



Maastricht University

Education and Examination Regulations 2025-2026

Master Psychology

*Adopted by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience on
May 20, 2025.*

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EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS – MASTER PSYCHOLOGY 2025-2026

SECTION 1 GENERAL CONDITIONS

Education and Examination Regulations for the 2025/2026 academic year for the Master's Psychology study programme at the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, as meant in article 7.13 of the Act on Higher Education and Scientific Research (WHW).

Article 1.1 Scope of the Regulations

These regulations apply to the education, exams and examination for the fulltime Master's Psychology study programme, hereinafter referred to as the study programme. The study programme is offered by the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, hereinafter referred to as the Faculty.

The regulations have been established by the Faculty Board, following advice/consent from the FPN Educational Programme Committee and the FPN Faculty Council. These regulations will take effect on 1 September 2025 for the 2025/2026 academic year.

These regulations also apply to Students from other programmes, faculties or institutions of higher education, insofar as they follow components of the programme to which these Education and Examination Regulations apply.

Article 1.2 Definitions

In these regulations the following is understood to be:

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| a. Academic year: | the period from 1 September of a calendar year up to and including 31 August of the following calendar year; |
| b. Board of Admissions: | the board responsible for judging the admissibility of the candidate to the programme; |
| c. Board of Examiners: | the board as meant by article 7.12 of the Act; |
| d. Course/Module: | a study unit of the study programme as meant by the Act, such as a course, a practical training or an elective course; |
| e. Course Coordinator, alternatively Practical Training Coordinator: | an examiner who is responsible for the content of a certain course, or alternatively, responsible for the practical training in a certain course; |
| f. Credit: | unit expressed in ECTS credits, with one study credit equalling 28 hours of study; |
| g. Disability Support (DS): | The central point at UM where Students with a disability and/or chronic illness can apply for facilities or support; |
| h. Exam: | the exam as part of the examination as meant by article 7.10 of the Act; |

- i. Examination: the final examination for the master's study programme;
- j. Examiner: the person appointed by the Board of Examiners (Article 7.12C of the Act), charged with administering exams and determining the results of such exams;
- k. Faculty Board: the Board of the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience of Maastricht University as meant by article 9.12 of the Act;
- l. Practical Training: a module that provides practical exercise, as meant by Article 7.13, paragraph 2, sub d of the Act;
- m. Profileringsfonds: provides financial support to Students who incur study delay through extraordinary circumstances such as family issues (force majeure), being a member of a committee or consultative body or by playing sport at a high level;
- n. Programme: the master's study programme as meant by article 1.1, consisting of a connected unit of programme components;
- o. Programme Committee: the representation and advisory board that carries out the duties described in Article 9.18 and 9.38c of the Act;
- p. Student(s): the Student who is registered at Maastricht University, for the purpose of attending the courses and/or taking the exams and the examination of the study programme;
- q. The Act: the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act (Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek, WHW);
- r. Tutorial Group Meeting: a practical exercise, as meant by article 7.13, paragraph 2, sub d of the Act;
- s. UM: Maastricht University.

Other notations are to be understood in accordance with the meaning assigned to them by the Act.

SECTION 2 ADMISSION

Article 2.1 Admission

Persons who meet the requirements referred to in article 2.2 are eligible for admission to the programme.

Article 2.2 Admission requirements

1. The following persons are eligible for admission to the Master's programme:
 - a. Those who have obtained a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from a Dutch research university.
 - b. Those who have successfully completed the mandatory courses from the pre-master Psychology at FPN, within one academic year. With mandatory courses is meant the courses as determined by the Board of Admissions at the time of admission to the pre-master Psychology, based on the indicated specialisation of the Master Psychology.
 - c. Those who have:
 - i. a non-Dutch Bachelor's degree in Psychology from a research university OR;
 - ii. a Bachelor's degree other than Psychology from a research university OR;
 - iii. a Bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences (HBO) in combination with a pre-master in Psychology

are only admissible if their Bachelor's degree (in combination with a pre-master in Psychology, in case of category iii) provides a sufficient background for admission to the FPN Master's specialisation.

These applicants will need to fill out the Academic Background Form, which is used by the Board of Admissions to assess their admissibility. On this form applicants are asked to demonstrate that they fulfil the admission criteria by providing details regarding the relevant courses and the number of ECTS that they have obtained per course.

These aforementioned admission criteria are:

- A minimum of 27 ECTS in statistics and research methods on a research university level, AND
- A minimum of 10 ECTS in academic writing on a research university level, AND
- A minimum of 24 ECTS in theoretical courses and skills training covering general knowledge of psychology.

Statistics and methodology are key topics in the Master's programme of Psychology and good knowledge of statistics is essential. Applicants must fill in the form 'Statistics and Methodology checklist'. On this form, applicants have to indicate the topics studied in their statistics and methods courses.

Applicants need to be familiar with the topics mentioned in the checklist.

- d. Persons who have obtained the Bachelor of Science in Psychology of Maastricht University are automatically admissible to the Master's programme.
- e. Students may apply/register for maximal ONE specialisation of the master Psychology programme. It is not possible to apply/register for more than one specialisation.
- f. Students can only take courses and receive a degree for ONE specialisation of the master Psychology programme. In case a student is interested in taking a core course or practical (see article 3.6) of another master Psychology specialization after graduation of the master Psychology specialization, this is only possible under certain conditions as a non-degree seeking student. See the specific regulations for non-degree seeking students at FPN, for the conditions and additional information.

Article 2.3 Language requirement with non-Dutch diplomas

1. Holders of a non-Dutch diploma can only register if they have met the minimum English language requirement corresponding to IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with a score of at least 6.5.
2. The requirement referred to under (a) is met if the person concerned has obtained one of the following diplomas or certificates:
 - a. A completed bachelor's or master's study programme where the language of instruction is English;
 - b. An International or European Baccalaureate, a US high school diploma or UK GCE A-levels;
 - c. Can demonstrate sufficient proficiency in English, for example through English taught courses, internships or work experience in an English environment, or can submit one of the following language test certificates:
 - IELTS (6.5)
 - TOEFL Paper-based test (575)
 - TOEFL Internet test (90)
 - TOEIC listening and reading (720) and speaking and writing (310)
 - Cambridge Advanced (CAE) Grade C (scale 180-184); First Certificate in English (FCE) Grade A (scale 180-184); First Certificate in English (FCE) Grade B (scale 176-179)
 - similar accredited certification approved by the Board of Admission.

A copy of the official exam results is required.

Article 2.4 Board of Admission

1. Judgement about admissibility and the issuing of the certificate of admission for

the study programme is assigned to the Board of Admission of the study programme. This board consists of:

- A chair appointed from among the academic personnel;
 - One or two members appointed from among the academic personnel who are in charge of the education in the Educational study programme.
2. The appointment is made by the Dean after consulting with the Education Programme Committee.

Article 2.5 Times of Review for Admission

1. A request for admission to a study programme must be submitted to the Board of Admission before the applicable deadlines, as indicated on the UM website.
2. The Board of Admissions rejects requests for admission that are incomplete at the closing date mentioned on the UM website.
3. The Board of Admission does not consider any application material received after the deadlines as mentioned on the UM website
4. The Board of Admission decides on the request within 6 weeks after receipt of the complete application. Please note that the decision on the request of Students who have obtained the Bachelor of Science in Psychology of Maastricht University (article 2.2 sub 2) will be made within 4 weeks after the graduation date for the bachelor examination has been established (but always before the start of the study programme).
5. Admission will be granted on the condition that the candidate complies with the requirements regarding knowledge, understanding and skills, as stipulated in Article 2.2, and as evidenced by the certificates of the study programme(s) the applicant has followed, at the latest by the starting date of the relevant study programme.

SECTION 3 CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME

Article 3.1 Purpose of the Study Programme

1. The purpose of the study programme is the following:
 - to provide academic education within the context of the Maastricht University educational concept and its distinct profile;
 - to provide for the acquisition of specialised knowledge, skills and insight in the field of psychology;
 - to deepen a Student's specific knowledge of a particular field of study related to the specific Master's specialisation in which the Student is enrolled;
 - to help Students prepare for a possible further programme of study in scientific research and, if applicable, clinical practice.
2. There are sufficient elements in the study programme to enhance the further development of the academic formation of the Student, in particular with regard to:
 - thinking and acting independently and scientifically;
 - communicating scientifically in English;
 - applying specialised scientific knowledge in a broader social context.
3. Areas of specialisation in the study Programme:
 - Health and Social Psychology
 - Legal Psychology
 - Work & Organisational Psychology
 - Developmental Psychology
 - Neuropsychology
 - Cognitive Neuroscience

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) of the Master's Programme	
Level	Content/orientation
Dublin descriptors	ILOs based on domain-specific reference framework and EFPA
Knowledge and understanding	ILO 1: Knowledge of theories, processes, interventions, instruments and assessment methods in the field of one's specialisation.
Applying knowledge and understanding	ILO 2: Ability to apply theories, interventions, instruments and assessment methods to practices in the field of one's specialisation. ILO 3: Ability to write an original and feasible research question and proposal. ILO 4: Ability to design and conduct sound scientific research in the field of one's specialisation (incl. the selection and application of appropriate research methods and statistics).
Making judgements	ILO 5: Ability to critically judge research questions and experimental designs. ILO 6: Ability to critically assess, evaluate and interpret theories and publications in the field of one's specialisation. ILO 7: Ability to formulate realistic judgements on the implications and importance of research findings and relate them to the existing literature.
Communication	ILO 8: Ability to effectively communicate in English – using a wide range of media tools – on field-related topics. ILO 9: Ability to write scientific reports in the form of a practical report, master's thesis and/or scientific publication according to the scientific standards. ILO 10: Ability to communicate scientific theories and empirical findings in an understandable way to both professionals (experts and non-experts) and to lay people (incl. clients).
Learning skills	ILO 11: Ability to reflect on one's own professional behaviour and development. ILO 12: Ability to work in a research setting and/or in an applied/clinical setting. ILO 13: Ability to work in an international team. ILO 14: Ability to identify gaps in one's own knowledge and abilities and develop an individual learning plan accordingly. ILO 15: Ability to understand, reflect upon and act according to the ethical standards of research and practice in the field.

Article 3.2 Organisation of the Study Programme

The study programme is offered on a full-time basis. The programme commences once a year in September.

Article 3.3 Language of Instruction

The education and assessment in the Master's study programme are conducted in English. More information can be found in Appendix 1 of the Education and Examination Regulations.

Article 3.4 Communication and Announcement of Decisions

1. The Faculty Board, the Board of Examiners and the examiners may use electronic communication tools like the student portal, the digital learning environment, e-mail via UM-account or FPN Student Intranet for communications relating to the programme and exams.
2. The Faculty Board, the Board of Examiners and the examiners are allowed to use the student portal, the digital learning environment, e-mail via UM-account or FPN Student Intranet to announce decisions.

- The Student must regularly check the student portal, the digital learning environment, e-mail via UM-account and FPN Student Intranet. Information disseminated via these channels will be assumed to be known.

Article 3.5 Study Load

The study programme has a study load of 60 ECTS credits, with one credit equalling 28 hours of study load.

Article 3.6 Composition of the Curriculum

For Students who started the master's programme in a previous academic year (2022-2023 or before) and have not yet completed all modules under that curriculum (see EER 2022-2023 article 3.6), a suitable solution will be sought in consultation with the Board of Examiners for the uncompleted modules that have been changed from the 2023-2024 curriculum onwards.

Overview of the Master's specialisations 2025-2026

Period	Specialisation Health and Social Psychology		
Period 1	<i>Core course:</i> Self-Regulation (5 credits) <i>Practical training:</i> Increasing Self-regulation through Practice (1 credit)	<i>Core course:</i> Bad Habits (5 credits) <i>Practical training:</i> Cognitive Paradigms in Health Psychology (1 credit)	Master in Psychology Mentor Programme HSP (- credits)
Period 2	<i>Core course:</i> Planning Behaviour Change Programmes (5 credits) <i>Practical training:</i> Applying Theories in Intervention Development (1 credit)	<i>Core course:</i> Manipulation (5 credits) <i>Practical training:</i> Manipulation Strategies (1 credit)	
Period 3-4	Professional and Academic Skills (0,5 credits) Research proposal (4,5 credits) Electives (6 credits)		
24/25 weeks	Master's Thesis Research Project graded (6 credits)** Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (9 credits) Master's Thesis (10 credits) (total 25 credits)		

Period	Specialisation Legal Psychology			
Period 1	Core course: Interrogation & Interviewing (4 credits)	Core course: Psychology of Eyewitnesses Testimony (4 credits)	Practical training: Legal Psychology in Action (6 credits)	Master in Psychology Mentor programme (- credits)
Period 2	Core course: Neuropsychology in the Courtroom (3 credits)	Core course: Thinking like an Expert (4 credits)		
	Core course: Public Policy in Legal Psychology (3 credits)			
Period 3-4	Professional and Academic Skills (0,5 credits) Research proposal (4,5 credits)			

	Electives (6 credits)	
24/25 weeks	Master's Thesis Research Project graded (6 credits)** Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (9 credits) Master's Thesis (10 credits) (total 25 credits)	

Period	Specialisation Work and Organisational Psychology			
Period 1	<i>Core course:</i> Work Psychology (5 credits) <i>Practical training:</i> The Future of Work - Part 1 (1 credit)	<i>Core course:</i> Human Resources (5 credits) <i>Practical training:</i> What is it like to be a Work and Organisational Psychologist? (1 credit)	Master in Psychology Mentor programme (- credits)	
Period 2	<i>Core course:</i> Organisational Psychology (5 credits) <i>Practical training:</i> Virtual Collaboration for the Common Good (1 credit)	<i>Core course:</i> Motivation and Performance (5 credits) <i>Practical training:</i> The Future of Work - Part 2 (1 credit)		
Period 3-4	Professional and Academic Skills (0,5 credits) Research proposal (4,5 credits) Electives (6 credits)	Research Methods for Work and Organisational Psychologists (- credits)		
24/25 weeks	Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (6 credits)** Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (9 credits) Master's Thesis (10 credits) (total 25 credits)			

Period	Specialisation Developmental Psychology			
Period 1	Core course: Infancy (5 credits)	Core course: Perception, Attention and Motor Development (5 credits)	Practical training: Psychological Tests (2 credits)	Master in Psychology Mentor programme (- credits)
Period 2	Core course: Development of Cognition and Language (5 credits)	Core course: Social Emotional Development (5 credits)	Practical training: Measuring Attention and Executive Functions in Behavioural Paradigms (2 credits)	
Period 3-4	Academic Skills (0,5 credits) Research proposal (4,5 credits) Electives (6 credits)			
24/25 weeks	Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (6 credits)** Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (9 credits) Master's Thesis (10 credits) (total 25 credits)			

Period	Specialisation Cognitive Neuroscience			
Period 1	<i>Core course:</i> Auditory and Higher Order Language Processing (4 credits)	<i>Core course:</i> Perception and Attention (4 credits)	<i>Practical training:</i> EEG and ERP (2 credits)	Master in Psychology Mentor programme (- credits)
Period 2	<i>Core course:</i> Neuroimaging: Functional MRI (4	<i>Core course:</i> Sensorimotor Processing (4	<i>Practical training:</i> fMRI (2 credits)	

	credits)	credits)		
Period 3-4	Professional and Academic Skills (0,5 credits) Research proposal (4,5 credits) Electives (6 credits)			
24/25 weeks	Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (7 credits)** Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (12 credits) Master's Thesis (10 credits) (total 29 credits)			

Period	Specialisation Neuropsychology			
Period 1	Core course: Brain Functioning (5 credits)	Core course: Neurobehavioural Functioning (5 credits)	Practical training: Basic Cognitive Psychological Skills (2 credits)	Master in Psychology Mentor programme (- credits)
Period 2	Core course: Optimising Brain and Behaviour (5 credits)	Core course: Methods of Assessment (5 credits)	Practical training: Neuropsychological Assessment (2 credits)	
Period 3-4	Academic Skills* (0,5 credits) Research proposal* (4,5 credits) Electives* (6 credits) <i>*Not applicable for Students who opt for a clinical internship</i>			
24/25 Weeks (research only)	Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (6 credits)** Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (9 credits) Master's Thesis (10 credits) (total 25 credits) <i>Not applicable for Students who opt for a clinical internship</i>			
OR	OR			
28 weeks (research and clinical)	Research Proposal (2 credits) Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (6 credits)** Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (3 credits) Master's Thesis (6 credits) (total 17 credits) AND Clinical Internship (14 credits) Clinical Supervision (2 credits) Clinical Activities Report (3 credits) (total 19 credits)			

** The assessment of the practical part of the master's thesis research project will be divided in a graded part, and an ungraded part. The grade will be registered for the graded part of the master's thesis research project and will be included in the GPA (grade point average). The ungraded part of the master's thesis research project will be marked as pass/fail.

If the grade of the graded part of the master's thesis research project is 6.0 or higher, the ungraded part of the master's thesis research project will be marked as a 'pass', if the grade of the graded part of the master's thesis research project is 5.5 or lower, the ungraded part of the master's thesis research project will be marked as a 'fail'.

Article 3.7 The Master's Examination

The Master's examination consists of the following components:

1. all courses/modules pertaining to the selected master's specialisation (see article 3.6 for an overview);

2. the practical training with the accompanying assignments, whether or not pertaining to the courses as meant under 1;
3. the tutorial group meetings pertaining to the courses/modules and practical training as meant under 1 and 2;
4. the Research Proposal; the Master's Thesis Research Project; the Master's Thesis;
5. where applicable: the Clinical Internship, the Clinical Activities Report, Clinical Supervision and Academic Skills.

Article 3.8 Flexible Programme

A motivated request for approval of a flexible programme as referred to in Article 7.3j of the WHW is to be submitted to the Board of Examiners Brain Science in written form.

SECTION 4 EDUCATION

Article 4.1 Courses, composition, actual design

1. For the programme, courses/modules are offered with the study load stated in article 3.6 of the Education and Examination Regulations. The educational programme entails 60 credits per year, with 1 credit representing 28 hours of work.
2. The courses/modules for which the Student is registered are visible under 'My courses' in the Student Portal. The exam schedule is available on the FPN Student Intranet.

Article 4.2 Entrance requirements

1. The Master's Thesis Research Project can only be started when at least two of the core courses (not including practical trainings) have been passed. In addition, certain Master's Thesis Research Project may require that certain practical or skills training(s) have been completed.
2. The Clinical Internship can only be started when at least two of the core courses (not including practical trainings) have been passed.

AND

When the practical training *Neuropsychological assessment* has been passed. Additional requirements can apply to Students who did not obtain a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and/or a Bachelor's degree at Maastricht University.

3. If a Student deviates from the sequencing as described under paragraph 1 and 2, without permission from the Board of Examiners, the result of the part in question can be declared invalid.

Article 4.3 Course/Module Registration and Deregistration

The Student may participate in a course/module after the Student has registered on time for the full course through the Student Portal. Through 'Takes exam only' registration during the course registration period, a student will get access to the course information on Canvas without participating in the tutorials, in case a student needs to retake the course exam but has already met the attendance requirement. Information and deadlines regarding (de)registration of courses/modules can be found on the FPN Student Intranet.

Article 4.4 Master Electives

The Student has the opportunity to take elective courses in period 3 and 4, as mentioned in article 3.6, by choosing from the options given in articles 4.4.1 and 4.4.2. The electives do not apply to Students who are enrolled in the specialisation Neuropsychology and who choose the clinical option, which includes an additional Clinical Internship (see article 3.6).

- a. The electives are not part of the curriculum for Students who started the

master programme before the 23-24 academic year. These Students fall under the previous curriculum (see article 3.6).

- b. The electives are only available for Students who are enrolled in the master Psychology programme at FPN.
- c. A Student may not register for - nor obtain - more than 6 elective credits.
- d. A Student is allowed to register for a maximum of one elective per period.
- e. All electives (including individual electives) will be graded with a pass/fail.

Article 4.4.1 Elective courses

The list of these specific elective courses is determined each academic year and can be different each year. See the Elective Guide for the master Psychology FPN at the FPN Student Intranet for the list of courses Students can choose from, the procedure for enrolment and relevant deadlines.

Article 4.4.2 Individual/research elective

In case a Student wishes to take an individual/research elective course (See the Elective Guide for the Master Psychology at FPN at the FPN Student Intranet for the description of options), amongst others, the following criteria apply:

- a. supervision and assessment take place by a supervisor from FPN;
- b. the content of the individual/research elective must be approved beforehand by the elective coordinator and the Board of Examiners.

SECTION 5 ASSESSMENT

Article 5.1 General

1. During a course, the Student will be tested for academic development and the extent to which the Student has sufficiently achieved the stated learning objectives.
2. The course manual describes the requirements the Student has to fulfil to pass the course and the criteria on which the Student is assessed.
3. The Rules of Procedure for Exams describe the exam procedure. The rules of Procedures for Exams can be found on the student portal/FPN Student Intranet.

Article 5.2 Grades

1. Grades are awarded on a numeric scale of 1.0 to 10.0 up to one decimal place accurately or qualified as a pass/fail in accordance with this Article.
2. An exception is the master's thesis, for this component the final grade will be rounded off to the nearest whole or half number.
3. A Pass/Fail is awarded as follows:
 - Pass: ≥ 6.0 on a scale of 1.0 to 10.0; performance at least meets the minimum criteria.
 - Fail: < 6.0 on a scale of 1.0 to 10.0; performance below the minimum criteria.
4. A course exam or assessment is passed when a numeric grade of 6.0 or higher is obtained or when a Pass is awarded.
5. The result no grade (NG) will be assigned when a Student:
 - has booked the exam, but has not attended the exam/not signed in to TestVision for the specific exam OR
 - has failed to submit a paper before the deadline or when the paper does not comply to the requirements provided by the course coordinator.

Article 5.3 Periods and Frequency of Exams

1. Exams can be taken twice a year, one regular exam and one re-sit, as determined by the Faculty Board: i.e. once during or immediately following the period in which the relevant course/module was offered (regular exam) and once during the academic year (resit). On the student portal/FPN Student Intranet dates and times are listed, on which the exams can be taken.
2. 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 as set in accordance with the previous paragraph.

Article 5.4 Exam Registration and Deregistration

The Student may take an exam for a course/module after the Student has registered on time through the Student Portal. Through 'Takes exam only'

registration during the course registration period, a student can get access to the course information on Canvas without participating in the tutorials.

Information and deadlines regarding (de)registration of exams and re-sits can be found on the FPN Student Intranet.

Article 5.5 Format of Exams

1. As a rule, exams are in written format using either paper-and-pencil assessments or computer-based assessments. A written exam can consist of open-ended questions, multiple choice questions, true-false questions, a combination of open-ended questions and true-false or multiple choice questions, an individual paper, a research article, a presentation, an essay or a portfolio. The Board of Examiners can, in special circumstances, allow a different exam format or another way of weighing examination parts of a course and will establish the conditions under which this will take place.
2. In case the attendance requirement has not been met, the grade of the exam will be declared invalid (see also Articles 5 and 6 of the Rules and Regulations).
3. The Rules of Procedures for Exams describe how and under which conditions the written exams are taken.
4. The Board of Examiners has the authority to permit a different form of exam in special cases. In case an examiner wants to use a different exam format compared to the one mentioned in the nominal plans or the one communicated to the Students, the examiner must ask permission from the Board of Examiners at least four weeks before the starting date of the course/module.
5. Upon request, students with a disability and/or chronic illness are offered the opportunity to take exams and assessments or teaching and learning activities in a manner adapted as optimal as possible to their disability and/or chronic illness. These adjustments shall be reasonably tailored to the student's disability and/or chronic illness but may not alter the quality or difficulty of an educational component or assessment programme. All intended learning outcomes must be covered by the adapted (assessment) provision.
Based on the advice of Disability Support (DS) and, if applicable, any additional information, the Board of Examiners decides on adaptations in assessment.
Based on the advice of DS and the subsequent binding advice of the programme director/ the head of the Education Office, the Board of Examiners decides on adjustments in education.
If the Board of Examiners deviates from the advice of DS, this deviation is motivated.
6. In exceptional cases, the Board of Examiners may grant a Student permission for an oral exam. For this purpose, a written request must be submitted to the Board of Examiners. If the Board approves the request, in principle the following conditions apply:
 - a. During an oral exam, only one person is assessed

- b. An oral exam is administered by at least two examiners
- c. An oral exam takes place in public

Article 5.6 Written assignments and master's thesis

1. The Board of Examiners can draw up guidelines for written assignments and the master's thesis. These guidelines will be included in the manual pertaining to the relevant part of the curriculum.
2. The master's thesis must be written by the student individually.
3. The master's thesis/final project will be assessed by the two supervisors. In addition to the assessment of the written thesis, two assessors, including at least one of the thesis supervisors, will assess an oral Master's thesis' inquiry regarding the content of the thesis. This oral inquiry will include a presentation by the student, followed by questions from the assessors.
4. The student will write one thesis, supervised and assessed by the Faculty, over the course of the programme.

Article 5.7 Master's Thesis Research Project/Clinical Internship

Article 5.7.1 Master's Thesis Research Project

1. The Board of Examiners determines the requirements regarding the nature and content of a Master's Thesis Research Project in the internship regulations.
2. The Master's Thesis Research Project regulations are set out in appendix 1 in the Rules and Regulations.
3. In order to ensure that the Master's Thesis Research Project proceeds smoothly, further guidelines have been drawn up which can be found on FPN Student Intranet.
4. A Student can do a Master's Thesis Research Project only once during the Student's programme of study. During the Master's Thesis Research Project the Student will be supervised by the Faculty.

Article 5.7.2 Clinical Internship (where applicable)

1. The Board of Examiners determines the criteria regarding the nature and content of the Clinical Internship in the internship regulations.
2. The Clinical Internship regulations are set out in appendix 2 in the Rules and Regulations.
3. In order to ensure that the clinical internship proceeds smoothly, further guidelines have been drawn up, which can be found on FPN Student Intranet.
4. A Student can do a Clinical Internship only once during the Student's programme of study. During the Clinical Internship the Student will be supervised by the Faculty.

Article 5.8 Extracurricular Internship

The programme does not provide administrative, academic, or financial support for extracurricular internships. Students who choose to undertake an internship outside the formal study programme (see article 3.6) are responsible for arranging all aspects independently, including but not limited to approval, supervision, insurance, and contractual agreements with external organizations.

Article 5.9 Attendance in Tutorial Group Meetings

1. The Board of Examiners lays down the percentage for compulsory attendance in the tutorial group meetings in the Rules and Regulations, articles 5 and 6, and determines how the actual attendance of each Student is registered.
2. If attendance has 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.

Article 5.10 Determining and Publishing Results

1. The Board of Examiners determines the norms for the exam of each part of the examination.
2. Official final examination results will be published on the student portal within fifteen (15) working days after the examination date, unless decided otherwise by the FPN Board.
An exception is made for the exams of period two: the two-week Christmas Holiday period, which falls within the grading period of the exams of period two, is not included in the count of working days.
3. When the result of a written exam is announced, it will be indicated on the student portal how and when the Student can review the exam and file an appeal as referred to in article 6.4.
4. With respect to an exam that has been administered in a different way than in writing, the Board of Examiners determines the way and period in which the result will be announced.

Article 5.11 Exam Inspection

1. Within 10 working days of the final date on which the result of an exam can be published, as referred to in article 5.9 under 2, Students may upon request inspect their exam.
2. Within the period referred to in Article 5.10 under 1, interested Students are allowed to inspect their own exam results and may, upon request, inspect the questions and assignments for a written exam and the standards based on which the exam was assessed.
3. 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.

Article 5.12 Proof of Having Passed Courses/Modules

Once a Student has taken part in a sufficient number of tutorial group meetings and has successfully completed the exam and any associated practical training of the part, this will count as proof of having passed the relevant course. The proof will be obtained after an examiner has declared that the requirements for that part of the examination have been complied with. A condition for obtaining proof of having passed a part is that the Student has complied with the entrance requirements for the relevant part of the examination. The Board of Examiners can revoke the decision of the examiner if the admission requirements have not been complied with.

Article 5.13 Period of Validity

1. As a rule, the period of validity of examination components is unlimited.
Contrary to the above, the Board of Examiners may require the Student to take an additional or replacement exam or exam component for an exam which was passed more than six years ago if the Student's knowledge or insight that was examined is demonstrably outdated or the skills that were examined are demonstrably outdated.
2. If exceptional circumstances apply as referred to in Article 7.51 paragraph two of the Act, the period of six years in paragraph one will be extended by the duration of the financial support the Student receives from the Profileringsfonds.
3. Passed sub-exams and assignments within a failed course remain valid beyond the academic year, unless the course manual states otherwise.

Article 5.14 Retention Period of Exams

1. Assignments, results and assessments of written exams will be saved 2 years after the exam results have been determined.
2. Theses and the assessment of theses will be saved at least 7 years after the thesis has been assessed.
3. The diploma and the list of examination components will be saved 30 years.

Article 5.15 Exemptions

1. The Board of Examiners can, at the request of a Student, and having heard the relevant examiner(s), grant the Student exemption from taking an exam or other assessment, if the Student provides satisfactory written proof that the Student:
 - a. has already successfully completed a similar part at a university that is equivalent in content and level, OR
 - b. possesses sufficient knowledge and skill in relation to the relevant exam by way of work, or professional experience.
2. The same period of validity applies to exemptions as to examination results (see article 5.12).

3. The following restrictions regarding exemptions apply:
 - a. In the Master's programme, a maximum of 10 credits may be exempted. Only theoretical parts offered in period 1 and 2 of the programme (see article 3.6) may be exempted.
 - b. The Board of Examiners will not grant any exemption based on exams passed by a Student outside the programme during the period in which the Student was barred from taking exams for the programme by the Board of Examiners because of fraud.

Article 5.16 Grade Point Average (GPA)

The grade point average (GPA) equals the weighted average of all numerical grades. Weighting is based on the number of credits of the courses/modules; these credits are listed on the result sheet provided with the diploma.

Article 5.17 Fraud

1. 'Fraud', including 'plagiarism', is defined as acts or omissions by a Student which make it impossible in whole or in part to properly evaluate the student's knowledge, understanding and skills, including submitting work or assignments acquired from or written by a third party (whether or not for payment) and/or (partially) generated by artificial intelligence software, such as ChatGPT.
2. 'Plagiarism' is defined as the presentation of ideas or phrasing/passages from one's own or someone else's sources without proper acknowledgment of the sources, including submitting work or assignments acquired from or written by a third party (whether or not for payment) and/or (partially) generated by artificial intelligence software, such as ChatGPT, and thus passing them off as their own.
3. The term 'fraud' is also understood to include attempted fraud.
4. If the Board of Examiners determines that a student has engaged in fraud with respect to an exam or exam component, the Board of Examiners can take appropriate measures.
5. In case of fraud/ plagiarism in group assignments, the whole group is in principle responsible for the fraud/ plagiarism. In case of fraud/ plagiarism in group assignments the measures may differ per individual student if there is evidence of unequal contribution of these individuals to the committed fraud/ plagiarism.
6. Repeat offences of fraud are, either within the faculty or at another UM faculty, considered an aggregating circumstance.
7. In serious cases of fraud, the Board of Examiners can propose to UM's Executive Board that the student(s) concerned be permanently expelled from the programme.
8. The Rules and Regulations (RR) and Code of Conduct that is signed by the student at the start of the first academic year further detail what is understood

as fraud and what measures can be imposed by the Board of Examiners.

Article 5.18 Invalid exam

If an exam involves irregularities that make it impossible to accurately assess the Student's knowledge, insight and/or skills, the Board of Examiners may declare the exam invalid for both the Student and a group of Students.

Article 5.19 Unsuitability (Judicium Abeundi)

1. In exceptional circumstances and after carefully weighing the interests at stake, the Board of Examiners and the Dean/Faculty Board may request the Executive Board to terminate or deny a Student's registration for a programme if, through the Student's conduct or statements, the Student shows that the Student is unsuitable to practice one or more professions for which the programme the Student is enrolled in, is training the Student for, or is unsuitable for the practical preparation for the profession. The Dean/Faculty Board, the Board of Examiners and the Executive Board will reach a decision in accordance with the Judicium Abeundi Protocol adopted by the Dutch Federation of University Medical Centres on 1 November 2010.
2. The relevant clauses of Maastricht University's Enrolment Provisions apply.

SECTION 6 EXAMINATION

Article 6.1 Examination

1. The Board of Examiners determines the result of the examination and grants the diploma as meant in art. 6.3 as soon as the Student has fulfilled all the requirements of the examination programme.
2. Before determining the result of the examination, the Board of Examiners can decide to examine the Student's knowledge with respect to one or more parts of the study programme, should the results of the relevant exam give reason for this.
3. To pass the examination, the Student must have passed all components as defined in art. 3.7 of the Education and Examination Regulations or an exemption has been granted.
4. To pass the examination and receive the certificate, the Student must also have been registered for the programme during the period that the exams were taken, the Student was supervised or work of the Student was assessed.
5. A certificate may only be issued after it has been shown that the Student has satisfied all the obligations, including paying the tuition fees.
6. The last day of the month in which the Student fulfilled all the examination requirements will be considered the examination date (graduation date).
7. Students who have passed the examination and who are entitled to the issuance of a certificate may, stating reasons, ask the Board of Examiners not to do this yet. This request must be submitted at least one month before the final assignment is turned in or the final exam is taken. The Board of Examiners in any event grants the request if the Student has held/will hold a board position for which financial support from the Profileringsfonds was/will be granted for at least nine months or a Student Introduction Committee ('INKOM') board position.

Article 6.2 Degree

The Student who has passed the examination successfully will be awarded the degree of "Master of Science" and will receive the diploma belonging to the Master's examination as proof of this.

Article 6.3 Diploma and statements

1. As proof that the assessment was successfully completed, the Board of Examiners issues a diploma, after it has been stated by or on behalf of UM's Executive Board that the procedural requirements for receiving the diploma have been met. The diploma is based on the model that UM's Executive Board has adopted. Even though the Master's programme consists of different Master specialisations, only one diploma will be issued for the Master's programme.

2. The diploma issued as a result of having passed the examination successfully will contain:
 - a. the name of the institution;
 - b. the name of the study programme;
 - c. the name of the specialisation;
 - d. the degree awarded;
 - e. the date on which the programme was most recently accredited or was subjected to the new programme exam.
3. Students who are entitled to a diploma may, stating reasons, ask the Board of Examiners not to issue this yet.
4. The diploma will be signed by the Chair of the Board of Examiners and the Dean of the Faculty.
5. The diploma is awarded in public, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise, in special cases.
6. The certificate includes a list of the examination components;
7. An English diploma supplement will be issued with the diploma as referred to in article 7.11 paragraph 4 of the Act. This diploma supplement is based on the model adopted by UM's Executive Board, and is in compliance with the agreed European standard format.
8. The Board of Examiners can award the diploma with the qualifications of 'Cum Laude' or 'Summa Cum Laude' in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for the Master's Examination.
9. Students who have passed more than one exam and who cannot be issued a certificate will upon request, receive a statement issued by the Board of Examiners, which at least indicates the exams that they passed.

Article 6.4 Right of appeal

Within 6 weeks after a decision has been announced by an examiner or the Board of Examiners a person concerned can file an appeal against this decision with the Complaint Service Point of the UM. The appeal needs to be signed and dated and needs to bear the name and address of the petitioner, as well as the grounds for appeal and, if possible, a copy of the decision against which the appeal is lodged.

SECTION 7 STUDY GUIDANCE

Article 7.1 Study Progress Administration

1. The Faculty registers the individual study results of the Students in such a way that they can be consulted by the Students via the student portal.
2. The Faculty reminds each Student at least once a year (preferably in May) to check the Student's overview of the study results obtained by the Student.

Article 7.2 Study Guidance

The Faculty sees to the introduction and study advice and guidance of the Students who have been enrolled in the study programme.

Article 7.3 Mentoring

The Faculty assigns a faculty mentor to each Student enrolled in the study programme. The mentor guides the students' learning process and supervises the personal growth of the student. Close monitoring of student performance and progression will help ensure that students complete the study programme on schedule. The mentor guides the Master Students in feeling at home at FPN, making master's thesis research project/internship choices and orientation towards a future career.

Article 7.4 Academic adviser

Students of the master Psychology may consult an academic adviser of the Faculty at any time to discuss academic or personal problems. Academic advisers are not members of the teaching staff and can provide impartial advice, guidance and referrals, as appropriate, to Students seeking solutions for such problems. All conversations with an academic adviser are confidential.

SECTION 8 TRANSITIONAL AND CONCLUDING CONDITIONS

Article 8.1 Amendments

1. Amendments in these regulations will be determined by special decision of the Faculty Board following advice/consent from the FPN Educational Programme Committee and the FPN Faculty Council.
2. An amendment in these regulations does not apply to the current academic year, unless the interests of the Students are not adversely affected by it.
3. Furthermore, an amendment cannot be to the detriment of Students by affecting any other decision that has been taken by the Board of Examiners on the basis of the original regulations.

Article 8.2 Publication

1. The Faculty Board sees to the proper publication of this regulation, of the Rules and Regulations that have been determined by the Board of Examiners, and also of any changes in these, by, for example, placing a notice on the Faculty website/ the student portal/FPN Student Intranet.
2. Interested persons can obtain a copy of the documents referred to in paragraph 1 from the education office.

Article 8.3 Evaluation

The Faculty Board will ensure that the education of the programme is regularly evaluated, assessing at least – for the purpose of monitoring and if necessary adapting the Student workload – the amount of time Students need to complete their duties as set out therein.

Article 8.4 Unforeseen Cases/Hardship Clause

1. The Board of Examiners decides on behalf of the faculty board in cases which have not been foreseen by these regulations.
2. The Board of Examiners is authorised among others:
 - to deviate from this EER in individual cases, if strict adherence to these regulations would result in inequitable consequences for the student;
 - to take personal circumstances into account when deciding in accordance with the R&R for this programme.

Such deviations are motivated by the Board of Examiners.

Article 8.5 Date of Taking Effect

These regulations will come into force on 1 September 2025 and will be effective for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Adopted by the Faculty Board on May 20, 2025

APPENDIX TO THE EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS MASTER PSYCHOLOGY

Appendix 1 Accountability for the language of instruction

The choice for the language of instruction of the Master Psychology is in line with the UM Code of Conduct on language in accordance with the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (WHW) art. 7.2. Because of the specific educational nature and profile of the Master Psychology, teaching and examinations are conducted in English. This guarantees the quality of education, because:

- **The labour market demands internationally oriented (English speaking) alumni. Therefore, the content of the programme has an international orientation and focus.**

Labour markets within the region of Maastricht University (positioned within the Euregion) go beyond borders, and many large companies in this region are international. International communication and international benchmarking have also become important aspects of psychological science. Our large international Student population in the master's programme increases the likelihood that Students will work in an international team and require intercultural skills. Moreover, the programme is research-oriented within the field of psychology. Psychology is an international discipline, implying that most scientific literature is in English. The master's programme is therefore taught entirely in English.

- **The academic community (including the programme's teaching staff) is internationally oriented.**

The Faculty has naturally grown into an international and diverse community. The international community facilitates the quality of the education and research at our faculty. By offering education in English, we can recruit high quality staff on an international level, and thus be more selective regarding our quality standards for staff members. The Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience also fosters internationalisation and diversity within the programme. This enables the Students to obtain competencies related to communicating with people from various backgrounds and learn about inclusiveness in an international classroom. Offering English education facilitates more diversity within the Student population and thus within the problem based learning tutorial groups (PBL). Moreover, given the increasing importance of international research experience in scientific and career development, Students are also encouraged to pursue a challenging internship outside the Netherlands. Staff members can help the Students to locate international research groups via their own extensive networks of colleagues throughout the world.

- **The Student intake and current population is internationally diverse and English is the common language.**

In 2024-2025, the Students enrolled in our master's programme represented 51 nationalities.