



Universiteit Leiden

Faculty of Science

Course and Examination Regulations

Master's Programmes

valid from 1 September 2023

These Course and Examination Regulations (henceforth the OER) have been drawn up in accordance with the Higher Education and Research Act [*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek; WHW*] (henceforth the Act) and the following Leiden University regulations:

- the Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document;
- the Academic Calendar;
- the Regulations for Student Registration, Tuition Fees and Examination Fees;
- the Regulations for Admission to Master's Programmes.
- the Online Proctoring Protocol

Pursuant to Article 7.14 of the Act the Faculty Board regularly evaluates the OER and considers, for the purpose of monitoring and adjusting the study load, how much time it takes students to comply with them. In accordance with Article 9.18 of the Act, the Programme Committee is assigned the task of annually assessing the implementation of the OER.

Contents

Chapter 1	General Provisions.....	3
Chapter 2	Description of the Programme.....	6
Chapter 3	Curriculum.....	8
Chapter 4	Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education	10
Chapter 5	Access and Admission to the Programme.....	15
Chapter 6	Student Counselling and Study Advice.....	15
Chapter 7	Evaluation of the Programme	16
Chapter 8	Final Provisions.....	17

Appendix 1: Master Degree Programmes and programme specific provisions

Appendix 2: Prospectus, <https://studiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/en>

Appendix 3: [Enrolment protocol](#)

Chapter 1 General Provisions

Article 1.1 Scope of the regulations

These regulations apply to the teaching and examinations in the Master's programmes:¹

- a. Astronomy;
- b. Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences;
- c. Biology;
- d. Chemistry;
- e. Computer Science;
- f. Governance of Sustainability;
- g. ICT in Business and the Public Sector;
- h. Life Science and Technology;
- i. Mathematics;
- j. Media Technology;
- k. Physics; and
- l. Statistics and Data Science;

henceforth referred to as the programme.

The programmes are instituted in the Faculty of Science of Leiden University, henceforth referred to as the Faculty. Appendix 1 specifies by which institutes the programme is taught.

Article 1.2 Definitions

In these regulations the following definitions apply:

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|--|
| a. | The Act: | The Higher Education and Research Act [<i>Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek</i>] (WHW). |
| b. | Board of Admissions: | The Board established by the Faculty Board that has the duty of determining, with the application of the entry requirements referred to in Article 7.30b, (1) and (3) of the Act and the University Regulations for Admission to Master's Programmes, which applicants can be admitted to this Master's programme; |
| c. | Board of Examiners: | The Board of Examiners for the programme, established and appointed in accordance with Article 7.12a of the Act; |
| d. | Component: | One of the courses or practical assignments of the programme, as referred to in Article 7.3 of the Act. The study load of each component is expressed in whole credits. Each component is concluded with an examination; |
| e. | Credit: | The unit in EC that expresses the study load of a component as referred to in the Act. According to the ECTS, one credit equals 28 hours of study; |
| f. | Degree classification: | Further degree classification by the Board of Examiners; |

¹ As established in the [Leiden Register of Programmes](#)

- g. Diploma: A document (certificate), awarded by the Board of Examiners, which provides proof that the final examination of said programme has been successfully completed (as referred to in Article 7.11 of the Act). It is recorded on the diploma which programme has been successfully completed; which components were part of the final examination; which degree has been awarded; the date of accreditation of the programme; and, if applicable, which qualification is attached to the final examination.
- h. EC(TS): European Credit (Transfer System);
- i. Education Administration Office: The office in the faculty where students can go for information and to register for components (Science Student Administration);
- j. Enrolment protocol: The enrolment protocol containing specific and binding information concerning enrolment in components, examinations, and final examinations, established by the Executive Board (<https://inschrijfprotocol.universiteitleiden.nl/>). The enrolment protocol constitutes an integral part of these regulations, and is included as an appendix.
- k. Examination [*tentamen*]: An inspection of the knowledge, understanding and skills of the student with respect to a particular component, and an assessment thereof (in accordance with Article 7.10 of the Act). The assessment can take place in written form, orally as well as digitally, or a combination of these methods. An examination may consist of several constituent examinations or practical assignments. Credits are only awarded for examinations passed. The inspection is conducted according to the method determined by the Board of the Examiners to assure the quality of examination and final examinations;
- l. Examiner: The person appointed by the Board of Examiners to conduct examinations, in accordance with Article 7.12c of the Act;
- m. Executive Board: The Executive Board is responsible for the daily management of Leiden University and is in charge of all administrative affairs, the management of the university;
- n. Final examination [*examen*]: The examinations [*tentamens*] associated with the components belonging to the programme, including an investigation to be carried out by the Board of Examiners, as referred to in Article 7.10 (2) of the Act;
- o. First/second examiner/reader: The first or second examiner to read and assess the thesis/final paper/final report/final programme assignment. The first reader/examiner is also the supervisor;
- p. Language of instruction: The language of a programme, in which lectures and tutorials are given and examinations and final examinations are held;
- q. Leiden Register of Study Programmes [*Leids universitair register opleidingen*]: [Register](#) of the programmes offered by Leiden University, maintained under the supervision of the Executive Board, referred to in Article 7 of the Management and Administration Regulations;

- r. Level: The level of a component according to the abstract structure as defined in the Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document;
- s. Nominal duration of study: The study load in years of study as established in the Central Register of Higher Education Programmes;
- t. Portfolio: a monitoring and assessment file that makes it possible for students to (1) demonstrate that they have attained a sufficient level of academic education to be awarded the degree; (2) record their personal process of academic learning during the programme; and (3) receive appropriate supervision and study advice;
- u. Practical: a practical assignment that contributes to an examination or final examination, as referred to in Article 7.13(2), (d), of the Act, that takes one of the following forms:
- writing a thesis/final paper/final report/final programme assignment,
 - writing a paper or creating an artistic work,
 - carrying out a literature study,
 - carrying out a research assignment,
 - participating in fieldwork or an excursion,
 - completing an internship,
 - conducting experiments,
 - carrying out a computer programming assignment, or
 - participating in another educational activity aimed at acquiring particular skills,
- v. Pre-master's programme Opportunity to compensate for deficiencies in the context of a failure to meet the entry requirements as referred to in Article 7.30 E of the Act
- w. Programme: the programme to which the OER relates: a coherent set of components aimed at achieving clearly defined objectives relating to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a graduate of the programme is expected to have acquired. Each programme is associated with a final examination;
- x. Programme Committee the programme committee of the programme established and appointed by the faculty board in accordance with article 9.18 of the Act;
- y. Prospectus The digital prospectus containing specific and binding information about the programme: <https://studiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/>. The Prospectus constitutes an integral part of these regulations, and is included as an appendix.
- z. Student: a person enrolled at Leiden University in order to follow the components and/or sit the examinations and final examinations of the programme;
- aa. Working day: Monday to Friday, excluding the official public holidays and the compulsory closure days specified by the Executive Board;

All other terms have the meaning ascribed to them by the Act.

Article 1.3 Codes of conduct

- 1.3.1 The Leiden University [Code of Conduct on Standards of Behaviour between Lecturers and Students](#) is applicable. The aim of this code is to create a framework for a good, safe and stimulating work and study environment within Leiden University, in which lecturers and students respect each other and in which mutual acceptance and trust are important values.
- 1.3.2 The Leiden University [Code of Conduct Remote Teaching](#) applies; this provides guidelines for teaching and learning in digital environments, remote environments or any form of teaching that is primarily dependent on IT Services.
- 1.3.3 The Leiden University [Regulations on ICT and Internet Use](#) are also applicable. These regulations define what is considered appropriate use of ICT and internet and how usage checks will be made. They also explain which conduct is not tolerated and the consequences that apply.
- 1.3.4 Students are expected to act according to the [Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity \(2018\)](#) and in the spirit of the [Leiden University Data Management Regulations](#).

Chapter 2 Description of the Programme

Article 2.1 Objectives of the programme

The programme has the objective to impart sufficient knowledge, understanding and skills as to enable the graduate:

- to contribute independently, at an academic level and in an original manner to recognizing, coming up with and solving issues in an area of the natural sciences,
- to discuss this contribution with colleagues,
- to inform non-specialists in a clear and unambiguous manner on conclusions and considerations that form the foundation of the study,
- and to follow a PhD programme within the discipline and its adjacent areas.

In terms of structure, final qualifications and other quality marks the programme meets the provisions of [“The Leiden University Register of Study Programmes”](#).

Article 2.2 Specialisations

The programmes offer specialisations as described in Appendix 1 to these regulations.

Article 2.3 Learning outcomes

Graduates of the programme have attained the following generic learning outcomes; theoretical and/or practical skills in more than one specialist area of the discipline such that they can carry out research under overall supervision;

- a. the ability to make an independent analysis of scientific problems, analysis of relevant specialist literature, formulate verifiable hypotheses, and set up and carry out research and critical reflection on one's own research and that of others;
- b. the ability to interrelate and integrate various areas of the discipline;
- c. the ability to present clearly, verbally as well as in writing, one's own research results, and the ability to communicate with colleagues and to present their research results as a contribution to a congress or as (part of) a scientific publication;

- d. sufficient understanding of the social role of the natural sciences to be able to reflect upon them and in part consequently to come to an ethically sound attitude and corresponding execution of one's professional duties;
- e. have the learning skills to allow them to continue to study in a manner that may be largely self-directed or autonomous.

When the above generic learning outcomes have been further specified for a specific programme, these are included in the programme specific learning outcomes in appendix 1.

Article 2.4 Structure of the programme

The programmes offer full-time tuition only.

Article 2.5 Study Load

The programmes have a study load of 120 EC.

Article 2.6 Start of the programme; uniform structure of the academic year

The programmes start on 1 September and 1 February of each year. Selected programmes offer additional starting dates, these are specified in Appendix 1. In terms of the courses, the programmes are based on the university semester system and comprise 42 teaching weeks.²

Article 2.7 Final examination of the programme

The programmes are associated with a master's final examination.

Article 2.8 Language of instruction

- 2.8.1 In accordance with the Code of Conduct on the Language of Instruction and Examination³ [*Gedragcode Voertaal*] the language of instruction and examination in the programmes is English. The language of instruction and examination in the master specialisations Education, and Industrial Pharmacy (of the master's programme Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences) is Dutch. Students are expected to have an adequate command of the language(s) of instruction and examination in the programme, in accordance with the requirements stated in Article 5.2.3. As appropriate, the Faculty publishes the OER in English for English-taught programmes.
- 2.8.2 Contrary to Article 2.8.1, in individual cases the Board of Examiners can permit the student to write the final thesis in another language, in accordance with the Guideline on Language Policy.³

Article 2.9 Quality

The programme is accredited by the NVAO⁴ and meets the applicable national and international quality requirements for degree programmes. The programme's teaching also meets the quality standards set out in the Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document.

-
- 2. The [uniform semester structure](#) and the accompanying explanatory notes were adopted by the Executive Board on 14 October 2004 and revised on 12 January 2010.
 - 3. The Code of Conduct on the Language of Instruction [*Gedragcode voertaal*] was adopted by the Executive Board on 28 May 2013 and can be found on the following website:
<https://www.organisatiegids.universiteit leiden.nl/en/regulations/general/language-of-instruction>
 - 4 Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders [*Nederlands Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie*]

Chapter 3 Curriculum

Article 3.0 Exceptions due to *force majeure* situations

- 3.0.1 If it is not possible, in the event of a crisis as defined in Article 1 of the Leiden University Regulations on Crisis Management Coordination, or other force majeure circumstances, such as coronavirus measures, to provide or take part in components as set out in the OER or in the Prospectus, changes will be announced by the authorized body in due time via Brightspace.

Article 3.1 Compulsory components

- 3.1.1 The programme includes compulsory components as specified in Appendix 1. These compulsory components include the set components from which students are obliged to choose.
- 3.1.2 The Prospectus further specifies the actual structure of the programme, i.e. the study load, level, learning objectives, contents, method of examination, and structure of the components in the curriculum.

Article 3.2 Optional components

- 3.2.1 In addition to the components referred to in 3.1.1, the student selects components as specified in Appendix 1.
- 3.2.2 The Board of Examiners must approve the student's selection of components.
- 3.2.3 In addition to the components taught at this university, and subject to the approval of the Board of Examiners, students may also select a component offered by other Dutch or foreign universities, or components offered by another legal entity offering accredited graduate higher-education programmes.
- 3.2.4 Students who are enrolled in the programme can assemble their own programme of components that are taught by the institution as long as these are concluded with a final examination. They will require the permission of the most appropriate Board of Examiners. When granting such permission, this Board of Examiners also indicates to which University programme the programme is considered to belong.⁵ If necessary, the Executive Board appoints a Board of Examiners to take this decision.

Article 3.3 Practicals

- 3.3.1 For each component, the Prospectus specifies which practicals are included, the nature and scope of the student's workload for these practicals and whether participation in them is a condition of admission to (other parts of) the examination. The Board of Examiners may grant a student exemption from a practical, in which case the Board may choose to apply alternative conditions.
- 3.3.2 Appendix 1 to these regulations, as well as the Prospectus, specifies the scope and study load of the final assignment/thesis/final report/final programme assignment, including the requirements that the final assignment/thesis/final report/final programme assignment must meet.

Article 3.4 Sitting examinations and taking part in components

3.4.1 Taking part in components

5. In accordance with Section 7.3h of the Act ('Individual Curriculum in Higher Education').

- 3.4.1.1 Students must register for the study component according to the applicable enrolment protocol⁶. Registration is possible up to fourteen calendar days before the start, as stipulated in the Prospectus. This means that the student registers for a component in MyStudymap, ticking the activities the student wants to take part in (lecture, tutorial, practical exercise and examination).
- 3.4.1.1a Within the meaning of article 3.4.1.1, first-year Bachelor students are automatically assigned to and enrolled for all components of the first semester, or, with certain programmes for all components of the entire academic year, by the education administration office of their programme.
- 3.4.1.2 In the case of a component with restrictions on the number of participants, participation takes place in order of enrolment. For students enrolled in the programme, timely enrolment guarantees placement in the components that form part of the mandatory curriculum of the programme.
- 3.4.1.3 Contrary to article 3.4.1.1, a different enrolment period applies to certain components, if approved by the Faculty Board. The relevant components and the corresponding enrolment term can be found in the Prospectus.
- 3.4.1.4 Students who have not enrolled on time can report to the Science Student Administration. The relevant enrolment protocol lists the circumstances on the basis of which students may be enrolled contrary to Article 3.4.1.1.
- 3.4.2 **Sitting Examinations and constituent examinations**
- 3.4.2.1 When registering for the component, the student registers for the corresponding examination. Registration for the examination takes place in accordance with the provisions of Article 3.4.1.1.
- 3.4.2.2 Students who do not register for the component may register only for the examination or constituent examination. To be allowed to sit the examination or constituent examination, a confirmation of registration for the examination is required.
- 3.4.2.3 In order to sit the examination, students must confirm their participation. They can only sit an examination once confirmation of participation has been given.
- 3.4.2.4 Students will receive a notification in due time asking them to confirm or cancel their participation. Confirmation of participation in an examination is possible up to ten calendar days before the examination takes place.
- 3.4.2.5 Students who have not enrolled on time according to the applicable enrolment protocol may report to the Science Student Administration
- 3.4.2.6 A different term applies for the situation as referred to in Article 4.6.4; in this case, students can register up to five calendar days before the examination takes place.

Article 3.5 Distribution of study materials

- 3.5.1 Students are not permitted to take photographs or make audio or video recordings of lectures or of education-related meetings, including the feedback sessions after examinations (including examination assignments and model answers), without the explicit prior permission of the relevant lecturer. Should such permission be granted, students are only legally permitted to use the photograph or recording for their own use; all forms of distribution or publication of the recordings are prohibited. A student has no independent control over these materials, unless the University has explicitly granted this to the student.

⁶ Course and examination enrolment-Leiden University

- 3.5.2 Students are prohibited from all forms of distribution or publication of study materials, including audio and/or video recordings supplied by the institute. The materials are for students' own use only.
- 3.5.3 Students are prohibited from infringing the intellectual property rights of the University, third parties or the person with whom licensing agreements were made.
- 3.5.4 The institute can make video recordings of a lecture or a lecture series and provide these to students of the institute to support them in their studies. The lecturer will notify students that are present at the beginning of the lecture that video recordings will be made. The fact that video recordings have been made or will be made does not absolve students from any rules regarding the requirement of their presence.

Chapter 4 Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education

Article 4.0 Exceptions due to *force majeure* situations

- 4.0.1 If it is not possible, in the event of a crisis as defined in Article 1 of the Leiden University Regulations on Crisis Management Coordination, or other force majeure circumstances, such as corona measures, to offer exams and examinations in the form and at the point in time set out in the OER or the Prospectus, changes will be announced by the authorised body in due time via Brightspace.

Article 4.1 Frequency of examinations

- 4.1.1 Examinations are held twice during the academic year for each component offered in that academic year. The Board of Examiners determines the manner of resit for practicals.
- 4.1.2 The Faculty Board is responsible for the practical organisation of the examinations and final examinations and ensures, if necessary by means of invigilation, that the examinations and examinations proceed properly. If online proctoring is used, this is done according to the Online Proctoring Protocol.
- 4.1.3 When students have to complete a practical in order to be permitted to sit an examination as referred to in article 4.1.1, this is laid down in the Prospectus. In such cases, students may only sit the examination if they have passed the practical, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.
- 4.1.4 If the grade for a component comprises the results from several constituent examinations [*deeltoetsen*], it is possible to vary from the number of examinations and resits referred to in 4.1.1 on the condition that the student is at least given the opportunity to pass the component in a resit that is representative of this component. If this is applicable, this is stated in appendix 2.
- 4.1.5 In accordance with Article 7.13, second paragraph under (h) of the Act, the Prospectus specifies the dates of the examinations, or contains hyperlinks to examination dates published online elsewhere.
- 4.1.6 Certain conditions set by the Board of Examiners may apply to examination resits. When applicable, these conditions are specified in the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners.
- 4.1.7 At a student's request, the Board of Examiners may in exceptional circumstances diverge from the provisions of Article 4.1.1 and allow an additional resit.
- 4.1.8 During a master's programme, students may resit one examination that they passed, without prejudice to the power of the Board of Examiners to deviate from this stipulation in exceptional cases and at the student's request. This only applies if the resit takes place in the same academic

year as the original examination. In the event of such a one-time resit, the highest result obtained applies. The examination referred to in the first sentence may consist of a number of constituent examinations. Registration for this examination should take place in accordance to Articles 3.4.1.1 and 3.4.2.2.

4.1.9 The following are excluded from the resit option as referred to in Article 4.1.8:

- Oral examinations
- Practical assignments
- Examinations that the student passed at a different institution than Leiden University

4.1.10 If a component is included in multiple programmes, the student is only granted one opportunity to resit an examination that they previously passed for this component.

Article 4.2 Obligatory sequence

4.2.1 Appendix 1 specifies whether there are any examinations that students may only sit until they have passed the examinations for one or more other components.

4.2.2 For the components and their attendant examinations which must be completed in a given sequence, the Board of Examiners may in special cases, and following a substantiated written request by the student, agree to an alternative sequence.

Article 4.3 Form of examination

4.3.1 The Prospectus states whether the examination or constituent examinations for a component will take the form of a written, digital or oral examination, or a combination of these.

4.3.2 The procedure during examinations and the guidelines and instructions, as referred to in article 7.12b, (1) (b) of the Act, for assessing and establishing the results of examinations and final examinations are described in the 'Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners'.

4.3.3 Students with a disability or chronic medical condition are given the opportunity to apply for individual examination arrangements adjusted to their particular disability or condition. These arrangements may not affect the quality or level of difficulty the examination. If necessary, the Board of Examiners will seek expert advice, as referred to in the Protocol on Studying with a Disability,⁷ before reaching a decision.

4.3.4 In special cases, the Board of Examiners may, at the request of the student and within the scope of the OER, permit a student to sit an examination in another manner than specified in the Prospectus.

4.3.5 Examinations are held in the language(s) of instruction for this programme that are specified in the OER. At the request of the student, the Board of Examiners may permit him or her to sit an examination in another language.

Article 4.4 Oral examinations

4.4.1 Students take oral examinations individually, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.

⁷The protocol on studying with a disability can be found on the following website:

<https://www.student.universiteitleiden.nl/en/study--studying/exceptional-circumstances/studying-with-a-disability/studying-with-a-disability/leiden-university/guest?cf=leiden-university&cd=guest>

- 4.4.2 Oral examinations are public, unless the Board of Examiners or the examiner concerned decides otherwise, owing to special circumstances, or unless the student has reservations.
- 4.4.3 With the consent of the student an oral examination may be recorded by the examiner on video. This recording can be put forward to a second examiner for the purpose of grading the student.

Article 4.5 Rules set by the Board of Examiners

- 4.5.1 In accordance with Section 7.12b (3) of the Act, the Board of Examiners establishes rules – the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners – concerning the performance of its tasks and responsibilities and the measures it can take in the event of fraud.
- 4.5.2 The Board of Examiners is responsible for ensuring that the right of students to appeal against decisions of the Board of Examiners or the examiners is guaranteed.

Article 4.6 Assessment

- 4.6.1 The examiner will determine the grade immediately after an oral examination has been conducted. The student receives a message about the grade via the University study progress system.
- 4.6.2 The examiner determines the grade of any written examination or other form of examination or constituent examination within 15 working days of the day on which the examination or constituent examination was held. The result is notified to the student within the same 15 working days. The final grade is recorded in the University study progress system, and the student receives a message about it via that system.
- 4.6.3 The grade of any practical is communicated to the student via the university study progress system within 15 working days of the day on which participation in the last practical component took place, or on which a practical report was handed in to the examiner.
- 4.6.4 The examiner marks any written examination or constituent examination at least 5 working days prior to the resit of that examination. If this deadline is not met, the date of the resit shall be rescheduled in order to give the student sufficient preparation time.
- 4.6.5 If the examiner is unable to comply with the period of 15 respectively 5 working days specified in article 4.6.2, 4.6.3 and 4.6.4, the student is notified accordingly in a message sent to the student's by u-mail address before this term expires. This notification includes the latest date by which the student will be informed of the result.
- 4.6.6 The examination result is expressed as a whole or half number between 1.0 and 10.0, including both limits. The result is not to be expressed as a number between 5.0 and 6.0.
- 4.6.7 The result of the examination is considered to be a pass if the result is 6.0 or higher.
- 4.6.8 Together with the written or electronic notification of examination results, students are also informed of their right to inspect their graded examination papers, as referred to in Article 4.8, as well as of the appeals procedure.
- 4.6.9 The Board of Examiners may draw up regulations that specify the conditions under which it may exercise its authority as specified in Article 7.12b, third paragraph, of the Act to determine whether every examination needs to be passed and/or under which conditions the results of constituent examinations can compensate for one another. These regulations are included in the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners.

Article 4.7 Period of validity of examinations

- 4.7.1 The Faculty Board may limit the validity of an examination pass, subject to the authority of the Board of Examiners to extend the period of validity in individual cases. The period of validity of an examination pass may only be limited if the examined knowledge, understanding or skills are demonstrably outdated.
- 4.7.2 The Board of Examiners may, in accordance with the criteria specified in the Rules and Regulations and at the request of the student, extend the validity for a period to be specified by the Board itself. In the event of special circumstances in the sense of Article 7.51 (2) of the law, the Board of Examiners will act in accordance with the pertinent provisions in Article 7.10, (4) of the Act.
- 4.7.3 The validity period referred to in 4.7.1 starts on 1 September of the academic year following that in which the mark was obtained or the exemption granted.

Article 4.8 Inspection and feedback session

- 4.8.1 Students are entitled to inspect and receive feedback on their graded examination within a maximum period of 30 calendar days following the publication of the results of a written or digital examination, and in any case before the resit takes place.
- 4.8.2 During the period referred to in 4.8.1, students may inspect the examination questions and assignments, as well as the grading schemes used to grade the examination. Photographing or any other form of copying of the exam questions, answers and grading schemes is not permitted without the examiner's explicit approval.
- 4.8.3 The time and manner of the inspection and of the feedback session on the examination are specified in the Prospectus or Brightspace.
- 4.8.4 The Board of Examiners is authorised to decide whether the inspection of the examination paper and the feedback session are to be collective or individual.
- 4.8.5 The examiners determine where and when the inspection of the examination paper and the feedback session will take place.
- 4.8.6 At least five workdays before re-examination students will have an opportunity to inspect their exam.
- 4.8.7 Students who are unable to attend the feedback session referred to in paragraph 4.8.3 due to demonstrable circumstances beyond their control are granted another opportunity, if possible within the period referred to in 4.8.1 .

Article 4.9 Exemption from examinations and/or practicals

At the student's request and after consultation with the examiner in question, the Board of Examiners may grant the student exemption from one or more examinations or practicals if the student:

- has completed a component at a research university or university of applied sciences that is similar in content and level to the component for which the student is requesting exemption; or
- has demonstrated, through relevant work or professional experience, that they have acquired sufficient skills and knowledge in relation to the component in question.

Article 4.10 Final examination

- 4.10.1 The Board of Examiners awards a degree certificate when there is sufficient proof that the final examination has been passed.

- 4.10.2 As part of the final examination, the Board of Examiners is entitled to conduct its own evaluation of the knowledge, understanding and skills of the examination candidate and to assess the results.
- 4.10.3 The degree is only conferred once the Executive Board has declared that all procedural requirements (including the requirement to pay tuition fees) have been met. One degree certificate is awarded for each programme. The degree certificate states that the programme or specialisation was delivered by Leiden University.
- 4.10.4 Pursuant to the regulations⁸ referred to in Article 7.11, third paragraph, of the Act a student who is entitled to graduate may request the Board of Examiners to postpone graduation as long as the student has not exceeded the nominal study duration plus one academic year.
- 4.10.5 This request must be submitted within five working days of the student receiving notification of his or their final examination results. In the request the student must indicate when they wish to receive the degree certificate.
- 4.10.6 The Board of Examiners may also approve the request if refusing it would result in a considerable injustice.
- 4.10.7 A supplement in Dutch and/or in English that conforms to the standard European Diploma Supplement format, including the grading table applicable for the degree programme, is attached to the degree certificate. In addition to the degree certificate, students are also issued with a translation of the degree certificate and a certificate in Latin.
- 4.10.8 The graduation ceremony will take place at least two times per academic year .

Article 4.11 The Degree

- 4.11.1 The degree of Master of Science is awarded to those who have passed the final examination of the programme.
- 4.11.2 The degree certificate specifies which degree has been awarded.

Article 4.12 Degree classification

- 4.12.1 The student is awarded a grade for the final examination.
- 4.12.2 The final grade is based on the weighted average of the marks obtained for all examinations that belong to the final examination, with the exception of the examinations for which an exemption was granted or for which the student only obtained a proof of attendance. Components completed from other programmes, including components followed abroad, must be approved by the Board of Examiners.
- 4.12.3 The weighted average of all grades is determined by multiplying the number of ECTS credits for each component by the grade awarded for this component, adding these together and then dividing the result by the number of credits earned.
- 4.12.4 Without prejudice to the provisions of 4.12.6 and 4.12.7, the degree certificate and the diploma supplement includes the 'cum laude' classification if the following conditions are met for the full-time programmes:
- the weighted average for all components is 8.0 or higher;
 - all components have been completed with a minimum grade of 7.0;

8. Leiden University Regulations on postponement of graduation can be found on the following website:
<https://www.organisatiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/en/regulations/general/regulations-on-postponing-graduation>

- the (weighted average) grade for the (major) research project (incl. thesis/final report and oral presentation) is 8.0 or higher; and
- the final examination was completed within three years.
- the weighted average grade for all components of the programme excluding research projects and internships is 8.0 or higher; passes (V) and exemptions (VR) will not be taken into consideration.
- the student has taken part in no more than 1 resit.

The Board of Examiners sets corresponding conditions for part-time programmes, proportionate to the nominal duration of the study programme.

4.12.5 Without prejudice to the provisions of 4.12.6 and 4.12.7, the degree certificate and the diploma supplement includes the 'summa cum laude' classification if the following conditions are met:

- the weighted average for all components is 9.0 or higher;
- all components have been completed with a minimum grade of 8.0;
- the (weighted average) grade for the (major) research project (incl. thesis/final report and oral presentation) is 9.0 or higher; and
- the final examination was completed within two years.
- the student has taken part in no more than 1 resit.

The Board of Examiners sets corresponding conditions for part-time programmes, proportionate to the nominal duration of the study programme.

4.12.6 The Board of Examiners may also decide to award a distinction in other, exceptional cases, on the condition that the weighted average grade does not differ by more than 0.5 from the grades stipulated in 4.12.4 and 4.12.5. This may involve such considerations as the student's development throughout his or her study programme, any exceptional performances on the part of the student in completing the final paper or thesis and any other relevant exceptional circumstances.

4.12.7 If a student has been subject to disciplinary measures as a result of irregularity, fraud or plagiarism, as set out in the Rules and Regulations, he or she is not rewarded a distinction, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.

Article 4.13 Further education

The degree awarded grants access to a PhD programme.

Chapter 5 Admission to the Programme

Information regarding access and admission to the programme is specified in appendix 1.

Chapter 6 Student Counselling and Study Advice

Article 6.1 Student progress administration

- 6.1.1 The Science Student Administration, on behalf of the Faculty Board, keeps records of the results of individual students.
- 6.1.2 Students may inspect their results in the university's student progress system at any time.

Article 6.2 Introduction and student counselling

The programme is responsible for the introduction of the students to the degree programme and for student counselling.

Article 6.3 Supervision of the final assignment/thesis/final report/final programme assignment

- 6.3.1 Together with the first examiner the student draws up a plan for the final assignment/thesis/final report/final programme assignment referred to in 3.3.2. This plan is based on the study load specified in Appendix 1 and Prospectus for this component.
- 6.3.2 The plan referred to in 6.3.1 also specifies the frequency and manner of supervision.

Article 6.4 Professional sports and other cultural or social activities

- 6.4.1 Students who play sports at professional level are given the opportunity to adjust their study programme to their sporting activities wherever possible. The programme determines who falls within this category in line with the guidelines set out in Section III of the Regulations on Financial Support for Students, drawn up by the Executive Board.⁹
- 6.4.2 Students who contribute to cultural or social activities which in the opinion of the Faculty Board are of equal importance as the activities as referred to in 6.4.1, are offered the opportunity to adjust their study programmes to their activities wherever possible.

Article 6.5 Disability or chronic medical condition

Where possible, students with a disability or chronic medical condition are given the opportunity to adjust their study programme to the limitations resulting from their disability or chronic medical condition. The programme can be adjusted to the individual disability or chronic medical condition of the student in question, but this must not affect the quality or level of difficulty of the components or the programme itself.¹⁰

Article 6.6 Study and internships abroad

Special measures will be taken for students who suffer from a demonstrable delay in their studies as a result of study, a research project, or an internship abroad that has been approved by the Board of Examiners, in order to limit the delay.

Chapter 7 Evaluation of the Programme

Article 7.1 Evaluation of the programme

The programme is evaluated through course evaluations and (partial) programme evaluations. The Programme Director will inform the Programme Committee about the outcomes of the evaluation.

⁹ More information on combining studying with top-level sport can be found on the following website:
<https://www.student.universiteitleid.nl/en/study--studying/exceptional-circumstances/top-level-sport/studying-and-top-level-sport/>

¹⁰The protocol on studying with a disability can be found on the following website:
<https://www.student.universiteitleid.nl/en/study--studying/exceptional-circumstances/studying-with-a-disability/studying-with-a-disability>

Chapter 8 Final Provisions

Article 8.1 Amendments

- 8.1.1 Amendments to these regulations are implemented by a separate order of the Faculty Board with the prior consent of the Faculty Council, or the Programme Committee, depending on the topics concerned.
- 8.1.2 Amendments to these regulations which apply to a particular academic year must be implemented before the start of that year and published in the prescribed manner, unless earlier implementation of an amendment to the regulations is strictly necessary and in all reasonableness does not harm students' interests.
- 8.1.3 Amendments to these regulations may not adversely affect any prior decision pertaining to students taken by the Board of Examiners on the basis of these regulations.

Article 8.2 Publication

The Science Education and Student Office is responsible for publishing these regulations, the rules and guidelines set by the Board of Examiners, and any amendment to these articles via the university website.

Article 8.3 Term of application

The Course and Examination Regulations apply for the duration of one academic year.

Article 8.4 Entry into force

These regulations enter into force on 1 September 2023.

Prof. dr. J. Knoester
Dean of the Faculty of Science, Leiden University