Teaching and Examination Regulations

Masterprogramme in Biomolecular Sciences Faculty of Science

Academic year 2020-2021

- A. Faculty section
- B1. Programme specific section general provisions
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Several articles for the 2020-2021 academic year will be temporarily suspended or amended as a result of the measures to stop the spread of COVID-19. These changes are included in Appendix V.

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 2020	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. CvB: the Executive Board of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

c. double degree programme: joint programme in the context of cooperation between Vrije

Universiteit Amsterdam and the educational institution within and 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';

d. EC (European Credit): an EC credit with a workload of 28 hours of study;

e. educational component: a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;

f. examination: the final examination of the Master's programme;

g. 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;

h. FGV: Faculty joint assembly – assembly of the faculty student council and

faculty staff council;

i. interim examination: an assessment of the student's knowledge, understanding and skills

relating to a course component. The assessment is expressed in terms of a final mark. An interim examination may consist of one or more partial examinations. A resit always covers the same material as the original

interim examination;

j. 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;

k. OLC: programme committee;



n. programme:

I. period: a part of a semester;

m. 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;

the totality and cohesion of the course components, teaching

activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and

recommended literature;

o. SAP/SLM: the student information system (Student Lifecycle Management);

p. semester: the first (September - January) or second half (February - August) of an

academic year;

q. specialization: optional route of study within a degree programme indicating a

deepening of the (inter/multi) disciplinary context of the programme;

r. 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://www.vu.nl/en/study-guide/;

s. study monitor: dashboard for students and academic advisors with data of the student

(studiemonitor): and that provides insight into the student's study progress;

t. subject: see 'educational component';

u. substituting course/ see under c (double degree programme). A course obtained at the

educational component: educational institute, within the context of cooperation, that is

mentioned in the diploma supplement as such; not being an 'exemption'.

v. Track: full route of study within a broad bachelor's or master's degree

programme or a fully English-language route of study within a Dutch-

language bachelor's or master's degree;

w. Thesis/internship work

placement::

scientific research, always resulting in a written report;

x. university: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam;

y. WHW: the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het Hoger

Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek);

z. workload: the workload of the unit of study to which an interim examination

applies, expressed in terms of credits = EC credits (ECTS = European Credit and Transfer Accumulation System). The workload for 1 year

(1,680 hours) is 60 EC credits.

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

2. Study programme structure

Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and educational components

1. The	study programme will be offered in a year divided into two semesters.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
2. Ever	semester consists of three consecutive periods of eight, eight and four weeks	Ordinance CvB,



	see appendix 3
3. An educational component comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB,
	see appendix 3
4. By way of exception to paragraph 3, the Executive Board may in special cases and on	Ordinance CvB,
request of the Faculty Board, stipulate that a unit of study comprises 3 EC or a	see appendix 3
multiple thereof.	

3. Assessment and Examination

Article 3.1 Signing up for education and interim examinations

pro	ery student must sign up to participate in the educational components of the ogramme, the examinations and resits. The procedure for signing up is described in annex to the Student Charter.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
2. Sig	gning up may only take place in the designated periods.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
is o	a student does not pass the examination and the resit of a component, the student obligated to take the whole component again. This rule does not apply to practical ercises and programmes that make use of partial marks that retain their validity. For rther regulations see Section B of the programme involved.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (7.13 x)

Article 3.2 Type of examination

ſ	1. At the examiner's request, the Examination Board may permit a different form of	Advice OLC,
	interim examination than is stipulated in the study guide.	Approval FGV
	internit examination than is supulated in the study guide.	(7.13 I)

Article 3.3 Oral interim examinations

1. An oral assessment is public unless the Examination Board in special cases determines	Advice OLC;
otherwise.	approval FGV
otherwise.	(7.13 I and n)

Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results

	1.	The examiner determines the result of a written interim examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within fifteen working days. By way of departure from that stipulated in the first clause, the marking deadline for theses, internships/ work placements and final assignments is no longer than twenty working days. The	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
		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.	
Ē	2.	a. 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 sentence of the first paragraph applies. b. The examiner determines the result of an interim examination no later than five working days before the next (interim) examination will be held.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)
	3.	In the case of alternative forms of 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 per educational	Ordinance CvB,
	component will be offered.	see appendix 3



	b. By way of exception to a., the options for retaking practical components, work					
	placements and theses are detailed in the relevant work placement manual, teaching					
	regulations or graduation regulations.					
2.	The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit. A retake is allowed for both	Ordinance CvB,				
	passed and failed units of study.	see appendix 3				
3.	The resit for a (partial) interim examination must not take place within ten working days	Advice OLC;				
	of the announcement of the result of the (partial) examination being resat.	approval FGV (7.13 j)				
4.	The Examination Board may allow a student an extra opportunity to sit an examination if that student:	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3				
	a) is lacking 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 assignments 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.					
5.	If an educational component is no longer offered in the following academic year, one	Advice OLC,				
	opportunity will be provided to sit the interim examination(s) or parts thereof during the	approval FGV (7.13 j)				
	current academic year and a transitional arrangement for the subsequent period will be	(7.13))				
	included in the programme-specific section of the teaching and examination regulation					
	(part B).					

Article 3.6 Marks

1.	1. Partial marks are given on a scale from 1 to 10 with no more than one decimal point.					
2.	The final marks are given in	whole or h	nalf point	S.		Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3
3.	In deviation from paragraph	n 2, final m	arks betv	veen 5 and	6 will be rounded off to whole	Ordinance CvB,
	marks: up to 5.50 rounded	down; fron	5.50 ro	unded up. ⁻	To pass a course, a 6 or higher	see appendix 3
	is required.					
	In case the examination of a	a compone	nt consis	ts of two o	r more parts, each of which are	
		•			meaning: the final mark) must	
	be rounded off using the fo	-		- (5 , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
		0				
		From	То	Grade		
		1,00	1,24	1		
		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		
		•		•	
4. The Examination Board car	າ allow to ເ	ise symb	ols rather th	nan numbers, for example;	Ordinance CvB,
v(oldaan), g(oed), n(iet)v(o	l)d(aan), et	tc.). In ca	se a studen	t does not take part in any	see appendix 3
(interim) examination, the	examiner v	will regist	er the mark	('ns' (c.g. no show).	

Article 3.7 Exemption

1.	At the written request of the student, the Examination Board may exempt the student from taking one or more examination components, if the student: a) has passed a course component of a university or higher professional education programme that is equivalent in terms of content and level; b) has demonstrated through their work and/or professional experience that the student has sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the relevant course	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 r)
2.	component. The Master's thesis, the final work placement (c.q. internship) and the final project (c.q. final paper) are excluded from this exemption possibility.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
3.	A maximum of 18 EC for a one-year master programme and 36 EC for a one two-year master programme can be accumulated through granted exemption. The substituting courses (educational components) 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. The Examination Board may decide to deviate from this regulation for a programme.	Advice OLC,

Article 3.8 Validity period for results

1.	The validity period of interim examinations passed and exemption from interim	Legal provision
	examinations is unlimited, unless otherwise specified in Section B.	
2.	The validity period of a partial examination is limited to the academic year in which it	Advice OLC;
	was sat or until the end of the unit of study concerned, as stipulated for the relevant	approval FGV
	unit of study in Section B.	(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 interim examination, the student can, on request, inspect their assessed work, the questions and assignments set in it, as well as the standards applied for marking. The place and time will be announced at the time of the interim examination or on VUnet or Canvas.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p en 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.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p en 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 an educational component has been registered, every student has the right to inspect the result for that component and also has a list of the results achieved at their disposal in VUnet.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
2	2. Enrolled students are eligible for academic student counselling. Academic student counselling is in any case provided by a. The Student General Counselling Service b. Student psychologists c. Faculty academic advisors	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)

Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability

	4.2 Facilities for students with a disability	
1.	A student with a disability can, at the moment of submission to VUnet, or at a later	Advice OLC;
	instance, submit a request to qualify for one or more special facilities with regard to	approval FGV
	teaching, practical training and interim examinations. These facilities will	(7.13 m)
	accommodate the student's individual disability as much as possible, but may not	
	alter the quality or degree of difficulty of a unit of study or an examination. In all	
	cases, the student must fulfil the exit qualifications for the study programme.	
2.	The request referred to in the first paragraph must be accompanied by a statement	Advice OLC;
	from a doctor or psychologist. If possible, an estimate should be given of the potential	approval FGV
	impact on the student's study progress. In case of a chronic disability a single (one	(7.13 m)
	time) request suffices.	
3.	Students who have been diagnosed with dyslexia must provide a statement from a	Advice OLC;
	BIG, NIP or NVO registered professional who is qualified to conduct psychological	approval FGV
	evaluation.	(7.13 m)
4.	The faculty board, or the responsible person on behalf of the faculty board, decides	Advice OLC;
	on teaching facilities and facilities regarding logistics. The Examination Board will rule	approval FGV (7.13 m)
	on requests for facilities with regard to examinations.	(7.13 III)
5.	In the event of a positive decision in response to a request as referred to in paragraph	Advice OLC;
	1, the student can make an appointment with the academic advisor to discuss the	approval FGV (7.13 m)
	details of the provisions.	(7.13 III)
6.	A request for one or more facilities can be refused if it would place a disproportionate	Advice OLC;
	burden on the organization or the resources of the faculty or university were it	approval FGV (7.13 m)
	upheld.	(7.13 III)
7.	If the disability justifies an extension of the interim examination time, the responsible	Advice OLC;
	person on behalf of the Examination Board will register in SAP this entitlement to an	approval FGV (7.13 m)
	extension. If a disability justifies other measures to be taken, the Examination Board	(7.13 III)
	will advise the Faculty Board on the necessary measures to be taken. The student can	
	consult the study monitor to check which facilities have been granted.	
8.	The decision as referred to in paragraph 5 is valid for a maximum period of one year	Advice OLC;
	with the exception for the chronic diseases and disabilities.	approval FGV (7.13 m)
<u> </u>		(7.13 111)



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 and unfairness, the faculty board responsible for the study programme will decide, unless the matter concerned is the responsibility of the Examination Board.

Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)



Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

1.	The programme Biomolecular Sciences CROHO number 60616 is offered on a full-	Advice OLC;
	time basis.	approval FGV
	time busis.	(7.13 i)

Article 6.1a Deviant size of educational component

Ву и	yay of derogation from art. 2.1 par. 3, the	units listed below have deviar	nt size of 3 EC:	Approval OLC
	Course code	Name course	EC	(art. 7.13 lid 2, under e),
	AM_1156	Scientific Writing in English (AM_BMOL)	3	approval CvB
	AM_1021	The Human Microbiome in Health and Disease	3	
	AM_471153	Thesis Based on Literature Study	9	

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	Advice OLC;
	guide.	approval FGV
	Saide:	(7.13 l)

Article 6.3 Academic student counselling

1.	The programme offers the following counselling in addition to the student	Advice OLC;
	counselling mentioned in Section A:	approval FGV
	- Master's coordinator, for study planning	(7.13 u)
	- Junior Lecturer, for study planning	

7. Further admission requirements

Article 7.1 Intake date(s)

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



Article 7.2 Admission requirements

	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: a. Knowledge and understanding of: - Biochemistry - Molecular Genetics - Molecular Biology - Cell Biology b. Practical laboratory and research skills - basic laboratory techniques and methods obtained in practicals and courses - preferably a bachelor research internship on a subject related to the topics mentioned under a.	Partly legal provison & ordinance CvB, see appendix 3. Admission requirements excepted from participation in WHW
2.	Applicants who wish to follow the track must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: Not applicable.	Partly legal provison & ordinance CvB, see appendix 3. Admission requirements excepted from participation in WHW
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	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
	admission requirements.	(9.38 300 0)
4.	An applicant should demonstrate sufficient level of proficiency in English by meeting at least one of the following standards, no more than two (2) years before the start of the programme at the VU: Not applicable.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
5.	 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 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 or C are exempted from the requirements referred to in paragraph 4. 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
6.	The Admission Board will decide whether the applicant meets the admission requirements.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 7.3 Selection criteria

1.	In addition to the admission requirements referred to in Article 7.2, the Faculty board	Partly legal
	also sets the following selection criteria:	provision &
	also sets the following selection criteria.	ordinance CvB,
		see appendix 3.
	 Applicants holding a BSc degree from a Dutch university in the Biomedical Sciences, 	Admission
	Life and Health Sciences (major Biomedical Sciences), Biology, Medical Natural	requirements
	Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Molecular Life Sciences, (Bio)Chemistry or a	excepted from



participation in WHW

related study, can enroll in the Master's programme. In all of the above cases, students should also meet the following criteria:

- An average Bachelor grade of 7.0 or higher;
- A Bachelor internship in a relevant field (Biochemistry/Molecular Cell Biology) with a minimum grade of 7.5.
- Applicants holding a university BSc degree in a field not mentioned above, holding a
 degree from another institute of higher education in the Netherlands, and
 applicants with a BSc degree from a university abroad should meet the following
 criteria:
 - A minimum of 24 EC coursework in Biochemistry/Molecular Cell Biology at the 300 level (last year of Bachelor).
 - An average Bachelor grade of at least 7.0 out of 10, or equivalent (GPA of at least 3.0 out of 4.0, second-class upper division or higher).
 - Bachelor internship in a relevant field (Biochemistry/ Molecular Cell Biology) with a minimum grade of 7.5 out of 10 or equivalent in other grading systems.
 If a final grade is not yet available, an interim evaluation by the internship supervision will be considered.
 - Experience with practical laboratory techniques gained in coursework and the Bachelor internship.
 - Academic competence suitable for commencing a Master's program and motivation for a career in research, which will be evaluated during an interview (either in person or online).
 - The Admission Board may set additional requirements if necessary, for example, Bachelor courses from the VU Minor Biomolecular Sciences.
- HBO/HLO students: Some HBO/HLO specializations, for example, the research specializations Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Cell Biology or Biotechnology, provide adequate preparation for the Biomolecular Sciences master's programme.
 The Admission Board will decide about admission on the basis of the above criteria.

Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

	1.	Applicants with a Bachelor's degree of a university of applied science (HBO) or a Bachelor's degree from an institution of academic higher education who wish to enter the programme but do not fulfill the admission requirements as stipulated in Article 7.2 can request admission to the pre-Master's programme: the Minor Biomolecular	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
_	2.	and Neurosciences, track Biomolecular Sciences. Further conditions and the procedure are set out in the relevant Pre-Master regulation of the faculty	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

8. Interim examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of interim examinations

1. Students may participate in interim and/or practical exercises of the components below only if they have passed the interim examination or examinations for the components mentioned herein after:

(7.13 h, s & t)

Advice OLC; approval FGV

- Students may start their first internship only if they have attended the compulsory course(s) of the specialization and have acquired 18EC of the specialization-specific courses.
- Students may participate in the second internship after passing the first internship



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: See Article 3.8 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations, section A. No further specific provisions.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)
2.	A student may request the Examination Board to extend the validity of an exam. If the exam shows that a student's knowledge is insufficient or outdated, or if the student's skills and insights evaluated in the exam 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



Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

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

Article 9.1 Workload

2020-2021

Ī	1. The programme has a workload of 120 EC.	Advice OLC;
		(7.13 a)

Article 9.2 Tracks and/or specializations

The programme has the following specializations:	Approval OLC;
- Molecular Cell Biology	(7.13 a)
- Biological Chemistry	
- Molecular Bioinformatics	

Article 9.3 Programme objective

The programme aims to prepare students for a scientific career within the international Life Sciences research community. The graduate is expected to be able to successfully commence PhD training. To this end, a graduate of the MSc programme Biomolecular Sciences possesses an academic attitude, and academic as well as practical skills. The programme aims to strengthen and deepen domain-specific knowledge acquired in BSc programs. Graduates should thoroughly understand the scientific process at large and in particular dispose of the necessary research-specific skills. The goal is to provide students with a broad and interdisciplinary knowledge of various approaches and techniques. In addition, we aim to teach them the skills and attitudes necessary for gaining insights into the societal impact of this kind of research, within a society that is facing an everincreasing threat by multifactorial as well as infectious diseases, invoking an everincreasing demand for the unravelling of processes in healthy and malfunctioning cells

Advice OLC; (7.13 a)

Article 9.4 Exit qualifications

1. At all events, a graduate of the study programme will have:

Approval OLC (7.13 c)

- A. Knowledge and understanding
 - has knowledge of the terminology, current theories, and research topics in the biomolecular sciences disciplines, such as molecular biology, biochemistry, cell biology, bioinformatics, and biophysics;
- B. Applying knowledge and understanding
 - can use the principles from the different disciplines in the design of research projects, the execution of research, and the analysis of results;
 - has command of the relevant research techniques, laboratory procedures, including safety measures, and the application of computer software relevant to the field; and the ability to solve emerging problems;
 - can collaborate with researchers from the same and other disciplines and can think interdisciplinary;

C. Making judgements

- is familiar with the general and specific scientific literature and knows how to analyze, summarize and critically evaluate this information;
- can independently and critically evaluate the planning and execution of research, interpret results; thereby, contributing to scientific discussions;



can reflect on ethical aspects of research, and applications of the results;	
 D. Communication is able to communicate experimental results in a lab-journal, written report, are oral presentation; 	nd
 E. Life-long learning has insight in the scientific and societal relevance of current research in biomolecular sciences and can apply scientific knowledge on issues in society; can incorporate and interpret new knowledge and insights into existing theorie in the domain of the Biomolecular Sciences; can evaluate his or her own functioning, both by self-reflection and in discussion with others. 	
2. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 1, a graduate of the track/specialization will have the following knowledge and understanding in the fie of: Not applicable.	Approval OLC (7.13 b)
Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of (interim) examinations	Approval OLC (7.13 c)

Article 9.5 Language of instruction

1.	The language of instruction is English.	Approval OLC (9.18)
2.	The 'Gedragscode vreemde taal' (code of conduct foreign languages) applies	Ordinance CvB, see appendix 3

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:	Advice OLC;
	- Honours activities: Running and contributing to the VU-student's Science	(7.13 a)
	magazine: writing and editing articles, taking interviews, organizing workshops.	
	- Participation in informal Pizza4Python programming meetings.	
3.	Educational components are categorized as specialized (400), research oriented (500)	Ordinance CvB,
	and highly specialized (600) level.	see appendix 3

Article 10.2 Compulsory educational components

 $\label{lem:component} \textit{A detailed description per educational component can be found in the Study Guide.}$

Educational component	course code	nr of EC	level	Advice OLC;
				(7.13 a)
All three specializations	I	l	<u> </u>	-
Scientific Writing in English	AM_1156	3	400	
Professionalism in Biomol. Science year 1	AM_1273	0	400	
Professionalism in Biomol. Science year 2	AM_1274	0	400	
Specialization Molecular Cell Biology				



Protein Science	AM_470145	6	400
Genomes and Gene Expression	AM_470614	6	400
Internship I Molecular Cell Biology	AM_471127	24-30	600
Internship II Molecular Cell Biology	AM_471128	36-30	600
Thesis Based on Literature Study	AM_471153	9	600
- Specialization Biological Chemistry:	•	•	•
Protein Science	AM_470145	6	400
Genomes and Gene Expression	AM_470614	6	400
Internship I Biological Chemistry	AM_471129	24-30	600
Internship II Biological Chemistry	AM_471130	36-30	600
Thesis Based on Literature Study	AM_471153	9	600
- Specialization Molecular Bioinformatics:			
Protein Science*	AM_470145	6	400
Genomes and Gene Expression*	AM_470614	6	400
Fundamentals of Bioinformatics	X_405052	6	400
Statistic with R	X_418156	6	400
Internship I	AM_471127	30	600
	or		
	AM_471129		
Bioinformatics / Data analysis project	AM_1261	24	600

Article 10.3a Elective educational components with special requirements

ice OLC;
3 a)



Article 10.3b Elective educational components

the Examination Board: Name of educational component	course code	nr of EC	level	1
·				
Specializations: Molecular Cell Biology and Biolog	ical Chemistry	1	II.	
The Human Microbiome in Health and Disease	AM_1021	3	500	
Caput Protein Structure as Molecular Basis of	AM_470120	6	500	
Disease				
Caput Molecular Biotechnology	AM_470604	6	500	
Caput Cellular Protein Trafficking	AM_470605	6	500	
Caput Epigenetics	AM_470606	6	500	
Caput Structural Biology	AM_470607	6	500	
Caput RNA Biology	AM_1208	6	500	
Developmental biology	AMU_0030	6	500	
Biophotonics	AM_1213	6	400	
Biobusiness	M_OBIOBUS10	3	500	
Structural Bioinformatics	X_405019	6	500	
Fundamentals of Bioinformatics	X_405052	6	400	
Advanced Biophysics	X_422583	6	400	
Introduction to Systems Biology	X_428565	6	400	
Project Computational Design and Synthesis	X_432734	6	400	
Biomolecular Screening	AM_1260	6	500	
Chemical Biology	X_432538	6	400	_
Specialization: Molecular Bioinformatics				-
Introduction to programming (Python)	X_401096	6	100	
Advanced Biophysics	X_422583	6	400	
Introduction to Systems Biology	X 428565	6	400	
Project Computational Design and Synthesis	X 432734	6	400	1
Biophotonics	AM_1213	6	400	
Biobusiness	M OBIOBUS10	3	500	1
The Human Microbiome in Health and Disease	AM 1021	3	500	1
Caput Protein Structure as Molecular Basis of	AM 470120	6	500	-
Disease	_			
Caput Molecular Biotechnology	AM_470604	6	500]
Caput Cellular Protein Trafficking	AM_470605	6	500	
Caput Epigenetics	AM_470606	6	500	
Caput Structural Biology	AM_470607	6	500	
If the student wishes to take a different educa permission must be obtained in writing from t			dvance	Advice OL (7.13 a)

Article 10.4 Practical exercise

The following components can be considered as practical exercises:				
Name of educational component	course code	nr of EC	level	
Internship I Molecular Cell Biology	AM_471127	24-30	600	
Internship II Molecular Cell Biology	AM_471128	36-30	600	



Internship I Biological Chemistry	AM_471129	24-30	600
Internship II Biological Chemistry	AM_471130	36-30	600
Bioinformatics / Data analysis project	AM_1261	24	600
Biophotonics	AM_1213	6	400
Biomolecular Screening	AM_1260	6	500

Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials

1.	In the case of a practical training, the student must attend at least 100% of the	Approval OLC
	practical sessions. Should the student attend less than 100%, the student must repeat	(7.13 d)
	the practical training, or the Examinations Board may have one or more	
	supplementary assignments issued.	
2.	In the case of a tutorial: Not applicable.	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	Approval OLC
	document 'Kwaliteitszorg Onderwijs BETA'.	(7.13 a1)

Article 11.2 Transitional provisions

By way of departure from the Teaching and Examination Regulations currently in force, the	
following transitional provisions apply for students who started the programme under a	
previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations:	
- The course Extreme Biology (AM_470509) and the Caput AIMMS Lectures and Seminars	
(X_432764) have been removed from the curriculum	

Advice and approval by the Programme Committee, on June 12th, 2020.

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly, on June 16th, 2020.

Adopted by the board of the Faculty of Science on July 17th, 2020.



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

section At 1 dealty section		
2. Study programme structure		
Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and educational components 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 interim 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		
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, i			
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. 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, tracks/specializations, exit qualifications and language		
Article 9.1 Workload	7.13 paragraph 2 sub g	
Article 9.2 Tracks and/or 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	
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 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 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 a		
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 underneath)

Onderwerpen Onderwijs – en Examenregeling (OER) 7.13 lid 2 WHW		FGV		OplC	
	ı	Α	1	Α	
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 binnen 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		IC
	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 specializations 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 study load 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 study load)				
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.				
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.				

Abbreviations used:

FGV: Faculty Joint Assembly
OLC: 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 (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	Signing up for education and interim examinations	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	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 components	Richtlijn Bachelor en Masteronderwijs, revised on 6 June 2017



Appendix IV

Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act (*Uitvoeringsbesluit*) Entered into force on 1 June 2018

(English underneath)

- 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.
- 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 Entered into force on 1 June 2018

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

- 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 woman concerned,
- d. extenuating family circumstances,
- e. membership, including the chairmanship of:
 - 1. at 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. at universities of applied science: the participation council, district council, student committee or
 - 2. at universities of applied science: 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 any size with full legal capacity, or a similar organization of any size, whose primary task regards general societal interest and which actually develops activities for this purpose.
- 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.



Appendix V

Addendum to the 2020-2021 Academic and Examination Regulations Master's degree programmes

Several articles for the 2020-2021 academic year will be temporarily suspended or amended as a result of the consequences of the measures to stop the spread of COVID-19. These amendments apply exclusively to the 2020-2021 academic year, which ends 31 August 2021. In this regard, reference is also made to the addendum to the Application and Registration Regulations for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Part B1 Programme-specific section

Article 7.2 Admission requirements

Supplementary to Article 7.2.1, students* are also admissible for the 2020-2021 academic year (start date September 2020) if, at the latest by 31 August 2020

they have earned at least 150 EC of the Bachelor's programme (university in The Netherlands or EEA (European Economic Area)) that confers entitlement to admission, under the following conditions:

- The Bachelor's degree certificate must still be obtained before 1 September 2021 or before the Master's degree certificate is obtained, whichever comes first. If this condition is not met, the student will not be able to continue or complete the Master's programme.
- Additional admission requirements (not EC related) remain applicable.

they have earned at least 24 EC of the bridging or pre-Master's programme, under the following conditions:

- The bridging or pre-Master's programme must still be successfully completed before 1
 September 2021 or before the Master's degree certificate is obtained, whichever comes first. If
 this condition is not met, the student will not be able to continue or complete the Master's
 programme.
- Additional admission requirements (not EC related) remain applicable.

*The above supplements do not apply to non-EEA students who must complete a Bachelor's programme outside of the Netherlands.

Article 7.4 Bridging or pre-Master's programme

Supplementary to Article 7.4.1, students* are also admissible for the 2020-2021 academic year (start date September 2020) if, at the latest by 31 August 2020 they have earned at least 210 EC of the designated HBO Bachelor's programme, under the following conditions:

- The HBO Bachelor's diploma must still be obtained before 1 September 2021 or before the bridging or pre-Master's programme is completed, whichever comes first. If this condition is not met, the student will not be able to complete or continue the programme.
- Additional admission requirements (not EC related) remain applicable.

*The above supplements do not apply to non-EEA students who must complete a Bachelor's programme outside of the Netherlands.

