

EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS

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Faculty of Philosophy, Theology
and Religious Studies

Part 2:

Regulations governing specific degree programmes:

Research Master Philosophy

EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS PTR 2016-2017

Part 1 (General), Part 2 (specifically for each bachelor's and master's degree programme) and Part 3 (final and transitional provisions) are separate documents comprising the EER-PTR.

June 17, 2016

PART II PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC PART (MASTER)

Paragraph 13. General provisions Research Master Philosophy

Article 13.1 Applicability general part

The master's degree programme Research Master in Philosophy will be subject to the provisions laid down in the general part of these regulations in so far as the following provisions do not provide otherwise.

Article 13.2 Joint degree not applicable

Article 13.2a Different times of enrolment

Contrary to the provisions of article 1.3a of these regulations, the master's degree programme Philosophy will have the following entrance moments:

- a) 1 September;
- b) 1 February.

Paragraph 14. [deleted]

Paragraph 14a. Structure and teaching periods Research Master Philosophy

Article 14a.1 Specific exit qualifications

Without prejudice to the exit qualifications referred to in the general part of these regulations, the master's degree programme in Philosophy intends for students to possess the abilities and skills listed below.

§1. Knowledge and insight

- a) The graduating student possesses thorough and detailed knowledge in one specific domain of philosophy, and he/she therefore knows:
 - several authors and philosophical issues within the chosen field of specialisation;
 - the primary and secondary literature pertaining to the authors and questions that have been investigated.
- b) The graduating student possesses solid knowledge in at least two philosophical disciplines outside of his/her chosen specialism, and therefore knows:
 - a number of authors or philosophical issues in detail;

- the primary and secondary literature pertaining to an author or question outside the student's field of specialisation.
- c) The graduating student understands the way in which his/her chosen specialisation is related to the overall domain of philosophy, the landscape of academic disciplines and contemporary culture.

§2. Application of knowledge

- a) The graduate has learned to carry out the consecutive steps of a research project, and in particular in the following respects:
- he/she is able to identify a relevant philosophical problem and to translate it into a research question and a project designed to answer the latter;
 - he/she knows where to find the relevant primary and secondary literature, to assemble it, and to evaluate its quality and relevance with respect to the research question that needs to be answered;
 - he/she knows how to interpret the selected texts in a careful and critical manner that is pertinent to the question to be answered;
 - he/she is capable of arriving at valid conclusions based on the research that has been done, and to relate these conclusions to the original research question and the problem that lies at its roots.
- b) The graduate is capable of dealing with philosophical and non-philosophical texts according to accepted academic standards, and notably:
- in the understanding of contemporary and historical texts, consulting them, whenever possible, in the original language;
 - when processing this material in footnotes and bibliographies.

§3. Judgement

- a) The graduate is capable of forming an independent judgement with respect to the authors and issues he/she has treated in the chosen field of specialisation. He/she is, in particular, capable of:
- placing a text or question in the relevant context;
 - analyzing the argumentative structure of a philosophical text and of judging its coherence and correctness;
 - judging philosophical texts and issues critically and according to their contents and domains of application.
- b) The graduate is capable of defending his/her position vis-à-vis a given question in the domain of specialisation, by means of:
- the use of valid arguments;
 - an elucidation of its (social) relevance.

§4. Communication skills

- a) The graduate is capable of reporting orally and in written form on the research that has been carried out; specifically, he/she is able to:
- present the results of his/her own research project before a specialised and non-specialised public, using the relevant means of communication (lecture, presentation, debate, interview, etc.);
 - present the result of his/her own research projects in a publishable article that satisfies the international norms of academic publications.
- b) The graduate is capable of participating both orally and in written form in expert panels, by mastering the following skills:
- contributing to an international congress or collective publication through a lecture, paper or article;
 - actively participating in meetings of professional research groups.

§5. Learning Skills

- a) The graduate possesses the learning skills that enable him/her to set up and carry out new research projects. Specific skills that he/she possesses are:
- locating new pertinent questions within his/her domain of expertise;
 - setting up a research project according to standard international norms.
- b) The graduate possesses the skills of applying his/her research and to connect it to relevant philosophical issues or newly emerging issues or problems.

Article 14a.2 Structure master's degree programme

1. With due observance of the provisions of paragraph 2 of these regulations, the first year of the degree programme consists of the following components and study loads:

1	Research seminar in the student's area of specialisation	10 EC
2	Research seminar of the student's own choice	10 EC
3	Research seminar of the student's own choice	10 EC
4	Elective course(s)	10 EC
5	Seminar on methods and skills of philosophical research	20 EC
		60 EC

2. The second year of the degree programme consists of the following components and study load:

1	Research seminar in the student's area of specialisation	10 EC
2	An assignment on the specialisation subject in the form of a research essay	10 EC
3	Elective course(s)	10 EC
4	Final thesis on the specialisation subject consisting of: a) a publishable article (20 EC); b) a research proposal (10 EC)	30 EC
		60 EC

3. The student is required to write a Master's thesis as a demonstration of his or her acquired competence. The thesis for this Master's programme consists of a Publishable Article (20 EC) and a Research Proposal (10 EC).
- Subject to the approval of the examination board, the Research proposal may be replaced by participation in an internship or participation in a research programme, which is to be concluded by an academic report.
 - The course load for this component (sub a) equals 10 EC.

Article 14a.3 Different language in programme and interim examinations

Contrary to the provisions of article 2.1a of these regulations, the master's degree programme Philosophy will partially be taught in the Dutch language. In exceptional cases, upon the candidate's request and by decision of the examination board, the examinations may be taken in the Dutch language.

Paragraph 15. [deleted]

Paragraph 15a. Admission Research Master Philosophy

Article 15a.1 Admission requirements Research Master Philosophy

- Admission to the first year of the Research Master's degree programme Philosophy is granted to students:
 - who have passed the final examination in a bachelor programme in Philosophy, provided the requirement in subsection c below is met;
 - who hold an admission certificate issued by the University's Executive Board for the relevant academic year, provided the requirement in subsection c below is met;
 - who have met the requirements in the previous subsections and in addition have obtained a weighted grade-point average of at least 7.5 or the equivalent of a grade-

point average of at least 7.5 for the philosophical components of the post-propaedeutic phase and, according to the judgment of the Examination Board, display sufficient aptitude for, and interest in, research.

- d) who have an adequate command of English as stipulated in **article 15.a3**
2. Admission to the second year of the Research Master's degree programme Philosophy is granted, without prejudice to the stipulations in paragraph 3 below, to students:
- a) who have passed the final examination for the Master's or Doctoral degree programme in Philosophy, provided the requirement in subsection c below is met;
 - b) who hold an admission certificate issued by the Executive Board for the relevant academic year provided the requirement in subsection c below is met;
 - c) who have met the requirements in the previous subsections and in addition have obtained a weighted grade-point average of at least 7.5 or the equivalent of a grade-point average of at least 7.5 for the philosophical components of the Master's first year and, according to the judgment of the examination committee, display sufficient aptitude for, and interest in, research;
 - d) who have an adequate command of English as stipulated in **article 15.a3**
3. Any student who has demonstrated, in the opinion of the examination board, his or her suitability to attend the master's degree programme will also be admitted.

Article 15a.2 Pre-master not applicable.

Article 15a.3 Language requirements for master's degree programme

1. In view of the provisions on this subject in paragraph 2, adequate command of the English language is required to be able to participate in the master's degree programme Philosophy. The student will have to provide the examination board with evidence that he or she is sufficiently proficient in English to be admitted.
2. The language requirement referred to in paragraph 1 will in any case be met, if the student:
 - a) has obtained a higher diploma from an English-teaching institution, or
 - b) is in possession of one of the following certificates: TOEFL, with a minimum score of 577 (paper based), 233 (computer based) or 90 (internet based); IELTS, with a minimum score of 6.5; Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE) or Proficiency in English (CPE) with a mark of C or higher.

3. Students in possession of a Dutch Bachelor's degree, must either satisfy the requirements in 2.a or 2.b above, or take an Oxford Placement test. In the latter case, their overall score must correspond to the C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Article 15a.4 Registration capacity not applicable

Article 15a.5 Admission procedure master's degree programme

1. Decisions on the admission are taken on behalf of the dean by the Examination Board and by the Admissions Committee.
2. The Admissions Committee consists of the Director of Education, the Director of Research and the Programme Coordinator.
3. The students who meet the admission requirements or who are of the opinion that they will meet all admission requirements in time and who wish to be admitted to the master's degree programme Philosophy should submit an application to that effect at the Admissions Committee in good time. The application for admission should include: a *curriculum vitae*; a motivation letter; a certified copy of the bachelor diploma and of the student's academic transcript; a certificate documenting the mastery of the English language; and a writing sample.
4. The admission assessment takes place twice a year. The ultimate dates on which the admission application should be submitted will be published on the faculty's website in due time. The Admissions Committee must have received the complete admission application before the closing date.
5. The Admissions Committee will decide within four weeks following the closing date referred to. Candidates who have been selected will receive a written confirmation of admission.
6. Candidates who are not selected will receive the refusal of their application by email.
7. An appeal against the Admissions Committee's decision can be filed at the Examination Appeals Board.

Article 15a.6 Restrictions for moving on to the master's degree programme

1. Without prejudice to the admission requirements described above, the admissions board will only decide on the student's moving on to the master's degree programme as referred to in article 4.5 of these regulations after the board of examiners of the bachelor's degree programme has been heard and
 - a) the student in question demonstrates that he has completed the bachelor's final paper with sufficient result and
 - b) that he has at least obtained 160 ECs of the bachelor's degree programme. ECs that have been awarded in the context of exemptions may be included as well;

2. The admissions board's decision will specify the components for which permission is granted and the term for which that permission applies.
3. The student, who on the basis of this article has been admitted to the interim examinations of the Research Master's degree programme, will in any case not be admitted to the final examination of the Master's degree programme, or allowed to start working on the programme's final test of competence (Master's thesis) or the preparation thereof (Research Essay), until the Bachelor's degree has been obtained, or the relevant transition programme has been completed and the student has been enrolled in the Master's programme.

Article 15a.7 Entry requirements not applicable.

Paragraph 16. Interim examinations and examinations

Article 16.1 [deleted]

Article 16.2 Limitation of validity period of the results obtained not applicable.

Article 16.3 Participation in interim examinations not applicable.

Article 16.4 Standard exemptions not applicable.

Article 16.5 [deleted]

Article 16.6 Degree

The student who has successfully passed the examination of the master's degree programme Philosophy will be awarded the university degree of "Master of Arts". The degree will only be granted after the examination board has determined that all conditions have been met.
