

Teaching and Examination Regulations

Masters' programmes Faculty Religion and Theology

Academic year 2019-2020

A. Faculty section

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam



Faculty of Religion
and Theology

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1. General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations

1. These Regulations apply to anyone enrolled for the programme, irrespective of the academic year in which the student was first enrolled for the programme.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. These Regulations enter into force with effect from 1 September 2019	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. EC (European Credit): an EC credit with a workload of 28 hours of study;
- d. educational component: a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;
- e. examination: the final examination of the Master's programme;
- f. FGV: Faculty joint assembly – assembly of the faculty student council and faculty staff council;
- g. 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;
- h. 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;
- i. OLC: programme committee;
- j. period: a part of a semester;
- k. 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;
- l. programme: the totality and cohesion of the course components, teaching activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and recommended literature;
- m. SAP/SLM: the student information system (*Student Lifecycle Management*);
- n. semester: the first (September - January) or second half (February - August) of an

- academic year;
- o. 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/>;
- p. subject see 'educational component';
- q. thesis: a component comprising research into the literature and/or contributing to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;
- r. university: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam;
- s. WHW: the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (*Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek*);
- t. 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
2. Every semester consists of three consecutive periods of eight, eight and four weeks	Ordinance CvB
3. An educational component comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB
4. By way of exception to paragraph 3, Section B may stipulate that a unit of study comprises 3 EC or a multiple thereof. The Faculty Board requests permission from the Executive Board .	Ordinance CvB

3. Assessment and Examination

Article 3.1 Signing up for education and interim examinations

1. Every student must sign up to participate in the educational components of the programme, the examinations and resits. The procedure for signing up is described in an annex to the Student Charter.	Ordinance CvB
2. Signing up may only take place in the designated periods.	Ordinance CvB

Article 3.2 Type of examination

1. At the student's request, the Examinations Board may permit a different form of interim examination than that stipulated in the course catalogue. If applicable, more detailed regulations on this are included in the Rules and Guidelines for the Examinations Board.	Advice OLC, Approval FGV (7.13 l)
2. In an educational component is no longer offered in the academic year following its termination, at least one opportunity will be provided to sit the interim examination(s) or parts thereof and a transitional arrangement will be included in the programme-specific section for the subsequent period.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (7.13 j)

Article 3.3 Oral interim examinations

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

1. The examiner determines the result of a written interim examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within ten working days. By way of departure from that stipulated in the first clause, the marking deadline for theses and final assignments is no longer than twenty working days. The examiner will then immediately ensure that the marks are registered and also ensures that the student is immediately notified of the mark, taking due account of the applicable confidentiality standards.	Ordinance CvB
2. The examiner determines the result (i.e. mark) of an oral examination as soon as possible after the examination has finished and informs the student accordingly within 10 working days. The third clause of the first paragraph applies.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)
3. In the case of alternative forms of oral or written examinations, the Examinations Board determines in advance how and by what deadline the student will be informed of the results.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 o)
4. A student can submit a request for reassessment to the examiner. A request for reassessment does not affect the time period for lodging an appeal.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 3.5 Examination opportunities

1. a. Per academic year, two opportunities to take examinations per educational component will be offered. b. The options for retaking practical components, work placements and theses are detailed in the relevant work placement manual, teaching regulations or graduation regulations.	Ordinance CvB
2. The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit. A retake is allowed for both passed and failed units of study.	Ordinance CvB
3. The resit for a (partial) interim examination must not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the result of the (partial) interim examination being resat.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 j)
4. The Examination Board may allow a student an extra opportunity to sit an examination if that student: a) is lacking only those credits to qualify for his or her degree; 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 1 July. If necessary, the method of examination may deviate from the provisions in the study guide.	Ordinance CvB

Article 3.6 Marks

1. Marks are given on a scale from 1 to 10 with no more than one decimal point.	Ordinance CvB
2. The final marks are given in whole or half points.	Ordinance CvB
3. Final marks between 5 and 6 will be rounded off to whole marks: up to 5.5 rounded down; from 5.5 rounded up. To pass a course, a 6 or higher is required.	Ordinance CvB
4. The Examination Board can allow to use symbols rather than numbers, for example;	Ordinance CvB

v(oldaan), g(oed), n(iet)v(ol)d(aan), etc.)	
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Article 3.7 Exemption

1. At the written request of the student, the Examination Board may exempt the student from taking one or more examination components, if the student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> has passed a unit of study of a university or higher professional education programme that, in terms of subject area, level and study load, is at least equal to the requirements of the unit of study for which an exemption is requested; has demonstrated through his/her work and/or professional experience that he/she has sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the relevant course component. 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 r)
2. The Master's thesis is excluded from this exemption possibility.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 3.8 Validity period for results

1. The validity period of interim examinations passed and exemption from interim examinations is unlimited, unless otherwise specified in Section B.	Legal provision
2. The validity period of a partial examination is limited to the academic year in which it was sat or until the end of the unit of study concerned, as stipulated for the relevant unit of study in Section B.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 3.9 Right of inspection and post-examination discussion

1. For twenty working days after the announcement of the results of a written interim examination, the student can, on request, inspect his or her assessed work, the questions and assignments set in it, as well as the standards applied for marking. The place and time referred to in the previous clause will be announced at the time of the interim examination or on 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 his or her own.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 q)
3. Students who meet the requirements stipulated in paragraph 1 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 his or her disposal in VUnet.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
2. Enrolled students are eligible for academic student counselling. Academic student counselling is in any case provided by <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Student General Counselling Service Student psychologists Faculty academic advisors 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)

Article 4.2 Adaptations for students with a disability

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

5. Hardship clause

Article 5.1 Hardship clause

In instances not regulated by the Teaching and Examination Regulations or in the event of demonstrable extreme unreasonableness and unfairness, the faculty board responsible for the study programme will decide, unless the matter concerned is the responsibility of the Examinations Board.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Advice and approval by the Programme Committee, on 14 March 2019

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly, on 25 April 2019

Adopted by the board of the Faculty of the Faculty of Religion and Theology on 19 June 2019

Teaching and Examination Regulations

Master's programme Theology and Religious Studies (60 EC)

Faculty of Religion and Theology

Academic year 2019-2020

B1. Programme specific section – general provisions

B2. Programme specific section – content of programme

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Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

1. The programme Master Theology and Religious Studies CROHO number 60824 is offered on a full-time and part-time basis.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)
1a The part-time programme has a nominal duration of study of 2 years.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)
2. The language of instruction, including assessment and literature, is English. The language of instruction of the specialization Spiritual Care is Dutch.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

1. The degree programme uses the following teaching formats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture • Tutorial • Workshop • Seminar • Online lecture • Work visit • Internship • Summer school 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 x)
2. The degree programme uses the modes of assessment listed below, as written in the study guide. The modes of assessment that the student actually encounter can depend on the specialization they choose. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • Take home exam • (Written) assignment • Paper • Presentation • Essay • Participation • Portfolio • Log • Internship report • Thesis 	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l)

7. Further admission requirements

Article 7.1 Intake date(s)

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

1. Students holding a Bachelor's degree from a Dutch University (WO) are directly eligible for admittance in this Master's programme.	Partly legal provision & ordinance CvB Admission requirements excepted from participation in WHW
2. The Admissions Board will investigate whether the applicant meets the admission requirements.	Legal provision
3. For the subprogramme Exploring a Discipline – Biblical Studies and Digital Humanities the candidate must have completed courses Biblical Hebrew and Biblical Greek, including the translation of at least five Biblical chapters in either language 4. For the subprogramme Spiritual Care Islam the candidate must have a working knowledge of both Arabic (level A2) and English. The candidate must also have a sound knowledge of the core subjects of Islamic theology. 5. Students who earned a degree in HBO-Theology from the Christelijke Hogeschool Ede or Windesheim and completed the following courses at pre-master level are directly admissible to the programme Exploring a Discipline, subprogramme Baptist Seminary: Theologie 'The Baptist way' (6 EC), Spiritueel Liturgische Vorming (6 EC), Vrijkerkelijke ecclesiologie (6 EC), Missie in Context (6 EC), Pionierend leiderschap (6 EC).	Partly legal provision & ordinance CvB Admission requirements excepted from participation in WHW

Article 7.3 English language requirement for English-language Master's programmes or English-language specializations

1. In deviation from the language proficiency requirements as stated in the Application and registration regulation (RAI) an applicant should demonstrate that he or she has 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: - (academic) IELTS : 6.5 - TOEFL paper based test : 580 - TOEFL internet based test : 92 - Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) or Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE), score A, B or C.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Applicants who: a) completed an English-taught secondary or higher education degree in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand or Australia or b) have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an English-taught programme accredited by NVAO in the Netherlands, or c) have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an accredited English-taught programme in another member state of the European Union are exempted from the requirements referred to in paragraph 1.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

1. Students with a Bachelor's degree of a university of applied science (HBO) in a field that corresponds to a sufficient extent with the subject area covered by the Master's programme can request admission to the pre-Master's programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. In deviation from the language proficiency requirements as stated in the Application and registration regulation (RAI) an applicant should demonstrate that he or she has	Advice OLC; approval FGV

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: - (academic) IELTS : 6.5 - TOEFL paper based test : 580 - TOEFL internet based test : 92 - Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) or Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE), score A, B or C.	(9.38 ub b)
3. Applicants who: a) completed an English-taught secondary or higher education degree in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand or Australia or b) have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an English-taught programme accredited by NVAO in the Netherlands, or c) have earned a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an accredited English-taught programme in another member state of the European Union are exempted from the requirements referred to in paragraph 2.	
4. The pre-Master's programme is to be found in Appendix 2.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 ub b)
5. A successfully completed pre-Master's programme serves as proof of admission to the specified Master's programme in the subsequent academic year.	Legal provision
6. A candidate can only participate in one pre-Master's programme at the Vrije Universiteit.	Ordinance CvB

8. Interim examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of interim examinations

1. Students may participate in interim examinations [or practical exercises] of the components below only if they have passed the interim examination or examinations for the components mentioned hereinafter:	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 h, s & t)
Internship (G_INTERN) after obtaining 12 EC, of which at least one required module (6 EC)	
Thesis (G_1MATHES) after passing Research Skills (G_RESSK)	

Article 8.2 Validity period for results

1. If the exam shows that a student's knowledge is insufficient or outdated, or if the student's skills evaluated in the exam are demonstrably outdated, the Examination Board may impose a supplementary or replacement examination for a course for which an examination was passed more than 6 years ago.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)
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Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, specializations and exit qualifications

Article 9.1 Workload

1. The programme has a workload of 60 EC.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.2 Specializations

The programme has the following specializations: - Building Interreligious Relations - Exploring a Discipline - Media - Peace, Trauma and Religion - Spiritual Care	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.3 Programme objective

<p>1. The Master's has a final attainment level corresponding to the Dublin Descriptors (the Framework of Qualifications for the European Higher Education Area) and the Higher Education Qualifications Framework in the Netherlands.</p> <p>2. The degree programme aims to:</p> <p>a. educate students by giving them the knowledge, understanding and skills described each in the programme-specific section;</p> <p>b. guide students in scientific practice;</p> <p>c. prepare students for professional practice in the relevant field;</p> <p>d. foster independent, academic thinking and practice as well as communication at an academic level in the language or languages of instruction;</p> <p>e. foster the independent application of specialist academic knowledge in a wider philosophical and social context.</p> <p>3. The degree programme focuses on the student's personal development and promotes his or her awareness of social responsibility.</p>	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 9.4 Exit qualifications

<p>1. The Master of Theology and Religious studies programme seeks to enable students:</p> <p>1. to show in-depth theoretical knowledge in the subjects that belong to the chosen subprogram;</p> <p>2. to reflect theologically and critically on the issues that pertain to the chosen subprogram and to place them in a multi-disciplinary frame of reference;</p> <p>3. to identify the various definitions of hermeneutics as a basis for developing an adequate hermeneutic theory and dialogical praxis and to apply various hermeneutic theories in cases pertinent to your master specialization;</p> <p>4. to make independent critical judgments on the basis of limited data and with an eye on the social and ethical implications;</p> <p>5. to communicate the results of research efforts to diverse audiences of specialists and non-specialists;</p> <p>6. to study largely self-directed or autonomous and to conduct independent scholarly research within the area of the chosen subprogram, as shown in the thesis;</p>	Approval OLC (7.13)
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7. to develop a coherent overview of a professional field linked to the chosen subprogramme and to develop basic skills of a starting professional in this field through participation.

These aims of the programme are realized in the subprogrammes as follows:

a Exploring a Discipline

The Master of Theology and Religious studies subprogramme Exploring a Discipline seeks to enable students:

1. to show in-depth theoretical knowledge in the subjects that belong to the chosen discipline;
2. to reflect theologically and critically on the issues that pertain to the chosen discipline and to place them in a multi-disciplinary frame of reference;
3. to identify the various definitions of hermeneutics as a basis for developing an adequate hermeneutic theory and dialogical praxis and to apply various hermeneutic theories in cases pertinent to the chosen discipline;
4. to make independent critical judgments on the basis of limited data and with an eye on the social and ethical implications;
5. to communicate the results of research efforts to diverse audiences of specialists and non- specialists;
6. to study largely self-directed or autonomous and to conduct independent scholarly research within the area of the chosen discipline, as shown in the thesis;
7. to develop a coherent overview of the professional field linked to the chosen discipline and to develop basic skills of a young professional in this field through participation.

b Media

The Master of Theology and Religious studies subprogramme Media seeks to enable students:

1. to show in-depth theoretical knowledge in the area of media and communication in relation to religion and spirituality, media sociology and media ethics and understanding of the religious dimensions and development of today's media culture, the implications of these for established religions, religious communities and individuals;
2. to reflect theologically and critically on the function of media in religion, religion in the media and reflect theologically and creatively on one's own (non-)religious identity in relation to popular culture and to place these in a multi-disciplinary frame of reference;
3. to identify the various definitions of hermeneutics as a basis for developing an adequate hermeneutic theory and dialogical praxis and to apply various hermeneutic theories in cases in which mediation of religion is involved;
4. to make independent critical judgments on the basis of limited data and with an eye on the social and ethical implications;
5. to communicate the results of research efforts to diverse audiences of specialists and non- specialists;
6. to study largely self-directed or autonomous and to conduct independent scholarly research within the area of Media, religion/theology and culture;
7. to develop a coherent overview of the professional field of media, communication and religion and to develop basic skills of a young professional in this field through participation.

c Spiritual Care

The Master of Theology and Religious studies subprogramme Spiritual Care seeks to enable students:

1. to show in-depth theoretical knowledge in the key concepts which define the domain of Spiritual Care;
2. to reflect critically (from the perspective of theology and religious studies) on the way of recognizing, analyzing, and approaching the vulnerability of human lives both in religious and non-religious traditions;
3. to identify the various definitions of hermeneutics as a basis for developing an adequate hermeneutic theory and dialogical praxis and to apply various hermeneutic theories on existential themes in the narrative of clients;
4. to make independent critical judgments on the basis of limited data and with an eye on the social and ethical implications as well as the relation with other disciplines, the organizational context and religious authorities;
5. to communicate the results of research efforts to diverse audiences of specialists and non-specialists and to communicate appropriately and respectfully about one's own and other religious and/or spiritual traditions;
6. to study largely self-directed or autonomous and to conduct independent scholarly research within the area of Spiritual Care;
7. to develop a coherent view of the professional field of Spiritual Care, to develop the ability to situate oneself authentically in this field and to develop the skills required for an initial start as a professional in this field.

d Building Interreligious Relations

The Master of Theology and Religious studies subprogramme Building Interreligious Relations seeks to enable students:

1. to show in-depth theoretical knowledge in the emerging field of interreligious studies: (1) be able to distinguish this field from both religious studies, comparative religion and theology of religions; (2) be able to identify the main scholarly positions in the field; (3) understand why this field requires a multidisciplinary approach
2. to reflect critically on the way dominant scholarly and/or societal assumptions with regard to religion (what religion is; how it relates to violence; the division between religion and the secular...) impacts the way diversity related conflicts are framed and analyzed.
3. to be able to understand and apply different hermeneutical strategies to a variety of 'sacred' texts and develop a differential and dialogical hermeneutics.
4. to be able to connect theory and praxis, and to analyse judgements and propose on concrete solutions to cases about diversity related problems;
5. to communicate the results of research efforts to diverse audiences of specialists and non-specialists;
6. to study largely self-directed or autonomous and to conduct independent scholarly research within the field of interreligious studies.
7. to develop a coherent overview of the professional field of interreligious studies and develop basic skills of a young professional in this field through participation.

e Peace, Trauma and Religion

The Master of Theology and Religious studies subprogramme Peace, Trauma and Religion seeks to enable students:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To show in depth theoretical knowledge in contemporary studies on peace and reconciliation and/or trauma and healing in contexts of conflict and war and in post-conflict contexts; 2. To reflect theologically and critically on the the role played by religious traditions in legitimizing conflict and violence and creating conflicting identities; 3. To identify the various definitions of hermeneutics as a basis for developing an adequate hermeneutical theology and dialogical praxis and to apply various hermenutical theories to the theories and practices of reconciliation, peace building and trauma healing; 4. To make independent critical judgments on the basis of limited data and with an eye on social and moral implications; 5. To communicate the results of research efforts to diverse audiences of specialists and non-specialists; 6. To study largely self-directed or autonomous and to conduct independent scholarly research within the field of Violence, Religion and Reconciliation in a religious/theological perspective; 7. To gain a coherent knowledge and overview in the field of conflict-studies, peace-building and trauma-healing mechanisms and to develop the basic skills of a young professional in this field through participation. 	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of (interim) examinations 	Approval OLC (7.13 c)

10. Curriculum structure

Article 10.1 Composition of the programme

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The programme comprises at least a package of compulsory components and an individual Master's thesis or academic internship. 	Ordinance CvB
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Additionally the programme can offer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practical exercises - Electives - Supervision 	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Educational components are categorized as specialized (400), research oriented (500) and highly specialized (600) level. 	Ordinance CvB
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. If a student wishes to graduate in two Master's specializations (or subprogrammes) of a Master's degree programme, the student must write a separate thesis for each specialization (subprogramme). The student may however (partially) make use of the same literature and may use parts of one thesis for the other. Each thesis has its own research question and perspective (congruent with the learning goals of the specialization or subprogramme). 	

Article 10.2 Compulsory educational components

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

See appendix 3. A detailed description per educational component can be found in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 10.3 Elective educational components

See appendix 3. A detailed description per educational component can be found in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 10.4 Practical exercise

The following components can be considered as practical exercises:				Approval OLC (7.13 d)
Name of educational component	course code	nr of EC	level	
Thesis	G_1MATHES	12	500	
Internship	G_INTERN	12	500	

Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials

1. In the case of a practical training, the student must attend at least 80 % of the practical sessions. Should the student attend less than 80 %, he or she must repeat the practical training, or the Examinations Board may have one or more supplementary assignments issued.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
2. In the case of a tutorial, the student must attend at least 80 % of the practical sessions. Should the student attend less than 80 %, he or she must repeat the practical training, or the Examinations Board may have one or more supplementary assignments issued.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
3. In exceptional circumstances, the Examinations Board may, at the request of the student, permit an exemption from this requirement if, in the opinion of the Board, the assessment of the intended skills is also possible with a lesser percentage of participation, with or without the imposition of supplementary requirements.	

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 (attached) evaluation plan (Appendix 1). The faculty evaluation plan offers the framework.	Approval OLC (7.13 a1)
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Article 11.2 Transitional provisions

By way of departure from the Teaching and Examination Regulations currently in force, the following transitional provisions apply for students who started the programme under a previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations: see appendix 4	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
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Advice and approval by the Programme Committee, on 14 March 2019

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly, on 25 April 2019

Adopted by the board of the Faculty on 19 June 2019

Appendices

1. **Evaluation of Education in the Faculty of Religion and Theology**
2. **Premaster's programme**
3. **Programme overview**
4. **Transitional provisions**

Appendix 1

Evaluation of the education in the Faculty of Religion and Theology

Course and curriculum evaluations are aimed at improving the quality of the education. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam has a number of key performance indicators that are measured by means of course evaluations. These concern the scores for the quality of the course content, the quality of teaching provided by teachers and the examination.

Questionnaires in the Faculty of Religion and Theology are sent electronically. That guarantees anonymity of students and enables the PDCA cycle – which is intended to improve education – to take place correctly.

When the results of the evaluation have been written up in a report, the course coordinator is notified. The course coordinator draws up a response to the results of the evaluation and may also inform the students of any changes he/she will make to the course in the following academic year in view of the results. Students are given access to a selection of the results of the evaluation and the course coordinator's response.

The evaluation reports are available to the Programme Committee, the Director of Studies and the Dean of Education. The Education Office is responsible for correct distribution of the evaluation reports. In the case of the Programme Committees this takes place through the evaluation contact persons. The annual evaluation plan states when the evaluation reports will be available; the Programme Committees can schedule their meetings accordingly if desired. The Programme Committees present an analysis of the evaluations in their annual report.

Courses to be evaluated

The following criteria are applied when designating a module as requiring evaluation:

- each course is evaluated (at least) once every three years. This means that in any event one-third of all courses will be covered.
- courses taught by new teachers;
- all newly developed (or fundamentally altered) courses;
- courses that are included in the Examination Committees' annual plans;
- all courses in new or renewed programmes of study;
- all less well rated courses, with scores of < 3.5 for questions 6 (overall rating of the quality of the course content), 17 and 39 (overall rating of the teaching qualities of the teacher) and/or 23 (overall rating of the exam);
- all courses in the university minor Islam;
- courses with more than eight enrolled students which were designated as requiring evaluation in the previous year, but for which no evaluation results are available.

Curriculum evaluations

The basic principle is that a programme of study is evaluated in any case before the start of a mid-term review or visitation and after every (major) change to the programme of study. BA and MA questionnaires are sent electronically. The Director of Education may add additional questions to the questionnaire. The period in which the questionnaire is sent is determined in consultation with the programme. The results of curriculum evaluations may be discussed with the Work and Employment Advisory Committee, as well as with the Programme Committee.

Available digital questionnaires

BA programme of study Year 1 (BA1)

BA programme of study Year 2 (BA2)

BA programme of study, final questionnaire (BAX)

MA programme of study, final questionnaire (BAX)

Work placement (ST)

Thesis (SC)

Final project - combination of work placement and thesis (AF)

Panel discussions

There are other ways of evaluating education besides digital evaluations. The chapter about evaluation of education in the Quality Manual of the Vrije Universiteit offers an overview of qualitative methods that can be used to evaluate and improve education, such as: panel discussions, peer review and quick summary of strengths and suggestions. These evaluation methods are encouraged in the faculty.

National Student Survey

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam takes part in the National Student Survey, which is conducted every spring. The National Student Survey can provide useful information on how students view their programme. The results of the National Student Survey are considered in the programme annual reports.

Appendix 2**Premaster's programme****Premaster Theology and Religious Studies 2019-2020**

ST/1701019

Premaster Theology and Religious Studies, regulier (bestemd voor HBO-instromers)

Periode 1	Periode 2	Periode 3	Periode 4	Periode 5	Periode 6
6 EC	6 EC	6 EC		6 EC	
G_NCREL	G_WFILTR	Keuzevak of Literatuur- studie *		G_VOOBASCR	
Niet-Christelijke Religies	Wetenschaps- filosofie van theologie en religieweten- schappen			Voorbereiding scriptie	
				6 EC	
				G_PMTHEIS	
				Premaster Thesis	

*Kies voor twee keuzevakken of een literatuurstudie en een keuzevak in periode 3 en 4.

Overzicht keuzevakken

Keuzevakken (zie Studiegids voor cursusbeschrijvingen)	
<i>Periode 3:</i>	
G_RELGEN	Religions and Gender
G_BHERM	Hermeneutiek
G_ISLAMET	Islamitische ethiek
<i>Periode 4:</i>	
G_JODEN	Jodendom **
G_CHRIST	Christendom **
G_BREFKGS	Reformatiegeschiedenis **
G_SECLEVB	Seculiere levensbeschouwing: Focus op humanisme
G_ETHTHEOR	Ethische theorieën
G_BMISO	Missiologie/Oecumenica
G_BMGB	Buddhist Modernism / Global Buddhism
G_GODSPED	Godsdienstpedagogiek
G_GESISNA18	Geschiedenis van de Islam na 1800
G_CMETH	Comparatieve methoden: focus op mythen
G_BTBSDS	Bijbelse Theologie
G_SYSBS	Systematische Theologie BS
G_PT2BSDS	Praktische Theologie II BS
**Niet toegestaan voor studenten met een theologische vooropleiding	

De student die zich voorbereidt op de afstudeerrichting Spiritual Care, Orthodox Theology, kiezen via de minor Orthodox Theology de volgende vakken:

G_OCIH History of Orthodox Christianity (p1)

G_OCIT Scripture in Orthodox Christianity (p2)

G_OCOPC Orthodox Anthropology (p3-6)

G_OCOBE Liturgy in Orthodox Christianity (p4)

G_OCOLT Orthodox Theology (p5)

Appendix 3 Programme overview

Master Theology and Religious Studies 1 year, specialization Building Interreligious Relations Fulltime and Parttime

2019-2020

General Required Modules:

G_MAHERMN	Hermeneutics	6 EC
G_INTERN	Internship	12 EC
G_1MATHES	Thesis	12 EC
G_MASEM	Master Seminar	6 EC

Required modules for this specialization:

G_BIR3	Building Interreligious Relations 3	6 EC
G_BIR4	Building Interreligious Relations 4	6 EC

*Elective**: One module (6 EC) from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules.

Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	
6 EC	6 EC	12 EC				
G_BIR3	G_BIR4	G_INTERN				<i>Parttime Year 1</i>
Building Interreligious Relations 3	Building Interreligious Relations 4	Internship				
6 EC						
G_MASEM Master Seminar**						
6 EC	6 EC	6 EC	12 EC			
G_MAHERMN	<i>Elective*</i> :	G_COMPET	G_1MATHES			<i>Parttime Year 2</i>
Hermeneutics	Research modules or Professional Stream modules	Comparative Ethics	Thesis			

*Choose from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules.

** The course Master Seminar is taught in period 1-6. Part time students will take this course in the same year as their Internship.

*** Part time students: the course Research Skills has to be completed in the second year of the study. The study load of this course is a fulltime study load. The study load of this course can be distributed over two years (in consultation with the course coordinator)

Professional Stream Modules (PSM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)

Period 2:

G_BIR4	Building interreligious Relations 4
G_MED2	Media 2
G_PTR4	Religion and Trauma
G_SPICA2	Spiritual Care 2
G_TISC	Theory of Islamic Spiritual Care

Research Modules (RM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)*Period 2:*

G_RMISL	Islam and Interfaith Relations
G_RMBEB2	Engaged Buddhism
G_MLATIJN2	Latijn 2
G_RMEC01	The Text of the NT and its Transmission
G_RMBS07	Ancient Translations of the Hebrew Bible
G_RMRM02	Abraham Kuyper's Travels: Encounters with Muslim and Jews
G_RMRE07	Religious entrepreneurship: Missional pioneering in Christian Churches in the West

Master Theology and Religious Studies 1 year, specialization Exploring A Discipline

Fulltime and Parttime

2019-2020

General Required Modules:

G_MAHERMN	Hermeneutics	6 EC
G_RESSK	Research Skills	6 EC
G_INTERN	Internship	12 EC
G_3MATHES	Thesis	12 EC
G_MASEM	Master Seminar	6 EC

Elective**:

One module (6 EC) from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules, Arguing for and Against God's Existence or Faith and Reason.

Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	
6 EC	6 EC	6 EC	12 EC		6EC	
G_RM*	G_RM*	G_RESSK	G_INTERN			<i>Parttime Year 1</i>
Research module of the chosen Specialization 1 <i>or</i> L_TAMATHEO 12 Introduction Bible Translation Studies <i>or</i> W_FRNCG The Nature and Character of God <i>or</i> G_BAEBET1 Exploring Baptist & Evangelical Theology 1	Research module of the chosen Specialization 2 <i>or</i> L_TAMATWSO 13 Working Sessions in Bible Translation <i>or</i> W_FRAAGE Arguing for and Against God's Existence <i>or</i> W_FRFAR Faith and Reason <i>or</i> G_BAEBET2 Exploring Baptist & Evangelical Theology 2	Research Skills ****	Internship			
6 EC						
G_MASEM						
Master Seminar***						
6 EC	6 EC		12 EC			

G_MAHERMN	Elective**:		G_1MATHES		
Hermeneutics	Research modules or Professional Stream modules <i>or</i> W_FRAAGE Arguing for and Against God's Existence <i>or</i> W_FRFAR Faith and Reason		Thesis		<i>Parttime Year 2</i>

*Module number depends on the chosen Research module.

** Choose from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules. The modules Arguing for and Against Gods existence and Faith and Reason (period 2) belong together, you have to choose both, one as an elective.

*** The course Master Seminar is taught in period 1-6. Part time students will take this course in the same year as their Internship.

****Part time students: the course Research Skills has to be completed in the second year of the study. The study load of this course is a fulltime study load. The study load of this course can be distributed over two years (in consultation with the course coordinator).

Professional Stream Modules (PSM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)

Period 2:

G_BIR4	Building interreligious Relations 4
G_MED2	Media 2
G_PTR4	Religion and Trauma
G_SPICA2	Spiritual Care 2
G_TISC	Theory of Islamic Spiritual Care

Research Modules (RM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)

Period 1:

G_RMISMOD	Modern Trends in Islamic Thought
G_MLATIJN1	Latijn 1
G_RMRM03	Acts of the French Protestants Churches in the Low Countries
G_RMBS03	Analytic Tools and the Study of the Bible
G_RMBS04	Biblical Interpretation in Context: Ancient and modern Case Studies
G_RMRE04	Reconciliation and Identities

Period 2:

G_RMISISL	Islam and Interfaith Relations
G_RMBEB2	Engaged Buddhism
G_MLATIJN2	Latijn 2
G_RMEC01	The Text of the NT and its Transmission
G_RMBS07	Ancient Translations of the Hebrew Bible
G_RMRM02	Abraham Kuyper's Travels: Encounters with Muslim and Jews
G_RMRE07	Religious entrepreneurship: Missional pioneering in Christian Churches in the West

Master Theology and Religious Studies 1 year, specialization Media Fulltime and Parttime

2019-2020

General Required Modules:

G_MAHERMN	Hermeneutics	6 EC
G_RESSK	Research Skills	6 EC
G_INTERN	Internship	12 EC
G_1MATHES	Thesis	12 EC
G_MASEM	Master Seminar	6 EC

Required modules for this specialization:

G_MED1	Media 1	6 EC
G_MED2	Media 2	6 EC

Elective*:

One module (6 EC) from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules.

Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	
6 EC	6 EC	6 EC	12 EC			
G_MED1	G_MED2	G_RESSK	G_INTERN			<i>Parttime Year 1</i>
Media 1	Media 2	Research Skills ***	Internship			
6 EC						
G_MASEM Master Seminar **						
6 EC	6 EC		12 EC			
G_MAHERMN	Elective*:		G_1MATHES			<i>Parttime Year 2</i>
Hermeneutics	Research modules or Professional Stream modules		Thesis			

*Choose from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules.

** The course Master Seminar is taught in period 1-6. Part time students will take this course in the same year as their Internship.

*** Part time students: the course Research Skills has to be completed in the second year of the study. The study load of this course is a fulltime study load. The study load of this course can be distributed over two years (in consultation with the course coordinator).

Professional Stream Modules (PSM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)

Period 2:

G_BIR4	Building interreligious Relations 4
G_MED2	Media 2
G_PTR4	Religion and Trauma
G_SPICA2	Spiritual Care 2
G_TISC	Theory of Islamic Spiritual Care

Research Modules (RM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)*Period 2:*

G_RMISL	Islam and Interfaith Relations
G_RMBEB2	Engaged Buddhism
G_MLATIJN2	Latijn 2
G_RMEC01	The Text of the NT and its Transmission
G_RMBS07	Ancient Translations of the Hebrew Bible
G_RMRM02	Abraham Kuyper's Travels: Encounters with Muslim and Jews
G_RMRE07	Religious entrepreneurship: Missional pioneering in Christian Churches in the West

Master Theology and Religious Studies 1 year, specialization Peace, Trauma and Religion Fulltime and Parttime

2019-2020

General Required Modules:

G_MAHERMN	Hermeneutics	6 EC
G_RESSK	Research Skills	6 EC
G_INTERN	Internship	12 EC
G_1MATHES	Thesis	12 EC
G_MASEM	Master Seminar	6 EC

Required modules for this specialization:

G_PTR3	Peace, Trauma and Religion 3	6 EC
G_PTR4	Religion and Trauma	6 EC

Elective:

One module (6 EC) from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules.

Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	
6 EC	6 EC	6 EC	12 EC			
G_PTR3	G_PTR4	G_RESSK	G_INTERN			<i>Parttime Year 1</i>
Peace, Trauma and Religion 3	Religion and Trauma	Research Skills ***	Internship			
6 EC						
G_MASEM Master Seminar**						
6 EC	6 EC		12 EC			
G_MAHERMN	Elective*:		G_1MATHES			<i>Parttime Year 2</i>
Hermeneutics	Research modules or Professional Stream modules		Thesis			

*Choose one module (6 EC) from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules.

** The course Master Seminar is taught in period 1-6. Part time students will take this course in the same year as their Internship.

*** Part time students: the course Research Skills has to be completed in the second year of the study. The study load of this course is a fulltime study load. The study load of this course can be distributed over two years (in consultation with the course coordinator).

Professional Stream Modules (PSM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)

Period 2:

G_BIR4	Building interreligious Relations 4
G_MED2	Media 2
G_PTR4	Religion and Trauma
G_SPICA2	Spiritual Care 2
G_TISC	Theory of Islamic Spiritual Care

Research Modules (RM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)*Period 2:*

G_RMISL	Islam and Interfaith Relations
G_RMBEB2	Engaged Buddhism
G_MLATIJN2	Latijn 2
G_RMEC01	The Text of the NT and its Transmission
G_RMBS07	Ancient Translations of the Hebrew Bible
G_RMRM02	Abraham Kuyper's Travels: Encounters with Muslim and Jews
G_RMRE07	Religious entrepreneurship: Missional pioneering in Christian Churches in the West

Master Theology and Religious Studies 1 year, specialization Spiritual Care Fulltime and Parttime

2019-2020

General Required Modules:

G_MAHERMN	Hermeneutics	6 EC
G_INTERN	Internship	12 EC
G_1MATHES	Thesis	12 EC
G_MASEM	Master Seminar	6 EC

Required modules for this specialization:

G_SPICA1	Spiritual Care 1	6 EC
G_SPICA2	Spiritual Care 2	6 EC

Elective*:

One module (6 EC) from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules.

Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	
6 EC	6 EC	12 EC				
G_SPICA1	G_SPICA2	G_INTERN				<i>Parttime Year 1</i>
Spiritual Care 1	Spiritual Care 2	Internship				
6 EC						
G_MASEM						
Master Seminar**						
6 EC	6 EC	6 EC	12 EC			
G_MAHERMN	Elective*:	G_COMPET	G_1MATHES			<i>Parttime Year 2</i>
Hermeneutics	Research modules or Professional Stream modules	Comparative Ethics	Thesis			

*Choose from the Research modules or Professional Stream modules.

** The course Master Seminar is taught in period 1-6. Part time students will take this course in the same year as their Internship.

Professional Stream Modules (PSM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)

Period 2:

G_BIR4	Building interreligious Relations 4
G_MED2	Media 2
G_PTR4	Religion and Trauma
G_SPICA2	Spiritual Care 2
G_TISC	Theory of Islamic Spiritual Care

Research Modules (RM) (see Study Guide for course descriptions)*Period 2:*

G_RMISL	Islam and Interfaith Relations
G_RMBEB2	Engaged Buddhism
G_MLATIJN2	Latijn 2
G_RMEC01	The Text of the NT and its Transmission
G_RMBS07	Ancient Translations of the Hebrew Bible
G_RMRM02	Abraham Kuyper's Travels: Encounters with Muslim and Jews
G_RMRE07	Religious entrepreneurship: Missional pioneering in Christian Churches in the West

Appendix 4

Transitional provisions

Master Theology and Religious Studies (1 year), specialization Leadership

De specialisatie Leadership has elapsed. In consultation with the study advisor, an individual transitional programme is determined for the current students in this specialization.

Old module		New module	
G_LEAD1	Leadership 1: Psychological and Community Aspects		Tutorial
G_LEAD2	Leadership 2: Innovation of Decision-making Processes	G_RMRE07	Religious entrepreneurship: Missional pioneering in Christian Churches in the West Or Tutorial

Master Theology and Religious Studies (1 year), specialization Spiritual Care

Old module		New module	
G_LEAD1	Research Skills	G_COMPET	Comparative Ethics

Master Theology and Religious Studies (1 year), specialization Building Interreligious Relations

Old module		New module	
G_LEAD1	Research Skills	G_COMPET	Comparative Ethics