

Teaching and Examination Regulations

**Bachelor's programme
Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)**

Academic year 2026-2027

John Stuart
Mill College



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Section A: Faculty section

1. General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations

1. These Regulations apply to anyone enrolled in the programme, irrespective of the academic year in which the student was first enrolled in the programme.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. These Regulations enter into force on 1 September 2026.	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)
4. In certain cases, students may appeal against decisions made on the basis of the Teaching and Examination Regulations, for example decisions made by an examiner, examination board, BSA committee, or admission committee. Whether an appeal can be considered depends on the type of the decision and by whom the decision was made. More information about legal protection can be found in the Student Charter and on the website Complaints, appeals, and objections - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

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. EC (European Credit): a course credit with a workload of 28 hours of study;
- c. examination: an assessment of the student's knowledge, understanding and skills relating to a unit of education. The assessment is expressed in terms of a final mark. An examination may consist of one or more partial examinations. A resit always covers the same material as the original examination. An examination can be completed in writing, orally or in another way;
- d. final examination: the final examination of the Bachelor's programme;
- e. internship: period spent working in professional practice as part of a study programme;
- f.1.. 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 specialisation or a specific curriculum within a degree programme) for which the collaborating institutions are jointly responsible;
- f.2. double degree: partnership between a program of a Dutch educational institution with a foreign educational institution whereby students complete all or part of both study programmes and obtain two diplomas on the basis of agreements regarding the mutual recognition of the programme (replacement courses);
- g. minor: a set of thematically related units of education totalling 30 credits. Students choose a minor in order to broaden and/or deepen their studies (within the scope for electives) during the Bachelor's programme;
- h. period: a part of a semester;
- i. practical exercise: the participation in a practical training activity or other educational learning activity, aimed at acquiring certain (academic) skills. Examples of practical exercises are:

	○ researching and writing a thesis or dissertation ○ carrying out a research assignment ○ taking part in fieldwork or an excursion ○ taking part in another educational learning activity aimed at acquiring specific skills, or ○ participating in and completing a work placement;
j. programme:	the totality and cohesion of the units of education, teaching activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and recommended literature;
k. SAP/SLM:	the student information system (<i>Student Lifecycle Management</i>);
l. semester:	the first (September - January) or second (February - August) half of an academic year;
m. specialisation	optional route of study within a degree programme indicating a deepening of the context of the programme (e.g. interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary);
n. student statute:	sets out the rights and responsibilities of students on the one hand, and of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam on the other hand, including those derived from the law and those derived from university regulations. The Executive Board (CvB) officially confirms the student statute once its completeness has been approved by the University Student Council (USC);
o. student	the person enrolled, requesting enrolment or who has been enrolled in a course or program at the Vrije Universiteit;
p. study guide:	the guide for the study programme that provides further details of the courses, provisions and other information specific to that programme. The Study Guide is available online at: https://studiegids.vu.nl/en
q. study monitor:	dashboard for students and academic advisors with data of the student that also provides insight into the student's study progress;
r. subject	see 'unit of education';
s. thesis:	a unit comprising research into the literature and/or contributing to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;
t. track	a study pathway within a programme, of which the workload and the qualities in terms of knowledge, insight and skills that the student must have acquired by the end of the programme are equal to those of the programme;
u. unit of education:	a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;
v. university:	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam;
w. WHW:	the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (<i>Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek</i>);
x. workload:	the workload of the unit of education to which an examination applies, expressed in terms of credits = EC credits (ECTS = European Credit and Transfer Accumulation System). The workload for 1 year (1,680 hours) is 60 EC 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 units of education

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

Article 2.2 Setup of programme

1. All Bachelor's programmes consists of at least the following components: - Academic development of at least 24 EC - Major/compulsory components of at least 90 EC - Elective components of study of at least 30 EC	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
2. In the first and second year of the programme, the programme will offer at least sixteen contact hours per teaching week.	Exception to Ordinance CvB, see appendix
3. In the third year of the programme, the programme will offer at least twelve contact hours a week during regular teaching weeks.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
4. Internationalisation is included as part of the Bachelor's programme and reflected in one or more units of education.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix

3. Assessment and Examination

Article 3.1 Signing up for education and examinations

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

Article 3.2 Type of examination

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

1. No more than one student will be examined orally at a time, unless specified otherwise in part B for the relevant unit of education.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 I and n)
2. A second examiner is present when an oral examination is being held, unless the Examination Board has determined otherwise. The oral examination takes place at a time and location to be determined by the examiner within the regular timetable, on campus or online. At the request of the student, and with the approval of the examiners, an audio recording can be made. Should the second examiner not be available unexpectedly, an audio recording of the oral exam is made. This audio recording is retained by the university for the retention period applicable for examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 I and n)

Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results

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

Article 3.5 Examination opportunities

1. a. Per academic year, two opportunities to take examinations per unit of education will be offered. b. By way of exception to a., the options for retaking practical exercises, work placements and final projects are detailed in the relevant work placement manual, course manual or teaching regulations.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
2. The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit. A resit is allowed for both passed and failed units of education.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
3. In case of a resit of a group assignment, the resit may be taken by the entire group, by one or more group members or a new group can be formed. Only group members who have participated in the resit of the group assignment will receive a result for the resit. Students who did not take part in the resit will retain their marks from the first opportunity.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 j)
4. The resit for a (partial) examination must not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the result of the examination being resat. Exceptions are only possible in period 6.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 j)
5. The Examination Board may allow a student an extra opportunity to sit an examination if that student: a. has completed all but one units of education to meet the requirements of the degree; and b. has failed the examination during all the previously offered attempts unless participation in an examination was not possible for compelling reasons. This provision excludes the practical exercises and the final project. 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, see appendix
6. If a unit of education is no longer offered in the following academic year, at least one additional opportunity will subsequently be provided for the student to sit the examination(s) or parts thereof and a transitional arrangement will be included in Section B.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (7.13 j)

Article 3.6 Marks

1. Marks are given on a scale from 1 to 10 with no more than one figure after the decimal point.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
2. A final mark between 5 and 6 will be rounded to the nearest whole number: final marks below 5.5, rounded down; final marks of 5.5 or higher, rounded up. All other final marks will be expressed in whole or half marks.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
3. To pass a given course or unit, a final mark of 6 or higher is required.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix

4. The Examination Board can allow to use symbols rather than numbers.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
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Article 3.7 Exemption

1. At the written request of the student, the Examination Board may exempt the student from taking one or more examination components, if they: - have either passed a unit of education at a university of applied sciences (HBO) or research university (WO) that is equivalent in terms of content and level; - or have demonstrated through their work and/or professional experience that they have sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the relevant unit of education.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 r)
2. The Bachelor'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 examinations passed and exemption from examinations is unlimited, unless otherwise specified in Section B.	Legal provision
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Article 3.9 Right of inspection

1. Within twenty working days after the announcement of the results of a written examination, but at least ten working days before the resit opportunity for that examination, the student has the right to inspect their graded examination.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p en q)
2. Students can view the questions and assignments set in the written examination, and the standards applied when assessing the examination, within the period specified in 3.9.1.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 q)
3. The examiner determines whether the inspection takes place collectively or individually. In all cases, the time and place of the inspection is announced in the course manual or learning environment.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p en q)
4. Students are entitled to feedback on their academic performance. The manner in which this is provided in each unit of education is described in the course manual.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p and q)

4. Honours programme

Article 4.1 VU Honours programme

1. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers an honours programme for students who meet the admission requirements. The Honours programme consists of units of education taken in addition to the standard curriculum.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
2. Students will be admitted to the honours programme if they, - demonstrate motivation and are studying at the nominal pace or - have obtained all credits for the first year by August 31 of that year with a weighted average mark of at least 7.5.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
3. Students who have met the requirements of the regular Bachelor's programme within the nominal duration of study, and who have also met the requirements of the honours programme will receive a Bachelor diploma with a transcript indicating that they have successfully completed units of the honours programme.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
4. The programme has an additional programme-specific Honours programme, which is specified in Section B.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix

5. Academic student counselling, recommendation on continuation of studies and study progress

Article 5.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling

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

Article 5.2 Recommendation on continuation of studies

1. The faculty board will issue every student on a full-time Bachelor's programme with a recommendation on continuation of their studies, at the end of the first year of study. The recommendation on continuation of studies is issued on behalf of the faculty board by the faculty BSA committee.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
2. Prior to 1 February, the student will receive an overview of their results.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
3. A student who has not completed enough credits will receive a warning stating that if insufficient improvement in their performance is forthcoming by the end of the academic year, they will receive a negative advice regarding the continuation of their studies. The student will be advised to plan a meeting with an academic advisor.	Advice OLC (7.13 f)
4. If the recommendation at the end of the academic year is negative the provisions of Article 5.3 apply.	Advice OLC (7.13 f)
5. A recommendation will not be issued if the student terminates their enrolment before 1 February of their first academic year.	Advice OLC (7.13 f)

Article 5.3 Binding (negative) recommendation on continuation of studies (BSA)

1. The recommendation issued at the end of the academic year will contain a binding rejection if the student has not achieved the standard required for positive recommendation on continuation of studies. A recommendation on continuation of studies will not be issued if the student demonstrates that they have not been able to meet the standard due to personal circumstances as described in Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act (<i>Uitvoeringsbesluit WHW</i>). The standard is defined in Section B.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
2. As soon as possible after the last resits of the second semester of the first year, students who have not met the standard will be informed that the faculty board intends to issue them with negative binding recommendation on continuation of studies. The same procedure applies in the next year of enrolment if the students were permitted to continue with their study programme as a result of personal circumstances and have still not successfully met all of the requirements of the first year of study by that time. No recommendation will be issued to students if they demonstrate that they once again did not meet the standard as a consequence of personal circumstances.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
3. Along with the information referred to in the previous paragraph, the student will also be informed of the possibility of being heard by the BSA committee and of how they can apply for such a hearing.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix

4. As soon as possible (no more than 10 working days) after the end of the hearing and after the BSA committee has issued its advice, the faculty board will issue the definitive recommendation on continuation of studies.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
5. Students may lodge an appeal against a decision on a binding negative recommendation on continuation of studies with the Examination Appeals Board of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam within six weeks of the day of the decision's announcement.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
6. Students who receive a binding negative recommendation on continuation of studies may therefore not enrol in the same Bachelor's programme or Bachelor's programme(s) with the same first year as defined in Article 14.1.2 of section B for a period of three years.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix

Article 5.4 Personal circumstances

1. The faculty board will not include a rejection in the binding recommendation on the continuation of studies in the case of personal circumstances, as described in Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act, as a result of which the student concerned cannot have been reasonably expected to have met the BSA standard.	Advice OLC (7.13 f)
2. If a circumstance, as described in Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act, should occur, the student must notify the academic advisor office as soon as possible, providing details of: - the period in which the circumstance occurs or occurred; - a description of the circumstance and its seriousness; - the extent to which the student cannot or could not participate in instruction/classes or an examination. It is the student's responsibility to submit documentary evidence to substantiate their report.	Advice OLC (7.13 f)
3. If required, the academic advisor may advise the BSA Committee on the extent to which personal circumstances have influenced the student's study progress.	Advice OLC (7.13 f)

Article 5.5 Facilities for students with a disability or impairment

1. A student with a disability or impairment can submit a request via the VU.nl Dashboard to qualify for one or more special facilities with regard to teaching, practical exercises and examinations. These facilities will accommodate the student's individual disability or impairment as much as possible, but may not alter the quality or degree of difficulty of a unit of education or an examination. In all cases, the student must fulfil the intended learning outcomes 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 and who want to request special facilities must provide a statement from a BIG-, NIP- or NVO-registered professional who is qualified to conduct a psychological evaluation.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
4. The faculty board, or the responsible person on behalf of the faculty board, decides on teaching facilities and facilities regarding logistics. The Examination Board will decide on requests for facilities with regard to examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
5. In the event of a positive decision in response to a request as referred to in	Advice OLC; approval FGV

paragraph 1, the student can make an appointment with the academic advisor to discuss the details of the facilities.	(7.13 m)
6. A request for one or more facilities can be refused if it would place a disproportionate burden on the organisation or the resources of the faculty or university were it upheld. Any such refusal will be substantiated.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
7. If the disability or impairment justifies an extension of the examination time, the responsible person on behalf of the Examination Board will register in SAP this entitlement to an extension. If a disability or impairment justifies other measures to be taken, the academic advisor can take the necessary measures. The student can consult the study monitor to check which facilities have been granted to them.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
8. The decision as referred to in paragraph 5 may specify a limited validity of the facilities granted.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)

6. Hardship clause

Article 6.1 Hardship clause

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

7. General programme information and characteristics

Article 7.1 Study programme information

1. The programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE), RIO number 54999, is offered on a full-time basis.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
2. The programme is offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities and the School of Business and Economics. PPE is hosted by the J.S. Mill College.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 7.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

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

Article 7.3 Academic student counselling

The programme offers the student counselling mentioned in Section A.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
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8. Further admission requirements

Article 8.1 Additional previous education requirements

1. Applicants who meet the previous education requirements as stipulated in the current 'Regulations on Registrations and Admissions in Higher Education' (<i>'Regeling Aanmelding en Toelating Hoger Onderwijs'</i> (RATHO, OCW)) will gain access to the <i>selection procedure as described in 8.1a</i> .	Legal provision
2. Applicants who do not meet the previous education requirements as stipulated in 'Regulations on Registrations and Admissions in Higher Education' currently in force may still be admitted to the programme by successfully completing one or more of the following exams: not applicable.	Exception in WHW: advice OLC
3. Anyone who does not meet the requirements for previous education but who has passed the first year of a higher professional education programme may still be admitted to the programme by successfully completing the following exams: - Mathematics A or B 6 VWO (exam grade of at least 7) - Economics 6 VWO (exam grade of at least 7) - English 6 VWO (exam grade of at least 7)	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 8.1a Selection Procedure

1. Prospective students should submit: - Proof of possession of a Dutch VWO diploma with an average GPA of at least 7.0 or foreign equivalent. - A transcript of grades over the final two years of pre-university education up to the moment of application, including mathematics A or B and an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least 7.0 or foreign equivalent. - A CV (one page A4) detailing school and extracurricular activities	
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- A completed assessment form, providing information about motivation, academic interests, extracurricular activities, personal and intellectual development, and international experience. - Evidence they meet the language requirements as specified in article 8.3	
2. Whether or not an applicant will be offered a place in the PPE programme will depend on their: - grade point average (GPA) - motivation and suitability to study an intensive programme like the PPE programme; - commitment to contribute to the College's international student and campus life The above will be determined based on the documents submitted and possibly an additional interview. The selection committee evaluates an applicant's dossier as a whole, considering all these factors. Prospective students' prior performance in disciplines foundational to PPE may also be considered.	

Article 8.2 Colloquium doctum (entrance examination)

1. Persons aged 21 years and older who do not meet the requirements for previous education can submit a request to the Executive Board to take an entrance examination (colloquium doctum), as stipulated in Article 7.29 of the WHW. The entrance examination concerns the following subjects at final pre-university examination level: - Mathematics A or B 6 VWO (exam grade of at least 7) - Economics 6 VWO (exam grade of at least 7) - English 6 VWO (exam grade of at least 7)	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. The proof that the entrance examination has been passed, only provides entitlement to the regular selection procedure as described in Article 8.1a for the academic year after the examination was taken.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 8.3 Additional English language requirements for Bachelor's programmes based on special educational concept or with a special quality mark

Sufficient command of the English language can be evidenced by successful completion: - IELTS Academic: an overall score of at least 6.5 (with at least 6.0 for each of the four components); At the start of the program, the test must not have been taken more than two years ago. - TOEFL iBT: an overall score of at least 4.5 with at least 4 for each component (formerly 92 with at least 20 for each component); At the start of the program, the test must not have been taken more than two years ago. - Cambridge C2 Proficiency/Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE): an overall score of at least 180 - Cambridge C1 Advanced/Certificate Advanced English (CAE) an overall score of at least 180 - LanguageCert Academic SELT: an overall score of at least 70. At the start of the program, the test must not have been taken more than two years ago. - Pearson PTE Academic: an overall score of at least 68. At the start of the program, the test must not have been taken more than two years ago.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Sufficient command of the English language can also be evidenced by successful completion of: ○ Secondary education state exam: vwo English language and literature, having obtained at least 7.0 ○ A vwo diploma or equivalent diploma in which the course on English of a comparable level is required, having obtained at least 7.0	
Applicants who have completed one of the following meet the English language requirement and therefore are exempted from taking an English language test: a. a secondary education or higher education degree (at least at EQF level 4) fully taught in English has been completed in Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom or the United States of America; b. a fully English-language, accredited bachelor's or master's degree (EQF level 6 or 7), or c. an International Baccalaureate Degree (with English as the main language of instruction).	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

9. Examinations and results

Article 9.1 Sequence of examinations

A student must have obtained 108 EC of year 1 and 2 courses by the end of period 3 in order to be eligible to write the bachelor thesis. If not all grades of semester 1 of year 3 have been processed before the registration deadline of the Tutorial course, the course coordinator of the thesis module can allow a student to start the thesis course, provided that the student has earned at least 102 EC on that date.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 h, 7.13 s/t)
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Article 9.2 Validity period for results

The Examination Board may impose a supplementary or replacement examination for a unit of education for which an examination was passed more than 6 years ago, if the student's skills, understanding or knowledge as evaluated in the exam are demonstrably outdated.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)
Partial exams are only valid in the academic year in which they are held, unless otherwise stated in the course manual.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13)

Section B2: Programme specific section – content of programme

10. Programme objectives, tracks/specialisations, intended learning outcomes and language

Article 10.1 Programme objective

The Bachelor programme Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) is founded on the conviction that complex societal problems require generalists, that is, researchers, policymakers and professionals who are able to examine a problem from different angles, who can combine different perspectives in a constructive way, and who are aware of the broader social and historical context of the problem in question. PPE provides a thorough knowledge of the core insights and approaches of philosophy, political science and economics (multidisciplinary), and also teaches the student to apply the different disciplinary perspectives in combination (interdisciplinary). Philosophy thereby provides the student with indispensable knowledge of the ethical dimension of a problem as well as of its historical context, and trains the student in logical reasoning and critical reflection. Economics is of crucial importance since social phenomena and political decisions are not only often affected or even result from economic developments, but also because economic considerations often form the side constraints within which decision making takes place. Political science offers the student essential knowledge of the institutional structures that order society and, given those structures, of the nature and content of collective decision making.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 10.2 Tracks and/or specialisations

The programme has the following specialisations: - Philosophy - Politics - Economics All students follow two out of these three specialisations.	Approval OLC; (7.13 b)
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Article 10.3 Intended learning outcomes

1. A. Knowledge and understanding PPE graduates will have basic knowledge and understanding of • Key concepts, theories, and methods of each PPE discipline. Methods and approaches combining the PPE-disciplines. PPE graduates who complete the Philosophy specialization will possess • Knowledge of central concepts, theories, and methods within philosophy, in particular in ethics, political philosophy and philosophy of science as they feature in international academic debates and diverse cultural contexts. An understanding of the history of ideas, and the relation of these ideas to contemporary issues. PPE graduates who complete the Political Science specialization will possess • Knowledge and understanding of central concepts, approaches, and methods (especially comparative ones) in Political Science. • Knowledge of the interaction between political institutions and public policy at both national and international levels. PPE graduates who complete the Economics specialization will possess	Approval OLC (7.13 c)
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Knowledge and understanding of the conceptual and methodological principles of economics as well as of contemporary theories and developments in micro- and macro-economics.

The knowledge and understanding of theoretical, experimental and empirical tools and methods needed in economics (both at a micro- and macro-level).

B. Applying knowledge and understanding

PPE graduates will have the ability to

Apply established (disciplinary and interdisciplinary) approaches within philosophy, political science, and economics to the analysis of complex global and societal questions and to make a contribution to their possible solution. Develop and apply different ways of integrating theories and/or methods within PPE, especially in response to issues that transcend national boundaries and require cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural perspectives. Apply formal tools and methods of logic, statistics, and decision theory (including game theory, experimental design and social choice).

PPE graduates who complete the **Philosophy** specialization will possess

The ability to determine and assess the epistemological and normative presuppositions of theories and approaches in political science and economics.

PPE graduates who complete the **Political Science** specialization will possess

The ability to apply theories and approaches from political science to the analysis of important global and societal questions.

PPE graduates who complete the **Economics** specialization will possess

The ability to apply economic theories as well as experimental and empirical approaches to the analysis of important national and international societal questions and to make both qualitative and quantitative judgements.

C. Making judgements

PPE graduates will have the ability to

Gather relevant data and organize and present them systematically, drawing on international sources and datasets where appropriate, with an awareness of the methodological and ethical issues that are involved.

Assess which theory, method, or combination thereof is most suitable for the analysis of a particular issue, taking into account the international dimensions and contextual variability of the issue under investigation. Provide policy recommendations targeted at local, national, regional or international decision makers encompassing economic, political and moral considerations. Reflect upon the professional responsibility of researchers and practitioners, and incorporate these reflections into the analysis of societal questions, especially where such questions involve ethical dilemmas or policy trade-offs that arise in international or intercultural contexts.

D. Communication

PPE graduates will have the ability to

Systematically and coherently present their work in verbal, written, and graphical forms to an expert and non-expert public adapting their communication style to diverse international and interdisciplinary contexts. Communicate with researchers and practitioners from different backgrounds in international academic, policy, and professional settings where English functions as the working language.

E. Learning skills PPE graduates will have developed the 21st century skills that enable them to 1. Think analytically and critically. 2. Be flexible, take initiative and function as a team player, especially in international, interdisciplinary, and multilingual environments where collaboration across cultural and academic boundaries is essential.	
2. Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of examinations.	Approval OLC (7.13 c)

Article 10.4 Language of instruction and language test

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

11. Curriculum structure

Article 11.1 Academic development

1. The academic core means: (1) Academic skills/critical reasoning (2) Methods & techniques (3) Philosophical training	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
2. (4) History of Philosophy (5) Academic English	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)

Article 11.2 Major

1. The major comprises a package of compulsory and possibly optional units of education.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
2. In addition, units of education are categorised as introductory (100), in-depth (200) and advanced (300) level.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix

Article 11.3 Compulsory units of education of the major

See appendix. A detailed description per unit of education can be found in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 11.4 Elective units of education of the major

See appendix. In each chosen specialisation, the student follows two specialization-dependent mandatory courses. A student follows four courses from the set of electives that are offered within the specializations chosen by them. Moreover, the selection of electives should include at least one course from each chosen specialization. A detailed description per unit of education can be found in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 11.5 Practical exercise

Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
Tutorial PPE	W_JSM_304	6	300	
Thesis PPE	W_JSM_SCR	12	300	
Internship PPE	W_JSM_STA	30	300	

Article 11.6 Participation in practical exercises and seminars

1. A necessary condition for passing a practical exercise without taking the resit, is participating in 75% of the sessions and passing the required assignments (as specified in the course manual). In case 75% does not lead to a full number of seminars, the number is rounded down.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
2. In the case of a seminar, the student must attend at least 75% of the sessions. A necessary condition for passing a course without taking the resit, is participating in 75% of the seminars and passing the required seminar assignments (as specified in the course manual). In case 75% does not lead to a full number of seminars, the number is rounded down.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)

12. Electives**Article 12.1 Elective period**

The second semester of the second year and the first semester of the third year of the curriculum comprises elective units of education. See appendix.	Exception to Ordinance CvB, see appendix
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Article 12.2 Minors

The student who meets the admission requirements can, extracurricularly, take a 'University minor' without prior consent from the Examination Board.	Ordinance CvB, see appendix
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Article 12.2a Study abroad and internship

In 2024-2025, students can opt for a study abroad, an internship or a selection of (VU) courses in the first semester of the third year. Students who wish to study abroad can make use of the programme specific bilateral exchange agreements and of a number of designated VU-wide exchange agreements managed by the International Office. Permission of the Examination Board is needed for all course selections. After obtaining the credits at one of the partner universities abroad, the Examination Board will warrant the acknowledgement of obtained credits and grades abroad. In case insufficient credits have been obtained abroad, students can apply for approval for substitute courses, electives or tutorials. Students who wish to do an internship, have to actively search for an internship position. The JS Mill College will assist them in this process and prior approval of the Programme Director is required for all internships. Internships cover 30 EC, or a minimum of (30x28=) 840 hours. This includes the time for working on a progress report, an internship report, and a research paper. Every internship must include a research part. The organization of the internship is described in the Internship Manual. Students can also follow courses of their own choosing at the VU, or elsewhere in the Netherlands. These courses should meet the following criteria: • A minimum of 18EC should be at level 300, implying a maximum of 12EC can be at level 200. Level 100 courses are not allowed. • The courses must be taught in English. • The course must have relevance to PPE or its constituent disciplines The Examination Board must approve the set of courses for a total of 30EC.	
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13. Honours programme

Article 13.1 Honours components

Selected PPE students have the possibility to participate in an Honours Programme (30 EC). There are two such possibilities: an internal and an external one. The internal PPE Honours track consists of following three rather than two specialisations and a research training. It thus comprises the two compulsory courses belonging to the track not chosen by the student, two of the electives belonging to that track, and a Research Project. Students will be admitted to the internal PPE honours programme if they have obtained all credits for the first year by August 31 of that year with a weighted average mark of at least 7.5 The external programme consists of participation in the Honours Programmes of the departments involved in the two tracks chosen by the student i.e. philosophy, political science, or economics. See also www.vu.nl/honours.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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14. Binding recommendation on continuation of studies (BSA)

Article 14.1 Binding (negative) recommendation

1. In order to obtain a positive recommendation on continuation of studies, the student must have obtained at least 54 EC of first year courses of the programme by the end of the first year of enrolment.	Advice OLC (7.13 f)
2. Students who receive a binding negative recommendation on continuation of studies cannot enrol in the following Bachelor's programme(s) offered by the Faculty during the subsequent three academic years: Philosophy, Politics and Economics. After three years previously obtained results will be deleted.	Advice OLC (7.13 f)

15. Evaluation and transitional provisions

Article 15.1 Evaluation of the education

The education provided in this programme is evaluated in accordance with the Faculty of Humanities' evaluation plan. For PPE, each course on offer is being evaluated. Besides course evaluations, students are consulted on a regular basis and results of the National Student Survey and the International Student Barometer are analysed.	Approval OLC (7.13 a1)
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Article 15.2 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: <i>Not applicable</i>	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
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Advice and approval by the Programme Committee on 10 March 2026

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly on 26 May 2026

Adopted by the board of the Faculty 26 May 2026

Appendix 1 Programme overview

ANNUAL PLAN BACHELOR PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS & ECONOMICS: TRACKS PHILOSOPHY & ECONOMICS 2026-2027																																																																																															
WEEK	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26																																																				
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	W_JSM_102 [6 EC] Methods of PPE I								W_JSM_104 [6 EC] Political Science: State, Power, Conflict								W_JSM_111 [6 EC] Foundations of Macroeconomics				W_JSM_109 [6 EC] Comparative Politics																																																																										
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	W_JSM_203 [6 EC] Micro-economics and Methods								W_JSM_206 [6 EC] Macro-economics and Policy												Elective [6 EC]*				Elective [6 EC]*																																																																						
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	*A student attends four courses from the set of electives that are offered within the two chosen tracks. The only requirement is to choose at least one elective in each of the two main chosen disciplines.																																																																																														
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W_JSM_210 Epistemology (period 4)																W_JSM_220 Public Economics (period 4)																																																																															
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ANNUAL PLAN BACHELOR PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS & ECONOMICS: TRACKS PHILOSOPHY & POLITICAL SCIENCE 2026-2027																																																			
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	W_JSM_202 [6 EC] Political Institutions								W_JSM_205 [6 EC] Global Governance and International Relations												Elective [6 EC]*				Elective [6 EC]*																										
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W_JSM_210 Epistemology (period 4)																		W_JSM_222 International Security (period 4)																																	
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