. Members of the Faculty Board or other persons with financial responsibilities within the institution will not be appointed as members of the Board of Examiners.

Section 7.12a(3)(c) of the Act.

5. The Board of Examiners will appoint examiners to administer examinations and determine the results.

Section 7.12c of the Act.

6. The Board of Examiners will adopt Rules and Regulations to help its members evaluate, and determine the results of, examinations and final assessments.

Section 7.12b(1)(b) of the Act.

Article 9.18 – Fraud and plagiarism

Section 7.12b(2) and (3) of the Act.

1. Fraud is an act or omission on the part of a student that is designed to obstruct the correct assessment of their or another person's knowledge, understanding, and skills, either fully or in part. (Policy based on Section 7.12(3) of the Act)

2. Fraud also includes plagiarism, i.e. copying another person's work without proper citation. (Policy based on Section 7.12(3) of the Act)

3. *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.*

4. For the purposes of assessing theses and written assignments, the University will conduct a plagiarism check using a plagiarism scanner. Each student is personally responsible for maintaining academic integrity.

5. *In the event of suspected fraud, a more in-depth review of a student's knowledge, understanding, and skills may be performed. This in-depth review will be separate from the examinations for the course unit.*

As per the UG's AI in Teaching Policy.

6. If a student has committed fraud, the Board of Examiners may exclude that student from participating in one or more examinations or final assessments for up to one year.

7. In the event of serious fraud, the Board of Examiners can advise the Board of the University to permanently terminate the relevant student's registration in the degree programme.

8. A student will be considered to be committing serious fraud if they (non-exhaustive):
   a. impersonate another student during an examination;
   b. arrange for another person to take an examination under their name;
   c. have a third party(service) sit the exam for them;
   d. gain access to the examination questions/tasks or answer key before the scheduled examination date;
   e. fabricate and/or falsify questionnaire and/or interview answers and/or research results.

9. The Board of Examiners will set out its anti-fraud procedures in its Rules and Regulations.

Article 9.19 – Invalid examination

Section 7.12(2) in conjunction with Section 7.12b(2) of the Act.

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 9.20 – Termination of registration (Iudicium Abeundi)

Section 7.42a of the Act and Article 6 RIC. Protocol Iudicium Abeundi (protocol for termination of registration) effective from 1 March 2011; decision by Board of the University of 22 February 2011.

1. In extraordinary cases of gross misconduct and/or highly objectionable statements 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 9.20.1 until after the student in question has been given an opportunity to argue their case, any interests of the student and of the institution have been carefully weighed, and it has been become plausible that the student, due to their conduct and/or statements, has shown themselves unsuitable for one or more of the professions for which they are being trained in their degree programme, or for the practical preparation for the profession. In such cases, the Faculty Board, the Board of Examiners, and the Board of the University will follow the Protocol Iudicium Abeundi as approved by the Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres on 1 November 2010.

3. The provisions of the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees apply.

10. FINAL ASSESSMENT

Article 10.1 – Final assessment

1. The degree programme will be concluded with a final assessment.

Section 7.3(3) of the Act.

2. On condition that the student's curriculum 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 impose completion deadlines. The results of the final assessment are an indication that the student has undergone the necessary academic development. The Board of Examiners will issue a degree certificate to reflect this.

3. If a student fails to meet the deadlines referred to under Article 10.1.2, the Board of Examiners may decide to postpone the student's graduation date, possibly to the academic year following the year in which the last examination was passed.

Section 7.10(2) in conjunction with Section 7.11(2) in conjunction with Section 7.12(2) in conjunction with Section 7.12b(1)(b) of the Act.

Powers of Board of Examiners.

4. 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 when the related marks so warrant.

Section 7.10(2) in conjunction with Section 7.12(2) of the Act.

5. By deciding to award the degree, the Board of Examiners also undertakes to arrange for the degree conferral at relatively short notice.

Section 7.10(3) of the Act.

6. Students wishing to postpone their graduation date due to extra examinations yet to be taken are required to duly submit a request to this effect to the Board of Examiners.

Section 7.11(3) in conjunction with Section 7.12b(1)(e) of the Act.

7. The graduation date will be the date on which the student passes the final assessment, as determined by the Board of Examiners in accordance with the provisions of Article 10.1.2, rather than the date on which the degree certificate is presented to the student.

Section 7.10(2) of the Act.

Article 10.2 – Course units completed elsewhere

1. Students will only be awarded a Bachelor's degree in the degree programme if at least *half/two-thirds* of the credits for the programme were earned through course units taught at the *University of Groningen/Faculty/department* during the period in which the student was registered as a Bachelor's student in that programme at the University of Groningen.

   Section 7.12b(1) of the Act. The Board of Examiners will guarantee the quality of the degrees to be awarded.

2. For double-degree Bachelor's programmes offered together with a foreign institution, at least one quarter (*or more*) of the programme must have been completed at the *University of Groningen/Faculty/department* during the period the student was registered as a Bachelor's student in that programme at the University of Groningen. *The provisions of Article 9.6.1 with regard to the thesis are to be observed in this regard.*

   The legal basis for Article 10.2.1 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations can be found in Section 7.10a of the Act and the WHW Implementation Decree 2008. Article 10.2.2 concerns policy of the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

Article 10.3 – Degree certificate

1. Students will receive a certificate issued by the Board of Examiners as proof that they have passed the final assessment. Even if a student has successfully completed more than one specialization within a degree programme, they will receive only one degree certificate.

   Section 7.11(2) of the Act.

2. The Board of Examiners will issue an International Diploma Supplement with each degree certificate.

   Section 7.11(4) of the Act.

3. If relevant, the results earned in the Bachelor's Honours Programme will also be listed on the Diploma Supplement accompanying the Bachelor's degree certificate.

   Policy based on Section 7.11 of the Act.

Article 10.4 – Degree

1. Students who have passed the final assessment will be awarded the degree Bachelor of *Science/Arts/Laws*.

Section 1.9(2) in conjunction with Section 7.10a(1) of the Act.

2. The degree awarded will be specified on the degree certificate.

Section 7.11(2)(d) of the Act.

Article 10.5 – Honours (cum laude/summa cum laude)

Policy rather than a statutory provision. Decision by the Board of the University of 11 May 2010 (memo 10/05237). The Board of Examiners is responsible for determining whether or not an honours predicate will be awarded.

1. The Board of Examiners will determine whether or not the Bachelor's degree certificate will be awarded with an Honours predicate.

2. The following conditions apply:
   a) *The mark for the thesis meets the following minimum requirements:*
      i. *cum laude: the mark for the thesis is at least 8.0;*
      ii. *summa cum laude: the mark for the thesis is at least 9.0.*
   b) *The unrounded weighted average for all course units, excluding the thesis, within the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners is:*
      i. *greater than or equal to 8.0 => cum laude;*
      ii. *greater than or equal to 9.0 => summa cum laude.*

3. No honours will be awarded if the student was granted exemptions in ECTS credits for more than half of the total number of ECTS credits for the degree programme. This provision does not apply to double-degree programmes.

4. Honours will only be awarded if the student has passed all examinations for the course units on their first attempt.

5. Honours will only be awarded if the student was awarded a *mark of 7.0/a result of …* or higher for every single course unit.

6. No honours 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 a honours predicate due to fraud/plagiarism.

7. In extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Examiners may decide to depart from the provisions of Articles 10.5.2 to 10.5.6.

Article 10.6 – Assessment Programme

As per the UG Assessment Policy 2021-2026.

The Faculty Board will adopt an Assessment Programme, which will *form part of/be appended to* the Teaching and Examination Regulations. The Assessment Programme will address the following aspects:

- learning outcomes of the degree programme;
- course units and their individual learning outcomes;
- correlation between course units and learning outcomes (how are the learning outcomes achieved?);
- assessment format and frequency for each course unit.

As per Section 7.13(2)(c) of the Act, the Programme Committee has the right of consent concerning the learning outcomes of the degree programme. However, the Minister has explained in a letter to the institutions that students should not be assessing their own learning outcomes.

As per Section 7.13(2)(h), (j), and (l) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the assessment format and frequency.

11. ACADEMIC PROGRESS MONITORING AND STUDENT SUPPORT

As per Section 7.13(2)(u) of the Act, the Faculty Council has the right of consent concerning the procedure for academic progress monitoring and individual student support.

Article 11.1 – Academic progress records

Section 7.13(2)(u) of the Act

The Faculty Board will record the individual results of all students, and provide students with an overview of their results at least twice a year and on request.

Article 11.2 – Student support

Section 7.34(1)(e) in conjunction with Section 7.13(2)(u) WHW

The Faculty Board will organize the orientation and arrange for support of students enrolled in the degree programme, partly to promote their academic progress and also with a view to educating them on potential study options within and outside the degree programme.

12. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 12.1 – Amendments

1. Any amendments to 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 these Regulations will not apply to the current academic year, unless they do not reasonably harm the interests of students.

General principle of good governance: legal certainty principle.

3. In addition, an amendment will not affect any other decision concerning a student taken by the Board of Examiners under these Regulations to the detriment of that student.

The Teaching and Examination Regulations will be enforced without accommodation for individual cases.

Article 12.2 – Publication

1. The Faculty Board will duly publish these Regulations as well as any amendments to them.

2. *Copies of the Teaching and Examination Regulations are available from the Faculty Office*. These documents have also been posted on the *Faculty website (Student Portal)*.

Section 7.59(4)(b) of the Act.

Article 12.3 – Evaluation

a. The Faculty Board evaluated, assessing at least – for the purposes of monitoring and, if necessary, adjusting the student workload – the time requirement for students to complete their coursework.
b. The Faculty Board will evaluate the teaching practices in the … degree programme as follows:

   .....
   .....

Section 9.18(1)(b) of the Act.

Article 12.4 – Effective date

These Regulations will take effect on 1 September 2026.