

# **Teaching and Examination Regulations**

**Bachelor's programme in Communicatiewetenschap  
Track: Communication Science  
Faculty of Social Sciences**

**Academic year 2021-2022**

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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.
2. These Regulations enter into force on 1 September 2021.
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.

#### 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. bachelorproject or -thesis:             | a component comprising research into the literature and/or contributing to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;  |
| c. CvB:                                    | the Executive Board of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.   |
| d. EC (European Credit):                   | an EC credit with a workload of 28 hours of study;   |
| e. educational component:                  | a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;  |
| f. examination:                            | the final examination of the Bachelor's programme;   |
| g. FGV:                                    | Faculty joint assembly – assembly of the faculty student council and faculty staff council;  |
| h. interim examination:                    | an assessment of the student's knowledge, understanding and skills relating to a course component. The assessment is expressed in terms of a final mark. An interim examination may consist of one or more partial examinations. A resit always covers the same material as the original interim examination. A written examination can consist of (a combination of) open questions, multiple choice questions, a paper, an essay or written assignment. An oral examination can consist of (a combination of) open questions, a debate or a verbal presentation; |
| i. OLC:                                    | programme committee;   |
| j. period:                                 | a part of a semester;  |
| k. practical exercise:                     | the participation in a practical training or other educational learning activity, aimed at acquiring certain (academic) skills. Examples of practical exercises are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ researching and writing a thesis or dissertation</li><li>○ carrying out a research assignment</li><li>○ taking part in fieldwork or an excursion</li><li>○ participating in and completing a work placement;</li></ul>  |
| l. programme:                              | the totality and cohesion of the course components, teaching activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and recommended literature;  |
| m. SAP/SLM:                                | the student information system ( <i>Student Lifecycle Management</i> );  |
| n. semester:                               | the first (September - January) or second half (February - August) of an academic year;  |
| o. specialization                          | optional route of study within a degree programme indicating a deepening of the (inter/multi) disciplinary context of the programme;   |
| 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 electronically at:<br><a href="https://www.vu.nl/en/study-guide/">https://www.vu.nl/en/study-guide/</a> ;  |
| q. study monitor ( <i>studiemonitor</i> ): | dashboard for students and academic advisors with data of the student and that provides insight into the student's study progress;   |
| r. subject                                 | see 'educational component';   |

- s. track a study pathway within a broader Bachelor's or Master's degree programme, such as a fully English-language study pathway within a Dutch-language Bachelor's or Master's programme;
- t. university: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam;
- u. WHW: the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (*Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek*);
- v. workload: the workload of the unit of study to which an interim 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 educational components

1. The study programme will be offered in a year divided into two semesters.
2. Every semester consists of three consecutive periods of eight, eight and four weeks
3. An educational component comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.
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 study comprises 3 EC or a multiple thereof.

### Article 2.2 Frame study programme

1. The programme consists in any case of the following components:
  - a. Academic development of at least 24 EC;
  - b. Major/compulsory components of at least 90 EC;
  - c. Elective components of study of at least 30 EC
2. In the first year of the programme, the programme will offer at least fourteen contact hours a week.
3. In the second and third years of the programme, the programme will offer at least twelve contact hours a week.
4. Internationalization is included as part of the Bachelor's programme and reflected in or more educational components.

## 3. Assessment and Examination

### Article 3.1 Signing up for education and interim examinations

1. Every student must sign up to participate in the educational components of the programme, the examinations and resits. The procedure for signing up is described in an annex to the Student Charter.
2. Signing up may only take place in the designated periods.

### Article 3.2 Type of examination

1. At the examiner's request, the Examination Board may permit a different form of interim examination than is stipulated in the study guide.

### Article 3.3 Oral interim examinations

1. An oral assessment is public unless the Examination Board in special cases determines otherwise. For further rules and regulations concerning oral examinations, see the Rules and Guidelines of the Examination Board FSS, article 11 'Oral examination'.

### Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results

1. The examiner determines the result of a written interim examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within ten working days. The marking deadline for the first submission opportunity for the Bachelor's project or Bachelor's thesis is also ten working days. The marking deadline for the second submission opportunity for the Bachelor's project or Bachelor's thesis is no longer than twenty working days. 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.

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 fourth clause of the first paragraph applies.
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.

#### Article 3.5 Examination opportunities

1. a. Per academic year, two opportunities to take examinations per educational component will be offered.  
b. By way of exception to a., the options for retaking practical components, work placements and Bachelor's projects or Bachelor's theses are detailed in the relevant work placement manual, teaching regulations or graduation regulations.
2. The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit. A retake is allowed for both passed and failed units of study.
3. The resit for a (partial) interim examination must not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the result of the (partial) examination being resat.
4. The Examination Board may allow a student an extra opportunity to sit an examination if that student:
  - a. is lacking only those credits to qualify for his or her degree;
  - b. has failed the examination during all the previously offered attempts unless participation in an examination was not possible for compelling reasons.The extra opportunity can only be offered if it concerns a written examination, a paper or a take home examination. This provision excludes the practical assignments and the Bachelors's Project or Bachelor's thesis. Requests for an additional examination opportunity must be submitted to the Examination Board no later than 1 July. If necessary, the method of examination may deviate from the provisions in the study guide.
5. If an educational component is no longer offered in the academic year following its termination, at least one opportunity will be provided to sit the interim examination(s) or parts thereof and a transitional arrangement will be included in the programme-specific section for the subsequent period.

#### Article 3.6 Marks

1. Partial marks are given on a scale from 1 to 10 with no more than one figure after the decimal point.
2. A final mark between 5 and 6 will be rounded to the nearest whole number: up to 5.50, rounded down; higher than 5.50, rounded up. All other final marks will be expressed in whole or half marks.
3. To pass a given course or unit, a final mark of 6 or higher is required.
4. The Examination Board can allow to use symbols rather than numbers, for example; v(oldaan), g(oed), n(iet)v(ol)d(aan), etc.)

#### 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 the student:
  - a. has passed a course component of an academic (university) or higher professional education programme that is equivalent in terms of content and level;
  - b. has demonstrated through his/her work and/or professional experience that he/she has sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the relevant course component.
2. The Bachelor's Project or Bachelor's thesis is excluded from this exemption possibility.

#### Article 3.8 Validity period for results

1. The validity period of interim examinations passed and exemption from interim examinations is unlimited, unless otherwise specified in Section B1.
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 B1.

### Article 3.9 Right of inspection and post-examination discussion

1. Within twenty working days after the announcement of the results of a written interim examination, but at least ten working days before the resit opportunity, the student can, on request, inspect his/her assessed work, the questions and assignments set in it, as well as the standards applied for marking.  
The place and time referred to in the previous clause will be announced at the time of the interim examination or on Canvas in all cases.
2. If a collective post-examination discussion has been organized, individual post-examination discussions will be held only if the student has attended the collective discussion or if the student was unable to attend the collective discussion through no fault of his or her own.
3. Students who meet the requirements stipulated in paragraph 2 can submit a request for an individual post-examination discussion to the relevant examiner. The discussion shall take place at a time and location to be determined by the examiner.

## 4. Honours programme

### Article 4.1 Honours programme

1. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers an honours programme for students who meet the admission requirements. The Honours programme consists of educational components taken in addition to the standard curriculum.
2. The honours programme comprises 30 EC, a minimum of 12 EC of which consist of faculty or programme honours components and a minimum of another 12 EC consist of interfaculty honours components. The choices available to the student will be published on the website ([www.vu.nl](http://www.vu.nl)).
3. For admission to the honours programme, the student must have secured all credits from the first year and have been awarded a weighted average mark of at least a 7.5.
4. A student who has met the requirements of the regular Bachelor's programme within the nominal duration of study, who has achieved an average weighted mark of at least 7.5 for all components of the Bachelor's programme (excluded the honours components) and who has also met the requirements of the honours programme will receive a Bachelor diploma with a transcript indicating that he or she has successfully completed the honours programme.
5. First-year Bachelor's students can participate in honours components during the second semester, on the condition that they have earned 30 EC during the first semester with a weighted average of at least a 7.5. First-year students can only participate in honours components that are open for first-year students.

## 5. Academic student counselling, advice regarding continuation of studies and study progress

### Article 5.1 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 an educational component 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 his/her disposal in VUweb.
2. Enrolled students are eligible for academic student counselling. Academic student counselling is provided by
  - a. the Student General Counselling Service;
  - b. student psychologists;
  - c. faculty academic advisors.

### Article 5.2 Advice regarding continuation of studies

1. The Faculty Board will issue every student on a full-time Bachelor's programme with a recommendation on continuation of his or her studies, at the end of the first year of study. The recommendation on continuation of studies is issued on behalf of the faculty board by the faculty BSA committee
2. Prior to 1 February, the student will receive an overview of his or her results.
3. A student who has not completed enough EC, will receive a warning stating that sufficient improvement is necessary to reach the standard for a positive recommendation on continuation of



studies at the end of the academic year and will be advised to plan a meeting with an academic advisor.

4. If the recommendation at the end of the academic year is negative the provisions of Article 5.3 apply.
5. A recommendation will not be issued if the student terminates his or her enrolment before 1 February of his/her first academic year.

#### Article 5.3 Binding (negative) recommendation on continuation of studies (BSA)

1. The recommendation issued at the end of the academic year will contain a binding rejection if the student has not achieved the standard required for positive recommendation on continuation of studies. Recommendation on continuation of studies will not be issued if the student demonstrates that he/she did not meet the standard as described in Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act (*Uitvoeringsbesluit WHW*). The standard is defined in Section B2.
2. As soon as possible after the last resits of the second semester of the first year, a student who has not met the standard will be informed that the faculty board intends to issue him or her with negative binding recommendation on continuation of studies. The same procedure applies in the next year of enrolment if the student was permitted to continue with his/her study programme as a result of personal circumstances and has still not successfully met all of the requirements of the first year of study by that time. No recommendation will be issued to the student if he or she demonstrates that he or she again did not meet the standard as a consequence of personal circumstances.
3. Along with the information referred to in the previous paragraph, the student will also be informed of the possibility of being heard by the BSA committee and of how he or she can apply for such a hearing.
4. As soon as possible (no more than 10 working days) after the hearing and on the advice of the BSA committee, the faculty board will determine which students will be issued with a negative binding recommendation on continuation of studies, and which students will not.
5. Students may lodge an appeal against a decision on a binding negative recommendation on continuation of studies with the Examination Appeals Board of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam within six weeks of the day of the decision's announcement.
6. Students who receive a binding negative recommendation on continuation of studies may therefore not enrol in the same Bachelor's programme or Bachelor's programme(s) with the same first year as defined in Article 14.1.2 of section B during a period of three years.

#### Article 5.4 Personal circumstances

1. The Faculty Board will not include a rejection in the binding recommendation on the continuation of studies in the case of personal circumstances, as described in Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act, as a result of which the student concerned cannot have been reasonably expected to have met the BSA standard.
2. If a circumstance, as described in Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act, should occur, the student must notify the academic advisor office as soon as possible, providing details of:
  - a. the period in which the circumstance occurs or occurred;
  - b. a description of the circumstance and its seriousness;
  - c. the extent to which he or she cannot or could not participate in instruction/classes or an interim examination.It is the student's responsibility to submit documentary evidence to substantiate his or her report.
3. If required, the academic advisor may advise the BSA Committee on the extent to which personal circumstances have influenced the student's study progress.



#### Article 5.5 Facilities for students with a disability

1. A student with a disability can, at the moment of submission to VUweb, or at a later instance, submit a request to qualify for one or more special facilities with regard to teaching, practical training and interim examinations. These facilities will accommodate the student's individual disability as much as possible, but may not alter the quality or degree of difficulty of a unit of study or an examination. In all cases, the student must fulfil the exit qualifications for the study programme.
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.
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 psychological evaluation.
4. The Faculty Board, or the responsible person 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.
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 study adviser to discuss the details of the facilities.
6. A request for one or more facilities can be refused if it would place a disproportionate burden on the organization or the resources of the faculty or university were it upheld. Any such refusal will be substantiated.
7. If the disability justifies an extension of the interim examination time, the responsible person on behalf of the Examination Board will register in SAP this entitlement to an extension. If a disability 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 him/her.
8. The decision as referred to in paragraph 5 may specify a limited validity of the facilities granted.

## 6. Hardship clause

#### Article 6.1 Hardship clause

In instances not regulated by the Teaching and Examination Regulations or in the event of demonstrable extreme unreasonableness and unfairness, the Faculty Board responsible for the study programme will decide, unless the matter concerned is the responsibility of the Examination Board.

## Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

### 7. General programme information and characteristics

#### Article 7.1 Study programme information

1. The programme Communicatiewetenschap, CROHO number 56615, is offered on a full-time basis.

#### Article 7.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

1. The degree programme uses in particular the following teaching formats:
  - lectures;
  - working groups;
  - practical exercises;
  - formative online assessments;
  - privatissimum.
1. The degree programme uses in particular the following modes of assessment:
  - written examination
  - reports;
  - portfolio;
  - presentations;
  - thesis.

#### Article 7.3 Academic student counselling

The programme offers the following counselling in addition to the student counselling mentioned in Section A. Student mentors make the students familiar with the faculty during the first year. Teacher mentors familiarize the students with the training and support them with various choices they have to make during the study.

### 8. Further admission requirements

#### Article 8.1 Additional previous education requirements

1. Students who meet the previous education requirements as stipulated in the current 'Regulations on Additional Prior Education Requirements for Higher Education' (*Regeling nadere vooropleidingseisen hoger Onderwijs - OCW*) will gain access to the programme.
2. The language requirements and conditions for registration are included in the Application and Registration Regulation of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
3. Students who do not meet the previous education requirements but have successfully completed the first year of a higher professional education programme can gain admission to the programme.

#### Article 8.2 Colloquium doctum (entrance examination)

1. Persons aged 21 years and older who do not meet the requirements for previous education can submit a request to the Executive Board to take an entrance examination (colloquium doctum), as stipulated in Article 7.29 of the WHW. The entrance examination concerns the following subjects at final pre-university examination level:
  - Mathematics;
  - English.
2. The proof that the entrance examination has been passed, only provides entitlement to admission to the intended programme or programmes for the academic year after the examination was taken.

## 9. Interim examinations and results

### Article 9.1 Sequence of interim examinations

1. Students may participate in interim examinations or practical exercises of the components below only if they have passed the interim examination or examinations for the components mentioned hereinafter or participated in the examinations of these components:
  - Bachelorthesis Communication Science after achieving Quantitative Research Methodology (applicable starting the academic year 2021-2022);
  - Bachelorthesis Communication Science after achieving 90 EC of the first and second year of the programme Communication Science (applicable starting the academic year 2021-2022);
  - Multivariate Analysis after participation in Quantitative research Methodology (applicable starting the academic year 2021-2022);
  - Diversity 2 after participation Diversity 1;
  - Globalization 2 after participation Globalization 1;
  - Networks 2 after participation Networks 1.

## 10. Regulation right of inspection

### Article 10.1 Regulation of inspection

More information about the inspection of assessed work see the regulation right of inspection of the programme/track Communication Science on VUweb.

## Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

### 11. Programme objectives, tracks, exit qualifications and language

#### Article 11.1 Programme objective

The Bachelor's programme in *Communicatiewetenschap* is a broad social scientific programme characterized by a strong focus on research into communication phenomena and their theoretical background, as well as examining communication processes in the private, organizational and public domains. It is anchored strongly in the social scientific tradition, with ample attention for philosophy of science and for methods and techniques of social scientific research. Students accrue a wide range of knowledge, understanding and skills to enable them to recognize and explain communication phenomena using scientifically relevant theories and models. After completing the programme, graduates can progress to a related Master's programme, either a one-year professional master's program or a two-year research program. Alternatively, they are ready to enter the employment market as a junior trainee in communications-related research or practice.

#### Article 11.2 Tracks

The programme has the following tracks:

- Communication Science (English);
- Communicatiewetenschap (Dutch).

#### Article 11.3 Exit qualifications

##### 1. Exit qualifications

Knowledge and understanding - graduates will have a good knowledge and understanding of:

- a. the basic principles of communication science and its most important theories, in particular those relating to the public, organizational and private domains;
- b. the ongoing scientific debate around communication processes within the public, organizational and private domains, such that they are able to interpret current theoretical developments;
- c. the media landscape and developments within it; the ability to interpret the Dutch media landscape in an international context;
- d. the basic principles of research methods used in communication science, with a particular emphasis on quantitative social scientific approaches, especially on the research methods survey, experiments and content analysis and the related standard analytical techniques; and,
- e. the history and philosophy of science, in particular the basic principles and assumptions providing an insight into the societal function of social scientific research and the researcher's role in it.

Application of knowledge and understanding - a graduate is able:

- a. to apply the most important theories in communication science, including recent developments, to fundamental issues of communication from the public, organizational and private domains;
- b. to apply the most important theories in communication science, including recent developments and in particular those with regard to the public, organizational and private domains, in responding to communication-related issues in society;
- c. to use the most important theories in communication science, including recent developments and in particular those with regard to the public, organizational and private domains, in formulating and substantiating hypotheses related to a set research question;
- d. to use the quantitative social scientific research methods common in communication science, especially survey, experimentation and content analysis, to test methodologically relatively simple research hypotheses; and,
- e. to interpret data generated by methodologically relatively simple research.

Judgement - a graduate is able:

- a. to interpret theoretical argumentation in the field of communication science;
- b. to interpret the relevance of data generated by methodologically relatively simple research, whether collected personally or by others, within a social scientific context;
- c. to assess what literature and data are relevant in formulating answers to theoretically relatively simple questions of fundamental or applied communication; and,
- d. to demonstrate awareness of the social relevance of communication issues, including their ethical and normative aspects.

Communication - a graduate is able:

- a. to present research findings and conclusions orally and in writing, to both expert and lay audiences; and,
- b. to make effective use of their professional skills in individual and collaborative projects, and to reflect on their own performance.

Learning skills - a graduate is able:

- a. to work with some degree of autonomy on communication issues at an academic level, both within and outside the academic setting.

2. Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of (interim) examinations

#### Article 11.4 Language of instruction and language test

1. The language of instruction is English.
2. The 'Gedragscode vreemde taal' (code of conduct foreign languages) applies.
3. At the start of the first year of study every student must complete a diagnostic language test in the language of instruction of his or her programme.
4. Any student who does not achieve a pass in the language test must take the 'Refresher Course' organized by the Language Desk (Taalloket).
5. The language test is part of the following educational component Project 1 Mediated Reality. A mark can only be determined if the student has successfully completed the requirements of the educational component, including a pass in the language test or completing the Refresher Course.

## 12. Curriculum structure

#### Article 12.1 Academic development

1. Academic development is part of the study programme. This includes:
  - Project 1: Mediated Reality (level 100);
  - Social Research Methodology (level 100);
  - Descriptive and Inferential Statistics (level 100);
  - History of the Social Sciences (level 200);
  - Philosophy of Science (level 200).

#### Article 12.2 Major

1. The major comprises a package of compulsory and possibly optional units of study.
2. In addition, units of study are categorized as introductory (100), in-depth (200) and advanced (300) level.

### Article 12.3 Compulsory educational components of the major

A detailed description per educational component can be found in the Study Guide.

Name of educational component	Course code	Nr of EC	Level
<b>First year</b>			
Introduction to Communication Science	S_ICS	6	100
News and Journalism	S_NJ	6	100
Interpersonal Communication	S_IPCEN	6	200
Behaviour and Communication in Organizations	S_BCO	6	200
Public Relations and Reputation Management	S_PRRM1	6	200
Project 2: Strategic Communication	S_P2SCE	6	200
Mentorship Communication Science Year 1	S_MCS1		
<b>Second year</b>			
Project 3 Effective Persuasion	S_P3EP	6	300
Project 4: Social Media Analytics	S_P4SMAE	6	300
Mentorship Communication Science Year 2	S_MCS2		
Marketing and Persuasive Communication	S_MPCE	6	300
Quantitative Research Methodology	S_QNRM	6	200
Media, Society and Politics	S_MSP	6	300
Risk and Health Communication	S_RHC	6	300
Media Entertainment	S_ME	6	300
SS4S: Choose Networks 1 OR Diversity 1 OR Globalization 1	S_N1 OR S_D1 OR S_G1	6	200
SS4S: Choose Networks 2 OR Diversity 2 OR Globalization 2	S_N2 OR S_D2 OR S_G2	6	300
<b>Third year</b>			
New Media Challenges	S_NMC	6	300
Multivariate Analysis BSc	S_MVAbae	6	300
Bachelor's Thesis Communication Science	S_BTCW	6	300
Mentorship Communication Science Year 3			

### Article 12.4 Participation in practical exercises and tutorials

In the case of practical training or tutorials, the rules about obligatory attendance will be announced in the study guide for that subject on Canvas prior to the start of the teaching period for that subject.

## 13. Electives

### Article 13.1 Elective period

3. The first semester of the third year of the curriculum comprises elective educational components of at least 30 EC.
4. For this elective period, the student can take:
  - a. a minor (a coherent package of related educational components)
  - b. individual choice of at least five educational components at the faculty or elsewhere (in the Netherlands or abroad), of which at least two (12 EC) must be at level 300.
  - c. an internship.
3. Prior consent must be obtained from the Examination Board.
4. The 'free-choice component' may not contain any educational components of level 100. The Examination Board can make an exception by approving a unit of level 100 (6 EC) if this educational component of study is explicitly required in the coherent package of educational components as prior knowledge for another educational component from that package.
5. For an internship, prior approval of the internship coordinator of the program is required. For more information, see the Faculty Regulations for Bachelor's Internships at VUweb.
6. A student can choose electives of the Faculty of Social Sciences without prior permission from the Examination Board, see study guide and VUweb.

#### Article 13.2 Minors

1. The student who meets the admission requirements can take a 'University minor' without prior consent from the Examination Board. The 'University minors' are listed on the VU website.
2. The student can take one of the following minors without prior consent from the Examination Board:
  - Anthropology;
  - Bestuurswetenschap;
  - Organisatiewetenschap;
  - Sociologie.

## 14. Honours programme

#### Article 14.1 Honours components

The components of the honours programme offered by the faculty or the programme are:

Name of educational component	Course code	Nr of EC	Level
HP Big Data Meets Small Data	S_HPBDMSD	6	400
HP Research Project in Communication Science	S_HRPCW	6	300

## 15. Binding recommendation on continuation of studies (BSA)

#### Article 15.1 Binding (negative) recommendation

1. In order to obtain a positive recommendation on continuation of studies, the student must have obtained at least 42 EC by the end of the first year of enrolment.
2. Students who receive a binding negative recommendation on continuation of studies cannot enroll in the following Bachelor's programme(s) offered by the Faculty during the subsequent three academic years:
  - Communicatiewetenschap.

## 16. Evaluation and transitional provisions

#### Article 16.1 Evaluation of the education

1. The education provided in this programme is evaluated in accordance with the evaluation plan in Appendix I. The faculty evaluation plan offers the framework.

#### Article 16.2 Transitional provisions

By way of departure from the Teaching and Examination Regulations currently in force, the transitional provisions in Appendix II apply for students who started the programme under a previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations.

Advice and approval by the Programme Committee, on 22 March 2021.

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly, on 3 June 2021.

Adopted by the board of the Faculty of Social Sciences on 14 June 2021.



## Appendix I Evaluation plan Bachelor Communicatiewetenschap

FSW periodically evaluates the education in the programmes. Evaluations are an important instrument to look at what goes well in education and what can be improved. FSW evaluates according to the PDCA cycle (Plan-Do-Act-Check) the continuous improvement of education in the programmes. The results of quantitative and qualitative evaluations contribute to this. The Programme Committees meet to discuss the results of these evaluations and make suggestions on how to improve education at course and programme level (e.g. curriculum or minor). The OER stipulates that programme committees have the right to consent to the manner of evaluation. As a result, the programme directors annually provide an evaluation plan in which the methods of evaluation and the cyclical evaluation process are made clear. As of September 2021, this will be the case for the bachelor's and master's programmes in Master's programmes Communication Sciences:

### What does the programme evaluate?

Courses. B. Lecturers C. Curriculum (whole/part). D. Connection to the labour market

#### A. Courses

**Methods:** (1). Student evaluation of course via questionnaire, (2). Discussion OLC, (3) Focus groups students, (4) Course file/examination board, (5) Tests sample.

**When:** (1) & (2). After completion of course, (3) per semester, (4) after handing in course file, (5) if course falls in sample.

**Who:** (1). SOZ, (2) & (3). OPD/OPC, (4) Examination Board/OWB, (5) Examination Board

**Follow-up:** (1) through (5) Points for improvement are feedback to lecturers from OPD/OPC, lecturer records points for improvement in course file and provides feedback on Canvas.

#### B. Teachers

**Methods:** (1). Student evaluation of course (questions about the instructor), (2). Overall evaluation prior to annual appraisal (and promotion) (3) Intervention .

**When:** (1). After completion of course, (2). 1 x per year (3). Annually or on lecturers initiative.

**Who:** (1). SOZ, (2). Supervisor and/or OPD, (3).lecturer/coordinator intervention.

**Follow-up:** (1), (2) and (3). Lecturer records points of improvement in course file, (3). Lecturer adopts points of improvement, possibly in consultation with OPD/OPC.

#### C. Curriculum

**Methods:** (1) student focus groups, (2) Interview with teaching team, (3) Annual report

**When:** (1) each semester (2) occasionally, (3) annually

**Who:** (1) OPD/OPC (2) OPD/lecturers, (3) OPD/OPC

**Follow-up:** (1) Points for improvement are fed back by OPD/OPC (2) Assessment plan is revised in team meeting in autumn and curriculum improvements implemented, (3) Action points following administrative consultation with faculty board.

#### D. Connection to the labour market

**Methods:** (1). Field advisory board, (2) Incidental consultations with stakeholders, (3) Alumni survey.

**When:** (1). 1 x per year, (2) & (3) incidental

**Who:** (1) OPD, (2) & (3) Stakeholder coordinator

**Follow-up:** (1) Minutes and action points frequent meetings of field advisory council, in which alumni also participate. This is shared with OLC (2 & 3) Improvement points are fed back by OPD/OPC/Coordinator.

## Appendix II Transition Table Bachelor's track in Communication Science

### Transition Table 2021-2022

Course in 2020-2021 (or before)	Replacement course in 2021-2022
HP Students for a Future Society	HP Big Data meets Small Data

### Transition Table 2020-2021

Subject (in 2019-2020 or before)	Replacement subject (2020-2021)
Sociology of Social Science	History of the Social Sciences

## Appendix III Addendum Pertaining to the 2021-2022 Teaching and Examination Regulations

### Bachelor TER, Section B1: Programme-specific section

#### Article 8.1 Additional prior education requirements

<p>Supplementary to paragraph 4, students from institutes of higher professional education (HBO) who are preparing for the first-year examination will be admitted to the Bachelor's programme, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The student can provide a positive advisory on completion from his/her HBO institution, which must be provided to Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU) by no later than 1 August 2021.</li><li>• The student must still pass no more than one teaching unit of the first year of HBO, or in the case that more than one teaching unit must still be passed, these must be worth no more than 6 EC credits.</li></ul> <p>If the student has not passed the first-year examination of an HBO Bachelor's programme at the latest by 31 December 2021, the student's registration for a Bachelor's programme at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam will be terminated.</p>	<p>Based on amended Section 7:37c WHW</p> <p>University Student Council's advice on policy (9:33a WHW, second paragraph)</p> <p>Advice of the OLC on each programme via the Teaching and Examination Regulations</p>
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#### Explanatory notes:

Article 8.1 Additional prior education requirements

A supplement applies to Article 8.1. The aim is to prevent students from being unable to commence their university Bachelor's programme next academic year because, as a result of the coronavirus crisis, they have not had the opportunity to complete their first year of HBO before 1 September 2021 due to having been unable to complete one or more subjects. This provision applies to Dutch and other EEA students who, during the 2020-2021 academic year, were unable to complete their first year of HBO before 1 September 2021 and who have not previously registered for the relevant degree programme.