university of groningen

FACULTY OF ARTS

TEACHING AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS (OER)

Part A: General information for all Bachelor's degree programmes

for the academic year 2025-2026

These regulations were decreed by the Board of the Faculty of Arts on 17 October 2025, with approval from the Faculty Council and the Programme Committee for the sections requiring this by law.

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SECTION 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1.1 – Applicability

1. These Regulations apply to the teaching, examinations and final assessment of all Bachelor's degree programmes in the Faculty of Arts, hereinafter referred to as 'the degree programme', for the academic year 2025-2026, and to all students enrolled in this degree programme.
2. The degree programme is offered by the Faculty of Arts 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 that students follow in other degree programmes or at other faculties or institutes of higher education are subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of that programme, faculty, or institute.
5. These Regulations also apply to students enrolled in the degree programme for the purpose of following a Pre-Master's programme as referred to in Article 6.3.
6. In these Regulations, the term 'the degree programme' refers to the Bachelor's degree programme in which a student is enrolled. Each of the degree programmes listed below has an individual Part B, with provisions that only apply to that degree programme.

Overview of Bachelor's degree programmes

Some of the degree programmes listed below have a (p) behind their name, to indicate that they are offered in part-time as well as full-time mode.

American Studies – ISAT 50623
Archaeology – ISAT 56703
Communication and Information – ISAT 56826
English Language and Culture – ISAT 50290
European Languages and Cultures – ISAT 56124
History (p) – ISAT 56034
Classical Studies (p) – ISAT 56003
Information Science – ISAT 56842
International Relations and International Organization – ISAT 50627
Arts, Culture and Media – ISAT 50629
Art History – ISAT 56824
Media Studies – ISAT 50906
Middle Eastern Studies – ISAT 56098
Minorities & Multilingualism (p) – ISAT 56012
Dutch Language and Culture – ISAT 56804
Linguistics – ISAT 56803

Article 1.2 – Definitions

The following definitions apply to these Regulations:

a. Academic year: the period starting on 1 September and ending on 31 August of the following year.
b. Act: the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Dutch acronym: WHW).
c. Admissions Board: the board that has decision-making powers in matters concerning admission to the degree programme on behalf of the Faculty Board.
d. 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.
e. Board of Examiners: the independent body entrusted with the tasks and authorities as stated in Articles 7.11, 7.12, 7.12b and 7.12c of the Act, including the decision of whether the requirements of the final examinations have been met.
f. Course unit: a teaching unit of the degree programme within the meaning of Section 7.4 of the Act.
g. Definitive study advice: study advice, issued only once, which may result in rejection of the student in question in accordance with Article 7.8b.1 and 2 of the Act.
h. Degree programme: the Bachelor's degree programme referred to in Article 1.1 of these Regulations, comprising a coherent set of course units.

i. ECTS credit: short for European Credit Transfer and Accumulation system, a credit point within the meaning of Article 7.4 of the Act. The student workload of each course unit is expressed in ECTS credit points, whereby 1 ECTS credit point is equivalent to a student workload of 28 hours.
j. Examiner: a person appointed by the Board of Examiners to set examinations and determine their results.
k. Extraordinary circumstances: circumstances such as those referred to in Article 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. In 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 of a consultative participation body.
l. 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.
m. First year of degree programme: the first period of a degree programme with a student workload of 60 ECTS credits.
n. FR registration: Registration for students who are enrolled in a course unit but do not receive a final assessment for it because they have been found guilty of cheating or plagiarism.
o. Major: all compulsory course units in the first year and second and third year of the degree programme.
p. 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 University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees (RIC).
q. Minor: a coherent set of course units that can be taken as Minor electives.
r. Minor electives: the scope available for students to specialize within the degree programme.
s. N-A registration: *Niet Afgerond / Niet Aanwezig* / Not Attended / Not Assessed. Registration for students who are registered for a course unit but have not received a final assessment for it.
t. OCASYS: the University of Groningen's online course catalogue.
u. Partial examination or subtest: if a course unit comprises several examinations or tests, these are referred to as partial examinations or subtests. All partial examinations or subtests together make up the final mark (which may or may not be a weighted average).
v. Practical: a practical project, as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, in one of the following forms: a thesis, participation in a seminar, a written assignment, paper or draft, a research assignment, participation in fieldwork or an excursion, completion of a placement, participation in another educational activity designed to acquire certain skills.
w. Preliminary study advice: a mid-year study advice that is issued to first-year students.
x. Pre-Master's programme: a programme intended to remedy deficiencies for admission to the Master's degree programme
y. Programme Committee: the consultative and advisory body that fulfils the duties referred to in Section 9.18 of the Act.
z. Second and third years of degree programme: the stages of the Bachelor's degree programme following the first year.
aa. 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.
bb. 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.
cc. Study progress overview: a written overview of academic results and the related ECTS credits, which is sent to students by email.
dd. Syllabus: a document based on the Faculty syllabus model, comprising information about the form, content and organization of an individual course unit.
ee. Test or examination: a test of the knowledge, understanding, and skills of students, including an assessment of outcomes.
ff. 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 that the Act ascribes to them.

SECTION 2 - QUALIFICATIONS AND ADMISSION

Article 2.1 – Admission to the programme

1. A VWO diploma (with any profile, i.e. track) will grant admission to the degree programme.
2. Any additions to Section 2.1.1 will be covered in Section 2 of Part B of these Regulations.

Article 2.2 – Admission based on a foreign certificate

The Admissions Board may grant admission to the holder of a certificate of competence to follow university education issued by a foreign institute of education in order to follow the first year of the degree programme , notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2.1. Section 2 of Part B of these Teaching and Examination Regulations, which discusses language requirements for foreign certificates, applies.

Article 2.3 – English language requirements

1. The following additional language requirements apply: English at VWO diploma level. The required English language proficiency can be demonstrated by presenting one of the following documents:
   a. a VWO diploma
   b. a subject certificate for VWO English (mark 6 or higher)
   c. the iBT TOEFL test: with a minimum score of 90 and a minimum score of 21 on all components
   d. IELTS Academic Module 6.5, with a minimum score of 6.0 on all components
   e. course a certificate from the University of Groningen Language Centre, at least CEFR C1 with B2 for no more than two components.
   f. Cambridge: C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency with a minimum score of 180
   g. Other documentary proof of the required language proficiency may be submitted to the admission committee for assessment.
2. For Pre-Master's programmes, the language requirements of the relevant Master's degree programme apply, as indicated in part B of the Regulations of the Master's degree programme.

Article 2.4 – Admission to the degree programme with an HBO propaedeutic certificate

1. Students with an HBO (University of Applied Sciences) propaedeutic certificate but without a VWO diploma or other equivalent degree as referred to in Article 2.1.1 are admissible to the degree programme.
2. Article 2.3 of these Regulations applies to holders of a certificate as referred to in Article 2. 4.1 with regard to the required English language proficiency, with the exception of the Bachelor's degree programme in Dutch Language and Culture for which English at secondary school (HAVO) examination level is sufficient.
3. Any additions to Article 2.4.1 will be covered in Section 2 of Part B of these Regulations.

Article 2.5 – Entrance examination

The Admissions Board is responsible for organizing the entrance examination as referred to in Article 7.29 of the Act (Entrance Examinations). The relevant regulations are set out in the *Regeling Colloquium Doctum* [Regulations for entrance examinations] of the Faculty of Arts.

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.
c) The *Regeling Colloquium Doctum* [Regulations for entrance examinations] of the Faculty of Arts sets out the subjects covered by the entrance examination.
   The stipulations in Section 2 of Part B of these Regulations, which discusses language requirements, apply.
d) 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 after the date on which the examination was taken.

Article 2.6 – 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 composition and duties of the Admissions Board are set out in the Faculty Regulations for the Faculty of Arts.
3. The study advisor for the degree programme (or an equivalent member of Faculty staff) may be appointed as advisory member.
4. The Faculty Board is responsible for appointing the members of the Admissions Board and for establishing the admission requirements.

Article 2.7 – Matching

1. Prospective students will be given the opportunity to attend the matching activities organized by the relevant degree programme and to be issued with a degree programme recommendation before their registration is finalized.
2. The stipulations in Chapter 3 of the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees (RIC: *Regeling Inschrijving en Collegegeld*) and the Faculty matching procedure apply.

Article 2.8 – Starting date

1. All Bachelor's degree programmes at the Faculty of Arts have one starting date per academic year: 1 September of each year.
2. It is not possible to start the first year of the degree programme after 1 September.
3. The provisions of this Article also apply to students who reregister for the same degree programme.
4. Notwithstanding what is set out in Article 2.8.1 and 2.8.2, students who have in the past been enrolled in the degree programme or who wish to start in a higher year may apply to the Admissions Board for permission to start on a different date. The Admissions Board will grant permission for an alternative starting date if the specific course units that the student in question wishes to follow start on this date and if the student has satisfied the entry requirements for these course units.
5. A request for admission after 1 September may be submitted to the Admissions Board by email: bsz.let@rug.nl. A decision regarding this application will be taken within 4 weeks.

SECTION 3 – CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 3.1 Aims and learning outcomes of the degree programme

1. The degree programme is designed to:
   a. impart knowledge, skills, and understanding in the field of the degree programme, and to achieve the learning outcomes listed in Article 3.1 of Part B of these Regulations.
   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 the 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 study career. Students become familiar with the theory and practice of academic research from the very start of their Bachelor's degree programme.

Article 3.2 – Medium and format of degree programme

1. The language of the degree programme is mentioned in Part B to these Regulations.
2. The degree programme will be offered on a full-time basis. Article 1.1 of these Regulations lists the degree programmes that can also be followed in part-time mode.

Article 3.3 – Student workload

1. The degree programme has a student workload of 180 ECTS credits.
2. The first year of the degree programme has 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.

Article 3.4 – Conditions for awarding a University of Groningen degree
Students can only be awarded a Bachelor's degree in the degree programme if at least half of the programme was followed at the University of Groningen during their period of registration as a student at the University of Groningen.

Article 3.5 –Degree programme structure and examinations
1. The programme is concluded by a final Bachelor's assessment.
2. The entire degree programme comprises a Major and a Minor.

Article 3.6 – Participation in course units
1. All registered students must specify the course units they wish to follow in Progress WWW before the academic year begins. The periods during which students can register are set annually by the Faculty. In principle, students can register for up to 30 ECTS credits per semester. The Director of Education may grant students exemption from this rule on the recommendation of the study advisor of the relevant degree programme.
2. Students who register for a course unit are automatically registered for all examinations and tests for that course unit.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3.6.2, students can register and deregister for examinations during certain periods to be determined.
4. Admission to course units is arranged according to predefined and published admission criteria and priority regulations. Students who are registered for the degree programme will be given priority for the compulsory course units in their Major. If a seminar is oversubscribed, students will be admitted based on the order of registration, bearing in mind the entry requirements for the course unit and the phase the student is in.
5. Students who are enrolled in the Bachelor's degree programme do not have access to any course units of a Master's degree programme.

Article 3.7 – Attendance requirement for seminars
1. A minimum attendance rate of 80% applies to seminars. The exact conditions for successfully passing a seminar are included in the syllabus for the course unit in question.
2. In the event of absence of up to 20%, the lecturer may stipulate replacement assignments. Absence of more than 20% will result in the student being barred from further participation in the course unit and from the examination, and an N-A registration. Notification of absence from a seminar must always be supported by reasons. Anyone who misses the first two classes of a seminar without reason will lose the right to participate.
3. Students who satisfy the 80% attendance requirement but not the other requirements referred to in Article 3.7.1 in principle need only retake the test or examination in the next academic year and do not have to satisfy the 80% attendance requirement again. However, if the content of the seminar for the following year is significantly different, students must retake the course unit. Decisions in such cases are taken by the Board of Examiners.

Article 3.8 – Structure of the first year of the degree programme
The first year of the degree programme comprises a total of 60 ECTS credit points in Major course units. The course units in the first year have a student workload of 5 or 10 ECTS. Concrete details with regard to the structure of each phase of the programme can be found in Part B of these Regulations.

Article 3.9 – Composition of the second and third year of the degree programme
The second and third year comprises a total of 120 ECTS credit points, including 90 ECTS in Major course units and a 30 ECTS Minor. The course units in the second and third year have a student workload of 5 or 10 ECTS. Concrete details with regard to the structure of each phase of the programme can be found in Part B of these Regulations.

Article 3.10 — Force majeure
In situations in which the Board of the University recognizes instances of force majeure, in which it is not reasonably possible to provide teaching and examinations in the manner stated in the syllabus, alternative modes of instruction and assessment may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the temporary alternative modes of instruction and assessment are added to the syllabus as an addendum, after they have been approved by the Board of Examiners. In principle, the approved intended learning outcomes of the course unit concerned must also be achieved while the alternative modes of

instruction and assessment are used. After approval by the programme coordinator, a proposal for amending the learning outcomes can be submitted to the Board of Examiners for approval if achieving the intended learning outcomes is impossible. A proposal to that effect must be carefully substantiated and include references to other course units that assess the learning outcomes in question to at least the same level of command. An amendment to a learning outcome will be added as an addendum to both the syllabus of the course unit concerned and the assessment programme, and if necessary to the matrix of learning outcomes as well

Article 3.11 – Study period abroad
Students will be able to follow course units in the second and third year worth a total of at least 30 ECTS credits at a partner university abroad. These course units must be approved in advance by the Board of Examiners in the form of a learning agreement. This learning agreement must be signed by the Board of Examiners, the student and a representative of the other institution. If any change s are made to the programme, the learning agreement must be updated and signed again by the parties listed above.

Article 3.12 – Open Degree Programme
Students may choose to follow a degree programme's Open Degree Programme, which deviates from the regular specialization(s) of the degree programme. An Open Degree Programme must always be approved in advance by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme in which the student is registered. Any further conditions with regard to the Open Degree Programme will be set out in Part B of these Regulations.

Article 3.13 – Two or more Bachelor's degree programmes
Students who have followed two or more degree programmes must have taken and passed separate course units covering at least 50% of the programme, including the thesis, in order to gain degrees for both or all programmes. A separate thesis must be written for each degree programme.

SECTION 4 BINDING STUDY ADVICE

Article 4.1 – 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.
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.
3. The preliminary study advice should be considered a warning if there is a question of insufficient study progress, giving students the chance to improve their performance.
4. If the study progress is insufficient to such an extent that the student cannot reasonably be expected to satisfy the conditions for receiving positive study advice wi thin the meaning of Articles 4.2.2 a and b, they will be invited to a meeting with the study advisor. The aim of this meeting is to discuss the student's study habits, to reassess the ir choice of degree programme and if necessary to refer them to a different degree programme.

Article 4.2 – Definitive study advice
1. Students must 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. Definitive study advice is issued at the end of the **first year of study**, by 31 July at the latest. This can be either:
   a. positive: for students who have earned at least 45 ECTS (*or 20 ECTS for part-time students*) in the first year of the degree programme.
   b. negative: for students who have earned fewer than 45 ECTS *(or 20 ECTS for part-time students)* in the first year of the degree programme. This study advice is binding for students (BSA) in accordance with Article 7.8b.3 of the Act.
3. In the event that, as early as mid-way through the semester, the preliminary study results are insufficient to such an extent that the student cannot reasonably be expected to pass the 45 ECTS (or 20 ECTS for part-time students) threshold by the end of the first year of study, a binding negative study advice may be issued subsequently to the preliminary study advice as referred to in Article 4.1 before the end of the academic year. This may also be at the request of the student. The procedure set out in Article 4.5 will apply.

4.

a. The Faculty Board will take extraordinary circumstances as referred to in Article 4.4 into account in its decision on which study advice to issue in the first year of registration.
b. Notwithstanding the stipulations in Article 4.2.2, if no assessment can be made with regard to a student's suitability for the degree programme due to extraordinary circumstances in the first year, the assessment may be postponed until a later date within the first year.
c. Students may be granted a lower BSA Threshold in the case of structural circumstances, for instance when a student has functional needs.

Article 4.3 – Exceptions to the definitive study advice

BSA and Multiple degree programmes at the UG
Students who are registered for the first year of two or more University of Groningen degree programmes, and satisfy the BSA threshold as referred to in Article 4.2.1 for one of them, do not have to satisfy the BSA threshold for the other programme(s) in that year. Students who have successfully completed the first year of one degree programme are exempt from the BSA requirements for the other programme(s).

Earlier obtained BSA other programme
Students who have already passed the first year of a degree programme at the University of Groningen or another Dutch university, in the opinion of the Board of Examiners have earned 60 ECTS credit points in the first year, will not fall under the BSA system for the degree programme for which they enrol in the first year.

Deregistration *before* 1 March
No definitive study advice will be issued to students who submit a request for deregistration *before* or as of 1 March of the first year of registration. The procedure as set out in Article 4.1 will apply again to students who reregister in a subsequent academic year. The BSA regulations for the academic year in which they reregister will then apply.

Article 4.4 – Extraordinary circumstances

1. When deciding whether to issue binding (negative) study advice, the Faculty Board will take a student's extraordinary or personal circumstances into account at that student's request. 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 behaviour, the agreements made and any study plan drawn up in consultation with the study advisor, when the extraordinary circumstances were reported and the study results achieved by the end of the first year of study.
2. Students must report extraordinary circumstances to the study advisor as soon as possible in order to ensure optimum support. The Faculty BSA Committee will make a decision in response to a student's request for postponement of the advice or an adjusted BSA threshold. Students must also report to the study advisor as soon as possible if they are unable to complete the study plan drawn up in consultation with the study advisor and based on the original or adapted BSA threshold.
3. If no assessment can be made at the end of the first year with regard to a student's suitability for the degree programme due to extraordinary circumstances as referred to in Article 4.4.1, the assessment may be postponed.
4. Postponed advice can be issued at any time until the end of the first year of the programme.
    a. The advice will be positive if the (possibly adjusted) BSA threshold has been passed.
    b. The advice will be negative (and binding) if the student still fails to pass the (possibly adjusted) BSA threshold in the year after the BSA postponement.
5. All students whose study advice has been postponed (whether or not combined with an adaptation of their BSA threshold) are expected to draw up a study plan in consultation with the study advisor of the degree programme, comprising at least the following:
    a. the first year course units that have not yet been passed, with the associated timeline
    b. the second and third year course units that may be followed in addition to the course units listed under a.
6. Circumstances as referred to in Article 4.4.1 do not automatically lead to a successful application for a grant from the Student Support Fund.

Article 4.5 – 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 state the applicable safeguards of legal rights.
2. Before binding (negative) study advice is issued, students will receive notice of the intention to issue such advice, after which they will be given the opportunity to put their case to the Faculty Board or its representative.

Article 4.6 – Consequences of binding (negative) study advice

1. Students who have received binding (negative) study advice may not register for the degree programme for a period of *2 years* from 1 September of the next academic year.
2. Students who have been issued binding (negative) study advice are not permitted to follow course units in this degree programme via a different degree programme or educational institution in order to avoid the consequences of their binding (negative) study advice. No exemptions will be granted for course units completed in this way, nor will such completed course units be recognized within the framework of the degree programme in any other way.

Article 4.7 – Consequences of positive study advice

1. Holders of a positive study advice for the UG degree programme in question will be admitted to the second and third year of the degree programme. This also includes a postponed or lowered threshold of the BSA.
2. Notwithstanding Article 4.7.1, the requirement that a previous course unit must have been successfully completed may apply to some individual course units. This compulsory order of course units is set out in Article 6.1 of Part B of these Teaching and Examination Regulations.
3. Admission based on positive study advice does not apply to the Minor and the thesis of the degree programme – for this, completion of the entire first year is a requirement.

SECTION 5 - ADMISSION TO THE SECOND AND THIRD YEAR OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME

Article 5.1 – Criteria for admission to the second and third year of the degree programme

1. Subject to the assessment of the Admissions Board, the following students will be admitted to the second and third year of the degree programme:
   Students who have earned 60 ECTS credit points in the first year of study in a related degree programme. This includes students with a postponed or lowered BSA.
2. The Admissions Board may grant an exemption for the requirement stipulated in Article 5.1.1 to the holder of a diploma gained in the Netherlands or elsewhere and considered by the Admissions Board to be at least equivalent to the propaedeutic certificate referred to in Article 5.1.1.

Article 5.2 – Admission to thesecond and third year of the degree programme: hardship clause

The Board of Examiners may deviate from the stipulations of Articles 5.1 and 4.7 in situations where changes to the curriculum or educational force majeure would demonstrably lead to a situation of unfairness of an overriding nature. This is only possible in unique personal circumstances that are so unusual that admission cannot in all reasonableness be denied.

SECTION 6 - MINORS AND HONOURS PROGRAMME

Article 6.1 – Minors

1. As stated in Articles 3.8 and 3.9, the Major and Minor have the following student workloads:
   a. The Major comprises 150 ECTS credit points.
   b. The Minor room comprises 30 ECTS.
2. Course units, including Minors, that students of the degree programme follow in other degree programmes or at other faculties or institutes of higher education are subject to the authority of the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that is responsible for the assessment.
3. Course units, including Minors, in the degree programme, that are followed by students of other degree programmes, faculties or higher education institutions, are subject to the authority of the Board of Examiners of the degree programme.
4. Students must choose one of the following Minors:

a. **Careers Minor**
The Careers Minor comprises two parts; part 1. 15 ECTS orientation, and part 2. 15 ECTS placement, working in project teams or entrepreneurship.
b. **A degree programme-specific placement** worth 15 ECTS, supplemented with 15 ECTS in course units from a Faculty or University Minor. Students must acquire their placement themselves. Students must attend two Career Services workshops in order to qualify for doing a placement.
c. **the Minor abroad**
In order to qualify for a Minor abroad, students must participate in:
    - a workshop on intercultural competences (Language Centre) prior to their stay abroad Interculturele Competenties (Talencentrum);
    - submit a Learning Agreement to the Board of Examiners of their own Bachelor's degree programme for approval
d. **a Personal Minor**
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. Personal Minors are subject to the Board of Examiners' prior approval.
e. **a Faculty Minor**
An overview of all Faculty Minors offered by the Faculty can be found in Appendix 1 to these Teaching and Examination Regulations.
f. **a University Minor**
g. **the Teacher-training Minor** (only for Dutch students of History, European Languages and Cultures (Language and Society and Culture and Literature tracks), English Language and Culture, Classical Studies, Minorities & Multilingualism (Frisian track), and Dutch Language and Culture).

5. The admission requirement for each Minor is a completed first year, with the exception of the Teacher-training Minor, for which students must have completed 80 ECTS of the Major.
6. For students taking two Bachelor's programmes, the same Minor can count towards both programmes.
7. Previously earned ECTS credit points can in principle not be used to substitute or gain exemption from Minor course units.

Article 6.2 – Bachelor's Honours Programme

1. The Faculty participates in the Bachelor's Honours Programme organized 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.
3. The Bachelor's Honours programme has a total student workload of 30 ECTS credits, distributed over the three years of the Bachelor's programme.
The Bachelor's Honours Programme, including the deepening Faculty part, is subject to the Teaching and Examination Regulations of the University of Groningen Honours College.
4. a. As the Honours Programme is not part of the regular Bachelor's curriculum, the results and marks do 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 results gained in the Bachelor's Honours Programme.

Article 6.3 – Pre-Master's programme

1. The Faculty offers Pre-Master's programmes to facilitate entry into a Faculty Master's degree programme.
2. The content and the student workload of the Pre-Master's programmes are determined by the Admissions Board on a case-by-case basis.
3. The Admissions Board of the desired Master's degree programme will decide whether students are admitted to the Pre-Master's programme.
4. Students must complete the Pre-Master's programme within four semesters. The Board of Examiners may deviate from this rule on a student's request. The Board must state its reasons for this decision.

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

SECTION 7 - EXAMINATIONS

Article 7.1 – General

1. Every course unit has a test or examination.
2. The test or examination assesses students' academic development and mastery of the learning outcomes of the course unit.
3. Tests and examinations are marked on a scale of 1.0 to 10.0. The final result of a course unit is expressed in a mark to no more than 1 decimal point. A mark of 5.5 or higher is a pass, any mark lower than 5.5 is a fail. If the final mark is calculated on the basis of several tests, the partial marks used in the calculation must not be rounded off.
4. If the calculation results in a mark with two or more decimal places, mathematical rounding rules must be used to round off the mark to one decimal place. An exception to this rule applies to marks between 5.45 and 5.49, which are rounded down to 5.4.
5. All lawfully taken examinations are marked.
6. A thesis is considered to be passed if it is awarded a non-rounded-off mark of at least 5.5.
7. An N/A registration will be recorded for any test or examination that is not taken.
8. A '*voldoende*' (pass) will be registered for course units that have been successfully followed abroad. An '*onvoldoende*' (fail) will be registered if such a course unit was failed.
9. The Board of Examiners referred to in Section 7 is always the Board of Examiners for the degree programme that sets the tests and examinations.
10. The Board of Examiners for the degree programme setting the examinations as referred to in Article 7.1.8 is authorized to assess tests and examinations, deal with any complaints and decide upon requests for alternative exam regulations.

Article 7.2 – Examination frequency and periods

1. There will be at least two opportunities a year to sit examinations. For partial examinations, students can opt for one resit covering the material for the entire course unit.
2. The periods in which examinations or partial examinations are held, are listed in the Assessment programme and the syllabus. Partial exams can also be taken outside the period indicated.
3. The Board of Examiners will make a decision with regard to examinations for course units that are not taught in the relevant academic year.
4. Transitional provisions apply to examinations for course units that are no longer offered due to programme changes. These transitional provisions can be found in an Appendix to Part B of these Regulations.
5. The syllabus contains a resit regulation to explain which substitute or supplementary tests students can take if they have completed all elements of a course unit but have not succeeded in passing it.

Article 7.3 – Assessment of placement or research assignment

Placements and research assignments are assessed by the relevant placement supervisor from the degree programme, who will have been appointed as an examiner by the Board of Examiners, after consultation with the host institution supervisor c.q. the original commissioner.

Article 7.4 – Thesis

1. A thesis can in principle be used for only one University of Groningen degree programme. Full or partial exemption for a degree programme's thesis may be granted by the Board of Examiners on the basis of a thesis written for another degree programme.
2. Students' theses/final assignments must be individually assessed.
3. Part B of these Teaching and Examination Regulations sets out the language requirements for theses/final assignments.
4. Theses are stored by the Faculty Board for a period of seven years.
5. Students will be given the opportunity to write their thesis/final assignment at least twice per academic year.
6. The period(s) during which students can write their thesis/final assignment will be published in the Student Handbook and/or OCASYS.

7. The thesis/final assignment will be assessed by the supervisor and a second assessor. In the event that these two assessors are unable to come to a joint assessment, the Board of Examiners will appoint a third assessor and determine how the final assessment will be reached.
8. If by the end of the period referred to in Article 4.10.5 the assessor(s) is/are of the opinion that the thesis/final assignment cannot be awarded a pass mark, the student will be given one opportunity to remedy the work in order to be awarded a pass mark within a time frame defined by the degree programme. If the revised work cannot be awarded a pass mark, the student will have to complete a new thesis/final assignment with a new topic and a different supervisor.
9. More detailed regulations on the design, content, time frame and assessment of the thesis can be found in the syllabus for the thesis/final assignment of the Bachelor's degree programme.
10. The Board of Examiners is the only body that can deviate from the provisions of this Article at the written request of a student.

Article 7.5 – Mode of assessment

1. The mode of assessment for each course unit is set out in the syllabus.
   The guiding principle is the Assessment programme, which is included as an Appendix to these Regulations.
2. In situations of force majeure, when it is not reasonably possible to provide examinations in the manner stated in OCASYS, alternative modes of instruction and assessment may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the prescribed learning outcomes are still achieved.
3. The language of the assessments is mentioned in Part B c.q. the Appendix (Assessment programme) to these Regulations.
4. At a student's written request, the Board of Examiners may allow an examination to be taken in a form different from that stated above.
5. The Board of Examiners may also grant exemption from active participation in a course unit. In such cases, the Board of Examiners will require the activities connected to the course unit in question to be performed in a different way that it will determine.
6. If no mode of assessment is listed for a course unit in these Regulations because the course unit is not taught in the programme, then the relevant Teaching and Examination Regulations for that course unit will apply.
7. Mock versions of each examination will be made available to practise with.
8. In situations in which the Board of the University recognizes instances of force majeure, in which it is not reasonably possible to provide teaching and examinations in the manner stated in the syllabus, alternative modes of instruction and assessment may temporarily be used. This is on condition that the temporary alternative modes of instruction and assessment are added to the syllabus as an addendum, after they have been approved by the Board of Examiners. In principle, the approved intended learning outcomes of the course unit concerned must also be achieved while the alternative modes of instruction and assessment are used. After approval by the programme coordinator, a proposal for amending the learning outcomes can be submitted to the Board of Examiners for approval if achieving the intended learning outcomes is impossible. A proposal to that effect must be carefully substantiated and include references to other course units that assess the learning outcomes in question to at least the same level of command. An amendment to a learning outcome will be added as an addendum to both the syllabus of the course unit concerned and the assessment programme, and if necessary to the matrix of learning outcomes as well.

Article 7.6 – Oral examinations

1. Unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise, an oral examination may only be taken by one student at a time. A second examiner may attend the oral 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 due to extraordinary circumstances.
3. Oral examinations will be recorded in a written report or by means of an audio recording. The presence of a second examiner during the oral examination is required if the examination is recorded in written form.

Article 7.7 – Request for an additional examination opportunity

1. Students may submit a request for an additional 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 additional resit would result in unacceptable study delay.

3. The following criteria apply to granting a request for an additional resit for the last course unit in the degree programme:
   - it must be the last examination result needed
   - not granting the request would result in study delay of at least one semester
   - the examinee must have participated in the last two regular examination opportunities for the course unit for which the additional examination opportunity is requested, and gained at least marks of 4 and 5.

Article 7.8- Partial examinations
How the marks of partial examinations are weighted and determined is set out in the syllabus of the relevant course unit.

Article 7.9 – Examination provisions
1. Notwithstanding the stipulations of Article 7.5, the Board of Examiners may decide to grant individual students a specific examination provision if not doing so would lead to an 'exceptional instance of unfairness of an overriding nature'.
2. Requests for individual examination provisions, including documentary evidence, must be submitted to the Board of Examiners as soon as possible.

Article 7.10 – Examinations and functional impairments
1. Students with a functional impairment will be given the opportunity to take examinations in a form that will compensate as far as possible for their individual disability. If necessary, the Board of Examiners will seek expert advice from a student counsellor of the Student Service Centre (SSC) before making a decision.
2. With regard to examinations for electives taken at other degree programmes by students with a functional impairment, the Board of Examiners of the degree programme that sets the examination will comply with the facilities permitted by the Board of Examiners of the degree programme for which the student is registered.

Article 7.11 – Authority of the Board of Examiners regarding electives offered by other degree programmes
1. A request to take an elective at another degree programme must be approved by the Board of Examiners of the student's own degree programme.
2. The Board of Examiners of the other degree programme is authorized to set and assess the examinations and decide upon requests for alternative exam regulations. Article 10.2.2 applies.

Article 7.12 – Exemptions
1. At a student's request, the Board of Examiners, having discussed the matter with the examiner in question, may grant exemption from an examination (or part thereof) on the basis of results earned previously (possibly elsewhere) on condition that the student:
   a. has completed part of a university or university of applied sciences degree in the Netherlands or abroad that is equivalent in content 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 stipulations of Article 3.5 apply to exemptions.
3. The validity period of exemptions granted for course units or parts thereof is identical to that of examination results.

Article 7.13 – Replacements and electives followed elsewhere
1. Based on a well-founded request by a student, the Board of Examiners may grant permission to replace one or more course units in the examination programme by one or more other course units offered by the UG or another university in the Netherlands or abroad that dovetails well with the degree programme.
2. When assessing such a request, the Board of Examiners will in any case evaluate the coherence of the set of course units (or part thereof) and the level of the course units followed.

Article 7.14 – Marking of examinations and publication of marks

1. After an oral examination, the examiner will assess the examination as soon as possible, but in any case within one week, and provide the student with a statement on request.
2. The maximum time permitted for marking written examinations in the first year of the Bachelor's phase is ten working days after the day of the examination or the day a written assignment is handed in.
3. The written examinations for the second and third years must also be marked within ten working days, although in the case of an examination with essay questions taken by more than 50 students, this term is extended to fifteen working days.
4. If an examination is taken in a form other than oral or written, the Board of Examiners will determine in advance how and when students will receive written confirmation of the result. to be returned.
5. In special cases, the Board of Examiners may deviate from the stipulations as referred to in Article 7.15.2, 3, and 4.
6. The written confirmation of the result of an examination will also inform students of their right of inspection, as stipulated in Article 7.17.1, as well as their right to appeal.
7. A course unit that has been passed may not be taken again
8. Students can lodge an appeal against the results of an examination with the Central Portal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights (CLRS) within six weeks of the date on which the result was announced.

Article 7.16 – Deletion of marks

1. Students can have examination marks of 5,5 or higher deleted from their records in the teaching administration. However, this is only possible for course units that are concluded by a written examination, and only this concluding examination can then be resat.
2. Only students who are registered for a full Bachelor's degree programme at the Faculty of Arts can have marks deleted.
3. A request for deletion of a mark must be submitted to the Office for Student Affairs within 10 working days of publication of the relevant final mark. If the inspection of the examination takes place after this period has passed, the application for the deletion of the mark must be submitted within one day after the inspection.
4. Notwithstanding the above, a period of three working days after the publication of the final mark applies for students who participated in the final resit week of the first year of the Bachelor's degree programme.
5. Requests for deletion are irreversible.
6. Deletion of a mark means that the examination has not officially taken place.
7. Students can submit a limited number of requests for deletion: no more than one per course unit, one per Bachelor's year and three during the entire Bachelor's degree programme.

Article 7.15 – Validity

1. Completed course units remain valid indefinitely.
2. Partial examinations and assignments passed within a course unit that has not been successfully completed will lapse at the end of the academic year in which they were passed.

Article 7.16 – Right of inspection

1. On request, students have the right to inspect their marked work during a period of at least six weeks after the results of a written examination have been made known. Students who make use of this opportunity will be provided with a copy of their work at cost price at their request.
2. Within the time frame stipulated in Article 7.18.1, any interested person may request that they be allowed to peruse the examination paper and, if possible, the assessment criteria.
3. The examiner can determine that inspection or perusal of examination papers will take place at a certain place and at a certain time that falls within the time frame stipulated in Article 7.18.1. If the person concerned can show that they were prevented by force majeure from attending at the indicated places and times, they will be offered another opportunity, if possible within the period stated in Article 7.18.1.

Article 7.17 – Board of Examiners

1. The Board of Examiners is the body responsible for determining, in an objective and expert manner, whether individual students satisfy the conditions set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations with regard to the knowledge, understanding and skills required to gain a degree.

2. The composition and duties of the Board of Examiners are set out in the Faculty Regulations for the Faculty of Arts.

Article 7.18 – Fraud and plagiarism

1. Fraud is an act or omission by a student designed to partly or wholly hinder the forming of a correct assessment of their own or someone else's knowledge, understanding and skills.
2. Fraud also includes plagiarism, which means copying one's own or someone else's work without correct reference to the source.
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. The University uses a plagiarism scanner to check theses and written assignments for plagiarism. Each student is personally responsible for maintaining academic integrity.
5. In the event of suspected fraud, the department may decide to perform a more in-depth review of a student's knowledge, understanding, and skills. This in-depth review will be separate from the examinations for the course unit. Students may be requested to appear at an oral examination within 15 working days of the end of the examination and after the submission of a thesis/paper, where it will be verified that the examination result is representative of the student's knowledge.
6. If a student committed fraud, the Board of Examiners may exclude that student from participation in one or more examinations or final assessments for a maximum of one year.
7. The Board of Examiners will make a decision concerning a ban based on the written report by the examiner about the fraud or plagiarism discovered, and after hearing the examinee's side of the story.
8. A ban means that no result will be awarded for the examination or practical exercise in question and an 'FR registration' will be recorded instead.
9. In the event of serious fraud, the Board of Examiners can request the Board of the University to permanently terminate a student's registration in the degree programme.
10. 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 person 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.
11. The Board of Examiners will set out its anti-fraud procedures in its Rules and Regulations.

Article 7.19 – Invalid examination

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

Article 7.20 – Termination of enrolment

1. In extraordinary cases of reprehensible behaviour or statements made by a student, the Board of the University may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners or the Faculty Board, terminate that student's registration.
2. The Board of the University will not make a decision as referred to in Article 7.22.1 until after the student in question has been given an opportunity to put their case forward, any interests of the student and of the institution have been carefully assessed and it has been proven reasonable to assume that the student's behaviour and/or statements prove that they are 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* [protocol for termination of enrolment] as approved by the *Nederlandse Federatie van Universitaire Medische Centra* [Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres] on 1 November 2010.
3. The stipulations in the University of Groningen Regulations for Registration and Tuition Fees apply.

SECTION 8 - FINAL ASSESSMENT

Article 8.1 – Final assessment

1. The degree programme is concluded with a final assessment.
2. On the condition that the student's study programme has been approved, the Board of Examiners will determine the result of the final assessment as soon as the student has passed all the required examinations. The Board of Examiners may define terms to this end. The result of the final assessment indicates that the student has acquired the necessary academic training. The Board of Examiners will issue a degree certificate indicating this.
3. If a student fails to meet the relevant deadlines for approval of the study programme referred to in Article 8.1.2, the Board of Examiners may postpone the graduation date. The new date may be in the academic year following the year in which the last examination was passed.
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 inasmuch as the marks for these course units provide a reason for doing so.
5. By determining the result of the final assessment, the Board of Examiners also commits itself to a speedy processing of the degree certificate ceremony.
6. Students who wish to postpone the date of graduation due to extra examinations that must still take must submit a written request to this end to the Board of Examiners within two weeks of the date on which the graduation date is determined.
7. The graduation date is the date on which the final assessment is passed, as determined by the Board of Examiners in accordance with the provisions of Article 8.1.2, and not the date on which the degree certificate is presented to the student.

Article 8.2 – 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 successfully completes more than one specialization within a degree programme, they will receive only one degree certificate.
2. The Board of Examiners will issue an International Diploma Supplement with each degree certificate.
3. If relevant, the results achieved in the Bachelor's Honours Programme will also be listed on the Diploma Supplement that accompanies the Bachelor's degree certificate.

Article 8.3 – Degree

1. Students who have satisfied all the requirements of the final assessment will be awarded the degree 'Bachelor of Arts'. However, students who pass the final assessment of the Bachelor's degree programme in Information Science are awarded the degree 'Bachelor of Science'.
2. The degree awarded will be indicated on the degree certificate.

Article 8.4 – Honours ('Cum Laude'/'Summa Cum Laude')

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 must satisfy the following minimum conditions:
      i. 'Cum laude': the mark for the thesis must be *at least 8.0*
      ii. 'Summa cum laude': the mark for the thesis must be *at least 9.0*.
   b) The weighted average (not rounded off) for all course units, excluding the thesis, within the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners must be:
      i. *greater than or equal to 8.0* for 'Cum laude'
      ii. *greater than or equal to 9.0* for 'Summa cum laude
3. A judicium may only be awarded if the Bachelor's program has been nominally completed.
4. No honours will be awarded if the student workload of exemptions in ECTS credit points is more than half the total number of ECTS credit point for the degree programme.
5. Honours may only be awarded if the examinations for the course units were taken only once.
6. Honours may only be awarded if no single course unit was awarded a mark lower than 7.0.
7. 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 an honours predicate because cheating/plagiarism has been detected.
8. In certain circumstances, the Board of Examiners may depart from the provisions set out in Articles 8.4.2-6.

Article 8.5 – Assessment programme

An assessment programme has been approved by the Faculty Board. This assessment programme

forms an Appendix to the Teaching and Examination Regulations and comprises the following components:

- the learning outcomes of the degree programme
- the course units and the learning outcomes of each course unit
- the relationship between course units and learning outcomes: how are the learning outcomes attained the mode of assessment and test moments for each course unit

SECTION 9 - STUDY PROGRESS SUPERVISION

Article 9.1 – Study progress administration

1. The Faculty Board is responsible for registering the individual results of students.
2. Students can consult their study results online via Progress Portaal.
3. Students may request a certified printout of their study results from the Office for Student Affairs.

Article 9.2 – Study progress supervision

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

SECTION 10 - TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 10.1 – Amendments

1. Any amendments to these Regulations will, following a recommendation by and/or upon the approval of the Programme Committee and after due consultation with and, if necessary, upon the approval of the Faculty Council, be confirmed by the Faculty Board in a separate decree.
2. Any amendments to these Regulations will not apply to the current academic year, unless it may reasonably be assumed that the amendment in question will not harm the interests of students.
3. In addition, an amendment may not influence any other decision concerning a student taken by the Board of Examiners under these Regulations to the detriment of students.

Article 10.2 – 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 can also be found on the Faculty website through the Student Portal.

Article 10.3 – Evaluation

a. The Faculty Board will ensure that these Regulations are regularly evaluated, assessing at least – for the purpose of monitoring and if necessary, adapting the student workload – the amount of time that students need to complete their tasks as set out therein.
b. The Faculty Board evaluates the education in all programmes as follows:
The Education Institute (OWI) organises the faculty course unit evaluations. The Programme Committees (PCs) have control over the choice of which course units should be evaluated. PCs can indicate this in the (course unit) evaluation plans. In addition to PCs, lecturers can also submit a request for evaluation. In addition to the PC's course unit evaluation plan, the OWI ensures that a course unit is discussed for evaluation at least once every three years. In addition, OWI evaluates new course units, course units involving new lecturers, university and faculty minors and the Dutch Studies programme as standard. As far as the programmes as a whole are concerned, midterm evaluations and accreditations take place as fixed evaluation moments.

Article 10.4 – Date of commencement

These Regulations come into force on 17 October 2025.