

Education and Examination Regulations

2025-2026

Master Science for Sustainability

Radboud Universiteit



TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I GENERAL PROVISIONS MASTER	4
<i>Section 1. General provisions</i>	<i>4</i>
Article 1.1 Applicability of the regulations	4
Article 1.2 Executive Board Guidelines	4
Article 1.3 Definitions	5
PART II GENERAL PART	7
<i>Section 2. Admission to the study programme and education</i>	<i>7</i>
Article 2.1 Admission and admission requirements	7
Article 2.2 Language requirements	7
<i>Section 3. Structure and design</i>	<i>7</i>
Article 3.1 Final examination, degree and distinctions	7
Article 3.2 General learning outcomes	8
Article 3.3 Curriculum	8
Article 3.4 Sequence of education and interim examinations	9
Article 3.5 Types of interim examinations	9
Article 3.6 Exemptions	10
Article 3.7 Term of validity for successfully completed interim examinations	11
Article 3.8 Elective programmes	11
<i>Section 4. Assessment</i>	<i>11</i>
Article 4.1 Frequency of interim examinations	11
Article 4.2 Registration for interim examinations	11
Article 4.3 Determination of interim examination results	11
Article 4.4. Publication of interim examination results	12
Article 4.5 Right of inspection and review	12
Article 4.6 Determination of final examination results	13
<i>Section 5. Study progress, academic counselling, study advice and evaluation of education</i>	<i>13</i>
Article 5.1 Study progress and academic counselling	13
Article 5.2 Method of evaluating education	13
PART III PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC PART	14
<i>Section 6. Admission to the study programme and education</i>	<i>14</i>
Article 6.1 Admission requirements	14
Article 6.2 Pre-Master's programme of study	14
<i>Section 7. Structure and design</i>	<i>14</i>

Article 7.1 Programme-specific learning outcomes	14
Article 7.2 Composition of the study programme	16
Article 7.3 Definition of final project	16
PART IV FINAL PROVISIONS	17
<i>Section 9. Final provisions</i>	17
Article 9.1 Safety net scheme and hardship clause	17
Article 9.2 Establishment and amendments	17
Article 9.3 Entry into force	17
Article 9.4 Publication	17
Appendix 1: Guideline for Awarding Distinctions.....	18
Appendix 2: Fraud Regulations	19

PART I GENERAL PROVISIONS MASTER

SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1.1 APPLICABILITY OF THE REGULATIONS

1. These Education and Examination Regulations (hereinafter: EER) apply to the Master's programmes (the study programme in which the student is enrolled, is hereinafter referred to as: the study programme), including all associated educational units, of the Faculty of Science. These regulations outline the applicable procedures, rights and obligations for teaching, interim examinations and final examinations.
2. The present regulations apply to all students enrolled in the study programme in the 2025-2026 academic year. Students who enrolled in the study programme before 1 September 2016 and have been continuously enrolled in this study programme may appeal to the regulations that were active at the time of their initial enrolment in the study programme.
3. Educational units that are included in the programme-specific part of these regulations as part of the study programme are subject to the rules outlined in these regulations. Educational units offered by the Faculty of Science are always subject to the regulations included in at least one of the EERs of the Faculty of Science.
4. The Faculty offers the following 120 EC Master's programmes:
 - a. Biology
 - b. Computing Science
 - c. Science Education
 - d. Mathematics
 - e. Medical Biology
 - f. Molecular Sciences
 - g. Physics and Astronomy
 - h. Science for Sustainability
5. The Faculty offers the following 60 EC Master's programmes:
 - a. Information Sciences
6. The study programmes are offered exclusively as full-time programmes.

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 guideline and regulations. The guideline and regulations can be found in the appendix:
 - a. Appendix 1: Guideline for Awarding Distinctions
 - b. Appendix 2: Fraud Regulations

ARTICLE 1.3 DEFINITIONS

1. The terms used in these regulations that also appear in the Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het Hoger onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk onderzoek, hereinafter: 'the Act') have the same meaning as that assigned to them by the Act.
2. Apart from the terms referred to in paragraph 1, the terms below are understood to have the following meanings:
 - a. **Study programme:** the Master's programme, as referred to in Article 7.3a, paragraph 1 of the Act.
 - b. **Educational unit:** a study programme is a coherent set of educational units; see Article 7.3, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Act. In practice, an educational unit is also referred to as a 'course'.
 - c. **Student:** a person enrolled at Radboud University to take educational units and/or to take interim examinations and the final examination of a study 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, paragraph 2 under (d) of the Act.
 - f. **Course objective:** a general description of the knowledge, understanding and/or skills the student must possess after completing an educational unit.
 - g. **Interim examination:** an examination testing the knowledge, understanding or skills of the student in relation to a certain educational unit, as well as the assessment of the results of this examination, which is administered by at least one examiner designated by the Examination Board as referred to in Article 7.10, paragraph 1 of the Act.
 - h. **Partial examination:** an examination testing the knowledge, understanding or skills of the student in relation to a certain educational unit, which in conjunction with one or more other partial examinations constitute the interim examination. In these regulations, when the term 'interim examination' is used, this can also be read as 'partial examination', unless explicitly indicated otherwise.
 - i. **Resit:** an opportunity to retake an interim examination as referred to in Article 7.10, paragraph 1 of the Act. In these regulations, when the term 'interim examination' is used, this can also be read as 'resit', unless explicitly indicated otherwise.
 - j. **Final examination:** an assessment, on the basis of which the Examination Board determines whether the Master's examination, as defined in the programme-specific part of these regulations, has been completed successfully.
 - k. **Final project:** the final project is an academic proof of competence in the specific field of study of the study programme.
 - l. **Fraud:** any behaviour or negligence on the part of the student that, by its nature, is directed toward making it partly or entirely impossible to properly assess the knowledge, understanding and skills of the student or of another student.
 - m. **Examination Board:** the examination board of a study programme, established in accordance with Article 7.12 of the Act. See also the Radboud University Structure Regulations.
 - n. **Examiner:** the person designated by the Examination Board to administer the interim examinations, in accordance with Article 7.12c of the Act.
 - o. **Distinction:** a distinction awarded by the Examination Board that indicates that a student has completed the study programme with exceptional success. There are two distinctions: cum laude and summa cum laude.
 - p. **EC:** European Credits, i.e. the study load unit in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System.

- q. **Specialisation:** a coherent programme within the Master's programme that has been approved as such by the Faculty Board.
- r. **Working day:** Mondays to Fridays, with the exception of official holidays and any other days designated by Radboud University as collective holidays.
- s. **Course catalogue:** catalogue listing the educational units and minors associated with the study programmes. The catalogue provides programme-specific information about all Radboud University study programmes.
- t. **University:** Radboud University.
- u. **Faculty:** the Faculty of Science of Radboud University.
- v. **Education Institute:** the organisational unit responsible for the study programme.
- w. **Programme Director:** person responsible for managing the study programme. In these regulations, where the term 'programme director' is used, this can also be read as 'programme coordinator'.
- x. **Free elective:** a freely-selected, academic, assessable educational unit chosen from the options offered within the study programme.
- y. **Rules and Regulations:** regulations in which the Examination Board sets out how it works in accordance with these regulations.

PART II GENERAL PART

SECTION 2. ADMISSION TO THE STUDY PROGRAMME AND EDUCATION

ARTICLE 2.1 ADMISSION AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. The Admissions Office decides on admission on behalf of the Dean.
2. The general admission requirements are included in the [Registration Regulations for the 2025-2026 academic year](#). The programme-specific part of these regulations lists the programme-specific admission requirements.

ARTICLE 2.2 LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

1. The Faculty offers study programmes in Dutch or in English. A Dutch-taught study programme may include English-taught educational units. An English-taught study programme may include Dutch-taught educational units. The language of instruction of the study programme is specified in the programme-specific part of these regulations.
2. To participate in a Dutch-taught study programme, the student must be able to provide proof of sufficient Dutch language proficiency. Qualifications and certificates that meet the Dutch language requirements can be found on the [website of Radboud University](#).
3. To participate in an English-taught study programme, the student must be able to provide proof of sufficient English language proficiency. Qualifications and certificates that meet the English language requirements can be found on the [website of Radboud University](#).
 - a. For the following certificates, the test results listed below are required:
 - TOEFL IBT, score ≥ 90 + sub-score ≥ 22 + writing sub-score ≥ 25
 - IELTS Academic, score ≥ 6.5 + sub-score ≥ 6.0 + writing sub-score ≥ 6.5
 - Cambridge Certificate C1 Advanced: general minimum score 176, minimum component score 169, minimum writing component score 176
 - Cambridge Certificate C2 Proficiency, general minimum score 180, minimum component score 169, minimum writing component score 176
4. A student who does not meet the requirements described above but can otherwise demonstrate sufficient language proficiency may submit a request for exemption from the language requirement to the Admissions Office, which will decide on the matter on behalf of the Dean.

SECTION 3. STRUCTURE AND DESIGN

ARTICLE 3.1 FINAL EXAMINATION, DEGREE AND DISTINCTIONS

1. A Master's programme is concluded with a Master's examination.
2. Students who pass the study programme's Master's examination will be awarded a Master of Science degree. The Master's examination is considered to have been successfully completed if a valid and satisfactory interim examination result has been obtained for all compulsory educational units, supplemented by elective educational units, as specified in the programme-specific part of these regulations. The Examination Board may conduct an additional investigation into the knowledge, understanding and skills of the candidate (see Article 7.10, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Act).
3. The degree referred to in paragraph 2 is awarded exclusively if the student has earned at least half of the EC required for their study programme at this University.

4. The Examination Board can award distinctions to students who have successfully passed the final examination of the study programme. The rules for awarding distinctions can be found in the Guideline for Awarding Distinctions in the appendix.

ARTICLE 3.2 GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

The study programme has the following learning outcomes for students:

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

ARTICLE 3.3 CURRICULUM

1. The programme-specific part of these regulations lists and describes all of the educational units that jointly comprise the study programme.
2. For each educational unit, the Programme Director is responsible for ensuring that the following information is included in the course catalogue for the academic year corresponding to these regulations prior to the adoption of these regulations:
 - a. a description of the educational unit
 - b. the course objectives
 - c. any admission requirements
 - d. the manner in which interim examinations are administered
 - e. how the results of an interim examination are determined, taking into account the weighting of any partial examinations
 - f. scheduling of partial or interim examinations
 - g. if relevant, the limited validity of partial examinations
 - h. any capacity restrictions
3. Contrary to the provisions of Article 3.3, paragraph 2, the information from Article 3.3, paragraph 2 under (a), (c), (e), and (f) of the educational units that are completed in the third and fourth periods may still be amended by the Programme Director up until the start of the second period.
4. Students can register for an educational unit up until 11:59 p.m. on the day prior to a period of four weeks before the start of the period in which the educational unit starts. For educational units in the first period, students can register until the end of the first week of teaching.
5. For educational units with a capacity restriction as referred to in Article 3.3, paragraph 2 under (h), if the number of enrolments exceeds capacity, the following procedure will be followed: participants will be admitted in order of enrolment. Students who cannot be admitted due to capacity restrictions will also be placed on a waiting list in order of enrolment. Notwithstanding the above provisions, the Programme Director can decide otherwise; the procedure that applies in that case must be included in the course catalogue for the academic year corresponding to these regulations prior to the adoption of these regulations. A capacity restriction may not apply to students for whom the educational unit is compulsory.
6. If students are granted admission to an educational unit, they are admitted to all components of the unit in question, including the interim examination.
7. Some modes of instruction have attendance/participation requirements. Attendance or participation can only be made compulsory if attendance is required to meet one or more of the course objectives. The attendance/participation requirement must be listed in the course catalogue under the relevant educational unit.

8. All Faculty of Science Master's programmes, with the exception of Information Sciences and Science for Sustainability, offer research specialisations and societal specialisations. The specialisations are described in the programme-specific part of these regulations.
9. The educational units of the nominal space of the study programme may not have any substantial substantive overlap.
10. The study programme includes a free elective space with a study load of 6 EC.
11. The study programme includes an educational unit of a philosophical nature with a minimum study load of 3 EC.
12. The study programme includes a component for the purpose of reflecting on study progress and planning, and professional orientation with a study load of 1, 2, or 3 EC. This component can be a stand-alone educational unit or integrated into subject-specific educational units. In the latter case, assessment must take the form of one or more partial examinations.
13. The study programme includes an individual final project. The programme-specific part of these regulations lists the partial or interim examinations that together represent the final project, and their scope in EC.
14. The student must present their compiled Master's programme to the Examination Board for approval no later than three months before the expected examination date. The Examination Board will reach a decision within 20 working days of receiving the submitted programme.
15. Extracurricular educational units are allowed if, in the opinion of the Examination Board, the course is testable at an academic level.
16. If a student chooses educational units within the programme that result in a total study load exceeding 120 EC or 60 EC respectively, the excess educational units will be classified as extracurricular. This does not apply if the study load of such an educational unit would have to be split up. Extracurricular educational units do not count towards the determination of the distinction.
17. If a student can choose different educational units within the curriculum, and the student has passed more than one of these educational units, the student can decide which educational units will count toward their distinction if one or more of the educational units are extracurricular.

ARTICLE 3.4 SEQUENCE OF EDUCATION AND INTERIM EXAMINATIONS

1. The programme-specific part of these regulations may contain further requirements for the order in which educational units and the accompanying interim examinations may be taken.

ARTICLE 3.5 TYPES OF INTERIM EXAMINATIONS

1. Educational units are concluded by an interim examination. Interim examinations may comprise several partial examinations. Only partial examinations and interim examinations can be used to determine a final grade.
2. Partial examinations and interim examinations may consist of the following assessment forms:
 - a. Written test and/or
 - b. Oral test and/or
 - c. Presentation and/or
 - d. Skills test and/or
 - e. The creation of a discipline-specific product and/or text.
3. Contrary to the provisions of Article 3.3, paragraph 2 under (d) and at the request of the student or the examiner, the Examination Board may allow an interim examination to be taken in an alternative form, if this is not to the detriment of the student.

4. The course materials offered provide the student with insight into the manner in which, as well as the form in which the learning objectives will be assessed.
5. For partial and interim examinations as referred to in paragraph 2 under (a), information concerning the format of the partial or interim examination will be provided no later than 10 working days before the day on which the partial or interim examination concerned is administered. In this context, the following must be specified:
 - a. The type of questions: open and/or closed questions
 - b. Permitted aids and resources
 - c. Application of methods whereby points are deducted, such as 'guess correction'
6. For partial and interim examinations as referred to in paragraph 2, under (c), (d), and (e), the assessment criteria must be made available with the assignment, or otherwise communicated to the student.
7. Students with functional impairments have the opportunity to take interim examinations in a manner appropriately suited to their impairment. The Examination Board shall, if necessary, seek expert advice prior to reaching a decision on the matter. If a student requires certain facilities for their interim examinations, they must request these from the Education and Examination Administration of the Faculty no later than two weeks before the interim examination.
8. During oral examinations, no more than one person is tested at a time, unless the Examination Board decides otherwise.
9. Oral examinations are not public, unless the Examination Board has deemed otherwise in exceptional cases. Oral examinations are recorded, or a second examiner or designated observer is present.

ARTICLE 3.6 EXEMPTIONS

1. At the request of the student and having heard the examiner involved, the Examination Board may exempt the student, either partially or fully, from sitting for an interim examination if the student:
 - a. Has completed an educational unit at a research university or university of applied sciences (HBO) that is equivalent in content and level, or
 - b. Demonstrates that they have adequate knowledge and skills regarding the educational unit in question as a result of relevant work or professional experience.
2. Any generic exemptions in the study programme are included in the programme-specific part of these regulations.
3. A course can only be registered with a grade on the diploma for one study programme. If a course is also part of another examination programme, this course will be listed as an exemption on one of the two diplomas.
4. For students who first enrolled on or after 1 September 2017, the number of exemptions as referred to in paragraph 1 may not exceed one quarter of the total study load of the study programme expressed in EC.
5. All results achieved before the date of initial enrolment for a study programme are listed as exemptions on the diploma for that study programme. These exemptions do not count towards the EC as stated in paragraph 4 if the courses are only included in one examination programme.
6. Nor is it possible to obtain an exemption for the free elective space based on a Bachelor's educational unit that was not completed during the Master's programme.
7. Exemptions as referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 cannot be granted for final projects.
8. If, after completing two Master's programmes, a student wishes to distribute the exemptions in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 across the two diplomas, they must submit an examination application for both study programmes at the same time.

ARTICLE 3.7 TERM OF VALIDITY FOR SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED INTERIM EXAMINATIONS

1. Successfully completed interim examinations are valid indefinitely.
2. Successfully completed partial examinations are valid indefinitely, unless specified otherwise in the course catalogue (see Article 3.3, paragraph 2, under (g)), but at least until the end of the academic year in which they were completed.
3. A successfully passed interim examination may be taken again. If a student resits an interim examination, in derogation from paragraph 1, the last result obtained always applies.

ARTICLE 3.8 ELECTIVE PROGRAMMES

The Examination Board of the study programme decides about requests for authorisation to follow an elective programme as referred to in Article 7.3j of the Act. The Examination Board verifies whether the elective programme fits within the domain of the study programme, whether it is sufficiently cohesive, and whether the level is adequate in the context of the study programme's learning outcomes. Further requirements to this end may be set out in the programme-specific part of these regulations.

SECTION 4. ASSESSMENT

ARTICLE 4.1 FREQUENCY OF INTERIM EXAMINATIONS

1. For each educational unit, there are at least two interim examination opportunities per academic year.
2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, there may in some cases only be one opportunity to take an interim examination or partial examination. The Programme Director is responsible for ensuring that this is included in the course catalogue for the academic year corresponding to these regulations prior to the adoption of these regulations.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, if an educational unit is offered for the last time in a particular academic year, there will be at least one other opportunity to take an interim examination for this educational unit in the following academic year.
4. If an educational unit is not offered in a particular academic year, the opportunity to take the corresponding interim 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 INTERIM EXAMINATIONS

1. Students can register for an interim examination up until 11:59 p.m. on the day prior to a period of five working days before the date of the interim examination. Registration is not possible after this, unless the head of the Education Centre decides otherwise in exceptional cases and on behalf of the Dean.

ARTICLE 4.3 DETERMINATION OF INTERIM EXAMINATION RESULTS

1. The examiner determines the result of an interim examination on one of the following result scales:
 - a. A grade on a scale from 1 (lowest possible grade) to 10 (the highest possible grade), whereby only the following final grades can be awarded: 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 3.5, 4, 4.5, 5, 6, 6.5, 7, 7.5, 8, 8.5, 9, 9.5, 10. A final grade of 6 or higher means that the educational unit has been successfully completed (pass). Grades that are not one of the permitted final grades must be rounded to the nearest permitted final grade. A grade that falls exactly between two permitted final grades must be rounded up.

- b. A non-numerical result from the following list: 'pass' (voldaan, VD), 'fail' (niet voldaan, NVD), 'satisfactory' (voldoende, VLD), 'unsatisfactory' (onvoldoende, ONV), 'good' (goed, G), 'participated' (deelgenomen, D) and 'did not participate' (niet deelgenomen, ND), whereby a result of 'VD', 'VLD', 'G' or 'D' means that the educational unit has been successfully completed.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 under (a), partial examinations may also be graded to one decimal point on a scale of 1 to 10.

ARTICLE 4.4. PUBLICATION OF INTERIM EXAMINATION RESULTS

1. The examiner determines the result of an interim examination within 15 working days of the date the interim examination was administered. Here, the precondition applies that there must be at least 10 working days between the date of the publication of the result in OSIRIS and the date of the resit.
2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, for interim examinations in the fourth period, the examiner shall determine the results of the examination no later than nine days before the date of the resit. The period between the interim examination and the resit is always at least 14 working days. This gives the examiner five working days to establish the result.
3. Contrary to the provisions of paragraph 1, the examiner shall determine the result of an oral examination within a maximum of five working days of the date it was administered, such that the student is given the opportunity to graduate in the current academic year.
4. In exceptional cases, the Examination Board may extend the term in which the result must be determined as referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 by a maximum of 10 working days. This is not possible for the interim examinations in the fourth period. The lecturer will inform students of this extension.
5. The examiner determines the result of the final project within 15 working days after all products and assessments have been completed and submitted according to the method specified in the course catalogue.
6. In the statement concerning the result of an interim examination, the student is also informed of their right to inspection, as referred to in Article 4.5, as well as the right to appeal to the Examination Appeals Board.
7. Students may appeal an interim examination result to the Examination Appeals Board within six weeks after the date of publication of the examination result in question.

ARTICLE 4.5 RIGHT OF INSPECTION AND REVIEW

1. Students are given the opportunity to view their graded work within 30 working days of the publication of the results of a written interim examination. The student can submit a request to this end to the examiner. The student may upon request also be provided with a copy of their graded work where 'open' questions are concerned. The inspection must take place at least five working days before the resit. For interim examinations in the fourth period, this is possible until one working day before the resit.
2. During the period referred to in paragraph 1, 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 assessment was based.
3. If the student demonstrates that they are or were unable to attend an inspection due to circumstances outside their control, they may ask the Examination Board to allow them another opportunity to inspect the examination, if possible within the period referred to in paragraph 1.
4. The retention period for partial and interim examinations is:
 - Written partial and interim examinations on paper: two years (retained by the examiner)
 - Digital written partial and interim examinations: two years (retained in the assessment software)
 - Final project: seven years (retained in OSIRIS)

ARTICLE 4.6 DETERMINATION OF FINAL EXAMINATION RESULTS

1. Students are given the opportunity to take the final examination once they have successfully completed all educational units, as described in Article 3.3, paragraph 14.
2. There is at least one final examination date every month.
3. The Examination Board will determine the result of the final examination, as well as the rules for the manner in which the result of the examination is determined. The result is determined within five weeks following the application. If the final examination takes place in July, the results will be determined no later than 31 August. Where needed due to entry requirements for a subsequent study programme or the acceptance of a job, a statement can be released within five working days indicating that the student has met the requirements of the final examination. This is only possible if the student has met the requirement specified in paragraph 1.
4. Before the Examination Board determines the result of the final examination, they may evaluate and assess the student's knowledge on one or more educational units or aspects of the study programme, if and to the degree to which this is justified by the results of the relevant interim examinations.

SECTION 5. STUDY PROGRESS, ACADEMIC COUNSELLING, STUDY ADVICE AND EVALUATION OF EDUCATION

ARTICLE 5.1 STUDY PROGRESS AND ACADEMIC COUNSELLING

1. The Dean is responsible for recording study results in such a way that the Education and Examination Administration can, upon request, and within a reasonable time period, provide every student with an overview of their study results up to that moment.
2. The Dean is responsible for providing adequate academic counselling.

ARTICLE 5.2 METHOD OF EVALUATING EDUCATION

In compliance with the quality assurance system of the University as described in the Radboud University Quality Assurance Manual, the Dean shall ensure that the education of the study programmes is evaluated systematically.

PART III PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC PART

SECTION 6. ADMISSION TO THE STUDY PROGRAMME AND EDUCATION

ARTICLE 6.1 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following students are admissible to the study programme:

1. Students who have successfully completed the final examination of the Bachelor's programme in 1) Biology, 2) Chemistry, 3) Physics and Astronomy, 4) Science, or 5) Molecular Life Sciences at Radboud University with at least 15 EC worth of relevant management and/or organisational sciences courses at Bachelor's level.
2. Students who have successfully completed the final examination of the Bachelor's programme in 1) Business Administration, 2) Public Administration, 3) Economics, 4) Geography, Spatial Planning, and Environment, or 5) Political Science at Radboud University with at least 15 EC worth of relevant exact science courses at Bachelor's level.
3. Students who are in possession of a qualification that is at least equivalent to the qualification referred to in paragraph 6.1 under 1 or paragraph 6.1 under 2 with at least 15 EC worth of the relevant courses listed.
4. Students who have in the opinion of the Examination Board otherwise demonstrated their suitability for participation in the study programme.

ARTICLE 6.2 PRE-MASTER'S PROGRAMME OF STUDY

Students who have earned a qualification in a relevant exact sciences and/or social sciences field from a university of applied sciences, including Business Administration, Public Administration, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Spatial Development, Applied Biology, or Water Management, and who have completed the pre-Master's programme in Science for Sustainability set for them will also be admitted to the study programme. The Pre-Master's is a tailor-made of maximum 60 EC.

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 study programme aims to achieve the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge and insight

1. Graduates have an overview of the most important current challenges in the field of environmental sustainability, how these challenges are interrelated, the underlying socio-ecological processes, and the transition pathways to address these challenges.
2. Within the fields of exact sciences, management and organisational sciences, graduates have detailed knowledge and insight into (1) the socio-ecological processes underlying at least one specific environmental sustainability challenge, and/or (2) at least one specific methodological challenge in the field of environmental sustainability.

3. Graduates have an overview of current interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches and qualitative and quantitative modelling and other methods for environmental sustainability assessment, transformative governance, and organisational and systemic change.

Applying knowledge and insight

4. Graduates can justify their choice of research topic based on its societal and scientific relevance, collect and analyse scientific information in a critical and responsible manner, and select, apply and reflect on appropriate scientific research methods in order to contribute to environmental sustainability challenges.
5. Graduates can apply interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to integrate knowledge from different sources into qualitative and quantitative models for describing, analysing, and addressing environmental sustainability challenges.
6. Graduates can contribute to the implementation of sustainability transitions in collaboration with academic and non-academic partners, such as NGOs, governments, businesses, and citizens.

Making judgements

7. Graduates can critically reflect on analyses of sustainability challenges, taking into account different interpretations of sustainability and associated world views, and they can critically assess proposed solutions to environmental sustainability challenges.
8. Graduates can articulate and evaluate the contribution of their own research results to environmental sustainability challenges in relation to other contributions and proposed solutions.
9. Graduates can reflect on ethical aspects of the research process (co-creation) and its outcomes, and incorporate these into decision-making processes.

Communication

10. Graduates can communicate effectively in disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary environments.
11. Graduates can integrate uncertainties and critical perspectives into their communication with a wide audience of both scientists and non-scientists. This includes bridging different ways of thinking and language use between disciplines and world views.

Learning skills

12. Graduates can reflect on their lifelong learning process, monitor and adjust it, while contributing to the sustainable development of society, taking into account their personal ambitions and circumstances, as well as scientific and societal developments.
13. Graduates can shape their personal career as a navigator of sustainability transitions, both within and outside academia.

ARTICLE 7.2 COMPOSITION OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME

THE MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL UNITS:

1. MANDATORY EDUCATIONAL UNITS (63 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC
NWI-SFS011	Thinking about sustainability	6
MAN-MPL022	Institutional perspectives: Territorial governance by state, market and civil society	6
NWI-SFS013	Transdisciplinarity foundations	3
NWI-SFS021	System dynamics	6
NWI-SFS022	Quantifying environmental sustainability	6
NWI-SFS023	Transdisciplinary methodologies	3
NWI-SFS031	Integrated environmental modelling	6
NWI-SFS032	Strategy, innovation & entrepreneurship	6
NWI-SFS033	Transdisciplinarity in practice I	3
NWI-SFS041	Framing (non)sustainable futures	6
NWI-SFS042	Research skills	6
NWI-SFS043	Transdisciplinarity in practice II	3
NWI-SFS051	Personal and professional development	3

The Transdisciplinarity Foundations course (NWI-SFS013, 3EC) has a philosophical character. Throughout the programme, attention is devoted to the personal and professional development of students, culminating in the Personal and Professional Development course (NWI-SFS051, 3EC).

2. LIMITED CHOICE ELECTIVES (15 EC)

The limited choice consists of a number of electives (15 EC) that students can use to acquire the in-depth knowledge and skills required for their thesis. Students are free to choose their own courses, provided they can demonstrate that their course selection will help them to carry out the research required for their thesis.

3. THESIS (42 EC)

There are 42 EC available for the graduation thesis (NWI-SFS052).

ARTICLE 7.3 DEFINITION OF FINAL PROJECT

The final project consists of the graduation thesis (NWI-SFS052, 42 EC).

PART IV FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 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 final decision lies with the Dean. If this concerns an educational unit in which the Dean is involved, the Vice Dean responsible for education will decide.
2. In all cases in which these regulations may result in an unreasonable or unfair situation for individual students, the Examination Board or the Dean is authorised to make an exception to the provisions in these regulations. Unless this concerns an educational unit in which the Dean is involved, in which case the Vice Dean responsible for education is authorised to do so instead of the Dean.

ARTICLE 9.2 ESTABLISHMENT AND AMENDMENTS

1. Without prejudice to the provisions in Article 7 of the Structure Regulations, these regulations are established or amended by the Dean following advice from the programme committees and approval by the Joint Assembly of the Faculty.
2. An amendment to these regulations applies in the current academic year, unless this would disproportionately damage the interests of the student.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, the Dean is authorised to drop elective educational units from the curriculum should the circumstances be deemed impossible for offering these educational units.

ARTICLE 9.3 ENTRY INTO FORCE

These regulations enter into force on 1 September 2025.

ARTICLE 9.4 PUBLICATION

The Dean is responsible for ensuring that these regulations and any amendments thereto are published in an appropriate manner via the [Radboud University website](#).

As established by the Dean on 15 July 2025.

APPENDIX 1: GUIDELINE FOR AWARDING DISTINCTIONS¹

- a. With due observance of the provisions set out in this Article, the Examination Board is responsible for deciding whether a distinction should be awarded and if so, which distinction.
- b. The distinction is calculated on the basis of all units of the examination programme for which a grade has been awarded on a scale from 1 to 10, with the exception of extracurricular units.
- c. The number of EC of the unit referred to in paragraph b shall serve as the weighting factor for the calculation of the weighted average result, unless stipulated otherwise in the programme-specific part of the EER.
- d. The distinction 'cum laude' shall be awarded if the weighted average result of the final assessment of the units referred to in paragraph b is equal to or higher than 8.0.

Both the EC-weighted average of the assessments of all the educational units of the examination with a study load of **less than 20 EC** and the EC-weighted averages of the assessments of the educational units of the examination with a study load **equal to or more than 20 EC** must be at least equal to 8.0 before any rounding off.

- e. The distinction 'summa cum laude' shall be awarded if the weighted average result of the final assessment of the units referred to in paragraph b is equal to or more than 9.0.

Both the EC-weighted average of the assessments of all the educational units of the examination with a study load of **less than 20 EC** and the EC-weighted averages of the assessments of the educational units of the examination with a study load **equal to or more than 20 EC** must be at least equal to 9.0 before any rounding off.

- f. The distinction shall not be awarded if more than 10% of the total study load of the examination programme (consisting of one or more educational units) has been resat, unless the Examination Board decides otherwise, stating their reasons for this decision.
- g. The distinction shall not be awarded if interim examinations have been resat more than once, unless the Examination Board decides otherwise, stating their reasons for this decision.
- h. The distinction shall not be awarded if the scope of the granted exemptions constitutes more than 50% of the programme, taking into account any further restrictions to the permitted number of exemptions as established in the EER.
- i. The distinction shall not be awarded if fraud was discovered in one of the educational units of the examination programme.

¹ In this guideline, 'unit' refers to an educational unit as referred to in Article 7.3, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Act.

APPENDIX 2: FRAUD REGULATIONS

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 1. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF THE REGULATIONS

The Dean of the Radboud University Faculty of Science has drawn up the following regulations with a view to preventing fraud during interim and final examinations as referred to in Article 7.12b of the Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het Hoger onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk onderzoek, hereinafter: 'the Act') and that are part of the teaching and examinations of the study programmes offered by the Radboud University Faculty of Science.

ARTICLE 2. DEFINITIONS

The terms used in these regulations – in so far as these terms also appear in the Act or the Education and Examination Regulations of the study programme (hereinafter: the EER) – have the same meaning as that given to them in the Act and the EER.

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF FRAUD, PROCEDURE AND SANCTIONS

ARTICLE 3. DEFINITION OF FRAUD

1. At Radboud University, fraud is understood to mean any act or omission by a student which, by its nature, is intended to render the proper assessment of the knowledge, understanding and skills of that student or another student fully or partially impossible.
2. Fraud is understood to mean in any case:
 - a. Fraud when taking written interim and final examinations, including:
 - i. Having access to unauthorised aids as referred to in the House Rules for Radboud University Examination Rooms
 - ii. Looking at the work of others or exchanging information
 - iii. Impersonating someone else or allowing someone else to impersonate oneself during an interim or final examination
 - b. Committing fraud when writing theses or other papers, or completing assignments, including:
 - i. Plagiarism in the sense of using or copying someone else's texts, data or ideas without complete and correct references to sources, plagiarism in the sense of copying the work of another student and presenting this as one's own work, and other specifically academic forms of plagiarism
 - ii. The fabrication and/or falsification of research data
 - iii. The submission of a thesis or other paper that has been written by someone else
 - c. Other fraud during assessment and examination, including:
 - i. Taking possession of assignments, answer keys and the like, prior to the time the interim or final examination takes place
 - ii. Changing answers to questions on an interim or final examination after it has been submitted for assessment
 - iii. Providing incorrect information when requesting an exemption, an extension of the validity period, and other similar requests regarding an interim or final examination
3. Any attempt at fraud will also be considered fraud in the sense of these regulations.

ARTICLE 4. PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING FRAUD

1. In the event that fraud is suspected, the Examination Board or the examiner will immediately inform the student. If fraud is suspected while an interim or final examination is being administered, the Examination Board or the examiner will provide the student with the opportunity to complete the interim or final examination.
2. The Examination Board or the examiner may order the student to hand over the materials involved in the suspicion of fraud.
3. For the application of the provisions in paragraphs 1 and 2, 'examiner' is also understood to mean the invigilator or another Radboud University staff member.
4. The Examination Board or the examiner will draw up a report of the suspected fraud. If the examiner draws up the report, the examiner will send it to the Examination Board immediately.
5. The Examination Board will immediately make the report referred to in paragraph 4 available to the student and will launch an investigation into the matter. The Examination Board will provide the student with the opportunity to respond to the report in writing. The Examination Board will hear both the examiner and the student.
6. Within four weeks of making the report available to the student, the Examination Board will determine whether there is evidence of fraud. The Examination Board will inform both the student and the examiner of its decision in writing. The period of four weeks may be extended by two weeks.

ARTICLE 5. REMEDIAL MEASURES

If the Examination Board determines that fraud has been committed:

- a. The Examination Board will declare that the relevant interim or final examination taken by the student (or students) in question is considered invalid, and
- b. It will document the identification of fraud and, if applicable, the sanctions imposed in the student's file.

ARTICLE 6. SANCTIONS

1. If the Examination Board determines that fraud has been committed, it may:
 - a. Decide that the student is no longer allowed to sit one or more interim or final examinations during a period to be defined by the Examination Board, being no longer than one year.
 - b. Make a recommendation to the Manager and Faculty Programme Director of the Honours Academy that the student should not be admitted to the honours programme of the University or the Faculty, or recommend that the student's participation in the honours programme of the University or the Faculty be terminated.
2. If the Examination Board establishes that serious fraud has been committed:
 - a. The Examination Board may recommend to the Executive Board that the student's enrolment in a study programme be definitively terminated
 - b. The Executive Board may definitively terminate the student's enrolment in a study programme at the recommendation of the Examination Board.
3. As described in the Guideline for Awarding Distinctions, a distinction will not be awarded if fraud has been detected in one or more of the educational units of the examination programme as a whole.
4. The sanctions as specified in this provision will be imposed as from the day following the date on which the student has been informed of the decision to impose the sanctions.

SECTION 3. FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 7. DECISIONS AND LEGAL PROTECTION

1. Decisions on the basis of these regulations may be sent to the student via OSIRIS and/or by email.
 2. For decisions based on these regulations, the student is permitted to appeal the relevant decision with the Examination Appeals Board (EAB) within six weeks of the decision date.
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ARTICLE 8. ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS

1. These regulations are adopted and amended by the Dean.
 2. Where the content of these regulations relates to duties and powers of the Examination Board of the study programme, that content must also be ratified by that Examination Board.
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ARTICLE 9. ENTRY INTO FORCE

These regulations enter into force on 1 September 2025. On that date, these regulations will replace any previous regulations.

ARTICLE 10. PUBLICATION

1. The Dean is responsible for publishing these regulations and for appropriately disclosing any amendments thereto.
2. For the purpose of proper and clear provision of information to students and prospective students, the Dean will include these regulations as an appendix to the EER.

As established by the Dean on 15 July 2025 and ratified by the Examination Board on 15 July 2025.