# **Rules & Regulations**

**Maastricht School of Liberal Arts and Sciences** 

University College Maastricht Maastricht Science Programme University College Venlo

2023-2024

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#### Article 1: Applicability of the rules

In accordance with the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (hereafter: "The Act"), the Board of Examiners has formulated these Rules and Regulations for the execution of its tasks. These Rules and Regulations apply to the education and examinations of the Liberal Arts and Sciences bachelor's degree programme of Maastricht University, hereafter called: "the Programme".

#### **Article 2: Definitions**

The definitions contained in The Act and in Article 1.2 of the Education and Examination Regulations (EER) of the Programme apply.

#### **Article 3: Tasks of the Board of Examiners**

The Board of Examiners executes the tasks laid down and specified in article 7.12b of The Act.

## Article 4: Appointment and composition of the Board of Examiners

- 4.1. The Dean installs the Board of Examiners and appoints its members on the basis of their expertise in the field of the degree programme..
- 4.2. The Board of Examiners consists of a total of ten members, of which nine are academic staff members of the Programme. One of these members has the role of Chair.
- 4.3. One member is an external member, who is not involved in the education in the Programme.
- 4.4. The Board of Examiners is supported by secretaries.

#### **Article 5: Working method of the Board of Examiners**

- 5.1. The Board of Examiners meets at least six times a year.
- 5.2. The meetings of the Board of Examiners are not public, due to the confidential nature of matters discussed.
- 5.3. In the event that a request or complaint submitted to the Board of Examiners involves an examiner who is a member of the Board of Examiners, the examiner concerned will abstain from deciding on the request or complaint as stated in art. 7.12b.4 of The Act.
- 5.4. The Board of Examiners may delegate clearly defined duties to (sub-)committees.
- 5.5. A secretary to the Board of Examiners is charged with looking after the day-to-day affairs of the Board of Examiners.
- 5.6. A secretary to the Board of Examiners may make standard decisions based on the EER, the Rules & Regulations and/or the jurisprudence of the Board of Examiners.
- 5.7. Only complete and correctly submitted requests and complaints will be accepted for processing.
- 5.8. The Board of Examiners decides upon a request or complaint within 15 working days after the request or complaint was complete and correctly submitted. In case the Board of Examiners cannot reach a decision within 15 working days, the student will be notified.

#### **Article 6: Examiners**

- 6.1. Upon request by the Deans/programme directors of UCM, MSP and UCV, the Board of Examiners appoints members of the scientific staff as examiners in the Programme. Examiners are responsible for the examination in the educational module.
- 6.2. Examiners are responsible for the design of exams, the assessment and the determination of results.
- 6.3. The Board of Examiners can appoint other members of the scientific staff or experts from outside the university as examiners for educational modules.
- 6.4. Other members of the scientific staff can perform tasks for an exam/examination, but the appointed examiner has full responsibility.
- 6.5. Examiners inform students about the assessment in a module at least 5 working days before the module starts by means of a syllabus. The assessment as described in the syllabus cannot be changed during a course, skills training or project.
- 6.6. The Board of Examiners can withdraw an appointment as examiner when the examiner does not comply with the EER, Rules & Regulations or with guidelines of the Board of Examiners, or if the competency of the examiner with respect to the design of exams, the assessment and the determination of results has proven insufficient on repeated occasions.
- 6.7. Examiners need to be University Teaching Qualification (UTQ) certified, or in the process of obtaining their UTQ.
- 6.8. The examiner has to check if all assignments have been handed in via a plagiarism-checking programme and has to check the assignment on plagiarism or other forms or irregularities.

## **Article 7: Registration for modules**

- 7.1. A student can only participate in a module after registering for it in accordance with the rules in Article 4.4 of the EER.
- 7.2. Upon registration for a module, the student is automatically registered for the first instance of the examination and the resit examination, provided all resit requirements are met as stated in article 16 and 17 of these Rules & Regulations.
- 7.3. The student is responsible for checking their registration for modules and examinations.

## Article 8: Withdrawal from and late enrolment in modules

- 8.1. A student who wants to withdraw from a module should inform their Academic Adviser (AA), the Office of Academic Advising (OAA) and the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) by completing the correct (online) form.
- 8.2. A student who has withdrawn from a module can choose to late enrol in an alternative module for that period.
- 8.3. The request for late enrolment in a module needs to be supported by the Academic Adviser. Deadlines for late enrolment are set by and provided by OSA.
- 8.4. The alternative choice of a student who has withdrawn from a module and wants to late enrol in another module, can be restricted because of the capacity of other modules on offer in that course period.

#### **Article 9: Additional modules**

- 9.1. A student who wants to register for modules in addition to the regular study load has to submit a motivated request to the Board of Examiners before the course registration deadline via the applicable online form. Specific programme related requirements can be found on the online form.
- 9.2. An additional module is allowed only in case a student shows sufficient capacity to deal with the workload of an additional module as indicated by the GPA and PR and with a maximum of 10 ECTS per semester. For the MSP programme, only one additional module is allowed alongside the Bachelor Thesis Research.
- 9.3. Additional modules are not allowed in the first year or the first two semesters of a student's enrolment.
- 9.4. A student needs written approval of the Board of Examiners before registering for an additional module. Without prior approval of the Board of Examiners, no ECTS will be granted upon successful completion of the module.

## Article 10: Components elsewhere at UM (external education)

According to article 3.11 of the EER students have the option to follow components elsewhere (within UM, at other Dutch universities or foreign universities). Rules and guidelines for following external education outside UM are explained in article 3.11 of the EER, rules for external education within UM are specified here.

- 10.1. A student who wants to apply for external education has to submit a motivated request to the Board of Examiners before the course registration deadline via the applicable (online) form.
- 10.2. External education is not allowed in the first year or the first two semesters of student's enrolment.
- 10.3. The external module at UM has to be of advanced level, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.

## **Article 11: Exemption**

- 11.1. Exemption is only possible for mandatory modules of the Programme.
- 11.2. A motivated request for exemption must be submitted to the Board of Examiners, no later than three weeks before the start of the module.
- 11.3. The request must be accompanied by sufficient written information and documentation to decide on the request.
- 11.4. The Board of Examiners will obtain expert (content) advice where necessary before taking a decision.
- 11.5. The Board of Examiners shall take a reasoned decision within 15 working days after receipt of the request.
- 11.6. No grades will be awarded for the examination from which the student is exempt.

#### **Article 12: Grades**

- 12.1. Grades are awarded on a scale of 1 to 10, where a result of at least 5.5 represents a pass. All grades should be rounded to one decimal. This has to be the nearest decimal.
- 12.2. In order to complete a module successfully and obtain ECTS for the module, the final grade must be above 5.50 before rounding off. A grade of 5.49 is considered a fail. This is the only grade that cannot be rounded.
- 12.3. When no result can be assigned, the label 'no grade' (NG) is assigned. A NG will be assigned when the examiner cannot assess the knowledge, understanding and/or skills of the student as a result of for example fraud/plagiarism, absence at the exam without a valid reason or an incomplete assessment.

#### Article 13: Grade point average (GPA)

- 13.1. The grade list attached to the diploma indicates the final grade point average (GPA) to provide a reflection of the student's academic performance.
- 13.2. The GPA is calculated on the basis of all assessments of modules a student passed and that are registered in the student's progress records and the certificate for the final examination.
- 13.3. The GPA is calculated by dividing the "sum of weighted grades" by the "sum of credits". The sum of weighted grades is calculated by adding the overall assessments for modules passed, multiplied by the credit value of these modules. The sum of credits is calculated by adding the number of credits of the modules the student has passed and thus received credits for.
- 13.4. Credits obtained through credit transfer are excluded from the GPA.

#### **Article 14: Passes**

#### Section 1: Courses

- a. Next to a passing grade, the following requirement must have been met: students must have attended at least 85% of all tutorial group meetings. Students who have not met the attendance requirement and who have not missed more than 30% of the meetings, will be given a provisional overall grade. Students can repair the failed attendance by successfully completing an additional assignment.
- b. Students can apply for an additional assignment by completing the correct (online) form and submitting this within 10 working days after the last (tutorial group) meeting.
- c. The examiner decides on the validity of the reasons provided in the request for an additional assignment. When granted, the examiner will provide the student with an additional assignment that is proportional in nature and volume to the number of meetings missed. In case the request for an additional assignment is denied, the student will receive a fail for the module.
- d. The examiner will provide the student with an additional assignment within 10 working days after the application deadline after which the student has 20 working days to complete the additional assignment.

#### Section 2: Skills trainings

- a. For the **UCM and UCV programme**, next to a passing grade, the following requirement must have been met: students must have attended at least 85% of all tutorial group meetings to be allowed to take the final exam. Students who have not met the attendance requirement and who have not missed more than 30% of the meetings, will be given a provisional overall grade. Students can repair the failed attendance by successfully completing an additional assignment.
- b. For the **UCM and UCV programme**, some skills training may have an attendance requirements of 100%. The attendance requirements is communicated in the course manual/syllabus.
- c. For the MSP programme, next to a passing grade, the following requirement must have been met: students must have attended at least 100% of all meetings to be allowed to take the final exam. Students who have not met the attendance requirement and who have not missed more than 1 meeting will be given a provisional overall grade. Students can repair the failed attendance by successfully completing an additional assignment.

- d. Students can apply for an additional assignment by completing the correct (online) form and submitting this within 10 working days after the last (tutorial group) meeting.
- e. The examiner decides on the validity of the reasons provided in the request for an additional assignment. When granted, the examiner will provide the student with an additional assignment that is proportional in nature and volume to the number of meetings missed. In case the request for an additional assignment is denied, the student will receive a fail for the module.
- f. The examiner will provide the student with an additional assignment within 10 working days after the application deadline after which the student has 20 working days to complete the additional assignment.

#### Section 3: Projects

- a. Next to a passing grade, the following requirement must have been met: students must have attended at least 100% of all meetings to be allowed to take the final exam. Students who have not met the attendance requirement and who have not missed more than 1 meeting will be given a provisional overall grade. Students can repair the failed attendance by successfully completing an additional assignment.
- b. Students can apply for an additional assignment by completing the correct (online) form and submitting this within 10 working days after the last (tutorial group) meeting.
- c. The examiner decides on the validity of the reasons provided in the request for an additional assignment. When granted, the examiner will provide the student with an additional assignment that is proportional in nature and volume to the number of meetings missed. In case the request for an additional assignment is denied, the student will receive a fail for the module.
- d. The examiner will provide the student with an additional assignment within 10 working days after the application deadline after which the student has 20 working days to complete the additional assignment.

## Section 4: Capstone/Bachelor Thesis Research

- a. For the **UCM programme**, next to a passing grade, the following requirement must have been met: students must have attended at least 85% of all tutorial group meetings to be allowed to take the final exam. Students who have not met the attendance requirement and who have not missed more than 30% of the meetings, will be given a provisional overall grade. Students can repair the failed attendance by successfully completing an additional assignment.
- b. For the MSP and UCV programme, next to a passing grade, the following requirement must have been met: students must have attended at least 100% of all (tutorial group) meetings to be allowed to take the final exam. Students who have not met the attendance requirement and who have not missed more than 1 meeting will be given a provisional overall grade. Students can repair the failed attendance by successfully completing an additional assignment.
- c. Students can apply for an additional assignment by completing the correct (online) form and submitting this within 10 working days after the last (tutorial group) meeting.
- d. The examiner decides on the validity of the reasons provided in the request for an additional assignment. When granted, the examiner will provide the student with an additional assignment that is proportional in nature and volume to the number of meetings missed. In case the request for an additional assignment is denied, the student will receive a fail for the module.
- e. The examiner will provide the student with an additional assignment within 10 working days after the application deadline after which the student has 20 working days to complete the additional assignment.

#### **Article 15: Attendance requirements**

- 15.1. Where a module has a compulsory attendance of 85%, this means in practice:
  - for a total of 16 meetings: at least 13 meetings;
  - for a total of 15 meetings: at least 13 meetings;
  - for a total of 14 meetings: at least 12 meetings;
  - for a total of 13 meetings: at least 11 meetings;
  - for a total of 12 meetings: at least 10 meetings;
  - for a total of 11 meetings: at least 9 meetings;
  - for a total of 10 meetings: at least 8 meetings;
  - for a total of 9 meetings: at least 7 meetings;
  - for a total of 8 meetings: at least 6 meetings;
  - for a total of 7 meetings: at least 6 meetings;
  - for a total of 6 meetings: at least 5 meetings;
  - for a total of 5 meetings: at least 4 meetings;
  - for a total of 4 meetings; at least 4 meetings.
- 15.2. Attendance in (tutorial group) meetings is recorded for each (tutorial) group by the tutor/course coordinator and submitted to OSA before the end of the module. Every student has the right to check the attendance sheet before this is submitted to OSA.
- 15.3. Students, who have not met the compulsory attendance requirement and whose absence the coordinator has marked as inexcusable, will not receive a pass for the module concerned.
- 15.4. Other educational activities, such as lectures, practicals or workshops, may have a separate attendance requirement that has to be fulfilled in order to receive a pass for the module concerned. This is specified in the syllabus of the module.

## **Article 16: Examinations**

- 16.1. In accordance with article 6.5 of these Rules & Regulations, the form of the course assessment is announced in the syllabus before the start of the module.
- 16.2. Each assessment will result in a grade point on the scale mentioned in article 5.2 of the Education and Examinations Regulations.
- 16.3. Attendance and participation in the assessments in the module is mandatory.
- 16.4. Attendance and participation in educational activities may be part of an examination when announced in the course manual/syllabus.
- 16.5. The examiner determines the result of a module's assessment within 10 working days and provides the Office of Student Affairs with the necessary information to apprise the student of the result.
- 16.6. Results are published on the student portal within 15 working days after the last examination date.

#### **Article 17: Resit-examinations**

Students who have obtained a pass for the module cannot take part in resit-examinations. For students who initially fail a module, the following resit-examination regulations apply:

- 1. The resit-examination concerned is only available for students who have fulfilled all requirements mentioned in course manual/syllabus.
- 2. Students will be granted one resit examination, which needs to be taken in the same Academic Year as the module was taken in.
- 3. After a resit-examination, the highest grade point will stand.

- 4. The examiner decides upon content and form of the resit-examination.
- 5. If a student fails the resit, and consequently fails the module, assessments (sub-exams) passed within the module will lose their validity, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.

#### **Article 18: Compensation**

Compensation is not possible for compulsory modules (with the exception of article g below) and the Capstone/Bachelor Thesis Research.

A request for compensation must be submitted together with the graduation request. Compensation is possible under the following conditions:

- a. Only for a maximum of 10 ECTS for courses, a maximum of 5 ECTS for skills and a maximum of 5 ECTS for projects can be compensated;
- b. Modules can only be compensated by another module of the same type (course, skill, project) as well as the same or higher level (introductory, intermediate, advanced);
- c. Only one advanced module can be compensated;
- d. Only a grade of 5.0-5.49 can be compensated;
- e. For every grade a student wants to compensate, there must be an 8.0 or higher grade on the grade list for the module with which they are compensating;
- f. Attendance criteria for the module have to be met;
- g. At UCM and UCV you can compensate a maximum of one core course.
- h. The overall GPA for all modules should be 6.5 after compensation.

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## Article 19a: Exceptional circumstances - Disabilities

- 19a.1. Upon request by the student, students with a disability may take exams in a manner that accommodates their specific disability as much as possible.
- 19a.2. A request for disability provisions must be submitted to the Disability Support Office.
- 19a.3. This request is submitted preferably before the start of the study programme, or as soon as the student is confronted with the disability.
- 19a.4. The Disability Support Office sends an advice to the Board of Examiners and the Board of Examiners takes a final decision with regard to the exact disability provisions and the period of validity.
- 19a.5. If a student is entitled to get extra exam time this will generally be a standard amount of 30 minutes for all students with special circumstances. This general rule applies for written (online) exams.
- 19a.6. The Board of Examiners ensures that the allowed adaptations to the exam format are in line with the generic requirements to pass the module.

## Article 19b: Exceptional circumstances – Topsport status

- 19b.1. Upon request by the student, students with a Topsport status may if necessary take education and/or exams in a manner that accommodates their specific needs as much as possible.
- 19b.2. A request for Topsport status must be submitted to the Student Services Centre (SSC).
- 19b.3. This request is submitted preferably before the start of the study programme, or as soon as the student is assigned the Topsport status.
- 19b.4. The SSC sends an advice to the Board of Examiners and the Board of Examiners takes a final decision with regard to the exact provisions and the period of validity.

#### Article 20: The degree

- 20.1. A Bachelor of Science (MSP, UCV, UCM) or Bachelor of Arts (UCV, UCM) degree is awarded to students who have fulfilled all the requirements of the degree programme.
- 20.2. The degree certificate and/or the accompanying documents will state:
  - the name of the student;
  - k. the date of birth of the student;
  - I. the place of birth of the student;
  - m. the name of the institution;
  - n. the name of the Programme;
  - o. the final examination components and the grades obtained for them;
  - p. the degree awarded;
  - q. the concentration;
  - r. the Grade Point Average;
  - s. (if applicable) the distinction;
  - t. the date on which the Programme was most recently accredited or was subjected to the new programme test.

#### **Article 21: Distinctions**

- 21.1. When the examination for the Programme is passed and the certificate belonging to this examination is awarded, the following distinctions may be added to the results:
  - a. Honours: 7.4-7.9 grade point average
  - b. Cum laude: 8.0-8.5 grade point average
  - c. Summa Cum laude: 8.6-10.0 grade point average
- 21.2. The Board of Examiners can withhold the awarding of a distinction in case a student has committed fraud.

## Article 22: Appeals procedure

- 22.1. An appeal against a decision from the Board of Examiners as stated in Article 7.61 of The Act must be submitted to the Board of Appeal for Examinations (CBE) within 6 weeks after publication of such decision by submitting the applicable form to the Complaint Service Point. The appeal must be signed, dated and include the name and address of the petitioner. It should also include the grounds on which the appeal is based and, if possible, a copy of the decision being appealed.
- 22.2. An appeal against (components of) a decision of an examiner as stated in Article 7.61 of The Act, is first submitted as complaint to the Board of Examiners, as stated in Article 5 of these Rules and Regulations. In the absence of a satisfactory outcome of the complaint procedure, the student can appeal the decision of the examiner following the procedure in paragraph 1 of this article.

#### Article 23a: Directive on fraud

In this article – which is related to Article 5.15 of the EER – it is, in accordance with Article 7.12b(3) of the Act explained, how the Board of Examiners acts under Article 7.12b(2) of the Act.

1. The Board of Examiners may impose one of the disciplinary measures set down in paragraph 7 of this article if it establishes that students, in any exam or exam component have committed fraud, including:

- a. have had any aids/devices, resources, text, software or notes at their disposal, or have used aids and/or (communication) devices that were not explicitly allowed, or that were explicitly forbidden in the exam instructions and/or Rules of Procedures for Exams;
- b. have communicated or tried to communicate with another student without permission from an invigilator, examiner, or Board of Examiners member;
- c. have copied or attempted to copy from another student, or have provided the opportunity to copy;
- d. have collaborated on a graded assignment, paper or practical, whereas this was not explicitly allowed;
- e. have posed as someone else or let someone else pose as their;
- f. have misled, or at least attempted to mislead or provided the opportunity to mislead an invigilator, an examiner, a corrector or the Board of Examiners with respect to the exam;
- g. have used an obfuscation method in submitted work that is likely to have the effect that plagiarism checking tools do not work optimally;
- h. have disregarded the instructions of the invigilator or the instructions for the exam (component) such that an unfair advantage might have been obtained;
- i. have performed actions or omissions which make it impossible in whole or in part to properly evaluate their knowledge, understanding and/or skills.
- 2. The Board of Examiners may impose one of the disciplinary measures set down in paragraph 7 of this article if it establishes that students have committed fraud, including:
  - a. have falsified the information on mandatory attendance, participation or effort obligation; or had someone else falsify that information; or have signed off on attendance, participation or effort obligation when it was not (fully) met;
  - b. have falsified exam results;
  - c. have falsely obtained, or attempted to, access to an exam;
  - d. have mislead an examiner relating to exam (components), registration, or grading;
  - e. have facilitated other students to engage in fraud;
  - f. have fabricated and/or falsified survey or interview answers or research data;
  - g. have breached or attempted to breach the security measures around exams.
- 3. The Board of Examiners may impose one of the disciplinary measures set down in paragraph 7 of this article if it establishes that students have committed plagiarism in any exam, part or component, including:
  - a. Using or copying their personal or other' texts (including code), data, ideas, other materials or thoughts without adequate reference to the source;
  - b. presenting the structure or central body of thought from others without adequate reference to the source and thus passing it off as their own;
  - c. not clearly indicating in the text (including code), for example via quotation marks or a certain layout, that verbatim or nearly verbatim quotes have been used;
  - d. paraphrasing the content of their own or others' texts without adequate reference to the source;
  - e. copying video, audio or test material, software and program codes from others without adequate reference to the source and thus passing them off as their own;
  - f. copying work from other students and thus passing it off as their own;
  - g. submitting a text that has been previously been submitted for a different component/module, or is similar to a text that has been previously been submitted by oneself or by others, unless explicitly allowed;
  - h. submitting work or assignments acquired from or written by a third party (whether or not for payment) and thus passing them off as their own;

where in all of these provisions "others" and "third party" does not only refer to people but also to generative artificial intelligence such as GPT-x, ChatGPT (Plus), BARD. If the use of artificial intelligence

is allowed and/or does not have to be disclosed for a specific use, this is explicitly mentioned in the course materials.

- 4. 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. Also, students are not allowed to make any modifications to the exam. When the exam inspection is virtually, it is not allowed to make screenshots or record the inspection. The Board of Examiners may impose one of the disciplinary measures set down in paragraph 7 of this article if it establishes that a student did not adhere to these rules.
- 5. In case of fraud / plagiarism in group assignments, all students in the group are in principle responsible for fraud / plagiarism. If it is unambiguously clear that only specific students have committed fraud, only the students in question will receive punitive sanctions, but all are subject to corrective sanctions.
- 6. In the event that the Board of Examiners suspects that a student has committed fraud in any way, the Board of Examiners shall be entitled to start the following procedure: the (acting) chair of the Board of Examiners opens an inquiry into the established facts, and may call in an expert to do so. After this inquiry has been closed, but within 15 working days after fraud has been reported to the Board of Examiners by the examiner(s), the chair will inform the members of the Board of Examiners, and invite the student and the examiner(s) the opportunity to each state their case. Students may have an adviser accompany them. If the Board of Examiners establishes that a student has committed fraud, the Board will declare the relevant exams/assessment and/or attendance registration null and void (label NG) and can impose a measure as set down in paragraph 7. The Board of Examiners will inform the student involved, the examiner and education office regarding this measure and the reason on which this measure is based. This procedure shall take place in accordance with Article 7.12b of the Act.
- 7. In the cases referred to in paragraphs 1 to 6 the Board of Examiners can declare the results of the relevant exam or part in question and/or the attendance registration invalid, as well as impose the following disciplinary measures:
  - a. a reprimand;
  - b. exclusion from participation or further participation in one or more exams in the programme for a period of at most one year;
  - c. in serious cases of fraud, the Board of Examiners can propose to the UM's Executive Board that the student(s) concerned be permanently deregistered from the programme.
- 8. Repeat offenses of fraud are considered an aggravating circumstance and may result in more severe sanctions. This also includes fraud in components/modules that were taken at other faculties or institutions of higher education. For this reason, UM Boards of Examiners can inform each other if fraud and/or plagiarism has been established in an exam (component) at another programme.
- 9. Before the Board of Examiners imposes an appropriate disciplinary measure, or makes a proposal to the Executive Board, the student in question is given the opportunity to be heard.
- 10. If fraud is established, this is included in the student's dossier and, if applicable for the programme in question, a notice of unprofessional behaviour will be drawn up.
- 11. If, after investigation, it is ultimately determined that the student concerned did not commit fraud, the names will be removed from the correspondence about the alleged fraud and the correspondence will not

be included in the student's dossier.

- 12. The Board of Examiners does not grant exemptions on the grounds of study results obtained elsewhere while the student was excluded from participating in the programme's exams because fraud was committed.
- 13. A student who was excluded from participation in exams, or whose exam was declared invalid for a component/module due to fraud, is not eligible for assessment in exceptional cases for those components/modules.

## Article 23b: Irregularity

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

#### **Article 24: Amendments**

- 24.1. Amendments to these Rules & Regulations shall be determined by the Board of Examiners by means of a separate decision.
- 24.2. No amendments will be made to these Rules & Regulations, unless it may reasonably be assumed that the interests of the students will not be harmed as a result.

#### **Article 25: Hardship clause**

The Board of Examiners is authorised to deviate from these regulations in individual cases if strict adherence to these regulations would result in inequitable circumstances for the Programme and/or the student(s).

## **Article 26: Execution and Date of Commencement**

In all cases for which the present Rules & Regulations do not provide, the Board of Examiners will decide. These Rules & Regulations will take effect on 1 September 2023 and stay in force for the academic year 2023-2024, up to and including 31 August 2024.