Teaching and Examination Regulations

Faculty of Science
Master's programme in Management, Policy Analysis and Entrepreneurship in the Health and Life Sciences (MPA)

Academic year 2026-2027

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 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: a Master's examination;

e. final project: a unit comprising research into the literature and/or a contribution to scientific research, always resulting in a written report;

f. internship: period spent working in professional practice as part of a study programme;

g.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;

g.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);

h. period: a part of a semester;

i. 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;

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 (*Student Lifecycle Management*);

l. semester: the first (September - January) or second half (February - August) 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://www.vu.nl/studiegids*;

q. study monitor: dashboard for students and academic advisers containing data pertaining to the student, including the student's study progress;

r. subject: see u. 'unit of education';

s. 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 program are equal to those of the 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	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

consist of eight weeks, and the final period consists of four weeks.	
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 Regulations for registering for courses and examinations.	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 (7.13 l)

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 is 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 fifteen working days. However, the marking deadline for final projects 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 final projects 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 a (partial) examination may not take place within ten working days of the announcement of the results for the original (partial) 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) 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 15 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)

Article 3.6 Marks

1. (Partial) 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 5.5~~0~~, rounded down; final marks of 5.5~~0~~ 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: a. 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; b. 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 final project 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
2.	The validity period of a partial examination is limited to the academic year in which it was sat or until the end of the unit of study concerned, as stipulated for the relevant unit of study in Section B. In exceptional circumstances, an examiner may deviate from this; this must be stated on Canvas at the start of the unit of education.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

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 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 a. The Student Counsellor b. Student psychologists c. 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 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 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)

Section B1: Programme-specific section

6. General programme information and characteristics

Article 6.1 Study programme information

The programme Management, Policy Analysis and Entrepreneurship in the Health and Life Sciences (MPA), RIO number 60803, is offered on a full-time basis.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 i)

Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment

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

Article 6.3 Academic student counselling

The programme offers the following counselling in addition to the student counselling mentioned in Section A: Not applicable.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 u)

7. Further admission requirements

Article 7.1 Intake date(s)

The Master's programme starts on 1 September.	Advice OLC, Approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

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, understanding and skills associated with the scientific discipline at the Bachelor level in the fields of Biochemistry, Bioinformatics, Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Health and Life Sciences, Health Sciences, Human Movement Sciences, Medical Informatics, Medical Natural Sciences, Medicine, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Psychobiology, Beta-gamma studies (with a major in Chemistry, Ecology and Evolution, Biomedical Sciences, Brain and cognition, Physics and astronomy, Mathematics), University Colleges (with at least a major in a beta subject).	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Not applicable.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
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 sub b)
4. Not applicable.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
5. Applicants should demonstrate that they have a sufficient level of proficiency in English by meeting at least one of the following standards:	Advice OLC, approval FGV

- IELTS Academic: an overall score of at least 6.5; 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; 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.	(9.38 sub b)
6. 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 5) if: - a secondary education or higher education degree fully taught in English has been completed in Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom or the United States of America; - a fully English-language, accredited bachelor's or master's degree in the Netherlands, EU/EFTA countries, Singapore or South Africa, - a vwo diploma or equivalent diploma in which the course on English of a comparable level is required has been earned;	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
7. The Admission Board will investigate whether the applicant meets the admission requirements.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 7.3 Selection criteria

Not applicable.	Advice OLC, approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme

1. Applicants with a Bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences (HBO) or a Bachelor's degree from a research university (WO) who wish to enter the programme but do not fulfil the admission requirements as stipulated in Article 7.2 can request admission to the pre-Master's programme. Article 2 of these regulations does not apply to admission to a bridging or pre-Master's programme. The provisions of sections A and B only apply to the extent that they are described in Article 7.4. Information about the programme from part B2 applies, insofar as it concerns the units of education from the pre-Master's programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
2. Not applicable.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)
3. A candidate must demonstrate that they meet the language requirements, as specified in Article 7.2.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 sub b)

4. The pre-Master's programme has maximum 30 credits and is determined for each student individually. The following terms also apply: a. If a pre-Master's student completes an individualised pre-Master's programme, this is to be communicated to that student in writing. b. The Examination Board can, if the pre-Master's student submits a written request, exempt the student from one or more examinations of a standard pre-Master's programme. c. The provision under b. does not apply to an individualised pre-Master's programme.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38)
5. Evidence that the pre-Master's programme has been completed successfully will entitle the student to admission to the relevant Master's programme in the following academic year. A pre-Master's programme must be completed within one academic year.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (9.38 b)

8. Examinations and results

Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations

Students may participate in the examinations and practical exercises of the units of education listed below only if they have passed the examination or examinations for following units of education: - Students need to have passed the exams and the practical exercises of the following three compulsory courses of year 1 before they can start their internship I: 1) Research Methods for Analyzing Complex Problems (AM_1182), 2) Analysis of Governmental Policy (AM_470571), and 3) Communication, Organization and Management (AM_470572) - Students need to pass their first internship to start their second internship - Students need to pass the course Managing Science and Technology in Society (AM_470586) before they can start the second internship. - A course can only be passed when the scores on all parts of the examination are sufficient (6.0 or higher).	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 h, s & t)

Article 8.2 Validity period for results

1. The validity period of the examinations and exemptions from examinations below is limited, as follows: Not applicable.	Advice OLC; approval FGV (7.13 k)
2. A student may request the Examination Board to extend the validity of an exam. If the student's knowledge is demonstrably outdated, or if the student's skills and understanding are demonstrably outdated, the Examination Board may impose a supplementary examination, impose a replacement examination or refuse to extend the period of validity.	Legal provision
3. In situations where a limited period of validity applies, the period of validity of examinations may be extended in the event of extenuating circumstances as stipulated in WHW Article 7.51, paragraph 2, with at least the period of allocated financial assistance specified in WHW Article 7.51, paragraph 1.	Legal provision

Section B2: Programme-specific section – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, specialisations, intended learning outcomes and language

Article 9.1 Workload

1. The programme has a workload of 120 EC.	Approval OLC; (7.13 g)

Article 9.2 Specialisations

The programme has the following specialisation(s): - Health and Life Sciences-Based Policy - Health and Life Sciences-Based Management and Entrepreneurship - International Public Health - Communication in the Health and Life Sciences	Approval OLC (7.13 b)

Article 9.3 Programme objective

The programme aims to develop researchers who are able to analyze and address complex problems by incorporating a wide diversity of perspectives from science and society. The MPA programme specifically focuses on conducting research at the interface of science and society, aiming to contribute to the solution of complex societal problems. The programme provides a broadening of the knowledge and skills from a bachelor scientific background in disciplines such as science, technology and society studies, policy science, and management studies. In the MPA programme, the following core competencies are developed: ➢ Analysis of complex societal issues related to the health and life sciences ➢ Formulation and implementation of strategies to deal with complex societal problems by way of inter- and transdisciplinary research ➢ Effective cooperation and communication with researchers from scientific disciplines other than health and life sciences and with societal actors. The MPA program comprises four specialisations with the following objectives: *Health and Life Sciences-Based Policy*: This specialisation equips the Master's graduate with insight in theories and strategies to address societal issues through governmental policy at various levels. Special knowledge and understanding is obtained in the discipline of policy analysis. Various forms of 'governance' and in particular interactive policy-making are discussed. In addition, the student acquires skills in data collection methods: from various written and digital sources, interviews to focus group sessions. At the end the student is independently able to facilitate group processes for interactive policy-making and apply various analytical tools to structure the multidisciplinary data towards strategic designed advices. *Health and Life Sciences-Based Management and Entrepreneurship:* This specialisation aims to provide the Master's graduate with insight in the management process of translating scientific knowledge from health and life sciences to societally relevant innovations. Relevant theories on management, organizations, policy making, innovation leadership and finance are discussed. The Master's graduate has the ability to develop and critically assess strategies and plans for new business,	Advice OLC (7.13 a)

organizational change and innovation, understands the relations between business development, science, innovation and society, and masters relevant scientific data collection methods and analytical tools. *International Public Health:* The Master's graduate with a specialisation in international public health has a wide-ranging insight in current and future challenges in international public health, their main causes as well as applied and potential interventions. The Master's graduate obtains special knowledge on relevant concepts from various disciplines (including epidemiology, policy science, anthropology, management studies, biomedical sciences and health sciences). The Master's graduate has the ability to conduct scientific research in the field of international public health addressing international public health challenges and to critically assess the results of international public health research. He/she possesses knowledge of current theories and the key research questions in this field and has insight in the scientific and social relevance of this subject area. *Communication in the Health and Life Sciences*: Communication about science issues takes place not only between peers but also between scientists and 'end users' and the general public. This makes it a complex and dynamic field of research and practice; e.g. on patient participation in health research, the use and effects of media metaphors and hypes, and public understanding of emergent technologies. The Master's graduate with this specialisation has theoretical understanding of the complex problems that arise during such communication processes and has developed the skills necessary to behave professionally at this interface in an attempt to enhance communication (outcomes) between actors in science and society.	

Article 9.4 Intended learning outcomes

1. At all events, a graduate of the study programme will have: **Dublin descriptor 1: Knowledge and understanding** *The graduate has theoretical and practical knowledge of management, policy analysis and entrepreneurship in the health and life sciences, in particular within the field of his/her specialisation. The graduate:* a. can demonstrate knowledge and understanding that are founded upon and extend the knowledge and understanding typically associated with the scientific discipline at the bachelor level (at least in one specific area of that discipline); b. has insight in the various relevant disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences. More specifically, the student acquires insight in: ▪ important concepts and theories in the field of policy science, organizational, management and innovation studies, applied philosophy and science, technology and society studies; ▪ specialisation the relation of these gamma sciences to the beta sciences, in particular health and life sciences; c. has insight in concepts and the latest theories, research methodologies, analytical models and important research questions related to inter- and transdisciplinary research for addressing societal problems; d. has knowledge of, and insight in, relevant concepts and theories for effective communication and collaboration;	Approval OLC (7.13)

e. understands group processes and knows methods and techniques to facilitate them within the framework of inter- and transdisciplinary research.

Dublin descriptor 2: Applying knowledge and understanding
The graduate is experienced in carrying out interdisciplinary research, in applying techniques specific to the subject area and in applying scientific knowledge to societal problems. The graduate:

a. can apply independently the research methodology used within the research field of specialisation;
b. has the ability to integrate knowledge from the beta and gamma sciences, as well as from science and practice;
c. can apply scientific knowledge to formulate solutions to societal problems and assess them for appropriateness and societal relevance, while considering ethical and normative issues;
d. is able to reflect on the ethical aspects of research and its uses, and include these deliberations in the decision-making process;
e. adopts an appropriate attitude towards the correct and unbiased use and presentation of data.

Dublin descriptor 3: Making judgments
The graduate is able to independently and critically judge information. The graduate is able to:

a. independently acquire information in relevant areas in the health and life sciences and social and behavioral sciences through a literature review and by conducting empirical research, as well as evaluate such information critically;
b. select and order information, distinguish essentials from trivialities, and recognize connections;
c. independently and critically analyze research in the field of specialisation, in relation to its design, planning and execution, and to the results obtained;
d. formulate personal learning objectives and critically evaluate own performance, both introspectively and in discussion with others.

Dublin descriptor 4: Communication
The graduate is able to transfer knowledge and skills related to his/her subject area to other people and to adequately reply to questions and problems posed within society. The graduate:

a. has acquired skills to report orally and in writing on research results in English;
b. has the ability to communicate research conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning them, to specialist audiences and non-specialist audiences clearly and unambiguously;
c. can collaborate with researchers from various scientific disciplines as well as professionals from industry and healthcare, policymakers and the general public;
d. can make essential contributions to scientific discussions about plans, results and consequences of research.

Dublin descriptor 5: Learning skills
The graduate has developed learning skills that enable him/her to continue with self-education and development within the subject area. The graduate:

a. is able to understand and summarize the scientific literature within the field of specialisation;
b. has acquired skills to develop a research plan, giving details of the problem statement, objectives, research questions, research approach, research

methods, and planning; c. is familiar with the general scientific journals, such as Nature and Science, and with journals in the specialisation, such as Research Policy, Health Policy, Science, Technology & Human Values, Social Science & Medicine, and International Journal on Technology Management; d. is familiar with relevant computer software; - has the learning skills to allow him/her to continue to study in a manner that may be largely self- directed or autonomous (life-long learning)	
2. Not applicable.	Approval OLC (7.13)
3. Language proficiency may be taken into account in the assessment of examinations.	Approval OLC (7.13 c)

Article 9.5 Language of instruction

1. The language of instruction is English.	Approval OLC (9.18)
2. The 'Gedragscode vreemde taal' (Code of conduct for foreign languages) applies.	VU policy

10. Curriculum structure

Article 10.1 Composition of the programme

1. The programme comprises at least a package of compulsory components and an individual Master's thesis or academic work placement.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III
2. Additionally the programme can offer: - Electives	Advice OLC (7.13 a)
3. Units of education are categorised as specialised (400), research-oriented (500) and highly specialised (600) level.	Ordinance CvB, see Appendix III

Article 10.2 Compulsory units of education

A detailed description per unit of education can be found in the Study Guide.

1. The following compulsory units of study apply to all students, regardless of the specialization, these are:				Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
Compulsory Modules – all specialisations				
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**	
Research Methods for Analyzing Complex Problems	AM_1182	6	400	
Analysis of Governmental Policy	AM_470571	6	500	
Communication, Organization and Management	AM_470572	6	500	
Managing Science and Technology in Society	AM_470586	6	600	
Scientific Writing in English (AM_MPA)	AM_1160	3	400	
Ethics and Science in Dialogue	AM_1333	6	500	
Constrained choice – all specialisations				
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**	
Literature Review MPA P1	AM_1251	6	500	
Literature Review MPA P2	AM_1331	6	500	

Science Course for which no permission of the Examination Board is required		6	Min. 500
The Science course deepens the bachelor background. It is recommended to select a Science course in line with the bachelor background and related to the field of specialization. The course can be conducted in either year one or two and can be chosen from various science master programs. From the MPA programme, (the combination of) courses listed below are offered. If the student would like to select a science course of a level 400, or take a different course than the units of study listed above, advanced approval in writing form of the Examination Board is required. Students can take one of the three Science courses in the table below as part of their (specialisations') elective.			
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**
Management of Innovative Technologies in Community-based Health Care	AM_1181	6	500
Containment Strategies	AM_470127	6	500
Epidemiology and Clinical Trials	AM_1332	6	500
Compulsory modules: per specialisation			
The MPA specialization programme builds on the general compulsory modules (mentioned above) and comprises of specialization courses (at least 18 EC) and at least one internship in year 1 or 2. The specialization courses consist of a compulsory specialization course of (6 EC), and 12 EC's chosen from specialisation-specific electives. The following tables show the compulsory specialisation modules and the specialisation electives.			
MSc MPA specialisation Health and Life Sciences-Based Policy (POL)			
Compulsory POL Courses:			
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**
Policy, Politics and Participation	AM_470589	6	500
Internship I MPA spec Policy	AM_1121	27	500
Internship II MPA spec Policy	AM_471123	30	600
POL Constrained choice - *Choose at least 12 EC of the following courses:*			
International Comparative Analysis of Health Care Systems	AM_470820	6	500
Containment Strategies	AM_470127	6	500
Science Journalism and Exhibition Design	AM_1334	6	500
Health, Globalisation and Human Rights	AM_470818	6	500
MSc MPA specialisation Health and Life Sciences-Based Management and Entrepreneurship (ME)			
Compulsory ME Courses:			
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**
@Business management	AM_470584	6	500

Internship I MPA spec ME	AM_1120	27	500
Internship II MPA spec ME	AM_471119	30	600
ME Constrained choice - *Choose at least 12 EC of the following courses*			
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**
Management of Innovative Technologies in Community Based Health care	AM_1181	6	500
Finance for Growth in Health and Life Science	AM_1193	6	500
Societal entrepreneurship in Health and Life Sciences	AM_470575	6	500
Epidemiology and Clinical Trials	AM_1332	6	500
MSc MPA specialisation International Public Health (IPH)			
Compulsory IPH Courses:			
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**
Choose one out of: 1. Health, Globalisation and Human Rights 2. Containment Strategies	AM_470818 AM_470127	6	400 500
Internship I MPA spec IPH	AM_1119	27	500
Internship II MPA spec IPH	AM_471121	30	600
IPH Constrained choice – *Choose at least 12 EC out of the following courses, but other than the choice of compulsory IPH Course made above*			
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**
Health, Globalisation and Human Rights	AM_470818	6	400
Containment Strategies	AM_470127	6	500
International Analyses of Health Care systems	AM_470820	6	500
Epidemiology and Clinical Trials	AM_1332	6	500
MSc MPA specialisation Communication in the Health and Life Sciences (COM)			
Compulsory COM Courses			
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**
The Art of Science Communication	AM_1335	6	500
Internship I MPA spec COM	AM_1126	27	500
Internship II MPA spec COM **choose one:** 1. Research Internship Science Communication 2. Reflective Practice Internship Science Communication	1) AM_471125 2) AM_1163	30	600
COM Constrained choice			
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**
Policy, Politics and Participation	AM_470589	6	500
Science Journalism and Exhibition Design	AM_1334	6	500

MSc. MPA non-specialisation alternatives				
The MPA programme (highly) stimulates both internships in one of the four specialisations. However, with approval of the Examination Board one of the alternatives below can be chosen:				
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**	
Internship I MPA (without spec)	AM_1118	27	500	
Internship II MPA (without spec)	AM_471117	30	600	
Internship II MPA Systematic Review	AM_1252	30	600	

Article 10.3 Elective units of education

1. The student can take one or more of the following electives without prior consent from the Examination Board:				Advice OLC; (7.13 a)
2. Electives (3-9 EC): when all compulsory and specialisation-specific components are met, the remaining (3-9) EC that are needed to reach the final 120 EC can be fulfilled with choosing out of any of the MPA specialisation electives offered below. The courses provided in this table are thus open to students from all MPA specialisations. The amount of EC(3-9) varies per student, as this depends on whether a Science Course requirement has been fulfilled by choosing an approved science course as part of the specialisation-specific component or not.				
Unit of education	**Course code**	**Nr of EC**	**Level**	
Interdisciplinary Community Service Learning: Defining Challenges in a Multi-Stakeholder Context	AM_1254	3	400	
Interdisciplinary Community Service Learning: Addressing Challenges through Transdisciplinary Research	AM_1253	6	500	
3. If the student wishes to take a different unit of education than listed, advance permission must be obtained in writing from the Examinations Board.				Advice OLC; (7.13 a)

Article 10.4 Practical exercise

Not applicable.

Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials

1. In the case of practical exercises, there may be attendance requirements. For details on attendance requirements, please refer to the study manual of the relevant unit of study.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
2. In the case of tutorials, there may be attendance requirements. For details on attendance requirements, please refer to the study manual of the relevant unit of study.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)
3. For thesis and internship, the programme applies the guidelines as stipulated in the Thesis and Placement Regulations.	Approval OLC (7.13 d)

11. Evaluation and transitional provisions

Article 11.1 Evaluation of the programme

The education provided in this programme is evaluated in accordance with the document 'Kwaliteitszorg Onderwijs BETA'.	Approval OLC (7.13 a1)

Article 11.2 Transitional provisions

By way of departure from the Teaching and Examination Regulations currently in force, the following transitional provisions apply for students who started the programme under a previous set of Teaching and Examination Regulations: - Students who started M MPA in academic year 2018-2019 (or earlier) can opt for a 12 EC (specialisation specific) literature thesis instead of Literature Review MPA 6 EC. Then, instead of choosing 12 EC of specialisation electives, the student needs to choose at least 6EC (conform with OER 2018- 2019). The end date for this transitional provision is 31/08/2027. - The course Behavior Dynamics in Social Networks (X_400113) has been removed from the curriculum per academic year 2024-2025 but is still an elective component for MPA spec. CHT students who started their program in or before the 2023-2024 academic year and have passed this course examinations. - The MPA specialisation Community-based Health Technologies has been removed from the curriculum of 2025-2026, Students who started the MPA specialisation Community-based Health Technologies in or before 2024-2025 can still complete the specialisation according to the TER of starting year, until 31 August 2027. - The course Disability and Development (AM_470588) has been removed from the curriculum per academic year 2026-2027 but still counts as an elective component for MPA spec. IPH students who started their program in or before the 2025-2026 academic year and have passed this course examinations. - The course Maternal and Child Health (AM_1194) has been removed from the curriculum per academic year 2026-2027 but still counts as an elective component for MPA spec. IPH students who started their program in or before the 2025-2026 academic year and have passed this course examinations. - The course Innovation Behavior Emergence and Markets (AM_1052) has been removed from the curriculum per academic year 2026-2027 but still counts as an elective component for MPA spec. IPH students who started their program in or before the 2025-2026 academic year and have passed this course examinations. - The 3EC course Ethics in Health and Life Sciences (AM_470707) has been removed from the MPA curriculum per academic year 2026-2027, but is still an compulsory component for all MPA students who started their program in or before the 2025-2026 academic year and have passed this course examinations. Only for these students who started in or before academic year 2025-2026 and still need to pass this compulsory course, one of the following two options is then possible: 1) take the 6EC course 'Ethics and Science in Dialogue' (AM_1333) or 2) take AM_470707 as a stand alone external course in P3 as this will still be offered in this format to non-MPA students in academic year 2026-2027 (possibly for the last time). If option 2 is taken students should be aware that MPA has no other 3EC courses running in P3. - The course Science in Dialogue (AM_1002) has been removed from the curriculum per academic year 2026-2027 but still counts as an elective component for MPA spec. Policy/M&E/Communication students who started their program in or before the 2025-2026 academic year and have passed this course examinations. - The course Science Journalism (AM_471014) has been removed from the curriculum per academic year 2026-2027 but still counts as an elective component for MPA spec. IPH students who started their program in or before the 2025-2026 academic year and have passed this course examinations. - The course Science Museology (AM_470590) has been removed from the curriculum per academic year 2026-2027 but still counts as an elective	Advice OLC (7.13 a)

component for MPA spec. IPH students who started their program in or before the 2025-2026 academic year and have passed this course examinations.	

Approval of the Programme Committee of the curriculum structure (submitted via UAS), on 10/12/2025.

Advice and/or approval by the Programme Committee (with the exception of the curriculum structure), on 17/06/2026.

Approved by the Faculty Joint Assembly, on 07/07/2026.

Adopted by the board of the Faculty of Science on 10/07/2026.

Appendix I

Overview of articles that must be included in the OER

Based on Article 7.13, paragraph 2 and Article 7.30b, paragraph 2 of the WHW.

Section A: Faculty section

2. Study programme structure	
Article 2.1 Structure of academic year and units of education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub e
3. Assessment and examination	
Article 3.2 Type of examination	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, l, j
Article 3.3 Oral examinations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub l, n
Article 3.4 Determining and announcing results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub o
Article 3.5 Examination opportunities	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, j
Article 3.7 Exemption	7.13 paragraph 2 sub r
Article 3.8 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k
Article 3.9 Right of inspection and post-examination discussion	7.13 paragraph 2 sub p, q
4. Academic student counselling and study progress	
Article 4.1 Administration of study progress and academic student counselling	7.13 paragraph 2 sub u
Article 4.2 Facilities for students with a disability	7.13 paragraph 2 sub m

Section B1: Programme specific – general provisions

6. General programme information and characteristics	
Article 6.1 Study programme information	7.13 paragraph 2 sub i, r
Article 6.2 Teaching formats used and modes of assessment	7.13 paragraph 2 sub l, x
[keuze:] Article 6.3 Academic student counselling	7.13 paragraph 2 sub u
7. Further admission requirements	
Article 7.2 Admission requirements	7.30b paragraph 1
Article 7.3 Selection criteria	7.30b paragraphs 2 & 5
Article 7.4 Pre-Master's programme	7.57i section 1
8. Examinations and results	
Article 8.1 Sequence of examinations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub h, s, t
[option 1:] Article 8.2 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k
[option 2:] Article 8.2 Validity period for results	7.13 paragraph 2 sub k

Section B2: Programme-specific section – content of programme

9. Programme objectives, tracks/specialisations, intended learning outcomes and language	
Article 9.1 Workload	7.13 paragraph 2 sub g
Article 9.2 Tracks and/or specialisations	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.3 Programme objective	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 9.4 Intended learning outcomes	7.13 paragraph 2 sub b, c
Article 9.5 Language of instruction	9.18 (*implementation expected in 2020*)
10. Curriculum structure	
Article 10.1 Composition of the programme	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
Article 10.2 Compulsory units of education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a

[Keuze:] Article 10.3 Elective units of education	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a
[Keuze:] Article 10.4 Practical exercise	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
Article 10.5 Participation in practical training and tutorials	7.13 paragraph 2 sub d
11. Evaluation and transitional provisions	
Article 11.1 Evaluation of the programme	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a1
Article 11.2 Transitional provisions	7.13 paragraph 2 sub a

Appendix II
Overview of advisory and approval rights of Programme Committees (OLC) and Faculty Joint Assembly (FGV)

Article 7.13, paragraph 2, of the Higher Education and Research Act	FGV		OplC	
	I	A	I	A
a. the content of the programme and the associated examinations				
a1. the manner in which teaching and education in the relevant programme are evaluated				
b. the content of the specialisations offered as part of the programme				
c. the programme's final attainment levels with regard to the knowledge, understanding and skills				
d. where applicable, the design of practical exercises				
e. the workload of the programme and of each of its constituent units of education				
f. the detailed rules referred to in Article 7.8b, sixth paragraph, and Article 7.9, fifth paragraph (recommendation on continuation of studies)				
g. the Master's programmes to which Article 7.4a, eighth paragraph, applies (elevated workload)				
h. the number and sequence of examinations and the times at which these can be taken				
i. the full-time, part-time or work-study structure of the programme				
j. where necessary, the order in which students can take the examinations and the final examinations for Bachelor's and Master's programmes, as well as the timing of and number of opportunities				
k. where necessary, the period of validity for pass grades awarded for examinations, notwithstanding the authority of the Examination Board to extend this period of validity				
l. whether examinations are administered in oral, written or another form, notwithstanding the authority of the Examination Board to decide otherwise				
m. the way in which students with a disability or chronic health condition are given a reasonable opportunity to take the examinations				
n. the public nature of oral examinations, subject to the right of the Examination Board to determine otherwise in special cases				
o. the period within which the results of an examination must be announced, together with details of whether this period can be altered and if so in what way				
p. the way in which and the period within which students who have taken an examination are given the opportunity to inspect their marked work				
q. the way in which and the period within which information can be provided about the questions asked and exercises given in the framework of a written examination and about the standards used for assessment				
r. the grounds on which the Board of Examiners may grant exemptions from taking one or more examinations on the basis of examinations and final examinations for Bachelor's and Master's programmes previously completed in higher education, or on the basis of knowledge or skills acquired outside higher education				
s. where necessary, the stipulation that students must pass certain examinations as a condition for admission to other examinations				
t. where necessary, the obligation to take part in certain practical exercises with a view to admission to the examination in question, subject to the authority of the Examination Board to grant exemption from this obligation, with or without the imposition of alternative requirements				
u. the monitoring of academic progress and individual student support and guidance				
v. where applicable, the manner in which students are selected for a special track within a programme as referred to in Article 7.9b (excellence track within a programme)				
x. the actual design of the education provided				
All other matters that are regulated in the Academic and Examination Regulations but which are not mentioned as such in Article 7.13 of the Higher Education and Research Act under points a to x.				

The lettering corresponds to the lettering of Article 7.13 section 2 of the WHW

Abbreviations used:

FGV: Faculty Joint Assembly

OplC: Programme Committee
I: right of approval
A: right of advice

Appendix III
Ordinances of VU Executive Board (CvB) and Binding Master's Guidelines

Section A, article:	Concerns:	CvB ordinance / guideline
1.1.4	Legal protection for students	4-11-2025
2.1.1, 2.1.2	Year planning two semesters 8-8-4 (uniform year calendar VU-UvA)	29-9-2008 (period 2009-2015) 22-05-2014 (period 2016-2025)
2.1.3, 2.1.4	Units of education	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
3.1	Signing up for education and examinations	CvB ordinance 17-11-2020, prior consent of USC.
3.4.1	Determination and publication of the results (1) Grading deadline exams ten working days (2) Theses twenty working days	(1) Bachelor's guideline included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019 ((2) Quality demand 11 from the VU-wide assessment policy, CvB ordinance 15-05-2012, approval GV 28-02-2013
3.5.1	Two possibilities to take examinations per year	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
3.5.2	Resit: most recent grade is valid, resit allowed in case of pass grade	Taken from the UvA guidelines, as part of the harmonisation, CvB ordinance 24-02-2014
3.5.4	One-time extra resit in relation to examination requirement	Included in (prior) model OER 16-17 following a request from committee O&O and adopted by CvB op 27-10-2015
3.6	Grades	CvB ordinance 30-09-2010, prior consent USR. As a result of harmonisation UvA, the guideline: 5.5 is a pass, has been added. CvB ordinance 24-02-2014.
Section B1, article:	**Concerns:**	**CvB ordinance / guideline**
7.2	Admission criteria	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
7.3	Selection criteria	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
Section B2, article:	**Concerns:**	**CvB ordinance / guideline**
10.1.1	Composition programme	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019
10.1.3	Categorisation of units	Bachelor's and Master's education guidelines included in model TER, revised on 2 July 2019

Appendix IV
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.