Maastricht University

Education and Examination Regulations 2025-2026

Research Master Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience

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

Maastricht University

Table of Contents

Maastricht University

EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS RESEARCH MASTER COGNITIVE AND CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE 2025-2026

SECTION 1 GENERAL CONDITIONS

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

Article 1.1 Scope of the Regulations

These regulations apply to the education, exams and examination for the full-time Research Master's study programme, Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience, hereinafter referred to as the study programme.

The study programme is offered by the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience in cooperation with the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences, hereinafter referred to collectively as the Faculties.

The Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, hereinafter referred to as the Faculty, is responsible for coordinating and administering the study programme. The regulations have been established by the FPN 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.

For components of the programme that Students follow at another degree programme, faculty or institution of higher education, the Education and Examination Regulations for the other programme, faculty or institution apply to the component in question.

Article 1.2 Definitions

In these regulations the following is understood to be:

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 Admission:	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 Coordinator:	an examiner who is responsible for the content of a certain course, workshop, colloquium, skills training, or other part of the study programme;
e.	Course/Module:	a study unit of the study programme as meant by the Act, including a practical training;
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:	all of the formal requirements (a total of 120 European credits) for the Research Master's study programme for a given specialisation, including exams, papers, assignments, projects/internships, theses, and other requirements as specified for each course or part of the education;
j.	Examiner:	the person, appointed by the Board of Examiners (article 7.12C of the Act), who is responsible for assessing Student performance;
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 study programme as meant by article 1.1;
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 fulfilling the formal requirements 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 articles 2.2 and 2.3 are eligible for admission to the programme.

Article 2.2 Admission requirements

The programme will selectively admit a group of a maximum of 120 highly qualified Students each year. Admission is limited to those who have obtained at least a Dutch university bachelor's degree or the equivalent (obtained before the start of the study programme).

Students who are still enrolled in a Bachelor's programme must upload the official grades transcript of their bachelor's programme before their application will be considered.

Students are admitted to the Research Master's programme on the basis of their knowledge and skill level, attitude and motivation relevant to the successful completion of a programme that embraces the scientist-practitioner model. The intention of the selection procedure is to optimise the chances that Students will be able to complete the Master's programme within the time stipulated. Admission of qualified Students is based on a two-step selection procedure. In the first step the Board of Admission assesses the curriculum vitae, academic background form, letter of motivation, and proof of English proficiency provided by the applicant. Following a favourable decision after the first step, the applicant is either directly admitted to the programme or invited for a second step. This second step consists of an individual interview conducted by a member of the Board of Admission and a specialisation representative, after which a decision regarding admission is taken.

Students may apply/register for maximal ONE specialisation of the Research Master programme. It is not possible to apply/register for more than one specialisation. Students can only take courses and receive a degree for ONE specialisation of the Research Master programme.

Article 2.3 Language requirement with non-Dutch diplomas

a. 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.
b. The requirement referred to under (a) is met if the person concerned has obtained one of the following diplomas or certificates:
    - A completed bachelor's or master's study programme where the language of instruction is English;
    - An International or European Baccalaureate, a US high school diploma or UK GCE A-levels;

- 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 Capacity Limitations

1. At least two months before the closing date published on the website, the Dean proposes the maximum number of Students to be admitted to the Research Master's programme.
2. The Board of Admission ranks the applications submitted by the eligible candidates as meant in article 2.1.
3. The Board of Admission grants the requests for admission in accordance with the ranking they have established.
4. The Board of Admission is not bound to admit a minimum number of applicants to the Research Master's programme.

Article 2.5 Board of Admission

1. The Board of Admission of the Research Master's programme is delegated the authority to make judgements concerning admission to the programme and to supply proof of such admission. The Board of Admission consists of:
   a. Chair who is also a member of the Board of Examiners;
   b. A representative for each specialisation;
2. Appointment to the Board of Admission is made by the Dean, following the advice of the Programme Board.

Article 2.6 Times of Review for Admission

1. A request for admission to the 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 time of the closing date mentioned on the UM website. The Board of Admission does not consider any application material received after the aforementioned deadline.
3. The Board of Admissions decides on the request for admission within 6 weeks after the deadlines mentioned on the UM website.

SECTION 3 CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

Article 3.1 Purpose of the Study Programme

1. The Research Master's programme Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience is a two-year programme designed for Students who want to prepare for a research career in academic or non-academic settings. Therefore, the purpose of the study programme is as follows:
   - to provide an academic formation within the context of the Maastricht University educational concept and its distinct profile;
   - to provide Students with a stimulating scientific environment that will enable them to develop as independent thinkers with a broad curiosity encompassing the various aspects of the multidisciplinary research domain;
   - to offer the possibility to broaden one's knowledge in other disciplines;
   - to enable Students to acquire specialised knowledge, skills, and insight in one of the five programme specialisations, namely: Cognitive Neuroscience, Fundamental Neuroscience, Neuropsychology, Clinical Psychology and Drug Development & Neurohealth.
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 context.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) of the Research 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 specialization, and of interdisciplinary perspectives.
Applying knowledge and understanding	ILO 2: Ability to operationalize theories into empirical or clinical research with the proper use of experimental design principles, methods, and measuring instruments. ILO 3: Ability to write an original and feasible research question and transform this question into a research and/or grant proposal. ILO 4: Ability to select and apply appropriate research methods and statistical techniques, instruments, and assessment methods to conduct research in the field.
Making judgments	ILO 5: Ability to critically judge research questions and experimental designs. ILO 6: Ability to critically analyse, evaluate, and interpret research methods, data analysis, and theories in publications in the field. ILO 7: Ability to relate findings to the existing literature and formulate realistic judgements on the implications and importance of research output.
Communication	ILO 8: Ability to effectively communicate in English – in writing and orally (group discussions and presentations) – on field-related topics. ILO 9: Ability to write scientific reports in the form of a practical report, master's thesis, grant proposal, and/or scientific publication according to the scientific standards. ILO 10: Ability to communicate scientific theories and empirical findings in an understandable way to professionals (experts and non-experts).
Lifelong 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 to 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 Research 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 devices like the student portal, the digital learning environment, e-mail via UM-account and/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 and/or FPN Student Intranet to announce decisions.
3. 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 is assumed to be known by the Student.

Article 3.5 Study Load

The two-year study programme has a total study load of 120 credits (60 credits each year), with each 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 (2023-2024 or before) and have not yet completed all modules under that curriculum (see EER 2023-2024 article 3.6), a suitable solution will be sought in consultation with the Board of Examiners for the uncompleted modules that are changed since the 2024-2025 curriculum.

Overview of RM Specialisation Cognitive Neuroscience (CN)

Period	Specialisation Cognitive Neuroscience (CN) Year 1 (2025-2026)
Throughout Year 1	**Electives:** (3 credits total) Elective: Course OR Elective: Review OR Elective: Research
Period 1	**Core Courses:** Auditory and Higher Order Language Processing (4 credits) Perception and Attention (4 credits) Applied Statistics I (4 credits)
	Skills training: EEG and ERP (2 credits)
Period 2	**Core courses:** Neuroimaging: Functional MRI (4 credits) Sensorimotor Processing (4 credits) Applied Statistics I
	Skills training: fMRI (2 credits)
Period 3	**Core course:** Noninvasive Brain Stimulation (NIBS) (4 credits)
	Skills training: Neuroanatomy (1 credit) Programming in Matlab Basic Course (2 credits)
	Workshop: Methods of Deactivation (1 credit)
	Colloquia (total of 1 credit)
Period 4	**Core course:** Advanced fMRI (4 credits) Brain Connectivity and Connectomics (4 credits) **Applied Statistics II (electives):** – Applied Statistics II: A (2 credits) OR – Applied Statistics II: B (2 credits) OR – Applied Statistics II: C (2 credits)
	Workshop: Real-Time fMRI and Neurofeedback (1 credit)
	Skills training: Diffusion Weighted Imaging and Fibre Tracking (1 credit) Programming in Matlab Basic Course
	Colloquia

Period 5	**Core course:** Translational Neuroscience: Towards Clinical Applications for Disorders of Consciousness (4 credits) Timing Neural Processing with EEG and MEG (4 credits) **Applied statistics II (electives):** - Applied Statistics II: A OR - Applied Statistics II: B OR - Applied Statistics II: C
	Workshop: Basic Mathematical Methods (2 credits)
	Skills training: Programming in Matlab Basic Course
	Colloquia
Period 6	**Core course:** Translational Neuroscience: Towards Clinical Applications for Disorders of Consciousness
	Workshop: Research Grant Writing Workshop (2 credits)
	Colloquia

Period	Specialisation Cognitive Neuroscience (CN) Year 2 (2025-2026)
Period 1	**Core course:** Research Grant Writing Course (3 credits) The Brain's Engram: Memorising Experiences and Experiencing Memory (4 credits)
	Workshop: Signal Analysis (2 credits)
	Skills training: Programming in Matlab Advanced Course (1 credit)
32 weeks	Research Proposal (1 credit) Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (10 credits) * Master's Thesis Research Project ungraded (25 credits) Master's Thesis (14 credits) (total 50 credits)

Overview of RM Specialisation Fundamental Neuroscience (FN)

Period	Specialisation Fundamental Neuroscience (FN) Year 1 (2025-2026)
Throughout Year 1 and Year 2	**Electives:** (6 credits total) Elective: Laboratory Animal Sciences (3 credits) AND/OR Elective: Course (3 credits) AND/OR Elective: Review (3 credits) AND/OR Elective: Research (3 credits) OR Double Elective: Research (6 credits) OR Double Elective: Review (6 credits)
Period 1	**Core courses: *** Introduction to Molecular Biochemical Techniques * (5 credits) *Practical training:* Genes and Proteins **OR** Introduction to Psychology * (5 credits) *Practical training:* Measuring Cognitive Functions **The* specialisation *coordinator evaluates which of these two courses a Student is required to take, depending on the Students' background.* Neuroanatomy (4 credits) *Practical training:* Mammalian Macro- and Microscopical Neuroanatomy Applied Statistics I (4 credits)
	Workshop: Introduction in Genetics (1 credit)
Period 2	**Core courses:** Neurodegeneration (4 credits) *Practical training:* Immunocytochemical Staining of Human Postmortem Tissue and Evaluation of the Staining using the Multihead Microscope Biopsychological Neuroscience (4 credits) *Practical training:* Neuropsychological Experiment Applied Statistics I
	Workshop: Valorisation (2 credits)
Period 3	**Core course:** Neurological Neuroscience (5 credits) *Practical training:* Genotyping your NMDA Receptor
	Workshop: Surgery for Intractable Movement and Psychiatric Disorders (1 credit) Introduction to R (1 credit)
	Colloquia (total of 1 credit)
Period 4	**Core courses:** Neuroimmunology and Inflammation (4 credits) *Practical training:* Neuroinflammation Neuroplasticy and Pain (5 credits) *Practical training:* Cell Culture

	Applied statistics II (electives): - Applied Statistics II: A (2 credits) OR - Applied Statistics II: B (2 credits) OR - Applied Statistics II: C (2 credits)
	Workshop: Biomedical Brain Imaging (3 credits) Introduction to R (1 credit)
	Colloquia
Period 5	**Core courses:** Psychiatric Neuroscience (4 credits) *Practical training:* Western Blotting Electrophysiology: From Single Cell Activity to 'Cognitive' Markers (4 credits) **Applied statistics II (electives):** - Applied Statistics II: A OR - Applied Statistics II: B OR - Applied Statistics II: C
	Colloquia
Period 6	**Workshop:** Psychiatric Epidemiology (1 credit) Research Grant Writing Workshop (2 credits)
	Colloquia

Period	Specialisation Fundamental Neuroscience (FN) Year 2 (2025-2026)
Period 1	**Core course:** Research Grant Writing Course (3 credits) **Skills training:** EEG and ERP (2 credits)
	Workshop: Behavioural Tests and Models (1 credit) Advanced Genetics (1 credit)
32 weeks	Research Proposal (1 credit) Master's Thesis Research Project graded (10 credits) * Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (25 credits) Master's Thesis (14 credits) (total 50 credits)

Maastricht University

Overview of RM Specialisation Neuropsychology (NP)

Period	Specialisation Neuropsychology (NP) Year 1 (2025-2026)
Throughout Year 1	**Electives:** (3 credits total, 3 credits each) Elective: Course OR Elective: Review OR Elective: Research
Period 1	**Core courses:** Brain Damage (4 credits) Behavioural Disorders (4 credits) Applied Statistics I (4 credits)
	Skills training: Basic Cognitive Psychological Skills (3 credits)
Period 2	**Core courses:** Arousal and Attention (4 credits) Ageing (4 credits) Applied Statistics I
	Skills training: Neuropsychological Assessments (2 credits)
Period 3	**Core course:** Biopsychology (3 credits)
	Skills training: Neuroanatomy (1 credit)
	Colloquia (total of 1 credit)
Period 4	**Core course:** Stress, the Brain and Depression (3 credits) Executive Control (4 credits) **Applied statistics II (electives):** - Applied Statistics II: A (2 credits) OR - Applied Statistics II: B (2 credits) OR - Applied Statistics II: C (2 credits)
	Colloquia
Period 5	**Core course:** Neuropsychiatric Disorders (3 credits) **Applied statistics II (electives):** - Applied Statistics II: A OR - Applied Statistics II: B OR - Applied Statistics II: C
	Workshop: Human Neuroimaging (3 credits)
	Skills training: Neuropsychology in Practice: From Test Results to Report and Advice (2 credits) Neuropsychological Rehabilitation (2 credits)
	Colloquia

Period 6	**Core course:** Neuropsychopharmacology (3 credits)
	Workshop: Psychopharmacology (1 credit) Psychiatric Epidemiology (1 credit) Research Grant Writing Workshop (2 credits)
	Skills training: Neuropsychological Rehabilitation
	Colloquia

Period	Specialisation Neuropsychology (NP) Year 2 (2025-2026)
Period 1	**Core course:** Research Grant Writing Course (3 credits) Cognitive Development (3 credits) Brain, Learning and Memory (3 credits)
	Workshop: Neuropsychological Assessment in Children (1 credit)
32 weeks	**Research option:** Research Proposal (1 credit) Master's Thesis Research Project graded (10 credits) * Master's Thesis Research Project ungraded (25 credits) Master's Thesis (14 credits) (total 50 credits) **OR** **Clinical option:** Research Proposal (1 credit) Master's Thesis Research Project graded (10 credits) * Master's Thesis Research Project ungraded (9 credits) Master's Thesis (10 credits) (subtotal 30 credits) AND Research Proposal Minor's Thesis (1 credit) Clinical Internship (15 credits) Clinical Activities Report (- credits) & Minor's Thesis (4 credits) (subtotal 20 credits) (total 50 credits)

Maastricht University

Overview of RM Specialisation Clinical Psychology (CP)

Period	Specialisation Clinical Psychology (CP) Year 1 (2025-2026)
Throughout Year 1	**Electives:** (5 credits total, 2/3 credits each) Elective: Course AND/OR Elective: Review AND/OR Elective: Research
Period 1	**Core course:** Anxiety Disorders (4 credits) Mood Disorders (4 credits) Applied Statistics I (4 credits)
	Skills training: Clinical Skills I: Interviewing Skills (2 credits) Clinical Assessment Instruments (2 credits)
Period 2	**Core course:** Mood Disorders Stress and Trauma (4 credits) Applied Statistics I
	Skills training: Clinical Skills II: Diagnostic Test Procedures (2 credits) Clinical Assessment Instruments
Period 3	**Core course:** Bodily Distress Disorders (4 credits)
	Skills training: Neuroanatomy (1 credit) Clinical Assessment Instruments
	Workshop: Introduction to R (1 credit)
	Colloquia (Total of 1 credit)
Period 4	**Core course:** Developmental Psychopathology (4 credits) Eating Disorders (4 credits) **Applied statistics II (electives):** - Applied Statistics II: A (2 credits) OR - Applied Statistics II: B (2 credits) OR - Applied Statistics II: C (2 credits)
	Skills training: Clinical Assessment Instruments
	Workshop: Introduction to R (1 credit)
	Colloquia
Period 5	**Core course:** Psychosis (4 credits) **Applied statistics II (electives):** - Applied Statistics II: A OR - Applied Statistics II: B OR - Applied Statistics II: C

	Workshop: Human Neuroimaging (3 credits)
	Skills training: Clinical Assessment Instruments Research Practical Psychometrics (2 credits)
	Colloquia
Period 6	**Core course:** Mental Health and Happiness (total of 3 credits)
	Workshop: Psychopharmacology (1 credit) Psychiatric Epidemiology (1 credit) Research Grant Writing Workshop (2 credits)
	Skills training: Clinical Assessment Instruments
	Colloquia

Period	Specialisation Clinical Psychology (CP) Year 2 (2025-2026)
Period 1	**Core course:** Research Grant Writing Course (3 credits) Personality Disorders (4 credits)
	Skills training: Clinical Skills III: Clinical Interviews for the DSM 5 (SCID training) (1 credit) Clinical Skills IV: Intervention Techniques (2 credits)
32 weeks	**Research option:** Research Proposal (1 credit) Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (10 credits) * Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (25 credits) Master's Thesis (14 credits) (total 50 credits) **OR** **Clinical option:** Research Proposal (1 credit) Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (10 credits) * Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (9 credits) Master's Thesis (10 credits) (subtotal 30 credits) AND Research Proposal Minor's thesis (1 credit) Clinical Internship (15 credits) Clinical Activities Report (- credits) & Minor's Thesis (4 credits) (subtotal 20 credits) (total 50 credits)

Maastricht University

Overview of RM Specialisation Drug Development and Neurohealth (DN)

Period	Specialisation Drug Development and Neurohealth (DN) Year 1 (2025-2026)
Throughout Year 1	**Electives:** (6 credits total) Elective: Laboratory Animal Sciences AND/OR Elective: Course AND/OR Elective: Review AND/OR Elective: Research **OR** Double Elective: Research OR Double Elective: Review
Period 1	**Core Courses:** Introduction to Molecular Biochemical Techniques * (5 credits) *Practical training:* Genes and Proteins **OR** Introduction to Psychology * (5 credits) Practical training: Measuring Cognitive Functions *The course coordinators of both courses evaluate which of the two courses a Student is required to take, depending on the Students' background Medical Needs & Failures, Target Discovery (3 credits) Applied Statistics I (4 credits)
	Workshop: Introduction in Genetics (1 credit)
Period 2	**Core courses:** Drug Discovery (4 credits) Drug Metabolism and Safety (5 credits) Applied Statistics I
	Workshop: Valorisation (2 credits)
Period 3	**Core course:** Big Data in Drug Discovery & Development (3 credits) *Practical training:* Computer Supported Training in Big Data in Drug Discovery & Development
	Skills training: Neuroanatomy (1 credit)
	Workshop: Drug Discovery & Development Project Management (1 credit) Introduction to R (1 credit)
	Colloquia (total of 1 credit)
Period 4	**Core course:** Clinical Development (4 credits) Pharmacoepidemiology, Drug Safety & Pharmaceutical Policy (4 credits) **Applied statistics II (electives):** - Applied Statistics II: A (2 credits) OR - Applied Statistics II: B (2 credits) OR - Applied Statistics II: C (2 credits)
	Workshop: Biomedical Brain Imaging (3 credits) Introduction to R (1 credit)

	Colloquia
Period 5	**Core course:** Psychiatric Neuroscience: Psychopharmacology (4 credits) *Practical training:* Western Blotting: A Pharmacological Perspective Electrophysiology: From Single Cell Activity to 'Cognitive' Markers (4 credits) **Applied statistics II (electives):** - Applied Statistics II: A OR - Applied Statistics II: B OR - Applied Statistics II: C
	Colloquia
Period 6	**Core course:** Neuropsychopharmacology (total of 3 credits)
	Workshop: Research Grant Writing Workshop (2 credits)
	Colloquia

Period	Specialisation Drug Development and Neurohealth (DN) Year 2 (2025-2026)
Period 1	**Core courses:** Research Grant Writing Course (3 credits) Applied Therapeutics (3 credits)
	Workshop: Behavioural Tests and Models (1 credit)
32 weeks	Research Proposal (1 credit) Master's Thesis Research Project Graded (10 credits) * Master's Thesis Research Project Ungraded (25 credits) Master's Thesis (14 credits) (total 50 credits)

* The assessment of the practical part of the Master's Thesis Research Project is divided in a graded part of 10 credits, and an ungraded part with the remaining credits. 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 Master's Thesis Research Project is 6.0 or higher, the ungraded part of the Master's Thesis Research Project will be marked as 'pass', if the grade is 5.5 or lower, it will be marked as 'fail'.

A more detailed description of the components of the programmes can be found here, in the coursecatalogue.

Article 3.7 The Research Master's Examination

The Research Master's examination consists of the following parts:

1. the courses pertaining to the Research Master's specialisation;
2. workshops, skills training, practical trainings and colloquia;
3. the group meetings pertaining to the courses as meant under paragraph 1 and 2;
4. the research proposal, the master's thesis research project and the Master's thesis;
5. the elective courses;
6. where applicable, the clinical research proposal, the clinical internship and minor's thesis.

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 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 cannot be started until:
   - At least 54 credits from the research master programme have been attained;
2. The clinical internship cannot be started until:
   - At least 54 credits from the research master programme have been attained;
   - Additionally, for Students following the Clinical Psychology specialisation, all Clinical Skills (I–IV) training must have been completed,
     and for Students following the Neuropsychology specialisation the following skills training courses must have been completed:
     - Neuropsychological Assessments;
     - Basic Cognitive Psychological Skills;
     - Neuropsychology in practice.

   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 Student Portal/FPN Student Intranet.

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 Students have 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 are published on the student portal/FPN Student Intranet.

Article 5.2 Grades and ratings

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 course exam or assessment is passed when a numeric grade of 6.0 or higher is obtained or when a pass is awarded.
4. 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.
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, at times 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, an individual paper, a research article, a presentation, an essay, or a report.
   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 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 about 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 project 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

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 Internship proceeds smoothly, further guidelines have been drawn up, which can be found on FPN Student Intranet.
4. A Student can follow 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 at Tutorial Group Meetings

1. The Board of Examiners lays down the minimum of tutorial and practical group meetings a Student is required to attend in the Rules and Regulations and determines how the actual attendance of each Student in the education 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 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 specifically associated practical training, this will count as proof of having passed the relevant part. 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 admission 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 examiners, 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 art. 5.12).
3. The following restrictions regarding exemptions apply:
   a. In the Research Master's programme, a maximum of 20 credits may be

exempted. Only core courses, practical training, skills training, workshops, colloquia and (if applicable) electives 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 with the exception of elective courses. 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 offenses 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 a 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 associated with the Research 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 Research Master's programme consists of different Research Master specializations, only one diploma will be issued for the Research 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 qualification of 'With Distinction' in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for the Research 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 Mentoring

The Faculty organises an introductory programme and assigns a faculty mentor for the first study year to each Student enrolled in the study programme. The mentor guides the learning process and supervises the personal growth of the Student. Close monitoring of Student performance and progress will help ensure that Students complete the Research Master's programme on schedule.

Article 7.3 Academic adviser

Research Master's Students may consult an academic adviser of the Faculty at any time to discuss academic or personal problems. Academic advisers are not members of the Research Master's teaching staff and can provide impartial advice 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 to 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 to these regulations will not apply to the academic year in which it occurs, unless the interests of the Students are not adversely affected by such a change.
3. Furthermore, an amendment cannot be to the detriment of Students by affecting any other decision that had 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 these regulations, 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 secretariat of the Board of Examiners.

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 that 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

Maastricht University

APPENDIX TO THE RESEARCH MASTER COGNITIVE AND CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCE EER

Appendix 1 Accountability for the language of instruction

The choice for the language of instruction of the Research Master Cognitive and Clinical 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 Research Master Cognitive and Clinical 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 Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience. Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience is an international discipline, implying that most scientific literature is in English. The research 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 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 the master's programme represented 34 nationalities.