



**B. PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC SECTION OF THE TEACHING AND EXAMINATION  
REGULATIONS OF THE DUAL MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN  
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION STUDIES**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
2021-2022**

The Teaching and Examination Regulations are divided into two components (Section A and Section B). Always consider the two parts as a whole.

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## Section B: Programme-specific section

### 1. General provisions

#### *Article 1.1 Definitions*

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| a. course manual:                                   | the manual containing all information relevant to the unit of study curriculum and examinations. The course manual is made available no later than two weeks before the start of the unit of study; |
| b. feedback:  | the feedback provided by a lecturer to a student on a study result, offering insight into the degree to which the student has mastered the correct knowledge and skills levels;                     |
| c. language of instruction:                         | the language in which a unit of study is taught and tests are administered. The language of instruction is stated in Article 1.2;   |
| d. Rules and Guidelines for the Examinations Board: | the Examinations Board Regulations as adopted and published by the Examinations Board each year, which form a supplement to the Teaching and Examination Regulations;                               |
| e. semester:  | a consecutive part of the academic year which, after having deducted any holiday periods in that part of the year, consists of 20 weeks;  |
| f. student:   | a person enrolled at the University to receive instruction and/or sit the examination as part of a degree programme.  |

#### *Article 1.2 Degree programme information*

1. The degree programme in Communication and Information Studies, CROHO number 60833, is offered on a full-time basis and the language of instruction is English.
2. The programme has a workload of 90 ECTS.
3. If the Master's thesis is written in a language other than the degree programme or track's language of instruction, then at least 30 ECTS of the units of study followed and completed by the student must have been in the programme or track's language of instruction. Other requirements for the Master's thesis are listed in the Thesis Regulations Master's programmes, which can be found at <http://www.student.uva.nl/humanities> > A-Z > Thesis regulations Master's programmes.

#### *Article 1.3 Entry date*

The programme is offered starting in the first semester of the academic year only. This entry date ensures that the programme can be completed within the nominal study duration.

### 2. Programme objectives and exit qualifications

#### *Article 2.1 Objective of the degree programme*

The aim of the Master's is to equip students with the knowledge, skills and understanding of the discipline that enable them to perform independently and professionally at an advanced academic level. Furthermore, graduates will acquire the knowledge and competences they need for admission to a doctoral programme as well as other positions involving scientific research and the publication thereof.

#### *Article 2.2 Exit qualifications*

##### *a. Academic ability*

The student who has completed the Master's degree programme:

1. should have insight into the key research methods in the field;

2. should be able to interpret, assess and take an individual position on academic practice – and the results thereof – within the field of study;
3. should be able to assess the academic practice in line with the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Academic Practice (see the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity on the website of the UvA: [Academic Integrity](#));
4. should be able to assess relevant academic literature;
5. should be able to independently formulate questions with regard to the field of study, to operationalise those questions and represent them in a research plan;
6. should be able to independently carry out research in the field of study and report on that research orally and in writing in a way that complies with the common academic conventions in the field of study;
7. should be able to present any scientific knowledge and insights gained during the degree programme and transfer them to a broader audience than the academic community;
8. should be able to answer scientific questions using knowledge of a specialism within the degree programme;
9. should be able to work in a team and give and incorporate feedback in a constructive way.

*b. Programme -specific exit qualifications*

The student who has completed the Master's degree programme:

1. should have gained extensive and successful practical experience in the field Argumentation, Discourse and Communication at one or several relevant institutions for the field (of argumentation, discourse and communication) outside the University of Amsterdam,
2. should be able to apply their knowledge of discourse and argumentation theory in creating a substantiated analytical summary of a text that puts forth an argument.
3. should be able to apply their knowledge of argumentation theory in creating a substantiated analytical summary of a text that puts forth an argument;
4. should be able to analyse genres in a range of communicative contexts based on their acquired knowledge of genre theory;
5. should be able to analyse and evaluate the argumentation and persuasion techniques in various communicative contexts;
6. should be able to apply theoretical and practical insights into argumentation and communication for the purpose of resolving communication issues in the day-to-day practice of an institution, business or organisation.

### **3. Further admission requirements**

*Article 3.1 Admission requirements*

1. Admission to the Master's programme is possible for an individual who has adequate knowledge and understanding of the field of study as well as academic skills at Bachelor's level. Any individual who has obtained a Bachelor's degree in academic higher education in one of the following degree programmes at the UvA or another university in the Netherlands, meets these requirements:
  - Bachelor's degree in Humanities
  - Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences
2. On behalf of the dean, the Admissions Board will investigate whether the interested person meets the admission requirements.
3. If the intended Master's programme includes different tracks, a successfully completed specialisation or minor in the Bachelor's programme may be required for admission to each of the different tracks. Not applicable.
4. When the programme commences, candidates must have fully completed the Bachelor's programme or pre-Master's programme allowing admission to this Master's programme.

*Article 3.2 Pre-Master's programme*

Not applicable.

*Article 3.3 Limited programme capacity*

1. If necessary, the maximum programme capacity of the degree programme shall be established prior to the start of the academic year.
2. Students are selected for admission on the basis of the following criteria:
  1. Students should submit a list of marks for successfully completed interim examinations of the Bachelor's programme or an equivalent programme, with an average of at least 7.0 for the entire Bachelor's phase. If the average mark is lower than 7.0, the student should submit a statement explaining the results achieved.
  2. Students must demonstrate that they are interested in argumentation and persuasion processes.
  3. Students must demonstrate their suitability for the programme and explain why they wish to attend the Discourse and Communication Studies programme and how they intend to apply the associated skills in practice during an internship (this information should form part of their curriculum vitae and letter of motivation).

*Article 3.4 English-language requirements for English-language Master's programmes*

1. The proficiency requirement in English as the language of instruction can be met by the successful completion of one of the following examinations:
  - IELTS: 7, with a minimum score of 6.5 for the separate test components;
  - TOEFL internet-based test: 100, with a minimum score of 24 for reading, 22 for listening, 25 for speaking and 24 for writing;
  - Cambridge International Examinations: minimum score C1 Advanced (CAE) with a minimum score of 190;
2. Students shall be exempt from the English language proficiency examination referred to in the first paragraph if, prior to commencing the degree programme, they:
  - obtained a vwo high school diploma and a Bachelor's degree at an accredited Dutch university or a Dutch university of applied sciences (hbo);
  - obtained a havo high school diploma with an '8' or higher for English and a Bachelor's degree at an accredited Dutch university or a Dutch university of applied sciences;
  - obtained a Bachelor's degree with English as the official language of instruction at an accredited university;
  - hold an 'International baccalaureate' diploma (English Language).
3. A student who does not meet the requirement regarding a command of the English language may submit a reasoned request for exemption to the Examinations Board, provided that all the documents required for enrolment have been submitted to the Admissions Office. The reasoned request must demonstrate that the student meets the language proficiency requirement in a formal and verifiable manner. Personal statements from the candidate or from third parties shall in principle not fulfil the requirement.

#### **4. Curriculum structure**

*Article 4.1 Composition of the degree programme*

The programme consists of the following components:

- 42 ECTS for track-specific units of study;
- 30 ECTS for an on-the-job learning position;
- 18 ECTS for the thesis;

*Article 4.2 Compulsory units of study*

The compulsory units of study are listed in Appendix 1 to the Teaching and Examination Regulations, Section B (this section).

*Article 4.3 Electives*

See Appendix 1.

*Article 4.4 Free curriculum*

1. Subject to certain conditions, students have the option to compile a curriculum of their own choice, which deviates from the curricula stipulated by the degree programme. For more information: *Free curriculum Master's programme* in the A-Z of your degree programme.
2. The composition of such a curriculum requires the prior permission of the Examinations Board.
3. The free curriculum will be compiled by the student from among the units of study offered by the University of Amsterdam or another research university and must possess at least the scale, breadth and depth of a regular Master's programme.

*Article 4.5 Sequence of examinations*

Some examinations and/or practical exercises of the following components cannot be taken until after the student has passed the examination or the examinations of the relevant components. For all components the following applies: the students should first take the course Introduction to Argumentative Discourse across Domains. For other courses, further conditions are mentioned in the study guide.

*Article 4.6 Further conditions for participation in units of study and examinations*

1. In order to take part in units of study, students must register during the period specified on the programme website in accordance with the procedure specified at [www.student.uva.nl/humanities](http://www.student.uva.nl/humanities) > A-Z > Course registration. If students fail to register or to do so within the specified period, they may be refused admission to units of study.
2. Admission to units of study with limited capacity is based on predefined admission criteria and rules for priority admission as published in the Course Catalogue, on the understanding that students enrolled in the degree programme are given priority when enrolling for units of study in the compulsory part of their programme.
3. Exclusively students who are enrolled in a Master's programme can take part in tests and examinations of Master's programmes.
4. Registered students must attend the first meeting of a unit of study. Should they be unable to attend, they must contact the lecturer in advance. Students who are absent without notice or without a valid reason can be excluded from participation.

*Article 4.7 Further conditions for examination opportunities*

Any further conditions for participation in the resit shall be laid down in the examination regulations for each unit of study. The examination regulations are incorporated in the course manual.

*Article 4.8 Further conditions for exemption*

The following units of study shall be excluded from the possibility of exemption, as referred to in Section A, Article 4.7: not applicable.

*Article 4.9 Validity period of results*

The validity period of the examinations and examination exemptions below is limited as follows: not applicable.

*Article 4.10 Degree*

A student who passes the Master's final examination is awarded a Master of Arts degree, abbreviated to MA. The degree awarded shall be stated on the degree certificate.

## **5. Academic student counselling**

*Article 5.1 Academic student counselling*

The academic student counselling for this programme consists of:

- tutoring ([www.student.uva.nl/humanities](http://www.student.uva.nl/humanities) > A-Z > Tutoring);
- study adviser ([www.student.uva.nl/humanities](http://www.student.uva.nl/humanities) > A-Z > Study advisers).

## 6. Teaching evaluation

### *Article 6.1 Teaching evaluation*

The degree programme is responsible for evaluating the quality of its education. The Faculty makes course evaluation reports available to this end. Additional forms of evaluation may be carried out at the programme's own discretion. The Programme Committee is entitled to receive all teaching evaluations and is expected to discuss them. The Programme Committee can also collect information about teaching quality by other means.

## 7. Transitional and final provisions

### *Article 7.1 Amendments and periodic review (Section B)*

1. Amendments to Section B of the Teaching and Examination Regulations shall be adopted by the dean following approval and consultation of the representative advisory bodies of the Faculty.
2. Amendments to Section B of the Teaching and Examination Regulations shall require the approval of the Faculty Student Council for components that do not relate to the subject matter of Section 7.13, subsection 2 under a – g and v of the WHW. The Faculty Student Council shall retain the right to be consulted regarding other components.
3. An amendment of Section B of the Teaching and Examination Regulations shall require the approval of the Programme Committee for the components that relate to the subject matter of Section 7.13, subsection 2 under a1 through e, g and v of the WHW. The Programme Committee shall retain the right to be consulted regarding other components.
4. Amendments to the Teaching and Examination Regulations may only pertain to an academic year that is already in progress if it can be demonstrated that this does not harm the interests of students.

### *Article 7.2 Transitional provisions*

1. To accommodate students who, on the date these Regulations become effective, have already successfully completed one or more units of study in accordance with previous regulations, but have not yet fulfilled all the requirements for the examination and whose interests are harmed by provisions in these Regulations that deviate from the provisions in previous regulations, the Examinations Board will define transitional provisions, in compliance with the regulations pertaining to examinations and study units laid down in the WHW.
2. If applicable, transitional provisions concerning curriculum changes are included in Appendix 2.

### *Article 7.3 Publication*

1. The dean will ensure proper publication of Sections A and B of these Regulations, as well as all amendments to them.
2. The Teaching and Examination Regulations will be published on the Faculty's website.

### *Article 7.4 Entry into force*

Section B of these Regulations comes into effect from 01 September 2021.

Adopted by the dean on 29 June 2021.

Approval and advice of the faculty representative advisory body:

Faculty of Humanities Student Council on 4 June 2021;

Faculty of Humanities Works Council on 8 June 2021;

Programme Committee on 18 March 2021.

<b>Appendix 1 - Compulsory units dMA Communication and Information Studies</b>				
<b>Units</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Academic year</b>	<b>Period (semester, block)</b>	<b>Level</b>
- Introduction to Argumentative Discourse across Domains OR - Communicatie en argumentatie	6	1	Semester 1, block 1	dual Master
Introduction to Rhetoric and Persuasion	6	1	Semester 1, block 1	dual Master
Argumentation and Communication in Politics	6	1	Semester 1, block 2	dual Master
Argumentation and Communication in Health	6	1	Semester 1, block 2	
Term Paper Argumentative Discourse across Domains	6	1	Semester 1, block 3	dual Master
Elective (Argumentation and Communication in Law is strongly recommended)	6	1	Semester 2, block 1	dual Master
Argumentation and Communication in Science	6	1	Semester 2, block 2	dual Master
Master's Thesis Communication and Information Studies	18	1	Semester 2, block 1,2,3	dual Master
Argumentative Practices, Internship CIW	30	1 2	Semester 2, block 1, 2 Semester 1, block 1,2,3	dual Master