

**Teaching and Examination Regulations**  
**MASTER's Degree Programme Philosophy**  
**(2 year)**

A. Faculty section

B. Model programme-specific section

Academic year 2014-2015

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## Section A: faculty section

### 1. General provisions

#### Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations

1. These Regulations apply to the teaching and examinations for the Master's degree programmes:
  - Philosophy of History
  - Philosophy of the Natural Sciences
  - Philosophy of Bioethics, and Health
  - Philosophy of Education
  - Philosophy of Law(hereinafter referred to as: the degree programme) provided by the Faculty of Humanities (hereinafter referred to as: the Faculty) of VU University Amsterdam.
2. These Regulations consist of a faculty section (A) and a programme-specific section (B). Section A contains general provisions and applies to the teaching and examinations of the Master's degree programmes of the Faculty. Section B contains programme-specific provisions. Together, Sections A and B form the Teaching and Examination Regulations for the programme.
3. The Regulations can be declared to apply *mutatis mutandis* to the joint degree programmes and units of study, pursuant to Section 7.3c of the WHW, also provided by the faculty.
4. These Regulations apply to anyone enrolled in the programme, irrespective of the academic year in which the student was first enrolled in the programme.
5. Section B of these Teaching and Examination Regulations may contain additional general provisions for the relevant degree programme.

#### Article 1.2 Definitions

The following definitions are used in these Regulations:

- a. EC (European Credit) an credit with a workload of 28 hours of study;
- b examination: the final examination of the Master's programme;
- c. fraud and plagiarism: the student's acts or failures to act which make it wholly or partially impossible to accurately judge his/her knowledge, understanding and skills;
- d. 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 degree programme (a degree programme, a major or a specific curriculum within a degree programme) for which the collaborating institutions are jointly responsible;
- e. component: a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;
- f. period: a part of a semester;
- g. practical exercise: the participation in a practical training or other educational learning activity, aimed at acquiring certain (academic) skills. Examples of practical exercises are:
  - o researching and writing a thesis
  - o carrying out a research assignment
  - o taking part in fieldwork or an excursion
  - o taking part in another educational learning activity aimed at acquiring specific skills or participating in and completing a work placement
- h. programme: the totality and cohesion of the course components, teaching activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and recommended literature;
- i. thesis: a component comprising literature research and/or a contribution to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;
- j. SIS the Student Information System;
- k. course catalogue: the guide for the degree programme that provides further details of the provisions and other information specific to that programme. The course catalogue is available electronically at [www...](#);

l. workload:	the workload of the unit of study to which an interim examination applies, expressed in terms of credits = EC. (The workload for 1 year (1,680 hours) is 60 EC credits);
m. academic year:	the period beginning on 1 September and ending on 31 August of the following calendar year;
n. 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 examination may consist of one or more partial examinations. A resit always covers the same material as the original interim examination;
o. Admissions Board	the committee that assesses, on behalf of the faculty board/, whether a candidate meets the requirements for admission to the Master's degree programme of his/her choice. If there is no Admissions Board appointed for the degree programme, the Examinations Board (within the meaning of Section 7.12 of the WHW) functions as Admissions Board;
p. University:	VU University Amsterdam
q. WHW:	the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act ( <i>Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek</i> , WHW);
r. programme charter:	the part of the Student Charter specific to the programme in accordance with Section 7.59 of the WHW.

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

## 2. Previous education and admission

### Article 2.1 Previous education

1. In order to qualify for enrolment in a Master's degree programme, a Bachelor's degree obtained in academic higher education (WO) is required. The requirements that the Bachelor's degree must meet are specified in Section B.
2. In the event that a candidate does not have a Bachelor's degree as referred to in paragraph 1, the Admissions Board of the degree programme will assess suitability for admission to the programme on the basis of the requirements stipulated in Section B.
3. In order to qualify for enrolment in a Master's degree programme for teaching in pre-university education, the individual concerned must have been awarded the Master's degree in the relevant subject area, pursuant to Section 7.10a of the WHW.

### Article 2.2 Registration and enrolment

1. The deadline for registering for the Master's programme is stipulated in Article 3.4 (Section B).
2. After registering on time, the student must enrol before 1 September or, if applicable, before 1 February.

### Article 2.3 Faculty Admissions Board

The faculty board will establish one or more Admissions Boards. The faculty board will appoint its members after consultation with the programme directors and examinations boards of the relevant degree programmes.

### Article 2.4 Admissions procedure

1. The Admissions Board is responsible for admission to the programme.
2. With a view to admission to the programme, the Admissions Board assesses the candidate's knowledge, understanding and skills. The Board may request experts within or outside the University to test certain types of knowledge, understanding and skills, in order to supplement written evidence of the programme/programmes the student has already completed. In its assessment, the Board includes knowledge of the language in which the programme will be taught.
3. Candidates receive either confirmation of admission or a negative decision. An appeal against a negative decision can be lodged with the Examination Appeals Board within six weeks.

### Article 2.5 Refusal or termination of enrolment (*unsuitability/judicium abeundi*)

1. Based on the provisions of Section 7.42a of the WHW, the faculty board or the Examinations Board may, in exceptional cases, ask the Executive Board to terminate or refuse a student's enrolment in a programme, if that student's actions or remarks show that he/she is unsuitable either for practising one or more of the professions for which the programme in question is preparing the student or for the practical preparation for professional practice.
2. If a student is suspected of being unsuitable as described in paragraph 1, the Examinations Board or the faculty board will institute an inquiry, of which the student will be informed immediately. The Examinations Board or the faculty board will not issue any recommendation without carefully considering the interests involved and giving the student the opportunity to be heard.

### 3. Degree programme structure

#### Article 3.1 Structure of academic year

1. Every degree 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.

#### Article 3.2 Organisation of the programme

1. The programme comprises the units of study included in Section B.
2. The size of the degree programme in EC is stipulated in Section B.
3. A unit of study comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.
4. By way of exception to paragraph 3, Section B may stipulate that a unit of study comprises 3 EC.
5. The programme is made up of compulsory part and an individual Master's thesis or academic work placement and, if applicable, a subject-specific optional component as specified in more detail in the programme-specific section.
6. If the student wishes to choose a different unit of study than those stipulated in Section B as part of his/her electives, prior permission is required from the Examinations Board.
7. If students must sign up for participation in a unit of study, this will only be possible in the periods designated for that purpose.

### 4. Examinations

#### Article 4.1 Signing up for examinations

1. Every student must sign up for every examination opportunity. The procedure for signing up is described in the course catalogue. Participation in the examination will be refused if the student does not sign up or fails to do so in time.
2. When a student is not able to meet the requirements of paragraph 1 due to serious personal circumstances, the student can appeal to the hardship clause of article 6.1.
3. By way of exception to the provisions of paragraph 1, any student who has correctly signed up for participation in the instruction/classes for a particular course and has been admitted will also be signed up for the subsequent examination, unless the degree programme stipulates a different approach.

#### Article 4.2 Type of examination

1. Section B stipulates the way in which a unit of study is concluded and the form any examination will take.
2. At the student's request, the Examinations Board may permit a different form of examination than that stipulated in the course catalogue. If applicable, more detailed regulations on this are included in the Rules and Guidelines for the Examinations Board.
3. In the case of a unit of study that is no longer offered, in the academic year following its termination, at least one opportunity will be provided to sit the examination(s) or parts thereof and a transitional arrangement will be included in the programme-specific section for the subsequent period.

#### Article 4.3 Oral examinations

1. Unless otherwise specified for the relevant unit of study in Section B, no more than one student will be examined orally at the same time.
2. An oral examination is public unless the Examinations Board or examiner determines otherwise in an exceptional case. A student may submit a reasoned request to the

Examinations Board to depart from the public nature of the oral examination. The Examinations Board will balance the interests of the student against the interests of a public examination.

3. Unless otherwise specified by the Examinations Board, an oral examination will be taken in the presence of a second examiner or recorded.

#### Article 4.4 Determining and announcing results

1. The examiner determines the result (= mark) of a written examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within ten working days. Contrary to the provisions of the first sentence, the marking deadline for theses and final assignments 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 (= mark) of an oral examination as soon as the examination has finished and informs the student accordingly. The third sentence of the first paragraph applies.
3. In the case of alternative forms of oral or written examinations, the Examinations Board determines in advance how and by what deadline the student will be informed of the results.
4. Together with the result of an examination, the student's attention will also be drawn to their right to inspect the assessed work and have a post-examination discussion as stipulated in Articles 4.8 and 4.9, as well as his/her option to appeal to the Examinations Appeals Board (Cobex).
5. A student may lodge an appeal against the way in which the result was reached with the Examination Appeals Board within six weeks of the announcement of the result.

#### Article 4.5 Resits

1. An opportunity will be offered to resit examinations in the degree programme once in each academic year.
2. Paragraph 1 does not apply in the case of a fail for a work placement or a thesis. The options for retaking work placements and theses are detailed in the relevant work placement manual or thesis regulations.
3. A student may retake both pass as a fail. Units without a scheduled final exam, such as papers and essays are not allowed to resit.
4. The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit, even if the retake grade is lower than the original figure .
5. The resit for an examination must not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the result of the examination being resit.

#### Article 4.6 Marks

1. Marks are given on a scale from 1 to 10.
2. Marks are given with 0 or 5 after the point.
3. Marks between 5 and 6 will be rounded: 0,1 to 0,4 will be rounded down and 0,5 to 0,9 will be levelled up.

#### Article 4.7 Exemption

1. At the written request of the student, the Examinations Board may exempt the student from taking one or more examination components, if the student:
  - a) has passed a course component of a university or higher professional education programme that is equivalent in both content and level; or
  - 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 Examinations Board will make a decision within twenty working days of receiving the written request.
3. This exemption does not apply to the Master's thesis.

#### Article 4.8 Validity period for results

1. The validity period of examinations passed and examination exemptions is limited to 10 years, unless otherwise specified in Section B.

2. The validity period of a an interim examination is limited to the academic year in which it was sat or until the end of the course concerned, as stipulated for the relevant units of study in Section B.
3. The Examinations Board can extend the limited validity period of an examination or exemption if a student submits a reasoned request to that effect. The Examinations Board can decide to permit the extension of the validity only after the individual making the request has successfully completed a supplementary examination on the relevant subject matter.

#### Article 4.9 Right of inspection

1. For at least twenty working days after the announcement of the results of a written examination, the student can, on request, inspect his/her assessed work, the questions and assignments set, as well as the standards applied for marking.
2. The Examinations Board can determine that the inspection or post-examination discussion referred to in paragraph 1 take place exclusively at a specified place and at a specified time. The place and time referred to in the previous clause will be announced at the time of the examination and on the faculty website.
3. If the student was unable to attend at the place and time referred to in paragraph 2 through no fault of his/her own, an alternative option will be offered.
4. If a student intends to appeal against the way in which his/her mark was assessed, he/she can be issued with a copy of the marked work at his/her request.

#### Article 4.10 Post-examination discussion

1. If a collective post-examination discussion has been organised, individual post-examination discussions will be held only if the student has attended the collective discussion or if he/she was unable to attend the collective discussion through no fault of his/her own.
2. Students who meet the requirements stipulated in the first paragraph can submit a request for an individual post-examination discussion to the relevant examiner. The discussion will take place at a time and location to be determined by the examiner.

#### Article 4.11 Master's final examination

1. The Examinations Board determines the final examination result and the date on which the student obtains his/her degree after it has been established that the student has passed all the units of study belonging to the programme.
2. A diploma can only be awarded after the Executive Board has declared that the student has satisfied all the procedural requirements, including the payment of tuition fees.
3. The Executive Board stipulates that the official graduation date will always be on the final working day of the month.

#### Article 4.12 Diplomas and transcripts

1. The Examinations Board grants a diploma as proof that the student has passed his/her final examination. The Executive Board sets the model for the diploma. The Examinations Board adds a diploma supplement to the diploma providing information on the nature and content of the degree programme completed. The diploma supplement is drawn up in Dutch or English and complies with the European format.
2. Individuals who have successfully completed more than one or more components of the programme and who cannot be awarded a diploma as stipulated in paragraph 1 will, on request, receive a statement to be issued by the relevant Examinations Board stating at least the components that have been successfully completed together with the units of study they involved, the number of EC obtained and the way in which the examinations were taken.
3. The student can, without needing to provide reasons, request that the Examinations Board not proceed to award a diploma, unless the student him-/herself submitted the request for its issue.

#### Article 4.13 Fraud and plagiarism

1. The provisions of the Rules and Guidelines for the Examinations Board apply in full.
2. Electronic detection software programs may be used to detect plagiarism in texts. In submitting a text, the student implicitly consents to the text being entered into the database of the detection program concerned.

## 5. Study supervision 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 in VUnet. After the assessment of an examination component has been registered, every student has the right to inspect the result for that component via VUnet and also has a list of the results achieved at his/her disposal in VUnet.
2. Enrolled students are eligible for academic student counselling. The types of academic student counselling available are listed in Section B.

#### Article 5.2 Adaptations for students with a disability

1. A student with a disability can submit a written request to the study adviser to qualify for special adaptations with regard to teaching, practical training and examinations. These adaptations will accommodate the student's individual disability as much as possible, but may not alter the quality or degree of difficulty of a course or an examination. In all cases, the student must fulfil the exit qualifications for the degree programme.
2. The request referred to in the first paragraph must be accompanied by a recommendation from a student counsellor. The recommendation must be no more than twelve weeks old and must in part be based on a recent statement from a physician or psychologist.
3. The faculty board] or, on its behalf, the College/Graduate School director or the programme director decides on the adaptations concerning the teaching facilities and logistics. The Examinations Board will rule on requests for adaptations with regard to examinations.
4. In the event of a positive decision in response to a request as referred to in paragraph 1, the student will make an appointment with the study adviser to discuss the details of the provisions.
5. A request for adaptations will be refused if it would place a disproportionate burden on the organisation or the resources of the faculty or university were it to be upheld.
6. If the disability justifies an extension to the time in which the examination may be sat, the Examinations Board will issue a statement testifying to this entitlement to an extension. If a disability justifies other measures being taken, the study adviser can initiate the necessary measures/issue a Disability Provisions Pass. The pass will indicate the provisions to which the individual involved is entitled.
7. The statement referred to in paragraph 6 is valid for a maximum period of one year. The period of validity can be extended on the recommendation of a student counsellor.

## 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 degree programme will decide, unless the matter concerned is the responsibility of the Examinations Board.

Revisie Artikel 4.5 n.a.v. Gemeenschappelijke Vergadering, d.d. 28 oktober 2014

## **Section B: Programme-specific section**

### **1. General provisions**

#### **Article 1.1 Definitions**

See section A, article 1.2.

#### **Article 1.2 Degree programme information**

1. The programme Master Philosophy 2 year CROHO number 60823 is offered on a full-time and part-time basis and the language of instruction is English.
- 1a. The part-time programme has a nominal study duration of 4 years.
2. The programme has a workload of 120 EC.
3. A unit of study comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.

#### **Article 1.3 Intake dates**

The programme is offered starting in the first semester of the academic year only 1 September. The intake date mentioned in this paragraph ensure(s) that a programme can be completed within the nominal study duration set for the programme.

### **2. Programme objectives and exit qualifications**

#### **Article 2.1 Programme objective**

2. Aims subprograms:

General aims

- a) to acquire knowledge of and insight into the historical-systematic character of philosophy to the extent that this is relevant for practicing philosophy of an academic discipline;
- b) to acquire a broad basic knowledge of, and insight into, a certain/specific academic discipline;
- c) to deliver written and oral presentations of a philosophical nature;
- d) to elucidate orally and in writing the (implicit) philosophical aspects of discussions within and about sciences, related to key concepts, crucial arguments and presuppositions;
- e) to prepare him-/herself for a PhD program in philosophy;
- f) to prepare him-/herself for a continuing program in order to become a teacher of philosophy at high schools and vocational colleges as far as is relevant for practicing the philosophy of an academic area or profession.

Aims sub-programmes:

I. The track *Philosophy of an academic discipline*:

Students who already have a BA degree in philosophy ought to acquire sufficient knowledge of, and insight into, another academic discipline than Philosophy. Students who due to their previous education, already have a broad basic knowledge of, and insight into, an academic discipline other than Philosophy, ought to acquire sufficient knowledge of, and insight into philosophy.

The Master program aims at enabling students:

- a) to acquire a thorough knowledge of, and insight into, the major components of philosophy of an academic discipline, their foundations, methods, socio-cultural significance and ethical implications;
- b) to acquire a deeper and specialized knowledge of, and insight into, a number of present-day problematic topics or views within the philosophy of science and the philosophy of a certain academic discipline other than Philosophy, in order to teach the student how to make his/her own contribution to discussions at national and international levels;
- c) to carry out independent research, to formulate a problematic issue, to participate in a (scientific)philosophical debate, adding one's own contribution by means of a robust philosophical treatise about central themes of an academic discipline, also in relation to wider philosophical issues and views;
- d) to apply in a fruitful manner philosophical skills, knowledge and insights within the context of a practice or profession, in which the nature of the sciences and their socio-cultural and normative significance are relevant, and by so doing, to contribute to reaching an appropriate judgment;
- e) to be prepared for a professional practice where knowledge, insights and skills related to philosophy of an academic discipline have an added value;

- f) to be prepared for any professional practice where general academic skills are required; there is special emphasis on developing the student's powers of abstraction, creativity, heuristic skills, analytic powers and expressive fluency.

## II. The track *Philosophy, Bioethics and Health*

Cognitive competences that students acquire on this programme include knowledge of:

- a) various normative ethical theories; theory and methodology of empirical ethics research;
- b) recent developments in moral psychology, psychiatry and neuroscience and their relevance for moral philosophy and medical ethics;
- c) methodological, legal, and moral issues regarding medical research involving human subjects;
- d) the role of the state, insurance companies, health-care providers and patients in various health-care systems; factors influencing costs of health care;

Behavioral competences that students acquire on this program include:

- a) participating in moral case deliberation;
- b) integrating ethical reasoning, daily practices and legal rules and regulations;
- c) assessing the quality of cure and care;
- d) writing texts, documents and background analyses to inform professionals, executive boards and participants in multidisciplinary discussions.

### Article 2.2 Exit qualifications

In all events, a graduate of the degree programme will have the following:

1. thorough knowledge and understanding in the field of the theoretical foundation in the subjects that are presented in the chosen track (Philosophy of History, Philosophy of the Natural Sciences, Philosophy of Bioethics and Health, Philosophy of Education, Philosophy of Law);
2. the capacity to think and act independently and in an academic way;
3. the capacity to use his/her knowledge of the discipline in a broader, philosophical and social context;
4. the capacity to demonstrate his/her competence both orally and in writing, in expressing, presenting and reporting relevant insights in a clear and succinct way.

The level of the program is such that those who have completed it successfully will be qualified to enroll for a Ph.D. program.

## 3. Further admission requirements

### Article 3.1 Admission requirements

1. Admission to the Master's programme is possible for an individual who can demonstrate that he/she has the following knowledge, understanding and skills at the Bachelor's degree level, obtained at an institution of academic higher education:
  - a. Knowledge and understanding:
    - broad knowledge of historical philosophy, theoretical philosophy and practical philosophy (knowledge in context, this is the theme of the bachelor's program);
    - in-depth knowledge and understanding of one of the three sub disciplines of philosophy.
  - b. Academic skills:
    - academic skills that meet the requirements of a university bachelor;
    - basic skills for conducting independent research at a later stage;
    - philosophical skills: analyzing philosophical texts, oral formulation of philosophical thoughts, formulating philosophical insights in writing.
  - c. Philosophical skills aimed at a non-philosophical context:
    - clarifying the implicit philosophical aspects of non-written (explicit-) philosophical discussions: concepts, arguments, assumptions;
    - encouraging and guiding philosophical reflection in those who are not philosophical educated about philosophical and / or normative questions, who live within a certain professional or other practical situation.
2. The Admissions Board will investigate whether the interested person meets the admission requirements.
3. In addition to the requirements referred to in the first paragraph, the Board will also assess requests for admission in terms of talent and motivation.
4. Any individual who has obtained a Dutch Bachelor's degree in academic higher education on Philosophy meets the requirements referred to in paragraph 1.

5. If the intended Master's programme includes different programmes, a successfully completed specialisation or minor in the Bachelor's programme may be required for admission to each of the different programmes.
6. When the programme commences, the candidate must have fully completed the Bachelor's programme or pre-Master's programme allowing admission to this Master's programme.

### Article 3.2 Pre-Master's programme

1. Students with a Bachelor's degree in a field that corresponds to a sufficient extent with the subject area covered by the Master's programme can request admission to the pre-Master's programme.
2. The pre-Master's programme for students with an academic Bachelor degree comprises 30 EC and is made up of the following units of study:
  - a. Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of Bioethics and Health
    - Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
    - Sociale en politieke filosofie (W\_BA\_SPF, 6 EC)
    - Sociale en culturele filosofie (W\_BA\_SCF, 6 EC)
    - Filosofische Antropologie I (W\_BA\_ANTR1, 6 EC)
    - Epistemologie (W\_BA\_EPIS, 6 EC)
  - Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of History
    - Academische Kern: Wetenschapsfilosofie I (W\_BA\_WETF1, 6 EC)
    - Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
    - Sociale en politieke filosofie (W\_BA\_SPF, 6 EC)
    - Sociale en culturele filosofie (W\_BA\_SCF, 6EC)
    - Philosophy and Islam (W\_FIL\_ISL, 6 EC)
  - Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of Natural Sciences
    - Academische Kern: Wetenschapsfilosofie I (W\_BA\_WETF1, 6 EC)
    - Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
    - Academische Kern: Kritisch redeneren / Academische vaardigheden (W\_BA\_KRAV, 6EC)
    - Ontologie (W\_BA\_ONT, 6 EC)
    - Logica (W\_INL\_LOG, 6 EC)
  - Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of Education
    - Academische Kern: Wetenschapsfilosofie I (W\_BA\_WETF1, 6 EC)
    - Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
    - Sociale en culturele filosofie (W\_BA\_SCF, 6EC)
    - Filosofische Antropologie I (W\_BA\_ANTR1, 6 EC)
    - Philosophical Anthropology II (W\_BA\_ANTR2, 6 EC)
  - Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of Law
    - Academische Kern: Wetenschapsfilosofie I (W\_BA\_WETF1, 6 EC)
    - Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
    - Boeken van belang: Encyclopedie der rechtswetenschap I (R\_EncyclI, 6 EC)
    - Wijsgerige vorming: Encyclopedie der rechtswetenschap II (R\_EncyclII, 6 EC)
    - Bachelor scriptie (Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid) (R\_B2scriptie, 6 EC)
- The pre-Master's programme for students with a HBO (University of applied sciences) Bachelor degree comprises 60 EC and is made up of the following units of study:
  - b. Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of Bioethics and Health
    - Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
    - Hedendaagse Filosofie (W\_BA\_HEDF, 6 EC)
    - Academische Kern: Kritisch redeneren / Academische vaardigheden (W\_BA\_KRAV, 6EC)
    - Sociale en politieke filosofie (W\_BA\_SPF, 6 EC)
    - Sociale en culturele filosofie (W\_BA\_SCF, 6 EC)
    - Filosofische Antropologie I (W\_BA\_ANTR1, 6 EC)
    - Academische Kern: Methoden van wijsgerig onderzoek (W\_BA\_MWO, 6 EC)
    - Epistemologie (W\_BA\_EPIS, 6 EC)
  - Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of History
    - Academische Kern: Wetenschapsfilosofie I (W\_BA\_WETF1, 6 EC)
    - Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)

- Sociale en politieke filosofie (W\_BA\_SPF, 6 EC)
- Sociale en culturele filosofie (W\_BA\_SCF, 6EC)
- Philosophy and Islam (W\_FIL\_ISL, 6 EC)

Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of Natural Sciences

- Academische Kern: Wetenschapsfilosofie I (W\_BA\_WETF1, 6 EC)
- Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
- Academische Kern: Kritisch redeneren / Academische vaardigheden (W\_BA\_KRAV, 6EC)
- Ontologie (W\_BA\_ONT, 6 EC)
- Logica (W\_INL\_LOG, 6 EC)

Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of Education

- Academische Kern: Wetenschapsfilosofie I (W\_BA\_WETF1, 6 EC)
- Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
- Sociale en culturele filosofie (W\_BA\_SCF, 6EC)
- Filosofische Antropologie I (W\_BA\_ANTR1, 6 EC)
- Philosophical Anthropology II (W\_BA\_ANTR2, 6 EC)

Premaster Philosophy 2 year track Philosophy of Law

- Academische Kern: Wetenschapsfilosofie I (W\_BA\_WETF1, 6 EC)
- Filosofische Ethiek I (W\_BA\_ETH1, 6 EC)
- Boeken van belang: Encyclopedie der rechtswetenschap I (R\_EncyclI, 6 EC)
- Wijsgerige vorming: Encyclopedie der rechtswetenschap II (R\_EncyclII, 6 EC)
- Bachelor scriptie (Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid) (R\_B2scriptie, 6 EC)

3. Proof of a successfully completed pre-Master's programme serves as proof of admission to the Master's programme specified within it in the subsequent academic year.
4. Pre-master programmes of 60 EC must be completed within 2 academic years, pre-master programmes of 30 EC must be completed within 1 academic year.
5. The Examination Board can make an exception to the stipulations found in paragraph 3 and 4.

### Article 3.3 Limited programme capacity

Not applicable

### Article 3.4 Final deadline for registration

A candidate must submit a request to be admitted to the programme through Studielink before 1 May in the case of Dutch students, before 1 April in the case of EU students and before 1 February in the case of non-EU students. Under exceptional circumstances, the Examinations Board may consider a request submitted after this closing date.

### Article 3.5 English language requirement for English-language Master's programmes

1. The proficiency requirement in English as the language of instruction can be met by the successful completion of one of the following examinations or an equivalent:
  - IELTS: 6.5
  - TOEFL paper based test: 580
  - TOEFL internet based test: 92-93
  - Cambridge Advanced English: A, B or C.
2. Exemption is granted from the examination in English referred to in the first paragraph to students who, within two years of the start of the programme:
  - met the requirements of the VU test in English language proficiency TOEFL ITP, with at least the scores specified in paragraph 1, or
  - had previous education in secondary or tertiary education in an English-speaking country as listed on the UvA / VU website, or
  - have an English-language 'international baccalaureate' diploma

### Article 3.6 Free curriculum

1. Subject to certain conditions, the student has the option of compiling a curriculum of his/her own choice which deviates from the curricula prescribed by the programme.
2. The concrete details of such a curriculum must be approved beforehand by the most appropriate Examinations Board.
3. The free curriculum is put together by the student from the units of study offered by VU University Amsterdam and must at least have the size, breadth and depth of a regular Master's programme.

## 4. Curriculum structure

### Article 4.1 Composition of programme

1. The programme consists of the following components:

#### A. Philosophy 2 year: Track Philosophy of an academic discipline

First year:

- Students combine their Master's in another discipline than Philosophy with three compulsory courses in Philosophy (to the extent that over-all the programme of the first year includes the amount of 60 EC). They follow these courses when other students do their practical training and/or work on their thesis. In case the student does not combine the master with a non-philosophical master, their program needs to be approved by the examination board.
- Students who have a Bachelor's in Philosophy will follow two literary courses and complete a paper. Students who have a Bachelor in another discipline than Philosophy will follow three compulsory courses.

Second year:

- The second year consists of two compulsory courses (12 EC), two courses in philosophy of an academic discipline in the corresponding field of the master that is combined with this master, two elective courses (12 EC), a literary course (6 EC), thesis (18 EC). The student who wishes to combine the thesis with the thesis of the master that is combined with this master first needs to obtain prior written permission from the Examination Board.

#### B. Philosophy 2 year: Track Philosophy, Bioethics, and Health

First year:

- Students combine their Master's in another discipline than Philosophy with three compulsory courses in Philosophy (to the extent that over-all the programme of the first year includes the amount of 60 EC). They follow these courses when other students do their practical training and/or work on their thesis. In case the student does not combine the master with a non-philosophical master, their program needs to be approved by the examination board.
- Students who have a Bachelor's in Philosophy, can take a modified two-year program. In the first year, they will follow a range of complementary courses, preferably in the fields of Health Sciences, Social Sciences and Law, though other combinations may be possible. The program needs to be approved by the Examination board.

Second year:

- The second year consists of four thematic courses (24 EC), a seminar including a winter school (6 EC), a practical training course (12 ECTS), and a literature survey and thesis (18 ECTS). The student who wishes to combine the thesis with the thesis of the master that is combined with this master first needs to obtain prior written permission from the Examination Board.

### Article 4.2 Compulsory units of study

The compulsory units of study are:

#### A. Philosophy 2 year: Track Philosophy of an academic discipline

Name of course component	Course code	Credits	Period	Level
Literatuurstudie wijsbegeerte van een wetenschapsgebied I*	W_MALS_WG1	6	5	500
Literatuurstudie wijsbegeerte van een wetenschapsgebied II*	W_MALS_WG2	6	5	500
Werkstuk wijsbegeerte van een wetenschapsgebied*	W_MAWS_WG	6	6	500
Wetenschapsfilosofie II**	W_BA_WETF2	6	2	300
Philosophical Ethics II**	W_BA_ETH2	6	5	300
Academische context: Methoden van wijsgerig onderzoek**	W_BA_MWO	6	4	200
Master Course History of Philosophy	W_MA_HP	6	1	500
Master Course Theoretical Philosophy	W_MA_THP	6	2	500
Philosophy of an academic discipline I (in the corresponding field)	-	6	1	
Philosophy of an academic discipline II (in the	-	6	2	

corresponding field)				
Thesis	W_MA2TH	18		600

\*For students who have a Bachelor degree in Philosophy.

\*\* For students who have a Bachelor degree in another field than Philosophy

#### B. Philosophy 2 year: Track Philosophy, Bioethics, and Health

Name of course component	Course code	Credits	Period	Level
Health and disease in context	AB_470147	6	4	
Philosophical anthropology II	W_BA_ANTR2	6	5	400
Philosophical ethics II	W_BA_ETH2	6	5	400
Philosophy of mind, life and death	W_MASP_PBH1	6	1	500
Ethics of medical research	W_MASP_PBH2	6	1	500
Ethics, public policy, and politics	W_MASP_PBH3	6	2	500
Moral reasoning in health care	W_MASP_PBH4	6	2	500
Seminar PBH	W_MASE_PBH	6	3	600
Practical training	W_MAPT_PBH	6	4	500
Thesis	W_MA2TH	18	5/6	600

#### Article 4.3 Practical exercise

Not applicable

#### Article 4.4 Electives

The student can take the following electives:

##### A. Philosophy 2 year: Track Philosophy of an academic discipline

Name of course component	Course code	Credits	Period	Level
Specialization course in History of Philosophy	W_MASP_HF014	6	4	600
Specialization course in History of Philosophy	W_MASP_HF015	6	4	600
Specialization course in Theoretical Philosophy	W_MASP_TF013	6	4	600
Specialization course in Theoretical Philosophy	W_MASP_TF014	6	4	600
Specialization course in Practical Philosophy	W_MASP_PF006	6	4	600
non-philosophical courses	-	42	1 t/m 6	-

##### B. Philosophy 2 year: Track Philosophy, Bioethics, and Health

Name of course component	Course code	Credits	Period	Level
non-philosophical courses	-	42	1 t/m 6	-

If the student wishes to take a different course than the units of study listed, advance permission must be obtained in writing from the Examinations Board.

#### Article 4.5 Sequence of examinations

Not applicable

#### Article 4.6 Participation in practical exercise and tutorials

1. In the case of a practical training, the student must attend at least 80% of the practical sessions. Should the student attend less than 80 %, he/she must repeat the practical training, or the Examinations Board may have one or more supplementary assignments issued.
2. In the case of tutorials with assignments, the student must attend at least 80 % of the tutorials. Should the student attend less than 80 %, he/she must repeat the study group, or the Examinations Board may have one or more supplementary assignments issued.
3. In exceptional circumstances, the Examinations Board may, at the request of the student, permit an exemption from this requirement if, in the opinion of the Board, the assessment of the intended skills is also possible with a lesser percentage of participation, with or without the imposition of supplementary requirements.

#### Article 4.7 Maximum exemption

Apart from the thesis (18EC), a maximum of 102 EC of the curriculum can be accumulated through granted exemptions.

#### Article 4.8 Validity period for results

The validity period of examinations and exemptions from examinations is limited, as follows:

1. The validity of examination results and exemptions from examinations is unlimited.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the first paragraph, the Examination Board may require an additional or replacement examination before the student is admitted to the examination if a passing grade was earned more than six years ago.
3. The validity of the results of a constituent examination is limited to the academic year in which it took place, unless the programme-specific section for the relevant educational unit states otherwise.
4. The Examination Board may extend the limited validity of an examination or exemption if a student submits a request stating reasons to this effect. The Examination Board may decide to extend the validity only after the student making the request has passed an additional examination in the relevant subject matter.

#### Article 4.9 Degree

Students who have successfully completed their Master's final examination are awarded a Master of Arts/Science/Laws degree. The degree awarded is stated on the diploma. If it is a joint degree, this will also be stated on the diploma.

### 5. Transitional and final provisions

#### Article 5.1 Amendments and periodic review

1. Any amendment to the Teaching and Examination Regulations will be adopted by VU: the faculty board after taking advice from the relevant Board of Studies. A copy of the advice will be sent to the authorised representative advisory body.
2. An amendment to the Teaching and Examination Regulations requires the approval of the authorised representative advisory body if it concerns components not related to the subjects of Section 7.13, paragraph 2 sub a to g and v, as well as paragraph 4 of the WHW and the requirements for admission to the Master's programme.
3. An amendment to the Teaching and Examination Regulations can only pertain to an academic year that is already in progress if this does not demonstrably damage the interests of students.

#### Article 5.2 Transitional provisions

Notwithstanding the current Teaching and Examination Regulations, the following transitional provisions apply for students who started the programme under a previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations:

Transition Regulations included in the Teaching and Examination Regulations of 2012-2014

#### Article 5.3 Publication

1. The faculty board will ensure the appropriate publication of these Regulations and any amendments to them.
2. The Teaching and Examination Regulations will be posted on the faculty website and deemed to be included in the course catalogue.

#### Article 5.4 Effective date

These Regulations enter into force with effect from 1 September 2014

Thus drawn up by the faculty board of Philosophy on 28 August 2014

Advice from Board of Studies,  
Philosophy, on 11 July 2014

Approved by authorised representative advisory body on 26 August 2014

Adopted by the faculty board of Philosophy on 28 August 2014



