

**EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS GOVERNING
THE ADVANCED MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN PRIVACY, CYBERSECURITY AND
DATA MANAGEMENT as referred to in Article 7.13 of the Wet op het Hoger
Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (WHW, Higher Education and
Scientific Research Act), for the academic year 2026-2027 approved and
adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Law of Maastricht University.**

<i>CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS</i>	3
Article 1: Applicability of the regulations.....	3
Article 2: Definitions.....	3
<i>CHAPTER 2 - ADMISSION</i>	3
Article 3: English-language skills	3
Article 4: Certificate of Admission to the Advanced Master's in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management.....	4
Article 5: Requirement of a demonstrable knowledge of law and/or computer science.	5
Article 6: Orientation courses.....	5
Article 7: Admissions criteria, ranking, and capacity restriction the programme.....	5
<i>CHAPTER 3 – OBJECTIVE AND COMPOSITION OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME</i>	6
Article 8: Objectives of the Programme	6
Article 9: Format of the Programme.....	6
Article 10: Final examination	6
Article 11: Language of instruction	6
Article 12: Composition of the Advanced Master's in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management advanced master's programme	6
Article 13: Additional provisions regarding written assignments and master's thesis ...	8
<i>CHAPTER 4 – STUDYING WITH A DISABILITY AND/OR CHRONIC DISEASE</i>	8
Article 14: Studying with a disability and/or chronic disease.....	8
<i>CHAPTER 5 – ASSESSMENT</i>	9
Article 15: General provisions on assessment.....	9
Article 16: Scheduling and frequency	9
Article 17: Forms of assessment	9
Article 18: Oral examinations.....	10
<i>CHAPTER 6 – ASSESSMENT RESULTS</i>	10
Article 19: Determination and publication	10
Article 20: Period of validity.....	10
Article 21: Right of inspection	10
Article 22: Fraud and plagiarism.....	11
Article 23: Unsuitability (Iudicium Abeundi)	11
<i>CHAPTER 7 – STUDY ADVICE AND GUIDANCE</i>	11
Article 24: Study progress and study advice and guidance	11
<i>CHAPTER 8 - MONITORING STUDY PROGRESS</i>	11

Article 25: Entry requirements to the second year	11
Article 26: Reasons for exemption	12
<i>CHAPTER 9 – EXAMINATIONS</i>	<i>12</i>
Article 27: Degree, certificate	12
Article 28: Grade Point Average (GPA)	12
Article 29: Appeal	12
<i>CHAPTER 10 – FINAL PROVISIONS AND IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS</i>	<i>13</i>
Article 30: Mandate	13
Article 31: Amendment	13
Article 32: Hardship Clause	13
Article 33: Unforeseen circumstances.....	13
Article 34: Entry into effect	14
<i>ANNEX 1 Relevant excerpts from applicable legislation</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>ANNEX 2 Language of instruction</i>	<i>18</i>

CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: Applicability of the regulations

These regulations apply to the teaching and assessment of the Advanced Master's Programme in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management. The programme is provided by the Faculty of Law, European Centre on Privacy and Cybersecurity (ECPC), which will be referred to as 'the faculty' in the remainder of this document.

Article 2: Definitions

In these regulations the following definitions apply:

- a. Board of Admissions: the committee which deals with the admission of students to the master's programme;
- b. Board of Examiners: the Board of Examiners referred to in Article 7.12 of the WHW;
- c. Course/skills training/tutorial/module: a study unit within the meaning of the WHW;
- d. Dean: the Dean, as stated in Article 1.1 of the Faculty Regulations;
- e. Director of Studies: the official referred to in the second sentence of Article 9.17(1) of the WHW;
- f. Disability Support (DS): the central point at UM where students with a disability and/or chronic illness can apply for facilities or support;
- g. EC/Credit: a credit (also known as EC, European Credit) as stated in Article 7.4(1) WHW;
- h. Education Office: the Education Office in a narrow sense, being the department within the Faculty which provides administrative and organisational support for the education process;
- i. Examination: an examination or test taken in order to complete a study unit;
- j. Examiner: the person designated by the Board of Examiners in accordance with Article 6.4 of the Faculty Regulations;
- k. Faculty: the organisational unit within Maastricht University where teaching and research are conducted;
- l. Faculty Board: the Faculty Board, as stated in Article 2.1 of the Faculty Regulations;
- m. Programme: Advanced Master's in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management;
- n. Programme Coordinator: staff member in charge of academic oversight of the Programme;
- o. Student: a person registered at Maastricht University in order to attend the programme and/or take part in education, examinations, tests, or any other examination component of the programme;
- p. Study load: the master's programme has a study load of 60 credits; each credit represents a study load of 28 hours;
- q. WHW: Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (Higher Education and Scientific Research Act), referred to as 'the WHW'.

The other terms have the meaning assigned to them in the WHW.

CHAPTER 2 - ADMISSION

Article 3: English-language skills

1. For the purposes of admission to the Programme, English language proficiency must be demonstrated.
2. The following evidence of proficiency in English will be accepted:
 - a degree awarded as a result of an English-language Bachelor's or Master's programme;
 - an IELTS certificate (International English Language Testing System):
 - at minimum overall score of 6.5 with no less than 6,5 in writing;

- alternatively, an overall score of 7 or higher;
 - An Internet-based TOEFL certificate (Test of English as a Foreign Language):
 - at minimum an overall score of 90 with no less than 25 in writing;
 - alternatively, an overall score of 100 or higher;
 - a Cambridge certificate: CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English) or CAE (Certificate in Advanced English) at a level equivalent to the tests above will be accepted.
3. The Board of Admissions has the power to accept evidence of English language skills other than those listed in paragraph 2, provided that these are comparable with regard to content and level.

Article 4: Certificate of Admission to the Advanced Master's in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management

A Certificate of Admission to the Advanced Master's in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management is issued to those who meet all of the following criteria listed in either subsection (a) or (b) below:

a. Those

- who have obtained a recognised Master of Laws or a Master's degree in a related field such as economics, political science or international relations; or a recognised Master's degree in Business or related studies; or a recognised Master's degree in Computer Science or a related field, at a Dutch University or at a University outside of the Netherlands, the level of which is comparable to that of a Dutch Master's degree,
- who possess sufficient English-language skills in accordance with the requirements set down in Article 3,
- who have demonstrable knowledge of law and computer science, or at least in one of the two areas, as outlined in Article 5,
- who have submitted a Curriculum Vitae in Europass format outlining their educational and professional paths,
- who have submitted a letter of motivation, written in English, the content of which has convinced the Board of Admissions, and
- who have submitted an authenticated copy of grades obtained during their University studies, the content of which has convinced the Board of Admissions.

b. Those

- who have obtained a degree of Bachelor of Laws or a Bachelor's degree in a related field such as economics, political science or international relations; or a recognised Bachelor's degree in Business or related studies; or a recognised Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or a related field at a Dutch University or at a University outside the Netherlands the level of which is comparable to that of the Dutch University Bachelor's degree,
- who possess sufficient English-language skills in accordance with the requirements set down in Article 3,
- who have demonstrable knowledge of law and computer science, or at least in one of the two areas, as outlined in Article 5,
- who have submitted a Curriculum Vitae in Europass format outlining their educational and professional paths,
- who have submitted a letter of motivation, written in English, the content of which has convinced the Board of Admissions, and
- who have submitted an authenticated copy of grades obtained during their University studies, the content of which has convinced the Board of Admissions.

c. Those

- who do not qualify under (a) or (b) and who have submitted a reasoned request to the Board of Admissions and hold a Bachelor's degree that is sufficiently satisfying the prerequisites of the Programme, and on which the

- Board of Admission has taken a positive decision,
- who possess sufficient English-language skills in accordance with the requirements set down in Article 3,
- who have demonstrable knowledge of law and computer science, or at least in one of the two areas, as outlined in Article 5,
- who have submitted a Curriculum Vitae in Europass format outlining their educational and professional paths,
- who have submitted a letter of motivation, written in English, the content of which has convinced the Board of Admissions,
- who have submitted an authenticated copy of grades obtained during their university studies, the content of which has convinced the Board of Admissions.

Article 5: Requirement of a demonstrable knowledge of law and/or computer science

1. For the purpose of admission to the Programme and in accordance with the requirements set out in Article 4 of these rules, candidates should have a demonstrable prior knowledge of law and computer science, or at least in one of the two areas.
2. Prior knowledge can be demonstrated with proven professional experience of the candidate or through prior studies or both. Proof of this prior knowledge must be submitted in the application file that is submitted to the Board of Admissions.
3. The level of prior knowledge of law, in particular European Union law, shall be at least equivalent to the level of knowledge offered in the orientation course 'Introduction to European Union law' of the introductory bloc of the programme.
4. The level of prior knowledge in computer science shall be at least equivalent to the level of knowledge offered in the orientation course 'Introduction to Computer Science and New Technologies' of the introductory bloc of the programme.
5. Candidates who are either partially or fully lacking the prior knowledge in one of the fields from paragraphs 3 or 4 are required to complete the introductory course(s) that compensate(s) for the lack of their knowledge.

Article 6: Orientation courses

1. Candidates who are either partially or fully lacking the prior knowledge in one of the fields from paragraphs 3 or 4 are required to complete the introductory course(s) that compensate(s) for the lack of their knowledge. These courses do not form a part of the Programme, however, students may obtain additional 3 credits reflecting their study load.
2. Completion of the introductory course(s) will take form of taking all interim and final assignments in the course.
Further to passing interim and final assignment or an exam students will be additionally awarded 3 credits or 6 credits in case both courses are taken. These credits points do not substitute any of the minimum 60 credits to be obtained in the duration of the Programme.
3. The orientation course(s) will be offered to the candidates by the Faculty. However, following the approval by the Board of Examiners, candidates may take preparatory courses at other institutions to fulfil the requirements under paragraphs 2 and 3 of these rules, as long as these courses are of an equivalent level and of equivalent content to those offered by the Faculty. The assessment of equivalence will be conducted by the Board of Examiners upon motivated request by the candidate.

Article 7: Admissions criteria, ranking, and capacity restriction the programme

1. The Board of Admissions assesses the applications submitted in terms of admissibility and determines a ranking order. Only applications that have been submitted on time will be included in the ranking. Restrictions on student intake

may be imposed if the number of students exceeds the teaching capacity of the programme.

2. The ranking order is determined on the basis of the following criteria, listed in the order of importance:
 - a. the existence and level of professional experience demonstrating prior knowledge of law and/or computer science;
 - b. results obtained in Master's programme(s) and, in their absence, in Bachelor's programme(s), on the basis of which the application for admission has been made;
 - c. the nature of the Master's programme(s) or Bachelor's programme(s) on the basis of which the application for admission was made;
 - d. the level of English-language skills;
 - e. the content of the letter of motivation;
 - f. relevant extracurricular activities.

Notwithstanding the criteria set out in Paragraph 2 above, in the selection of candidates, the Board of Admissions will strive to ensure an adequate balance between the knowledge and/or professional experience of candidates as well as gender and the geographical ratio of admitted students.

CHAPTER 3 – OBJECTIVE AND COMPOSITION OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME

Article 8: Objectives of the Programme

The objectives of the Programme are the following:

Graduates of the **Advanced Master's in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management** will possess deep knowledge of the legal aspects of European Union (EU) and global data protection and cybersecurity issues. Due attention throughout the Programme will be given to the implications of new technologies at stake. The graduates will develop a sound ethical and business understanding of data usage practices, combined with a broader skillset composed of management and leadership, communication and related soft skills. Knowledge and skills in these areas are needed in order to become tomorrow's leaders in privacy, cybersecurity and responsible data management.

Article 9: Format of the Programme

1. The Advanced Master's Programme is a two-year, part-time programme with a study load of 60 credits in total, leading to an LL.M. designation upon successful completion.
2. The programme starts once a year in September.

Article 10: Final examination

The programme is completed with the master's examination. To pass the master's examination all programme components as listed in Article 12 must be completed with a satisfactory judgement.

Article 11: Language of instruction

1. In principle, teaching and course examinations are conducted in English.
2. See annex 2 for more information.

Article 12: Composition of the Advanced Master's in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management advanced master's programme

1. The programme is organised in the following blocs:
 - **Foundations**, comprising the extensive course, introducing legal and technical aspects of privacy and cybersecurity',
 - **Advanced courses**, comprising the advanced content regarding legal and technical aspects of privacy and cybersecurity,

- **Immersive courses** , testing the acquired knowledge and insight in context,
 - **Skills**, leadership skills contributing to the personal development of future cybersecurity and privacy leaders as well as the data management courses exploring the integrated approaches to risk and communication in data management,
 - **Cross-cutting courses**, bringing together various aspects of privacy, cybersecurity and data management,
 - **Master's thesis** related course enabling individual exploration of challenges faced by privacy and cybersecurity leaders under the supervision and benefit of guidance from ECPC's key experts and staff. Master's thesis writing starts with a skills course focusing on requirements of academic writing.
2. The Advanced Master's Programme in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management includes the following components and related credits:

Students who started in the academic year 2026-2027

YEAR 1 (30 EC)

[Foundations]

- a. European Privacy and Data Protection Fundamentals (6 EC) – LAW5072
- b. Cybersecurity Fundamentals (6 EC) – LAW5073

[Master's thesis]

- c. Academic and Thesis Writing Bootcamp (Master's Thesis I) (3 EC) – LAW5078

[Foundations]

- d. Data Governance (6 EC) – LAW4089
- e. Regulation of Artificial Intelligence (6 EC) – LAW5090

[Skills]

- f. Integrated Risk Assessment (3 EC) – LAW5075

YEAR 2 (30 EC)

[Advanced courses]

- a. Advanced Cybersecurity (6 EC) - LAW5077
- b. Advanced Privacy (6 EC) – LAW5076

[Skills]

- c. Cybersecurity Governance and Management Deep-dive (3 EC) – LAW5080
- d. ICT and Data-Related Contracts (3 EC) – LAW5082

[Cross-cutting courses]

- e. The Future of Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management (3 EC) – LAW5085

[Master's Thesis]

- f. Master's Thesis II (9 EC) – LAW5086

Students who started in the academic year 2025-2026

YEAR 1 (27 EC)

[Foundations]

- a. European Privacy and Data Protection Fundamentals (6 EC) – LAW5072
- b. Cybersecurity Fundamentals (6 EC) – LAW5073

[Master's thesis]

- c. Academic and Thesis Writing Bootcamp (Master's Thesis I) (3 EC) –

LAW5078

[Advanced courses]

- d. Advanced Privacy (6 EC) – LAW5076
(was Advanced Privacy and Data Protection Law)
- e. Advanced Cybersecurity (6 EC) - LAW5077

YEAR 2 (21 EC)

[Immersive courses]

- a. ePrivacy and the Protection of Personal Data in Electronic Communications (3 EC) – LAW5079
- b. Cybersecurity Governance and Management Deep-dive (3 EC) – LAW5080
- c. Data Governance (6 EC) – LAW4089

[Skills and Data Management]

- d. ICT and Data-Related Contracts (3 EC) – LAW5082
- e. Integrated Risk Assessment (1,5 EC) – LAW5075
- f. Communication in Data Management (1,5 EC) – LAW5074

[Cross-cutting courses]

- g. The Future of Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management (3 EC) – LAW5085

YEAR 1&2 (12 EC)

- a. Master's Thesis II (9 EC) – LAW5086
- b. Leadership Development Trajectory (3 EC) – LAW5081

Article 13: Additional provisions regarding written assignments and master's thesis

1. The Master's thesis referred to in Article 12 is mandatory and must complement the programme in terms of content. The thesis shall be at least 8.000 words in length. In case the thesis exceeds 10.000 words, prior approval of the supervisor is required.
2. In order to ensure sufficient support and training enabling students for the development of a high quality Master's thesis, in the first stage of thesis preparation (Master's Thesis I), students will be offered a Thesis Writing Seminar.
3. The student shall determine the topic of the thesis in consultation with his or her supervisor or supervisors according to the Advanced Master's thesis procedure and regulations available via the Academic Paper Dossier found on the Intranet of University of Maastricht. These regulations indicate further provisions on the procedure and deadlines for the Master's thesis.
4. If one or more written assignments must be carried out as a part of the programme, these assignments must be completed individually unless the person responsible for the study unit concerned decides otherwise.

CHAPTER 4 – STUDYING WITH A DISABILITY AND/OR CHRONIC DISEASE

Article 14: Studying with a disability and/or chronic disease

1. Upon request, students with a disability and/or chronic illness are offered the opportunity to take 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 a programme component or assessment programme. All intended learning outcomes must be covered by the adapted (assessment) provision.

2. Based on the advice of Disability Support (DS) and, if applicable, any additional information, the Board of Examiners decides on adaptations in assessment.
3. Based on the advice of DS and the subsequent binding advice of the Director of Studies/the head of the Education Office, the Board of Examiners decides on adjustments in education.
4. If the Board of Examiners deviates from the advice of DS, this deviation is motivated.

CHAPTER 5 – ASSESSMENT

Article 15: General provisions on assessment

1. To assess whether a student has fulfilled the requirements of the programme component, the student is assessed on achievement of the learning outcomes of the programme component.
2. By submitting a paper for the programme, the student is consenting, in the broadest sense of the word, to having his or her work checked for plagiarism and unauthorised AI use through a plagiarism detection system. That consent also means that the student is agreeing to the inclusion of the paper in question in a plagiarism detection system database to enable other works to be checked for plagiarism in future.

Article 16: Scheduling and frequency

1. For each study unit, the student is given the opportunity to sit examinations twice a year at a date and time determined by the Board of Examiners. The first opportunity is immediately following the study unit and the second opportunity will be provided during the course of the academic year, if possible, after the end of the following course period.
2. Prior to the start of the course, the examiner may determine, through indication in the coursebook or the online learning platform, that written and/or oral assignments carried out in the course of the curriculum are also part of the examinations.
3. In special cases, the Board of Examiners may decide that an examination will be sat at a time other than that determined according to Paragraph 1, or that an extra resit will take place.
4. In case of a justified absence, a student may be given an additional opportunity to sit examination. Justification should be communicated to the course coordinator the latest 72 hours before the planned examination. The decision as to whether an additional opportunity can be granted to a student shall be made by a course coordinator in consultation with programme coordinators. A student cannot be given an extra opportunity more frequently than once per semester (three teaching periods).
5. The absence can be justified, inter alia, by a student in case of a medical or family emergency such as death or hospitalization.
6. Students who do not successfully complete the examination (first and second attempt), will be required to retake the course, which will take place in the following academic year.

Article 17: Forms of assessment

1. The form of examinations will take into account the nature and content of a given course as well as the location of students during the assessment, considering the online teaching modality of the Program. The assessment can be made on the basis of a written assignment, written and/or oral exam, preparatory work for simulations and group interactions, contribution to the group interactions or individual ones in the course of tutorials. In principle, due to the nature of the Program, the assessment will be conducted with the use of computer-based tools. The Board of Examiners may decide that an examination will be taken orally or that an

examination will include one or more written assignments, and/or oral assignments individually or in pre-assigned groups, carried out throughout a given course. The Board of Examiners will announce any such decision no later than two weeks before the beginning of the course.

2. Upon request to the Board of Examiners, students with a permanent disability or chronic illness will be given the opportunity to take the assessment in a manner adapted as far as reasonably possible to their individual disability or illness. The Board of Examiners will seek expert advice before deciding on the request.

Article 18: Oral examinations

1. Oral examinations will be given to a maximum of one person at a time unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.
2. An oral examination is given by two examiners unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.
3. Oral course exams are held in public unless the Board of Examiners or the examiner concerned has determined otherwise in an exceptional case, or the student has objected to this.

CHAPTER 6 – ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Article 19: Determination and publication

1. The examiner determines the result of the assessment of the programme component at the latest within four weeks after the end of the assessment period, and provides the Education Office with the necessary data for the purpose of announcing the result to the student. In special cases, the Director of Studies, after consultation with the Board of Examiners, may decide to deviate from this deadline.
2. After an oral examination, the examiners immediately determine the result and provide the student with a written statement to that effect. If several students sit the same examination one after another, then the determination and announcement may be delayed for a maximum of one week.
3. If an examination is given in a fashion other than in writing or orally, the Board of Examiners will determine beforehand how and when the student will receive a written statement regarding the result.

Article 20: Period of validity

1. In principle, the period of validity of assessments of programme components which have been passed, is unlimited.
2. With regard to a programme component for which the assessment was taken more than six years previously, the Board of Examiners may require an additional or replacement assessment to be taken if the knowledge or understanding forming the subject of the assessment is demonstrably outdated or if the skills forming the subject of the assessment are demonstrably outdated. If special circumstances as referred to in Article 7.51(2) WHW occur, the period of six years may be extended.

Article 21: Right of inspection

1. Within ten working days after the date on which an examination result is announced, a student who has sat a written examination has the right to inspect his/her examination assessment at times and locations specified by the Board of Examiners. During this same period, other interested parties may, if they so request, be given the opportunity by the Board of Examiners to inspect the examination questions and assessment criteria.
To the extent that tests consist of multiple-choice questions, no blanket permission will be given to inspect the assessment of the examination. In urgent cases, permission for inspection will be given by the Board of Examiners on an

- individual basis.
2. In the case of a computer-based examination, individual permission will be granted by the Board of Examiners to inspect the assessment of the work done if a written request is submitted to that end.
 3. In consultation with the lecturer concerned, students may inspect assessments of written products within ten working days after the announcement of the results.

Article 22: Fraud and plagiarism

1. Fraud, including plagiarism, means actions or omissions by a student that make it impossible in whole or in part to properly evaluate the student's knowledge, understanding and skills.
2. Plagiarism means the presentation of ideas or words from someone else's texts, audio and/or visual material without (proper) acknowledgement of the source.
3. If the Board of Examiners determines that a student has committed fraud in respect of an assessment component, it will take appropriate measures.
4. The Board of Examiners may, in serious cases of fraud, propose to Maastricht University's Executive Board that the student concerned be permanently de-registered from the programme.
5. Without prejudice to the powers of the Board of Examiners, the Dean has the authority to report a student for forgery.
6. The Rules and Guidelines (R&G) contain further provisions about what constitutes fraud and which sanctions the Board of Examiners may impose.

Article 23: Unsuitability (Iudicium Abeundi)

1. In exceptional cases and after a careful weighing of the interests involved, the Dean may ask the Executive Board to terminate or deny a student's registration for the programme if the student's conduct or statements proves them to be unsuitable to practise one or more professions for which the programme concerned is training them, or unsuitable for the practical preparation for the profession. The Board of Examiners may submit a recommendation to that effect to the Dean.
2. If the Dean of the Faculty is asked by the Executive Board for a recommendation concerning a proposed termination or denial of registration based on the reasons stated in the first paragraph, the Dean will in turn ask the Board of Examiners for a recommendation. The recommendation to the Dean will be substantiated.

CHAPTER 7 – STUDY ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Article 24: Study progress and study advice and guidance

1. The Faculty Board is responsible for providing students who are registered for the programmes with study advice and guidance. Study advisers are given access to the student's details to enable them to provide that student with individual advice.
2. Upon request, the Faculty provides students with an overview of the study results they have achieved.

CHAPTER 8 - MONITORING STUDY PROGRESS

Article 25: Entry requirements to the second year

1. In order to be admitted to the second year of the Programme students must obtain at least 18 ECTS points, including minimum 6 ECTS points based on the completion of at least one of 'Fundamentals' courses ('European Privacy and Data Protection Fundamentals' or 'Cybersecurity Fundamentals').
2. Should this not be the case, students will be required to re-take Year 1 of the programme and will not be allowed to proceed to Year 2. When re-taking Year 1,

students will be required only to take the outstanding courses from their initial year of study.

3. Notwithstanding Sections 1 and 2 of this Article, and should exceptional circumstances justify it, a student may be granted the right to proceed to Year 2 by the Board of Examiners upon consultation with the Programme Coordinator.

Article 26: Reasons for exemption

1. If the Faculty Board intends to issue a negative decision about whether a student meets the study progress requirement as stated in Article 25, that student will be given the opportunity to present personal circumstances that may have led to him/her to not meet the requirement.
2. Students may be eligible for exemption based on the special circumstances as referred to in Article 2.1 of the Decree Implementing the WHW (see Annex 1).

CHAPTER 9 – EXAMINATIONS

Article 27: Degree, certificate

1. Twice a year, the Board of Examiners decides on the awarding of the master's certificate and the degree granted.
2. The Board of Examiners issues a certificate as proof that the master's examination has been completed successfully. The certificate is signed by the Chairperson of the Board of Examiners and the Dean. The certificate is awarded in public unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise in exceptional cases.
3. Those students who have successfully completed the master's examination are awarded the Master of Laws (LLM) degree with the name of the master's programme added to it.
4. The examinee is also presented with a separate list of grades, as well as a diploma supplement when the certificate is awarded.
5. A student who has fulfilled the requirements for the Master's examination, may request the Board of Examiners to stay the conferral of the degree, providing reasoned arguments.
6. The Board of Examiners may award the Cum Laude or Summa Cum Laude title in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Rules and Guidelines.

Article 28: Grade Point Average (GPA)

1. The Board of Examiners may provide a student with a certificate confirming their GPA if they submit a reasoned request to that effect (for example, for another master's programme registration). The GPA is indicated only on the transcript, not on the official grade list.
2. The GPA equals the weighted average of all final numerical grades on the students' Master's grade transcript. The weighting is based on the credits of the educational units of the programme.
3. The GPA is calculated as $((\text{numerical grade} * \text{EC}) + (\text{numerical grade} * \text{EC}) + \dots) / \text{total EC}$.
4. Excluded from the GPA calculation are programme components that are awarded a pass or fail and programme components that are awarded with a No Grade (NG).

Article 29: Appeal

On all decisions of the Board of Examiners and the examiner communicated to the student against which an appeal is possible, the student is informed of the possibility of lodging an appeal to the Examination Appeals Board ex Article 7.61 WHW (see Annex 1) and the time limit within which this appeal must be lodged.

CHAPTER 10 – FINAL PROVISIONS AND IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS

Article 30: Mandate

1. The Director of Studies may authorise the exercise of the powers referred to in these Regulations to the Coordinator(s) of the Programme.
2. A staff member of the Education Office may be authorised to exercise the powers of the Faculty Board and the Director of Studies as specified in these Regulations.
3. The Board of Examiners may authorise its Chairperson or one or more of its other members to exercise its powers as specified in these Regulations.
4. The Board of Admissions has been authorised by the Faculty Board to make decisions on its behalf with regard to the admission of candidates to the master's programmes referred to in these Regulations.
5. The Faculty Board authorises the Dean to issue decisions concerning whether or not a student has met the study progress standard as referred to in Article 24. The Dean will sign the letters concerned and in the absence of the Dean, the Education portfolio holder will be authorised to do so. Hearings may be held on behalf of the Faculty Board.
6. Hearings and appeal proceedings, if any, concerning failure to meet the study progress standard may be conducted by the chair of the Board of Examiners, or another member of the Board of Examiners designated by the chair to act as his or her deputy, and the Director of Studies, or an examiner designated by the Director of Studies to act as his or her deputy (this examiner may not be a member of the Board of Examiners) on behalf of the Faculty Board.

Article 31: Amendment

1. The Faculty Board lays down amendments to these Regulations by means of a separate decision after having heard the Director of Studies and the competent advisory body, i.e. Faculty Council or the relevant Programme Committees.
1. In derogation from paragraph 1, the Faculty Board may, in consultation with the Director of Studies and after consultation with the coordinator of the master's programme concerned, decide to extend the programme by adding, at a later stage, a course to be given by a guest lecturer.
2. None of the amendments made will have application to the present academic year unless it can be reasonably assumed that any such amendments will not adversely affect the students' interests.

Article 32: Hardship Clause

1. The Board of Examiners, the Director of Studies or the Faculty Board or its mandate is authorised to depart from these Regulations in favour of the student, if application of these Regulations would result in inequitable consequences of a predominant nature. This applies for the Board of Examiners for those matters in which the Board of Examiners is authorised in accordance with the WHW. The same applies to the Director of Studies for the exercise of their competences pursuant to the Faculty Regulations.
2. There are inequitable consequences of a predominant nature if the strict application of the Regulations leads to consequences that were not foreseen by the author of these Regulations and that are so disadvantageous for the student concerned that they could never have been intended by the author of these Regulations.
3. Personal circumstances do not play part in determining the existence of inequitable consequences of a predominant nature.
4. In so far as application of the hardship clause concerns admission, the Faculty Board will make a decision based on the advice of the Board of Admissions.

Article 33: Unforeseen circumstances

The Faculty Board will make a decision in cases not provided for by these Regulations .

Article 34: Entry into effect

These regulations will enter into effect on 1 September 2026 and expire on 1 September 2027.

Adopted by the Faculty Board on 24 March 2026.

ANNEXES TO THE EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE ADVANCED MASTER'S PROGRAMME IN PRIVACY, CYBERSECURITY AND DATA MANAGEMENT

ANNEX 1 Relevant excerpts from applicable legislation

Artikel 7.61 Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek

Artikel 7.61. Bevoegdheid college van beroep voor de examens

1. Het college van beroep voor de examens is bevoegd ten aanzien van de volgende beslissingen:
 - a. beslissingen als bedoeld in de artikelen 7.8b, derde en vijfde lid, en 7.9, eerste lid,
 - b. beslissingen inzake het met goed gevolg hebben afgelegd van het afsluitend examen, bedoeld in artikel 7.9d,
 - c. beslissingen, niet zijnde besluiten van algemene strekking, genomen op grond van het bepaalde bij of krachtens titel 2 van dit hoofdstuk, met het oog op de toelating tot examens,
 - d. beslissingen, genomen op grond van het aanvullend onderzoek, bedoeld in de artikelen 7.25, vijfde lid, en 7.28, vierde lid,
 - e. beslissingen van examencommissies en examinatoren,
 - f. beslissingen van commissies als bedoeld in artikel 7.29, eerste lid, en
 - g. beslissingen, genomen op grond van de artikelen 7.30a en 7.30b met het oog op de toelating tot de in dat artikel bedoelde opleidingen.
2. Het beroep kan, wat de openbare instellingen betreft in afwijking van hoofdstuk 7 van de Algemene wet bestuursrecht, worden ingesteld terzake dat een beslissing in strijd is met het recht.
3. Alvorens het beroep in behandeling te nemen zendt het college van beroep het beroepschrift aan het orgaan waartegen het beroep is gericht, met uitnodiging om in overleg met betrokkenen na te gaan of een minnelijke schikking van het geschil mogelijk is, wat de openbare instellingen betreft in afwijking van afdeling 7.3 van de Algemene wet bestuursrecht. Ingeval het beroep is gericht tegen een beslissing van een examiner, geschiedt de in de voorgaande volzin bedoelde toezending aan de desbetreffende examencommissie. Indien de examiner tegen wie het beroep is gericht, lid is van de examencommissie, neemt hij geen deel aan de beraadslaging. Het desbetreffende orgaan deelt binnen drie weken aan het college van beroep, onder overlegging van de daarop betrekking hebbende stukken, mede tot welke uitkomst het beraad heeft geleid. Is een minnelijke schikking niet mogelijk gebleken, dan wordt het beroepschrift door het college in behandeling genomen.
4. Het college van beroep beslist binnen tien weken gerekend vanaf de dag na die waarop de termijn voor het indienen van het beroepschrift is verstreken, wat de openbare instellingen betreft in afwijking van artikel 7:24, tweede lid, van de Algemene wet bestuursrecht.
5. Indien het college van beroep het beroep gegrond acht, vernietigt het de beslissing geheel of gedeeltelijk. Het college is niet bevoegd in de plaats van de geheel of gedeeltelijk vernietigde beslissing een nieuwe beslissing te nemen, wat de openbare instellingen betreft in afwijking van artikel 7:25 van de Algemene wet bestuursrecht. Het kan bepalen dat opnieuw of, indien de beslissing is geweigerd, alsnog in de zaak wordt beslist, dan wel dat het tentamen, het examen, het toelatingsonderzoek, het aanvullend onderzoek of enig onderdeel daarvan opnieuw wordt afgenomen onder door het college van beroep te stellen voorwaarden. Het orgaan waarvan de beslissing is vernietigd, voorziet voorzover nodig opnieuw in de zaak met inachtneming van de uitspraak van het college van beroep. Het college kan daarvoor in zijn uitspraak een termijn stellen.
6. Indien onverwijlde spoed dat vereist kan de voorzitter van het college van beroep een voorlopige voorziening treffen op verzoek van de indiener van het

beroepschrift, onverminderd het bepaalde in artikel 7.66, tweede lid, en artikel 8:81 van de Algemene wet bestuursrecht. De voorzitter beslist op dit verzoek na het desbetreffende orgaan dan wel de desbetreffende examinator te hebben gehoord, althans te hebben opgeroepen.

Unofficial translation of 'Artikel 7.61 Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek' for information purposes only:

Article 7.61. Powers of the Examination Appeals Board

1. *The Examination Appeals Board is empowered to take the following decisions:*
 - a. *decisions as referred to in Article 7.8b, paragraphs 3 and 5, and Article 7.9, paragraph 1,*
 - b. *decisions on whether a student has passed his or her final examinations, as referred to in Article 7.9d,*
 - c. *decisions that are not of general application and are taken on the basis of provisions laid down in or pursuant to Title 2 of this chapter, with regard to exam admissions,*
 - d. *decisions taken on the basis of additional assessment, referred to in Article 7.25, paragraph 5, and Article 7.28, paragraph 4,*
 - e. *decisions taken by boards of examiners and examiners,*
 - f. *decisions taken by committees as referred to in Article 7.29, paragraph 1, and*
 - g. *decisions taken on the basis of articles 7.30a and 7.30b regarding admission to the degree course referred to in that article.*
2. *The appeal may be lodged in regard to a decision that is contrary to the law. In the case of public institutions, this shall take place in deviation from Chapter 7 of the General Administrative Law Act.*
3. *Before processing the appeal, the Appeals Board will send the letter of appeal to the body against which the appeal is directed, inviting it to consult with the persons concerned to see whether an amicable settlement of the dispute is possible. In the case of public institutions, this shall take place in deviation from Chapter 7.3 of the General Administrative Law Act. If the appeal is directed against a decision made by an examiner, the letter of appeal referred to in the first sentence will be sent to the board of examiners concerned. If the examiner against whom the appeal is directed is a member of the Board of Examiners, s/he shall take no part in the deliberations. The body concerned will notify the Appeals Board of the outcome of those deliberations within three weeks and will submit the related documents to the board. If it has not been possible to reach an amicable settlement, the board will handle the appeal.*
4. *The Appeals Board will reach a decision within ten weeks of the day after the submission deadline for the appeal. In the case of public institutions, this shall take place in deviation from Article 7:24, paragraph two of the General Administrative Law Act.*
5. *If the Appeals Board deems the appeal founded, it will set aside the contested decision either in full or in part. The board is not empowered to take a new decision to replace the one that was fully or partially set aside. In the case of public institutions, this shall take place in deviation from Article 7.25 of the General Administrative Law Act. The Appeals Board may decide that a new decision be made or, in the event that a decision had been withheld, that a decision be taken, or it may rule that the examination, the entrance examination, the additional assessment or any part thereof may be retaken under conditions to be set by that same board. If required, the body whose decision was set aside will provide for the case again in accordance with the ruling of the Appeals Board. The board may*

- impose a deadline for compliance with its ruling.*
6. *If prompt action is required, the chair of the Appeals Board may make a provisional decision at the request of the party who submitted the appeal, without prejudice to the stipulations in Article 7.66, paragraph 2, and Article 8.81 of the General Administrative Law Act. The chair will reach a decision regarding the request once the relevant body or relevant examiner has had an opportunity to state its or his/her case, or has been called upon to do so.*

ANNEX 2 Language of instruction

Belonging to Article 3 EER

The choice for the language of instruction of the 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 Advanced Master's in Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Management, teaching and examinations are conducted in English. Conducting this programme in English is necessary to guarantee the quality of education. The use of English as the language of instruction is crucial for the effectiveness of this master's programme, because:

- The content of the programme has an international orientation and focus, as it prepares its graduates for a career in international and cross-border matters of data protection and cybersecurity management. The programme is taught in the English language as this is the most-used language in practice. The international nature of the fields of data protection and cybersecurity is evidenced by the strong international implications of EU legislation and policy-making and the border-defying nature of many underlying technologies such as the Internet.
- The academic community dealing with data protection and cybersecurity is internationally oriented, and the staff of the programme is partly international, as the subject matter taught is closely related with the aforementioned international and European outlook. The staff consist of a good mix of teachers coming from the public and private sectors as well as a good mix of practice and academia. Students are therefore exposed to teachers from various backgrounds.
- The labour market demand is internationally oriented, as data protection and cybersecurity leadership is not restricted by national borders. International law firms, multinationals, public bodies and research-driven corporations all wish to hire English-speakers who have been educated in an international classroom.
- The student intake and current population is internationally diverse and English is the common language. The programme has an intake of persons with a prior degree in law, economics, political science, business or computer science and technology. The common language of this multidisciplinary group is English. Furthermore, the programme caters to an international career in data protection and cybersecurity management.