

Education and Examination Regulations

**Master of Science programmes
Biobased Materials (BBM) and Systems Biology (SB)**

2018-2019

Contents

SECTION 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Article 1.1 Applicability of the regulations
- Article 1.2 Definitions

SECTION 2 ADMISSION MASTER PROGRAMME

- Article 2.1 Admission
- Article 2.2 Admission requirements
- Article 2.3 Language requirement with non-Dutch diplomas
- Article 2.4 Board of Admission
- Article 2.5 Admission procedure

SECTION 3 CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

- Article 3.1 Aim of the programme
- Article 3.2 Form of the programme
- Article 3.3 Language of instruction
- Article 3.4 Communication and announcement of decisions
- Article 3.5 Study load
- Article 3.6 Content
- Article 3.7 Electives
- Article 3.8 Flexible programme and flexible master's
- Article 3.9 The examination

SECTION 4 EDUCATION

- Article 4.1 Courses; composition; actual design
- Article 4.2 Prior knowledge; entrance requirements
- Article 4.3 Course registration
- Article 4.4 Attendance and best-efforts obligation
- Article 4.5 Practicals

SECTION 5 ASSESSMENT

- Article 5.1 General
- Article 5.2 Grades
- Article 5.3 Scheduling and frequency of the exams
- Article 5.4 Form of the exams
- Article 5.5 Oral exams
- Article 5.6 Written assignments
- Article 5.7 Determination and announcement of exam result
- Article 5.8 Right of inspection
- Article 5.9 Period of validity
- Article 5.10 Retention period for tests
- Article 5.11 Exemption
- Article 5.12 Fraud
- Article 5.12A Invalid exam
- Article 5.13 Unsuitability (Iudicium Abeundi)

SECTION 6 EXAMINATION

- Article 6.1 Examination
- Article 6.2 Degree
- Article 6.3 Certificate and statements
- Article 6.4 Grade point average (GPA)
- Article 6.5 Right of appeal

SECTION 7 STUDY GUIDANCE

- Article 7.1 Study progress administration
- Article 7.2 Study guidance

SECTION 8	TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS
Article 8.1	Amendments
Article 8.2	Notice
Article 8.2a	Evaluation
Article 8.3	Unforeseen cases/safety net scheme
Article 8.4	Effective date

SECTION 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1.1 Applicability of the regulations

These regulations apply to the education, exams and examinations of the Master of Science programmes in Biobased Materials (BBM), hereinafter referred to as: 'the BBM programme' and Systems Biology (SB), hereinafter referred to as: 'the SB programme', and to all students who are registered within the programme.

The programme is provided by Maastricht University's Faculty of Science and Engineering, hereinafter referred to as: 'the faculty'.

The regulations were adopted by the Faculty Board after advice and consent of the Educational Programme Committees and in consultation with and after consent from the Faculty Council. The regulations will take effect on 1 September 2018 for the 2018-2019 academic year.

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

For components of the programmes 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 definitions apply:

- a. the Act: the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act [*Wet op het Hoger onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk onderzoek*];
- b. the BBM programme: the Master of Science programme in Biobased Materials
- c. the SB programme: the Master of Science programme in Systems Biology
- d. student: a person who is registered at the university for education and/or to take exams and the examination of the BBM programme or the SB programme;
- e. academic year: the period from 1 September of a calendar year up to and including 31 August of the following calendar year;
- f. semester: part of an academic year, either starting in September or starting in February;
- g. module: an educational component of the programme as referred to in art. 3.6;
- h. course: a study unit of the programme within the meaning of the Act;
- i. programme: the master's programmes referred to in Article 1.1 of these regulations, consisting of a coherent whole of study units;
- j. practical: practical exercise as referred to in Article 7.13(2)(d) of the Act, in one of the following forms:
 - carrying out research in a group during a project;
 - writing a paper, writing a research-project proposal or performing another written assignment;
 - performing a research assignment;
 - participating in field work, a field trip, or an excursion;
 - peer-review exam of a research proposal, a presentation, or a research paper;
 - research portfolio;
 - participating in an activity intended to develop certain skills;
- k. project: integrated module in which education takes place in the form of research using previously attained knowledge and skills;
- l. module manual: the module guide which include further details about module-specific provisions and information about the module, including assessment.
- m. master thesis research: the concluding module of the BBM or SB programme and part of the final examination;
- n. elective: part of the programme that is the result of individual choice of the student and part of the final examination;
- o. course examination: a component of the examination as referred to in Article 7.10 of the Act;
- p. exam: see *course examination*;
- q. final examination: the examination for the BBM programme or the SB programme;
- r. credit: a unit expressed in ECTS credits, with one credit equalling 28 hours of study;
- s. examiner: the person designated by the Board of Examiners to administer exams and to determine the results of such exams;

- t. Board of Examiners: the board referred to in Article 7.12 of the Act;
- u. Faculty Council: the Faculty Council referred to in art. 9.37 of the Act;
- v. Faculty Board: the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Science and Engineering of UM, referred to in Article 9.12 of the Act;
- w. Board of Admission: the board responsible for assessment of admissibility of the candidate to one of the programmes;
- x. Educational Programme Committee: the representation and advisory body that carries out the duties described in Article 9.18 and 9.38c of the Act;
- y. UM: Maastricht University;

The other terms in these Education and Examination Regulations have the meaning conferred 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 BBM programme:
 - a. applicants who possess a Bachelor of Science degree in one of the fields of science listed in Appendix D1, or
 - b. applicants who possess a Bachelor of Science degree from a Dutch HBO study programme or equivalent in one of the fields of science listed in Appendix D1.
 - the SB programme:
 - c. applicants who possess a Bachelor of Science degree in one of the fields of science listed in Appendix D2, or
 - d. applicants who possess a Bachelor of Science degree from a Dutch HBO study programme or equivalent in one of the fields of science listed in Appendix D2.
2. Besides the requirements as mentioned in article 1, the following specific admission requirements apply to:
 - the BBM programme:
 - a. at least 15 ECTS (or equivalent) in mathematics at bachelor's level or equivalent in which case the Board of Admission will get expert advice before taking a decision.
 - the SB programme:
 - b. at least 15 ECTS (or equivalent) in mathematics or computer science at bachelor's level or equivalent in which case the Board of Admission will get expert advice before taking a decision.

Article 2.3 Language requirement with non-Dutch diplomas

1. An English language certificate (obtained within the last five years and passed before the programme starts) is required for applicants who are non-English native speakers.
2. By passing one of the following language proficiency tests, non-English native speakers are eligible for admission to the programme:
 - IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with a score of at least 6.5;
 - TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) with a score of at least 575 (TOEFL paper), 232 (TOEFL computer) or 90 (TOEFL internet);
3. English native speakers and persons holding a bachelor's diploma issued in a country in which English is the official language of communication and instruction (e.g. Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States) or who have obtained their bachelor's degree at a programme in which the language of communication, instruction, and assessment was completely in English, are exempt from the language requirement.\
4. The Board of Admission may grant exemption from the IELTS or TOEFL test requirement if sufficient mastery of the English language can be proven otherwise.

Article 2.4 Board of Admission

1. The Board of Admission for the BBM programme and SB programme are responsible for assessing eligibility for admission and issuing the certificate of admission to the respective programmes.
2. The Board of Admission for:
 - the BBM programme consists of:
 - three members appointed from the academic staff, with one member acting as chair;
 - the Admission Officer, a supporting staff member responsible for all administration and handling of admissions requests.
 - the SB programme consists of:
 - three members appointed from the academic staff, with one member acting as chair;

- the Admission Officer, a supporting staff member responsible for all administration and handling of admissions requests.
3. The Faculty Board appoints the members of the Board of Admission.

Article 2.5 Admission procedure

1. The applicant is required to provide requested documentation through which academic performance and eligibility are assessed. The applicant must also write a personal statement, in which he/she motivates his/her choice for the BBM programme or SB programme and include two reference letters;
2. The Board of Admission reviews all required information, as mentioned under paragraph 1, and decides whether the applicant will be invited for an interview;
3. After the interview, the Board of Admission makes an overall assessment of the complete file of the applicant and decides on the admission of the student to the BBM programme or SB programme;
4. The candidate will be admitted subject to the condition that, by the relevant start date for the BBM programme or SB programme, he/she will have satisfied the requirements stated in Article 2.2 & 2.3 regarding knowledge, understanding and skills, as evidenced by the required certificates.

SECTION 3 CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

Article 3.1 Aim of the programme

1. The BBM programme is intended to provide the student with:
 - a university education within the framework of the specific UM teaching philosophy and profile characteristics;
 - added depth to the student's specific choice for the field of Biobased Materials;
 - the opportunity to broaden his/her education into related disciplines;
 - specialised knowledge, skills and understanding in the field of Biobased Materials;
 - preparation for a professional career in the field of Biobased Materials.
 - specialised knowledge, skills and understanding in the field of Biobased Materials and attainment of the exit qualifications referred to in the second paragraph;
 - preparation for professional practice as a scientist in the field of Biobased, or Sustainable Materials.
 - preparation for a PhD/research programme in the field of Biobased and Sustainable Materials.
 - professional standards/values with regards to scientific integrity applicable during the study and within academia.

The SB programme is intended to provide the student with:

- a university education within the framework of the specific UM teaching philosophy and profile characteristics;
- added depth to the student's specific choice for the field of Systems Biology;
- the opportunity to broaden his/her education into related disciplines;
- specialised knowledge, skills and understanding in the field of Systems Biology;
- preparation for a professional career in the field of Systems Biology.
- specialised knowledge, skills and understanding in the field of Systems Biology and attainment of the exit qualifications referred to in the second paragraph;
- preparation for professional practice as a scientist in the field of Systems Biology, or Biological Data Science.
- preparation for a PhD/research programme in the field of Systems Biology
- professional standards/values with regards to scientific integrity applicable during the study and within academia.

2. A graduate of the BBM programme:
 - has profound knowledge and understanding of the field of Biobased Materials, in particular the combination of the underlying scientific fields of Biology, Chemistry, Materials Science in the context of industrial application and sustainability;
 - has thorough knowledge of a speciality within the study programme, or thorough knowledge on the interface of the study programme with other fields;
 - has the academic skill to identify, formulate, analyse and suggest possible solutions to problems independently in the field of Biobased Materials;
 - has the academic skill to conduct research on a problem concerning Biobased Materials, its production, processing or application, and report on it in a manner that meets the customary standards of the discipline;
 - possesses professional and academic skills, to provide substantial and potentially leading contribution in a multidisciplinary team, crossing the boundaries between disciplines;
 - understands the context of Biobased Materials within science and society and is capable of applying the knowledge and understanding gained in the discipline of Biobased Materials in a broader social context;
 - is capable of applying knowledge and understanding in a way which demonstrates a professional attitude and ethical responsibility to his/her work or profession;
 - is capable of communicating in English conclusions, as well as the underlying knowledge, grounds and considerations, to an audience composed of specialists or non-specialists;

A graduate of the SB programme:

- has profound knowledge and understanding of the field of Systems Biology, in particular the combination of the underlying scientific fields of Biology, Computer Science and Mathematics in the context of biological and medical application;
- has thorough knowledge of a speciality within the study programme, or thorough knowledge on the interface of the study programme and other fields;

- has the academic skill to independently identify, formulate, analyse and suggest possible solutions to problems in the field of Systems Biology
- has the academic skill to conduct research on a problem concerning Systems Biology, including its experimental design, data collection and management, analysis, modelling and model validation, and report on it in a manner that meets the customary standards of the discipline;
- possesses professional and academic skills, to provide substantial and potentially leading contribution in a multidisciplinary team, crossing the boundaries between disciplines;
- understands the context of Systems Biology within science and society and is capable of applying the knowledge and understanding gained in the discipline of Systems Biology in a broader social context;
- is capable of applying knowledge and understanding in a way which demonstrates a professional attitude and ethical responsibility to his/her work or profession;
- is capable of communicating in English conclusions, as well as the underlying knowledge, grounds and considerations, to an audience composed of specialists or non-specialists;

Article 3.2 Form of the programme

The BBM programme and SB programmes are full-time programmes and commence once a year in September.

Article 3.3 Language of instruction

All teaching, education, examinations and communication of the BBM programme and SB programme are in English in accordance with Appendix E.

Article 3.4 Communications and announcement of decisions

1. The Faculty Board, the Educational Programme Committees, the Board of Examiners and the examiners may use a written letter, My UM, the student portal and e-mail via the UM account for communications relating to the education and examinations.
2. The Faculty Board, the Educational Programme Committees, the Board of Examiners and the examiners may use a written letter, My UM, the student portal and e-mail via the UM account to announce decisions.

Article 3.5 Study load

The BBM programme and the SB programme each have a study load of 120 ECTS credits, with one credit corresponding to 28 hours of study.

Article 3.6 Content

The BBM programme includes the following components and related study loads, which are specified in appendices A, B and C:

- 4 mandatory courses (4 x 6 ECTS credits; 24 ECTS credits)
- 1 mandatory project (6 ECTS credits)
- 6 elective courses (6 x 6 ECTS credits; 36 ECTS credits)
- 1 elective project (6 ECTS credits)
- 1 master thesis research (45 ECTS credits)
- 1 BBM research portfolio (3 ECTS credits)

The SB programme includes the following components and related study loads, which are specified in appendices A, B and C:

- 4 mandatory courses (4 x 6 ECTS credits; 24 ECTS credits)
- 1 mandatory project (6 ECTS credits)
- 6 elective courses (6 x 6 ECTS credits; 36 ECTS credits)
- 1 elective project (6 ECTS credits)
- 1 master thesis research (48 ECTS credits)

Article 3.7 Electives

1. Each student chooses one or more elective components with a total study load as referred to in article 3.6.
2. In exceptional cases, the student may - subject to prior approval by the Board of Examiners of the sending and receiving programme - choose to take components given by another programme or UM faculty, another Dutch university or a foreign university.
3. To attain the certificate for the examination for the master's programme, the student must have obtained at least 30 ECTS of the electives in the educational programme through components provided by the master's programme.

Article 3.8 Flexible programme and flexible master's

1. A student registered for the BBM programme or the SB programme may, under certain conditions, formulate an educational programme of his/her own which is different from the educational programme stated in Article 3.6. The composition of such a programme must be approved beforehand by the appropriate Board of Examiners. The programme must include exams.
2. The flexible programme must have a study load of 120 ECTS credits.
3. The Board of Examiners will decide whether to grant permission for the student's proposal within four weeks after it receives the proposal.
4. In granting the permission, the Board of Examiners will indicate which programme offered by the faculty will include the programme formulated by the student for purposes of the Education and Examination Regulations.

Article 3.9 The examination

The examination consists of the components as listed in art. 3.6, totalling 120 ECTS credits.

SECTION 4 EDUCATION

Article 4.1 Courses; composition; actual design

1. Modules are given with the study load stated in Article 3.6.
2. The education is given in the form of classes, study groups, practical training, lectures, individual supervision, journal clubs, writing assignments, or otherwise.

Article 4.2 Prior knowledge; entrance requirements

1. The student is granted participation in the master thesis research provided all 30 ECTS credits for the mandatory modules and at least 36 ECTS credits for the elective modules are attained, totalling to a minimum of 66 ECTS credits.
2. In case the student has not attained the required credits to start the master thesis research, the student may direct a request for an alternative study plan to the Board of Examiners.
3. Subject to the provisions in the first paragraph, the required prior knowledge to successfully participate in each course is indicated in the course description.

Article 4.3 Course registration

Students are registered by the Office of Student Affairs for the modules in art. 3.6.

Article 4.4 Attendance and best-efforts obligation

1. Each student is expected to actively participate in the module for which he/she has registered.
2. Each student must be present in at least 85% of the modules educational activities. For specific modules, or parts thereof, an attendance requirement of 100% may be requested. The attendance requirement for each module is specified in the module manual.

Article 4.5 Practicals

The compulsory and elective modules may include practicals.

SECTION 5 ASSESSMENT

Article 5.1 General

1. During a module, the student will be tested for academic training and the extent to which the student has achieved the stated learning objectives.
2. The module manual describes the achievements the student must make to pass the module and the criteria by which the student is assessed
3. The Rules of Conduct for Examinations describe the assessment procedure.

Article 5.2 Grades

1. Grades are awarded on a scale of 1 to 10; grades are given to one decimal.
2. The student must receive a final overall grade of 6.0 to pass the module.

Article 5.3 Scheduling and frequency of the exams

1. Students can take exams twice per academic year: once during or directly after the course period (first sit for the exam) and once during the course of the academic year (resit option).
2. Once a student passes an exam, he/she cannot resit that exam, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.
3. In exceptional cases, the Board of Examiners can decide that an exam may be taken at another time than determined in accordance with the first paragraph.

Article 5.4 Form of the exams

1. The exam format and criteria for exams are announced by the examiner at the start of the module and published in the module manual and on the student portal (EleUM).
2. Each module contains at least two exams at two different moments in the module.
3. At the student's request, the Board of Examiners may allow him/her to take the exam in a manner other than that stipulated in the module manual and on the student portal (EleUM).
4. Upon request, students with a disability may take exams in a manner which accommodates their specific disability as much as possible. If necessary, the Board of Examiners will obtain expert advice where necessary from the faculty's student advisor and/or the student dean at the Student Service Centre (SSC) before taking a decision in such matters.

Article 5.5 Oral exams

1. Oral exams are taken only by one person at a time, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.
2. An oral exam is given by the examiner in the presence of a second examiner, unless the Board of Examiners has decided otherwise.
3. Oral exams take place in public, unless the Board of Examiners or the relevant examiner decides otherwise in a special case.

Article 5.6 Written assignments

1. Students will be provided with guidelines for formulating written assignments and the master thesis. The guidelines will be included in the module manuals.
2. The master thesis must be written individually.

Article 5.7 Determination and announcement of exam result

1. The Board of Examiners determines the standards for assessing exams. The standards are included in the Rules and Regulations.
2. The examiner determines the result of an exam within 15 working days of the date on which it was taken and provides the Office of Student Affairs with the necessary information to apprise the student of the result.

3. The examiner determines the result of an oral exam immediately after it is taken and issues the relevant certificate to the student. If more than one student takes the same exam after each other, this period may be extended by up to five working days.
4. When the result of a written exam is announced, it will be indicated how the student can inspect the exam and file an appeal as referred to in Article 6.5.

Article 5.8 Right of inspection

1. Within 10 working days of the date on which the result of a (written) exam, including a computer-based exam, is announced, students may, upon request, inspect their evaluated work.
2. Within the period referred to in paragraph 1, any interested party may, upon request, inspect the questions and assignments for the (written) exam and, if possible, the standards based on which it was assessed.

Article 5.9 Period of validity

1. Exams which have been passed are valid for an unlimited period.
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 6 years in paragraph one will be extended by the duration of the financial support the student receives from the profiling fund.
3. Sub-tests and assignments which were passed within a component which was not passed will lose their validity after the academic year in which they were passed, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.

Article 5.10 Retention period for tests

1. The exercises, answers and the evaluated work of the written tests will be retained in paper or digital form for two years after the exam/examination result is determined.
2. The final projects/theses and the evaluation of these will be kept for at least seven years after the evaluation.

Article 5.11 Exemption

1. The Board of Examiners may, at a student's request and having heard the relevant examiner, grant the student an exemption from taking an exam if he/she demonstrates that he/she previously:
 - either passed an exam for a university or higher professional education programme which was similar in terms of content and level or;
 - gained sufficient knowledge and skills relevant to the exam concerned, either through work or professional experience.
2. An exemption may only pertain to an entire course and not a component thereof.
3. At most 12 of the credits for the programme may be earned based on the exemptions granted.
4. The master's thesis is excluded from this exemption option.
5. 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 by the Board of Examiners from taking exams for the programme because of fraud.
6. The same period of validity applies to exemptions as to examination results.

Article 5.12 Fraud

1. 'Fraud', including 'plagiarism', means actions or omissions by a student which make it impossible in whole or in part to properly evaluate his/her knowledge, understanding and skills. Allowing and/or enabling other students to engage in fraud is also considered fraud under these regulations.
2. 'Plagiarism' means the presentation of ideas or words from one's own or someone else's sources without proper acknowledgment of the sources.

3. 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.
4. In serious cases of fraud, the Board of Examiners can propose to UM's Executive Board that the student(s) concerned be permanently deregistered from the BBM or SB programme.
5. The Rules and Regulations include further provisions about what constitutes fraud and which disciplinary measures the Board of Examiners can impose.

Article 5.12A invalid exam

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

Article 5.13 Unsuitability (*Iudicium Abeundi*)

1. In exceptional cases and after careful consideration of the interests involved, the Board of Examiners or the Faculty Board may ask the Executive Board to terminate or, as the case may be, refuse the enrolment of a student in a programme, if that student, through his/her behavior or opinions ventured, has demonstrated his/her unsuitability for the practice of one or more professions for which he is trained by the programme he/she follows, or, as the case may be, for the practical preparation for the practice of the profession.
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 and date of the examination and issues the certificate as referred to in Article 6.3 as soon as the student has satisfied the requirements for the examination programme.
2. Prior to determining the result of the examination, the Board of Examiners may conduct their own investigation of the student's knowledge regarding one or more components or aspects of the programme.
3. To pass the examination, the student must have passed all exams for all required modules referred to in art. 3.6.
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.
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 satisfied all the examination obligations 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 test is taken.
The Board of Examiners in any event grants the request
 - if the student is selected by the faculty for a double degree, an extracurricular internship or an extracurricular exchange, or
 - if the student holds or will hold a board position for which at least nine months of financial support is awarded from the profiling fund or holds or will hold an 'INKOM' board position.The Board of Examiners may also grant the request if refusal would result in an exceptional case of extreme unfairness because of the fact that the student concerned could not have taken the automatic graduation into account when he/she was planning his/her study.

Article 6.2 Degree

Students who have passed the examination will be awarded the degree Master of Science (M.Sc.).

Article 6.3 Certificate and statements

1. As proof that the examination was passed, the Board of Examiners issues a certificate, after it has been stated by or on behalf of UM's Executive Board that the procedural requirements for receiving the certificate have been met. The certificate is based on the model that UM's Executive Board has adopted. One certificate will be issued per programme, even if the student completes several programmes.
2. The certificate that the examination has been passed also indicates:
 - a. the name of the institution;
 - b. the name of the programme;
 - c. the examination components;
 - d. the degree awarded;
 - e. the date on which the BBM or SB programme was most recently accredited or was subjected to the new programme test;
3. Students who are entitled to the issuance of a certificate may, stating reasons, ask the Board of Examiners not to do this yet (pursuant to Article 6.1(7)).
4. The certificate is signed by the chair of the Board of Examiners and the Dean of the Faculty.
5. The certificate is awarded in public, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise in exceptional cases.
6. The Board of Examiners includes a diploma supplement as referred to in Article 7.11(4) of the Act with the certificate. This diploma supplement is based on the model adopted by UM's Executive Board, which is in compliance with the agreed European standard format.
7. The Board of Examiners may award the '*cum laude*' or '*summa cum laude*' designation in accordance with the provisions in the Rules and Regulations.
8. 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 which they passed.

Article 6.4 Grade point average (GPA)

The diploma supplement referred to in Article 6.3(6) indicates the final grade point average (GPA), to provide a reflection of the student's academic performance.

Article 6.5 Right of appeal

Within six weeks after the decision by the examiner and/or the Board of Examiners is announced, the student may appeal this decision to UM's Complaints Service Point.

The appeal must be signed, must include a date and the name and address of the party lodging the appeal, must indicate the grounds for the appeal and, if possible, must include a copy of the decision being appealed.

SECTION 7 STUDY GUIDANCE

Article 7.1 Study progress administration

1. The BBM and SB programme Office of Student Affairs registers the students' individual course results and makes these available via the Student Portal.
2. Upon request, a student is provided with an overview of the study results obtained thus far.

Article 7.2 Study guidance

The BBM and SB programme will provide for the introduction and study guidance for students registered for the programme.

SECTION 8 TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 8.1 Amendments

1. Amendments to these regulations may be adopted in a separate decision by the Faculty Board, after advice and consent from the Educational Programme Committees and after advice and consent from the Faculty Council.
2. An amendment in these regulations will not pertain to the current academic year, unless the interests of the students will not reasonably be harmed as a result.
3. In addition, amendments may not affect, to the students' detriment, a decision regarding a student which has been taken by the Board of Examiners pursuant to these regulations.

Article 8.2 Notice

1. The Faculty Board ensures that proper notice is given of these regulations, the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Examiners, and any changes to these documents, by, for example, placing such notice on the UM website and EleUM.
2. Any interested party may obtain a copy of the documents referred to in the first paragraph from the BBM and SB programme's Office of Student Affairs or the Secretary of the Board of Examiners.

Article 8.2a Evaluation

The Faculty Board will ensure that the education of the programme is regularly evaluated, assessing at least the student workload.

Article 8.3 Unforeseen cases/safety net scheme

1. In cases not covered or not clearly covered by these regulations, decisions are taken by or on behalf of the Faculty Board, after it has consulted with the Board of Examiners.
2. In individual cases in which application of the Education and Examination Regulations, would lead to manifestly unreasonable results, the Board of Examiners can deviate from the stated regulations in the student's favour.

Article 8.4 Effective date

This Regulation will be implemented as of September 1st 2018 and will apply to the academic year of 2018-2019.

Adopted by the Faculty Board on

APPENDICES OF THE EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS

Appendix A General overview of the curriculum

Figure A1. Overview of the curriculum of the BBM programme

1st year master Biobased Materials (total 60EC)

8 weeks	8 weeks	4 weeks	8 weeks	8 weeks	4 weeks
Compulsory courses	Compulsory courses	Project	Electives	Electives	Project
2 Courses	2 Courses	student research (group)	Choose 2	Choose 2	student research (group)
BBM Research Portfolio					
2 x 6 EC	2 x 6 EC	6 EC	2 x 6 EC	2 x 6 EC	6 EC

2nd year master Biobased Materials (total 60EC)

8 weeks	32 weeks
Electives	Master Thesis Research Project
Choose 2	Individual student research project
BBM Research Portfolio	
2 x 6 EC 1 x 3 EC	45 EC

Figure A2. Overview of the curriculum of the SB programme

1st year MSc Systems Biology (total 60 EC)

8 weeks	8 weeks	4 weeks	8 weeks	8 weeks	4 weeks
Compulsory courses	Compulsory courses	Project	Electives	Electives	Project
2 Courses	2 Courses	student research (group)	Choose 2	Choose 2	student research (group)
2 x 6 EC	2 x 6 EC	6 EC	2 x 6 EC	2 x 6 EC	6 EC

2nd year MSc Systems Biology (total 60 EC)

8 weeks	32 weeks
Electives	Master Thesis Research Project
Choose 2	Individual student research project
2 x 6 EC	48 EC

Appendix B Compulsory modules in the BBM programme

Compulsory courses:

- Biobased Materials (Period 1)
- Molecular Biology and Physiology of Plants and Microbes* (Period 1)
- Principles of Materials Science* (Period 1)
- Plant Derived Materials and Building Blocks (Period 2)
- Process Technology (Period 2)
- BBM Research Portfolio

* Students are assigned to one of these modules based on the focus of previous academic study.

Appendix C Compulsory modules in the SB programme

Compulsory courses:

- Systems Biology (Period 1)
- Biology and Physiology* (Period 1)
- Mathematics of Biological Systems* (Period 1)
- Modelling of Biological Systems (Period 2)
- Experimental Design and Data Management (Period 2)

* Students are assigned to one of these modules based on the focus of previous academic study.

Appendix D1 Bachelor diplomas that may lead to admission to the BBM programme

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Polymer/Material Science and Engineering
- Biomedical Engineering
- Biomedical Sciences
- Biotechnology
- University Colleges or Maastricht Science Programme
- Studies related to Chemistry and Materials from Biological sources

Appendix D2 Bachelor diplomas that may lead to admission to the SB programme

- Biomedical Sciences or Life Sciences
- Biology
- Bioinformatics
- Mathematics
- Data Sciences
- Informatics or Computer Sciences
- Neuroscience
- University Colleges or Maastricht Science Programme

Appendix E Language of instruction

The choice for the language of instruction of the BBM programme and the SB programme 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 degree programmes, teaching and examinations are conducted in English. This guarantees the quality of education, because:

- The content of both programmes has an international orientation and focus as they are designed for students who are able to bridge the gap between the underlying academic fields or disciplines while obtaining profound knowledge and understanding in their field of studies. To this end, all education, course content and materials are provided in English.
- The academic community is internationally oriented and the staff is international. The programmes are both characterized by crossing the boundaries of traditional disciplines and strengthening the links between these disciplines. The programmes deliver graduates that are able to provide substantial and potentially leading contributions in multidisciplinary teams with people from different backgrounds. To prepare students for working in these interdisciplinary and international teams, the programmes are offered in an *international classroom* setting and English is the common language.
- The labour market demand is internationally oriented. The programmes are not only characterized by strengthening the links between disciplines, but also by offering an industrial application. To participate in the research community upon graduation, home to diverse scientific fields and different nationalities, it is crucial that students master the English language.
- The student intake and current student population is internationally diverse and English is the common language.