

De Boelelaan 1117
1081 HV Amsterdam

postbus 7057
1007 MB Amsterdam

telefoon 020 444 4444
fax 020 444 3564

www.VUmc.nl

Dr. M. van Duist
Coördinator master oncology
BS7 D239



datum	ons kenmerk	telefoon	bijlage(n)
15 maart 2013	MvdM/mk/13.004	020-4441742	2
onderwerp	uw kenmerk	fax	e-mail
vaststelling		020-4448427	m.kersken@vumc.nl
OER-en 2013-2014			

Geachte mevrouw Van Duist,

In overleg met het Facultair Overleg heeft de raad van bestuur de OER m.b.t de researchmaster Oncology voor het collegejaar 2013- 2014 vastgesteld op 11februari 2013.

Ik stuur u ter kennisgeving een kopie van de goedgekeurde OER en een kopie van de instemmingsbrief van het facultair overleg mee.

Hierbij het verzoek de OC, EC en SR van de OER op de hoogte te brengen.

Ik hoop u hiermee voldoende te hebben geïnformeerd.


Met vriendelijke groet,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'W.A.B. Stalman', written over a horizontal line.

Prof.dr. W.A.B. Stalman
Decaan en vice voorzitter raad van bestuur VUmc



**Academic and examination regulations for the
master's programme in Oncology
2013-2014**

Opdrachtgever:	raad van bestuur VUmc	
Datum vaststelling:	11 februari 2013	
Vastgesteld door:	Prof.dr. W.A.B. Stalman Lid raad van bestuur VUmc decaan 	
Status:	definitief	

Academic and Examination Regulations (OER)

Master's degree programme in Oncology

Academic year 2013-2014

VUmc
School of Medical Sciences

Section 1 General provisions

- Article 1 Regulations' scope of application
- Article 2 Definitions
- Article 3 Aim of the degree programme
- Article 4 Degree programme types
- Article 5 English Language Requirement

Section 2 Admission to the programme

- Article 6 Previous education
- Article 7 Conditions of admission to programmes
- Article 8 Admissions Board
- Article 9 Restrictions on the number of students admitted to Master's degree programmes

Section 3 Composition of the degree programme

- Article 10 Composition of the degree programme
- Article 11 Study load

Section 4 Interim and final examinations

- Article 12 Number of examinations, time periods and frequency
- Article 13 Assessment
- Article 14 Types of interim examinations
- Article 15 Oral interim examinations
- Article 16 Determining and publishing interim examination results
- Article 17 Period of validity of interim examinations
- Article 18 Right to inspection
- Article 19 Reflective discussion of interim examinations
- Article 20 Exemption
- Article 21 Final examination

Section 5 - Study advice

- Article 22 Records of study progress
- Article 23 Study advice
- Article 24 Adaptations for students with disabilities

Section 6 – Transitional and final provisions

- Article 25 Conflicts with the regulations
- Article 26 Amendments to the regulations
- Article 27 Transitional Regulations
- Article 28 Publication
- Article 29 Date of commencement

Appendices

- I. Curriculum
- II. Composition of programmes/specialization
- IV. Transitional regulations

Section 1 General provisions

Article 1. Regulations' scope of application

1. These regulations apply to the educational activities associated with and examinations of the two year Master's degree programme in Oncology, hereinafter referred to as: 'the degree programme'.
2. The degree programme is offered by the School of Medical Sciences VUmc Amsterdam, hereinafter referred to as: 'the faculty'.
3. These regulations apply to anyone following the degree programme in this academic year, irrespective of when he or she started the degree programme. Where necessary, transitional regulations will also apply. These are appended to these regulations.
4. These regulations also cover the Topmaster's Programme, an additional component of the Master's Programme for the most excellent students of the Master in Oncology.

Article 2. Definitions

If the terms used in these regulations also occur in the Higher Education and Research Act (*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*, WHW), the meaning given in this Act will prevail. Below is a list of key terms and their definitions within the context of this document:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| a. The Act: | The Higher Education and Research Act, abbreviated as WHW. |
| b. (Programme) Component | A programme component as defined in Article 7.3, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Act. |
| c. Practical | A practical educational exercise as defined in Article 7.13, paragraph 2d of the Act, for example in the following forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- writing a thesis;- preparing an assignment, paper, project or prototype;- conducting a design or research assignment;- conducting a literature review;- completing a work placement/internship;- participation in fieldwork or an excursion;- conducting tests and experiments;- participation in other educational activities with the aim of developing specific skills; |
| d. Prospectus | The guide for the degree programme containing specific information relating to it. The Prospectus is available on www.med.vu.nl and on paper. |
| e. Institution | VU University Amsterdam |
| f. Blackboard | Electronic system intended for the sharing of educational information. |
| g. SIS | Student Information System |
| h. Disability | A disorder of a temporary or permanent nature which affects the student's ability to follow the programme or to complete interim examinations or practicals. |
| i. Follow-up Master's | The degree programme to which access is legally granted on the basis of a designated Bachelor's degree programme. |
| j. Selective master | The Master's degree programme not designated as a follow-up Master's |
| k. EC | European Credit |
| m. Examination Board | The examination board is organized in accordance with Article 7.12 of the Act, responsible for the quality of examination within the master programme. |
| n. Executive Board | The management of the institution as referred to article 1.1 and 10.8 of the Act; |
| o. Admission Board | the board responsible for admission of students according the admission criteria as mentioned in section 2 article 6 |

- p. course coordinator individual responsible for the organization, execution and quality of a programme component
- q. programme committee committee as referred to in article 10.3c of the Act in which representatives of students and teachers together advice the management on the quality of the master programme.

Article 3. Aim of the degree programme

1. The degree programme aims to achieve the following:

- to prepare the student to practice as an independent professional scientist in the field of Oncology,
- to teach the student specialized knowledge, skills and understanding in the field of Oncology

After completion of the programme, students will be qualified to work as researchers with an independent work attitude, capable of successfully completing a PhD programme; or able to work in a research institution and tackle multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary questions in oncology with an emphasis on translational research, translating fundamental insights into clinical applications and/or clinical experiences into fundamental insights.

2. The degree programme also promotes the academic education of the student, in particular with reference to:

- independent, academic thought processes and performance;
- communicating at an academic level in the student's own and English language;
- applying specialist academic knowledge in a wider and/or philosophical and social context;
- awareness of ethical aspects in medical research.

3. The degree programme focuses attention on the student's personal development, promotes his or her awareness of social responsibility and develops students' skills of expression in the English language. (Learning outcomes and objectives of the Master's Programme in Oncology)

Article 4. Degree programme type

The degree programme is offered on a full-time basis.

Article 5 English Language Requirement

1. For admission to an English-language Master's degree programme, the applicant must complete a certified English-language test before beginning the programme.

2. The minimum requirements for students' English language proficiency is one of the following:

- IELTS average: 6.5 (with all separate components 6.0 or higher)
- TOEFL paper based test: 580
- TOEFL computer based test: 237
- TOEFL internet based test: 92-93

3. The following are exempt from this test:

- anyone who has passed all the distinct components of an English test (IELTS/TOEFL) no longer than one year before commencement of the programme;
- anyone who has met the requirements of the VU English language proficiency test: TOEFL ITP;
- anyone who has completed a previous course in the English language in an English-speaking country included on the relevant list issued by the International Office;

Section 2 Admission to the degree programme

Article 6. Previous education

1. Students will be admitted to the degree programme if they hold a certificate of admission, issued by or on behalf of the School of medical Sciences because they have demonstrated that they meet the knowledge, understanding and skills requirements reflecting the final level of attainment in an academic Bachelor's degree programme, i.e.:
 - a) knowledge, understanding and skills in the subject of Oncology and Immunology as described in Pecorino; *Molecular Biology of Cancer (Mechanisms, Targets, and Therapeutics)*; Oxford University Press (ISBN 0-19-926472-4) and Charles A. Janeway, *Immunobiology*, Chapters 1 - 9, Fifth edition, Garland Publishing (ISBN 0-4430-7098), respectively.
 - b) Tangible laboratory experience.Level of knowledge and/or laboratory experience will be evaluated by the Admissions Board.
2. An assessment of the knowledge of oncology, immunology and student's research interpretation skills is part of the admission procedure. Detailed information about the content and planning of the oncology assessment will be published on www.masteroncology.nl. Students may be admitted to the programme on the basis of a decision to that effect taken by the Admissions Board of the Master's Programme. The Admissions Board may raise additional conditions to the student before granting admission to the Master's Programme.
3. Only when severe mental or health problems interfered with completing the final bachelor year, VU university students not yet in possession of an eligible Bachelor's degree, but conditionally admitted after completing the oncology assessment, can be admissible as an exception to that stipulated in paragraph 2. The Examination Board needs to be provided with a written declaration of the bachelor's student counsellor stating the student's right of exemption. In this case of the total number of 180 EC required, no more than 6 (six) may have been omitted. The subjects Oncology and Immunity must already have been passed. The missing credits must have been secured at the latest by 1st of June of the calendar year after that in which the Master's programme was entered. The Master's degree programme cannot be completed before the Bachelor's degree has been awarded.
4. Applicants who have already successfully completed the pre-Master's programme designated for this Master's programme and have received a certificate of admission as proof thereof, may also be admitted.
5. As an exception to that stipulated in paragraph 5, students who have not yet completed the pre-Master's programme can also be admissible, on the condition that of the total number of 60 EC required, no more than 12 EC have been omitted. The subjects Oncology and Immunity must already have been passed. The missing credits must have been secured at the latest by 1st of June of the calendar year after that in which the Master program was entered. The Master's degree programme cannot be completed before the pre-Master's programme has been completed.
6. Students who obtained a Biomedical Sciences or related bachelor diploma and meeting the qualifications specified in Paragraph 1 and 2 are invited to apply.
7. Students with a Bachelor's degree obtained at a university or institute of higher education, not meeting the qualifications specified in Paragraph 1 and 2, will not receive direct admission to the programme.
However, they may be admitted to the programme on the basis of a decision to that effect taken by the Admissions Board of the Master's Programme. The Admissions Board may raise additional conditions to the student before granting admission to the Master's Programme.
8. Students in possession of an equivalent degree obtained at an institution outside of the Netherlands may be admitted to the programme on the basis of a decision to that effect taken by the Admissions Board of the Master's Programme. The Examination Board may raise additional conditions to the student before granting admission to the Master's Programme.
9. In all cases other than those specified in Paragraphs 1 to 9, the final decision rests with the Admissions Board.

10. The certificate of admission relates exclusively to the academic year following the academic year in which the application for the certificate was submitted, unless the Executive Board decides otherwise.

Article 7 Conditions of admission to programmes

The following conditions of admission apply to the distinct programmes within the degree programme, in addition to that stipulated in Article 6, paragraph 1:

- Topmaster programme:

The student's previous education must have included the following subjects and the minimum study load indicated:

- The mark of the bachelor or HLO work placement is ≥ 7.5 .
- The marks of the compulsory master courses in the programme are on average ≥ 7.5 , with a minimum score of 7.0.
- All courses within the master programme have to be completed successfully in the first instance.
- Maximum top 20% of the class can participate in the Topmaster programme.

Article 8 Admissions Board

1. Responsibility for admitting students to the degree programme, including the distinct programmes, is delegated to the Admissions Board for the degree programme by the School of medical sciences.
2. The School of Medical Sciences is responsible for drawing up the Admissions Regulations.

Article 9 Restrictions on the number of students admitted to Master's degree programmes

1. At the latest two months before the deadline for applications, specified in the Application and Registration Regulations, the School of Medical Sciences can submit a proposal to the Executive Board specifying the maximum number of students to be admitted to the degree programme and the associated programmes.
2. If a restriction on numbers applies, the Admissions Board will determine a series of criteria to be used to rank the applications submitted. These criteria are public and will be announced before the 1st of June on Masteroncology.nl website.
3. The Admissions Board will then offer admission to the candidates in the order of ranking.

Section 3 Composition of the degree programme

Article 10 Composition of the degree programme

1. The degree programme will comprise the components listed in the appendix to these Academic and Examination Regulations.
2. When performing the practical components, students must adhere to the faculty's safety regulations.

Article 11 Study load

The degree programme has a study load of 120 EC. One EC is equivalent to 28 hours of study.

Section 4 Interim and final examinations

Article 12 Number of interim examinations, time periods and frequency

1. There are two opportunities to take interim examinations in the degree programme in each academic year.
 - the first time immediately following the teaching period in which the subject is offered;
 - the second time during the re-sit period.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the previous paragraph, participation in practical components is only possible once a year. If a student is absent for serious reasons the student can discuss an extra opportunity with the course coordinator and Examination Board.
3. An annual timetable is issued detailing when written interim examinations may be taken and is published before the start of the academic year on the Master Communication site on Blackboard.
4. Without prior permission from the Examination Board, students may sit a given interim examination no more than four times. When the maximum of four interim examinations has been reached, without successful completion of the examination component in question, the Examination Board will determine whether, and under what conditions, the candidate can be admitted to future interim examinations. Requests for admission should be submitted in writing.
5. If no indication is provided with regard to the number of times an interim examination may be taken in each academic year, because this concerns a subject not provided by the degree programme itself, that stipulated in the Academic and Examination Regulations for the relevant degree programme will apply.
6. As an exception to paragraph 1, if a subject is not taught in a given academic year, at least one opportunity to sit an interim examination in that subject will be offered during the course of that year.
7. In exceptional cases, the Examination Board may issue permission for the rules regarding the number of times in which interim examinations may be taken to be waived.

Article 13 Assessment

1. An interim examination is assessed with marks in the range of 1-10 and referred to as a pass or a fail (expressed as a mark): 6 or higher (pass) and 5 or lower (fail). Obtained marks within the range of 5 and 6 will be registered as a 6.0 if 5.5 or higher and a 5.0 if obtained 5.4 or lower.
2. If a written interim examination is made up of several components, no assessment will be made of this examination until all components have been tested.
3. The assessment of a work placement/internship or a research assignment will be issued by the examiners after consultation with the relevant supervisor on site.
4. In addition to, or instead of, classes in the form of lectures, the elements of the Master's examination programme often include a practical component, as defined in Article 2. The Prospectus contains information on the types of classes used in each part of the programme. Attendance during practical components is mandatory. In addition, active participation in the practical component and/or completion of the assignments handed out during the practical components can influence the final mark.
5. If a student re-sits an examination component, the highest mark will count. Re-sitting of passed examinations is not allowed.
6. As an exemption on Article 13.7 the Examination Board may decide at the request of the student to resit an examination already passed if mental or health problems prevented the student performance.
7. When an assessment of a compulsory course is composed of several interim examinations each component should at least be completed with 5,5 or more.
8. A minimum of 18 EC of the first four compulsory courses needs to be obtained before a student can start with an internship or literature study assignment.

Article 14 Types of interim examinations

1. The interim examinations will be taken in the manner described in the prospectus for the degree programme.

2. If no indication is provided with regard to the manner in which an interim examination may be taken, because this concerns a subject not provided by the degree programme itself, that stipulated in the prospectus for the relevant degree programme will apply.
3. The Examination Board can deviate from that stipulated in paragraph 1. A request to do so can be submitted by the student or by the examiner at least two weeks in advance.

Article 15 Oral interim examinations

1. Unless specified otherwise by the Examination Board, no more than one student at a time will sit an oral interim examination.
2. Unless otherwise specified by the Examination Board, a second examiner will be present during an oral interim examination.
3. Oral interim examinations will be public unless decided otherwise by the Examination Board or the relevant examiner in exceptional cases. Students can submit a corroborated objection against the examination being held in public to the Examination Board. The Examination Board will weigh the student's objection against the interests of holding a public examination.
4. Before the commencement of an oral interim examination, the student shows valid proof of enrolment and a valid identification document.

Article 16 Determining and publishing interim examination results

1. The examiner will determine the results of the written interim examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within fifteen working days after the examination has been taken. The examiner will provide the programme secretariat with the relevant information. The faculty Education Office will ensure that the results are recorded in SIS and/ or published on Blackboard within twenty working days after the examination has been taken, with due regard for the student's privacy.
2. If, as a result of exceptional circumstances, the examiner is likely to exceed the deadline, he or she must inform the Examination Board, stating reasons, which will then ensure that the student is informed of the new deadline.
3. The examiner will determine the result of an oral interim examination immediately after the examination in question and will give the student a written explanation of this decision.
4. With regard to interim examinations that are neither written nor oral, the Examination Board will decide in before the end of the course in which a specific exam is given how the student will be informed of the results and how long that will take.
5. When notified of the result for an interim examination, the student will also be informed of the right of inspection as referred to in Article 21, as well as the option of appealing to the Examination Appeals Board.
6. In the event that the Examination Board ascertains that a student has committed fraud, it is entitled to take measures against the student.

Article 17 Period of validity of interim examinations

1. The period of validity of interim examinations is 4 years, as from the year the interim examination has been taken.
2. In cases where it has been over four years since the student successfully completed the interim examination in a given component, the Examination Board may decide that he or she is required to sit an additional or replacement interim examination in that component before being permitted to sit the final examination.

Article 18 Right of inspection

1. For a period of at least thirty days following publication of the results for a written interim examination, the student will upon request be given the opportunity to inspect his or her assessed work. If a student intends to appeal against the way in which his or her work has been assessed, he or she will be issued with a copy of the assessed work at cost price.
2. Within the period of July-August the period noted in paragraph 1 can be prolonged to a maximum of 60 working days.
3. During the period specified in the first paragraph, any student can be informed of the questions and assignments in the examination in question, as well as the standards against which the assessment was conducted.
4. The Examination Board has the right to determine that the inspection referred to in paragraphs 1 to 3 takes place at a given location and at a fixed time.
5. If the student can demonstrate that he or she is or was unable to attend at the place and time indicated, he or she will be granted another opportunity to do so.
6. The locations and times indicated in the first sentence will be announced before the start of the course.

Article 19 Reflective discussion of interim examinations

1. As soon as possible after the results of an oral interim examination have been announced, a reflective discussion will be held between the examiner and the student at the request of the student or on the initiative of the examiner. If requested, a justification of the assessment will be given.
2. For a period of 20 working days after the publication of the results of a written interim examination, the student can request a reflective discussion with the relevant examiner. The reflective discussion will take place within 3 weeks after the interim examination at a time and location determined by the examiner.
3. If the Examination Board organizes or arranges a collective reflective discussion, students may only submit a request as stipulated in the previous paragraph if they have been unable to attend the collective discussion for reasons beyond their control.
4. That stipulated in paragraph 3 applies if the Examination Board or the examiner offers the student the opportunity to compare his or her answers with model answers.
5. The Examination Board can decide to permit exceptions in favour of the students to the provisions in paragraphs 2 and 3.

Article 20 Exemption

1. After soliciting the advice of the relevant examiner, the Examination Board can grant exemption from an interim examination or practical, based on an examination or practical successfully completed in the past within higher education in the Netherlands or elsewhere, the content and study load of which correspond to the component for which exemption has been requested.
2. If a student wishes to meet the requirements of specific interim examinations by studying at a different faculty or (Dutch or foreign) university, prior approval is required from the Examination Board.
3. If the Examination Board grants a student exception from a component of the examinations, then the credits for that component are registered in the year in which exception is granted. The credits do not count towards time-related grants or performance grants.

Article 21 Final examination

1. If the examinations for the programme components relating to the degree programme have been completed successfully, the final examination has been completed.
2. The Examination Board can, notwithstanding par. 1, inspect whether a student may or may not have sufficient skills with regard to (parts of) the study. If appropriate, the Examination Board can determine the according results and the final exam.

3. Students who have successfully completed the final examination will be conferred the title 'Master of Science' by the Executive Board.

4. Details of the degree awarded will be recorded on the degree certificate in question. In relevant cases, details of the degree can be recorded in the diploma supplement.

Section 5 - Study advice

Article 22 Records of study progress

1. The School of Medical Sciences will ensure records are kept of study results in order to enable students to consult the student portal at any time for details of the results they have achieved for the various teaching components in the degree programme.

2. The progress results of all students are filed and are handled strictly confidential

Article 23 Study advice

The School of Medical Sciences will ensure that students enrolled for the degree programme are provided with study advice. This will always include:

- The services offered by the study advisor of the Faculty of Medicine
- Annual evaluations with the study coordinator

Article 24 Adaptations for students with disabilities

1. Students with a disability will qualify for special adaptations to the teaching provided, interim examinations and practicals, based on a written request submitted for that purpose to the study advisor. These adaptations will be tailored as far as possible to the individual disability of the student, but are not permitted to affect the quality or level of difficulty of the subject or final examination programme. The facilities available for this purpose may consist of examinations and/or practicals whose nature and duration is attuned to the situation of the individual concerned, or providing practical aids.

2. The request referred to in paragraph 1 must be submitted via the study advisor and accompanied by a recent recommendation from a student advisor. This recommendation is based on a statement from a doctor or psychologist. In the case of dyslexia, no recommendation from a student counsellor is required and a statement from a BIG, NIP or NVO accredited testing centre will suffice. Where possible, the statement should include an estimation of the extent to which progress of study will be hindered. Foreign statements of dyslexia will be assessed by the VU and compared with the Dutch statements.

3. A statement as referred to in paragraph 2 is valid for a maximum of one year. In the case of a chronic disorder, this period of validity may be extended at the recommendation of a student counsellor.

4. The School of medical sciences will decide on any requests for adaptations relating to the educational facilities. The Examination Board will decide on any requests for adaptations relating to the process of examining.

Section 6 – Transitional and final provisions

Article 25 Conflicts with the regulations

If a prospectus or other regulations relating to the study programme or the examination programme are in conflict with the OER, that stipulated in the OER will take precedence.

Article 26 Amendments to the regulations

1. Amendments to these regulations are implemented by the School of Medical Sciences, by means of an individual decision. This takes place following a recommendation by the programme committee relating to the regulations in their entirety, and with the endorsement of a Joint Meeting of those sections which do not relate to the subject of Article 7.13 paragraphs 2 a to g, and paragraph 3 (follow-up Master's) of the WHW and the admission requirements for Master's degree programmes.

2. An amendment to this regulation will not take effect during the current academic year, unless this does not unreasonably affect the interests of the students.

Article 27 Transitional Regulations

1. In the event that substantive changes are made to the composition of the study programme or to the contents of these regulations, the School of medical Sciences will draft transitional regulations which will be appended to these regulations.

2. These transitional regulations will always include:

a. a regulation relating to exemptions that may be awarded on the basis of examinations already secured;

b. the period of validity of the transitional regulations.

3. If a subject in the compulsory study programme is discontinued, a further two opportunities will be offered after the final teaching in the subject to sit the interim examination in the subject. Resits will take place in the academic year subsequent to the final academic year in which teaching in the subject was offered.

Article 28 Unforeseen situations

1. In cases that are not provided for by these regulations, the decision of the Examination Board is final.

2. In the case of disputes, the Executive Board's decision will be final.

Article 29 Publication

1. The School of Medical Sciences will ensure that these regulations are published on www.med.vu.nl. This also applies to the rules and guidelines drawn up by the Examination Board, and to any amendments to these documents.

2. The Education Office will furnish any interested parties with a copy of the documents referred to in the first paragraph.

Article 30 Date of commencement

These regulations come into force on 1 September 2013.

Endorsement by Joint Meeting, 4/02/2013

Adopted by the VUmc School of medical Sciences on 11/02/2013

Appendices

I. Curriculum

Article 1. Composition of the degree programme

The Master's Programme is worth 120 EC. The credits are divided over two years of study, each comprising 60 EC.

The Master's Programme has research profile ('R' profile) and no specializations.

The Master's examination programme consists of the following components, with the study load for each component given in EC. This applies to all first year students who register for a Master's Programme for the first time in 2013-2014.

Component	Total EC
Compulsory courses	30 EC
Optional courses	15 EC
2 research projects including the Master's Thesis	66 EC
Literature survey	9 EC
Total	120 EC

Article 2. Compulsory courses

First Semester:

The compulsory courses of the Master's Programme in Oncology include:

Name	EC
Oncogenesis	6
Tumour Immunology	6
Tumour Biology and Clinical Behaviour	6
Innovative Tumour Therapies	6
Scientific writing in English	3
Biostatistics	3

The sequence of interim examinations follows the schedule of the compulsory and optional courses. The compulsory courses are given during the period from September 2013 – February 2014. First year students starting in September 2013 are only allowed to start the first placement after they have taken all compulsory courses.

Second, third and fourth Semester:

Can be composed according to the student's own study programme comprising of 15 EC of optional courses, 66 EC research projects divided over two placements and 9 EC of literature survey. Additional information can be found below and in the perspective.

Article 3. Optional courses

The optional courses are aimed at both theoretical, practical as ethical and social aspects of oncology research. The number of courses offered by the VU medical center varies every year. At the start of every year the Examination Board decides on the program. Students may also take selected subjects and courses from other Master's Programmes. In all cases these options have to be submitted to the Examination Board for approval.

1. In addition to the compulsory components in the degree programme, students can choose one or more optional components with a total study load of at least 15 EC. The Examination Board will decide whether these optional components effectively meet the requirements of the degree programme.
2. The components which may be selected are listed in the prospectus. In exceptional cases, the Examination Board may allow one or more components from other University master programmes to be selected.

Article 4. Practicals

The Master's degree in Oncology includes two research-based practical placements. The Master's thesis is written about the second placement and includes an oral presentation of the project within the research group of the examiner. The practical placements equal a total of 66 EC. The first one counting for 27 till 33EC and the second one counting for 33 till 39 EC.

The work placements must comply with the following conditions:

- Both practical placements must be carried out in a research laboratory which is recognized by the Programme.
- The first practical placement must be completed within a laboratory of one of the partners of the OOA (Oncology Graduate school Amsterdam www.ooa-graduateschool.org).
- The second practical placements may be carried out outside this network in the Netherlands or abroad.
- The second practical placements must deal with a purely oncological topic while the first can be in a field that is related to oncological research.
- The choice of practical placements has to be submitted to the Examination Board for approval at least four weeks before the starting date of the practical placement.
- Students are not allowed to start their practical placement without receiving approval of the Examination Board. If a student decides to not apply to this rule the work done outside the approved period will not be valid for registration.
- Students are responsible for providing their supervisors with the rules and regulations regarding practical training and literature study of the academic year in which the assignment is started. This document can be found on the Blackboard Master Oncology communication site or can be requested at the administration office by sending an e-mail to masteroncology@vumc.nl.
- The student will present their work from one of the practical placements during the graduation ceremony. Participation to the graduation ceremony is compulsory.

Both practical placements must contain the following elements:

- Theoretical deepening of understanding in the field of oncology specific to the placement
- Elaboration, performance and analysis of the research assignment
- Formulation of conclusions and recommendations
- Production of a written report in English
- Presentation of an oral report in English

The final mark awarded for the practical placements is based on the quality of the practical work (50%), the report (25 %) and the oral presentation (25 %).

The Examination Board can, to a limited extent of 6 EC, grant the student permission to extend a period of practical placement. The student must request this before the end of the practical placement. Approval for the extension of a placement is given once-only. The extension will be at the expense of optional courses. The mark for the extension is equal to the mark for the placement and is registered as a separate component.

The Master's thesis includes the results of the oncological research project of the second practical placement, integrated with, and from the perspective of the knowledge acquired in the theoretical courses.

- The Master's thesis will have a uniform cover provided and designed by the Master program.
- The Master's thesis will be defended in public within the laboratory or department where the placement has been executed.

The literature survey is worth 9 EC and must be composed either in the format of a review paper or in the format of a research proposal. The literature survey must be purely written on a oncology subject and should comply with the following conditions:

- The final mark for the literature survey will be composed out of the result for the outline (10%), the final report (70%) and an oral presentation (20%) about the project.
- Although it is supervised by a member of the teaching staff, the literature survey must be carried out largely independently.
- Working within the limitations governing this section of the programme, the student must be able to efficiently absorb and critically evaluate the literature in a given sub-field.
- On the basis of this literature study, the student will be able to clearly indicate the current state of affairs in the sub-field in question.
- In addition, the student will be able to point out limitations and problems, formulate recommendations for further research and indicate problem-solving strategies, dependent on the context of the research.
- Production of a written literature survey in English
- Presentation of an oral literature survey in English
- The choice of literature survey has to be submitted to the Examination Board for approval at least four weeks before the starting date of the literature survey.
- The subject of the literature survey must be approved by the Examination Board before starting.

Article 5. Composition of Programmes/ Specialisations

In addition to the programme components referred to in Appendix I, The Topmaster's Programme includes all components of the Master's Programme plus

- the compulsion to do additional courses worth 12 EC to be completed within the course period of 2 years
- the compulsion to do one placement in a renowned research institute abroad
- during the Topmaster's Programme the level of the marks has to be continued at 7.5 at least and obtained at the first instance
- Students are required to write a study of literature which is suitable for publication in a peer reviewed journal

Article 6. Transitional regulations

The OER applies to all students of the Master's programme in oncology. If the OER in place has a negative outcome on a cohort of students the OER of the year in which they started the programme will apply

Studentenraad VUmc
Van der Boechorststraat 7, BK-42
1081 BT Amsterdam



Amsterdam, 4 februari 2013

Aan mevrouw M.C. van der Meijde
Directeur IOO
BS 7 D-134

Betreft: Instemming Academic and Examination Regulations van het Master's degree programme in Oncology 2013-2014

Geachte mevrouw Van der Meijde,

De Academic and Examination Regulations van het Master's degree programme in Oncology voor het studiejaar 2013-2014 is door de Studentenraad VUmc en de Ondernemingsraad VUmc definitief goedgekeurd op 4 februari 2013.

Met vriendelijke groeten,

Namens de Studentenraad VUmc

Philip Frankenmolen
Voorzitter Studentenraad VUmc 2012-2013

Namens de Ondernemingsraad VUmc

Inge Schadee-Eestermans
Voorzitter Ondernemingsraad VUmc

