



**Maastricht University**

# **Education and Examination Regulations 2024-2025**

*Bachelor Brain Science*

*Adopted by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience on June 25, 2024.*

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# EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS BACHELOR IN BRAIN SCIENCE 2024-2025

## SECTION 1 GENERAL CONDITIONS

Education and Examination Regulations for the 2024-2025 academic year for the Bachelor's Brain Science study programme at the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, as meant in Article 7.13 of the Act on Higher Education and Scientific Research (WHW).

### Article 1.1 Scope of the regulations

1. These regulations apply to the education, exams and examination for the Bachelor's Brain Science study programme, hereinafter referred to as the study programme.
2. The study programme is offered by the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience, the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences and the Faculty of Science and Engineering. The Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience is the anchor faculty for the study programme, hereinafter to be referred to as 'the faculty' or 'FPN'.
3. The regulations have been established by the FPN Faculty Board, following approval from the FPN Educational Programme Committee and the FPN Faculty Council.
4. These regulations will take effect on 1 September 2024 for the 2024-2025 academic year.
5. These regulations also apply to students from other programmes, faculties or institutions of higher education, insofar as they follow components of the programme to which these Education and Examination Regulations apply.
6. For components of the programme that students follow at another degree programme, faculty or institution of higher education, the Education and Examination Regulations for the other programme, faculty or institution apply to the component in question.

### Article 1.2 Definitions

In these regulations the following is understood to be:

- |                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| a. Academic year:                                                    | the period for 1 September of a calendar year up to and including 31 August of the following calendar year;                                       |
| b. Bachelor:                                                         | course years 1 through 3 of the study programme;                                                                                                  |
| c. Binding Study Advice:                                             | the advice as meant by Article 7.8b of the WHW resulting in a rejection, the so called negative binding study advice;                             |
| d. Board of Admission:                                               | the board responsible for judging the admissibility of the candidate to the programme;                                                            |
| e. Board of Appeal:                                                  | the board of appeal for examinations as meant in Article 7.60 of the WHW;                                                                         |
| f. Board of Examiners Brain Science:                                 | the board for the bachelor programme Brain Science as meant by Article 7.12 of the WHW;                                                           |
| g. Course/Module:                                                    | a study unit of the study programme as meant by the WHW;                                                                                          |
| h. Course Coordinator, alternatively Practical Training Coordinator: | an examiner who is responsible for the content of a certain course, or alternatively, responsible for the practical training in a certain course; |
| i. Course year:                                                      | year 1, year 2 or year 3 of the bachelor's programme;                                                                                             |

- j. Credit: unit expressed in ECTS credits, with one study credit equalling 28 hours of study;
- k. Educational Programme Committee Brain Science: the representation and advisory board for the bachelor programme Brain Science that carries out the duties described in Article 9.18 and 9.38c of the WHW;
- l. Exam: the exam as part of the examination as meant by Article 7.10 of the WHW;
- m. Examination: the final examination for the bachelor's study programme;
- n. Examiner: the person appointed by the Board of Examiners Brain Science, who is responsible for assessing student performance;
- o. FPN Board of Examiners: the board of FPN as meant by Article 7.12 of the WHW;
- p. FPN Educational Programme Committee: the representation and advisory board of FPN that carries out the duties described in Article 9.18 and 9.38c of the WHW;
- q. FPN Faculty Board: the Board of the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience as meant by Article 9.12 of the WHW;
- r. Practical Training: a module that provides practical exercise, as meant by Article 7.13, paragraph 2, sub d of the WHW;
- s. Propaedeutic phase: the first period of the programme with a study load of 60 credits, that coincides with the first course year of the bachelor. The propaedeutic phase has no final examination;
- t. Rules and Regulations: rules determined by the Board of Examiners Brain Science regarding the routine and procedures during exams and regulations regarding the evaluation of those who take the exam and regarding the determination of the results of exams and examinations as meant by Article 7.12b paragraph 1, sub b of the WHW;
- u. Student: the student who is registered at Maastricht University, for the purpose of attending the courses and/or taking the exams and the examination of the study programme;
- v. Study Programme: the bachelor's study programme as mentioned by Article 1.1, consisting of a coherent set of programme components;
- w. The Act: the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act (Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek, WHW); Further referred to as WHW;
- x. Tutorial Group Meeting: a practical exercise, as meant by Article 7.13, paragraph 2, sub d of the WHW;
- y. UM: Maastricht University.

Other notations are to be understood in accordance with the meaning assigned to them by the WHW.

## SECTION 2      ADMISSION

### Article 2.1      Admission procedure

The bachelor's programme in Brain Science is a numerus fixus programme. A limited number of students who meet the admission requirements will be offered a place in the study programme. A selection will be made amongst the candidates who qualify for admission. More information about the admission procedure can be found on the UM website under admission requirements.

### Article 2.2      Admission requirements

Persons who have a Dutch pre-university education diploma as referred to in Section 7.24 of the Act or have been exempted from this requirement under the Act are eligible for admission to the programme. More information about the admission requirements such as prior qualifications and language requirements can be found on the UM website (Education – Bachelor's – Brain Science – Admission requirements).

### Article 2.3      Replacement requirements concerning deficiencies in previous education

1. The Board of Examiners Brain Science determines how deficiencies in previous education will have to be fulfilled.
2. The Board of Examiners Brain Science may in special cases appoint a university examiner to administer one or more exams on the subject in question.

### Article 2.4      Board of Admission

1. Judgement about admissibility and the issuing of the certificate of admission for the study programme is assigned to the Board of Admission of the study programme. This board consists of:
  - A chair appointed from among the academic personnel;
  - One or two members appointed from among the academic personnel who are involved in the education in the Educational study programme.
2. The appointment is made by the Brains Board after consulting with the Educational Programme Committee Brain Science.

### Article 2.5      Language requirements for non-Dutch diplomas

Holders of a non-Dutch diploma can only register if they have met the minimum English language requirement corresponding to IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with a score of at least 6.0.

- a. The requirement referred to under (a) is met if the person concerned has obtained one of the following diplomas or certificates:
  - A secondary education diploma issued in an EU/EEA country where the person concerned has followed English up to and including the final year;
  - A diploma issued in an non-EU/EEA country that is at least equivalent to a VWO diploma and where English is the official language of instruction in education;
  - A completed bachelor's or master's study programme where the language of instruction is English;
  - An International or European Baccalaureate, a US high school diploma or UK GCE A-levels, or
  - Can demonstrate sufficient proficiency in English, for example through English taught courses, internships or work experience in an English environment, or can submit one

of the following language test certificates:

- IELTS
- TOEFL Paper-based test
- TOEFL Internet test
- TOEIC listening and reading and speaking and writing
- Cambridge [First Certificate in English (FCE) Grade B, First Certificate in English (FCE) Grade C] or
- similar accredited certification

#### Article 2.6 'Colloquium Doctum'

1. A person who does not meet the prerequisites referred to in Articles 2.1 and 2.2 can take part in an entrance examination (Colloquium Doctum), in accordance with Article 7.29 of the WHW.
2. A person who wishes to sit the Colloquium Doctum must be aged twenty-one or over on the date the examination is due to take place. This requirement may be waived if the person in question holds a diploma issued outside the Netherlands that grants admission in the country of origin to a programme at a higher education institution. The age requirement can also be waived if the person in question has refugee status and cannot present the student's diploma for this reason.
3. The Colloquium Doctum committee is responsible for conducting this examination.
4. The entrance examination, as referred to in Article 7.29 of the WHW, relates to the following subjects and levels:
  - Pre-university (VWO) level English
  - Pre-university (VWO) level Mathematics
  - Pre-university (VWO) level Biology
  - Pre-university (VWO) level Chemistry
  - Pre-university (VWO) level Physics
5. Rules regarding the procedure have been laid down in the 'Colloquium Doctum' Regulation.

## SECTION 3 CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME

### Article 3.1 Purpose of the study programme

Competence Domain	Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)
<b>A. Brain Scientist</b> A BSc Brain Science Graduate has transdisciplinary knowledge, insights and skills in formally describing, modelling, and analysing relationships between phenomena in the brain unfolding at a broad range of spatial and temporal scales that are ordinarily considered in different (sub)disciplines of brain research.	A BSc Brain Science graduate:
	1.1 Has basic-level knowledge of science philosophy. Understands the empirical cycle and the transdisciplinary approach to doing research.
	1.2 Has foundational knowledge of selected topics in psychology, biology, and computational science and conceptually integrates these to form basic transdisciplinary views on brain function.
	1.3 Understands the relationships among and between processes at the molecular, cellular, network and whole-brain levels.
	1.4 Is able to collect data in disciplinary and transdisciplinary experiments with selected data acquisition methods covered in the curriculum.
	1.5 Is able to correctly analyse data, by using appropriate statistical and other data science tools.
	1.6 Is able to mathematically express (hypothetical) mechanisms underlying relations among datasets collected within and between different levels of brain function.
	1.7 Is able to code mathematically expressed relations and mechanisms in computational models, and to simulate these models numerically.
	1.8 Is able to consult scientific sources and to (critically) interpret (one's own) empirical or simulation results against findings described therein.
	1.9 Is able to contribute to the translation of knowledge and insights into practical applications or products (e.g. computer code) and to evaluate their usefulness against stated goals.
1.10 Is able to form a substantiated (critical) opinion about scientific claims and applications in the field of Brain Science from scientific, societal and ethical perspectives.	
<b>B. Science Communicator</b> A BSc Brain Science Graduate has the capacities and skills required to communicate science effectively to the scientific community and the general public.	A BSc Brain Science graduate:
	2.1 Is able to accurately describe, discuss, and present scientific results in brain research and their theoretical or applied implications to the scientific community.
	2.2 Is able to explain and present complex scientific insights to the general public in an understandable manner, considering the audience's background as well as relevant societal and ethical aspects.
2.3 Is able to write academically at the Bachelor level.	
<b>C. Professional</b> A BSc Brain Science Graduate has a professional attitude, the social skills to work effectively in a team, and the ability within the team to function as a bridge-builder.	A BSc Brain Science graduate:
	3.1 Has the necessary problem-solving and organisational skills to conduct academic research.
	3.2 Works in accordance with the principles of scientific integrity and ethical standards in a professional setting.
	3.3 Is able to receive and provide constructive feedback.
3.4 Has the communication, cross-cultural and collaborative skills required to work together effectively in international teams. Is able to catalyse dialogue among disciplinary researchers within these teams to promote cooperation and thereby functions as a bridge builder.	



<b>D. Lifelong Learner</b> A BSc Brain Science Graduate is prepared for lifelong learning in a constantly evolving labour market.	A BSc Brain Science graduate:
	4.1 Is able to use personal reflection about the evolving state of Brain Science to set up learning goals and to pursue a personal learning path with a high degree of autonomy.
	4.2 Is able to extract ideas, concepts, hypotheses and theories from a large body of new information, and is able to acquire new soft and hard skills with a high degree of autonomy.

### Article 3.2 Organisation of the study programme

The study programme is offered on a full-time basis. The programme commences once a year in September.

### Article 3.3 Language of instruction

The education and assessment in the study programme is conducted in English. More information can be found in Appendix 1.

### Article 3.4 Communication and announcement of decisions

1. The BrainS Board, the Board of Examiners Brain Science and the examiners may use electronic communication tools like the student portal, e-mail via UM-account or AskPsy.nl for communications relating to the programme and exams.
2. The BrainS Board, the Board of Examiners Brain Science and the examiners are allowed to use the student portal, e-mail via UM-account or AskPsy.nl to announce decisions.
3. The student must regularly check the student's university e-mail address and AskPsy.nl. Information disseminated via e-mail, the digital learning environment or the website will be assumed to be known.

### Article 3.5 Study load (extent of the programme)

The study programme has a study load of 180 credits (ECTS). Each course year has a study load of 60 credits. Each credit equals 28 hours of study load.

### Article 3.6 Composition

The programme consists of the following parts and accompanying credits:

Overview year 1 (Academic year 2024-2025):

Bachelor year 1				
Period	Module			
Period 1	Introduction to Brain Science (3 credits)	<b>Period 1-2</b> Linear Algebra and Calculus (6 credits)	<b>Period 1-5</b> Programming I (5 credits)	<b>Period 1-6</b> Writing & Presenting (1.5 credits)  Mentor-guided Portfolio Building (2 credits)
	Genes, Proteins and Evolution (4.5 credits)  <i>Practical:</i> Genes, Proteins and Evolution			
Period 2	Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience (4 credits)			
	Cellular Interactions and Metabolism (4.5 credits)  <i>Practical:</i> Cellular Interactions and Metabolism			
Period 3	Neuroanatomy (2.5 credits)			
	Project Year 1 (5 credits)			
Period 4	Principles of Perception (4 credits)			
	Brain Cells (4 credits)			
	Advanced Calculus and Dynamical Systems (3 credits)			
Period 5	The Motor System (4 credits)			
	Learning and Memory (4 credits)			
	Probability Theory (3 credits)			
Period 6	Project Year 1 (continued)			

Overview year 2 (academic year 2025-2026\*):

Bachelor year 2				
Period	Module			
Period 1	Ethics in Brain Science (4 credits)	Computational Science of Networks (4.5 credits)	Machine Learning (3 credits)	<b>Period 1-6</b> Programming II (5 credits)  Writing & Presenting II (1 credit)  Mentor-guided Portfolio Building (2 credits)
Period 2	Neuro-modulators of Perception & Psychopathology (4 credits)	Cellular and Systems Mechanisms of Memory (4.5 credits)	Advanced Statistics (3 credits)	
Period 3	Project year 2 – part I (2 credits)	Behavioural Research Methods (2 credits)		
Period 4	Computational Neurobiology of Movement and Reinforcement (4 credits)	Memory Disorders and Treatment (4 credits)	Biophysical Modelling (3 credits)	
Period 5	From Neurons and Networks to Perception (4 credits)	Drug and BCI Treatment of Movement Disorders (4 credits)	Measuring and Manipulating Brain Activity (3 credits)	
Period 6	Project Year 2 – part II (3 credits)			

Overview year 3 (Academic year 2026-2027\*):

Bachelor year 3			
Period	Module		
Period 1	Electives/Minors (30 credits)		<b>Period 1-6</b> Mentor-guided Portfolio Building (1 credit)
Period 2			
Period 3			
Period 4	A Transdisciplinary View on Computational Modelling (4 credits)	Current Trends and Critical Reading in Brain Science (4 credits)	
Period 5	Bachelor Thesis (21 credits)		
Period 6			

\*The year 2 and 3 study programme may still be subject to change.  
 For a more detailed description of the programme, check [www.maastrichtuniversity.nl](http://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl)

### Article 3.7 Electives

In year 3, the student has the opportunity to fulfil the indicated electives as mentioned in article 3.6 by choosing from the options given in articles 3.7.1 to 3.7.4.

#### *Article 3.7.1 Minor*

1. The student may choose a minor at another UM Faculty or at another Dutch University, during period 1, 2, and 3 of the third year.
2. The minor has a study load of at least 30 credits. In case the study load of the chosen minor is more than 30 credits, these credits will be noted on the list of examination components but will not count towards the study load mentioned in article 3.5.

#### *Article 3.7.2 Electives within the Faculties of FPN, FHML and FSE*

Electives consist of regularly offered (elective) courses at the three faculties. The list of elective courses is determined each academic year, and it can be different each year, the available electives will be published in an elective guide in the 2025-2026 academic year.

#### *Article 3.7.3 Electives outside the Faculties of FPN, FHML and FSE*

1. The student may choose electives - pending approval by the Board of Examiners Brain Science- which are offered by:
  - another UM faculty;
  - another Dutch university;
  - Foreign university.
2. For the education mentioned under a, approval from the Board of Examiners Brain Science must be requested and obtained before taking this education.
3. Electives taken abroad are subjected to the Rules and Regulations as stated in appendix 2.

### Article 3.8 The Bachelor's examination

The Bachelor's examination consists of the following parts:

1. the education parts of course year 1 as named in Article 3.6 of the Education and Examination Regulations;
2. the education parts of course year 2 as named in Article 3.6 of the Education and Examination Regulations;
3. the education parts of course year 3 as named in Article 3.6 of the Education and Examination Regulations;
4. the practical training and accompanying assignments pertaining to the parts as meant under paragraphs 1, 2 and 3;
5. the (tutorial group) meetings pertaining to the parts as meant under paragraphs 1-4;

## SECTION 4 EDUCATION

### Article 4.1 Courses/modules; Composition; Actual design

1. For the programme, courses/modules are given with the study load stated in article 3.6 of the Education and Examination Regulations. The educational programme includes 60 ECTS per year, with 1 ECTS representing 28 hours of work.
2. The courses/modules for which the student is registered are visible in the timetable which can be accessed via the student portal. The exam schedule is available on AskPsy.nl.

### Article 4.2 Prior knowledge; Entrance requirements

1. The following regulations apply with regard to entrance requirements:
  - a. To be admitted to or to receive approval to take electives abroad, the following requirements have to be met:
    - Bachelor year 1 has to be completed (60 credits) (see also appendix 2 of the Education and Examination Regulations); and
    - all courses/modules of period 1, 2, and 3 of year 2 have to be passed.
  - b. To be admitted to the internship and bachelor's thesis in a certain academic year, at least 90 credits (of which the full 60 credits from the first bachelor year) need to be obtained before September 1st of the academic year in which the student will start the bachelor's thesis.
2. If a student takes one of the modules named in paragraph 1 and 2 without having fulfilled the mentioned requirements and without permission from the Board of Examiners Brain Science, the result of the module in question can be declared invalid by the Board of Examiners Brain Science.

### Article 4.3 Course/module registration and deregistration

The student may participate in a course/module after the student has timely registered through the student portal. Information and deadlines regarding (de)registration of courses/modules can be found on the student portal/AskPsy.nl.

## SECTION 5 ASSESSMENT

### Article 5.1 General

1. During a course, the student will be tested for academic training and the extent to which the student has sufficiently achieved the stated learning objectives.
2. The course manual describes the requirements students have to fulfil to pass the course and the criteria on which the student is assessed.
3. The Rules of Procedure for Exams describe the exam procedure. The Rules of Procedure for Exams can be found on the student portal/AskPsy.nl.

### Article 5.2 Grades

1. Final grades are awarded on a numeric scale of 0.0 to 10.0 or qualified as a pass/fail in accordance with this article;
2. Final grades for course exams and assessments are the scores rounded off to the nearest whole or half number:
  - decimals  $< .25$  or  $\geq .75$  will be rounded off to the nearest whole number;
  - decimals  $\geq .25$  or  $< .75$  will be rounded off to the nearest half number.
3. Regardless of what is stated in article 5.2, paragraph 2 of the Education and Examination Regulations, exams that are graded as 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4 will be rounded off to 5.0 and that are graded as 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, and 5.9 will be rounded off to 6.0.
4. A pass/fail is awarded as follows:
  - Pass:  $\geq 5.5$  on a scale of 0.0 to 10.0; performance at least meets the minimum criteria.
  - Fail:  $< 5.5$  on a scale of 0.0 to 10.0; performance below the minimum criteria.
5. A course or assessment is passed when a grade of 6.0 or higher is obtained or when a Pass is awarded.
6. The result no grade (NG) will be assigned when a student:
  - has booked the exam, but has not attended the exam/not signed in to TestVision for the specific exam;
  - has failed to submit a paper before the deadline or when the paper does not comply to the requirements provided by the course coordinator.

### Article 5.3 Sequencing of examination components

1. In their first course year, students are only admitted to examination components of the first bachelor year. Students who are in their second course year are only admitted to examination components of the first and second bachelor year. Students, who are in their third and subsequent course years, are admitted to all examination components of the bachelor.
2. Conform Article 7.30, paragraph 3 of the WHW, the Board of Examiners Brain Science can admit a student to examination components other than those meant in paragraph 1.
3. If a student deviates from the sequence as described in paragraph 1, without permission from the Board of Examiners Brain Science, the result of the component in question can be declared invalid.

### Article 5.4 Periods and frequency of exams

1. Exams can be taken twice a year, one regular exam and one re-sit, at times determined by the BrainS Board: i.e. once during or immediately following the period in which the relevant course/module was offered (regular exam) and once during the academic year (re-sit). On the student portal/AskPsy.nl times are listed, on which the exams can be taken.

2. In special cases, the Board of Examiners Brain Science can decide that an exam can be taken at a time different to that set in accordance with the previous paragraph.

#### Article 5.5 Exam registration and deregistration

The student may take a course/module exam after the student has timely registered through the student portal. Information and deadlines regarding (de)registration of exams and re-sits can be found on the student portal/AskPsy.nl.

#### Article 5.6 Format of exams

1. An exam can consist of open-ended questions, multiple choice questions, true-false questions, a combination of open-ended questions and true-false or multiple-choice questions, an individual paper, a research article, a presentation, an essay or a portfolio. The Board of Examiners Brain Science can, in special circumstances, allow a different from standard exam format or another way of weighing examination parts of a course and will establish the conditions under which this will take place.
2. In case the attendance requirement has not been met, the grade of the exam will be declared invalid (see also Articles 5 and 6 of the Rules and Regulations).
3. The Rules of Procedures for Exams describe how and under which conditions the written exams are taken.
4. In case an examiner wants to use a different exam format compared to the one mentioned in the nominal plans or the one communicated to the students, the examiner must ask permission from the Board of Examiners Brain Science at least four weeks before the starting date of the course/module.
5. Upon request, students with a disability and/or chronic illness are offered the opportunity to take exams and 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 should not alter the quality or difficulty of an educational component or assessment programme. All intended learning outcomes must be covered by the adapted (assessment) provision. Based on the advice of Disability Support (DS) and any additional information, if requested, the Board of Examiners Brain Science decides on adaptations in assessment. If the Board of Examiners Brain Science deviates from the advice of DS, this deviation is motivated.
6. In exceptional cases, the Board of Examiners Brain Science may grant a student permission for an oral exam. For this purpose, a written request must be submitted to the Board of Examiners Brain Science. If the Board of Examiners Brain Science approves the request, in principle the following conditions apply:
  - a. During an oral exam, only one person is assessed;
  - b. An oral exam is administered by at least two examiners;
  - c. An oral exam takes place in public.

#### Article 5.7 Written papers and assignments

The Board of Examiners Brain Science can draw up guidelines for papers and assignments. These guidelines will be included in the manual pertaining to the relevant part of the curriculum.

#### Article 5.8 Attendance at tutorial group meetings

1. The Board of Examiners Brain Science lays down the minimum percentage of attendance in tutorial, exercise and practical group meetings in the Rules and Regulations, articles 5

and 6, and determines how the actual attendance of each student is registered.

2. If attendance has been met in a given academic year, this will be valid for the remainder of the study, even if the exam is not passed in that year.

#### Article 5.9 Determination and publishing results

1. The Board of Examiners Brain Science determines the norms for the exam of each part of the examination.
2. Official final examination results will be published on the student portal within fifteen (15) working days after the examination date, unless decided otherwise by the FPN Board.
3. When the result of a written exam is announced, it will be indicated on the student portal/AskPsy.nl how the student can review the exam and file an appeal as referred to in Article 6.4 of the Education and Examination Regulations.
4. With respect to an exam that has been administered in a different way than in writing, the Board of Examiners Brain Science determines the way and period in which the result will be announced.

#### Article 5.10 Exam inspection

1. Within 25 working days of the date on which the exam was given, including a computer-based exam, students may inspect their exam.
2. Within the period referred to in paragraph 1, interested students are allowed to inspect their own exam results and may, upon request, inspect the questions and assignments for a written exam and the standards based on which the exam was assessed.
3. During the exam inspection students are not allowed to have communication devices and/or other electronic devices at their disposal, neither to take the exam and answer key outside the room where the inspection takes place nor to copy these documents in any form.

#### Article 5.11 Proof of having passed courses/modules

1. Once a student has fulfilled all the requirements as described in the assessment plan of the module this will count as proof of having passed the relevant course/module. The proof will be obtained after an examiner has declared that the requirements for the assessment of the course/module have been complied with. A condition for obtaining proof of having passed a part is that the student has complied with the admission requirements for the relevant part of the examination. The Board of Examiners Brain Science can revoke the decision of the examiner if the admission requirements have not been complied with.
2. In case the examiner mentioned in paragraph 1 doubts if the requirements for passing the part have been met, the examiner will submit the case to the Board of Examiners Brain Science to come to a decision.

#### Article 5.12 Period of validity

1. As a rule, the period of validity of examination components is unlimited. Contrary to the above, the Board of Examiners Brain Science may require the student to take an additional or replacement exam or exam component for an exam which was passed more than six years ago if the student's knowledge or insight that was examined is demonstrably outdated or the skills that were examined are demonstrably outdated.
2. If exceptional circumstances apply as referred to in Article 7.51 paragraph two of the WHW, the period of six years in paragraph one will be extended by the duration of the



financial support the student receives from the profiling fund.

3. Sub-exams and assignments which were passed within a course/module which was not passed can lose validity after the academic year in which they were passed unless the Board of Examiners Brain Science states otherwise.

#### Article 5.13 Retention period of exams

1. Assignments, results and assessments of written exams will be saved two years after the exam results have been determined.
2. Theses and the assessment of theses will be saved at least seven years after the thesis has been assessed.
3. The diploma and the list of examination components will be saved 30 years.

#### Article 5.14 Exemptions

1. The Board of Examiners Brain Science can, at the request of the student and having heard the relevant examiners, grant the student an exemption from taking an exam or other assessment, if the student provides satisfactory written proof that the student:
  - a. has already successfully completed a similar part at a university, which is equivalent in content and level;
  - b. possesses sufficient knowledge and skill in relation to the relevant exam by way of work, or professional experience.
2. The same period of validity applies to exemptions as to examination results (see article 5.12).
3. The following restrictions regarding exemptions apply:
  - a. In the Bachelor's programme, a maximum of 30 credits may be exempted with the exception of the bachelor's thesis.
  - b. The Board of Examiners Brain Science will not grant any exemption based on exams passed by a student outside the programme during the period in which the student was barred from taking exams for the programme by the Board of Examiners Brain Science because of fraud.

#### Article 5.15 Grade point average (GPA)

The grade point average (GPA) equals the weighted average of all numerical grades.

Weighting is based on the number of credits of the courses/modules; these credits are listed on the result sheet provided with the diploma.

#### Article 5.16 Fraud

1. Fraud, including plagiarism, is understood as a student's act or failure to act that makes it partially or fully impossible to correctly assess the student's knowledge, insight and skills.
2. Plagiarism is understood as the presentation of one's own or other people's ideas or words without adequate reference to the source.
3. If the Board of Examiners Brain Science establishes that a student has committed fraud in an exam or exam component, it may impose suitable measures.
4. Repeat offences of fraud are, either within the faculty or at another UM faculty, considered an aggregating circumstance.
5. In serious cases of fraud, the Board of Examiners Brain Science can propose to UM's Executive Board that the student(s) concerned be permanently deregistered from the programme.
6. The Rules and Regulations further detail what is understood as fraud and what measures can be imposed by the Board of Examiners Brain Science.

#### Article 5.17 Invalid exam

If an exam involves irregularities that make it impossible to accurately assess the student's knowledge, insight and/or skills, the Board of Examiners Brain Science may declare the exam invalid for both the student and a group of students.

#### Article 5.18 Unsuitability (Judicium Abeundi)

1. In exceptional circumstances and after carefully weighing the interests at stake, the Board of Examiners Brain Science and the BrainS Board may request the Executive Board to terminate or deny a student's registration for a programme if, through the student's conduct or statements, the student shows that the student is unsuitable to practice one or more professions for which the programme the student is enrolled in, is training the student for, or is unsuitable for the practical preparation for the profession. The BrainS Board, the Board of Examiners Brain Science and the Executive Board will reach a decision in accordance with the Judicium Abeundi Protocol adopted by the Dutch Federation of University Medical Centres on 1 November 2010.
2. The relevant clauses of Maastricht University's Enrolment Provisions apply.

## SECTION 6 EXAMINATION

### Article 6.1 Examination

1. The Board of Examiners Brain Science determines the result of the examination and grants the diploma as meant in art. 6.3 as soon as the student has fulfilled all the requirements of the examination programme.
2. Before determining the result of the examination, the Board of Examiners Brain Science can decide to examine the student's knowledge with respect to one or more parts of the study programme, should the results of the relevant exam give reason for this.
3. To pass the examination, the student must have passed all components as defined in art. 3.6 of the Education and Examination Regulations or an exemption has been granted.
4. To pass the examination and receive the certificate, the student must also have been registered for the programme during the period that the exams were taken, the student was supervised or work of the student was assessed.
5. A certificate may only be issued after it has been shown that the student has satisfied all the obligations, including paying the tuition fees.
6. The last day of the month in which the student fulfilled all the examination requirements will be considered the examination date (graduation date).
7. Students who have passed the examination and who are entitled to the issuance of a certificate may, stating reasons, ask the Board of Examiners Brain Science not to do this yet. This request must be submitted at least one month before the final assignment is turned in or the final exam is taken. The Board of Examiners Brain Science in any event grants the request if the student has held/will hold a board position for which a financial support from the "Profileringsfonds" was/will be granted for at least nine months or a Student Introduction Committee ('INKOM') board position.

### Article 6.2 Degree

The student who has passed the examination successfully will be awarded the degree of "Bachelor of Science" and will receive the diploma associated with the Bachelor's examination as proof of this.

### Article 6.3 Diploma and statements

1. As proof that the assessment was successfully completed, the Board of Examiners Brain Science issues a diploma, after it has been stated by or on behalf of UM's Executive Board that the procedural requirements for receiving the diploma have been met. The diploma is based on the model that UM's Executive Board has adopted.
2. The diploma issued as a result of having passed the examination successfully will contain:
  - a. the name of the institution;
  - b. the name of the study programme;
  - c. the degree awarded;
  - d. the date on which the programme was most recently accredited or was subjected to the new programme exam.
3. Students who are entitled to a diploma may, stating reasons, ask the Board of Examiners Brain Science not to issue this yet.
4. The diploma will be signed by the Chair of the Board of Examiners Brain Science and the Dean of the FPN Faculty.
5. The diploma is awarded in public, unless the Board of Examiners Brain Science decides otherwise, in special cases.
6. The certificate includes a list of the examination components, the 'List of Exam Subjects'.

7. The Board of Examiners Brain Science includes a 'Diploma Supplement' as referred to in Article 7.11 paragraph 4 of the WHW. This diploma supplement is based on the model adopted by UM's Executive Board, which is in compliance with the agreed European standard format.
8. The Board of Examiners Brain Science can award the diploma with the qualifications of 'Cum Laude' or 'Summa Cum Laude' in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for the Bachelor's Examination.
9. Students who have passed more than one exam and who cannot be issued a certificate will upon request, receive a statement issued by the Board of Examiners Brain Science which at least indicates the exams that they passed.

#### Article 6.4 Right of appeal

Within six weeks after a decision is announced by an examiner or the Board of Examiners Brain Science a person concerned can file an appeal against this decision with the Complaint Service Point of the UM. The appeal needs to be signed and dated and needs to bear the name and address of the petitioner, as well as the grounds for appeal and, if possible, a copy of the decision against which the appeal is lodged.

## SECTION 7 STUDY ADVICE

### Article 7.1 Study progress administration

1. The Faculty registers the individual study results of the students in such a way that they can be consulted by the students via the student portal.
2. To each student, the Faculty points out at least once a year (preferably in May) to check the student's overview of the study results obtained by the student.

### Article 7.2 Study guidance

The Faculty sees to the introduction and study advice and guidance of the students who are enrolled in the study programme.

### Article 7.3 Mentoring

A mentor is assigned to each first-year student at the start of the study. In addition to monitoring and guarding a student's well-being, mentoring serves the purposes of stimulating study performance and progress, guiding important choices (project topics, electives, thesis and internship topic, master choice), and helping to develop a life-long learning attitude. To achieve this, in the first year, the mentor will meet three times individually with his/her mentor student(s).

### Article 7.4 Academic adviser

Brain Science students may consult an academic adviser of FPN at any time to discuss academic or personal problems. Academic advisers are not members of the teaching staff and can provide impartial advice and referrals, as appropriate, to students seeking solutions for such problems. All conversations with an academic adviser are confidential.

### Article 7.5 Study advice propaedeutic phase

1. At the end of the first year of enrolment in the propaedeutic phase of the full-time bachelor programme, the BrainS Board will issue a study advice to each student whether the student should continue the study or not.
2. In the first year of enrolment in the propaedeutic phase, the student receives 2 progress reports, once in January and once in May.

### Article 7.6 Binding (negative) Study Advice (BSA)

1. If the study advice as stated in Article 7.5 under 1 is negative, the advice will include exclusion to the bachelor's programme.
2. The exclusion stated in paragraph 1, is binding, meaning that the student will not be allowed to register for the bachelor's programme for the next four academic years.
3. A BSA will be issued to a student who was enrolled at any time in the first year of study for the full-time bachelor's programme and who, at the end of the first year, has not met the norms as stated in article 7.7 of the Education and Examination Regulations.
4. Before the negative study advice is issued, the student has the right to be heard.

### Article 7.7 Norms

1. At the end of the first year of enrolment in the full-time bachelor's programme students must have passed at least 70% of the ECTS out of the possible 60 ECTS of the first year of the Bachelor programme, i.e. a minimum of 42 credits.
2. Students who were granted exemptions from the Board of Examiners Brain Science must by the end of the first year of enrolment have obtained minimally 70% of the first-year

bachelor credits, after subtraction of the credits for parts for which exemption was given.

#### Article 7.8 Procedure

1. At the latest in the months of January and May of the first year of study students who are eligible will be issued a written warning advice.
2. At the end of the first year of registration in the propaedeutic phase of the bachelor's programme, study advice is issued to each student by, or on behalf of, the BrainS Board regarding continuation of the programme. Students have the right to be heard, before a negative study advice is issued. Students will be notified about the hearing in the writing stated in paragraph 2.  
Hearings will be held in July / August.
3. The academic adviser will be informed which students are eligible for a negative study advice. The academic adviser may give advice to the BrainS Board, either invited or uninvited.
4. After a student has been heard, the BrainS Board will determine if a negative study advice will be issued.
5. The decision regarding a BSA will be communicated to the student in writing no later than 31 august.
6. The student has the right to file an appeal against the decision for a negative study advice with the Complaint Service Point of Maastricht University within 6 weeks after the decision is announced.

#### Article 7.9 Postponement of study advice

1. If it is impossible to issue advice on the student's suitability for the programme due to personal circumstances that occurred in the first year, contrary to Article 7.6 this advice may be postponed to a later moment during the propaedeutic phase. An adapted standard may be used for the student in question.
2. If the advice is postponed, the advice will be issued no later than at the end of the second year of registration in the programme. The postponed advice will be positive if the (adapted) BSA standard is met. The student will receive a negative advice if the student has not achieved the agreed standard.
3. At the student's request, the BrainS Board will take personal circumstances into account when deciding to issue a BSA. This decision will also be based on the student's study behaviour, agreements and/or study plan made with the student adviser, the time at which the personal circumstances were reported and the study results achieved at the end of the first year of study.

#### Article 7.10 Personal circumstances

1. Personal circumstances which will be taken into consideration when issuing a study advice are:
  - a. illness of the student in question;
  - b. physical, perceptual or any other dysfunction of the student in question;
  - c. pregnancy of the student in question;
  - d. special family circumstances;
  - e. administrative activities as referred to in Article 2.1, paragraph 1 under e, f and g of the WHW.
  - f. participation in top-level sport;
  - g. circumstances other than those referred to in subparagraphs a. to f. which, if they were not to be honoured by the BrainS Board, would result in excessive unfairness.

2. Students who, as a result of personal circumstances, can reasonably expect study delay, should notify this promptly to the academic adviser to limit study delay as a consequence of the circumstances in question, and to set up an individual study plan when needed as judged by the academic adviser. The notification is considered timely when it is reported within 4 weeks after the circumstances were revealed. If circumstances are such, that the student or the student's representative does not have the opportunity to report them within 4 weeks, the question whether or not notification was reported in time will be assessed in light of the circumstances.

#### Article 7.11 Hardship clause

In special cases, the BrainS Board may, in favour of the student, deviate from the determined rules on the study advice, when application of the above mentioned regulations would lead to extreme inequity.

## SECTION 8      TRANSITIONAL AND CONCLUDING CONDITIONS

### Article 8.1      Amendments

1. Amendments in these regulations will be determined by special decision of the BrainS Board following a recommendation of the Educational Programme Committee BrainS and after permission is obtained from or after consultation with the Faculty Council.
2. An amendment in these regulations will not apply to the academic year in which it occurs, unless the interests of the students are not adversely affected by such a change.
3. Furthermore, an amendment cannot be to the detriment of students by affecting any other decision that has been taken by the Board of Examiners Brain Science on the basis of the original regulations.

### Article 8.2      Publication

1. The FPN Faculty Board sees to the proper publication of this regulation, of the Rules and Regulations which have been determined by the FPN Board of Examiners, and also of any changes in these, by, for example, placing a notice on the faculty website/the student portal/AskPsy.nl.
2. Interested persons can obtain a copy of the documents referred to in paragraph 1 from the secretariat of the Board of Examiners Brain Science.

### Article 8.3      Evaluation

The BrainS Board will ensure that the education of the programme is regularly evaluated, assessing at least – for the purpose of monitoring and if necessary adapting the student workload – the amount of time students need to complete their duties as set out therein.

### Article 8.4      Unforeseen cases / Hardship clause

1. The Board of Examiners Brain Science decides on behalf of the BrainS Board in cases that have not been foreseen by these regulations.
2. The Board of Examiners Brain Science has the right to deviate from these regulations, with the exception of the study advice rules, in individual cases, if a strict adherence will, in their opinion, result in an unfair outcome for the individual, in view of the special circumstances.

### Article 8.5      Date of taking effect

These regulations will come into force on 1 September 2024 and will be effective for the 2024-2025 academic year.

**Adopted by the FPN Faculty Board on June 25, 2024**



## APPENDICES WITH THE EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS BACHELOR IN BRAIN SCIENCE

### Appendix 1 Accountability for the language of instruction

The choice for the language of instruction of the Bachelor in Brain Science is in line with the UM Code of Conduct on language, in accordance with the Dutch Higher Education and Research WHW art. 7.2. Because of the specific educational nature and profile of the Bachelor in Brain Science, teaching and examinations are conducted in English. This guarantees the quality of education, because:

**The labour market demands internationally oriented (English speaking) alumni. Therefore, the content of the programme has an international orientation and focus.**

The regional labour market of Maastricht University (positioned within the Euregion) goes beyond borders, and many large companies in this region are international. The bachelor's programme fulfils the international and domain-specific requirements specified for a bachelor's programme in Brain Science, and offers students up-to-date knowledge, methods and skills that will allow them to continue studying in a master's programme. Moreover, with the use of the English language, the programme prepares the students for a national and international master's programme and labour market. Furthermore, the bachelor's programme is research-oriented within the field of Brain Science. Brain Science is an international discipline, implying that most scientific literature is in English.

## Appendix 2 Implementation regulation exchange programme and electives abroad

1. Courses, obtained as part of an exchange programme as established by the BrainS Board, may be registered as part of the programme for which the student is enrolled.
2. Students, who want to take the year 3 electives abroad, have to do this in the context of the Exchange Programme of the Bachelor Brain Science programme, with one of its exchange partners.
3. Electives abroad are taken during the regular elective period in year 3 (P1-3), for a maximum of one (1) semester.
4. Study completed in the context of the Exchange Programme is part of the study programme at the UM.
5. The selection procedure for electives at a partner university abroad is done by the International Relations Office (IRO). The selection takes place in year 2 of the Bachelor programme (fall). For participation in the selection, students need to have passed all first-year educational requirements at the time of the registration deadline. For more information about the selection procedure and deadlines, please refer to <https://www.askpsy.nl/iro>. Students who did not fulfil the requirements for participation in the regular selection procedure at the time of the registration deadline, can still apply for electives at an FPN partner university abroad as soon as all first-year educational requirements are fulfilled.  
Allocation is done at a first-come, first served-basis, based on availability.
6. The bachelor diploma cannot be issued before module PSY3378 (Intercultural Awareness) is completed and the ECTS obtained abroad have been processed, based on an official grade transcript from the host university.
7. Students are selected on a provisional basis. To get approval from the Board of Examiners Brain Science to take electives abroad students need to be selected for the exchange programme, for more information about the requirements/procedure for electives abroad, please refer to the Elective Guide on AskPsy.nl.
8. In relation to the requirements regarding level and content applicable to the examination of the programme concerned certain conditions apply. The decision to whether or not a course will be considered as part of the programme will be determined by the Board of Examiners Brain Science and will only be possible with the approval of the Board of Examiners Brain Science. The following conditions apply:
  - a. the course has to be taught at an academic level and at least at a second year level;
  - b. there is little or no overlap between the course and other parts of the bachelor's programme while the content has to relate to the purpose of the bachelor's programme (Article 3.1 of the Education and Examination Regulations);
  - c. the course has been passed in the context of the exchange programme;
  - d. students have to ask approval from the Board of Examiners Brain Science in advance and in writing.
  - e. when requested by the Board of Examiners Brain Science, students will have to submit additional information to the Board of Examiners Brain Science.
  - f. if electives abroad are offered and taken in a language other than the native language or English, a maximum of 6 ECTS can be awarded for a language course in the language in question, provided that a minimum of 12 ECTS have been obtained for electives in that language.
9. Regarding the processing of results obtained abroad by the Board of Examiners Brain Science the following rules apply:
  - a. results obtained abroad will only be registered if the module PSY3378 (Intercultural Awareness) has been passed;

- b. results must be submitted to the Board of Examiners Brain Science in clear, original, written transcripts from the university in question; these transcripts must contain the following information -aside from personal information about the student and the university-: code and name of the course, course level, study load, exam date and exam result;
  - c. registration is only possible in case of a sufficient result; course results stating that the course was taken or attended or similar assessments are not sufficient. A result that is (in)sufficient at the university in question will also be considered (in)sufficient at FPN;
  - d. the study load awarded by the foreign university is adopted here without changes; if for example 6 ECTS have been awarded by a particular university, the course will also be valued at 6 ECTS by the faculty, regardless of the degree of difficulty that has been experienced;
  - e. when the study load abroad is not expressed in ECTS but in other units, the Board of Examiners Brain Science will convert these into ECTS. The conversion is based on the study load of a complete study year or a complete programme in relation to the study load of 60 ECTS for a year in Maastricht or 180 ECTS
10. The Board of Examiners Brain Science will decide on matters regarding registration of courses followed elsewhere, as far as they have not been addressed in the Education and Examination Regulations and in this article.