

Teaching and Examination Regulations (TER)

Research Masterprogramme in Global Health Faculty of Science

Academic year 2018-2019

B1: Programme specific section - general provisions

B2: Programme specific section – content of programme

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Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

1a.	The programme Global Health (CROHO number 66903) is offered on a full-time basis and the language of instruction is English.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)
1b	This programme is executed by three partners of the Amsterdam Institute of Global Health and Development (AIGHD); Athena FALW Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Department of Global Health of the Academic Medical Centre (AMC) and the Center for Global Health and Inequality (CGHI) of the University of Amsterdam (UvA).	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 b)
2.	A unit of study comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof. The units listed below have a different size: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature review (9 EC) • Two internships (30 EC each) • Ethics in Global Health (3 EC) • Writing research grant proposal (3 EC) • Scientific Writing in English (3 EC) 	

Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

1.	The programme uses the teaching formats as specified in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 x)
2.	The modes of assessment used per educational component are specified in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l)

7. Further admission requirements

Article 7.1 Intake date(s)

1.	The programme starts on September 1. This intake date ensures that a programme can be completed within the nominal study duration set for the programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 b)
2.	The programme has a maximum of 30 admittance places per year.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 b)

Article 7.2 Admission requirements

1.	Admission to the Master's programme is possible for an applicant who has obtained a bachelor degree in one of the core disciplines of Global Health, containing at least 6 EC of epidemiology and/or statistics. Examples are Biology (Biologie), Biomedical Sciences (Medische Biologie), Health and Life (Gezondheid en Leven), Health Sciences (Gezondheidswetenschappen) and Medicine (Geneeskunde), Medical Anthropology (Medische Antropologie), Health Management (Gezondheidsmanagement), Pharmacology (Farmacologie), Health Economics (Gezondheidseconomie), Medical Sciences (medische natuurwetenschappen).	Partly legal provision & ordinance CvB, see appendix 3. Admission requirements excepted from participation in WHW
2.	The Admissions Board will investigate whether the applicant meets the admission requirements.	Legal provision

<p>3. In addition to the requirements referred to in the first paragraph, the Admissions Board can also assess requests for admission in terms of the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Average grades during the Bachelor should be 7.5 or higher in the Dutch grading system, or a foreign equivalent. Bachelor thesis or internship should at least be graded with an 8.0. Preferentially, the candidates completed their degree at a University College, did a double degree or an honours programme, or have other proof of having completed a bachelor's programme geared toward excellence. Non-EU diplomas will be assessed by the VU desk for International Relations; A letter of motivation stating clearly why the applicant wants to enrol into the Master's programme Global Health at the VU University Amsterdam. Curriculum vitae, indicating extra-curricular activities that underline the candidate's societal engagement and broad interests; Two reference letters, of which at least one should be provided by the supervisor(s) of the candidate's bachelor thesis or internship; Score a sufficient mark on the entrance exam. This exam requires the candidate to answer questions based on a video-recorded lecture and accompanying literature. The exam is web-based, so it can be made from a distance if necessary. Interview. <p>Students who meet all the requirements and pass the entrance exam, will be invited for an interview with the director of the Master's programme in Global Health. The interview will be the final selection mechanism.</p>	<p>Partly legal provision & ordinance CvB, see appendix 3. Admission requirements excepted from participation in WHW</p>
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Article 7.3 English language requirement for English-language Master's programmes

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants from the Netherlands with a 'VWO' degree, fulfill the English Language requirement. For all other applicants the proficiency requirement in English can be met if no longer than two years before the start of the programme, the applicant has successfully completed one of the following examinations with at least the scores indicated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IELTS: 6.5 - TOEFL paper based test: 580 - TOEFL internet based test: 92-94 - Cambridge Advanced English: A, B or C. Exemption is granted from the examination in English referred to in the first paragraph of this article to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> students who completed an English-taught secondary or higher education degree in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand or Australia; those who have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in an English-taught programme accredited by NVAO in the Netherlands; those who have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an accredited English-taught programme in another member state of the European Union. 	<p>Landelijke gedragscode Internationale studenten</p>
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Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 of health sciences ("Pre-Masterprogramma Gezondheidswetenschappen"). The master's programme Global Health does not offer its own pre-master's programme, but accepts those students who successfully completed the "Pre-Masterprogramma Gezondheidswetenschappen", and meet al 	<p>advies OLC; instemming FGV (9.38 b)</p>
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criteria as formulated in Art. 7.2	
2. The pre-Master's programme comprises 30 EC and is made up of the units of study depending on the specialisation chosen by the student.	advies OLC; instemming FGV (9.38 b)
3. A successfully completed pre-Master's programme serves as proof of admission to the specified Master's programme in the subsequent academic year.	advies OLC; instemming FGV (9.38 b)

8. Interim examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of interim examinations

<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Project Global Health after passing the exams of 24 EC of the compulsory courses of year 1 and the practical exercises. • Global Health Master thesis after passing and the courses Addressing the Burden of Disease and Advanced Methodology ILA in Global Health of year 2 (12 EC) 	<p>Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 h, s & t)</p>
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Art. 8.2. Degree

Degree Students who have successfully completed their Master's final Examination are awarded a Master of Science degree. The degree awarded is stated on the diploma.	Legal provision
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Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, specializations and exit qualifications

Article 9.1 Workload

The programme has a workload of 120 EC	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.2 Specializations

The programme has the following specializations: Not applicable.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.3 Programme objective

After graduation the student possesses academic knowledge, attitude and skills for the integral analysis of complex (inter) national health problems as well as for the formulation, implementation and evaluation of integral intervention strategies through inter- and transdisciplinary research and taking a system's perspective.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.4 Exit qualifications

<p>In all events, a graduate of the degree programme will have the following qualification:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowledge of relevant theoretical frameworks from social, behavioural, and beta sciences. S/he has relevant knowledge of the latest developments within these disciplines in as far as they are connected to Global Health. In particular, the student acquires: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Insight in the most important concepts and theories in the field of Global Health and in relevant related disciplines like health sciences, (bio)medical sciences, management and policy sciences, economics and social sciences including medical anthropology. b) Robust knowledge of and insight in system's thinking and the related models, theories, and related concepts (participation, multi-dimensionality, constructivism, complex adaptive systems, non-linear frameworks) c) Insight in the relevance and function of scientific research in the field of Global Health in society 2. Knowledge and insight that are essential for conducting scientific research in the field of Global Health. This includes designing, implementing, and evaluating both health interventions and health care systems to address Global Health challenges: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Knowledge on research methodologies in the different sub-disciplines of Global Health and their underlying epistemological theories. b) Knowledge of relevant quantitative and qualitative research methodologies and research techniques, their inherent advantages and disadvantages and the way they fit in with research methodologies c) Insight in the way data are gathered, processed, analysed and reported d) Knowledge of and insight in methods to ensure the quality of scientific research (validity, bias, sampling, etcetera) 3. Knowledge in and insight of transdisciplinary research in relation to Global Health issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The placing of the transdisciplinary research approach with respect to mono-, multi- and interdisciplinary research and insight in the differences and relevance b) Knowledge of the status quo concerning theory (epistemology, methodology, 	Approval OLC (7.13 c)
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- inclusive quality criteria) and insight in the most important research questions within transdisciplinary research
- c) Central concepts of transdisciplinary research (active participation of relevant societal actors, collective learning process, systems thinking and so forth)
 - d) Insight in relevant concepts and theories for effective communication and co-operation in the framework of transdisciplinary research
 - e) Insight in the steps to be taken in transdisciplinary research [*] and related methodological aspects
4. After graduation the student has **an attitude** that fits with effectively conducting transdisciplinary research in the field of Global Health:
- a) An open, respectful attitude, a reflective, inquisitive nature, critical thinking with regard to one's thinking and handling, cultural sensitivity, and to be aware of the dynamics in group processes and the associated visions, interests and power positions, and to be aware of the broad variation of influences and the willingness to take this into account in research.
 - b) The student looks for solutions and takes responsibility for personal development and personal actions.
5. The student has the following **general academic capabilities**:
- a) Ability to work in projects
 - b) The student is able to explain fundamental underlying assumption and theoretical schools of his/her focus in global health to scientists and non-scientists alike, incorporating different lines of reasoning, and with the ability to analyse and defend these different points of view.
 - c) The student is able to report findings both in presentations and in reports, for scientists and non-scientists alike.
 - d) The student is able to define personal learning goals and evaluate their own functioning by both self-reflection and consultation with others.
 - e) The student has the ability to independently acquire new knowledge and capabilities in future situations (life-long learning)
6. The student has developed the following **academic research capabilities**:
- a) The student can independently acquire information on Global Health challenges in different relevant disciplines by means of studying literature and conducting empirical research.
 - b) The student can analyse acquired data in an integral and scientifically critical fashion
 - c) The student contributes to scientific discussions on planning research and analysing results
7. The student has the **skills for** conducting transdisciplinary research with respect to:
- a) Setting up a research plan for transdisciplinary research
 - b) Selecting, combining and carrying out methods and techniques for transdisciplinary research and analysing obtained data
 - c) Stimulating group processes and learning processes for transdisciplinary research
 - d) Communicating and co-operating with researchers from different scientific disciplines, as well as professionals from businesses and health, and with policy makers and citizens from different cultural backgrounds
 - e) Integrating knowledge and insight from different alpha-, beta- and gamma disciplines, as well as from relevant societal knowledge
 - f) Monitoring and evaluating the quality and effectiveness of transdisciplinary research

<p>8. The student is able to formulate strategies that contribute to solving Global Health issues (on the basis of results from inter- and transdisciplinary research), and to assess them in terms of appropriateness and societal relevance, and thereby continually taking into account ethical and normative aspects.</p> <p>9. The student has skills for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of interventions and system innovations and is able to conduct comparative analyses (by means of transdisciplinary research).</p> <p>[*] Steps: (1) analyse the problem (a concrete, relevant, complex health issue) by means of a needs assessment; (2) development of an intervention on the basis of evidence from science and practice, and from the perspective of relevant actors; and (3) implementation and evaluation of the intervention</p>	
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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 internship.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
2. Additionally the programme can offer: - Practical exercises - Electives	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
3. Educational components are categorized as specialized (400), research oriented (500) and highly specialized (600) level.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
4. The first semester of the first academic year of the Research Master Global Health consists of three consecutive periods of eight, eight and four weeks respectively (see Part A: faculty section). This implies that, for the first eight weeks, first year students follow two courses in parallel, and that exams for these courses are organised at the end of the first period of eight weeks. The same structure is applied for the third and fourth courses. The fifth course is organised during a period of four weeks.	

Article 10.2 Compulsory educational components

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

YEAR 1

Name of course component	Course code	Number credits	Period	Level
Research Methods in Global Health	AM_1175	6	1	500
Global Health Interventions	AM_1176	6	1	500
Governance in Global Health	AM_1177	6	2	500
International Comparative Analysis of Health Systems	AM_1025	6	2	500
Research Project Global Health year 1	AM_1102	30	4, 5, 6	500

YEAR 2

Name of course component	Course code	Number Credits	Period	Level
Addressing Disease Burden in a Global Context	AM_1045	6	1	600
Advanced	AM_1044	6	1	600

Methodology ILA in Global Health				
Global Health Literature Review	AM_1046	9	2, 3	600
Scientific Writing in English	AM_4710 23	3	2,3	400
Ethics in Global Health	AM_1047	3	2	600
Writing Research Grant Proposal	AM_1048	3	2	600
Global Health Master Thesis	AM_1116	30	4,5,6	600

Article 10.3 Elective educational components

1. The student can take one or more of the following electives without prior consent from the Examination Board:				Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Name of educational component	course code	nr of EC	level	
Anthropology of Sexuality, Aids and Reproductive Health	739400090Y	6	500	
Medicine and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspectives	739400070Y	6	500	
Culture, Psychology and Psychiatry	739400030Y	6	500	
Challenges in Health Systems Innovation	AM_1026	6	500	
Future Medicine	AM_1027	6	500	
2. If the student wishes to take a different educational component than listed, advance permission must be obtained in writing from the Examinations Board.				Advice OLC; (7.13 a)

Article 10.4 Participation in practical exercise

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In the case of a compulsory practical training, the student must attend 100% of the practical sessions. Should the student attend less than 100 %, he/she must repeat the practical training, or the Examinations Board may have one or more supplementary assignments issued. In the case of compulsory tutorials with assignments, the student must attend at least 100% of the tutorials. Should the student attend less than 100%, he/she must repeat the study group, or the Examinations Board may have one or more supplementary assignments issued. 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. 	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
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11. Evaluation and transitional provisions

Article 11.1 Evaluation of the education

The education provided in this programme is evaluated in accordance with the (attached) evaluation plan. The faculty evaluation plan offers the framework.	Approval OLC (7.13 a1)
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Article 11.2 Transitional provisions

By way of departure from the Teaching and Examination Regulations currently in force, the	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
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following transitional provisions apply for students who started the programme under a previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations: For students who started their programme before the academic year 2016-2017, the TER applicable in the year that they started will remain applicable for three consecutive years, counting from and including the year that the programme was started.	
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Advice and approval by the Programme Committee, on May 14, 2018

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly, on June 26, 2018

Adopted by the board of the Faculty of Science on June 26, 2018

Appendix I**Overview of articles that must be included in the OER**

Based on Section 7.13, paragraph 2, of the WHW and other Sections of the Act.

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
[option:] Article 6.3 Academic student counselling	7.13 paragraph 2 sub u
7. Further admission requirements	
Article 7.2 Admission requirements	7.30b paragraph 2
8. Interim examinations and results	
Article 8.1 Sequence of interim 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 – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, specializations and exit qualifications	
Article 9.1 Workload	7.13 paragraph 2 sub g
Article 9.2 Specializations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.3 Programme objective	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.4 Exit qualifications	7.13 paragraph 2 sub b, c
10. Curriculum structure	
Article 10.1 Composition of the programme	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 10.2 Compulsory educational components	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
[Optional] Article 10.3 Elective educational components	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
[Optional] Article 10.4 Practical exercise	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
Article 10.5 Participation in practical exercise	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
11. Evaluation and transitional provisions	
Article 11.1 Evaluation of the education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a1
Article 11.2 Transitional provisions	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a

Appendix II

Table of right of advice and right of approval by the OLC and FGV
(translation to English at a later stage)

Onderwerpen Onderwijs – en Examenregeling (OER) 7.13 paragraph 2 WHW	FGV		OpIC	
	I	A	I	A
a. de inhoud van de opleiding en van de daaraan verbonden examens				
a1. de wijze waarop het onderwijs in de desbetreffende opleiding wordt geëvalueerd				
b. de inhoud van de afstudeerrichtingen binnen een opleiding				
c. de kwaliteiten op het gebied van kennis, inzicht en vaardigheden die een student zich bij beëindiging van de opleiding moet hebben verworven				
d. waar nodig, de inrichting van praktische oefeningen				
e. de studielast van de opleiding en van elk van de daarvan deel uitmakende onderwijseenheden				
f. de nadere regels, bedoeld in de Articleen 7.8b, zesde paragraph, en 7.9, vijfde paragraph (BSA)				
g. ten aanzien van welke masteropleidingen toepassing is gegeven aan Article 7.4a, achtste paragraph (verhoogde studielast)				
h. het aantal en de volgtijdelijkheid van de tentamens alsmede de momenten waarop deze afgelegd kunnen worden				
i. de voltijdse, deeltijdse of duale inrichting van de opleiding				
j. waar nodig, de volgorde waarin, de tijdvakken waarbinnen en het aantal malen per studiejaar dat de gelegenheid wordt geboden tot het afleggen van de tentamens en examens				
k. waar nodig, de geldigheidsduur van met goed gevolg afgelegde tentamens, behoudens de bevoegdheid van de examencommissie die geldigheidsduur te verlengen				
l. of de tentamens mondeling, schriftelijk of op een andere wijze worden afgelegd, behoudens de bevoegdheid van de examencommissie in bijzondere gevallen anders te bepalen				
m. de wijze waarop studenten met een handicap of chronische ziekte redelijkerwijs in de gelegenheid worden gesteld de tentamens af te leggen				
n. de openbaarheid van mondeling af te nemen tentamens, behoudens de bevoegdheid van de examencommissie in bijzondere gevallen anders te bepalen				
o. de termijn waarbinnen de uitslag van een tentamen bekend wordt gemaakt alsmede of en op welke wijze van deze termijn kan worden afgeweken				
p. de wijze waarop en de termijn gedurende welke degene die een schriftelijk tentamen heeft afgelegd, inzage verkrijgt in zijn beoordeelde werk				
q. de wijze waarop en de termijn gedurende welke kennis genomen kan worden van vragen en opdrachten, gesteld of gegeven in het kader van een schriftelijk afgenomen tentamen en van de normen aan de hand waarvan de beoordeling heeft plaatsgevonden				
r. de gronden waarop de examencommissie voor eerder met goed gevolg afgelegde tentamens of examens in het hoger onderwijs, dan wel voor buiten het hoger onderwijs opgedane kennis of vaardigheden, vrijstelling kan verlenen van het afleggen van een of meer tentamens				
s. waar nodig, dat het met goed gevolg afgelegd hebben van tentamens voorwaarde is voor de toelating tot het afleggen van andere tentamens				
t. waar nodig, de verplichting tot het deelnemen aan praktische oefeningen met het oog op de toelating tot het afleggen van het desbetreffende tentamen, behoudens de bevoegdheid van de examencommissie vrijstelling van die verplichting te verlenen, al dan niet onder oplegging van vervangende eisen				
u. de bewaking van studievoortgang en de individuele studiebegeleiding				
v. indien van toepassing: de wijze waarop de selectie van studenten voor een speciaal traject binnen een opleiding, bedoeld in Article 7.9b, plaatsvindt (<i>excellentietraject binnen een opleiding</i>)				
x. de feitelijke vormgeving van het onderwijs				
<i>alle overige onderwerpen die in de OER zijn geregeld maar die niet als zodanig zijn genoemd in art. 7.13 WHW onder a t/m x.</i>				

De lettering komt overeen met de lettering van Article 7.13 paragraph 2 WHW

Appendix III

Ordinances VU CvB and Binding Guidelines (richtlijn)

Section A, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
2.1.1, 2.1.2	Year planning two semesters 8-8-4 (uniforme jaarkalender VU-UvA)	29-9-2008 (period 2009-2015) 22-05-2014 (periode 2016-2025)
2.1.3, 2.1.4	Educational components	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
3.1	Compulsory signing up	CvB ordinance 30-09-2010, prior consent USR.
3.4.1	Determination and publication of the results (1) Grading deadline exams 10 workdays (2) Theses 20 workdays	(1) Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017 (2) Quality demand 11 from the VU assessment policy, CvB ordinance 15-05-2012
3.5.1	Two possibilities to take examinations per year	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
3.5.2	Retake: most recent grade is valid. A pass can be retaken	Taken from the UvA guidelines, as part of the harmonization, CvB ordinance 24-02-2014
3.5.4	Extra retake last year	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, with University council's consent. As a result of harmonization UvA, the guideline: 5.5 is a pass, has been added. CvB ordinance 24-02-2014.
Section B1, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
7.2.1	Admission criteria; at least WO Bachelor's degree	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
7.2.3	Additional admission criteria; type of criteria	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
Section B1, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
10.1	Composition programme	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
10.2	Categorization of components	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017