

Teaching and Examination Regulations

Faculty of Science

Master's programme in Drug Discovery Sciences

Academic year 2026-2027

A. Faculty section

B1. Programme-specific section – general provisions

B2. Programme-specific section – content of programme

Table of Contents

Section A: Faculty section	4
1. <i>General provisions</i>	4
Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations	4
Article 1.2 Definitions	4
2. <i>Study programme structure</i>	5
Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and units of education	5
3. <i>Assessment and examination</i>	6
Article 3.1 Signing up for education and examinations	6
Article 3.2 Type of examination	6
Article 3.3 Oral examinations.....	6
Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results	6
Article 3.5 Examination opportunities	7
Article 3.6 Marks	7
Article 3.7 Exemption.....	7
Article 3.8 Validity period for results	8
Article 3.9 Right of inspection	8
4. <i>Academic student counselling and study progress</i>	8
Article 4.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling.....	8
Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability or impairment	8
5. <i>Hardship clause</i>	9
Article 5.1 Hardship clause	9
Section B1: Programme-specific section	10
6. <i>General programme information and characteristics</i>	10
Article 6.1 Study programme information	10
Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment	10
Article 6.3 Academic student counselling.....	10
7. <i>Further admission requirements</i>	10
Article 7.1 Intake date(s).....	10
Article 7.2 Admission requirements	10
Article 7.3 Selection criteria.....	12
Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme	12
8. <i>Examinations and results</i>	12
Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations	12
Article 8.2 Validity period for results	13
Section B2: Programme-specific section – content of programme	14
9. <i>Programme objectives, specialisations, intended learning outcomes and language</i>	14
Article 9.1 Workload	14
Article 9.2 Specialisations	14
Article 9.3 Programme objective	14
Article 9.4 Intended learning outcomes	14
Article 9.5 Language of instruction	18
10. <i>Curriculum structure</i>	18
Article 10.1 Composition of the programme	18
Article 10.2 Compulsory units of education.....	19
Article 10.3 Elective units of education	23
Article 10.4 Practical exercise	26
Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials	27
11. <i>Evaluation and transitional provisions</i>	27

Article 11.1 Evaluation of the programme	27
Article 11.2 Transitional provisions.....	27
Appendix I Overview of articles that must be included in the OER	29
Appendix II Overview of advisory and approval rights of Programme Committees (OLC) and Faculty Joint Assembly (FGV).....	31
Appendix III Ordinances of VU Executive Board (CvB) and Binding Master's Guidelines	33
Appendix IV Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act.....	34

Section A: Faculty section

1. General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations

1. These Regulations apply to anyone enrolled in the programme, irrespective of the academic year in which the student was first enrolled in the programme.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. These Regulations enter into force on 1 September 2026.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
3. An amendment to the Teaching and Examination Regulations is only permitted to concern an academic year already in progress if this does not demonstrably damage the interests of students.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
4. In certain cases, students may appeal against decisions made on the basis of the Teaching and Examination Regulations, for example decisions made by an examiner, examination board, BSA committee, or admission committee. Whether an appeal can be considered depends on the type of the decision and by whom the decision was made. More information about legal protection can be found in the Student Charter and on the website Complaints, appeals, and objections - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

Article 1.2 Definitions

The following definitions are used in these Regulations (*in alphabetical order*):

- a. academic year: the period beginning on 1 September and ending on 31 August of the following calendar year;
- b. EC (European Credit): a course credit with a workload of 28 hours of study;
- c. examination: an assessment of the student's knowledge, understanding and skills relating to a unit of education. The assessment is expressed in terms of a final mark. An examination may consist of one or more partial examinations. A resit always covers the same material as the original examination. An examination can be completed in writing, orally or in another way;
- d. final examination: a Master's examination;
- e. final project: a unit comprising research into the literature and/or a contribution to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;
- f. internship: period spent working in professional practice as part of a study programme;
- g.1 joint degree: a degree awarded by an institution together with one or more institutions in the Netherlands or abroad, after the student has completed a study programme (a degree programme, a specialisation or a specific curriculum within a degree programme) for which the collaborating institutions are jointly responsible;
- g.2 double degree: partnership between a program of a Dutch educational institution with a foreign educational institution, whereby students complete all or part of both study programmes and obtain two diplomas on the basis of agreements regarding the mutual recognition of the programme (replacement courses);
- h. period: a part of a semester;
- i. practical exercise: participation in a practical training activity or other educational learning activity, aimed at acquiring certain (academic) skills. Examples of practical exercises are:

- researching and writing a thesis or dissertation
 - carrying out a research assignment
 - taking part in fieldwork or an excursion
 - taking part in another educational learning activity aimed at acquiring specific skills, or
 - participating in and completing a work placement;
- j. programme: the totality and cohesion of the units of education, teaching activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and recommended literature;
- k. SAP/SLM: the student information system (*Student Lifecycle Management*);
- l. semester: the first (September - January) or second half (February - August) of an academic year;
- m. specialisation: optional route of study within a degree programme indicating a deepening of the context of the programme (e.g. interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary);
- n. student statute: sets out the rights and responsibilities of students on the one hand, and of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam on the other hand, including those derived from the law and those derived from university regulations. The Executive Board (CvB) officially confirms the student statute once its completeness has been approved by the University Student Council (USC);
- o. student: the person enrolled, requesting enrolment or who has been enrolled in a course or program at the Vrije Universiteit;
- p. study guide: the guide for the study programme that provides further details of the courses, provisions and other information specific to that programme. The study guide is available online at <https://www.vu.nl/studiegids>;
- q. study monitor: dashboard for students and academic advisers containing data pertaining to the student, including the student's study progress;
- r. subject: see u. 'unit of education';
- s. track: a study pathway within a programme, of which the workload and the qualities in terms of knowledge, insight and skills that the student must have acquired by the end of the program are equal to those of the programme
- t. unit of education: a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;
- u. university: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam;
- v. WHW: the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (WHW)).
- w. workload: the workload of the unit of education to which an examination applies, expressed in terms of credits = EC credits (ECTS = European Credit and Transfer Accumulation System). The workload for 1 year (1,680 hours) is 60 EC credits.

The other terms have the meanings ascribed to them by the WHW.

2. Study programme structure

Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and units of education

1. The study programme will be offered in a year divided into two semesters.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. Every semester consists of three consecutive periods. The first two periods each	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

consist of eight weeks, and the final period consists of four weeks.	
3. A unit of education comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
4. By way of exception to paragraph 3, the Executive Board may in special cases and on request of the Faculty Board, stipulate that a unit of education comprises 3 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

3. Assessment and examination

Article 3.1 Signing up for education and examinations

1. Every student must sign up to participate in the units of education of the programme, the examinations and resits. The procedure for signing up is described in Regulations for registering for courses and examinations.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. Signing up may only take place in the designated periods.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

Article 3.2 Type of examination

1. At the examiner's request, the Examination Board may permit a different form of examination than is stipulated in the study guide.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (7.13 l)
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Article 3.3 Oral examinations

1. No more than one student will be examined orally at a time, unless specified otherwise in part B for the relevant unit of education.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l and n)
2. A second examiner is present when an oral examination is being held, unless the Examination Board has determined otherwise. The oral examination takes place at a time and location to be determined by the examiner within the regular timetable, on campus or online. At the request of the student, and with the approval of the examiners, an audio recording can be made. Should the second examiner not be available unexpectedly, an audio recording of the oral exam is made. This audio recording is retained by the university for the retention period applicable for examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l and n)

Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results

1. The examiner determines the result of a written examination within fifteen working days. However, the marking deadline for final projects is no longer than twenty working days after submission. The examiner will then immediately ensure that the marks are registered and also ensures that the student is immediately notified of the mark, taking due account of the applicable confidentiality standards.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. The examiner determines the result (i.e. mark) of an oral examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within two working days after the examination has finished and informs the student accordingly. The third clause of the first paragraph applies.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)
3. In the case of assessments other than oral or written examinations, the Examination Board determines in advance how and by what deadline the student will be informed of the results.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)

Article 3.5 Examination opportunities

1. a. Per academic year, two opportunities to take examinations will be offered for each unit of education. b. By way of exception to a., the options for retaking practical exercises, work placements and final projects are detailed in the relevant work placement manual, course manual or teaching regulations.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit. A resit is allowed for both passed and failed units of education.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
3. The resit for a (partial) examination may not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the results for the original (partial) examination. Exceptions are only possible in period 6.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 j)
4. The Examination Board may allow a student an extra opportunity to sit an examination if that student: a) has completed all but one units of education to meet the requirements of the degree; and b) has failed the examination during all the previously offered attempts unless participation in an examination was not possible for compelling reasons. This provision excludes the practical exercises and the final project. Requests for an additional examination opportunity must be submitted to the Examination Board no later than 15 July. If necessary, the method of examination may deviate from the provisions in the study guide.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
5. If a unit of education is no longer offered, at least one additional opportunity will subsequently be provided to sit the examination(s) or parts thereof and a transitional arrangement will be included in Section B.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (7.13 j)

Article 3.6 Marks

1. (Partial) grades are given on a scale from 1 to 10 with no more than one figure after the decimal point.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. A final mark between 5 and 6 will be rounded to the nearest whole number: final marks below 5.50, rounded down; final marks of 5.50 or higher, rounded up. All other final marks will be expressed in whole or half marks.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
3. To pass a given course or unit, a final mark of 6 or higher is required.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
4. The Examination Board can allow the use of symbols rather than numbers.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

Article 3.7 Exemption

1. At the written request of the student, the Examination Board may exempt the student from taking one or more examination components, if they: a. have either passed a unit of education at a university or university of applied sciences (HBO) or a research university (WO) that is equivalent in terms of content and level; b. or have demonstrated through their work and/or professional experience that they have sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the relevant unit of education.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 r)
2. The final project is excluded from this exemption possibility.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 3.8 Validity period for results

1. The validity period of examinations passed and exemption from examinations is unlimited, unless otherwise specified in Section B.	Legal provision
2. The validity period of a partial examination is limited to the academic year in which it was sat or until the end of the unit of study concerned, as stipulated for the relevant unit of study in Section B. In exceptional circumstances, an examiner may deviate from this; this must be stated on Canvas at the start of the unit of education.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 3.9 Right of inspection

1. Within twenty working days after the announcement of the results of a written examination, but at least ten working days before the resit opportunity for that examination, the student has the right to inspect their graded examination.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p and q)
2. Students can view the questions and assignments set in the written examination, and the standards applied when assessing the examination, within the period specified in 3.9.1.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 q)
3. The examiner determines whether the inspection takes place collectively or individually. In all cases, the time and place of the inspection is announced in the course manual or learning environment.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 q)
4. Students are entitled to feedback on their academic performance. The manner in which this is provided in each unit of education is described in the course manual.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p and q)

4. Academic student counselling and study progress

Article 4.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling

1. The faculty board is responsible for the correct registration of the students' study results. After the assessment of a unit of education has been registered, every student has the right to inspect the result for that component and also has a list of the results achieved at their disposal in VU.nl Dashboard.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
2. Enrolled students are eligible for academic student counselling. Academic student counselling is in any case provided by a. The Student Counsellor b. Student psychologists c. Faculty academic advisers	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)

Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability or impairment

1. Students with a disability or impairment can submit a request via VU.nl Dashboard to qualify for one or more special facilities with regard to teaching, practical exercises and examinations. These facilities will accommodate the student's individual disability or impairment as much as possible, but may not alter the quality or degree of difficulty of a unit of education or an examination. In all cases, the student must fulfil the intended learning outcomes for the study programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
2. The request referred to in the first paragraph must be accompanied by a statement from a doctor or psychologist. If possible, an estimate should be given of the potential impact on the student's study progress. In case of a chronic disability a single (one time) request suffices.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)

3. Students who have been diagnosed with dyslexia must provide a statement from a BIG-, NIP- or NVO-registered professional who is qualified to conduct a psychological evaluation.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
4. The faculty board, or the person acting on behalf of the faculty board, decides on teaching facilities and facilities regarding logistics. The Examination Board will decide on requests for facilities with regard to examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
5. In the event of a positive decision in response to a request as referred to in paragraph 1, the student can make an appointment with the academic adviser to discuss the details of the provisions.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
6. A request for one or more facilities can be refused if it would place a disproportionate burden on the organisation or the resources of the faculty or university were it upheld. Any such refusal will be substantiated.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
7. If the disability or impairment justifies an extension of the examination time, the responsible person on behalf of the Examination Board will register in SAP this entitlement to an extension. If a disability or impairment justifies other measures to be taken, the academic adviser can take the necessary measures. The student can consult the study monitor to check which facilities have been granted to them.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
8. The decision as referred to in paragraph 5 may specify a limited validity of the facilities granted.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)

5. Hardship clause

Article 5.1 Hardship clause

In instances not regulated by the Teaching and Examination Regulations or in the event of demonstrable extreme unreasonableness or unfairness, the faculty board responsible for the study programme will decide, unless the matter concerned is the responsibility of the Examination Board.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Section B1: Programme-specific section

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

1. The programme Drug Discovery Sciences, RIO number 66989, is offered on a full-time basis.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)
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Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

1. The programme uses the teaching formats as specified in the study guide.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 x)
2. The modes of assessment used per unit of education are specified in the study guide.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l)

Article 6.3 Academic student counselling

1. The programme offers the following counselling in addition to the student counselling mentioned in Section A: - The course XM_0196 Research and Academic Skills (RAS; 6 EC) - Specialisation coordinators - Internship coordinator - Academic advisor	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
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7. Further admission requirements

Article 7.1 Intake date(s)

The Master's programme starts on 1 September.	Advice OLC, Approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Article 7.2 Admission requirements

1. Admission to the Master's programme is possible for an applicant who has obtained a Bachelor's degree at an institution of academic higher education, which demonstrates the following knowledge, understanding and skills: - Knowledge and understanding on a sufficient bachelor-degree level on - General Chemistry - Specialisation-specific requirements as outlined in article 7.2.2 - Skills of a final level of attainment in an appropriate university Bachelor's degree programme on: - Relevant practical laboratory experience of at least 18EC - Research experience in a relevant topic during an internship of at least 18EC - Laboratory safety knowledge and experience in a relevant topic during an internship	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Below are the regulations for this Article: Applicants who wish to follow the specialisation Pharmacology and Toxicology in Drug Discovery must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 7.2.1, also meet the following requirements with regard to:	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

a. Knowledge and understanding of a final level of attainment on a bachelor-degree level on: - Biochemistry, molecular biology, cell biology, metabolism and pharmacology, including techniques such as protein expression, purification and mutagenesis; - Pharmacokinetics, enzyme kinetics and pharmaceutical toxicology b. Skills of a final level of attainment on a bachelor-degree level on: - Practical laboratory experience with biochemical techniques - Laboratory safety in a biochemical lab - Research experience (see article 7.2.1) Applicants who wish to follow the specialisation Design and Synthesis in Drug Discovery must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 7.2.1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: c. Knowledge and understanding of a final level of attainment on a relevant bachelor-degree level on: - Organic chemistry - Physical chemistry d. Skills of a final level of attainment on a bachelor-degree level on: - Practical laboratory experience with organic chemistry techniques - Laboratory safety in an organic chemistry laboratory - Research experience (see article 7.2.1) Applicants who wish to follow the specialisation Bioanalytics in Drug Discovery must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 7.2.1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: e. Knowledge and understanding of a final level of attainment on a bachelor-degree level on: - Biochemistry, biological sample preparation, enzyme kinetics - Analytical chemistry, including techniques such as HPLC, spectrophotometry, fluorimetry, NMR and mass spectrometry - Organic Chemistry f. Skills of a final level of attainment on a bachelor-degree level on: - Practical laboratory experience with bioanalytical chemistry techniques - Laboratory safety in a bioanalytical chemistry lab - Research experience (see article 7.2.1)	
3. Applicants with a Bachelor's degree obtained at an institution outside the Netherlands may be asked for additional methods to prove that they meet the admission requirements.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
4. Below are the regulations for this Article: Applicants who wish to follow the Education specialisation must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: Applicants who have completed a prior programme of education in a language other than Dutch which entitles them to admission must demonstrate adequate command of the Dutch language, which can be evidenced by successful completion of: - The official Dutch as a Second Language Programme II (NT2-II); - The Inter-university Dutch Language Admission Test (ITN); - Certificate of Dutch as a Second Language (CNaVT), profile 'Educatief Professioneel' (EDUP) C1 or 'Educatief Startbekwaam' (SRTR) B2; - Final school examinations accepted by Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, which included the Dutch language.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Those who have been admitted to a Dutch-language study programme based on a diploma obtained abroad and who have successfully completed level 4 of VWO or higher with a pass grade in Dutch are exempted from the language requirement.	
5. Applicants should demonstrate that they have a sufficient level of proficiency in English by meeting at least one of the following standards: - IELTS Academic: an overall score of at least [6.5] At the start of the program, the test must not have been taken more than two years ago. - TOEFL iBT: an overall score of at least [4.5] At the start of the program, the test must not have been taken more than two years ago. - Cambridge C2 Proficiency/Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE): an overall score of at least [180] - Cambridge C1 Advanced/Certificate Advanced English (CAE) an overall score of at least [180] - LanguageCert Academic SELT: an overall score of at least [70]. At the start of the program, the test must not have been taken more than two years ago. - Pearson PTE Academic: an overall score of at least [68]. At the start of the program, the test must not have been taken more than two years ago.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
6. Applicants who have completed one of the following meet the English language requirement and therefore are exempted from taking an English language test (as mentioned in the section 5) if: - a secondary education or higher education degree fully taught in English has been completed in Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom or the United States of America; - a fully English-language, accredited bachelor's or master's degree in the Netherlands, EU/EFTA countries, Singapore or South Africa, or - a vwo diploma or equivalent diploma in which the course on English of a comparable level is required has been earned.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
7. The Admission Board will investigate whether the applicant meets the admission requirements.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 7.3 Selection criteria

1. In addition to the admission requirements referred to in Article 7.2, the Faculty Board also sets (at least two of) the following selection criteria: - Not applicable.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

1. Not applicable.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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8. Examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations

Students may participate in the interim examinations or examinations of the units of	Advice OLC;
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education listed below only if they have passed the examination or examinations for following units of education:	approval FGV (7.13 h, s & t)
- A major or minor research project after obtaining 18EC or more - A literature thesis after obtaining 18EC or more - Major Research Project DDS part 2 30EC (course code will follow later) after passing Master Research Project DDS part 1 18EC (XM_0207)	

Article 8.2 Validity period for results

1. The validity period of the examinations and exemptions from examinations below is limited, as follows: Not applicable.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)
2. A student may request the Examination Board to extend the validity of an exam. If the student's knowledge is demonstrably outdated, or if the student's skills and understanding are demonstrably outdated, the Examination Board may impose a supplementary examination, impose a replacement examination or refuse to extend the period of validity.	Legal provision
3. In situations where a limited period of validity applies, the period of validity of examinations may be extended in the event of extenuating circumstances as stipulated in WHW Article 7.51, paragraph 2, with at least the period of allocated financial assistance specified in WHW Article 7.51, paragraph 1.	Legal provision

Section B2: Programme-specific section – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, specialisations, intended learning outcomes and language

Article 9.1 Workload

1. The programme has a workload of 120 EC.	Approval OLC; (7.13 g)
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Article 9.2 Specialisations

The programme has the following specialisations: - Pharmacology and Toxicology in Drug Discovery - Design and Synthesis in Drug Discovery - Bioanalytics in Drug Discovery - Education	Approval OLC (7.13 b)
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Article 9.3 Programme objective

The programme aims to impart sufficient knowledge, skills and insight within the field of Drug Discovery Sciences, and any related disciplines, to be able to operate as an independent professional at an academic level, and to be a suitable candidate for a subsequent study path leading to a career in research or development. Another aim of the programme is to develop students' understanding of the relationships between academic disciplines, as well as their sense of social responsibility.	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
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Article 9.4 Intended learning outcomes

1. Students who started before 2026-2027 have the following intended learning outcomes: At all events, a graduate of the study programme: - has a sound theoretical and practical understanding of the modern pharmaceutical sciences (including the requisite knowledge of other disciplines); - has a thorough knowledge of theoretical and experimental methods, as well as research experience in at least one sub-field of pharmaceutical sciences; - is capable, within a reasonable period of time, of becoming conversant in other sub-fields of the discipline; - is capable of formulating a work plan for research within the pharmaceutical sciences, on the basis of a realistic research question; - is capable of analyzing and formulating research results, and of drawing conclusions from them; - is capable of writing a report or an academic paper for publication in an international journal, and of participating in a discussion on a topic related to the field of study in question; - is capable of studying the professional literature (including international publications) in relevant sub-fields, and of making use of the discussions and results found there; - is capable of applying knowledge of the pharmaceutical sciences within a wider, multidisciplinary context; - is capable of dealing with the safety and environmental aspects of the pharmaceutical sciences; - is capable of taking on posts for which knowledge and research skills in the field of the pharmaceutical sciences are required; - has sufficient knowledge of and insight into the social role of the pharmaceutical sciences to decide on a responsible choice of profession and professional practice;	Approval OLC (7.13)
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- is capable of cooperating with others, of imparting knowledge to others, and of delivering a lecture both to specialists and to a wider audience. The programme emphasizes: - the student's personal development; - promoting the student's sense of social responsibility; - promoting the student's communication skills and academic literacy in in English and where applicable in Dutch. Students who started in 2026-2027 or later have the following intended learning outcomes: At all events, a graduate of the study programme: - Can independently explain, demonstrate and predict new molecular interactions within their sub-discipline of drug discovery research. - Can independently recognize and predict the consequences of molecular interactions and propose new molecular interventions within their sub-discipline of drug discovery research. - Can independently develop a feasible research question and experimental design. - Can independently conduct research while adhering to principles of good laboratory practice. - Can analyse experimental data, interpret research outcomes, and draw valid conclusions based on scientific reasoning. - Is aware of appropriate data management strategies within drug discovery research. - Can independently and critically analyse actions and choices in drug discovery research in a societal context, and evaluate their consequences to arrive at a well-considered position. - Can independently develop a standpoint regarding how drug discovery research can contribute to solutions for societal challenges. - Can clearly and effectively discuss a research topic at various levels of abstraction, tailored to the medium, purpose and target audience. - Can independently identify relevant scientific literature, critically analyse the content and appropriately apply it. - Can collaborate with experts both within and outside their own field to achieve a common goal. - The student can take the necessary steps to critically reflect and actively engage in their professional development.	
2. Students who started before 2026-2027 have the following specialisation specific intended learning outcomes: Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 9.4.1, a graduate of the different profiles will have the following knowledge and understanding in the field of R-variant The graduate: • is capable of independently designing, conducting and assessing experiments and the associated controls within a given period of time; • is capable of contextualizing the results and conclusions obtained, within the framework of results obtained by others; • is capable of formulating a perspective on the development of scientific research within the field in question; • is capable of quantitatively and qualitatively analyzing chemical processes, of	Approval OLC (7.13)

entering the data into existing models (or models yet to be developed), and of presenting the results at various levels of abstraction; • must possess insight into the role of the pharmaceutical sciences in a sustainable society. C variant The graduate can: • independently acquire new knowledge of the subject in the area of communication and can apply this in appropriate professional situations; • impart any knowledge and insights obtained, verbally and in writing to wider audiences. E variant The graduate can: • independently acquire new knowledge of the subject in the area of education, and can apply this in appropriate professional situations; • impart any knowledge and insights obtained, verbally and in writing in appropriate educational settings. S variant The graduate can: • develop a perspective on the contributions that scientific knowledge and methods can potentially make to social problems related to the field in question; • distil a research question from this perspective that is geared towards solutions; • implement such questions in the form of targeted research; • interpret and present data obtained from analyses conducted at different scales and different levels of abstraction; • cooperate with others in the context of a multidisciplinary project team. Students who started in or after 2026-2027 have the following specialisation specific intended learning outcomes: Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 9.4.1, a graduate of the different specialisations will have the following knowledge and understanding for the specialisations Pharmacology and Toxicology in Drug Discovery, Design and Synthesis in Drug Discovery, Bioanalytics in Drug Discovery and Education: A graduate of the specialisation Pharmacology and Toxicology in Drug Discovery also: - Can independently explain, demonstrate and predict new molecular interactions within multiple sub-disciplines of drug discovery research. - Can independently recognize and predict the consequences of molecular interactions and propose new molecular interventions within multiple sub-disciplines of drug discovery research. - Can independently use the specialised tools and/or techniques relevant to pharmacology and toxicology in drug discovery research. - Can independently develop multiple feasible research questions and experimental designs relevant to pharmacology and toxicology in drug	
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discovery research. - Can analyse complex experimental data within pharmacology and toxicology, interpret research outcomes, draw valid conclusions based on scientific reasoning and propose in-depth subsequent research steps. A graduate of the specialisations Design and Synthesis in Drug Discovery also: - Can independently explain, demonstrate and predict new molecular interactions within multiple sub-disciplines of drug discovery research. - Can independently recognize and predict the consequences of molecular interactions and propose new molecular interventions within multiple sub-disciplines of drug discovery research. - Can independently use the specialised tools and/or techniques relevant to design and synthesis in drug discovery research. - Can independently develop multiple feasible research questions and experimental designs relevant to design and synthesis in drug discovery. - Can analyse complex experimental data within design and synthesis, interpret research outcomes, draw valid conclusions based on scientific reasoning and propose in-depth subsequent research steps. A graduate of the specialisation Bioanalytics in Drug Discovery also: - Can independently explain, demonstrate and predict new molecular interactions within multiple sub-disciplines of drug discovery research. - Can independently recognize and predict the consequences of molecular interactions and propose new molecular interventions within multiple sub-disciplines of drug discovery research. - Can independently use the specialised tools and/or techniques relevant to bioanalytics in drug discovery research. - Can independently develop multiple feasible research questions and experimental designs relevant to bioanalytics in drug discovery. - Can analyse complex experimental data within bioanalytics, interpret research outcomes, draw valid conclusions based on scientific reasoning and propose in-depth subsequent research steps. A graduate of the Education specialisation can also (in Dutch): Vakinhoudelijke bekwaamheid – De student beheerst de vakinhoudelijke stof zodanig dat de leerinhoud voor het onderwijs toegepast, aangevuld en gecontextualiseerd kan worden. 1. toont parate actuele vakkennis- en kunde en kan deze vertalen naar het type onderwijs waarvoor de bevoegdheid behaald wordt, nl. de eerstegraads bevoegdheid. 2. overziet de opbouw van het curriculum van het schoolvak, de plaats van het vak in het curriculum, relaties met andere vakken, en relaties met de eindtermen, eindexamenprogramma's en vervolgopleidingen. (Vak)didactische bekwaamheid - de student laat zien onderwijs didactisch verantwoord te kunnen ontwerpen en uitvoeren, evalueren en ontwikkelen. 3. kan samenhangende lessen ontwerpen met passende leerdoelen, werkvormen, materialen en media afgestemd op het niveau en de kenmerken van groepen leerlingen. 4. kan leerstof begrijpelijk en aansprekend en op verschillende manieren uitleggen aan leerlingen, rekening houdend met hun taalniveau. 5. kan leerlingen begeleiden bij de verwerking van de stof, stimulerende vragen stellen en opbouwende gerichte feedback geven op taak en aanpak. 6. kan samenwerking, zelfwerkzaamheid en zelfstandigheid stimuleren.	
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7. verzamelt informatie over de voortgang van de leerlingen door (bestaande en zelf ontworpen) toetsen en formatief handelen, en stelt het onderwijs waar nodig bij. Pedagogische bekwaamheid – de student zorgt voor een veilig en motiverend leerklimaat, stemt af op de sociaal-emotionele en morele ontwikkeling van de leerling. 8. kan een veilig en motiverend pedagogisch klimaat scheppen waarin leerlingen gezien worden en waarin hun zelfvertrouwen wordt gestimuleerd. 9. kan leiding geven aan groepen leerlingen en groepsprocessen sturen en begeleiden. 10. kan zicht krijgen op de leefwereld van de leerlingen in al hun diversiteit en daarmee rekening houden in het onderwijs. 11. stemt af op de sociaal-emotionele en morele ontwikkeling van leerlingen en sluit aan bij de onderwijsbehoeften van verschillende groepen leerlingen 12. kan mogelijke belemmeringen in de sociaal-emotionele, morele en cognitieve ontwikkeling signaleren en het pedagogisch handelen afstemmen met collega's, ouders en professionele betrokkenen. Professionele en academische bekwaamheid – de student werkt samen met begeleiders en collega's, toont een academische en onderzoekende houding ten opzichte van theorie en praktijk, neemt verantwoordelijkheid voor het eigen ontwikkelproces en heeft een visie op (het geven van) goed onderwijs. 13. kan samenwerken en professioneel communiceren met hen en andere betrokkenen, zoals het zorgteam en ouders. 14. kan het eigen professionele handelen blijven ontwikkelen door gebruik te maken van gerichte feedback en reflectie. 15. kan het eigen professionele handelen uitleggen en verantwoorden, en hierbij gebruik maken van (vak)didactische en pedagogische basis- en verdiepende theorie en onderzoek. 16. kan eigen opvattingen en idealen over het vak, goed (vak)onderwijs en goede leraren onder woorden brengen en positie innemen ten opzichte van het curriculum, de schoolaanpak en mogelijke dilemma's. 17. is in staat verwachtingen ten aanzien van het onderwijsleerproces systematisch en onderzoeksmatig te evalueren, op basis van een variatie van gegevens.	
3. Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of examinations.	Approval OLC (7.13 c)

Article 9.5 Language of instruction

1. The language of instruction is English for the specialisations Pharmacology and Toxicology in Drug Discovery, Design and Synthesis in Drug Discovery, and Bioanalytics in Drug Discovery 1a. The language of instruction for the Education specialisation in the first year is English. The language of instruction for the Education specialisation in the second year is Dutch.	Approval OLC (9.18)
2. The 'Gedragcode vreemde taal' (Code of conduct for foreign languages) applies.	VU policy

10. Curriculum structure

Article 10.1 Composition of the programme

1. The programme comprises at least a package of compulsory components and an	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
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individual Master's thesis or academic work placement.	
2. Additionally the programme can offer: - Minor research project - Literature thesis and colloquium - Elective courses	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
3. Units of education are categorised as specialised (400), research-oriented (500) and highly specialised (600) level.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

Article 10.2 Compulsory units of education

A detailed description per unit of education can be found in the Study Guide.

Below you find the compulsory and constrained courses of the new curriculum for students who start in 2026-2027:

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Core courses, compulsory for all specialisations				
Principles of Drug Targets*	XM_0105	6	400	
Principles of Drug Discovery*	XM_0106	6	400	

*not compulsory if you have completed the bachelor Farmaceutische Wetenschappen at the VU.

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Specialisation Bioanalytics in Drug Discovery (BADD) Year 1				
Compulsory				
Research and Academic Skills	XM_0196	6	400	
Biopharmaceuticals & Biopharma Proteomics	XM_0108	6	500	
Advanced Bioanalytical Approaches	XM_0107	6	400	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Specialisation Bioanalytics in Drug Discovery (BADD) Year 1				
<i>Constrained choice (choose at least 12 EC)</i>				
ADME	XM_0136	6	400	
Separation Sciences	X_435609	6	400	
Mass Spectrometry	X_435604	6	400	
Spectroscopic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0109	6	400	
Data Analysis in Drug Discovery	XM_0201	6	400	
Protein Analysis	X_435045	6	500	
Major Research Project DDS part 1*	XM_0207	18	600	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Specialisation Design and Synthesis in Drug Discovery (DSDD) Year 1				
<i>Compulsory</i>				
Research and Academic Skills	XM_0196	6	400	
Physical Organic Chemistry	X_435663	6	400	
Computational Design and Synthesis of Drugs	XM_0199	6	500	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Specialisation Design and Synthesis in Drug Discovery (DSDD) Year 1				
Constrained choice (choose at least 12 EC)				
Computer-Aided Drug Design and Virtual Screening	X_432673	6	400	
Spectroscopic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0109	6	400	
Synthetic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0110	6	500	
Data Analysis in Drug Discovery	XM_0201	6	400	
Advanced Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry	XM_0069	6	600	
Enzymes in Organic Chemistry	XMU_0076	6	400	
Major Research Project DDS part 1*	XM_0207	18	600	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Specialisation Pharmacology and Toxicology in Drug Discovery (PTDD) Year 1				
Compulsory				
Research and Academic Skills	XM_0196	6	400	
ADME	XM_0136	6	400	
Advanced Pharmacology	XM_0112	6	500	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Specialisation Pharmacology and Toxicology in Drug Discovery (PTDD) Year 1				
<i>Constrained (choose at least 12 EC)</i>				
Biopharmaceuticals & Biopharma Proteomics	XM_0108	6	500	
Advanced Bioanalytical Approaches	XM_0107	6	400	
Drug Target Biochemistry & Signalling	XM_0111	6	400	
Molecular and Cellular Toxicology	XM_0113	6	400	
Advanced Course in Molecular Toxicology	XM_0114	6	500	
Data Analysis in Drug Discovery	XM_0201	6	400	
Major Research Project DDS part 1*	XM_0207	18	600	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Specialisation Education Year 1				
Compulsory				
ADME	XM_0136	6	400	
Computational Design and Synthesis of Drugs	XM_0199	6	500	
Major Research Project Education Specialisation	XM_0200	30	600	

*Students from the specialisations BADD, DSDD and PTDD need to obtain 48EC on Major Research Projects. They can do that by enrolling in Major Research Project DDS 48EC (course code will follow in the TER of 27-28) in year 2, or they can combine Major Research Project DDS part 1 18EC (XM_0207) in year 1 and Major Research Project DDS part 2 30EC (course code will follow in the TER of 27-28) in year 2.

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Specialisation Education Year 1				
Constrained choice (choose 6 EC)				
Advanced Pharmacology	XM_0112	6	500	
Computer-Aided Drug Design and Virtual Screening	X_432673	6	400	

Below you find the compulsory and constrained courses of the old curriculum for students who started in 2025-2026 or earlier:

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
All specialisations: Research				
Ethics and Academic Skills Constrained Choice: select 6 (six) EC				
Research Methods for Analyzing problems	AM_1182	6	400	
Societal Entrepreneurship H&L Sciences	AM_470575	6	500	
Managing Science and Technology	AM_470586	6	600	
Communication, Org. and Management	AM_470572	6	500	
Business Management	AM_470584	6	500	
Ethics in Life Sciences	AM_470707	3	400	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
All specialisations: Education				
<i>Constrained choice year 1 specialisation courses: select 6 (six) EC</i>				
Comp.-Aided Drug Design and Virtual Scr.	X_432673	6	400	
Mass Spectrometry	X_435604	6	400	
Physical Organic Chemistry	X_435663	6	400	
<i>Research Project Constrained Choice: select 24 (twenty-four) EC at least, 36 EC maximum</i>				
Major Research Project Bioanalytical Chemistry (CES)	XM_0023	24-36	600	
Major Research Project Environmental Bioanalysis (CES)	XM_0024	24-36	600	
Major Research Project Medicinal Chemistry (CES)	XM_0025	24-36	600	
Major Research Project Molecular & Computational Toxicology (CES)	XM_0026	24-36	600	
Major Research Project Organic Chemistry (CES)	XM_0027	24-36	600	
Major Research Project Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry (CES)	XM_0028	24-36	600	
Major Research Project Theoretical Chemistry (CES)	XM_0029	24-36	600	
Compulsory year 2 all specialisations: Education				
Didactiek 1	O_MLDIDAC_1	6	400	
Praktijk 1	O_MLPRAK_1	6	400	

Peergroup 1	O_MLPEERGR_1	0	400	
Didactiek 2	O_MLDIDAC_2	9	400	
Praktijk 2	O_MLPRAK_2	9	400	
Peergroup 2	O_MLPEERGR_2	0	000	
Praktijk 3	O_MLPRAK_3	15	400	
Pedagogische Didactische Verdieping	O_MPEDIVER	9	500	
Startweek	O_MSTARTSE P	0	000	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Compulsory specialisation Bioanalytics: all variants				
ADME	XM_0136	6	400	
Advanced Bioanalytical Approaches	XM_0107	6	400	
Biopharmaceuticals & Biopharma Proteomics	XM_0108	6	500	
Specialisation Bioanalytics: Research Variant				
Research Project Constrained Choice: select 1 (one) project				
Major Research Project Bioanalytical Chemistry	XM_0037	42-60	600	
Major Research Project Environmental Bioanalysis	XM_0038	42-60	600	
Major Research Project Molecular & Computational Toxicology	XM_0040	42-60	600	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Compulsory specialisation Synthesis of Drugs: all variants				
Physical Organic Chemistry	X_435663	6	400	
Spectroscopic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0109	6	400	
Synthetic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0110	6	500	
Specialisation Synthesis of Drugs: Research Variant				
<i>Research Project Constrained Choice: select 1 (one) project</i>				
Major Research Project Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0039	42-60	600	
Major Research Project Molecular & Computational Toxicology	XM_0040	42-60	600	
Major Research Project Organic Chemistry	XM_0041	42-60	600	
Major Research Project Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry	XM_0042	42-60	600	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
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Compulsory specialisation Molecular Pharmacology: all variants			
ADME	XM_0136	6	400
Drug Target Biochemistry & Signalling	XM_0111	6	400
Advanced Pharmacology	XM_0112	6	500
Specialisation Molecular Pharmacology: Research Variant			
Research Project Constrained Choice: select 1 (one) project			
Major Research Project Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0039	42-60	600
Major Research Project Organic Chemistry	XM_0041	42-60	600

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Compulsory specialisation Molecular Toxicology: all variants				
ADME	XM_0136	6	400	
Molecular and Cellular Toxicology	XM_0113	6	400	
Advanced Course in Molecular Toxicology	XM_0114	6	500	
Compulsory specialisation Molecular Toxicology: Research Variant				
Major Research Project Molecular & Computational Toxicology	XM_0040	42-60	600	

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Compulsory specialisation Computer-Aided Drug Design: all variants				
Computer-Aided Drug Design and Virtual Screening	X_432673	6	400	
Specialisation Computer-Aided Drug Design: Research Variant				
Research Project Constrained Choice: select 1 (one) project				
Major Research Project Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0039	42-60	600	
Major Research Project Molecular & Computational Toxicology	XM_0040	42-60	600	
Major Research Project Theoretical Chemistry	XM_0043	42-60	600	

Article 10.3 Elective units of education

1. The student can take one or more of the following electives without prior consent from the Examination Board:	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Below you find the compulsory and constrained courses of the new curriculum for students who start in 2026-2027:

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Electives year 1 for specialisations BADD/DSDD/PTDD				
ADME	XM_0136	6	400	
Advanced Bioanalytical Approaches	XM_0107	6	400	
Advanced Course in Molecular Toxi	XM_0114	6	500	

Advanced Mass Spectrometry	XMU_0074	6	400
Advanced Pharmacology	XM_0112	6	500
Advanced Radiopharmaceutical Chem	XM_0069	6	600
Advanced Separation Science	XMU_0075	6	400
Biopharmaceuticals & Biopharma Pro	XM_0108	6	500
Business management	AM_470584	6	500
Communication, Org. and Management	AM_470572	6	500
Computational Design and Synthesis of Drugs	XM_0199	6	500
Computer-Aided Drug Design and Virtual Screening	X_432673	6	400
Concepts in Chemical Biology	XM_0080	6	400
Data Analysis in Drug Discovery	XM_0201	6	400
Didactics of Science Supervision	XM_0197	6	400
Drug Target Biochemistry & Signalling	XM_0111	6	400
Enzymes in Organic Chemistry	XMU_0076	6	400
Epidemiology and Clinical Trials	AM_1332	6	500
Ethics and Science in Dialogue	AM_1333	6	500
Fundamentals of Bioinformatics	X_405052	6	400
High-Throughput Screening	X_435047	6	500
Literature Thesis DDS	XM_0198	12	600
Management of Innovative Technologies	AM_1181	6	500
Managing science and technology	AM_470586	6	600
Mass Spectrometry	X_435604	6	400
Molecular and Cellular Toxicology	XM_0113	6	400
Molecular Modelling	XMU_0059	6	400
Physical Organic Chemistry	X_435663	6	400
Protein Analysis	X_435045	6	500
Protein Science	AM_470145	6	400
Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animal Experiments Applying Human Cells in Culture	XM_0148	6	400
Research methods for analyzing problems	AM_1182	6	400
Science Journalism and Exhibition Design	AM_1334	6	500
Separation Sciences	X_435609	6	400
Spectroscopic Analysis	XMU_0039	6	400
Spectroscopic Approaches in Med	XM_0109	6	400
Statistical Theory of Complex Molecular Systems	XMU_0077	6	400
Statistics with R	X_418156	6	400
Synthetic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0110	6	500
Synthetic Strategies	XMU_0016	6	500
The Art of Science Communication	AM_1335	6	500
Translational Radiopharmaceutical Sciences	XM_0067	6	400
Electives year 1 for specialisation Education			
Protein Science	AM_470145	6	400
Biopharmaceuticals & Biopharma Proteomics	XM_0108	6	500

Fundamentals of Bioinformatics	X_405052	6	400	
Separation Sciences	X_435609	6	400	
Physical Organic Chemistry	X_435663	6	400	
Advanced Bioanalytical Approaches	XM_0107	6	400	
Drug Target Biochemistry & Signalling	XM_0111	6	400	
Molecular and Cellular Toxicology	XM_0113	6	400	
Mass Spectrometry	X_435604	6	400	

Below you find the elective courses of the old curriculum for students who started in 2025-2026 or earlier:

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
All specialisations, all variants				
Minor Research Project Bioanalytical Chemistry	XM_0044	18-36	500	
Minor Research Project Environmental Bioanalysis	XM_0045	18-30	500	
Minor Research Project Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0046	18-30	500	
Minor Research Project Molecular & Computational Toxicology	XM_0047	18-30	500	
Minor Research Project Organic Chemistry	XM_0048	18-30	500	
Minor Research Project Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry	XM_0049	18-30	500	
Minor Research Project Theoretical Chemistry	XM_0050	18-30	500	
Fundamentals of Bioinformatics	X_405052	6	400	
Physical Organic Chemistry	X_435663	6	400	
Translational Radiopharmaceutical Sciences	XM_0067	6	400	
Advanced Bioanalytical Approaches	XM_0107	6	400	
Spectroscopic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0109	6	400	
Drug Target Biochemistry & Signalling	XM_0111	6	400	
Molecular and Cellular Toxicology	XM_0113	6	400	
Rep. Ref. and Red. of Animal Exp.	XM_0148	6	400	
Computer-Aided Drug Design and Virtual Screening	X_432673	6	400	
Biopharmaceuticals & Biopharma Proteomics	XM_0108	6	500	
Synthetic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0110	6	500	
Advanced Pharmacology	XM_0112	6	500	
Advanced Course in Molecular Toxicology	XM_0114	6	500	
Advanced Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry	XM_0069	6	600	
Concepts in Chemical Biology	XM_0080	6	400	
Protein Analysis	X_435045	6	500	
ADME	XM_0136	6	400	
Molecular Modelling	XMU_0059	6	400	
Optional Colloquium & Literature Thesis				
Specialisation Bioanalytics: Research				
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Bioanalytical Chemistry	XM_0030	12	600	
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Environmental Bioanalysis	XM_0031	12	600	
Specialisation Synthesis of Drugs: Research				

Colloquium & Literature Thesis Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0032	12	600
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Molecular & Computational Toxicology	XM_0033	12	600
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Organic Chemistry	XM_0034	12	600
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry	XM_0035	12	600
Specialisation Molecular Pharmacology: Research			
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0032	12	600
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Organic Chemistry	XM_0034	12	600
Specialisation Molecular Toxicology: Research			
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Molecular & Computational Toxicology	XM_0033	12	600
Specialisation Computer-Aided Drug Design: Research			
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Medicinal Chemistry	XM_0032	12	600
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Molecular & Computational Toxicology	XM_0033	12	600
Colloquium & Literature Thesis Theoretical Chemistry	XM_0036	12	600
Recommended choice, all specialisations, Education only			
Praktijkonderzoek	O_PROZ	6	400
Vernieuwende Onderwijsconcepten	O_MLVNOND	3	400
Tweetalig Onderwijs	O_MTTO	3	500
AI in het Onderwijs	O_MAIHO	3	400
Wereldburgerschap	O_MWRLDBS	3	400
Wereldburgerschap deel 2	O_MWRLDBS_2	3	400
Inclusieve Digitale Didactiek	O_MIDD	3	400
<i>Colloquium & Literature Thesis Education year 1</i>			
Colloquium & Lit. Thesis Bioanalytical Chemistry (CES)	XM_0016	6	600
Colloquium & Lit. Thesis Environmental Bioanalysis (CES)	XM_0017	6	600
Colloquium & Lit. Thesis Medicinal Chemistry (CES)	XM_0018	6	600
Colloquium & Lit. Thesis Molecular & Computational Toxicology (CES)	XM_0019	6	600
Colloquium & Lit. Thesis Organic Chemistry (CES)	XM_0020	6	600
Colloquium & Lit. Thesis Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry (CES)	XM_0021	6	600
Colloquium & Lit. Thesis Theoretical Chemistry (CES)	XM_0022	6	600

2. If the student wishes to take a different unit of education than listed, advance permission must be obtained in writing from the Examinations Board.

Advice OLC
(7.13 a)

Article 10.4 Practical exercise

Not applicable

Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials

1. In the case of practical exercises, there may be attendance requirements. For details on attendance requirements, please refer to the study manual of the relevant unit of study.	Approval OLC (7.13)
2. In the case of tutorials, there may be attendance requirements. For details on attendance requirements, please refer to the study manual of the relevant unit of study.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
3. For thesis and internship, the programme applies the guidelines as stipulated in the Thesis and Placement Regulations.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)

11. Evaluation and transitional provisions

Article 11.1 Evaluation of the programme

1. The education provided in this programme is evaluated in accordance with the document 'Kwaliteitszorg Onderwijs BETA'.	Approval OLC (7.13 a1)
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Article 11.2 Transitional provisions

1. By way of departure from the Teaching and Examination Regulations currently in force, the following transitional provisions apply for students who started the programme under a previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations: - As of 2025-2026, the specialisations C-variant and S-variant are discontinued. - As of 2026-2027, the specialisations Molecular Pharmacology, Synthesis of Drugs, Molecular Toxicology, Computer-Aided Drug Design, Bioanalytics and the R-variant are being discontinued. Diplomas for these specialisations will be issued until 31 August 2029. - As of 2026-2027, there are four new specialisations: Pharmacology and Toxicology in Drug Discovery, Design and Synthesis in Drug Discovery, Bioanalytics in Drug Discovery, Education. - The course Drug Action (X_432724) has been removed from the programme. Students can do Advanced Pharmacology (XM_0112) instead. - The course Drug-Induced Stress and Cellular Response (X_432536) has been removed from the programme. Students can do Molecular and Cellular Toxicology (XM_0113) instead. - The course Signaling in Health and Disease (X_432535) has been removed from the programme. Students can do Drug Target Biochemistry and Signaling (XM_0111) instead. - The course Advanced Course on Drug Disposition and Safety Assessment (X_435681) has been removed from the programme. Students can do the Advanced Course on Molecular Toxicology (XM_0114) instead. - The course Synthetic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry (X_435685) has been removed from the programme. Students can do Synthetic Approaches in Medicinal Chemistry (XM_0110) instead. - The course Scientific Writing in English (X_400592) has been removed from the programme. Students can do the scientific writing part (worth 3EC) of Research and Academic Skills (XM_0196) instead. The results will be registered at the old course code (X_400592) for 3 EC. Permission of the examination board is needed. - Students who started in 25-26 or earlier can use the old internship course codes with variable ECs for their Major Research Project (XM_0037, XM_0038, XM_0039, XM_0040, XM_0041, XM_0042, XM_0043, XM_0023, XM_0024, XM_0025, XM_0026, XM_0027, XM_0028, XM_0029). Students who start in 2026-2027 will use the new internships codes with fixed ECs (XM_0207 18EC	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
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and other course codes will be announced later). - Students who started in 25-26 or earlier can use the old internship course codes with variable ECs for their Minor Research Project (XM_0044, XM_0045, XM_0046, XM_0047, XM_0048, XM_0049, XM_0050). Students who start in 2026-2027 will use the new internships codes with fixed ECs (course codes will be announced later) - Students who started in 25-26 or earlier can use the old literature thesis course codes with variable ECs for their Literature thesis (XM_0030, XM_0031, XM_0032, XM_0033, XM_0034, XM_0035, XM_0036). Students who start in 2026-2027 will use the course codes with fixed ECs (course codes will be announced later). - The courses Tutoring Students XM_432625 (3EC), Teaching Assistant XM_432741 (3 EC) and Teaching Assistant XM_437442 (6 EC) have been removed from the programme. Students who already have included (one of) these courses in their approved PEP can follow the relevant part of Didactics of Science Supervision (XM_0197) instead. The results can be registered on the relevant old course codes if needed in order to avoid double EC. - Herewith, students who started in 25-26 or earlier and who have successfully completed Tutoring Students XM_432625 will only have to successfully complete the practical part of the course Didactics in Science Supervision course (XM_0197) to obtain the intended learning outcomes of the old Teaching Assistant courses (XM_437442 and XM_432741). These results will be registered on the old course codes. - The course Biomolecular Simulation in Drug Discovery (XM_0118) has been removed from the curriculum. Students who still need to pass will get the opportunity for an extra exam in 2026-2027. - The course Data Management in Drug Discovery (XM_0117) has been removed from the curriculum. Students can do Data Analysis in Drug Discovery (XM_0201) instead. - Per 2026-2027, the course Research Skills and Career Perspectives (XM_0002) has been removed from the programme. The content of this course is included in Research and Academic Skills (XM_0196). - Students who started in or before 2025-2026 will graduate according to the old intended learning outcomes (see article 9.4). Students who started in 2026-2027 or after will graduate according to the new intended learning outcomes.	
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Approval of the Programme Committee of the curriculum structure (submitted via UAS), on 10/12/2025.

Advice and/or approval by the Programme Committee (with the exception of the curriculum structure), on 11/07/2026.

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly, on 07/07/2026.

Adopted by the board of the Faculty of Science on 24/07/2026.

Appendix I

Overview of articles that must be included in the OER

Based on Article 7.13, paragraph 2 and Article 7.30b, paragraph 2 of the WHW.

Section A: Faculty section

2. Study programme structure	
Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and units of education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub e
3. Assessment and examination	
Article 3.2 Type of examination	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, l, j
Article 3.3 Oral examinations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub l, n
Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub o
Article 3.5 Examination opportunities	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, j
Article 3.7 Exemption	7.13 paragraph 2 sub r
Article 3.8 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k
Article 3.9 Right of inspection and post-examination discussion	7.13 paragraph 2 sub p, q
4. Academic student counselling and study progress	
Article 4.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling	7.13 paragraph 2 sub u
Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability	7.13 paragraph 2 sub m

Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

6. General programme information and characteristics	
Article 6.1 Study programme information	7.13 paragraph 2 sub i, r
Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment	7.13 paragraph 2 sub l, x
[keuze:] Article 6.3 Academic student counselling	7.13 paragraph 2 sub u
7. Further admission requirements	
Article 7.2 Admission requirements	7.30b paragraph 1
Article 7.3 Selection criteria	7.30b paragraphs 2 & 5
Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme	7.57i section 1
8. Examinations and results	
Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, s, t
[option 1:] Article 8.2 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k
[option 2:] Article 8.2 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k

Section B2: Programme-specific section – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, tracks/specialisations, intended learning outcomes and language	
Article 9.1 Workload	7.13 paragraph 2 sub g
Article 9.2 Tracks and/or specialisations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.3 Programme objective	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.4 Intended learning outcomes	7.13 paragraph 2 sub b, c
Article 9.5 Language of instruction	9.18 (implementation expected in 2020)
10. Curriculum structure	
Article 10.1 Composition of the programme	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 10.2 Compulsory units of education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a

[Keuze:] Article 10.3 Elective units of education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
[Keuze:] Article 10.4 Practical exercise	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
11. Evaluation and transitional provisions	
Article 11.1 Evaluation of the programme	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a1
Article 11.2 Transitional provisions	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a

Appendix II

Overview of advisory and approval rights of Programme Committees (OLC) and Faculty Joint Assembly (FGV)

Article 7.13, paragraph 2, of the Higher Education and Research Act	FGV		OpIC	
	I	A	I	A
a. the content of the programme and the associated examinations				
a1. the manner in which teaching and education in the relevant programme are evaluated				
b. the content of the specialisations offered as part of the programme				
c. the programme's final attainment levels with regard to the knowledge, understanding and skills				
d. where applicable, the design of practical exercises				
e. the workload of the programme and of each of its constituent units of education				
f. the detailed rules referred to in Article 7.8b, sixth paragraph, and Article 7.9, fifth paragraph (recommendation on continuation of studies)				
g. the Master's programmes to which Article 7.4a, eighth paragraph, applies (elevated workload)				
h. the number and sequence of examinations and the times at which these can be taken				
i. the full-time, part-time or work-study structure of the programme				
j. where necessary, the order in which students can take the examinations and the final examinations for Bachelor's and Master's programmes, as well as the timing of and number of opportunities				
k. where necessary, the period of validity for pass grades awarded for examinations, notwithstanding the authority of the Examination Board to extend this period of validity				
l. whether examinations are administered in oral, written or another form, notwithstanding the authority of the Examination Board to decide otherwise				
m. the way in which students with a disability or chronic health condition are given a reasonable opportunity to take the examinations				
n. the public nature of oral examinations, subject to the right of the Examination Board to determine otherwise in special cases				
o. the period within which the results of an examination must be announced, together with details of whether this period can be altered and if so in what way				
p. the way in which and the period within which students who have taken an examination are given the opportunity to inspect their marked work				
q. the way in which and the period within which information can be provided about the questions asked and exercises given in the framework of a written examination and about the standards used for assessment				
r. the grounds on which the Board of Examiners may grant exemptions from taking one or more examinations on the basis of examinations and final examinations for Bachelor's and Master's programmes previously completed in higher education, or on the basis of knowledge or skills acquired outside higher education				
s. where necessary, the stipulation that students must pass certain examinations as a condition for admission to other examinations				
t. where necessary, the obligation to take part in certain practical exercises with a view to admission to the examination in question, subject to the authority of the Examination Board to grant exemption from this obligation, with or without the imposition of alternative requirements				
u. the monitoring of academic progress and individual student support and guidance				
v. where applicable, the manner in which students are selected for a special track within a programme as referred to in Article 7.9b (excellence track within a programme)				
x. the actual design of the education provided				
<i>All other matters that are regulated in the Academic and Examination Regulations but which are not mentioned as such in Article 7.13 of the Higher Education and Research Act under points a to x.</i>				

The lettering corresponds to the lettering of Article 7.13 section 2 of the WHW

Abbreviations used:

FGV: Faculty Joint Assembly

OplC: Programme Committee
I: right of approval
A: right of advice

Appendix III

Ordinances of VU Executive Board (CvB) and Binding Master's Guidelines

Section A, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
1.1.4	Legal protection for students	4-11-2025
2.1.1, 2.1.2	Year planning two semesters 8-8-4 (uniform year calendar VU-UvA)	29-9-2008 (period 2009-2015) 22-05-2014 (period 2016-2025)
2.1.3, 2.1.4	Units of education	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
3.1	Signing up for education and examinations	CvB ordinance 17-11-2020, prior consent of USC.
3.4.1	Determination and publication of the results (1) Grading deadline exams ten working days (2) Theses twenty working days	(1) Bachelor's guideline included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019 (2) Quality demand 11 from the VU-wide assessment policy, CvB ordinance 15-05-2012, approval GV 28-02-2013
3.5.1	Two possibilities to take examinations per year	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
3.5.2	Resit: most recent grade is valid, resit allowed in case of pass grade	Taken from the UvA guidelines, as part of the harmonisation, CvB ordinance 24-02-2014
3.5.4	One-time extra resit in relation to examination requirement	Included in (prior) model OER 16-17 following a request from committee O&O and adopted by CvB op 27-10-2015
3.6	Grades	CvB ordinance 30-09-2010, prior consent USR. As a result of harmonisation UvA, the guideline: 5.5 is a pass, has been added. CvB ordinance 24-02-2014.
Section B1, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
7.2	Admission criteria	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
7.3	Selection criteria	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
Section B2, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
10.1.1	Composition programme	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
10.1.3	Categorisation of units	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019

Appendix IV

Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act

1. The extenuating personal circumstances referred to in Article 7.8b, paragraph 3 and 7.9, paragraph 3 of the Act (WHW) are limited to:

- a. illness of the person concerned,
- b. physical, sensory or other impairment of the person concerned,
- c. pregnancy of the person concerned,
- d. extenuating family circumstances,
- e. membership, including the chairmanship of:
 - 1. universities: the university council, faculty council, the body established under the participation regulation referred to in Article 9.30, paragraph 3, or Article 9.51, paragraph 2, of the Act, the programme management or the programme committee, or membership on the board of a foundation whose bylaws allow for the exploitation of facilities belonging to the student services, or an equivalent body with regard to its activities in the opinion of the board of the institution,
 - 2. universities of applied sciences: the participation council, district council, student committee or programme committee,
- f. other circumstances to be designated by the board of the institution in the regulation as referred to in Article 7.8b, paragraph 6, and Article 7.9, paragraph 5, of the Act in which the person concerned engages in activities within the framework of the organisation and the administration of the affairs of the institution,
- g. membership on the board of a student organisation of a certain size with full legal capacity, or a similar organisation of a certain size, whose primary task regards general societal interest and which actually develops activities for this purpose,
- h. other personal circumstances set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, pursuant to Article 7.13, paragraph 2, clause f of the Act,
- i. personal circumstances other than those referred to in a – h above which, if overlooked by the governing bodies of the institution, would lead to an obviously unfair outcome.

2 The institutional board may, for the purposes of the first paragraph, part g, establish specific rules regarding the maximum number of eligible board members per organisation per academic year, as well as the eligible administrative offices.