

## **Bestuurlijke reactie BA International Studies**

The programme appreciates all recommendations, advice and suggestions of the assessment panel. Based on the assessment report, the programme has drawn up a Plan of Action and is already implementing it to improve the quality of education.

### *Conclusions of the development dialogue*

The development dialogue concentrated on research methods, multidisciplinary/global perspective and the possibility of introducing themes in the programme.

With regards to research methods the ideas offered were integrating methods in content-oriented courses and making sure that methodology is embedded in a learning pathway, running from orientation to application. These pathways are in place in International Studies through the tutorial system as well as the specific skills-pathway in the programme, starting with Reading & Writing, continuing with Research Methods and the Thematic seminar and ending in the Thesis and Practising International Studies.

With regards to multidisciplinary and global perspective the main issue under discussion was the operationalization of both in the thesis. The advice was to start early with explaining to students what these terms entail, and make sure it is meaningful, not just a 'token' exercise.

Finally, introducing themes in the programme might lead to obscure the focus of the programme according to the panel, so if themes are introduced, they should be formulated carefully and remain stable over time.