Teaching and Examination Regulations

Faculty of Science
Master's programme in Environment and Resource Management

Academic year 2026-2027

A. Faculty section
B1. Programme-specific section – general provisions
B2. Programme-specific section – content of programme

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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)

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 5.5~~0~~, rounded down; final marks of 5.5~~0~~ 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)

Section B1: Programme-specific section

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

1. The programme Environment and Resource Management, RIO number 60045, is offered on a full-time basis	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)
2. The programme is offered in partnership with University of Antwerp for students who are enrolled in the M Business Engineering: Sustainability Engineering and have successfully completed the first year of that programme. These students are eligable to enroll in the M Environment and Resource Management (VU), as their 2nd year curriculum M Business Engineering: Sustainability Engineering, thus leading to a Dual Degree	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

1. The programme uses the teaching formats as specified in the study guide. Daily supervision (theory & practice) Demonstration/ site visit Lecture Practical Interactive teaching in small groups Student lecture Seminar	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 x)
2. The degree programme uses the following modes of assessment: *Written* Multiple choice exam Open-ended questions exam Research proposal Review paper Research paper *Oral* Poster presentation Oral presentation research/ literature *Skills* Execution (of statistics/experiments/literature search)	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: Not applicable.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)

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)

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: a. knowledge: all different backgrounds at Dutch WO level b. understanding: all different levels of understanding at Dutch WO level c. skills: all different levels of skills at Dutch WO level.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Not applicable.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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. Not applicable.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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 the following selection criteria. a. A high level of relevant knowledge and skills and affinity with environmental	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

sciences or sustainability, proven by previous study programme, courses, thesis or relevant (volunteer) work experience, expressed in a motivation statement or curriculum vitae; b. Strong motivation statement addressing: - Interest for environmental and sustainability issues - Specific interest for ERM	

Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

1. Applicants with a Bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences (HBO) or a Bachelor's degree from a research university (WO) who wish to enter the programme but do not fulfil the admission requirements as stipulated in Article 7.2 can request admission to the pre-Master's programme. Article 2 of these regulations does not apply to admission to a bridging or pre-Master's programme. The provisions of sections A and B only apply to the extent that they are described in Article 7.4. Information about the programme from part B2 applies, insofar as it concerns the units of education from the pre-Master's programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Applicants must, in addition to paragraph 1 above, also satisfy the following requirements: - Proven affinity with sustainability through relevant academic or work experience in the field of sustainability.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
3. A candidate must demonstrate that they meet the language requirements, as specified in Article 7.2.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
4. The pre-Master's programme has 30 EC and consists of the following units (6 EC each): - Grand Challenges for Sustainability - Sustainability and Environmental Change - Global Development and Prosperity - Governance of Global Sustainability - Designing Solutions for Global Sustainability The following terms also apply: a. If a pre-Master's student completes an individualised pre-Master's programme, this is to be communicated to that student in writing. b. The Examination Board can, if the pre-Master's student submits a written request, exempt the student from one or more examinations of a standard pre-Master's programme. c. The provision under b. does not apply to an individualised pre-Master's programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38)
5. Evidence that the pre-Master's programme has been completed successfully will entitle the student to admission to the relevant Master's programme in the following academic year. A pre-Master's programme must be completed within one academic year.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 b)

8. Examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations

Students may participate in the course Research Project ERM only if they have passed	Advice OLC; approval FGV

the examination or examinations for following units of education: - 18 EC in the ERM curriculum on March 31, as well as participating in the "Methods of Environmental and Resource Management" (AM_1135) course and the "Research Design" (AM_1136) course.	(7.13 h, s & t)

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 60 EC.	Approval OLC; (7.13 g)

Article 9.2 Specialisations

The programme has the following specialisation(s): - Energy and Climate - Ecosystems Services and Biodiversity - Global Water Challenges - Global Food Challenges - Global Sustainable Futures	Approval OLC (7.13 b)

Article 9.3 Programme objective

The programme recognises that environmental problems and sustainability challenges do not stop at national borders. And solutions to those challenges require professionals who have the ability to build bridges and go beyond their own disciplines. Therefore, the programme offers an international and interdisciplinary classroom. It actively teaches students to cooperate in interdisciplinary teams and to contribute your disciplinary knowledge, while looking for possible solutions to specific environmental problems. During the programme, students can determine their own focus by choosing a specialization. The programme aims to ensure that students acquire theoretical concepts, academic skills and operational techniques that allow them to find solutions to the complex problems of our generation.	Advice OLC (7.13 a)

Article 9.4 Intended learning outcomes

1. At all events, a graduate of the study programme will have: 1. knowledge and understanding of the relevant key concepts, theories and methodologies in the field of environment and resource management; 2. in-depth knowledge of the theories and methodologies of at least one area in the field of environment and resource management by specializing in (a) ecosystem services and biodiversity (b) energy and climate; (c) global water challenges; (d) global food challenges; and (e) Global Sustainable Futures; 3. Understand the concept of sustainable development and the relationships between resource utilization, environmental pressure, production and consumption processes, societal processes and responses and is able to apply combinations of concepts and theories in a local, national or global context; Applying Knowledge and Understanding: The ERM graduate an apply his/her knowledge, understanding and problem solving abilities in new or unfamiliar environments within broader or multidisciplinary context of sustainability related to environment and resource management; has the ability to integrate knowledge of multiple disciplines with the purpose of handling complexity of environmental problems and designing effective solutions.	Approval OLC (7.13)

4. Can integrate knowledge from various disciplines and understands the interrelationships in sustainable development processes;
5. Is able to understand, and to apply various methods for investigating and assessing environmental problems, for example economic analysis, scenario analysis, stakeholder analysis and spatial analysis and is aware of the value and the scope of these tools;
6. Can independently develop and execute scientific research of societal relevance.
    a. Is able to formulate a problem based on empirical data or literature study and design a scientific approach for researching and investigating the problem;
    b. Has the skills to apply methodologies and techniques when conducting independent research;
    c. Is able to independently acquire and compile relevant information on environmental problems by doing literature study, modelling and/or empirical data collection;
    d. Is able to analyze and interpret research data and to understand, translate and evaluate these data in the context needed;
    e. Can formulate recommendations and/or policy advise based on the conclusions of the research;

Making Judgements: The ERM graduate can formulate judgments based on incomplete or limited information, that include reflection on social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of the students' own knowledge and judgments.

7. Can recognize and acknowledge the different perspectives of relevant stakeholders on society and the environment, and is capable of taking these perspectives into account in a balanced manner;
8. Can reflect on core problems and solutions in the general domain of environment and resource management as well as the domain of the chosen specialization, and is able to form an opinion and to contribute to both scientific and practitioners' discussions;
9. Can reflect on the trade-offs between economic, social and environmental issues that play a role in environment and resource management;

Communication: The ERM graduate can communicate conclusions, the knowledge and the rationale that underpin these, to an audience of specialists and non-specialists in a clear and unambiguous manner.

10. Can operate in diverse (e.g. multidisciplinary, international and/or intercultural) teams at a level that is at the frontier of research in Environment and Resource Management by active and constructive participation in discussions, debates, and meetings;
11. Can clearly communicate in English, both orally and in writing, while making appropriate use of visual material, including digital aids;
    a. To the scientific community, the conclusions from their research, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these. Communication may be in the form of a research report, poster presentation, or oral presentation;

b. To a general audience, the purpose of their research, their findings and the significance of these. Communication may be in the form of pitches, stories and debates. Learning Skills: Has the learning skills to continue to study in a manner that may be largely self- directed and autonomous. 12. Has the knowledge of and competences for working in a multidisciplinary team, in particular the ability to compare and integrate insights and approaches from various environmental scientific disciplines; 13. Is able to reflect critically, but constructively on one's own as well as peers' papers, presentations and general functioning in groups, and is able to accept, consider and put to advantage the feedback of others; 14. Understands his/her personal stronger and weaker points, affinities, development potential and preferences in relation to the discipline chosen and the related professional potential; 15. Can familiarize oneself with new topics related to the field of study within a short timeframe.	
2. Not applicable.	Approval OLC (7.13 b)
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.	Approval OLC (9.18)
2. The 'Gedragscode 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 individual Master's thesis or academic work placement.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. Additionally the programme can offer: - Electives - Soft Skills Workshops - Advanced economics course **"**Economics of Environmental Policy Instrument Design and Environmental Economics" (E_STR_EEP) in P2 for students that have obtained a Bachelor's in Economics.	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.

Unit of education	**course code**	**nr of EC**	**level**	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Causes and Consequences of Environmental	AM_1049	6	400	

Challenges				
Methods of Environment and Resource Management	AM_1135	6	400	
Research Design	AM_1136	6	400	
Research Project ERM	AM_468017	18	500	
Environmental Policy	AM_468021	6	400	
MSc ERM spec. Energy and Climate				
Energy and Climate Governance	AM_1155	6	400	
Sustainable Energy Systems	AM_468018	6	400	
MSc ERM spec. Ecosystems Services and Biodiversity				
Value of Ecosystem Services	AM_468024	6	400	
Governance of Ecosystem Services	AM_468025	6	400	
MSc ERM spec. Global Water Challenges				
Water Politics and Governance	AM_1192	6	400	
Water extremes: Risks and Solutions	AM_1305	6	400	
MSc ERM spec. Global Food Challenges				
Food Systems and Sustainability	AM_1262	6	400	
Food Governance and Sustainability	AM_1263	6	400	
All specialisations, constrained choice (choose 1):				
Environmental Economics for ERM	AM_468020	6	400	
Economics of Environmental Policy	E_STR_EEP	6	400	
MSc ERM spec. Global Sustainable Futures, constrained choice (choose at least 2)				
Value of Ecosystem Services	AM_468024	6	400	
Sustainable Energy Systems	AM_468018	6	400	
Water extremes: Risks and Solutions	AM_1305	6	400	
Energy and Climate Governance	AM_1155	6	400	
Governance of Ecosystem Services	AM_468025	6	400	
Water Politics and Governance	AM_1192	6	400	
Food Systems and Sustainability	AM_1262	6	400	
Food Governance and Sustainability	AM_1263	6	400	

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: Not applicable.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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)

Article 11.2 Transitional provisions

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: - Not applicable.	Advice OLC (7.13 a)

Approval of the Programme Committee of the curriculum structure (submitted via UAS), on 16/12/2025.

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

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

Adopted by the board of the Faculty of Science on 10/07/2026.

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		OplC	
	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	■			■
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.				■

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.