

# Education and Examination Regulations (EER)

2017- 2018

Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and  
Religious Studies

Research Master Philosophy

*Version ac. MODEL EER*

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## **PART I            GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### Paragraph 1.    General provisions

#### **Article 1.1.    Applicability of the regulations**

These education and examination regulations (hereinafter: the regulations) apply to the master programme Master's in Philosophy (Research) (hereinafter: the programme) that is offered by the faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies of the Radboud University. Part II of these regulations lists the provisions applicable to all initial master programmes offered by the faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies; part III includes additional provisions applicable to a particular programme.

1.        The regulations apply for all students that are registered for the programme in the academic year 2017-2018.

#### **Article 1.2    Definitions**

1.        The terms in these regulations that are also used in the Higher Education and Research Act (*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*; hereinafter to be referred to as 'the Act') have the same meaning as these terms have in the Act.

#### **Artikel 1.3    Fraud**

The current fraud rules are stated in the Rules & Guidelines of the Boards of Examiners of the Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies.

## **PART II            GENERAL PART**

### **Paragraph 2.    Admission to programmes and courses**

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

1.    Decisions on admission are taken by the admissions board.
2.    The programme-specific part of these regulations specifies the admission requirements the student has to meet to be admitted to the programme.

#### **Article 2.2    Entry requirements**

The student may attend all the units of study in the programme and may sit the relevant interim examinations, unless specific entry requirements apply as laid down in the programme-specific part of these regulations.

### **Paragraph 3.    Structure and form**

#### **Article 3.1    Examination, degree and distinction**

1.    The programme is concluded by the Master's examination.
2.    The student who has passed the programme examination is awarded the degree Master of Arts.
3.    The student who has passed the programme examination may be awarded a distinction by the board of examiners. The rules that apply for awarding a distinction have been laid down in university guidelines. These guidelines attached to these regulations as appendix 1.

#### **Article 3.2    General exit qualifications**

The programme intends

- a)    to provide the student with knowledge, understanding and skills with respect to the relevant area;
- b)    to educate the student at an academic level;
- c)    to prepare the student for further study career or future career.

#### **Article 3.3    Curriculum**

1.    The programme consists of the total of the units of study described in the programme-specific part of the regulations and is aimed at the realisation of well-defined targets in the area of knowledge, understanding and skills which the student who completes the programme should have.
2.    The programme allows the student to opt for elective units of study from other degree programmes amounting to 20 ECs.

3. In addition to the units of study referred to in the previous paragraph of the present article, the student is allowed to opt for extracurricular elective units of study from other programme amounting to a total of a maximum of 60 ECs.
4. In the context of the programme the student is required to write a thesis as an individual proof of competence, unless the board of examiners should decide this requirement is to be replaced by participation in a research project or by an internship which is to be reported on in accordance with applicable academic standards.

#### **Article 3.4 Elective curriculum**

1. The programme's board of examiners decides on a request for permission to attend a curriculum of the student's own choice as referred to in article 7.3d of the Act. The board of examiners will verify if this curriculum fits in the programme's domain which the board of examiners is accountable to, if it is sufficiently coherent and if the level is adequate in view of the programme's exit qualifications.
2. The request in question has to be submitted at least two months before the start of the curriculum.

#### **Article 3.5 Teaching periods and interim examinations**

The programme is offered in two semesters per academic year. In which semester the opportunity is provided to attend courses and to sit the interim examinations of the units of study is specified in the programme.

#### **Article 3.6 Form of education**

1. The instructional format of each course within the programme is specified in the programme-specific part of these regulations.
2. The language in which the programme is taught is specified in the programme-specific part of these regulations.
3. The number of contact hours in the programme is at least ten hours per week.

#### **Article 3.7 Form of interim examinations**

1. The form in which an interim examination is administered is specified in the programme-specific part of these regulations. By way of exception the board of examiners may decide that the form of the relevant interim examination will be deviated from.
2. Oral interim examinations are held in public, unless decided otherwise by the board of examiners. An oral interim examination is an individual test in which, in principle, not more than one person is tested at the same time. Oral interim examinations are to be taken in the presence of a second examiner or of an observer appointed by the board of examiners. By way of exception the board of examiners may decide that the interim examination will be recorded.
3. The board of examiners may allow students with an impairment to sit the interim examinations in a form adapted to their individual impairment. Prior to taking a decision in this matter, the board of examiners may seek expert advice.

### **Article 3.8 Incorporation of units of study obtained in other degree programmes**

1. Upon the student's request, the board of examiners incorporates elective units of study from other degree programmes.
2. Incorporation of a unit of study as referred to in paragraph 1 of the present article may only take place before that unit of study starts.
3. Conversion will take place in the event the units that express workload and study results of the units of study to be incorporated differ from those provided for in these regulations. The board of examiners will decide on the conversion, with due observance of the Radboud University memo 'Conversion of workload and study results' (*Conversie van studiebelasting en studieresultaten*).

### **Article 3.9 Replacing units of study**

In special circumstances and subject to the board of examiners' permission, the student may replace a unit of study by a unit of study from another degree programme. In that event article 3.8 paragraph 2 will apply equally.

### **Article 3.10 Exemptions**

1. The board of examiners may exempt students, either partially or fully, upon their request and having consulted the examiner involved, from sitting an interim examination if this student:
  - a) either has completed a relevant unit of study at a university or higher professional education programme which is similar as regards both content and level;
  - b) or demonstrates adequate knowledge and skills as regards the unit of study in question as a result of relevant work experience or professional experience.
2. In so far as the programme has general exemptions, these are listed in the programme-specific part of these regulations.
3. The number of exemptions as referred to in paragraph 1 of the present article will never be more than maximum 60 EC for students who have a Master's degree.
4. No exemption as referred to in paragraph 1 of the present article is granted for the thesis.
5. The examination board does not grant exemptions on the basis of results obtained in the period in which the student was barred from sitting interim examinations as referred to in article 7.12b paragraph 2 of the Act.

### **Article 3.11 Validity term of the interim examinations passed**

1. The validity term of any interim examination that has been passed is indefinite, unless stated otherwise in the programme-specific part and with due observance of the stipulations on this matter laid down in the Act.
2. In individual cases, the board of examiners may extend the validity term of specific interim examinations that have been passed.

### **Article 3.12 Number of interim examinations per unit of study**

1. Without prejudice to the provision of paragraph 2, an interim examination for a unit of study can be sat twice, unless stated otherwise in the programme-specific part.
2. An interim examination that was passed may not be sat again without written permission of the board of examiners.

## **Paragraph 4. Testing**

### **Article 4.1 Registration for interim examinations**

1. Students who register via Osiris for units of study of the programme they have enrolled for is also registered for the next interim examination in the relevant academic year. If students should not want to sit the interim examination, they will have to deregister via Osiris at the latest seven days before the interim examination date. If students fails to deregister in due time, non-appearance is considered as a used opportunity to sit the interim examination, unless the board of examiners should decide otherwise.
2. Students have to register for a resit at the latest seven days before the interim examination date in conformity with the provisions laid down to that purpose by or on behalf of the relevant board of examiners.

### **Article 4.2 Setting the results of and cutting score for interim examinations**

1. Unless provided otherwise in the programme-specific part of these regulations, the results of an interim examination are expressed in full or half points.
2. Contrary to the provisions of paragraph 1 of the present article, the result of an interim examination is not set at 5.5 points. An arithmetical score between 5 and 5.50 is rounded to 5 and a score equal to 5.50 or between 5.50 and 6 is rounded to 6.
3. If an interim examination is taken again, the most recently obtained score always determines the result.
4. If the result of an interim examination is equal to or greater than 6.0 points, the interim examination is considered to have been passed. If the result of the interim examination equals 5.0 or is less than 5.0 points, the interim examination is considered not to have been passed.

### **Article 4.3 Publication of the results of interim examinations**

1. Immediately after the results have been established, the examiner provides the student administration office with the data required for the publication of these results.
2. The examiner sees to the publication of the results of a written interim examination within fifteen days after the date of the interim examination. Immediately following an oral interim examination, but no later than five days after it was sat, the examiner informs the student of the results and provides the student with a written statement thereof. With respect to interim examinations that are administered in any other way, the board of examiners decides, prior to these interim examinations, in which way and within which period of time the student is

informed about the results.

3. By way of exception and upon request, the board of examiners may extend or reduce the periods referred to in paragraph 2 of the present article.
4. When the results are published, students will be informed about their right to peruse their interim examination papers as referred to in these regulations and about the possibility to appeal to the examinations appeals board within the applicable appeal period.

#### **Article 4.4 Perusal and inspection rights**

1. For a period of at least twenty days following the publication of the result of a written interim examination students are entitled, upon their request, to peruse and inspect the work assessed.
2. For the period referred to in paragraph 1 of the present article, any interested party is entitled to inspect, during the perusal, both the questions and assignments that are part of the relevant written interim examination and the standards applied for the assessment of it.
3. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2 of the present article, the examiner may decide that perusal will take place for all students at the same time, on a date and at a time and place set in advance. If students should not be able to attend this perusal because of demonstrable circumstances beyond their control, a separate perusal can be arranged upon the student's request, preferably within the period of time referred to in paragraph 1 of the present article.
4. In any case the opportunity for perusal is offered no later than five days before the resit of the interim examination.

#### **Article 4.5 Setting the examination results**

1. The board of examiners establishes the result of the examination as soon as the student has passed the interim examinations of the units of study that are part of the programme in question. In that case the examination date is the date on which the last interim examination was sat.
2. Prior to establishing the results of the examination, the board of examiners itself may conduct an inquiry into the student's knowledge with respect to one or more units of study or aspects of the programme.

### **Paragraph 5. Study progress, counselling and recommendations**

#### **Article 5.1 Study progress and student counselling**

1. The dean is responsible for the registration of the study results in such a way that every student is provided, upon request and within a reasonable period of time, with an updated overview of the results obtained.
2. The dean is responsible for providing adequate student counselling.



## Paragraph 5a. Teaching evaluation

### **Article 5a.1 Teaching evaluation method**

With due observance of the quality assurance system of the institute, as laid down in the Handbook Quality Assurance System Degree Programmes Radboud University (*Handboek Kwaliteitszorg Onderwijs Radboud Universiteit*), the dean sees to it that the units of study taught in the programmes will be systematically evaluated.

## **PART III            PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC PART (MASTER)**

### Paragraph 6.    Admission to programme and units of study

#### **Article 6.1(a) Admission requirements**

1. Admission to the Research Master's degree programme Philosophy is granted to students who:
  - a) have passed the final examination in a Bachelor's programme in Philosophy or in a related discipline (in the latter case, students must have acquired at least 60 EC in philosophical disciplines), provided the requirement in subsection c below is met;
  - b) 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;
  - c) 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 admission board, display sufficient aptitude for, and interest in, research; and
  - d) have an adequate command of English as stipulated in **article 6.1(g)**.
2. Admission is also granted, without prejudice to the stipulations in paragraph 3 below, to students who:
  - a) 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) hold an admission certificate issued by the Executive Board for the relevant academic year provided the requirement in subsection c below is met;
  - c) 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 programme . according to the judgment of the admission board, display sufficient aptitude for, and interest in, research;
  - d) have an adequate command of English as stipulated in **article 6.1(g)**.
3. Students who have demonstrated in the opinion of the examination board, their suitability to attend the Master's degree programme will also be admitted.

#### **Article 6.1(b)**

Not applicable

#### **Article 6.1(c)**

Not applicable

**Article 6.1(d)**

Not applicable

**Article 6.1(e)**

Not applicable

**Article 6.1(f)**

Not applicable

**Article 6.1(g) Language requirements**

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) is a native speaker of English or 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 6.1(h)**

Not applicable

**Article 6.1(i)**

Not applicable

**Article 6.2 Programme-specific entry requirements**

1. Without prejudice to the admission requirements described above, the admissions board will only decide on the student's moving on to the Research 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 consulted and:
  - a) students in question demonstrates that they have completed the Bachelor's final paper with sufficient result; and
  - b) students have obtained at least 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 Research 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 Research Master's programme.

### **Article 6.3 Different times of enrolment**

The Master's programme in Philosophy has the following entry times each year:

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

### **Article 6.4 Programme admission procedure**

1. Decisions on admission are taken on behalf of the Dean by the board of examiners and by the admissions board.
2. The admissions board consists of the Chair of the chosen specialisation 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 Research Master's degree programme Philosophy should submit an application to that effect to the admissions board in good time. The application for admission should include: a *curriculum vitae*; a motivation letter; a certified copy of the Bachelor's diploma and of the student's academic transcript; a certificate documenting the student's English language proficiency (if necessary, as per the requirements stated in Article 6.1(g)); 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 board must have received the complete admission application before the closing date.
5. The admissions board 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 board's decision can be filed with the Examination Appeals Board.

## Paragraph 7. Structure and form

### Article 7.1 Programme-specific exit qualifications

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

#### *§1. Knowledge and insight*

- a) Graduating student possess thorough and detailed knowledge in one specific domain of philosophy, and they therefore know:
  - 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) Graduating students possess solid knowledge in at least two philosophical disciplines outside of their chosen specialisation, 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) Graduating students understands the way in which their chosen specialisation is related to the overall domain of philosophy, the landscape of academic disciplines and contemporary culture.

#### *§2. Application of knowledge*

- a) Graduates have learned to carry out the consecutive steps of a research project, and in particular have the following knowledge and skills:
  - identifying a philosophical problem
  - translating a philosophical problem into a research question and a project designed to answer research question;
  - locating the relevant primary and secondary literature, assembling it, and to evaluating its quality and relevance with respect to the research question to be answered;
  - interpreting the selected texts in a careful and critical manner that is pertinent to the question to be answered;
  - arriving at valid conclusions based on the research that has been conducted, and relating these conclusions to the original research question and the problem that lies at its roots.
- b) Graduating students are 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;

- in the processing of texts in referencing and bibliographies.

### *§3. Judgement*

- a) Graduating students are capable of forming an independent judgement with respect to the authors and issues they have treated in the chosen field of specialisation. They are, in particular, capable of:
- placing a text or question in the relevant context;
  - analysing the argumentative structure of a philosophical text and judging its coherence and correctness;
  - judging philosophical texts and issues critically and according to their contents and domains of application.
- b) Graduating student are capable of defending their 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) Graduating students are capable of reporting orally and in written form on the research that has been carried out; specifically, they are able to:
- present the results of their own research project before a specialised and non-specialised audience, using the relevant means of communication (lecture, presentation, debate, interview, etc.);
  - present the result of their own research projects in a publishable article that satisfies the international norms of academic publications.
- b) Graduating students are capable of participating both orally and in written form in expert panels, by acquiring 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) Graduating possess the learning skills that enable them to set up and carry out new research projects. Specific skills that they possess are:
- locating new pertinent questions within their domain of expertise;
  - setting up a research project according to standard international norms.
- b) Graduating students possess the skills of applying their research and connecting it to relevant philosophical issues or newly emerging issues or problems.

## **Article 7.2 Programme workload**

The programme has a workload amounting to 120 ECs.

### Article 7.3 Programme form

The programme is taught exclusively as a full-time programme.

### Article 7.4 Programme language

The programme is taught in the English language.

### Article 7.5 Composition of programme

With due observance of the provisions in the general part of these regulations, the programme includes the following units of study:

1. The first year of the degree programme consists of the following components:

|  | Study load   | Teaching format | Examination format | Contact hours |
|--|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Research seminar in the student's area of specialisation | 10 EC        | *               | *                  | *             |
| Research seminar of the student's own choice             | 10 EC        | *               | *                  | *             |
| Research seminar of the student's own choice             | 10 EC        | *               | *                  | *             |
| Elective course(s)                                       | 10 EC        | *               | *                  | *             |
| Seminar on methods and skills of philosophical research  | 20 EC        | *               | *                  | *             |
| <i>Total:</i>  | <i>60 EC</i> |                 |                    |               |

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

|  | Study load   | Teaching format | Examination format | Contact hours |
|--|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Research seminar in the student's area of specialisation   | 10 EC        | *               | *                  | *             |
| An assignment on the specialisation subject in the form of a research essay  | 10 EC        | *               | *                  | *             |
| Elective course(s)   | 10 EC        | *               | *                  | *             |
| Final thesis on the specialisation subject consisting of: a) a publishable article (20 EC); b) a research proposal (10 EC) | 30 EC        |                 |                    |               |
| <i>Total:</i>  | <i>60 EC</i> |                 |                    |               |

\*See course guide for details

3. Students are required to write a Master's thesis as a demonstration of their acquired competence. The thesis for this Master's programme consists of a Publishable Article (20 EC) and a Research Proposal (10 EC).
  - a) Subject to the approval of the board of examiners, 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.
  - b) The course load for this component (sub a) equals 10 EC.

**Article 7.6**

Not applicable

**Article 7.7**

Not applicable

**Paragraph 8. Testing**

**Article 8.1**

Not applicable



## **PART IV            TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **Paragraph 9.    Transitional provisions**

Not applicable

### **Paragraph 10. Final provisions**

#### **Article 10.1    Safety net scheme and hardship clause**

1.        In cases not covered by these regulations or insufficiently covered by these regulations, the dean decides.
2.        In individual cases of extreme unfairness, the board of examiners or the dean is entitled to make an exception to the provisions of these regulations in favour of a student.

#### **Article 10.2    Adoption and amendments**

1.        Without prejudice to article 7 of the Structure Regulations of the Radboud University, the present regulations are laid down or amended by the dean after having been advised thereon by the education committees and after having obtained the approval of the faculties' joint meeting (*facultaire gemeenschappelijke vergadering*).
2.        Any amendments to these regulations will not take effect in the current academic year, unless the interests of the student are not disproportionately compromised thereby.

#### **Article 10.3    Implementation**

1.        These regulations enter into effect on 1 September 2017.
2.        The education and examination regulations laid down previously cease to have effect as from that date.

#### **Article 10.4    Publication**

1.        The dean is responsible for the appropriate publication of these regulations and of any amendments of them.
2.        Any interested party is entitled to collect a copy of the documents referred to in paragraph 1 of the present articles at the faculty office.

The present education examination regulations were laid down by the dean on August 31 2017.