

Teaching and Examination Regulations

Faculty of Science

Master's programme in Ecology and Evolution

Academic year 2023-2024

A. Faculty section

B1. Programme specific section – general provisions

B2. Programme specific section – content of programme

NB: A previous version of this TER was adopted on 23 June 2023. The current version contains changes in articles 10.3 and 11.2. The current version takes precedence.

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Section A: Faculty section

1. General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations

1. These Regulations apply to anyone enrolled in the programme, irrespective of the academic year in which the student was first enrolled in the programme.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. These Regulations enter into force on 1 September 2023.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
3. An amendment to the Teaching and Examination Regulations is only permitted to concern an academic year already in progress if this does not demonstrably damage the interests of students.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

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. double degree programme: joint programme in the context of cooperation between Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and an educational institution within or outside the Netherlands, as to gain a double university degree; of the VU and the educational institution concerned; though not being the same as a 'joint degree programme' according to the art. 7.3c WHW';
- c. EC (European Credit): a course credit with a workload of 28 hours of study;
- d. examination: an assessment of the student's knowledge, understanding and skills relating to a unit of education. The assessment is expressed in terms of a final mark. An examination may consist of one or more partial examinations. A resit always covers the same material as the original examination;
- e. exemption: exemption from an examination/practical/fieldwork based on an earlier successfully completed examination, or knowledge/skills of a similar content, level and scope gained outside higher education;
- f. final examination: a master's programme consists of a master's examination;
- g. joint degree: a degree awarded by an institution together with one or more institutions in the Netherlands or abroad, after the student has completed a study programme (a degree programme, a major or a specific curriculum within a degree programme) for which the collaborating institutions are jointly responsible;
- h. period: a part of a semester;
- i. practical exercise: the participation in a practical training or other educational learning activity, aimed at acquiring certain (academic) skills. Examples of practical exercises are:
 - researching and writing a thesis or dissertation
 - carrying out a research assignment
 - taking part in fieldwork or an excursion
 - taking part in another educational learning activity aimed at acquiring specific skills, or
 - participating in and completing a work placement;

- j. pre-Master's enrollee: person enrolled in a pre-Master's programme, who is not a student from a legal perspective;
- k. programme: the totality and cohesion of the units of education, teaching activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and recommended literature;
- l. SAP/SLM: the student information system (*Student Lifecycle Management*);
- m. semester: the first (September - January) or second (February - August) half of an academic year;
- n. specialisation: optional route of study within a degree programme indicating a deepening of the context of the programme (e.g. interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary);
- o. student statute: sets out the rights and responsibilities of students on the one hand, and of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam on the other hand, including those derived from the law and those derived from university regulations. The Executive Board (CvB) officially confirms the student statute once its completeness has been approved by the University Student Council (USC);
- 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: <https://studiegids.vu.nl/en#/>;
- q. study monitor: dashboard for students and academic advisors with data of the student and that provides insight into the student's study progress;
- r. subject: see 'unit of education';
- s. substituting course/unit of education: see under b (double degree programme). A course obtained at the educational institute, within the context of cooperation, that is mentioned in the diploma supplement as such; not being an 'exemption';
- t. thesis: a unit comprising research into the literature and/or contributing to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;
- u. 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;
- v. unit of education: a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;
- w. university: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam;
- x. WHW: the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek);
- y. workload: the workload of the unit of education to which an examination applies, expressed in terms of credits = EC credits (ECTS = European Credit and Transfer Accumulation System). The workload for 1 year (1,680 hours) is 60 EC.

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

2. Study programme structure

Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and units of education

1. The study programme will be offered in a year divided into two semesters.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
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2. Every semester consists of three consecutive periods. The first two periods each consist of eight weeks, and the final period consists of four weeks.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
3. A unit of education comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
4. By way of exception to paragraph 3, the Executive Board may in special cases and on request of the Faculty Board, stipulate that a unit of study comprises 3 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

3. Assessment and examination

Article 3.1 Signing up for education and examinations

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

Article 3.2 Type of examination

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

1. An oral assessment is public unless the Examination Board determines otherwise.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l and n)
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Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results

1. The examiner determines the result of a written examination within fifteen working days. However, the marking deadline for theses and final assignments is twenty working days after submission. The examiner will then immediately ensure that the marks are registered and also ensures that the student is immediately notified of the mark, taking due account of the applicable confidentiality standards.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. The examiner determines the result (i.e. mark) of an oral examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within one working day after the examination has finished and informs the student accordingly. The third clause of the first paragraph applies.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)
3. In the case of assessments other than oral or written examinations, the Examination Board determines in advance how and by what deadline the student will be informed of the results.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)

Article 3.5 Examination opportunities

1. a. Per academic year, two opportunities to take examinations will be offered for each unit of education. b. By way of exception to a., the options for retaking practical exercises, work placements and theses are detailed in the relevant work placement manual, course manual of teaching regulations.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit. A resit is allowed for both passed and failed units of study.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

3. The resit for a (partial) examination must not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the result of the (partial) examination being resat.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 j)
4. The Examination Board may allow a student an extra opportunity to sit an examination if that student: a) lacks only those credits to qualify for their degree; and 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 exercises and the Master's thesis. Requests for an additional examination opportunity must be submitted to the Examination Board no later than 15 July. If necessary, the method of examination may deviate from the provisions in the study guide.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
5. If a unit of education is no longer offered in the following academic year, at least one additional opportunity will subsequently be provided to sit the examination(s) or parts thereof and a transitional arrangement will be included in section B.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (7.13 j)

Article 3.6 Marks

1. Partial marks are given on a scale from 1 to 10 with no more than one figure after the decimal point.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III																																																									
2. A final mark between 5 and 6 will be rounded to the nearest whole number: final marks below 5.50 will be rounded down; final marks of 5.50 or higher will be rounded up. All other final marks will be expressed in whole or half marks. In case the examination of a component consists of two or more parts, each of which are graded separately, the (weighted) mean of these marks (meaning: the final mark) must be rounded off using the following table: <table><tr><th>From</th><th>To</th><th>Grade</th></tr><tr><td>1.00</td><td>1.24</td><td>1.0</td></tr><tr><td>1.25</td><td>1.74</td><td>1.5</td></tr><tr><td>1.75</td><td>2.24</td><td>2.0</td></tr><tr><td>2.25</td><td>2.74</td><td>2.5</td></tr><tr><td>2.75</td><td>3.24</td><td>3.0</td></tr><tr><td>3.25</td><td>3.74</td><td>3.5</td></tr><tr><td>3.75</td><td>4.24</td><td>4.0</td></tr><tr><td>4.25</td><td>4.74</td><td>4.5</td></tr><tr><td>4.75</td><td>5.49</td><td>5.0</td></tr><tr><td>5.50</td><td>6.24</td><td>6.0</td></tr><tr><td>6.25</td><td>6.74</td><td>6.5</td></tr><tr><td>6.75</td><td>7.24</td><td>7.0</td></tr><tr><td>7.25</td><td>7.74</td><td>7.5</td></tr><tr><td>7.75</td><td>8.24</td><td>8.0</td></tr><tr><td>8.25</td><td>8.74</td><td>8.5</td></tr><tr><td>8.75</td><td>9.24</td><td>9.0</td></tr><tr><td>9.25</td><td>9.74</td><td>9.5</td></tr><tr><td>9.75</td><td>10.0</td><td>10</td></tr></table>	From	To	Grade	1.00	1.24	1.0	1.25	1.74	1.5	1.75	2.24	2.0	2.25	2.74	2.5	2.75	3.24	3.0	3.25	3.74	3.5	3.75	4.24	4.0	4.25	4.74	4.5	4.75	5.49	5.0	5.50	6.24	6.0	6.25	6.74	6.5	6.75	7.24	7.0	7.25	7.74	7.5	7.75	8.24	8.0	8.25	8.74	8.5	8.75	9.24	9.0	9.25	9.74	9.5	9.75	10.0	10	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
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3. To pass a given course or unit, a final mark of 6 or higher is required.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III																																																									

4. The Examination Board can allow the use of symbols rather than numbers, for example: s(atisfactory), g(ood), u(n)s(at)is(factory), etc. In case a student does not take part in any examination, the examiner will register the mark 'ns' (c.q. no show).	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
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Article 3.7 Exemption

1. At the written request of the student, the Examination Board may exempt the student from taking one or more examination components, if they: - have either passed a unit of education at a university of applied science (hbo) or research university (wo) that is equivalent in terms of content and level; - or have demonstrated through their work and/or professional experience that they have sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the relevant unit of education.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 r)
2. The Master's thesis is excluded from this exemption possibility.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
3. - A maximum of 18 EC for a one-year master's programme and 36 EC for a two-year master's programme can be accumulated through granted exemptions. The substituting courses (courses obtained at another educational institute within the context of a double degree, see art. 1.2) are not included. - This regulation does not apply if a student is (simultaneously) enrolled in multiple programmes, which lead to multiple degrees, where courses may be part of both programmes. In such a case, the examination board may deviate from the regulations under a.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 3.8 Validity period for results

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

Article 3.9 Right of inspection and post-examination discussion

1. Within twenty working days after the announcement of the results of a written examination, but at least ten working days before the resit opportunity for that examination, the student can submit a request to inspect their assessed work, the questions and assignments set in it, as well as the standards applied for marking. The place and time where students can inspect their work will be announced on VU.nl Dashboard or Canvas in all cases.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p and q)
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 their own.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 q)
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 within the regular timetable, on campus or online.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p and q)

4. Academic student counselling and study progress

Article 4.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling

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

Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability

1. A student with a disability can submit a request via VU.nl Dashboard to qualify for one or more special facilities with regard to teaching, practical exercises and examinations. These facilities will accommodate the student's individual disability as much as possible, but may not alter the quality or degree of difficulty of a unit of education or an examination. In all cases, the student must fulfil the exit qualifications for the study programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
2. The request referred to in the first paragraph must be accompanied by a statement from a doctor or psychologist. If possible, an estimate should be given of the potential impact on the student's study progress. In case of a chronic disability a single (one time) request suffices.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
3. Students who have been diagnosed with dyslexia must provide a statement from a BIG-, NIP- or NVO-registered professional who is qualified to conduct a psychological evaluation.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
4. The faculty board, or the person acting on behalf of the faculty board, decides on teaching facilities and facilities regarding logistics. The Examination Board will decide on requests for facilities with regard to examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
5. In the event of a positive decision in response to a request as referred to in paragraph 1, the student can make an appointment with the academic adviser to discuss the details of the provisions.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
6. A request for one or more facilities can be refused if it would place a disproportionate burden on the organization or the resources of the faculty or university were it upheld. Any such refusal will be substantiated.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
7. If the disability justifies an extension of the examination time, the responsible person on behalf of the Examination Board will register in SAP this entitlement to an extension. If a disability justifies other measures to be taken, the academic adviser can take the necessary measures. The student can consult the study monitor to check which facilities have been granted to them.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
8. The decision as referred to in paragraph 5 may specify a limited validity of the facilities granted.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)

5. Hardship clause

[Article 5.1 Hardship clause](#)

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

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

1. The programme Ecology & Evolution CROHO number 60365 is offered on a full time basis.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)
2. The programme is offered in partnership with University of Amsterdam (UvA), but does not lead to a joint degree.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 6.1a Deviant size of units of education

By way of derogation from art. 2.1.3, the units of education listed below have a size that is not 6 EC or a multiple thereof:			Approval OLC (art. 7.13 sub e), approval CvB
Course code	Name course	EC	
AM_1244	Employability, Skills & Career	0	
AM_1157	Scientific Writing in English	3	
AM_1016	Masterclasses in Ecology and Evolution	3	

Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

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

Article 6.3 Academic student counselling

1. The programme offers the following counselling in addition to the student counselling mentioned in Section A: - Lecturer AM_1244 Employability, Skills & Career	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
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7. Further admission requirements

Article 7.1 Intake date(s)

1. The programme starts on 1 September.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Article 7.2 Admission requirements

1. Admission to the Master's programme is possible for an applicant who has obtained a Bachelor's degree obtained at an institution of academic higher education, which demonstrates the following knowledge, understanding and skills: knowledge: a. knowledge and understanding: - Biochemistry and Cell Biology (insight into molecular and cellular processes in living organisms), - Genetics (both at the organismal and population level), - Evolutionary biology (origin and development of life, processes of speciation, relationship between and within taxa, building plans of the most important groups), - Ecology (understanding of ecosystems, the ecological processes that play a role within them and the interrelationship of those processes, behavioural ecology), - Animal and Plant Physiology (the function at supra-cellular level, insight into the construction and function of the main tissues, organs and organ systems and the regulation of their operation) - Knowledge and understanding of basic statistical (t-test, regression and correlation analysis, analysis of variance, non-parametric tests) and mathematical principles and techniques (differentiation and integration, ordinary differential equations). - b: skills: - The ability to collect data in a systematic way by means of observations during (laboratory) research and/or fieldwork, as well through literature review or other authoritative (internet) sources, - The ability to manage the collected data and observations in relation to each other, save, process, interpret them and write a scientific report that meets the bachelor level, - The ability to clearly define a biological question, along with accompanying assumptions – and to determine a strategy for answering the question (under guidance), - The ability to analyse research on main lines, both with regard to the design and conduct of research and to the interpretation of results.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Not applicable	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
3. Applicants with a Bachelor's degree obtained at an institution outside the Netherlands may be asked for additional methods to prove that they meet the admission requirements.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
4. Not applicable	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
5. Applicants should demonstrate that they have a sufficient level of proficiency in English by meeting at least one of the following standards, no more than two years before the start of the programme: - (academic) IELTS: 6.5 - TOEFL paper based test: 580 - TOEFL internet based test: 92	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

6. Applicants who: - completed an English-taught secondary or higher education degree in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand or Australia; or - have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an English-taught programme accredited by NVAO in the Netherlands; or - have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an accredited English-taught programme in another member state of the European Union; or - have obtained a Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) or a Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE) with at least a score of A, B, C - Have obtained a Dutch VWO-diploma including English, or an International Baccalaureate or European Baccalaureate diploma are exempt from the requirements referred to in paragraph 5.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
7. The Admission Board will investigate whether the applicant meets the admission requirements by determining whether the following topics were covered at academic bachelor level in the previously-completed education programme: - Ecology (minimally 12EC) - Evolution (min. 6-12EC) - Genetics (min. 6-12EC) - Statistics (min. 12 EC)	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 7.3 Selection criteria

1. In addition to the admission requirements referred to in Article 7.2, the Faculty board also sets (at least two of) the following selection criteria for all students: - A high level of relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated by: - average grades for classes in ecological, evolutionary, genetic, physiological and statistical subjects within the top 30 %. (i.e. 7 or higher for Dutch grades, 14 or higher in the French system, B or A for USA or UK grades and, 2 or 1 for German grades) - Motivation for the programme, demonstrated by a letter specifically addressed to the admission board and clearly stating the motivation for, and interest in, the programme - A strong command of research methods from the relevant field, demonstrated by a mark of 7 or higher (see above) for the Bachelor thesis or equivalent final written assignment - A high general academic level demonstrated by: - an average grade obtained in the bachelor programme within the top 30 %. (i.e. 7 or higher, see above) - a mark of 7 or higher (see above) for the Bachelor thesis or equivalent final written assignment - a scientific publication in a peer reviewed journal	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Exceptional and highly motivated students have the possibility to be selected for the IMABEE track, see Article 9.2.	

Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

1. Applicants with a Bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences (HBO) or a Bachelor's degree from a research university (WO) who wish to enter the programme but do not fulfill the admission requirements as stipulated in Article 7.2 and the selection criteria as stipulated in Article 7.3 can request admission to the pre-Master's programme. Article 2 of these regulations does not apply to admission to a bridging or pre-Master's programme. The provisions of sections A and B only apply to the extent that they are described in Article 7.4. Information about the programme from part B2 applies, insofar as it concerns the units of education from the pre-Master's programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Not applicable	
3. A candidate must demonstrate that they meet the language requirements, as specified in Article 7.2.	
4. The pre-Master's programme has 30 European Credits (EC) and consists of the following units for which there are three pre-approved options: a. Minor Evolutionary Biology and Ecology (EBE, 30 EC) b. The alternative HBO pre-Master programme, which can also be followed as a so-called embedded pre-master (minor) as part of an HBO programme. This programme contains the following courses and is only offered during the 1 st semester: i. AB_1020 Environmental Toxicology (6 EC) ii. AB_1022 Evolutionary Genetics (6 EC) iii. AB_1041 Behavioural Biology (6 EC) iv. AB_1261 Diversiteit van Leven (6 EC) v. AB_1219 Adaptation to Human Environments (6 EC) c. In exceptional cases the Admission Board can recommend a personal pre-master programme of max. 30 EC that deviates from the above pre-master programmes. The following terms also apply: a. If the pre-Master's enrollee is completing an individualized pre-Master's programme, this is to be communicated to the enrollee in writing. b. The Examination Board can, if the pre-Master's enrollee submits a written request, exempt the enrollee from one or more examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38)
5. Evidence that the pre-Master's programme has been completed successfully will entitle the enrollee to admission to the relevant Master's programme in the following academic year.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.39)
6. The pre-Master's programme must be completed within one academic year.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.39)

8. Examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations

1. Students may participate in interim examinations and/or practical exercises of the components below only if they have passed the interim examination or examinations for the components mentioned hereinafter: - AM 1114: Research Project E&E II after passing AM 1100: Research Project E&E I	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 h, s & t)
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Article 8.2 Validity period for results

1. The validity period of the interim examinations and exemptions from interim examinations below, is limited as follows: a. If the exam shows that a student's knowledge is insufficient or outdated, or if the student's skills evaluated in the exam are demonstrably outdated, the Examination Board may impose a supplementary or replacement examination for a course for which an examination was passed more than 6 years ago.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)
2. A student may request the Examination Board to extend the validity of an exam. If the student's knowledge is demonstrably outdated, or if the student's skills and insights are demonstrably outdated, the Examination Board may impose a supplementary examination, impose a replacement examination or refuse to extend the period of validity.	Legal provision
3. In situations where a limited period of validity applies, the period of validity of examinations may be extended in the event of extenuating circumstances as stipulated in WHW Article 7.51, paragraph 2, with at least the period of allocated financial assistance specified in WHW Article 7.15, paragraph 1.	Legal provision
4. Partial grades equal to or greater than 5.5 obtained within a course (i.e. reports, essays, writing and presentation assignments, etc.) are valid until the end of the academic year following the year in which the course was followed, unless this is deviated from in consultation with the course coordinator.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)
5. Practical components cannot be retaken after the official resit date in the same academic year, unless the course coordinator and course examiner see reason to deviate from this.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)

Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, tracks/specialisations, exit qualifications and language

Article 9.1 Workload

1. The programme has a workload of 120 EC.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.2 Tracks and/or specialisations

The programme has the following tracks and/or specialisations: - Research Specialisation - Ecology & Evolution - Research Specialisation - International Master Biodiversity, Ecology & Evolution (IMABEE) - Societal specialisation - Science Communication - Societal specialisation - Science in Society - Science Education Ad. b. IMABEE, International Master of Biodiversity, Ecology and Evolution. In the second year, provided that all the courses of the 1st semester of the 1st year have been completed above average, it is possible to enter the IMABEE programme. This means that the complete 2nd year (60 EC) can be followed at one of the partner universities (University of Rennes, France; University of Göttingen, Germany). Ad. e. Science Education: This can be chosen in the second year. The Master student then graduates with a specialisation in Education (CROHO number 68502) and obtains a certificate that qualifies the graduate to teach Biology in secondary schools (this is a 'grade one' certificate, i.e. it qualifies the graduate to teach pupils who will sit public exams in the subject).	Approval OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.3 Programme objective

The programme aims to: providing students with the knowledge, skills and insights required to operate as an independent professional within the field of Ecology and Evolution, and to become a suitable candidate for a subsequent PhD study leading to a career in a fundamental or applied research field. As a consequence, it is a research-oriented programme. Having completed the programme the student should have developed a critical, scientific attitude and an awareness of the ethical and social aspects of Ecology and Evolution. The programme offers a broad package of courses and research experiences that provide a firm theoretical and practical basis for a Masters' degree with the possibility to develop a distinct, individual profile within the array of ecological and evolutionary sub-disciplines. In addition, it is possible to choose a specialisation	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.4 Exit qualifications

1. At all events, a graduate of the study programme will have: - knowledge and understanding in the field of Ecology & Evolution Learning outcomes of the MSc Ecology and Evolution programme according to the Dublin descriptors:	Approval OLC (7.13 c)
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Dublin descriptor 1 Knowledge and understanding: The graduate should have specialized theoretical and practical knowledge of ecological and evolutionary science notably within the field of his/her specialisation. The graduate: 1 masters the field's conceptual framework, understands the state of the art in terms of developing theories and has insight into the most important current research issues in ecology and evolution, 2 appreciates the place of this discipline within Biology and the Natural Sciences, 3 appreciates the scientific and social relevance of ecology and evolution, 4 is able to think in multidisciplinary terms, 5 has sufficient knowledge of and is able to apply appropriate mathematical and statistical methods and computer software. Dublin descriptor 2 Application of knowledge: The graduate should be experienced in carrying out research, in applying techniques specific to the subject area and in applying scientific knowledge to problems raised in society. The graduate: 1 is able to design and perform experiments in the different ecological and evolutionary fields and analyse their results, 2 has command of the relevant advanced research techniques and laboratory procedures, 3 is able to transmit his/her scientific knowledge to societal and political issues, 4 is able to reflect on the ethical aspects of research and its uses. Dublin descriptor 3 Critical judgment: The graduate should be able to independently and critically judge information. The graduate: 1 is able to independently and critically analyse ecological and evolutionary research, 2 is able to independently acquire, analyse and critically evaluate ecological and evolutionary information from the literature at a meta level, 3 has the ability to evaluate his/her own performance, both introspectively and in discussion with others. Dublin descriptor 4 Communication: The graduate should be able to transfer knowledge and skills related to his/her subject area to other persons and to adequately reply to questions and problems posed within society. The graduate: 1 can report orally on research results to a scientific audience in English with support of modern presentation techniques,	
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2 can report in written form on research results on the level of peer-reviewed academic journals (in English), 3 can make essential contributions to scientific discussions, 4 can operate professionally in a research team. Dublin descriptor 5 Learning skills: The graduate should develop learning skills that enable him/her further self-education and development within the subject area. The graduate: 1 is able to draw up a research proposal developing new research questions and directions, giving details of experimental design, performance and analysis, 2 is familiar with high-impact general scientific journals as well as professional journals in ecology and evolution, 3 able to evaluate and reflect on scientific contributions of peers, 4 can make a well-considered choice for a specialized PhD trajectory or other positions on the job market.	
2. Not applicable	Approval OLC (7.13 b)
3. Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of examinations.	Approval OLC (7.13 c)

Article 9.5 Language of instruction

1. The language of instruction is English, with the exception of courses taught within the specialisation Science Education, which are offered in Dutch.	Approval OLC (9.18)
2. The 'Gedragcode vreemde taal' (Code of conduct foreign languages) applies.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

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 III
2. Additionally the programme can offer: - Elective course components (12 - 18 EC); students are free to spend 6 EC to either an elective course or to expand one of their research projects with 6 EC. The shortest research project is at least 30 EC. The first research project has to take place at the Vrije Universiteit or the University of Amsterdam.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
3. Units of education are categorized as specialized (400), research oriented (500) and highly specialized (600) level.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

Article 10.2 Compulsory units of education

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

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 1				
Current Trends in Ecology & Evolution (VU or UvA course, alternating annually)	AM_470507 or AMU_470507	6	500	
Ecological Data Analysis	AM_1225	6	500	
Employability, Skills and Career	AM_1244	0	400	
Masterclasses in Ecology and Evolution	AM_1016	3	400	
Research Project Ecology and Evolution I	AM_1100	30≤EC≤48	600	
Scientific Writing in English	AM_1157	3	400	

Specialisation Research

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2				
Research Project Ecology and Evolution II	AM_1114	30≤EC≤48	600	
Year 2, select one of the following two options:				
Applied Literature Survey Ecology and Evolution	AM_1226	12	500	
Literature Survey Ecology and Evolution	AM_1131	12	500	

Specialisation Communication

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2				
Research Methods for Analyzing Problems	AM_1182	6	400	
Science and Communication	AM_470587	6	500	

Specialisation Science in Society

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2				
Analysis of Governmental Policy	AM_470571	6	500	
Communication, Organization and Management	AM_470572	6	500	
Internship Major Science in Society	AM_1185	30	500	
Research Methods for Analyzing Problems	AM_1182	6	400	

Specialisation Educational

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2				
Bio Ecologie en Biodiversiteit	O ABBECBD	5	300	

Bio Evolutie	O_ABBIEVO	3	300	
Bio Planten	O_ABBIPL	5	300	
Didactiek 1	O_MLDIDAC_1	6	400	
Didactiek 2	O_MLDIDAC2	9	400	
Didactiek 3, februari start	O_MLDIDAC_3F	9	400	
Praktijk 1	O_MLPRAK_1	6	400	
Praktijk 2	O_MLPRAK_2	9	400	
Praktijk 3, feb	O_MLPRAK_3F	15	400	
Peergroup	O_MLPEERGR	0	-	

Specialisation IMABEE

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2				
IMABEE incoming				
Masterclasses in Ecology and Evolution	AM_1016	3	400	
Research Project Ecology and Evolution I	AM_1100	30	600	
Literature Survey Ecology and Evolution	AM_1131	12	500	
Employability, Skills and Career	AM_1244	0	400	
Current Trends in Ecology & Evolution	AM_470507	6	500	
Ecological Data Analysis	AM_1225	6	500	
IMABEE outgoing				
IMABEE	AM_1243	60	600	

Article 10.3 Elective units of education

1. The student can take one or more of the following electives without prior consent from the Examination Board:				Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	
<i>Year 1 constrained choice</i>				
Cooperation & Conflict in Nature*	AM_1229	6	500	
Evolutionary Genomics*	AM_1231	6	500	
Environments through time	AMU_0022	6	500	
Ecosystem Services and Scientific Advocacy	AM_1053	6	500	
Global Ecology & Biodiversity	AMU_0027	6	500	
Biogeochemical Cycles in System Earth	AMU_0035	6	400	
Invasion & Conservation Biology	AMU_0026	6	500	
Microbial Symbiosis *	AM_1284	6	500	
Plastic and Chemical Pollution	AM_1259	6	400	
<i>* Course is taught every other year, see the study guide to check availability.</i>				

Specialisation Research

Name of unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2 spec. Research pre-approved electives				
Abiotic Stress	AMU_0024	6	500	
Benthic Ecosystems	AMU_0023	6	500	
Biological Oceanography	AMU_0021	6	500	

Biotic Interactions	AMU_0019	6	500
Coral Reef Ecology	AMU_0025	6	500
Developmental Biology	AMU_0030	6	500
Metropole Ecology	AM_1199	6	500
Microbial Ecology	AMU_0008	6	500
NIOZ Marine Masters Summer Course	AM_1242	3	400
The Human Microbiome in Health & Disease	AM_1021	3	500

Specialisation Communication

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2, Choose one (1) course				
Reflective Practice Internship Science Communication	AM_1163	30	600	
Research Internship Science Communication	AM_1162	30	600	
Year 2, choose at least two (2) courses				
Communication, Organization and Management	AM_470572	6	500	
Science Museology	AM_470590	6	500	
Science Journalism	AM_471014	6	500	
Science in Dialogue	AM_1002	6	500	

Specialisation Science in Society

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2, Choose at least one (1) course				
Business Management	AM_470584	6	500	
Clinical Development and Clinical Trials	AM_1180	3	500	
Disability and Development	AM_470588	6	500	
Epidemiology	AM_1179	3	500	
Health, Globalisation and Human Rights	AM_470818	6	400	
Management of Innovative Technologies	AM_1181	6	500	
Policy, Politics and Participation	AM_470589	6	500	
Science in Dialogue	AM_1002	6	500	

Specialisation Education

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2				
ICT en Onderwijs: blended learning	O_MLICT	3	400	
Lesson study	O_MLLESST	3	500	
Omgaan met maatschappelijke Controverses	O_MLOMMCV	3	500	
Onderzoekend leren	O_MLONDLE	3	500	
Praktijkonderzoek	O_MLPROZ	6	400	
Praktijkonderzoek, feb	O_MLPROZF	6	400	
Tweetalig Onderwijs	O_MTTTO	3	500	
Vergelijkende Onderwijskunde	O_MLVOBU	3	500	
Vernieuwend Onderwijs	O_MLVNON	3	500	

Specialisation IMABEE

Unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Year 2				
Cooperation & Conflict in Nature *	AM_1229	6	500	
Ecological Data Analysis	AM_1225	6	500	
Ecosystem Services and Scientific Advocacy	AM_1053	6	500	
Environments Through Time	AMU_0022	6	500	
Global Ecology and Biodiversity	AMU_0027	6	500	
Biogeochemical Cycles in System Earth	AMU_0035	6	400	
Invasion and Conservation Biology	AMU_0026	6	500	
Metropole Ecology	AM_1199	6	500	
NIOZ Marine Masters Summer Course	AM_1242	3	400	
Plastic and Chemical Pollution	AM_1259	6	400	
Scientific Writing in English (AM_ECOL)	AM_1157	3	400	
The Human Microbiome in Health & Disease	AM_1021	3	500	
* Course is taught every other year, see the study guide to check availability.				

2. If the student wishes to take a different unit of education than listed, advance permission must be obtained in writing from the Examinations Board.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 10.4 Practical exercise

The following components can be considered as practical exercises:				Approval OLC (7.13 d)
Name of unit of education	course code	no. of EC	level	
Research Project Ecology and Evolution I	AM_1100	30≤EC≤48	600	
Research Project Ecology and Evolution II	AM_1114	30≤EC≤48	600	
Literature Survey Ecology and Evolution	AM_1131	12	500	
Applied Literature Survey Ecology and Evolution	AM_1226	12	500	

Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials

1. In the case of practical exercises, students must attend 100% of the practical sessions. Should they attend less than 100%, they must repeat the practical exercise, or the Examination Board may issue one or more supplementary assignments.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
2. In the case of tutorials, students must attend 100% of the sessions. Should they attend less than 100%, they must repeat the tutorial, or the Examination Board may issue one or more supplementary assignments.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)

11. Evaluation and transitional provisions**Article 11.1 Evaluation of the education**

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

By way of departure from the Teaching and Examination Regulations currently in force, the following transitional provisions apply for students who started the programme under a previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations: - AM_470507 Current Trends in Ecology & Evolution equals AMU_470507 Current Trends in Ecology & Evolution - AMU_0031 Grand Challenges of Human-Ecosystem Interactions has been replaced by AMU_0035 Biogeochemical Cycles in System Earth For the education specialisation (curriculum changes per 2023-2024): 1. For students who started before 1 September 2023, the 2022/2023 curriculum still applies in 2023/2024. This means that Praktijkonderzoek 1 (3 EC) is a compulsory unit of education, and that Didactiek 2 is a 6 EC unit of education. 2. Until August 2024, it is possible to finish Praktijkonderzoek 1 (3 EC) and Didactiek 2 (6 EC) from the old curriculum. At the end of semester 1 and at the end of semester 2, retakes will be offered at the regular moments. 3. Praktijkonderzoek 1 (3 EC) will be offered as a self study module in semester 1 for the students who have not yet followed (all) the sessions of Praktijkonderzoek 1 (3 EC). 4. Students who have not yet followed (all) the sessions of Didactiek 2 (6 EC) can join the sessions of the new unit of education Didactiek 2 (9 EC). 5. Per September 2024, all students can only graduate according to the exit qualifications and units of education of the new curriculum.	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
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Approval of the Programme Committee of the curriculum structure (submitted via UAS), on 16-12-2022.

Advice and approval by the Programme Committee (with the exception of the curriculum structure), on 16-6-2023.

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly, on 23-6-2023.

Adopted by the board of the Faculty of Sciences on 25-8-2023.

Appendix I

Overview of articles that must be included in the OER

Based on Article 7.13, paragraph 2, of the WHW and other Articles of the Act.

Section A: Faculty section

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

Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

6. General programme information and characteristics	
Article 6.1 Study programme information	7.13 paragraph 2 sub i, r
Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment	7.13 paragraph 2 sub l, x
[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 1
Article 7.3 Selection criteria	7.30b paragraph 2, 5
8. Examinations and results	
Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, s, t
[option 1:] Article 8.2 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k
[option 2:] Article 8.2 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k

Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, tracks/specialisations, exit qualifications and language	
Article 9.1 Workload	7.13 paragraph 2 sub g
Article 9.2 Tracks and/or specialisations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.3 Programme objective	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.4 Exit qualifications	7.13 paragraph 2 sub b, c
Article 9.5 Language of instruction	9.18 (implementation expected in 2020)
10. Curriculum structure	
Article 10.1 Composition of the programme	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 10.2 Compulsory units of education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
[Optional] Article 10.3 Elective units of education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
[Optional] Article 10.4 Practical exercise	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
11. Evaluation and transitional provisions	
Article 11.1 Evaluation of the education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a1
Article 11.2 Transitional provisions	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a

Appendix II**Overview of advisory and approval rights of Programme Committees (OLC) and Faculty Joint Assembly (FGV)***(English below)*

Onderwerpen Onderwijs – en Examenregeling (OER) 7.13 lid 2 WHW	FGV		OplC	
	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 artikelen 7.8b, zesde lid, en 7.9, vijfde lid (BSA)				
g. ten aanzien van welke masteropleidingen toepassing is gegeven aan artikel 7.4a, achtste lid (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 artikel 7.9b, plaatsvindt (excellentietraject <u>binnen</u> een opleiding)				
x. de feitelijke vormgeving van het onderwijs				
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.				

De lettering komt overeen met de lettering van artikel 7.13 lid 2 WHW

Afkortingen:

FGV: Facultaire Gezamenlijke Vergadering

OplC: Opleidingscommissie

I: Instemmingsrecht

A: Adviesrecht

Appendix II (English)**Overview of advisory and approval rights of Programme Committees (OLC) and Faculty Joint Assembly (FGV)**

Disclaimer: this is a translation which only serves as an aid. No rights may be derived from it. The Dutch document prevails.

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

Abbreviations used:

- FGV: Faculty Joint Assembly
 OplC: Programme Committee
 I: right of approval
 A: right of advice

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 (uniform year calendar VU-UvA)	29-9-2008 (period 2009-2015) 22-05-2014 (period 2016-2025)
2.1.3, 2.1.4	Units of education	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
3.1	Signing up for education and examinations	CvB ordinance 30-09-2010, prior consent USR.
3.4.1	Determination and publication of the results (1) Grading deadline exams ten working days (2) Theses twenty working days	(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	One-time extra resit in relation to examination requirement	Included in (prior) model OER 16-17 following a request from committee O&O and adopted by CvB op 27-10-2015
3.6	Grades	CvB ordinance 30-09-2010, 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	Admission criteria; at least WO Bachelor's degree	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017
7.3	Selection 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 units	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017

Appendix IV**Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act (Uitvoeringsbesluit)***(English below)*

1 De persoonlijke omstandigheden bedoeld in de artikelen 7.8b, derde lid, en 7.9, derde lid, van de wet, zijn uitsluitend:

- a. ziekte van betrokkene,
- b. lichamelijke, zintuiglijke of andere functiestoornis van betrokkene,
- c. zwangerschap van betrokkene,
- d. bijzondere familie-omstandigheden,
- e. het lidmaatschap, daaronder begrepen het voorzitterschap, van:
 - 1. bij universiteiten: de universiteitsraad, faculteitsraad, het orgaan dat is ingesteld op grond van de medezeggenschapsregeling, bedoeld in artikel 9.30, derde lid, onderscheidenlijk artikel 9.51, tweede lid, van de wet, het bestuur van een opleiding of de opleidingscommissie, alsmede het lidmaatschap van het bestuur van een stichting die blijkens haar statuten tot doel heeft de exploitatie van voorzieningen, behorende tot de studentenvoorzieningen, dan wel van een daarmee naar het oordeel van het instellingsbestuur gelet op de taak gelijk te stellen orgaan,
 - 2. bij hogescholen: de medezeggenschapsraad, deelraad, studentencommissie of opleidingscommissie.
- f. andere in de regelingen, bedoeld in de artikelen 7.8b, zesde lid, en 7.9, vijfde lid, van de wet door het instellingsbestuur aan te geven omstandigheden waarin betrokkene activiteiten ontplooit in het kader van de organisatie en het bestuur van de zaken van de instelling,
- g. het lidmaatschap van het bestuur van een studentenorganisatie van enige omvang met volledige rechtsbevoegdheid, dan wel van een vergelijkbare organisatie van enige omvang, bij wie de behartiging van het algemeen maatschappelijk belang op de voorgrond staat en die daartoe daadwerkelijk activiteiten ontplooit.
- h. andere in de onderwijs- en examenregeling, bedoeld in artikel 7.13 van de wet, op grond van artikel 7.13, tweede lid, onderdeel f, van de wet, vast te leggen persoonlijke omstandigheden,
- i. andere dan in de onderdelen a tot en met h bedoelde persoonlijke omstandigheden die, indien zij door het instellingsbestuur niet in de beoordeling zouden worden betrokken, zouden leiden tot een onbillijkheid van overwegende aard.

2 Het instellingsbestuur kan voor de toepassing van het eerste lid, onderdeel g, nadere regels vaststellen omtrent het aantal bestuursleden dat ten hoogste per organisatie per studiejaar in aanmerking komt, zomede omtrent welke bestuursfuncties in aanmerking komen.

Appendix IV (English)

Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act

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

- a. illness of the person concerned,
- b. physical, sensory or other impairment of the person concerned,
- c. pregnancy of the person concerned,
- d. extenuating family circumstances,
- e. membership, including the chairmanship of:

- 1. universities: the university council, faculty council, the body established under the participation regulation referred to in Article 9.30, paragraph 3, or Article 9.51, paragraph 2, of the Act, the programme management or the programme committee, or membership on the board of a foundation whose bylaws allow for the exploitation of facilities belonging to the student services, or an equivalent body with regard to its activities in the opinion of the board of the institution,
- 2. universities of applied sciences: the participation council, district council, student committee or programme committee,

- f. other circumstances to be designated by the board of the institution in the regulation as referred to in Article 7.8b, paragraph 6, and Article 7.9, paragraph 5, of the Act in which the person concerned engages in activities within the framework of the organization and the administration of the affairs of the institution,
- g. membership on the board of a student organization of a certain size with full legal capacity, or a similar organization of a certain size, whose primary task regards general societal interest and which actually develops activities for this purpose,
- h. other personal circumstances set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, pursuant to Article 7.13, paragraph 2, clause f of the Act,
- i. personal circumstances other than those referred to in a – h above which, if overlooked by the governing bodies of the institution, would lead to an obviously unfair outcome.

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