

Teaching and Examination Regulations

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

School of Humanities

Master's programme Humanities (Research)

Academic year 2025-2026

A. Faculty section

B1. Programme-specific section – general provisions

B2. Programme-specific section – content of programme

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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 2025.	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. 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: A Master's programme consists of a Master's examination;
- 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. period: a part of a semester;
- h. practical exercise: 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;
- i. programme: the totality and cohesion of the units of education, teaching activities/methods, contact hours, testing and examination methods and recommended literature;
- j. SAP/SLM: the student information system (*Student Lifecycle Management*);
- k. semester: the first (September - January) or second half (February - August) of an academic year;
- l. specialisation: optional route of study within a degree programme indicating a deepening of the context of the programme (e.g. interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary);

m. 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);
n. student:	person studying;
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 online at https://www.vu.nl/studiegids ;
p. study monitor:	dashboard for students and academic advisers containing data pertaining to the student, including the student's study progress;
q. subject:	see u. 'unit of education';
r. thesis:	a unit comprising research into the literature and/or a contribution to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;
s. track:	a study pathway within a broader Bachelor's or Master's degree; programme, such as a fully English-language study pathway within a Dutch-language Bachelor's or Master's programme;
t. unit of education:	a unit of study of the programme within the meaning of the WHW;
u. university:	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam;
v. WHW:	the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (WHW)).
w. 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 III
2. Every semester consists of three consecutive periods. The first two periods each consist of eight weeks, and the final period consists of four weeks.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
3. A unit of education comprises 6 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
4. By way of exception to paragraph 3, the Executive Board may in special cases and on request of the Faculty Board, stipulate that a unit of education comprises 3 EC or a multiple thereof.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

3. Assessment and examination

Article 3.1 Signing up for education and examinations

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

Article 3.2 Type of examination

1. At the examiner's request, the Examination Board may permit a different form of examination than is stipulated in the study guide.	Advice OLC, approval FGV
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	(7.13 l)
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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 l 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 can be made. This audio recording is retained by the university for the retention period applicable for examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l 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 theses and final assignments is no longer than twenty working days after submission. The examiner will then immediately ensure that the marks are registered and also ensures that the student is immediately notified of the mark, taking due account of the applicable confidentiality standards.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. The examiner determines the result (i.e. mark) of an oral examination as soon as possible, but at the latest within 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 will be offered for each unit of education. b. By way of exception to a., the options for retaking practical exercises, work placements and theses are detailed in the relevant work placement manual, course manual or teaching regulations.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. The most recent mark will apply in the event of a resit. A resit is allowed for both passed and failed units of education.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
3. The resit for an examination may not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the results for the original examination. Exceptions are only possible in period 6.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 j)
4. The Examination Board may allow a student an extra opportunity to sit an examination if that student: a) lacks only those credits to qualify for their degree; and b) has failed the examination during all the previously offered attempts unless participation in an examination was not possible for compelling reasons. The extra opportunity can only be offered if it concerns a written examination, a paper or a take home examination. This provision excludes the practical exercises and the Bachelor'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, see Appendix III

5. If a unit of education is no longer offered, at least one additional opportunity will subsequently be provided to sit the examination(s) or parts thereof and a transitional arrangement will be included in Section B.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (7.13 j)
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Article 3.6 Marks

1. Grades are given on a scale from 1 to 10 with no more than one figure after the decimal point.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. A final mark between 5 and 6 will be rounded to the nearest whole number: final marks below 5.50, rounded down; final marks of 5.50 or higher, rounded up. All other final marks will be expressed in whole or half marks.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
3. To pass a given course or unit, a final mark of 6 or higher is required.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
4. The Examination Board can allow the use of symbols rather than numbers.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

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 or university of applied sciences (HBO) or a research university (WO) that is equivalent in terms of content and level; - or have demonstrated through their work and/or professional experience that they have sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the relevant unit of education.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 r)
2. The Master's thesis is excluded from this exemption possibility	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

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 and post-examination discussion

1. Within twenty working days after the announcement of the results of a written examination, but at least ten working days before the resit opportunity for that examination, the student can submit a request to review their graded examination.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 p and 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 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. Academic student counselling and study progress

Article 4.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling

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

Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability or impairment

1. Students with a disability or impairment, can submit a request via VU.nl Dashboard to qualify for one or more special facilities with regard to teaching, practical exercises and examinations. These facilities will accommodate the student's individual disability 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 exit qualifications for the study programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
2. The request referred to in the first paragraph must be accompanied by a statement from a doctor or psychologist. If possible, an estimate should be given of the potential impact on the student's study progress. In case of a chronic disability a single (one time) request suffices.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
3. Students who have been diagnosed with dyslexia must provide a statement from a BIG-, NIP- or NVO-registered professional who is qualified to conduct a psychological evaluation.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
4. The faculty board, or the person acting on behalf of the faculty board, decides on teaching facilities and facilities regarding logistics. The Examination Board will decide on requests for facilities with regard to examinations.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
5. In the event of a positive decision in response to a request as referred to in paragraph 1, the student can make an appointment with the academic adviser to discuss the details of the provisions.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
6. A request for one or more facilities can be refused if it would place a disproportionate burden on the 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 adviser can take the necessary measures. The student can consult the study monitor to check which facilities have been granted to them.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)
8. The decision as referred to in paragraph 5 may specify a limited validity of the facilities granted.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 m)

5. Hardship clause

Article 5.1 Hardship clause

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

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

The programme Humanities (research) RIO number 60958 is offered on a full-time basis.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)
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Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

1. The degree programme uses the following teaching formats: - Lecture - Seminar - Tutorial - Excursion - Practical exercise - Internship	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 x)
2. The modes of assessment used per unit of education are specified in the study guide.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 l)

Article 6.3 Academic student counselling

1. The programme offers the following counselling in addition to the student counselling mentioned in Section A: Mentoring. At the start of the study programme, the programme coordinator introduces each student to their mentor, who determines the programme together with the student (including optional subjects, research school and other electives such as an internship and foreign exchange). The mentor remains the permanent contact person for the student for the full length of the programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)
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7. Further admission requirements

Article 7.1 Intake date(s)

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

1. Admission to the Master's programme is possible for an applicant who has obtained a Bachelor's degree at an institution of academic higher education, which demonstrates the following knowledge, understanding and skills: - knowledge: specialized knowledge of one discipline within the Humanities; general knowledge of the main disciplines and research topics within the Humanities; - understanding: a thorough understanding of the academic research process; a basic understanding of the concept of interdisciplinarity; a basic understanding of the challenges and benefits of international collaboration; a basic understanding of the relevance of Humanities in society;	Advice OLC, approval by FGV (9.38 sub b)
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c. skills: critical thinking; good writing, speaking, and research skills; ability to reason effectively, to construct a coherent line of argument, and to present it with clarity; the capacity to engage with alternative perspectives and/or new information; powers of analysis; ability to arrive at original lines of questioning based on a profound knowledge of the research subject. Admission to the Master's programme is possible with a Bachelor's degree in one of the Humanities disciplines History, Philosophy, Linguistics, Literature or Art, or an interdisciplinary Bachelor's programme (such as Liberal Arts & Sciences, Arts and Culture Studies, PPE, PPLe, Political Sciences, Anthropology, European Studies, American Studies, Global Studies, Digital Society, Computer Sciences, Digital Humanities, or Environmental Humanities or Environmental Studies). For additional criteria per track, see 7.2.2.	
2. Applicants who wish to follow the track Philosophy must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: - knowledge: applicants who wish to follow the track Philosophy must have a solid background with a minimum of 30 EC in philosophy. - understanding: an understanding of academic methodologies. - skills: an ability to analyse philosophical texts; the capacity to discuss developments in philosophy in a wider societal context, and to use theoretical writings. This can be shown through a transcript of records, or a relevant paper or thesis. Applicants who wish to follow the track Linguistics must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: - knowledge: a solid background with a minimum of 30 EC in either linguistics, computer sciences and/or AI. - understanding: an understanding of methodologies in one or more of the relevant disciplines (linguistics, computer science and AI) in empirical modelling and data driven approaches. - motivation: applicants for Human language Technology, should have a clear interest in an interdisciplinary study that combines knowledge and skills in the fields of linguistics, AI and computer science. This can be shown through a transcript of records, or a relevant paper or thesis. Applicants who wish to follow the track Critical Studies in Art and Culture must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: - knowledge: a solid background with a minimum of 30 EC in either art history, architectural history, design studies or media studies; - understanding: an understanding of methodologies in one or more of the relevant disciplines (art history, architectural history, design studies and media studies); awareness of the history and the potential of interdisciplinary exchange and collaboration between these fields; - skills: an ability to analyse works of art and visual or material culture; the capacity to discuss developments in the arts and media in a wider societal context, and to use theoretical writings to shed new light on arts and media practices. This can be shown through a transcript of records, or a relevant paper or thesis.	Advice OLC, approval by FGV (9.38 sub b)

Applicants who wish to follow the track Global History must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: a. knowledge: a solid background with a minimum of 30 EC in history; b. understanding: an understanding of methodologies in the field of history; c. skills: an ability to find and use source material; the capacity to discuss developments in historiography in a wider societal context, and to use theoretical writings. This can be shown through a transcript of records, or a relevant paper or thesis. Applicants who wish to follow the track Environmental Humanities must, in addition to the provisions in paragraph 1, also meet the following requirements with regard to: a. knowledge: a bachelor degree in Humanities, Social Sciences or ecological/environmental sciences, with a minimum of 30 ECTS in Humanities courses (literature, art history, history, linguistics, or philosophy); b. understanding: an understanding of methodologies in the fields of literature, art, linguistics, history, or philosophy; c. skills: an ability to critically analyse a diversity of primary sources (e.g. literary texts, archival maps, artworks); an ability to find, process, and critically reflect on secondary literature; the capacity to present analytical and critical arguments (orally and in written form). This can be shown through a transcript of records, or a relevant paper or thesis.	
3. Applicants with a bachelor's degree obtained at an institution outside the Netherlands may be asked for additional methods to prove that they meet the admission requirements.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 ub b)
4. Applicants should demonstrate that they have a sufficient level of proficiency in English by meeting at least one of the following standards: - IELTS Academic: an overall score of at least 7.0, with a minimum of 6.5 on each item; IELTS test has a validity of 2 years. - TOEFL iBT: an overall score of at least 100, with a minimum of 20-23 on each component; TOEFL test has a validity of 2 years. - Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) or Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE) with an overall score of at least 180. Cambridge tests are valid indefinitely.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 ub b)
5. Applicants who have completed one of the following meet the English language requirement and therefore are exempted from taking an English language test (as mentioned in the section 4) if: - a secondary education or higher education degree fully taught in English has been completed in Australia, Canada (except Quebec province), Ireland, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, the United Kingdom or the United States of America; - a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an English-taught programme accredited by NVAO in the Netherlands has been earned; or - a Bachelor's or Master's degree in an accredited fully English-taught university programme has been earned in a member state of the European Union/ European Economic Area; or - a Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) or a Cambridge	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Certificate of Advanced English (CAE) with at least a score of A, B or C has been obtained; or - a VWO diploma or equivalent diploma in which the course of English of a comparable level is required has been earned.	
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Article 7.3 Selection criteria

In addition to the admission requirements referred to in Article 7.2, the Faculty Board also sets the following selection criteria: - A high level of relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated by an average mark of at least 7.5 (or foreign equivalent) for relevant years or parts of the Bachelor's degree programme relevant to the track and at least a mark 7.5 (or foreign equivalent) for the Bachelor's thesis or similar final work. - Motivation for the programme, demonstrated by a letter stating the motivation for the programme showing evidence of enthusiasm, commitment, intellectual curiosity, genuine interest, perseverance, and capacity for sustained study.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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Article 7.3a Capacity restriction

Not applicable.

Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

Not applicable.

8. Examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations

Students may participate in examinations [or practical exercises] of the units below only if they have passed the examination or examinations for the components mentioned hereinafter: - Thesis after obtaining 60 EC	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 h, s & t)
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Article 8.2 Validity period for results

1. If the student's skills, understanding or knowledge evaluated in the exam are demonstrably outdated, 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.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13)
2. 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 k)

Section B2: Programme specific – content of programme

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

Article 9.1 Workload

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

The programme has the following tracks: - Critical Studies in Art and Culture - Global History - Literature & Contested Spaces (closed for admission as of 1 September 2023) - Linguistics - Philosophy - Environmental Humanities	Approval OLC (7.13 b)
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Article 9.3 Programme objective

See appendix.	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
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Article 9.4 Exit qualifications

1. See appendix.	Approval OLC (7.13 c)
2. Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of (interim) examinations.	Approval OLC (7.13 c)

Article 9.5 Language of instruction

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

10. Curriculum structure

Article 10.1 Composition of the programme

1. The programme comprises at least a package of compulsory units and an individual Master's thesis.	Ordinance CvB, See appendix
2. Additionally the programme can offer: - Practical exercises; - Electives.	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
3. Units of education are categorized as specialized (400), research oriented (500) and highly specialized (600) level.	Ordinance CvB, See appendix

Article 10.2 Compulsory units of education

See appendix. A detailed description per unit of education can be found in the Study Guide. All students must follow courses at least worth 10 EC of the elective space at one of the National Research Schools during the course of the entire Research Master's programme.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
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Article 10.3 Elective units of education

1. See appendix. A detailed description per unit of education can be found in the Study Guide.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
2. If the student wishes to take a different unit of education than listed, advance permission must be obtained in writing from the Examination Board.	Advice OLC; (7.13 a)

Article 10.4 Practical exercise

The following units can be considered as practical exercises:				Approval OLC (7.13 d)
Name of unit of education	course code	nr of EC	level	
Research Master Thesis HUM Art & Culture	L_AAMPHUASCR	30	600	
Research Master Thesis HUM Global History	L_AAMPHUGSCR	30	600	
Research Master Thesis HUM Literature	L_AAMPHULSCR	30	600	
Research Master Thesis HUM Linguistics	L_AAMPHUTSCR	30	600	
Research Master Thesis HUM Philosophy	W_AAMPHUPSCR	30	600	
Research Master Thesis HUM Environmental Humanities	L_AAMPHUESCR	30	600	
Team Research in Practice	L_AAMPALG020	6	400	
Humanities Research Career Preparation	L_AAMPALG006	6	600	
Digital Humanities	L_AAMPALG017	6	500	
Research Projects 1A: Epistemology and Cognitive Science	W_AAMPHUP005	6	400	
Research Projects 2A: Moral and Political Philosophy	W_AAMPHUP006	6	400	
Tutorial Forensic Linguistics	L_NCMPLIN007	6	500	
Programming in Python for Text Analysis	L_AAMPLIN021	6	500	
Experiments in NLP	L_AAMPLIN032	3	500	
Machine Learning for NLP (RM)	L_AAMPLIN019	9	500	
Interdisciplinary Community Service Learning: Defining Challenges in a Multi-Stakeholder Context	AM_1254	3	400	
Humanities Career Preparation for i-CSL	L_AAMPALG019	3	500	
Research Projects	L_AAMPHUG003	9	500	

Article 10.5 Participation in practical exercises and seminars

1. In the case of a practical exercise, students must attend at least 80% of the sessions. Should students attend less than 80%, they must repeat the practical exercise, or the examiner may have one or more supplementary assignments issued.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
2. In the case of a seminar, students must attend at least 80% of the sessions. Should students attend less than 80%, they must repeat the seminar, or the examiner may have one or more supplementary assignments issued.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)

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

The education provided in this programme is evaluated in accordance with the (attached) evaluation plan. 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:		Advice OLC (7.13 a)
Cancelled course	Replacement course	
Core Course Contesting Spaces (L_AAMPALG011)	Tutorial	
Core Course RMA Literature & History (L_AAMPALG021)	Core Course RMA Challenging capitalist modernity: Theory, history, culture	
Core Course National Historiographies and Contested Heritage (L_AAMPALG008)	Core Course RMA Challenging capitalist modernity: Theory, history, culture	
Core Course Imagining the Image	Core Course RMA Challenging capitalist modernity: Theory, history, culture	
Environmental Humanities Toolbox (L_AAMPALG022), 9 EC	Staying With the Trouble: Environmental Humanities Seminar (L_AAMPALG029), 6 EC plus extra assignments for additional 3 EC <i>or</i> plus elective of 3 EC; or in alternating years with Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet: Environmental Humanities Seminar, 6 EC plus extra assignments for additional 3 EC <i>or</i> plus elective of 3 EC	
Transdisciplinary Environmental Humanities 1 (9 EC) (L_AAMPALG023)	Environmental Humanities in the Field, , 6 EC plus extra assignments for additional 3 EC <i>or</i> plus elective of 3 EC	
Transdisciplinary Environmental Humanities 2	Staying With the Trouble: Environmental Humanities Seminar (6 EC), or in alternating years: Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet: Environmental Humanities Seminar (6 EC)	
Literature review for NLP (3ec, L_AAMPLIN034)	Literature for review for NLP (6 ec, L_AAMPLIN042)	

Advice and approval by the Programme Committee on 27 March 2025

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly on 13 May 2025

Adopted by the board of the Faculty on 13 May 2025

Appendix 1 Programme overview

ANNUAL PLAN RESEARCH MASTER HUMANITIES, TRACK CRITICAL STUDIES IN ART AND CULTURE 2025-2026																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
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		L_KAMAKGS027 [9 EC] * Seminar: Contemporary Art and/or L_ZAMAKCW006 [9 EC] * CAMS; Key Concepts and/or L_ZAMAACW013 [9 EC] * Methods of Design Analysis: The Meanings of Design																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															

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ANNUAL PLAN RESEARCH MASTER HUMANITIES, TRACK GLOBAL HISTORY 2025-2026																																																											
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																
YEAR 1	Period 1								Period 2								Period 3				Period 4				Period 5				Period 6																														
	L_GCMAGES014 [6 EC] History and Theory								L_GAMAGES038 [6 EC] Colonialism and Decolonisation												L_AAMPALG027 [6 EC] Team Research in Practice				L_AAAMPALG017 [6 EC] ** Digital Humanities or W_AAAMPHUP013 [6 EC] ** Philosophical and Historical Aspects of the Humanities																																		
	L_GAMAGES022 [6 EC] From Source to Public																				L_AAMPHUG003 [9 EC] * Research Projects or L_AAMPALG028 [9 EC] * Challenging Capitalist Modernity: Theory, History, Culture																																						
	L_AAMPHUG001 [6 EC] Global History Tutorial 1																				L_AAMPHUG002 [6 EC] Global History Tutorial 2																																						
	Tutorial/ Elective/ National Research School [9 EC] ***																																																										
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																
YEAR 2	Period 1								Period 2								Period 3				Period 4				Period 5				Period 6																														
	Tutorial/ Elective/ National Research School/ Study abroad/ Internship [15 EC] ***								L_AAMPALG019 [3 EC] Humanities Career Preparation i-CSL and AM_1254 [3 EC] Interdisciplinary Community Service Learning: DCIMC or L_AAMPALG006 [6 EC] Humanities Research Career Preparation												L_AAMPHUG003 [9 EC] * Research Projects or L_AAMPALG028 [9 EC] * Challenging Capitalist Modernity: Theory, History, Culture																																						
L_AAMPHUGSCR [30 EC] Thesis Global History																																																											
*** Electives period 1 6 EC																																																				*** Electives period 3 6 EC							
L_AAMPALG026 Key Concepts in Environmental Humanities																																																				L_KNMAALG001 Ambivalence of Seeing (Otherwise): Histories and Theories of Photography							
L_AAMPALG015 Core Course General Linguistics																																																											
L_AAMPLIN021 Programming in Python for Text Analysis																																																				*** Electives period 4 6 EC							
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*** Electives period 2 6 EC																																																				L_KBMAERF005 Master Seminar Sound Heritage							
S_SICDP Selected Issues: Contemporary Democratic Politics																																																											
W_AAAMPHUP005 Research Projects 1A: Epistemology and Cognitive Science																																																				*** Electives period 1-6 12 EC							
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*** Electives period 2+3 9 EC																																																											
L_GEMPGES002 History of Natural Disasters (research)																																																											
* Subjects of Core Courses alternate yearly, for both 1st and 2nd year students. In 2025-2026 the course <i>Research Projects</i> is offered; in 2026-2027 the course <i>Challenging Capitalist Modernity: Theory, History, Culture</i> . Core Courses are compulsory.																																																											
** Choose the course <i>Digital Humanities</i> or <i>Philosophical and Historical Aspects of the Humanities</i> ; it is possible to take the other course as an elective.																																																											
*** Together with your mentor, you will devise a specialization program that can be based on a combination of a study program at an (inter)national university or research institute, tutorials, internship or specialization courses from relevant humanities programs on a Research Master's level or an equivalent thereof.																																																											
All Research Master's students have to fulfill for at least 10 EC of the elective space by courses at one of the National Research Schools throughout the entire Research Master's Program.																																																											
■ COURSE ■ FREE CHOICE OF MODULES ■ EXAMINATION WEEK ■ VACATION Additional: No education in week 18																																																											
We reserve the right to make changes to this annual plan																																																											

ANNUAL PLAN RESEARCH MASTER HUMANITIES, TRACK LINGUISTICS - FORENSIC LINGUISTICS 2025-2026

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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	L_NCMPLIN001 [6 EC] Forensic Linguistics 1: Why the Law Needs Language and Linguistics							L_AAAMPLIN016 [6 EC] Forensic Linguistics 2: Methods of Authorship Analysis												L_AAMPALG027 [6 EC] Team Research in Practice				L_NCMPLIN006 [6 EC] Forensic Linguistics 3: Language in the Legal System																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
	L_AAMPALG015 [6 EC] Core Course General Linguistics or L_AAAMPLIN021 [6 EC] Programming in Python for Text Analysis							L_AAAMPLIN024 [6 EC] Machine Learning for NLP ** or Elective [6 EC] **												L_AAAMPLIN03S [6 EC] Advanced NLP ** or Elective [6 EC] **				L_AAMPALG017 [6 EC] * Digital Humanities or W_AAMPHUP013 [6 EC] * Philosophical and Historical Aspects of the Humanities																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
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ANNUAL PLAN RESEARCH MASTER HUMANITIES, TRACK LINGUISTICS - HUMAN LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGY 2025-2026																																											
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
YEAR 1	Period 1 L_AAMPALG016 [6 EC] Introduction Human Language Technology								Period 2 L_AAAMPLIN024 [6 EC] Machine Learning for NLP								Period 3 National Research School [6 EC] **						Period 4 L_AAAMPALG027 [6 EC] Team Research in Practice						Period 5 L_AAAMPALG017 [6 EC] * Digital Humanities or W_AAAMPHUP013 [6 EC] * Philosophical and Historical Aspects of the Humanities						Period 6 National Research School [6 EC] **								
	L_AAMPALG015 [6 EC] Core Course General Linguistics or L_AAAMPLIN021 [6 EC] Programming in Python for Text Analysis								L_PAMATLW001 [6 EC] Language as Data ** or Elective [6 EC] **								L_AAAMPLIN036 [6 EC] Advanced NLP (RM)						Tutorial/Elective [6 EC] **																				
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
YEAR 2	Period 1 L_AAAMPLIN039 [6 EC] Experiments in NLP								Period 2 L_AAAMPALG019 [3 EC] Humanities Career Preparation I-CSL and AM_1254 [3 EC] Interdisciplinary Community Service Learning: DCIMC or L_AAAMPALG006 [6 EC] Humanities Research Career Preparation								Period 3 L_AAAMPLIN042 [6 EC] Literature Review for NLP						Period 4 L_AAMPHTUSCR [30 EC] Thesis						Period 5						Period 6								
	L_AAAMPLIN018 [6 EC] Subjectivity Mining ** or Elective [6 EC] **								L_AAAMPLIN041 [6 EC] Conversational AI and Robots ** or Elective [6 EC] **																																		
** Electives period 1 6 EC L_AAMPALG026 Key Concepts in Environmental Humanities L_NCMPLIN001 Forensic Linguistics 1: Why the Law Needs Language and Linguistics L_NCMPLIN003 Forensic Linguistics 4: The Language of Government and Business ** Electives period 2 6 EC L_AAAMPLIN016 Forensic Linguistics 2: Methods of Authorship Analysis ** Electives period 3 6 EC L_KNMAALG001 Ambivalence of Seeing (Otherwise): Histories and Theories of Photography ** Electives period 2+3 6 EC L_NCMACIW021 The Power of Metaphor ** Electives period 2+3 9 EC L_GEMPGES002 History of Natural Disasters (research) ** Electives period 4+5 9 EC L_KAMPVAM004 Core Module Critical Issues in Art and Culture ** Electives period 5 6 EC L_NCMPLIN006 Forensic Linguistics 3: Language in the Legal System R_LERAI Law and Ethics on Robots and AI ** Electives period 4 6 EC L_ETMAALG004 English Text Editing MA ** Electives period 4 3 EC L_ETMAALG010 Academic Writing in English																																											
* Choose the course <i>Digital Humanities</i> or <i>Philosophical and Historical Aspects of the Humanities</i> ; it is possible to take the other course as an elective. ** Together with your mentor, you will devise a specialization program that can be based on a combination of a study program at an (inter)national university or research institute, tutorials, internship or specialization courses from relevant humanities programs on a Research Master's level or an equivalent thereof. All Research Master's students have to fulfill for at least 10 EC of the elective space by courses at one of the National Research Schools throughout the entire Research Master's Program.																																											
COURSE FREE CHOICE OF MODULES EXAMINATION WEEK VACATION Additional: No education in week 18																																											
We reserve the right to make changes to this annual plan																																											

ANNUAL PLAN RESEARCH MASTER HUMANITIES, TRACK PHILOSOPHY 2025-2026																																											
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
YEAR 1	Period 1								Period 2								Period 3				Period 4				Period 5				Period 6														
	W_AAMPHUP002 [6 EC]* Core Course: Knowledge in a Social World or W_AAMPHUP012 [6 EC]* Core Course: Knowledge in a Social World 2								W_AAMPHUP014 [6 EC]* Core Course: Moral Philosophy or W_AAMPHUP015 [6 EC]* Core Course: Moral Philosophy 2												L_AAAMPALG027 [6 EC] Team Research in Practice				L_AAAMPALG017 [6 EC] ** Digital Humanities or W_AAMPHUP013 [6 EC] ** Philosophical and Historical Aspects of the Humanities																		
	W_AAMPHUP016 [6 EC] Foundational Texts: Ancient B								or								W_AAMPHUP017 [6 EC] Foundational Texts: Modern B				W_AAMPHUP006 [6 EC] Research Projects 2A: Moral and Political Philosophy																						
									W_AAMPHUP005 [6 EC] Research Projects 1A: Epistemology and Cognitive Science																																		
	Tutorial/ Elective/ National Research School [18 EC] ***																																										
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
YEAR 2	Period 1								Period 2								Period 3				Period 4				Period 5				Period 6														
	Study Abroad [24 EC] *** or Electives / Tutorial RMH Philosophy [18 EC] *** and W_AAMPHUP008 [6 EC] **** Foundational Texts: Ancient A								L_AAAMPALG019 [3 EC] Humanities Career Preparation L_CSL and AM_1254 [3 EC] Interdisciplinary Community Service Learning: DCIMC or L_AAAMPALG006 [6 EC] Humanities Research Career Preparation												W_AAAMPHUPSCR [30 EC] Thesis																						
*** Electives period 1 6 EC								*** Electives period 2 6 EC								*** Electives period 4 6 EC								*** Electives period 4+5 9 EC																			
L_AAAMPALG026 Key Concepts in Environmental Humanities								W_MASP_PBH1 Philosophy of Mind, Life and Death								W_MA_NSPBB Philosophy of Mind, Brain and Behaviour								L_KBMAERF005 Master Seminar Sound Heritage																			
W_MASP_PBH2 Ethics of Medical Research								W_MA_NSNPS Neurophilosophy, Phenomenology and Subjectivity								L_KBMAERF005 Master Seminar Sound Heritage																											
L_GAMAGES022 From Source to Public								L_ELMALTK006 Reading Images																																			
W_MA_PMC Philosophy. Modern Classics								L_OAMAOHS019 The Ancient World & Modern Theory: Female Perspective								*** Electives period 4+5 9 EC																											
L_AAAMPALG015 Core Course General Linguistics								*** Electives period 2+3 6 EC								L_KAMPVAM004 Core Module Critical Issues in Art and Culture																											
L_AAMPLIN021 Programming in Python for Text Analysis								L_ZAMAAACW022 Aesthetics of Media Environments								*** Electives period 5 6 EC																											
W_MA_NSNX Neuroscientific Explanation								L_KNMAALG001 Ambivalence of Seeing (Otherwise): Histories and Theories of Photography								W_MA_NSNS Neuroethics and Society																											
L_GCMAGES014 History and Theory								*** Electives period 3 6 EC								*** Electives period 1-6 6 EC																											
L_AAMAOHS067 Story vs History: Borders and Barbarians																W_AAMPHUPTUT Tutorial RMH Philosophy																											
*** Electives period 1+2 9 EC																																											
L_ZAMAKCW006 CAMS: Key Concepts																																											
*Subjects of Core Courses alternate yearly, for both 1st and 2nd year students: <i>Knowledge in a Social World 2</i> and <i>Moral Philosophy 2</i> in 2025-2026; <i>Knowledge in a Social World</i> and <i>Moral Philosophy</i> in 2026-2027. The Core Courses are compulsory for 1st year students and electives for 2nd year students. ** Choose the course <i>Digital Humanities</i> or <i>Philosophical and Historical Aspects of the Humanities</i>; it is possible to take the other course as an elective. *** Together with your mentor, you will devise a specialization program that can be based on a combination of a study program at an (inter)national university or research institute, tutorials, internship or specialization courses from relevant humanities programs on a Research Master's level or an equivalent thereof. All Research Master's students have to fulfill for at least 10 EC of the elective space by courses at one of the National Research Schools throughout the entire Research Master's Program. **** This course is not compulsory for students who go abroad.																																											
COURSE FREE CHOICE OF MODULES EXAMINATION WEEK VACATION Additional: No education in week 18																																											
We reserve the right to make changes to this annual plan																																											

Appendix 2 Evaluation of teaching within the School of Humanities

Evaluation Plan 2025-2026

Introduction

The framework with regard to educational evaluations is laid down in [chapter 3](#) of the Manual for Quality Assurance of Teaching and Learning. This is the general evaluation plan for the School of Humanities (SGW).

At VU evaluations are conducted with the aim to improve educational quality. The evaluations focus on the quality of courses, teachers' teaching skills and assessment quality. The VU draws up questionnaires for this purpose with a number of mandatory key questions. In addition, the faculty or school has the option of adding its own questions to the lists.

1. Course evaluations

1.1 Quantitative Evaluations

The School of Humanities uses Evalytics to digitally distribute questionnaires. This way, the anonymity of students is guaranteed and the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycle - which serves educational improvement - can be run properly.

1.1.1 Frequency

It is a requirement that each course is evaluated using student questionnaires once every three years. Within the School of Humanities courses are evaluated once every two years, though courses with 0-4 registered students are exempt from digital evaluation. The following schedule that alternates even and odd teaching periods is adhered to:

2025-2026	2026-2027
Period 2+4+6	Period 1+3+5

Exceptions are made for:

- courses mentioned in the annual plan of the SGW Examination Board's Assessment Chamber;
- courses that are administered by the following programmes;
 - o Ba Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)
 - o Ba Archeology
 - o Ba Ancient Studies
 - o Ba Griekse en Latijnse Taal en Cultuur
- courses that are part of a (University) Minor.

1.1.2 Process

The default start date of both the course- and exam evaluation is the examination date or end date course. Course coordinators are encouraged to carry out the evaluation of the education part during the last class before the exam. The evaluation concerning the examination will then be sent shortly after the exam has taken place.

Four weeks before the examination or end date of the course, the course coordinator receives an e-mail notifying them that they can prepare the evaluations. A link to the questionnaire in Evalytics is given in this e-mail.

The questionnaire can be modified up until one day before the start date of the evaluation. Upon publication a notification containing a link to the questionnaire is sent to registered students. From that point onwards, the evaluation is open to students, who can then fill out the questionnaire. The students have two weeks (or until the modified end date) to complete the evaluation. Students who have not yet completed the evaluation will receive a reminder after one week, and one day before the evaluation closes.

Once the evaluation is closed to students, the responses are stored in Evalytics. At that point, course coordinators receive a notification that the results have been received. They then have two weeks to give feedback on the results and indicate which steps need to be taken to improve the course (if applicable). Course coordinators who have not yet given feedback after one week receive a reminder.

Once the feedback period is over, a summary of the evaluation results is created for students, who are then notified. The course coordinator's feedback is included in this feedback report. The general idea is that if course coordinators communicate to students that evaluation results are taken seriously, and are used to improve education, students' willingness to fill out questionnaires will increase. In general, evaluation reports are available four weeks after publication date of the questionnaires.

1.2 Qualitative Evaluations

The Manual for Quality Assurance of Teaching and Learning provides an overview of qualitative forms of educational evaluation, such as panel discussions, peer review, and quick inventories of strengths and suggestions. These forms of evaluation are encouraged by the School.

The 2024-2025 pilot on qualitative course evaluations offered by the School will be continued in 2025-2026. Within this pilot panel discussions are organised for courses selected by a programme committees in consultation with programme directors. Participation in the pilot is decided upon by the programme.

1.3 Distribution

In addition to teaching staff and students, all evaluation reports can be viewed by:

- the evaluation coordinator (FEC), who is tasked with the distribution of evaluation reports;
- the policy advisor for Education and Quality Assurance;
- the SGW Examination Board's Assessment Chamber (*toetskamer*), who has the permission to view evaluation reports of courses as part of their activities in examining assessment quality.

The reports of specific programmes are distributed to:

- programme directors;
- evaluation contact person(s) of the Programme Committee.

2. Minors

All courses of University and School minors are evaluated. It is not (yet) possible to evaluate minors as a separate educational units using Evalytics.

3. Curriculum evaluations

It is recommended to conduct a curriculum evaluation once every 3 years. The basic principle is that a curriculum is evaluated at least before the start of a midterm review or visitation and after every (thorough) curriculum change.

Annually quantitative questionnaires are sent out via Evalytics. Every graduating student receives a request in their e-mailbox to fill out the questionnaire. The period in which the questionnaire is distributed may be determined in consultation with the Programme Director. By default these curriculum evaluations open in October 2025 and remain available until September 2026. Programme Directors may add extra questions to the standard questionnaire for graduates.

Alternatively, Programme Committees may organise qualitative curriculum evaluations with permission from the Programme Director and the FEC. The evaluation report should be made available to the Programme Director and the FEC.

Programme Directors are asked to reflect upon the results of curriculum evaluations in their programme annual reports. Discussions of these results with the programme's Advisory Committee (*werkveldadviesraad*) as well as the Programme Committee are encouraged.

4. National student survey

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam takes part in the National Student Survey (*Nationale Studenten Enquête*, or NSE), which is conducted every spring. The NSE can provide useful information about how students experience their program. The programme's annual reports should reflect on the results of the NSE. The Portfolio Holder Education, Programme Directors and the Programme Committees receive the results of the NSE around June.

Appendix 3 Programme objective and exit qualifications

Objective of degree programme

The Research Master's programme in Humanities is geared towards research; all components are related to societal issues and prepare students for a career in academia (at a university or elsewhere). The final attainment levels for each track are listed below. In all cases, there are nine common final attainment levels, supplemented by one track-specific final attainment level.

Literature and Contested Spaces

Students who have successfully completed the Research Master's programme in Humanities, with the specialization in Literature and Contested Spaces, have acquired the following knowledge and skills:

1. Outstanding knowledge and understanding of current research methods and theories within their own discipline within humanities. Students are aware of the structure of the discipline and the place of their own research within it.
2. The capacity to identify relevant links between the disciplines and to develop a personal vision of these. Students are able to participate in interdisciplinary research projects and work with researchers from other disciplines.
3. Appreciation of the international context of their own specialist area. Students can operate in an international environment.
4. Thorough specialist knowledge in one or more disciplines within humanities, and the ability to place this knowledge in a broader context. Students have developed an individual specialization and research focus that builds on a critical analysis of current developments within their own discipline and related disciplines.
5. The capacity to formulate an original research question independently and to conduct the relevant research in a critical, creative and inventive manner, thereby developing their knowledge within their own field of study. Students have demonstrated the ability to carry out a large-scale survey of literature and sources and to derive from this a 'status quaestionis', which forms the basis of their own research.
6. The capacity to report on this research, both orally and in writing, in presentations, papers and a thesis, in a manner that is deemed satisfactory and consistent with the applicable academic rules and standards. This implies that students are sufficiently proficient in academic English and have an awareness of the relevant methodological and ethical standards.
7. Familiarity with the rules of academic practice. Students are able to reflect critically on their own research and that of others, taking into account the ethics and standards that prevail within the academic community.
8. The capacity to reflect on the position of the discipline within society and an awareness of current academic debates within the field. Students are able to communicate their own vision to both specialists and non-specialists and to participate in public discussions that include broader (extra-academic) aspects.
9. The ability to write a research proposal and/or feasibility plan, attract funding and/or identify stakeholders, and apply for relevant positions, both within the academic world and beyond. For a career in academia, this entails having knowledge of the financing options for postgraduate research and familiarity with the network of research institutes and organizations that make research funding available; for a career outside academia, this entails being able to make knowledge suitable and/or available for economic and/or societal use and to conduct (inter- or transdisciplinary) research in a community or business context.
10. Students who successfully complete the Literature and Contested Spaces specialization have specialist knowledge of one or more subfields from the study of literature and culture, and specifically of the relationship between literature and space as theorized in the 'spatial turn' in literary studies.

Environmental Humanities

Students who have successfully completed the Research Master's programme in Humanities, with the specialization in Environmental Humanities, have acquired the following knowledge and skills:

1. Outstanding knowledge of current research methods and theories within the Environmental Humanities.
2. Ability to identify relevant links between Humanities disciplines as well as transdisciplinary connections and to participate in transdisciplinary research projects.
3. Appreciation of the international context of their own specialist area. Students can operate in an international environment.
4. Thorough specialist knowledge in the Environmental Humanities; individual specialization and research focus.
5. The capacity to formulate an original research question independently and to conduct the relevant research in a critical, creative and inventive manner, thereby developing their knowledge within their own field of study. Students have demonstrated the ability to carry out a large-scale survey of literature and sources and to derive from this a 'status quaestionis', which forms the basis of their own research.
6. The capacity to report on this research, both orally and in writing, in presentations, papers and a thesis, in a manner that is deemed satisfactory and consistent with the applicable academic rules and standards. This implies that students are sufficiently proficient in academic English and have an awareness of the relevant methodological and ethical standards.
7. Familiarity with the rules of academic practice; ability to reflect critically on research practices in view of ethical standards that prevail within the academic community; ability to participate in a collaborative culture which acknowledges not only diversity but radical otherness and difference, as well as conceptualizing and respecting diversity, difference and otherness as key principles of critical thinking.
8. Ability to reflect on the position of the Environmental Humanities within society and an awareness of current academic debates within the field; ability to understand and evaluate the significance of humanities scholarship for inquiry into environmental issues and to integrate key concepts of environmental studies into humanities scholarship; ability to communicate with both specialists and non-specialists and to participate in public discussions.
9. The ability to write a research proposal and/or feasibility plan, attract funding and/or identify stakeholders, and apply for relevant positions, both within the academic world and beyond. For a career in academia, this entails having knowledge of the financing options for postgraduate research and familiarity with the network of research institutes and organizations that make research funding available; for a career outside academia, this entails being able to make knowledge suitable and/or available for economic and/or societal use and to conduct (inter- or transdisciplinary) research in a community or business context.
10. Students who successfully complete the Environmental Humanities track have a repertoire of methodologies and theories to tackle ecological questions from a humanities perspective. They have an understanding of and can contribute to the field of the Environmental Humanities and are able to explain how the humanities can contribute to researching ecological questions.

Linguistics

Students who have successfully completed the Research Master's programme in Humanities, with the specialization in Linguistics, have acquired the following knowledge and skills:

1. Outstanding knowledge and understanding of current research methods and theories within their own discipline within humanities. Students are aware of the structure of the discipline and the place of their own research within it.

2. The capacity to identify relevant links between the disciplines and to develop a personal vision of these. Students are able to participate in interdisciplinary research projects and work with researchers from other disciplines.
3. Appreciation of the international context of their own specialist area. Students can operate in an international environment.
4. Thorough specialist knowledge in one or more disciplines within humanities, and the ability to place this knowledge in a broader context. Students have developed an individual specialization and research focus that builds on a critical analysis of current developments within their own discipline and related disciplines.
5. The capacity to formulate an original research question independently and to conduct the relevant research in a critical, creative and inventive manner, thereby developing their knowledge within their own field of study. Students have demonstrated the ability to carry out a large-scale survey of literature and sources and to derive from this a 'status quaestionis', which forms the basis of their own research.
6. The capacity to report on this research, both orally and in writing, in presentations, papers and a thesis, in a manner that is deemed satisfactory and consistent with the applicable academic rules and standards. This implies that students are sufficiently proficient in academic English and have an awareness of the relevant methodological and ethical standards.
7. Familiarity with the rules of academic practice. Students are able to reflect critically on their own research and that of others, taking into account the ethics and standards that prevail within the academic community.
8. The capacity to reflect on the position of the discipline within society and an awareness of current academic debates within the field. Students are able to communicate their own vision to both specialists and non-specialists and to participate in public discussions that include broader (extra-academic) aspects.
9. The ability to write a research proposal and/or feasibility plan, attract funding and/or identify stakeholders, and apply for relevant positions, both within the academic world and beyond. For a career in academia, this entails having knowledge of the financing options for postgraduate research and familiarity with the network of research institutes and organizations that make research funding available; for a career outside academia, this entails being able to make knowledge suitable and/or available for economic and/or societal use and to conduct (inter- or transdisciplinary) research in a community or business context.
10. Students who successfully complete the Linguistics specialization have specialist knowledge in the field of forensic linguistics or language technology, depending on the track completed by the students, in particular with regard to working with linguistic data, on analytical techniques and on methods and techniques for setting up, conducting and reporting on research. Students are able to use language technology software in order to solve practical and theoretical problems in the field of the track followed.

Global History

Students who have successfully completed the Research Master's programme in Humanities, with the specialization in Global History, have acquired the following knowledge and skills:

1. Outstanding knowledge and understanding of current research methods and theories within their own discipline within humanities. Students are aware of the structure of the discipline and the place of their own research within it.
2. The capacity to identify relevant links between the disciplines and to develop a personal vision of these. Students are able to participate in interdisciplinary research projects and work with researchers from other disciplines.
3. Appreciation of the international context of their own specialist area. Students can operate in an international environment.

4. Thorough specialist knowledge in one or more disciplines within humanities, and the ability to place this knowledge in a broader context. Students have developed an individual specialization and research focus that builds on a critical analysis of current developments within their own discipline and related disciplines.
5. The capacity to formulate an original research question independently and to conduct the relevant research in a critical, creative and inventive manner, thereby developing their knowledge within their own field of study. Students have demonstrated the ability to carry out a large-scale survey of literature and sources and to derive from this a 'status quaestionis', which forms the basis of their own research.
6. The capacity to report on this research, both orally and in writing, in presentations, papers and a thesis, in a manner that is deemed satisfactory and consistent with the applicable academic rules and standards. This implies that students are sufficiently proficient in academic English and have an awareness of the relevant methodological and ethical standards.
7. Familiarity with the rules of academic practice. Students are able to reflect critically on their own research and that of others, taking into account the ethics and standards that prevail within the academic community.
8. The capacity to reflect on the position of the discipline within society and an awareness of current academic debates within the field. Students are able to communicate their own vision to both specialists and non-specialists and to participate in public discussions that include broader (extra-academic) aspects.
9. The ability to write a research proposal and/or feasibility plan, attract funding and/or identify stakeholders, and apply for relevant positions, both within the academic world and beyond. For a career in academia, this entails having knowledge of the financing options for postgraduate research and familiarity with the network of research institutes and organizations that make research funding available; for a career outside academia, this entails being able to make knowledge suitable and/or available for economic and/or societal use and to conduct (inter- or transdisciplinary) research in a community or business context.
10. Students who successfully complete the Global History specialization have specialist knowledge in the field of history; specifically, the effect of history and global history on contemporary debates and a vision for the handling of cultural heritage.

Critical Studies in Art and Culture

Students who have successfully completed the Research Master's programme in Humanities, with the specialization in Critical Studies in Art and Culture, have acquired the following knowledge and skills:

1. Outstanding knowledge and understanding of current research methods and theories within their own discipline within humanities. Students are aware of the structure of the discipline and the place of their own research within it.
2. The capacity to identify relevant links between the disciplines and to develop a personal vision of these. Students are able to participate in interdisciplinary research projects and work with researchers from other disciplines.
3. Appreciation of the international context of their own specialist area. Students can operate in an international environment.
4. Thorough specialist knowledge in one or more disciplines within humanities, and the ability to place this knowledge in a broader context. Students have developed an individual specialization and research focus that builds on a critical analysis of current developments within their own discipline and related disciplines.
5. The capacity to formulate an original research question independently and to conduct the relevant research in a critical, creative and inventive manner, thereby developing their knowledge within their own field of study. Students have demonstrated the ability to carry out a large-scale survey of

literature and sources and to derive from this a 'status quaestionis', which forms the basis of their own research.

6. The capacity to report on this research, both orally and in writing, in presentations, papers and a thesis, in a manner that is deemed satisfactory and consistent with the applicable academic rules and standards. This implies that student are sufficiently proficient in academic English and have an awareness of the relevant methodological and ethical standards.
7. Familiarity with the rules of academic practice. Students are able to reflect critically on their own research and that of others, taking into account the ethics and standards that prevail within the academic community.
8. The capacity to reflect on the position of the discipline within society and an awareness of current academic debates within the field. Students are able to communicate their own vision to both specialists and non-specialists and to participate in public discussions that include broader (extra-academic) aspects.
9. The ability to write a research proposal and/or feasibility plan, attract funding and/or identify stakeholders, and apply for relevant positions, both within the academic world and beyond. For a career in academia, this entails having knowledge of the financing options for postgraduate research and familiarity with the network of research institutes and organizations that make research funding available; for a career outside academia, this entails being able to make knowledge suitable and/or available for economic and/or societal use and to conduct (inter- or transdisciplinary) research in a community or business context.
10. Students who successfully complete the Critical Studies in Art and Culture specialization have specialist knowledge in the field of architecture (and architectural history), design (and design studies), art (and history of art) and/or media (and media studies) and an understanding of the links between media. The students are able to problematize and reflect critically on historical and contemporary developments in the cultural industries.

Philosophy

Students who have successfully completed the Research Master's programme in Humanities, with the specialization in Philosophy, have acquired the following knowledge and skills:

1. Outstanding knowledge and understanding of current research methods and theories within their own discipline within humanities. Students are aware of the structure of the discipline and the place of their own research within it.
2. The capacity to identify relevant links between the disciplines and to develop a personal vision of these. Students are able to participate in interdisciplinary research projects and work with researchers from other disciplines.
3. Appreciation of the international context of their own specialist area. Students can operate in an international environment.
4. Thorough specialist knowledge in one or more disciplines within humanities, and the ability to place this knowledge in a broader context. Students have developed an individual specialization and research focus that builds on a critical analysis of current developments within their own discipline and related disciplines.
5. The capacity to formulate an original research question independently and to conduct the relevant research in a critical, creative and inventive manner, thereby developing their knowledge within their own field of study. Students have demonstrated the ability to carry out a large-scale survey of literature and sources and to derive from this a 'status quaestionis', which forms the basis of their own research.
6. The capacity to report on this research, both orally and in writing, in presentations, papers and a thesis, in a manner that is deemed satisfactory and consistent with the applicable academic rules and standards. This implies that student are sufficiently proficient in academic English and have an awareness of the relevant methodological and ethical standards.

7. Familiarity with the rules of academic practice. Students are able to reflect critically on their own research and that of others, taking into account the ethics and standards that prevail within the academic community.
8. The capacity to reflect on the position of the discipline within society and an awareness of current academic debates within the field. Students are able to communicate their own vision to both specialists and non-specialists and to participate in public discussions that include broader (extra-academic) aspects.
9. The ability to write a research proposal and/or feasibility plan, attract funding and/or identify stakeholders, and apply for relevant positions, both within the academic world and beyond. For a career in academia, this entails having knowledge of the financing options for postgraduate research and familiarity with the network of research institutes and organizations that make research funding available; for a career outside academia, this entails being able to make knowledge suitable and/or available for economic and/or societal use and to conduct (inter- or transdisciplinary) research in a community or business context.
10. Students who successfully complete the Philosophy specialization have specialist knowledge in the field of philosophy; the students are able to make a meaningful contribution to societal debates on moral issues and knowledge, such as discussions about fake news, the reliability of the internet, fact-free politics and the replication crisis in certain areas of empirical science.

Appendix 4 Article 2.1 of the Higher Education and Research (Implementation) Act

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

- a. illness of the person concerned,
- b. physical, sensory or other impairment of the person concerned,
- c. pregnancy of the person concerned,
- d. extenuating family circumstances,
- e. membership, including the chairmanship of:
 - 1. universities: the university council, faculty council, the body established under the participation regulation referred to in Article 9.30, paragraph 3 or Article 9.51, paragraph 2 of the Act, the programme management or the programme committee, or membership on the board of a foundation whose bylaws allow for the exploitation of facilities belonging to the student services, or an equivalent body with regard to its activities in the opinion of the board of the institution,
 - 2. universities of applied sciences: the participation council, district council, student committee or programme committee.
- f. other circumstances to be designated by the board of the institution in the regulation as referred to in Article 7.8b, paragraph 6 and Article 7.9, paragraph 5 of the Act in which the person concerned engages in activities within the framework of the organisation and the administration of the affairs of the institution,
- g. membership on the board of a student organisation of a certain size with full legal capacity, or a similar organisation of a certain size, whose primary task regards general societal interest and which actually develops activities for this purpose,
- h. other personal circumstances set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Act, pursuant to Article 7.13, paragraph 2, clause f of the Act,
- i. personal circumstances other than those referred to in a – h above which, if overlooked by the governing bodies of the institution, would lead to an obviously unfair outcome.

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