House Rules and General Code of Conduct of the University of Groningen

Under Article 7.57h of the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act (WHW), the Board of the University of Groningen (UG) has the power to issue regulations and take measures relating to day-to-day matters in UG buildings and on UG premises.
Students who violate the regulations as laid down in the house rules and code of conduct may be temporarily or permanently denied access to all or part of the buildings and grounds and/or their enrollment may be temporarily suspended or permanently terminated.

In addition to these House Rules and the General Code of Conduct, staff members are also subject to the rules of good employee conduct as laid down in the Collective Labour Agreement of the Universities of the Netherlands (CAO NU).

These House Rules and this Code of Conduct do not apply to third parties who are not associated with the UG in any capacity whatsoever.
In the case of third parties, access to UG buildings, sites, or facilities may be denied.
The Board of the University then acts as the owner (Article 5:1 of the Dutch Civil Code) or user of the buildings and sites. In the case of these third parties, the Board does not make a decision within the confines of the General Administrative Law Act, which means that no objection can be made to the Board against such denial of access.

Article 1 - Definitions

a. Board: the Board of the University of Groningen.

b. Faculty Board: the board of one of the faculties of the UG.

c. Management Board: the management of a university department of the UG.

d. Staff member: a person in permanent or temporary employment with the UG, as well as professors by special appointment, trainees, and other persons appointed, contracted or otherwise affiliated with the UG.

e. Student: a person who is enrolled at the UG to attend course units, and/or take the tests and examinations of the degree programme. The term ‘student’ also includes a person enrolled at the UG as a course participant, contractor, guest student, and/or exchange student.

Article 2 - Manner of use

1. Students or staff members who use University buildings, grounds, or other facilities are required to do so in accordance with their indicated purpose and to comply with the rules set by or on behalf of the Board regarding their use. This includes regulations, rules, codes of conduct, and the Student Charter.

2. A student or staff member must under any circumstances behave in such a way that they:

a. cause no direct or indirect damage to the University or third parties making use of University buildings, grounds, or other facilities;
b. do not infringe on any rights of the University or third parties making use of University buildings, grounds, or other facilities;
c. do not act in violation of any other legal obligations;
d. do not act in violation of what is appropriate according to the unwritten rules of society.

3. The rules, regulations, and instructions as referred to in the first paragraph may be issued on behalf of the Board, by the Faculty Board or by the management of a department.

Article 3 - Instructions

Anyone using the buildings, grounds, or other facilities of the UG must immediately comply with any instructions issued by or on behalf of the Board, as set out in the provisions of Article 2.

Article 4 - Measures

1. If a student or staff member acts in contravention of the provisions of Article 2, or fails to comply immediately with an instruction as referred to in Article 3, the Faculty Board or the Management Board may, on behalf of the Board, issue a warning to that student or staff member.

2. a. The Board may deny a student or staff member access to all or part of the buildings and grounds of the UG.
b. The Board may terminate a student's enrolment for a maximum period of one year, if the student violates the provisions of Article 2, or does not immediately comply with the instructions as referred to in Article 3.

3. If a student or staff member has caused a serious nuisance within the buildings and grounds of the UG in violation of Article 2, and has not ceased to cause such a nuisance even after being warned by or on behalf of the Board, the Board may, whether or not at the request of the Faculty Board or the Management Board, permanently deny that person access to the UG, and/or terminate their enrolment as a student, as provided for in Article 7.57h(2) of the WHW.

4. A decision as referred to in paragraphs 1 to 3 will be taken only after the person concerned has been given the opportunity to be heard.

5. A decision as referred to in paragraphs 1 through 3 shall be communicated in writing to the person concerned, and included in the student or personnel file respectively.

6. If a student or staff member acts in violation of the provisions of Article 2, or does not immediately comply with an instruction as referred to in Article 3, and there is urgency and/or a weighty interest, the Faculty Board or the Management Board may, on behalf of the Board, verbally and without a prior hearing, take a temporary measure in the form of full or partial denial of access to UG buildings or grounds. The temporary measure may last

up to 14 days. The Board will be informed immediately.

7. The person against whom a measure has been taken as described in the sixth paragraph, who was unable to be heard beforehand due to urgency, will be given the opportunity to be heard on behalf of the Board as soon as possible, in any case within 14 days, if there is an intention to take a successive decision as described in the first to the third paragraph.

Article 5 - Decisions and objection

1. The decisions referred to in Articles 3 and 4 will be substantiated and delivered in writing or digitally to the person concerned.

2. The decision as referred to in Article 4 will also mention the possibility of objection to the Board.

Article 6 - Entry into force

These regulations will enter into force on the day following their adoption and publication by the Board.

Thus established by the Board of the UG on 28 November 2023.