

# Rules and Regulations master Psychology 2025-2026

Rules and Regulations for the master Psychology 2025-2026, as referred to in Article 7.12b, paragraph 1, sub b, of the Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek, WHW)

These Rules and Regulations have been determined by the Board of Examiners of the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, Maastricht University, on 28 August 2025.



# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Rules	and	Regulations Master Psychology 2025-2026	. 2
Article		Scope of the Rules and Regulations	
Article	2	Definitions	. 2
Article	3	Board of Examiners	. 2
Article	4	Examiners	. 3
Article	5	Flexible programme	. 4
Article	6	Grades, guessing correction and rounding	. 5
Article	7	Proof of having passed a course, practical training or elective	. 5
Article	8	Attendance obligation	. 6
Article	9	Grade point average	. 6
Article	10	Cum laude and summa cum laude distinction	. 7
Article	11	Exemptions	. 7
Article		Resits	
Article	13	Extra exam or other format of exam	. 8
Article		Appeal procedure	
Article	15	Non-regular exam inspection	
Article		Fraud	
Article		Plagiarism	
Article		Measures in case of fraud and/or plagiarism	
Article	19	Irregularity	
Article	_	Amendments	
Article		Hardship clause	
Article	22	Implementation and date of coming into effect	12
		s to the Rules and Regulations Master Psychology 2025-2026 . 1	١3
	dix 1	Regulations for the research proposal, research project and master's	
thesis			
Article	1	Research proposal	
Article		Research project	
Article		Master's thesis	
		Regulations for the clinical internship and clinical activities report for the	
-		on Neuropsychology1	
Article	1	Clinical internship	۱5
Article	2	Clinical activities report	16



#### **RULES AND REGULATIONS MASTER PSYCHOLOGY 2025-2026**

#### **Article 1** Scope of the Rules and Regulations

- 1. These Rules and Regulations (R&R) apply to the education, exams and examination for the master Psychology of the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience (FPN).
- 2. The R&R apply to all students who are registered for the study programme in the academic year 2025-2026.
- 3. For cases regarding exams not covered by these R&R, "The Rules of Procedure for (Course) Exams at Maastricht University (<a href="https://intranet.maastrichtuniversity.nl/en/fpn-students/exams-tests-grades/exam-procedure">https://intranet.maastrichtuniversity.nl/en/fpn-students/exams-tests-grades/exam-procedure</a>) apply.
- 4. The R&R are each year adjusted and enacted by the Board of Examiners.

#### **Article 2 Definitions**

The definitions contained in the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW or the Act) and Article 1.2 of the Education and Examination Regulations (EER) of the master Psychology also apply to the R&R.

#### **Article 3** Board of Examiners

The Board of Examiners sees to the execution of the Rules and Regulations for the master's examination and its components, taking into account the Act and the EER concerning the organisation and scope of the examinations of the master Psychology of FPN. The Board of Examiners will appoint examiners to conduct the examinations. In particular cases, the Board of Examiners can annul decisions taken by the examiners when, e.g., a student has not complied with the requirements for a part of the examination which the student has taken.

#### Article 3.1 Appointment and composition of the Board of Examiners

- 1. The dean of FPN installs the Board of Examiners and appoints its members based on their expertise in the field of the degree programme.
- 2. The Board of Examiners is led by the chair(s).
- 3. The composition of the Board of Examiners is such that it reflects the programmes at FPN as well as possible.
- 4. At least one member is an external member, who is not involved in education of the FPN programmes.
- 5. The Board of Examiners is supported by the secretaries.

#### Article 3.2 Working method of the Board of Examiners

- 1. The Board of Examiners meets every month with the full committee.
- 2. The chairs and secretaries are in charge of the daily management. They meet weekly to discuss non-standard requests, appeals, the topics and the agenda of the plenary meeting, and any other relevant business that comes up.



- 3. The meetings of the Board of Examiners are not public due to the confidential nature of matters discussed.
- 4. If a request or complaint submitted to the Board of Examiners involves an examiner who is a member of the Board of Examiners, the respective examiner will abstain from deciding on the request or complaint as stated in art. 7.12b, paragraph 4, WHW.
- 5. The Board of Examiners may delegate clearly defined duties (e.g. to committees or subcommittees).
- 6. The secretaries to the Board of Examiners take standard decisions based on the EER, R&R and/or the jurisprudence of the Board of Examiners. Non-standard requests are discussed during the weekly meetings with the chair(s).
- 7. Only complete and correctly submitted requests and complaints will be processed.
- 8. The Board of Examiners decides upon a request or complaint within 20 working days after the request or complaint was submitted. In special circumstances, this term can be extended by another 20 working days.

#### **Article 4 Examiners**

- 1. The Board of Examiners appoints examiners who are qualified to assess final examinations and other educational components. Examiner qualifications vary depending on the type of examination/educational component, resulting in distinct categories. All categories require a master's degree, with some requiring a PhD. Most categories also require a University Teaching Qualification (UTQ) or completion of specific UTQ workshops. Alternatively, examiners can be appointed temporarily while pursuing the UTO qualification.
- 2. For the master's thesis research projects, first assessors must hold a PhD. Second assessors must hold a PhD, be a PhD student, or be a lecturer who has completed the UTQ workshop "Supervision of Research and Writing Assignments". After acting as a second assessor twice and completing the workshop, PhD students and lecturers can also become first assessors.
- 3. While in principle examiners have to belong to the academic staff of the FPN, upon request, the Board of Examiners can also appoint other experts (i.e. non-academic staff) at FPN or experts from outside FPN as examiner.
- 4. In the event that experts from outside FPN are appointed in the context of clinical components as examiner, they are required to be general psychologists (at master's level) and have, in principle, at least three years of work experience in the clinical field.
- 5. For the master's thesis research project, the research project coordinator of the relevant specialisation is responsible for ensuring that the supervisors/assessors meet the appointment requirements set by the Board of Examiners.
- 6. In case of a research project outside UM (external research project) the external supervisor needs to have a PhD or needs to have a track record showing experience in conducting research and writing scientific papers. When this is not the case, two internal supervisors will have to serve as supervisors. The external supervisor still acts as assessor of the practical part (the 'research project') and



- informs the internal assessor about the student's performance and grade. In this case, the internal supervisor will also take care of the administration and keeps a copy of this appraisal for two years after the conclusion of the research project. The requirements for the other/second assessor are equal to those of an internal research project.
- 7. In case of an external research project, the research project coordinator of the relevant specialisation is responsible for ensuring that the supervisors/assessors meet the appointment requirements set by the Board of Examiners.
- 8. In case of a clinical internship, its coordinator is responsible for ensuring that the supervisors/assessors meet the appointment requirements set by the Board of Examiners. In case the student wants to receive the BAPD, the student has to contact one of the staff members listed here on Student Intranet: https://intranet.maastrichtuniversity.nl/en/fpn-students/internship/clinicalinternship/supervision-and-assessment-clinical-internship.
- 9. The Board of Examiners may decide to withdraw an appointment as examiner if the examiner does not adhere to laws and/or the R&R of the Board of Examiners, or if the assessment skills of the examiner (e.g., to construct an exam, to examine, and/or to grade an exam) have proven to be of insufficient quality.

#### **Article 5** Flexible programme

- 1. Students who wish to follow a flexible programme as referred to in Article 7.3j WHW and Article 3.8 EER must submit a motivated request to the Board of Examiners at least six weeks before the start of the academic year.
- 2. The request must clearly substantiate why the regular curriculum as stipulated in article 3.6 EER does not suit the student's needs in order to compose a custom flexible programme.
- 3. The Board of Examiners will determine whether the programme will lead to the required level of knowledge and skills to receive the degree of Master of Science in Psychology. The degree will not include any specialisation.
- 4. The content of the flexible programme should be coherent.
- 5. The flexible programme must have a study load of 60 ECTS credits.
- 6. The flexible programme should at any rate contain the following educational components: the course Academic Skills (0.5 ECTS credits), the Research proposal (4.5 ECTS credits), the master's thesis research project (13 ECTS credits), the oral master's thesis inquiry (2 ECTS credits) and the master's thesis (10 ECTS credits).
- 7. If the flexible programme contains both a master's thesis research project and clinical internship, it should at any rate contain the following educational components: the Research proposal (2 ECTS credits), the master's thesis research project (8 ECTS credits), the clinical internship (14 ECTS credits), clinical activities report (3 ECTS credits), clinical supervision meetings (2 ECTS credits) the oral master's thesis inquiry (1 ECTS credit) and the master's thesis (6 ECTS credits).



#### Grades, guessing correction and rounding **Article 6**

- 1. The minimum number of points that are needed to obtain a passing grade and/or the weighing of exam components will be provided by the course coordinator in the course manual and/or on Canvas.
- 2. Close-ended questions in exams, such as multiple-choice questions, will be corrected for guessing.
- 3. The final grade and all grades that contribute to the final grade will be rounded off to the first decimal.
- 4. The second decimal figure is decisive for the rounding off. E.g., a 5.86 will be rounded off to 5.9, a 5.85 will be rounded off to 5.9, a 5.84999 will be rounded off to 5.8 and a 5.84 will be rounded off to 5.8.

#### Proof of having passed a course, practical training or elective Article 7

#### 1. Course

A student can have a course registered as passed if the following requirements have been met:

- a. A minimum of 70% attendance at the tutorial group meetings. A student who arrives after the official starting time of the meeting or leaves before the ending time of the meeting can be considered as absent. If a student has not complied with the attendance obligation but has still taken an exam, the grade of the exam will be declared invalid:
- b. A sufficient assessment and attendance for those practical training sessions that are part of the course (i.e. practical training without credits). There is an attendance obligation of 100% for the practical sessions. A student who arrives after the official starting time of the meeting can be considered absent.
- c. If a student has not complied with the attendance obligation but has not missed more than one meeting, the student can apply to the course coordinator for a compensatory assignment, unless specified otherwise in the course manual;
- d. A core course is passed when the final grade, calculated from all assessment components, is at least a rounded 6.0 (see article 6 for rounding regulations).

#### 2. Practical training (with credits)

A student can have a practical training (with credits) registered as passed if the following requirements have been met:

- a. Attendance of 100% of the practical sessions. A student who arrives after the official starting time of the meeting or leaves before the ending time of the meeting can be considered absent.
- b. If a student has not complied with the attendance obligation but has not missed more than one meeting, the student can apply to the course coordinator for a compensatory assignment, unless specified otherwise in the course manual;
- c. Timely and sufficient completion of the required assignment(s). This requires at least a sufficient grade for the final assessment(s). A practical training is passed when the final grade, calculated from all assessment components, is at least a rounded 6.0 (see article 6 for rounding regulations) or, in case of a pass/fail assessment, a pass has been obtained.



#### *Elective*

A student can have an elective registered as passed if the requirements as set out in the course manual for that elective have been met.

#### Article 8 **Attendance obligation**

- 1. There will be an attendance obligation of at least 70% with respect to the tutorial group meetings in each course:
  - on a total of 18 meetings: at least 13 meetings;
  - on a total of 16 or 17 meetings: at least 12 meetings;
  - on a total of 15 meetings: at least 11 meetings;
  - on a total of 13 or 14 meetings: at least 10 meetings;
  - on a total of 12 meetings: at least 9 meetings; •
  - on a total of 11 meetings: at least 8 meetings;
  - on a total of 9 or 10 meetings: at least 7 meetings;
  - on a total of 8 meetings: at least 6 meetings;
  - on a total of 6 or 7 meetings: at least 5 meetings;
  - on a total of 5 meetings: at least 4 meetings;
  - in the case of 4 or fewer meetings, there is an attendance obligation of 100%.
- 2. There is a 100% attendance obligation with respect to the practical training sessions, unless specified otherwise in the course manual.
- 3. Electives have a 100% attendance obligation with respect to the tutorial group meetings and practical training sessions, unless specified otherwise in the course manual of the elective.
- 4. The attendance in the tutorial group meetings and the practical training sessions will be registered by the tutor.
- 5. If a student has not complied with the attendance obligation, the course will not be registered as having been passed.
- 6. If the attendance requirements have been met in a given academic year, this will be valid for the remainder of the study, even if the exam is not passed in that year. However, an individual attendance arrangement based on personal circumstances is only valid if the exam is passed during the same academic year.

#### **Article 9 Grade point average**

- 1. A weighted grade point average (GPA) is calculated across all parts of the examination which are assessed on a ten-point rating scale with the exception of the electives. Scores will be weighted according to the number of course credits (see also article 3.6 EER).
- 2. An insufficient grade will be included in the GPA.
- 3. On a provisional transcript, an exam that has not been taken will not be included in the GPA
- 4. On a final transcript, a GPA will only be registered when at least 60 credits have been obtained for courses/modules as stated in paragraph 1 of this article.



#### Article 10 Cum laude and summa cum laude distinction

- 1. The 'cum laude' distinction is attached to the master's examination if each of the following requirements has been met:
  - A GPA of at least 8.0 for all components of the examination;
  - A weighted average of at least 8.0 for the courses offered in period 1 and 2;
  - Furthermore, no part of the examination may have been passed in a resit; a No Grade (NG) will not be considered as a first attempt;
  - Master's thesis: a grade of at least 8.0;
  - All components of the master's examination need to be passed within the academic year the student started the master Psychology.

Cum laude will not be awarded if more than 5 credits are exempted. A student whom the Board of Examiners has found guilty of fraudulent acts within the meaning of Articles 16 and 17 and therefore had an exam result declared invalid shall not be eligible for the attribution of cum laude.

- 2. The 'summa cum laude' distinction is attached to the master's examination if each of the following requirements has been met:
  - A GPA of at least 9.0 for all components of the examination
  - A weighted average of at least 9.0 for the courses offered in period 1 and 2;
  - Furthermore, no part of the examination may have been passed in a resit; a NG will not be considered as a first attempt;
  - Master's thesis: a grade of at least 9.0;
  - All components of the master's examination need to be passed within the academic year the student started the master Psychology.

Summa cum laude will not be awarded if more than 5 credits are exempted. A student whom the Board of Examiners has found guilty of fraudulent acts within the meaning of Articles 16 and 17 and therefore had an exam result declared invalid shall not be eligible for the attribution of summa cum laude.

# **Article 11 Exemptions**

- 1. A request for exemption from taking an exam or undergoing another part of the examination based on what has been determined by the Act will be submitted to the Board of Examiners. A request must be submitted at least 20 working days before the start of the requested course/module. Written proof in English or Dutch must be submitted to support the request. Only official certified translations in English or Dutch will be processed.
- 2. Electives cannot be exempted.
- 3. The Board of Examiners takes a substantiated decision within 20 working days after having received the request. The Board of Examiners is entitled to extend this period of 20 working days by an additional period of 20 working days. The student will be informed about the Board of Examiners' decision in writing.
- 4. A request for exemption will only be considered if it has been submitted by a student who is enrolled at the faculty and who has fulfilled their financial requirements.
- 5. The number of ECTS credits of the course that is being proposed to act as exemption must be equal to or greater than the number of ECTS credits of the course for which the exemption is requested.



#### **Article 12 Resits**

The following resit arrangements apply to students who, in the first instance, have not passed a course, module, educational component or a component thereof of the master's examination. If a student has not complied with the attendance obligation, the grade of the resit will be declared invalid.

- 1. Core courses and practical trainings
  - The student who failed a course exam or practical training or received a No Grade (NG) will have one opportunity per academic year to resit that course exam or practical training. A student who passed the initial exam may not take a resit. If a student failed the resit, the highest failed grade will be recorded. If the student fails both the initial course exam or practical training and the resit in one academic year, two resit opportunities will be offered in each following academic year.
- 2. Written assignments
  - Each written assignment, including the research proposal related to the master's thesis and the clinical activities report, may be resat once per academic year. A resit will consist of rewriting the originally submitted assignment. A resit for a written assignment is only possible if the original assignment was submitted before the deadline, complied with all submission guidelines, and was graded as insufficient.
  - In the case of a failed master's thesis, the resit may take place in the following academic year, depending on the original submission date. In such cases, the student must re-register for the programme in the new academic year.
- 3. Research project or clinical internship
  If the student has failed the research project or the clinical internship, the
  student needs to submit a request for a resit to the Board of Examiners.

#### **Article 13 Extra exam or other format of exam**

In special cases, the Board of Examiners may decide to grant a student a different exam format and/or an extra exam opportunity in addition to the regular exam and resit. However, it can only be approved once and only in case of one (i.e. the final) outstanding exam. The request will only be considered in case of exceptional demonstrable personal circumstances of a student, which would cause disproportionate study delay. Special personal circumstances of the student in question that can be considered are:

- a. handicap or (chronical) illness;
- b. pregnancy or given birth, also for the student's partner;
- c. special family circumstances (that necessitate for example informal care);
- d. top sport status;
- e. membership of the board of a student organization of some size with full jurisdiction, a study programme committee, the education board, the faculty board, the faculty council or the university council;
- f. administrative or social activities that in the opinion of the institutional management are also in the interest of the institution or of the education that the student follows;
- g. poor studiability of the programme.



# **Article 14** Appeal procedure

An appeal against a decision as stated in Article 7.61 WHW, including but not limited to decisions on grades and decisions of the Board of Examiners, must be submitted to the Complaints Service Point (CSP) within 6 weeks after publication of the decision. Subsequently, the appeal will be forwarded to the Board of Appeal for Examinations (CBE) who will ultimately take the decision. The appeal must be signed, dated and include the name and address of the petitioner. It should also include the grounds on which the appeal is based and, if possible, a copy of the decision being appealed.

# **Article 15** Non-regular exam inspection

Students who for valid reasons have not attended the regular exam inspection can request a non-regular exam inspection within two weeks after the regular exam inspection. Requests to the Board of Examiners must be motivated and include evidence on why the exam inspection was missed. Requests will be processed within 20 working days.

#### Article 16 Fraud

In this article – which is related to article 5.17 EER – it is, in accordance with article 7.12b, paragraph 33, of the Act, explained in more detail how the Board of Examiners acts under article 7.12b, paragraph 2, of the Act (WHW).

- 1. The Board of Examiners may impose one or several disciplinary measures set down in article 18 if it establishes that a student, in any exam or exam component or otherwise, has committed fraud, including, but not limited to:
  - a. has had any unauthorised aids/devices, resources, text, software including artificial intelligence software such as ChatGPT - or notes at the student's disposal, or has used aids, devices and/or communication devices that were not explicitly allowed, or that were explicitly forbidden in the exam instructions and/or Rules of Procedures for (Course) Exams;
  - b. has communicated or tried to communicate with another student, without permission from an invigilator, examiner, or Board of Examiners member;
  - c. has copied or attempted to copy from another student, or has provided the opportunity to copy;
  - d. has collaborated on a graded assignment, paper or practical, whereas this was not explicitly allowed;
  - e. has posed as someone else or let someone else pose as the student;
  - f. has misled, or at least attempted to mislead or provided the opportunity to mislead an invigilator, an examiner, a corrector or the Board of Examiners relating to the examination, any exams or exam components, registration or grading;
  - g. has used an obfuscation method in submitted work that is likely to have the effect that plagiarism checking tools do not work optimally;
  - h. has disregarded the instructions of the invigilator or the instructions for the exam or exam component such that an unfair advantage might have been obtained;
  - i. has performed actions or omissions, which make it impossible in whole or in



- part to properly evaluate the student's knowledge, understanding and skills.
- i. has falsified the information on mandatory attendance, participation or effort obligation; or had someone else falsify that information; or has signed off on attendance, participation or effort obligations when it was not or not fully met;
- k. has falsified exam results;
- I. has falsely obtained, or attempted to obtain, access to an exam;
- m.has facilitated another student to engage in fraud;
- n. has fabricated and/or falsified survey or interview answers or research data;
- o. has breached or attempted to breach the security measures around exams.
- 2. During the exam inspection, students are not allowed to have communication devices and/or other electronic devices at their disposal, neither to take the exam and answer key outside the room where the inspection takes place nor to copy these documents in any form. In addition, students are not allowed to make any modifications to the exam. When the exam inspection is held virtually, it is not allowed to make screenshots or record the inspection. The Board of Examiners may impose one or several disciplinary measures set down in article 18 if it establishes that a student did not adhere to these rules.

#### **Article 17 Plagiarism**

The Board of Examiners may impose one or several disciplinary measures set down in article 18 if it establishes that a student has committed plagiarism in any exam, part or exam component or otherwise, including, but not limited to:

- a. using or copying the student's personal or other people's texts (including programming code), data, ideas, other materials or thoughts without adequate reference to the source;
- b. presenting the structure or central body of thought from others without adequate reference to the source and thus passing it off as the student's own;
- c. not clearly indicating in the text (including programming code), for example via quotation marks or a certain layout, that verbatim or nearly verbatim quotes have been used;
- d. paraphrasing the content of the student's own or other people's texts without adequate reference to the source;
- e. copying video, audio or exam material, software, and programming codes from others without adequate reference to the source and thus passing them off as the student's own;
- f. copying work from other students and thus passing it off as the student's own;
- g. submitting a text that has previously been submitted for a different component/module, or is similar to a text that has previously been submitted by oneself or by others, unless explicitly allowed;
- h. submitting work or assignments acquired from or written by a third party and thus passing them off as the student's own;
- i. in all of these provisions "others" and "third party" do not only refer to people but also to generative artificial intelligence (e.g. ChatGPT). If the use of artificial intelligence is allowed and/or does not have to be disclosed for a specific use, this is explicitly mentioned in the exam instructions, course manual and/or Rules of Procedures for (Course) Exams.



# Article 18 Measures in case of fraud and/or plagiarism

- 1. In the cases referred to in Articles 16 and 17 the Board of Examiners can declare the results of the relevant exam or part in question invalid, as well as impose the following disciplinary measures:
  - a. a reprimand;
  - b. cancellation of the attendance of the course;
  - c. exclusion from the resit in the academic year in which fraud or plagiarism was committed:
  - d. exclusion from participation or further participation in one or more exams in the programme for a period of at most one year;
  - e. in serious cases of fraud, the Board of Examiners can propose to the UM's Executive Board that the student(s) concerned be permanently deregistered from the programme.
- 2. Repeat offenses of fraud and/or plagiarism, either within the faculty or at another UM faculty, may result in more severe sanctions. For this reason, UM Boards of Examiners can inform each other if fraud and/or plagiarism has been established in an exam or exam component at another faculty.
- 3. Before the Board of Examiners imposes an appropriate disciplinary measure, or makes a proposal to the Executive Board, the student in question is given the opportunity to be heard.
- 4. If fraud and/or plagiarism is established, this will be included in the student's
- 5. If, after investigation, it is determined that the student concerned did not commit fraud or plagiarism, no disciplinary measures will be imposed, their name will be removed from the correspondence about the alleged fraud or plagiarism and the correspondence will not be included in the student's dossier.
- 6. The Board of Examiners does not grant exemptions on the grounds of study results obtained elsewhere while the student was excluded from participating in the programme's exams because fraud and/or plagiarism was committed.
- 7. A student who was excluded from participation in exams, or whose exam was declared invalid for a component/module due to fraud and/or plagiarism, is not eligible for an extra exam opportunity for those components/modules.
- 8. In case of fraud and/or plagiarism in group assignments, when it is unambiguously clear that only specific students have committed fraud and/or plagiarism, only these students will receive punitive sanctions, but all students can be subject to corrective sanctions.
- 9. If the Board of Examiners suspects that a student has committed fraud and/or plagiarism in any way in any exam or exam component, the Board of Examiners shall be entitled to start the following procedure:
  - The chair or acting chair of the Board of Examiners will open an inquiry into the established facts, and may call in an expert to do so.
  - After this inquiry has been completed, but no later than 15 workings days after fraud and/or plagiarism was reported to the Board of Examiners by the examiners(s), the chair will give the student and the examiner(s) the opportunity to present their case. The student may be accompanied by an adviser, provided that the Board of Examiners is informed of the adviser's attendance in advance.



- If the Board of Examiners established that a student has committed fraud and/or plagiarism, the Board will declare the relevant exam/assessment and/or attendance registration null and void (label 0) and may impose one or several disciplinary measures set down in the present article.
- The Board of Examiners will inform the student concerned, the examiner and the Education Office of the measures taken and the reason for it. This procedure shall take place in accordance with Article 7.12b of the Act (WHW).

# **Article 19 Irregularity**

If, according to the Board of Examiners, one or more exam components, or an entire exam have not been taken in the prescribed manner or if an exam component has not been conducted properly, the Board of Examiners can declare the exam or the relevant exam component(s) invalid, even in cases when the student is not accountable, in order to secure its legal duty as stated in article 7.12b, paragraph 1, sub a, WHW.

#### **Article 20 Amendments**

- 1. Amendments to these R&R shall be determined by the Board of Examiners, if necessary, in a separate decision.
- 2. If amendments will be made to these R&R, this will only be done if it may reasonably be assumed that the interests of the students will not be harmed as a result.

# **Article 21 Hardship clause**

The Board of Examiners is authorised to deviate from these R&R in individual cases if strict adherence to these R&R would result in inequitable circumstances for the student.

# **Article 22 Implementation and date of coming into effect**

- 1. The Board of Examiners will decide in all cases that have not been foreseen by these R&R.
- 2. These R&R take effect in the academic year 2025-2026.

# Thus enacted by the FPN Board of Examiners at its meeting of 28 August 2025



# APPENDICES TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS MASTER **PSYCHOLOGY 2025-2026**

# Appendix 1 Regulations for the research proposal, research project and master's thesis

#### **Research proposal** Article 1

- 1. A research proposal is an independently written proposal concerning research that the student intends to perform during the student's research project.
- 2. The research proposal related to the master's thesis research project consists of the following parts:
  - a brief theoretical background of the research;
  - the question posed by the research;
  - a description of the research plan;
  - a description of the research methods which will be applied;
  - a description of the techniques which will be used for processing and analysing the data:
  - a description of how ethical permission for the study will be or has been obtained;
  - a reference list;
  - a timetable.
- 3. Guidelines for the format and length of the research proposal can be found in the research project manual.
- 4. If the research proposal related to the master's thesis is judged to be unsatisfactory, the regulation about resits for written assignments, article 12, paragraph 2, R&R applies.
- 5. The research proposal must be submitted within 6 weeks of commencing the research project.
- 6. The research proposal will be assessed as Pass/Fail.
- 7. For the number of credits of an approved research proposal related to the master's thesis, see article 3.6 EER.
- 8. Before the student can commence research activities, formal permission for the study must have been obtained from the Ethics Review Committee Psychology and Neuroscience (ERCPN).

#### **Article 2 Research project**

- 1. A student has to conduct a research project as part of the study programme.
- 2. The purpose of the research project is an orientation into the research field of psychologists. During the research project, the student conducts a scientific research project. In case of a research project as part of a team of students, each student should formulate and investigate a unique research question.
- 3. The student must file an application for the research project at least one month before the start of the research project by means of a master's thesis research project application form submitted via Collent. The Board of Examiners checks whether the student has complied with the requirements in article 4.2 EER. If at least 8 credits of the core courses – excluding practical trainings – have been



- obtained for the modules offered in periods 1 and 2, the research project can be started the earliest at the start of period 4. In all other cases, the research project can only start when the above-mentioned credits have been obtained. In addition, certain research projects may require that certain practical or skills training(s) have been completed.
- 4. If a student has failed to apply for the research project, the student is not eligible to start the research project. If a student has started the research project without applying, the research project will be considered invalid.
- 5. A research project agreement is drawn up for each research project in which a number of arrangements are set out between the supervisors and the student. Subsequently, it will be checked whether a student has fulfilled the requirements listed in paragraph 3. The signed agreement must be sent via email to the Education Office within two weeks after the research project starts.
- 6. In case of an external research project, the supervisor from the faculty is the contact person for the external supervisor.
- 7. The research project is assessed on several criteria. The final grade for the practical part based on these criteria needs to be at least a 6.0. The research project will then be registered as having been completed successfully.
- 8. The research project is graded by the supervisor who supervised the student during the research project.
- 9. The grading is completed via Collent.
- 10. For the number of ECTS credits of a satisfactory completion of the research project, see article 3.6 EER.

#### **Article 3 Master's thesis**

- 1. A master's thesis is an independently written report on the research that has been conducted during the master's thesis research project.
- 2. The master's thesis is an individually written paper.
- 3. The master's thesis is assessed on several criteria. To pass, the final grade for the thesis, based on these criteria, needs to be at least 6.0.
- 4. The student needs to submit the final version of the master's thesis via Collent. Assessment forms have to be filled in by the supervisors via Collent within 15 working days after submission.
- 5. Two assessors, including at least one of the thesis supervisors, will perform an oral master's thesis inquiry regarding the content of the master's thesis and/or the research proposal. This oral inquiry will include a presentation by the student, followed by questions of the present examiners to be answered by the student. The oral master's thesis inquiry is evaluated with a pass/fail assessment. This paragraph applies to all master's theses submitted on or after November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.
- 6. The master's thesis is graded by averaging the scores given by the first and the second assessor. Both grades must be at least 6.0 and the difference between them may not exceed 2.0 points. If either grade is lower than 6.0, the student must submit a resit version of the master's thesis, which will be assessed by both assessors. If the difference between the two grades exceeds 2.0 points, the assessors will discuss the grading and agree on a new grade based on their exchanged arguments. This agreed grade will be the final grade.



- 7. If one of the grades for the master's thesis, given either by the first or second assessor, is lower than 6.0 a new version of the master's thesis must be submitted (resit or resubmission), which both assessors will assess. If the grades of both supervisors differ by more than 2.0 points, the supervisors will discuss the grading amongst each other. When the new grade is decided based on the exchanged arguments this will be the final grade (See Article 12, paragraph 2, R&R).
- 8. For the number of ECTS credits of a satisfactory assessment of the master's thesis, see article 3.6 EER.

# Appendix 2 Regulations for the clinical internship and clinical activities report for the specialisation Neuropsychology

#### **Article 1 Clinical internship**

- 1. A complete clinical internship consists of 13 weeks or the equivalent of 520 hours of clinical work, including the clinical activities report and clinical supervision; at least 200 hours of the clinical work consists of diagnostics as part of the partial fulfilment for the Psychodiagnostics registration.
- 2. The purpose of the clinical internship is an orientation in the clinical field of neuropsychology.
- 3. During the internship, the student conducts clinical psychological and/or neuropsychological tasks.
- 4. The student applies for the internship at least on December 15 by means of a clinical internship application form via Collent. The Board of Examiners checks whether the student has complied with the requirements in article 4.2 of the EER.
- 5. If at least 8 credits of the core courses excluding practical trainings have been obtained of the modules offered in periods 1 and 2 and Neuropsychological Assessment of period 2 is passed, the clinical internship can be started at the earliest at the start of period 3. In all other cases, the internship can only be started when the above-mentioned credits have been obtained.
- 6. An internship agreement is drawn up for the internship in which a number of arrangements are set out between the external institution where the internship takes place, the clinical internship coordinator from the faculty and the student. The signed agreement must be sent via email to the Education Office within two weeks after the internship starts.
- 7. The student will be supervised during the internship by a supervisor from the faculty and a supervisor from the external institution where the internship takes place (the external supervisor). The task of the external supervisor is to guide and monitor the student's clinical activities, and to facilitate the clinical internship.
- 8. The clinical internship is registered as having been completed successfully when (1) the clinical internship coordinator has approved the student's clinical activities report (including the 3 case reports), (2) the student has received a satisfactory assessment of the internship performance from the external



- supervisor, and (3) the supervisor has filled out the relevant assessment form via Collent.
- 9. For the number of ECTS credits of a satisfactory completion of the internship, see article 3.6 EER.

#### **Article 2 Clinical activities report**

- 1. A clinical activities report is an independently written report on the clinical work that has been conducted during the clinical internship.
- 2. The clinical activities report is an individually written paper.
- 3. The clinical activities report is assessed on the following aspects: Overview of the local mental health services, including internship activities; Regulations of the Dutch health care system, including ethics for psychologists; SWOT analyses and 3 case reports. To pass, the final grade for the report, based on the abovementioned aspects, needs to be at least 6.0.
- 4. The student needs to submit the final version of the clinical activities report via Collent. Assessment forms have to be completed and signed by the supervisor within 15 working days.
- 5. The clinical activities report is graded by a faculty supervisor who is qualified to do this (see Article 4, paragraph 8, R&R).
- 6. If the clinical activities report is awarded an insufficient grade, article 12 R&R applies.
- 7. For the number of ECTS credits assigned to a satisfactory assessment of the clinical activities report, see article 3.6 EER.