

# Education and Examination Regulations 2021–2022

## Master's in Molecular Life Sciences

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## **PART I    GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Section 1. General provisions**

#### **Article 1.1    Applicability of these regulations**

1. These Education and Examination Regulations (EER) apply to the Master's programmes (the degree programme in which the student is enrolled is hereinafter referred to as 'the programme'), including all their components, of the Faculty of Science. These EER outline the applicable procedures, rights, and obligations concerning teaching, interim examinations, and final examinations.
2. The present regulations apply to all students enrolled in the programme in the 2021–2022 academic year. Students who started the degree programme before 1 September 2016 and have been continuously enrolled in this programme may appeal to the EER that was active at the time of their initial enrolment in the programme.
3. Course components provided by different faculties or institutions are subject to the rules applicable at the faculty or institution in question. Components offered by the Faculty of Science are subject to the regulations described in at least one of the EERs of the Faculty of Science at all times.
4. The faculty offers the following 120-EC Master's programmes:
  - a. Biology;
  - b. Chemistry (being phased out);
  - c. Computing Science;
  - d. Mathematics;
  - e. Medical Biology;
  - f. Molecular Life Sciences (being phased out);
  - g. Molecular Sciences
  - h. Physics and Astronomy;
  - i. Science (being phased out);
5. The faculty offers the following 60-EC Master's programmes:
  - a. Information Sciences.
6. All degree programmes are offered exclusively as full-time programmes.
7. The programmes are taught in English. The exception to this is the educational components of the Faculty of Science Education and Science specialisations that are taught in Dutch.

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## **Article 1.2 Executive Board Guidelines**

1. In view of the organisation and coordination of the provisions in these regulations, the Executive Board has established the following guidelines: The guidelines can be found in the Appendix:
  - a. Guideline for regulations on academic distinctions;
2. In addition to the above guidelines, the Executive Board has established a number of temporary guidelines for the 2021–2022 academic year in response to the coronavirus measures. These guidelines are available at <https://www.ru.nl/nieuws-agenda/nieuws/coronavirus-radboud-universiteit/coronarichtlijnen/>.

## **Article 1.3 Definition of terms**

1. The terms used in these EER, which are also used in the Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek, hereinafter, 'the Act') will have the same meaning as in the Act.
2. Apart from the terms referred to in clause 1, the terms below are understood to have the following meanings:
  - a. Degree programme: the Master's degree programme referred to in Article 7.3a, clause 1 of the Act;
  - b. Component: an educational unit as referred to in Article 7.3 paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Act;
  - c. Student: anyone enrolled at Radboud University for participation in a degree programme or in the partial examinations or final examinations of a programme;
  - d. Academic year: the period from 1 September in a given year until 31 August of the following year;
  - e. Practical: a practical exercise as referred to in Article 7.13 clause 2 under D of the Act;
  - f. Interim examination: an examination testing the knowledge, understanding or skills of the student in relation to a certain unit of study, as well as the assessment of the results of this examination, which is administered by at least one examiner designated by the Examining Board. For the purpose of these regulations, a partial examination or a resit is also considered an interim examination;
  - g. Partial examination: an examination of the knowledge, insight and skills of the student, as well as the assessment of the results of the examination, which, in conjunction with one or more other partial examinations, constitute the interim examinations as referred to under clause f. In these regulations, when the term 'examination' is used, this can also be read as 'partial examination', unless explicitly indicated otherwise;
  - h. Resit: a new opportunity to retake a particular examination as referred to in Article 7.10 clause 1 of the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW). In these regulations, when the term 'examination' is used, this can also be read as 'resit', unless explicitly indicated otherwise;

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- i. Final examination: an assessment, on the basis of which the Examining Board determines whether all the components pertaining to the Master's programme have been completed successfully. The Examining Board may decide that the final examination also includes an investigation by the Examining Board into the knowledge, insight and skills of the candidate, as well as the assessment of the outcomes of that investigation (in accordance with Article 7.10 WHW);
- j. Fraud: any deliberate act or omission by a student that makes forming an accurate opinion of their knowledge, understanding and skills partially or entirely impossible. The Regulations on Fraud during Interim Examinations and Examinations are included as an appendix to these EER;
- k. Examining Board: the examining board of a degree programme, established in accordance with Article 7.12 of the Act. Also see the Radboud University Structural Regulations;
- l. Examiner: the person designated by the Examining Board to administer the interim examinations, in accordance with Article 7.12 of the Act;
- m. EC: European Credits, i.e. the study load unit in accordance with the European Credit Transfer
- n. System;
- o. Specialisation: a coherent programme within the Master's programme that has been approved as such by the faculty board;
- p. Work day: Mondays to Fridays, with the exception of official holidays and any other days designated by Radboud
- q. University as collective holidays;
- r. Awarding of the degree certificate: the formal confirmation that all the examination requirements have been met;
- s. Prospectus: the guide for a particular Faculty of Science degree programme,
- t. containing specific information regarding the Master's degree programme;
- u. The University: Radboud University;
- v. The faculty: The Faculty of Science;
- w. The education institute: the organisational unit responsible for the degree programme;
- x. Free elective: a freely-selected, academic, assessable component.
- y. Rules and regulations: the rules in which the Examination Board explain how it works in accordance with the Education and Examination Regulations.

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## **PART II    GENERAL PART**

### **Section 2. Admission to the degree programme and education**

#### **Article 2.1 Admission and admission requirements**

1. Decisions regarding admission are made by the education institute on behalf of the dean.
2. The programme-specific part of these EER lists the admission requirements students must meet to be admitted to the degree programme.

#### **Article 2.2 Language requirements**

1. A sufficient command of the English language is required to participate in the programme and to sit examinations in English. This requirement is met if the student:
  - a. comes from one of the following countries: Australia, Canada (with the exception of Quebec),
  - b. Ireland, New Zealand, Singapore, the United Kingdom, the United States or South
  - c. Africa; or
  - d. is in possession of a pre-university education (VWO) diploma; or
  - e. is in possession of a pre-university education diploma obtained at an English-language institution in the Netherlands or elsewhere; or
  - f. has a pre-university education diploma obtained at a German secondary education institution, with English as *Grundkurs*; or
  - g. has a Bachelor's diploma from a university of applied sciences (HBO); or
  - h. has a Bachelor's diploma from a Dutch university; or
  - i. meets the requirements in the opinion of the programme; or
  - j. has achieved a sufficient score on one of the following English language tests:
    - i. the TOEFL with a score of 575 or higher for the paper version;
    - ii. the TOEFL with a score of 90 or higher for the Internet version with none of the sub-scores below 20;
    - iii. the IELTS with a score of 6.5 or higher, where none of the sub-scores are below
    - iv. 6.0;
    - v. the Cambridge CAE or CPE with a score of C or higher.
2. A sufficient command of Dutch is required to participate in the programme and to sit examinations in Dutch. Non-Dutch students have met the language requirement for sufficient proficiency in Dutch if they have passed the state examination of Dutch as a second language, level 2.

In certain cases, the education institute may assess whether a student is sufficiently proficient in Dutch.

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## Section 3. Structure and design

### Article 3.1 Final examination, degree and distinctions

1. The degree programme is concluded by the Master's final examination.
2. Students who pass the examinations of the Master's degree programme will be awarded a Master of Science (MSc) degree.
3. The degree referred to in the second clause is exclusively awarded if the student has earned at least half of the EC for their degree programme at this University.
4. The Examining Board can award distinctions to students who have successfully passed the degree programme examination. The rules for awarding a distinction can be found in Article 4.7 of these EER.

### Article 3.2 General learning outcomes

The degree programme has the following learning outcomes for students:

1. Acquire knowledge, skills and insights in the relevant field of study;
2. Develop academic competences;
3. Prepare for further study or a future career;
4. Strengthen qualifications in the area of independent academic research.

### Article 3.3 Curriculum

1. The programme comprises the total of the components as described in the programme-specific part of these regulations and is aimed at the realisation of well-defined objectives regarding the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to possess upon successful completion.
2. For each section, the lecturer must make a course guide available prior to the course, which includes a description of the course, tests with weighting factors and deadlines. This guide may coincide with the course description in the study guide.
3. The programme has research specialisations and societal specialisations. The specialisations are described in the programme-specific part.
4. Each degree programme includes a component that is philosophical in nature with a minimum study load of 3 EC, a free elective space of 6 EC and a component to aid reflection on study performance, study planning, and professional orientation with a study load of 0 or 1 EC.
5. The elective courses cannot have substantial overlap in content with courses from the mandatory or elective components of the programme. It is not possible to receive an exemption for the elective component based on a Bachelor's course.
6. The composition of the Master's programme compiled by the student must be presented to the Examining Board for approval no later than three months before the expected examination date. The Examination Board will decide whether to grant approval within a month of receiving the submitted programme.



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7. Students can only participate in components provided by the Radboud Teachers Academy of Education after the disciplinary internship has been completed. Students can only participate in the Science, Management and Innovation final research project after the student has passed the thematic components and NWI-FMT019 Methods in Societal Research: Science, Management & Innovation. Students can only participate in the Science in Society research project after 12 EC have been obtained from the SiS curriculum.
8. Students are permitted to add components to the examination programme. These components are considered extra-curricular and do not count towards the determination of the distinction.
9. If a student can choose between components within the curriculum and the student has passed more than one of these components, then the student can decide which components will count towards their distinction.

### **Article 3.4 Types of interim examination**

1. Each component of the degree programme is concluded by an interim examination. Interim examinations may comprise more than one modular partial examination, and may consist of the following assessment forms:
  - a. Written test and/or
  - b. Oral test;
  - c. Presentation;
  - d. Skill test and/or the creation of a discipline-specific product and/or assignment.
2. Prior to the commencement of the academic year, information will be provided in the prospectus for each individual component regarding the way in which the interim examinations will be administered. At the request of the student or the examiner, the Examination Board may allow an interim examination to be administered in a form other than stated above, if this is not to the detriment of the student.
3. In cases where an interim examination has admission requirements, the admission requirements will be published in the prospectus before the start of the academic year, see Article 3.3 paragraph 6. This requires permission from the programme coordinator. Contrary to the above provisions, the admission requirements for the courses completed in the fourth period may still be changed up until the start of the second period, with permission from the programme coordinator.
4. There are no admission requirements for interim examinations; if students are enrolled in a component, they are admitted to all sub-components, including the interim examination.
5. Students with disabilities are given the opportunity to take interim examinations in a manner appropriately suited to their disability. The Examining Board shall seek expert advice and counsel prior to reaching its decision if necessary. If the students in question require certain facilities for their interim examinations or resits, they must request these from the Education and Examination Administration of the faculty no later than two weeks before the interim examination or resit.

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6. During oral examinations, no more than one person is tested at a time, unless decided otherwise by the Examination Board.
7. Oral interim examinations are not public, unless the Examining Board has deemed otherwise in exceptional cases. All oral examinations are recorded. A second examiner or a designated observer may be present as an alternative to recording.

### **Article 3.5 Exemptions**

1. At the request of the student and having heard the examiner involved, the Examination Board may exempt a student, either partially or fully, from sitting for an interim examination if the student:
  - a. Has completed a course in a relevant subject at a university or institute of higher vocational education (HBO);
  - b. Demonstrates that they have adequate knowledge and skills regarding the component in question as a result of relevant work experience or professional experience.
2. If the degree programme allows group exemptions, then these are included in the programme-specific part of these regulations.
3. Only one grade for each course may be registered for a single degree programme. If a course is also part of another examination programme, this course will be listed on the diploma as an exemption.
4. Students who were first enrolled on or after 1 September 2017 can never have more exemptions than a quarter of the total study load of the programme expressed in EC, as stated in clause 1.
5. All results for a degree programme achieved before the date of the first enrolment are stated as exemptions on the degree programme's diploma. These exemptions do not count towards the EC as stated in clause 4 if the courses are only included in a one examination programme.
6. Exemptions as referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 cannot be granted for final examination assignments.

### **Article 3.6 Term of validity for successfully completed interim examinations**

1. The term of validity of successfully completed interim examinations is unlimited.
2. Results obtained for interim examinations are valid until the end of the academic year at least. Lecturers can decide to extend the term of the validity of the result obtained for a partial examination.

### **Article 3.7 Elective programmes**

The programme Examination Board shall decide on a request for authorisation to follow a free education programme as referred to in Article 7.3d WHW. The Examination Board will verify whether the programme fits within the domain of the degree programme under the authority of the Examination Board, whether it is sufficiently cohesive, and whether the level is adequate in the context of the programme's exit qualifications.

## **Section 4. Testing**

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#### **Article 4.1 Frequency of interim examinations**

1. Students are given the opportunity to take the examinations at least twice per academic year per interim examination.
2. Contrary to the provisions of paragraph 1, a degree programme coordinator may decide to only offer one opportunity for an interim examination or partial examination. If only one opportunity is given to take an interim examination or partial examination, this is stated in the programme study guide before the start of the academic year.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions in the first clause, there will be at least one opportunity in the following year to take an interim examination for a course that was taught for the final time in a particular academic year.
4. If a certain component is not given in a particular academic year, the opportunity to take the corresponding examination will be offered once in that academic year, as long as the interim examination is administered in written or oral form.

#### **Article 4.2 Registration for course examinations**

1. Students who register through Osiris for a component are automatically registered for the first interim examination opportunity in the relevant academic year. This does not apply to students whose enrolment in the degree programme has not yet been completed.
2. Students can register for an examination right up until 23:59 on the day prior to a period of five working days before the date of the examination. Registration is no longer possible after this date, unless the head of Education Centre decides otherwise in special cases on behalf of the dean. A successfully passed examination may be taken again.
3. If a student resits an interim examination, the most recent result will determine the final result.

#### **Article 4.3 Confirmation of examination results**

1. The result of an interim examination is determined by an examiner in the form of a grade on a scale from 1 to 10 (with 10 being the highest possible grade), consisting exclusively of whole numbers or half numbers. However, a grade of 5.5 is never given. When rounding off between 5 and 6, the rule is that a grade lower than 5.5 is rounded down to a five (5), which is an insufficient grade, meaning the educational component has not been successfully completed; a 5.5 and higher is rounded up to a six (6), meaning that the educational component has been successfully completed. In addition to results in the form of a grade, the assessments 'completed', 'not completed', 'satisfactory', 'not satisfactory', and 'good' may also be awarded.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 1, partial examinations may also be graded with one decimal point on a 10-point scale. Only the final grade is rounded off.

#### **Article 4.4 Publication of results**

1. The examiner shall determine the result of the final project within 15 working days after the presentation of the final project has taken place and after the final project has been submitted in <http://thesissubmission.science.ru.nl>.

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2. The examiner shall determine the result of an interim examination within 15 working days of the date it was administered. Here, the precondition applies that there must be at least ten working days between the date of the publication of the result in Osiris and the date of the resit.
3. Contrary to the provisions in paragraph 2, the examiner shall determine the result of an interim examination in the fourth period no later than nine days before the scheduled date of the corresponding resit. The lecturer always has at least five working days after the written examination to determine the result.
4. Contrary to the provisions set out in paragraph 2, the examiner shall determine the result of an oral examination within two working days of the date it was administered.
5. In special cases, the Examination Board may extend the term in which the result must be determined as referred to in paragraph 2 and 3 by a maximum of ten working days. This is not possible for interim examinations in the fourth period.
6. In this statement of the result of an interim examination, the student is also informed of their right to inspection, referred to in Article 4.5 as well as the right to appeal to the Examination Appeals Board.
7. Students may submit an appeal of a decision by the Examination Board to the Examination Appeals Board within six weeks.

#### **Article 4.5 Right of inspection and explanation**

1. Students may request access to review and inspect all graded work within at least 30 working days following publication of a written interim examination result. For the results of interim examinations with 'open' questions, at their request, the student shall be granted a copy of their graded work at cost.
2. During the period referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, any student who has taken an interim examination may review the questions and assignments of the interim examination in question, as well as the standards on which the result was based.
3. Students must be offered at least one opportunity to inspect or have their examinations explained, as referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2. If the student demonstrates that they are or were unable to attend an inspection, they may request the Examination Board to allow them another opportunity to inspect the examination, within the period referred to in the first paragraph if possible. In all cases, the inspection must take place at least five working days before the resit of an interim examination. For examinations in the fourth period, students may view their work until one working day before the resit.
4. The examiner shall retain all written interim examinations and related papers (assignments or otherwise) that count towards the final result for a period of two years following the date when the examination was administered. Master's programme reports and theses must remain available for visitations, accreditations and inspections, and shall be kept for seven years.

#### **Article 4.6 Confirmation of examination results**

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1. Students are given the opportunity to take the final examination after they have provided sufficient proof of passing the components leading up to the final examination.
2. Examinations are scheduled each month.
3. The Examining Board will determine the result of the final examination, as well as the rules in relation to the manner in which the result of the examination is determined. The result of the examination is determined by the Examining Board within five weeks following the student's request. If the examination takes place in July, the results will be determined no later than 31 August. Where needed in relation to entry requirements for a subsequent programme or the acceptance of a job, a statement can be released indicating that the student has met the requirements of the examination within five days. This is only possible if the student has met the criteria specified in clause 1.
4. Prior to determining the result of the final examination, the Examination Board may evaluate and assess the student's knowledge with respect to one or more components or aspects of the programme, if and to the degree to which the results of the related interim examinations justify this.

#### **Article 4.7 Awarding distinctions**

The guidelines concerning distinctions can be found in the Appendix of the Guideline for Distinction Regulations.

## **Section 5. Study performance, guidance and evaluation of education**

#### **Article 5.1 Study performance and support**

1. The faculty dean is responsible for recording student results in such a way that, upon request, the Examination Board can respond by providing the student with an overview of the progress of the study programme within a reasonable time frame.
2. The dean is responsible for providing adequate student counselling.

#### **Article 5.2 Method of evaluation of education**

In compliance with the quality assurance system of the university as described in the Handboek Kwaliteitszorg Onderwijs Radboud Universiteit (Radboud University Quality Assurance Manual), the dean shall ensure that the education of the degree programmes is evaluated systematically.

## **PART III PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC PART**

## **Section 6. Admission to the degree programme and education**

#### **Article 6.1 Admission requirements**

Enrolment in this degree programme is no longer possible.

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Admission requirements for the programme:

- a. Students must have successfully passed the final examination of the Bachelor's programme in Molecular Life Sciences at Radboud University.
- b. Students must be in possession of a degree certificate that is at least equal to the degree referred to in Article 6.1 clause a.
- c. Or otherwise have demonstrated suitability for participation in the degree programme, in the opinion of the degree programme.
- d. Students must also provide proof of sufficient proficiency in English, as described in Article 2.2.

### Article 6.2 Pre-Master's

Students who have completed a degree in a related area at a university of applied sciences (HBO) and have completed the pre-Master's programme curriculum of a maximum of 60 EC are also eligible for admission to the degree programme.

## Section 7. Structure and design

### Article 7.1 Programme-specific learning outcomes

In addition to the general learning outcomes described in the general part of these regulations, the Molecular Life Sciences degree programme aims to achieve the following learning outcomes:

Master's programme:	(Molecular) Life Sciences The graduate:
Knowledge and understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graduates have knowledge and understanding of current Molecular Life Sciences subjects, building on the Bachelor's level of various Life Sciences programmes;</li><li>• Graduates are familiar with the use of advanced experimental approaches, providing the basis for originality in developing and applying ideas within a research context.</li></ul>
Applying knowledge and understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graduates are able to apply advanced research methods in the field of (bio-)chemistry, biophysics, molecular biology and/or bioinformatics in developing and executing a research project;</li><li>• Graduates can solve problems in a multidisciplinary manner.</li></ul>
Making judgments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graduates are able to critically evaluate research questions and results and defend points of view and conclusions;</li><li>• Graduates can give feedback in writing and orally;</li><li>• Graduates have the skills to critically read and interpret the scientific literature and apply new developments and experimental approaches in their specialised domain;</li><li>• Graduates can evaluate ethical and societal issues associated with biomolecular research and its applications.</li></ul>
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graduates can present and discuss research results in writing and orally;</li><li>• Graduates can function in a research team and in a multidisciplinary academic research setting.</li></ul>
Lifelong learning skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graduates have strategic, critical thinking and problem solving abilities;</li><li>• Graduates can, in the context of a research team, develop and execute research and communicate the results and implications with peers;</li><li>• Graduates can incorporate and interpret new knowledge and insights into existing scientific theories;</li><li>• Graduates are able to adjust and redefine hypotheses and models explaining biomolecular processes;</li><li>• Graduates can respond to ethical, societal and global considerations in practicing their profession;</li></ul>

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1. Students who choose a content/research-oriented specialisation, will also achieve the following learning outcomes upon graduation:
  - a. Based on specialised knowledge and research experience in two sub-areas within the field of Molecular Life Sciences, are able to set up and independently perform experiments, design appropriate checks and evaluate the results in a given time frame;
  - b. Able to write independently the basis for a scientific publication or research proposal;
  - c. Based on a critical analysis of research results, are able to break new ground in research areas;
  - d. Able to work at a specialist level in another branch of Molecular Life Sciences in addition to their current specialisations.
2. Students who choose the Science, Management and Innovation specialisation will also achieve the following learning outcomes:
  - a. Able to bridge between their own science discipline and other disciplines, based on profound understanding of the chosen core theme and how this relates to societal, political, economic, and environmental requirements of today's world;
  - b. Familiar with and capable of analysing specific problems within their theme, and able to apply a range of approaches to address these, argue for, select, and implement feasible options, taking into account the full width of technological, societal, political and economic perspectives;
  - c. Proficient in using research methods and techniques, including basic finance and economics, to verify, justify and substantiate strategies and plans, and capable of effectively using a wide variety of information and communication channels;
  - d. Able to balance perspectives and interests in specific contexts within a company or (non)governmental organisation in order to formulate appropriate strategies and plans towards implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
  - e. Able to communicate insights, views and analyses of complex issues to others in a clear, concise and understandable manner, both in written and spoken form;
  - f. Able to work in multidisciplinary and multicultural high-performance teams based on sound division of tasks, knowledge, competencies, and responsibilities, whilst respecting diverging views and opinions.
3. Students who choose the Science in Society specialisation will also achieve the following learning outcomes:
  - a. Able to analyse the role of scientific expertise in societal and political decision making with regard to socio-scientific issues;
  - b. Able to design and conduct independent and methodologically sound social research at the interface of science and society and are capable of contributing to academic research;
  - c. Able to understand and design public and stakeholder participation processes in research and innovation;

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- d. Able to analyse, improve and evaluate interdisciplinary collaborations with multiple stakeholders and integrating different perceptions, interests and types of knowledge (experiential, professional and scientific);
  - e. Able to substantiate and communicate the relevance of their scientific discipline in society.
4. Students who choose the Science and Education specialisation will also achieve the following learning outcomes:
- a. Have knowledge of and insight into the theoretical principles of discipline-specific thinking, educational design, and the methods and techniques of applying didactic research in the discipline;
  - b. Are able to design, implement and systematically evaluate an educational design and a scientific study, drawing a link between didactic and professional practice concepts, discipline-specific thinking of the students at different levels and problems from teaching practice;
  - c. Devote attention to discipline-specific learning of individual and unique students, focusing on developing inspiring education;
  - d. Able to apply thorough scientific knowledge of general didactic concepts about the learning of individual students and methods to improve both the social climate in the classroom and to answer the individual learning needs of the students;
  - e. Able to differentiate themselves and improve the social climate for collaboration and, in doing so, to set independent priorities and respond appropriately to development and behavioural problems, after consultation with relevant third parties;
  - f. Focus on collaboration and responsible behaviour based on clear communication with individual students and colleagues, on the basis of a personal vision;
  - g. Develop their own professional knowledge base to justify their own actions and understand the actions of colleagues and supervisors;
  - h. Use their professional knowledge base and contextual feedback (students, colleagues, and supervisors) to evaluate and guide their own professional development;
  - i. Develop a personal identity in the context of their own actions, external frameworks and ethical dilemmas.

## **Article 7.2    Composition of the programme**

1. Subject to the provisions in Part II of these regulations, the student chooses one of the following specialisations of the degree programme:
  - a. Chemistry of Life
  - b. Human Biology (no longer offered from 2019–2020)
  - c. Medical Epigenomics (no longer offered from 2019–2020)
  - d. Neuroscience (no longer offered from 2019–2020)
  - e. Science, Management and Innovation
  - f. Science in Society



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- g. Science and Education
2. The programme for the research specialisations a, b, c and d is described under Article 7.2a and 7.2b. The programme for the societal specialisations e, f and g is described under Article 7.2c.

## Article 7.2a Research specialisations

The Master's programme in Molecular Life Sciences with a research specialisation consists of course-driven education and two research components and their corresponding literature theses. At least one of the internships will take place within the chosen specialisation.

### 1. Specialisation (60 EC)

Consisting of courses in the area of the specialisation and a thesis.

#### 1.1. Education specialisation (15 EC)

Choice of:

##### a. Chemistry of Life

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-MOL401	Chemical Biology	3
NWI-MOL402	Systems Chemistry	3
NWI-MOL403	Organic Chemistry of Biomolecules	3
NWI-MOL404	Instrumental Analysis in (Bio)Molecular Chemistry	3
NWI-MOL410	Omics	3

One of the compulsory specialisation courses of 3 EC may be exchanged for a course from the specialisations listed in b, c and d.

Instead of the combination NWI-MOL401 Chemical Biology (3 EC) + NWI-MOL403 Organic Chemistry or Biomolecules (3 EC) the NWI-MOL418 Chemical Biology (6 EC) course may also be taken.

##### b. Human Biology (only for students who started before 2019–2020)

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-BM073	Trends in Stem Cell Biology	3
NWI-BM078	Molecular Therapy	6
NWI-BM072	Translational Genomics	6

One of the compulsory specialisation courses of 3 EC may be exchanged for a course from the specialisations listed in a, c and d.

##### c. Medical Epigenomics (only for students who started before 2019–2020)

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-BM073	Trends in Stem Cell Biology	3
NWI-BM062	Epigenomics in Health and Disease	3
NWI-BM064	Protein Dynamics and Networks	3

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NWI-BM066A	Computation for Biologists	6
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One of the compulsory specialisation courses of 3 EC may be exchanged for a course from the specialisations listed in a, b and d.

**d. Neuroscience** (only for students who started before 2019–2020)

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-BM044B	Systems Neuroscience	3
NWI-BM053B	Behavioural Neuroscience	3
NWI-NM103B	Methods in Neuroscience	3
NWI-BM059	Systematic Reviews in Neuroscience	6

One of the compulsory specialisation courses of 3 EC may be exchanged for a course from the specialisations listed in a, b and c.

The course Systematic Reviews in Neuroscience, with a molecular topic, can take the place of the thesis assignment in the specialisation-related internship.

**1.2. Research component (45 EC in total)**

The research component comprises the following:

- Internship: practical work, presentation, and report (NWI-MOL501A, 36 EC)
- Literature thesis (BRS-MOL601, 6 EC)
- Course (3 EC): with a biomedical component (in case of specialisation a) or molecular component (in case of specialisation b, c or d)

The internship should be related to the specialisation and must be approved by the internship coordinator before starting. The programme will publish a prospectus annually containing an overview of suitable internship departments. The internship can be done externally.

If the **Neuroscience specialisation** was chosen, the research components consists of the following:

- Practical work, presentation and report (36 EC)
- The courses:

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-BM073	Trends in Stem Cell Biology	3
NWI-BM001D	Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology	6

**2. Natural Science Master's education (6 EC)**

To be presented for approval to the Examining Board. Master's courses offered at the faculty is automatically approved.

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### 3. *Second research component (44 EC)*

The research component comprises the following:

- Internship: practical work, presentation and report (NWI-MOL502A, 35 EC)
- Literature thesis (NWI-MOL602, 6 EC)
- Course (3 EC): with a biomedical component (in case of specialisation a) or molecular component (in case of specialisation b, c or d).

You can choose your own internship, but it needs to be approved by the internship coordinator prior to starting. The internship can also be completed externally. The programme publishes a list with pre-approved (under certain conditions) internship departments and automatically approved courses with biomedical or molecular components in the study guide every year.

Supervision or assessment of both internships within the degree programme by the same chair group is not allowed, unless one of the internships is completed externally at a different university or at an institute at a university level.

### 4. *Career orientation (1 EC)*

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-MOL412	Career Orientation	1

### 5. *Philosophical course (3 EC)*

To choose from:

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-FFIL202A	Evolution and the Mind	3
NWI-FFIL203B	Bio-ethics for Life Scientists	3
NWI-FFIL209B	Environmental Ethics	3
NWI-FFIL211B	Physics and Philosophy	3
NWI-FFIL212	Philosophy of Water Management	3
NWI-FFIL214	Science and Metaphysics	3
NWI-FFIL215	Upgrading the Human?	3
NWI-FFIL216	Imagining the Anthropocene	3
NWI-FFIL217	Science and Arts	3
NWI-FFIL218	Science and Values	3
NWI-FFIL300C	Philosophy of Mathematical Practice	3

### 6. *Free electives (6 EC)*

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The degree programme includes a free elective component with a minimum study load of 6 EC, to be filled with assessable courses at the academic level.

### **Article 7.2b Alternative selection of research specialisations**

Instead of the composition described in Article 7.2a, the following may also be chosen:

- a. Education specialisation (15 EC) as described in Article 7.2a paragraph 1.1.
- b. Specialisation-related research internship: practical work, report and presentation (WI-MOL501A 44 EC)

The internship should be related to the specialisation and must be approved by the internship coordinator before starting. The programme will publish a prospectus annually containing an overview of suitable internship departments for each of the specialisations.

- c. Internship or broadening of the programme (30 EC)

Choice of a second internship or university courses at least above second-year Bachelor's level that were not taken before.

You can choose your own internship (NWI-MOL502A), but it needs to be approved by the internship coordinator prior to the start. Supervision of this internship and the specialisation-related internship within the degree programme by the same chair group is not allowed, unless one of the internships is completed externally at a different university or at an institute or company at a university level.

- Education can consist of courses within the exact science domain including mathematics and computer science and/or courses from the (bio)medical sciences and/or a coherent package of at least 15 EC of non-scientific courses.

- d. Programme-specific Master's elective space (6EC)

Master's courses in the field of exact science, including mathematics and computer science, from the (bio)medical sciences and/or courses in the societal specialisations. Master's in Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science is approved provided there is no overlap with other courses in the programme.

- e. 9 EC of elective space must be added to b, c, or d
- f. literature thesis (NWI-MOL601, 6 EC)
- g. NWI-MOL412 - Career Orientation (1 EC)
- h. Philosophical component, to be chosen from the table in Article 7.2a paragraph 5
- i. Free electives (6 EC) to be with assessable courses at academic level

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## **Article 7.2c Societal specialisations**

The Master's programme in Molecular Life Sciences with a societal specialisation consists of the following components:

### **1. Natural Sciences Master's course (15 EC)**

To be presented for approval to the Examining Board. Master's courses offered within the Faculty of Science are automatically approved, with the exception of courses offered within the social specialisations.

### **2. Natural Sciences research (29 EC)**

This contains the following components:

- Internship: practical work, presentation, and report (NWI-MOL501A, at least 23 EC)
- Optional research-related specialisation course(s) (maximum of 6 EC)

The internship must be approved in advance by the internship coordinator. The programme will publish a prospectus annually containing an overview of suitable internship departments.

### **3. Elective courses (9 EC if SMI and SiS, 6 EC if Science and Education)**

To be filled with natural sciences Master's courses, as stated under 1 above, or a literature review (NWI-MOL601), or to be used to extend the natural sciences internship as stated under 2.

### **4. Career orientation (1 EC)**

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-MOL412	Career Orientation	1

### **5. Philosophical course (3 EC)**

This can be filled with courses from the list under Article 7.2a paragraph 5.

### **6. Specialisation courses (57 EC if SMI or SiS, 60 EC if Science and Education)**

Choice of one of the packages: Science, Management and Innovation, Science in Society or Science and Education.

#### **6.1. Science, Management and Innovation (SMI)**

##### **a. Compulsory courses (15 EC)**

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Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-FMT003E	Innovation Management	6
NWI-FMT0234	Policy and Economics	3
NWI-FMT006A	Entrepreneurship: Making a Business Plan	3
NWI-FMT019	Methods in Societal Research: Science, Management & Innovation	3

**b. Theme courses (12 EC)**

Choice of one of the themes:

*Climate and Energy*

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-FMT022	Energy and Climate	6
NWI-FMT026	Energy Modelling	3
NWI-MM020A	Environmental Life Cycle Assessment	3

*Health*

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-FMT023	The Future of Health	6
NWI-FMT029	How Health Systems Work	6

**c. Science, Management and Innovation final research project (30 EC)**

The SMI research project may, in consultation with the coordinator or a lecturer from the SMI specialisation, be completed both internally (at the Faculty of Science) or externally (government, businesses, consulting firms, NGOs, etc.), in the Netherlands or abroad. In the first month, the student will write a research plan which must be approved by both the external supervisor and first assessor, as well as the second reader. The assessment of the thesis is based on the criteria described in the manual 'Doing a research project: A guide for students of the Science, Management & Innovation Master's specialisation'.

**6.2. Science in Society (SiS)**

**a. Compulsory courses (24 EC)**

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-FC002B	Science and Societal Interaction	3

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NWI-FC003B	Research, Responsibility and Uncertainty	3
NWI-FC0010C	Framing Knowledge	6
NWI-FC0013C	Science and Media	3
NWI-FC0043B	Science and Public Policy	3
NWI-FC0044C	Methods of Societal Research: Science in Society	6

**b. Limited choice electives (3 EC)**

To be filled with components related to the topic of the thesis. These components must be presented for approval to the SiS coordinator.

**c. Science in Society research project (30 EC)**

In consultation with a SiS lecturer, the SiS graduation project can be completed both internally (at the ISIS department) or externally (government, consulting firms, NGOs, etc.). In the first month, the student will write a research plan which must be approved by both the first supervisor as well as a second reader. The assessment of the thesis is based on the criteria described in the 'Graduation project guidelines SiS'.

**6.3. Science and Education**

The Science and Education specialisation includes the following components with the accompanying study load:

- a. Series of lectures (5 EC)
- b. Self-evaluation 1 (10 EC)
- c. Supervised internship (15 EC)
- d. Design and research (10 EC)
- e. Self-evaluation 2 (5 EC)
- f. Independent internship (15 EC)

These components are provided by the Radboud Teachers Academy. If, due to the successful completion of the education minor during the Bachelor's programme or for other reasons, a portion of the above-mentioned components need not be followed, the corresponding number of EC must be filled with programme-specific components.

Admission to the components of the Radboud Teachers Academy, with the aim of earning a first degree teaching qualification in Chemistry or Biology, is granted after an assessment of the content of the Molecular Life Sciences Bachelor's and Master's programme that the student has chosen. This assessment is conducted by the responsible teaching professional at the Radboud Teachers Academy.

**7. Free electives (6 EC)**

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The degree programme includes a free elective component with a minimum study load of 6 EC, to be filled with assessable courses at the academic level.

### **Article 7.3 Deviating programme**

If a student does not choose a specialisation, he/she must submit a motivated request for permission to the Examining Board for an alternative course selection for the Master's programme. The submitted course selection must include at least a coherent selection of 15 EC of natural sciences Master's courses and a programme-specific internship.

## **Section 8. Transitional provisions**

NWI-FFIL211B Science and Literature may be included as a philosophical component.

For students of Human Biology (formerly: Clinical Biology), the following applies:

- NWI-MOL413 Transport and Metabolomics (3 EC) may be replaced by NWI-LM011 Metabolism, Transport and Motility (3 EC).
- NWI-BM078 Molecular Therapy (6 EC) may be replaced by NWI-BM071 Molecular Therapy (3 EC) + NWI-MOL413 Transport and Metabolomics (3 EC)
- NWI-BM071 Molecular Therapy (3 EC) may be replaced by NWI-BM049B Molecular Mechanisms or Novel Therapeutics (3 EC).
- NWI-BM073 Trends in Stem Cell Biology (3 EC) may be replaced by NWI-BM042B Trends in Stem Cell Biology (3 EC) or NWI-BM047B Trends in Medical Biosciences II (3 EC).
- NWI-BM072 Translational Genomics (6 EC) may be replaced by NWI-MB045B Human Genetics (6 EC).
- NWI-BM042B Trends in Medical Biosciences I (3 EC) may be used within the compulsory course space or as part of the specialisation.

The following applies for students of Medical Epigenomics:

- NWI-BM073 Trends in Stem Cell Biology (3 EC) may be replaced by NWI-BM042B Trends in Stem Cell Biology (3 EC) or NWI-BM047B Trends in Medical Biosciences II (3 EC).
- NWI-BM066A Computation for Biologists (6 EC) may be replaced by NWI-BM066 Computation for Biologists (3 EC). The other 3 EC must be filled with a component from the limited choice electives.
- NWI-BM042B Trends in Medical Biosciences I (3 EC) may be used within the compulsory course space or as part of the specialisation.

For Neuroscience students, the following applies:



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- NWI-BM073 Trends in Stem Cell Biology (3 EC) may be replaced by NWI-BM042B Trends in Stem Cell Biology (3 EC) or NWI-BM047B Trends in Medical Biosciences II (3 EC).
- NWI-BM001D Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology (6 EC) may be replaced by NWI-BM001C Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology (3 EC). The other 3 EC must be filled with a component from the limited choice electives.
- NWI-BM042B Trends in Medical Biosciences I (3 EC) may be used within the compulsory course space or as part of the specialisation.

For students of Science, Management and Innovation, the following applies:

- NWI-FMT021 Neuroscience (3 EC) may be used to fill the 6 EC of free elective space for Health elective courses.

For students of Science and Society, the following applies:

- NWI-FC0010D Framing Knowledge (6 EC) may be replaced by NWI-FC0010C Framing Knowledge (3 EC) and NWI-FC0011C Knowledge Society (3 EC).

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## **PART IV FINAL PROVISIONS**

### Paragraph 9. Final provisions

#### **Article 9.1 Safety net scheme and hardship clause**

1. In all cases not covered fully or clearly by these regulations, the decision lies with the dean.
2. In all cases in which these regulations may result in an unreasonable or unfair situation for individual students, the Examining Board or the dean is authorised to make an exception to the provisions in these Education and Examination Regulations.

#### **Article 9.2 Establishment and amendments**

1. Notwithstanding the provisions in Article 7 of the Structure Regulations, these regulations are drawn up or amended by the dean after receiving advice from the programme committees and after having obtained the approval of the Joint Assembly of the faculty.
2. An amendment to these regulations has no impact on the current academic year, unless this would disproportionately damage the interest of the students.
3. In derogation from clause 1, the dean is authorised to drop elective components of the curriculum should the circumstances be deemed impossible to offer the course.

#### **Article 9.3 Entry into force**

These regulations enter into force on 1 September 2021.

#### **Article 9.4 Publication**

1. The dean is responsible for publishing these regulations and any amendments thereto.
2. Interested parties may consult these regulations via the prospectus.

As established by the dean on 30-06-2021.