

# Reading Guide Education and Examination Regulations (EER)

*The EER Reading Guide is a document for students that helps make the content of an EER (Education and Examination Regulations) more understandable. No rights can be derived from the reading guide.*

The EER is the place where much of the formal side of your study is laid out, so if you encounter problems, it's often the first place to look. The EER consists of two parts: a general section containing faculty-wide regulations, and a programme-specific section for each degree program. The general section applies to all FoS (Faculty of Science) students, while the programme-specific section is useful for questions related to your specific programme.

## What's in the general section of the OER?

The general section contains faculty-wide regulations for FNWI. It includes:

- Admission requirements
- General structure and design of all programmes
- Rules about assessments
- For bachelor's programmes: the Binding Study Advice (BSA)

More rules about examinations can be found in the *Rules and Guidelines of the Examination Boards*.

Although the general section applies to all programmes, some articles allow for further interpretation by individual programmes. These are elaborated in the programme-specific section.

## What's in the programme-specific section of the OER?

Programme regulations are found in the programme-specific section. This includes:

- Final qualifications of the programme
- Curriculum structure

For course-specific information such as prerequisites, attendance requirements, and exam formats, please refer to the Education Catalogue.

## What's in the Course Catalogue?

The OER sometimes refers to the Course Catalogue (formerly called the Study Guide). It's a webpage where you can find all information about specific courses. You can access it here: [OSIRIS Student Mobile](#).

The Course Catalogue may elaborate on:

- Rules for mandatory workgroups
- Which assignments count towards your final grade

All details about a course are binding only for that specific course. If something happens within a course that isn't covered in the Course Catalogue or the programme-specific section of the OER—or if the

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Catalogue contradicts the OER and it affects you—first contact the course coordinator. If that doesn't help, you can always reach out to the study adviser or the Faculty Student Council (fsr@science.ru.nl).

## Didn't meet the BSA requirements? [Applicable only to bachelor students]

If you didn't earn enough credits to start your second year or meet the BSA requirements, it's wise to consult the EER. Articles 5.1, 5.2, and Appendix 3 (*'Guideline and Regulation for First-Year Study Advice'*) cover general rules and exceptions.

Personal circumstances, such as health issues, may be grounds for the BSA committee to refrain from issuing a negative BSA, as can involvement in student governance. It's advisable to contact the study adviser early if you're struggling with your studies or BSA for any reason. That way, a plan can be made and you'll know where you stand sooner.

## Need an exception?

Most rules are reasonable, but they can hit some students hard. Teachers and programme coordinators understand this and may be willing to make exceptions. These aren't listed in the rules themselves but are covered under the hardship clause, Article 9.1 of the OER. If an exception is granted, it's **wise to get it confirmed in writing or via email** to avoid future complications. If you're unsure who to approach, the study adviser can help.

## Can't find your issue in the OER?

Not every situation is described in the EER, but that doesn't mean you don't have rights or responsibilities. Personal issues with specific courses are often best resolved directly with the instructor, without involving the EER. For more serious problems, contact the study adviser, who can help you reach the programme director or examination board.

The examination board checks whether exams were properly administered and whether a student meets the requirements for graduating with honours. If you believe you unfairly failed an exam, the examination board will assess the situation.

Unsure about your issue? Feel free to visit the Faculty Student Council. This applies to problems with both the EER and the Course Catalogue.