

**Teaching and Examination Regulations**

**Research Master in  
Sociology of Culture, Media and the Arts**

**2020-2021**

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## SECTION 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Article 1.1 – Applicability of the regulations

These regulations are applicable to the curriculum and examinations of the research master degree programme in the Sociology of Culture, Media and the Arts, hereinafter referred to as the “degree programme” and include the programme specific rights and obligations of students following the programme in the academic year 2020-2021. The general university Student’s Charter stipulates the rights and obligations applicable to all students of the Erasmus University.

The degree programme is offered by the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication (ESHCC) and the Erasmus School of Social and Behavioural Sciences (ESSB) at Erasmus University Rotterdam, referred to here as: “the Schools”.

The research master programme is subject to the provisions set out in the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW).

The degree programme’s online study guide, the [website](#) that sets out the teaching plan for the degree programme, and the course guides of individual courses are an integral part of these regulations as regards the specifics of courses and exams.

### Article 1.2 – Definitions

In these regulations, the following definitions apply:

<i>Academic year</i>	The period that starts on 1 September and ends on 31 August of the following year
<i>Admissions Committee</i>	a committee mandated by the Dean of the School which assesses whether a prospective student can be admitted to the degree programme and which selects the most suitable students for the programme
<i>The Act</i>	The Higher Education and Research Act; WHW (Statute book 1992, 593); later revised.
<i>Course</i>	one (examination) component of the degree programme as referred to in section 7.3 of the Act, which is awarded credits;
<i>Course guide</i>	a written (electronic) document containing information about the objectives, working method and structure of a course, the assessment method, the mandatory literature and the lecturer’s office hours.
<i>Course schedule</i>	the schedule of lectures and classes for an academic year as specified by the deans.
<i>Credit</i>	a unit expressed in EC, whereby one credit is equal to 28 hours of study (according to the European Credit Transfer System).
<i>Degree programme</i>	the research master in the Sociology of Culture, Media and the Arts as referred to in Art. 1, which is a coherent set of components, aimed at achieving the defined learning outcomes. The degree programme is concluded when all the requirements for the research master degree have been fulfilled.
<i>Director of Education</i>	the person who is responsible for the general administration of the degree programmes of the School.
<i>Dublin Descriptor</i>	general descriptions for the final level of Bachelor’s and Master’s programs in higher education.
<i>Exam</i>	assessment as referred to in Section 7.10 of the Act, i.e. a written, oral, digital (administered on a computer) or other investigation including a practical or a combination of these, into the understanding, knowledge and skills of the student and the assessment of the results of that investigation.
<i>Examination Board</i>	A board appointed by the Dean of the School and as referred to in Art. 7.12 of the Act, for the purpose of guaranteeing that all requirements for a degree are met before graduation. See <a href="#">contact</a> details here.

<i>Examiner</i>	the lecturer on staff at the School, or an external lecturer assigned to the task by the Examination Board, who is authorised to administer exams and/or tests.
<i>External course</i>	a course taken outside the School in a different programme at Erasmus University Rotterdam, or at a different university in the Netherlands or abroad.
<i>GPA</i>	Grade Point Average.
<i>Intermediate test or interim exam</i>	a test or exam taken during the lecturing term of a course, the assessment of which is taken into consideration for establishing the result for the course.
<i>Master's examination</i>	the total of successfully passed exams by the student that entitles the student to a master degree
<i>Practical</i>	a practical exercise, as defined in Article 7.13 of the Act, in one of the following forms: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. writing a paper, report, essay or thesis</li><li>2. taking part in a tutorial, workshop, or seminar</li><li>3. completing an assignment</li><li>4. giving an oral presentation</li><li>5. taking an internship</li><li>6. participating in a study visit or field trip</li><li>7. taking part in another study activity aimed at the attainment of certain skills</li></ol>
<i>Programme Director</i>	the person charged with managing and supervising the degree programme
<i>Resit</i>	the possibility to improve the grade of a test or exam. .
<i>Rules &amp; Guidelines</i>	the rules, guidelines and regulations of the Examination Board, as referred to in Art. 7.12 paragraph 4 of the law.
<i>Student</i>	a person enrolled at the university for the purpose of following the degree programme and/or sitting the programme's examinations and having his/her academic record reviewed in accordance with section 7.34 of the Act;
<i>Study guide</i>	document containing important information about the framework, the contents, the services offered and the regulations of a specific programme.
<i>Website</i>	the webpage with all the educational information about the degree programme

Any remaining terms are understood as they are referred to in the Act.

### **Article 1.3 – Evaluation of education**

1. The Director of Education will ensure the evaluation of education.
2. The Director of Education will inform the Faculty Council and Programme Committee of the method and frequency with which curriculum components are to be evaluated.
3. The Director of Education will inform the Faculty Council and Programme Committee of the outcomes of the evaluation, the amendments made as a result of this and the effect of the actual amendments.
4. The Programme Committee will advise the Director of Education on the methods of evaluation and curriculum assessment, and will initiate or suggest possible improvements in the evaluation of education.
5. The Programme Committee has the right of consent with regards to the evaluation of education.

## **SECTION 2 – PREVIOUS EDUCATION AND ADMISSION**

### **Article 2.1 – Admission requirements**

Admission to the degree programme is given on the basis of:

1. An academic bachelor degree or master degree in the social sciences or the humanities from a Dutch recognized university or an equivalent international institution.
2. Basic knowledge of social scientific research methods. GPA in prior bachelor degree of at least 7.5 according to the Dutch grading system which uses a scale of 1-10.
3. Solid academic writing and analytical skills as demonstrated by a bachelor thesis or comparable academic paper.
4. A sound motivation for undertaking the research master programme, as substantiated by a motivation letter.
5. A clear international orientation, as evidenced by CV and motivation letter.
6. Sufficient English language proficiency. This requirement is deemed to be met if the student:
  - a) is a native speaker of English.
  - b) has completed a previous degree programme where the language of instruction was English and which was completed no longer than three years ago at the time of the application.
  - c) has taken one of the following exam results no longer than two ago at the time of the application:
    - TOEFL with a score of 100 in the internet based, 250 in the computer-based test or 600 in the paper test
    - IELTS with a score of 7.0 or higher.
    - Cambridge C1 Advanced (former CAE) grade: C/185.
    - Cambridge C2 Proficiency (former CPE) grade :C/185
    - Test results of the ITP/TOEFL (Institutional Testing Program) offered by the [Language & Training Centre of Erasmus University Rotterdam](#) are also accepted. The minimum score: 600.
7. Candidates who via one of the Erasmus University Rotterdam programmes have earned an MSc in Sociology, MA in Art and Culture or MA in Media Studies with excellent results (GPA 8,0 and MA thesis 8,0) receive a maximum of 58 credits in exemptions, as determined by the Admissions Committee.

#### **Article 2.4 – Admissions Committee and Admissions Procedure**

1. The Admissions Committee is authorised to decide on the admission of students to the programme.
2. In view of admission to the programme, the Admissions Committee inquires into the knowledge, insight, skills and motivation of the candidate. To complement written evidence of the preceding course(s) of study and training programme(s) completed by the candidate, the Admissions Committee may decide to have certain skills and knowledge tested by experts within or outside the university.
3. Within six weeks after the final application deadline, the decision of the Admissions Committee is communicated to the candidate.
4. Admission is granted subject to the condition that, at the latest on August 31, the candidate meets the requirements with respect to the knowledge and skills (cf. 2.3.1; 2.3.2; and 2.3.7) evidenced by legal certificates.
5. In the written statement with respect to admission, the student is alerted to the possibility of appealing to the Examination Appeals Board (CBE).

### **SECTION 3 – CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME**

#### **Article 3.1 – Intended learning outcomes of the degree programme**

The aim of the degree programme is to prepare students for the further practice of socio-cultural scientific research as part of postgraduate PhD study and doctoral research. To this end, students will acquire knowledge of and insight into the disciplinary and theoretical approaches in the social sciences (i.e. the breadth of the field), gain extensive theoretical knowledge of the sociology of culture, media and arts (i.e. the depth of the field) and gain competencies in the area of both applied and more academically oriented social scientific research.

As such, the degree programme prepares students for an academic career (i.e. for PhD positions at academic institutions targeting sub-fields of the discipline sociology of culture, media and the arts; for

research functions at national and international research institutes, as well as private and public institutes, and for research-oriented policy positions at public and semi-public institutions/agencies and organisations of a public nature).

The intended learning outcomes of the degree programme can be summarised in the following competencies, which students will possess upon completing the degree programme:

*Graduates have in-depth knowledge, comprehensive understanding and critical awareness of:*

1. the main theoretical insights, academic debates and approaches, as well as the current state of research in their field of study (*Dublin Descriptor 1*).
2. current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at the forefront or informed by their academic discipline (*Dublin Descriptor 1*).
3. methods and techniques applicable to their own research/advanced scholarship (*Dublin Descriptor 1*).
4. different academic contexts and academic cultures (*Dublin descriptor 1, 4 and 5*).

*Graduates have the ability/inclination to:*

5. apply theoretical knowledge and research methods in an original and innovative way, combined with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in their field of study (*Dublin Descriptor 2*).
6. apply their knowledge and research skills in new or multidisciplinary settings related to their field of study (*Dublin Descriptor 2 & 5*).
7. critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in the field, evaluate methodologies and assess them critically, and, where appropriate, propose new hypotheses, concepts, and approaches (*Dublin Descriptor 2 & 3*).
8. deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively and make sound judgments in the absence of complete data (*Dublin Descriptor 2 & 3*).
9. communicate their viewpoints and findings in a clear and responsible manner to scientific and non-scientific audiences (*Dublin Descriptor 4*).
10. collaborate and communicate effectively with people who have diverse (e.g. national, cultural, disciplinary) backgrounds and function adequately in internationally and culturally diverse professional and academic settings (*Dublin Descriptor 5*).
11. advance their knowledge and understanding and to develop new skills to a high level in a largely self-directed and autonomous manner and continue to look across the border of their own field of study, home countries and cultures (*Dublin Descriptor 5*).

### **Article 3.2 – Full-time / part-time**

Within the scope of the law, the degree programme is only offered on a full-time basis.

### **Article 3.3 – Language of instruction and assessment**

1. The language of instruction of the degree programme is English.
2. Exams and papers are written in English.

### **Article 3.4 – Participation in degree programme related activities**

Students are supposed to participate in every educational activity that the degree programme offers irrespective of whether the activities are compulsory or not. This concerns not only lectures and study visits but also the completion of course evaluations. Which activities are mandatory to pass each course is specified in the course guide.

### **Article 3.5 – Study workload and duration**

The degree programme is a two-year programme with a total study load of 120 credits. Each course year has a study load of 60 credits.

### **Article 3.6 – Start of the degree programme**

Students can enter the degree programme once per year, at the start of the academic year (September).

## SECTION 4 – MASTER PROGRAMME

### Article 4.1 – Curriculum in year 1 of the degree programme

The first year counts 60 credits and comprises the following components, with the study load in credits (see also Appendix 1):

- Theoretical Core Courses: 20 credits
- Methodological Core Courses: 15 credits
- Research Traineeship: 15 credits
- Elective course at relevant national graduate school: 5 credits
- Elective research workshop at EUR or research master course at other Dutch University: 5 credits.

### Article 4.2 – Curriculum in year 2 of the degree programme

The second year counts 60 credits and comprises the following components, with the study load in credits (see also Appendix 1):

- International conference participation: 5 credits
- International exchange: 20 credits (cf. Art. 4.6)
- Advanced methods course: 5 credits
- Research Master Seminar: 5 credits
- Master Thesis: 25 credits

Students may choose to take the advanced research methods course as part of their exchange. In that case their exchange course work equals 25 credits.

### Article 4.3 – Practicals

The courses of the degree programme include practicals, which involve compulsory classes (tutorials, practicals, workshops, and seminars) in which students meet under supervision of a lecturer to discuss course materials, coursework and work on in class assignments. What the practicals entail and how much time they take is set out in the course guide that is provided for each course.

### Article 4.4 – Attendance and participation requirement

1. Attendance of and active participation in all practicals is mandatory, unless otherwise arranged. This means that a student can only complete a course after the student has met the attendance and participation requirements of the relevant practicals.
2. If a student will miss a meeting, this must be reported to the lecturer prior to the meeting.
3. A student who misses one meeting still meets the attendance requirements if she/he has participated in all other meetings of the course.
4. A student who misses a meeting for the second time, receives an additional task from the lecturer. This additional task is an individual assignment and enables the student to fulfil the attendance and participation requirements.
5. The additional assignment must be handed in (digitally) before the deadline stated by the lecturer, and will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis. A student who does not submit this extra assignment will not receive a grade for the course (and thus, fail).
6. If this assignment has been assessed as passable, the student has met the attendance requirement.
7. A student who has not met the attendance requirement is not entitled to receive a final grade for the course during the corresponding academic year.

### Article 4.5 – External courses in the degree programme

1. To earn credits for any external course, the student must obtain approval from the Examination Board. The student must submit a formal request at least eight weeks before the course starts via OSIRIS Student.



2. External courses taken at a Dutch university will only be accepted for credits if the courses are outside the field of expertise of the lecturers working at the School or Erasmus University.
3. External courses should be taken at the master's level.
4. With regard to the conversion and acceptance of results achieved while studying abroad and the marks recorded for these results, the arrangements for incorporating exchange courses into the study programme published in the study guide or on the website are applicable. These details are also available from the international exchange coordinator and the designated student advisor at the ESHCC.

#### **Article 4.6 – International exchange**

In the second year of their studies, students of the degree programme are required to spend an exchange period at a foreign partner university.

1. Students have to present a motivated plan for their exchange period which has to be approved by the Examination Board before they leave.
2. Students are required to take at least 20 credits worth of courses in the field of the sociology, media and communication, arts and culture studies or related areas at their foreign host university. Students may choose to take the advanced research methods course as part of their exchange. In that case their exchange course work equals 25 credits.
3. Students can only take a study abroad period in the first semester (term 1 and 2) of their second year.
4. If the course schedule of the foreign host institution allows for it, students may choose to spend only the first quarter (term 1) of their year abroad.
5. Minimum requirements for an exchange at the time of students' application are:
  - a) students should have completed all compulsory first year courses (max 5 credits missing)
  - b) students are required to submit proof of their proficiency in the language of the foreign host institution.
6. Available places at each partner university will be limited: selection will be based on students' performance and motivation.
7. International students who have at least one year of international academic experience in the preceding three years outside their country of origin may be exempted from the requirement to go on an exchange and may take elective course at EUR and other universities in the Netherlands or Flanders in the first half of their second year.

#### **Article 4.7 – Master Thesis**

1. The Master Thesis is the product of independent research carried out by an individual student and will be assessed on an individual basis (cf. article 5.4.4).
2. The supervision, submission and assessment of the Master Thesis is subject to the guidelines, procedures, timetables and criteria as stipulated in the course guides for the Master Class and Master Thesis and on the degree programme's website (cf. article 5.3.7)

### **SECTION 5 - ASSESSMENT**

#### **Article 5.1 – General**

1. During the degree programme the student will be assessed on academic development to determine whether the student has sufficiently achieved the intended learning outcomes.
2. The course guide specifies the performance the student must meet in order to successfully complete each course as well as the criteria on which the student will be assessed.
3. In the Rules & Guidelines of the Examination Board the procedures concerning assessment are described.
4. The student is personally responsible for accurate and timely registration for the exams he/she needs to sit. When the student registers for an ESHCC course on OSIRIS he/she is automatically registered for the final exam. For resit exams the student will have to register on OSIRIS separately between 35 and 7

days before the exam date.

For elective courses, students will need to complete the steps for registration as stipulated on the website.

5. If the Examination Board provides the ability to register for a test outside of the regular period registration period, an administration fee with a maximum of €20.00 per exam will be charged.

#### **Article 5.2 – Content of exams**

1. An exam always covers the material covered in the corresponding course in the current academic year.
2. The examiner or the Examination Board can make individual arrangements for courses that have been discontinued; such arrangements may be made up to a maximum of 1 year after the academic year in which the course was taught for the last time.

#### **Article 5.3 – Time periods and frequency of exams**

1. An opportunity to take an exam and receive a final grade for a course is provided twice per academic year: by a regular exam and a resit.
2. A resit may be offered either directly after the inspection of the evaluated work at the end of the course term or in the summer following the exam period of term 4. The course guide and exam timetable documents which option applies.
3. Notwithstanding the previous paragraphs, intermediate tests or interim exams and assignments are offered only once a year and have no resits.
4. For exams in the form of a final paper, which have been awarded an insufficient grade, the possibility to resit the paper is offered once in the same academic year. The student will be given 15 working days to submit his or her resit paper, starting from when the lecturer sent the student the feedback and grade of the paper, to submit his or her resit paper. For a resit of a paper, students can obtain a maximum grade of 6.0.
5. Papers that are submitted late will not be marked and will not get a (another) resit opportunity.
6. It is not possible to resit papers or essays that have been awarded a pass mark (5.5 or higher). This applies to both individual and group work.
7. The submission and assessment of the Master Thesis is subject to the timetables, guidelines and procedures as stipulated in the course guide for the Master Thesis and on the degree programme's website.

#### **Article 5.4 – Administration of exams**

1. Course exams given are either written, oral or otherwise. Assessment occurs in the manner indicated in the course guide and website.
2. At the request of the student and in exceptional circumstances, the Examination Board may allow an exam to be administered in another format than indicated in the course guide and website.
3. At the request of the lecturer and in exceptional circumstances, the Examination Board may allow an examination to be administered in another format or at a different time than indicated in the course guide and website. The decision must be disclosed on the course channel and via e-mail at least five weeks prior to the exam in question.
4. The Master Thesis is the product of independent research carried out by an individual student and must be assessed on an individual basis.
5. The School is responsible for the proper administration of examinations and takes all appropriate measures to ensure this. The Examination Board may delegate this authority to the most appropriate body or person.

#### **Article 5.5 – Oral exams**

1. Oral exams are always taken individually and take place at the end of course, when the class meetings have finished.
2. Oral exams are public unless the student objects.

3. An oral exam assessed by one examiner only, will be audio recorded. The Examination Board will archive the audio file for two years after the assessment.
4. Oral presentations are *not* considered oral exams but practical exercises that take place during the class meetings of the course and that can be part of the assessment of the course (c.f. Definitions, below practical).

#### **Article 5.6 – Fraud**

1. Fraud is understood to mean: Any acts or omissions of a student aimed at rendering it impossible, either wholly or in part, for the examiner or the Examination Board to make a proper assessment of the student's knowledge, understanding and skills or of the knowledge, understanding and skills of fellow students.
2. The following are in any case considered as fraud:
  - a. to appropriate the questions or assignments of an exam before the date or time on which the exam is scheduled;
  - b. to pose as someone else during the exam or to have themselves represented by someone else at the exam;
  - c. to consult or have within reach books, workbooks, notes or other sources of information of which the use is not explicitly permitted during the exam;
  - d. to consult information and/or communication technology of which the use is not explicitly permitted during the exam;
  - e. to use a mobile telephone during the exam. Mobile telephones should be switched off and out of reach during the whole exam. A mobile telephone should therefore not be carried in case of a visit to the toilet during the exam;
  - f. to consult with the exams of other students during the exam or to exchange information in any way whatsoever either inside or outside of the exam room. Providing others the opportunity to commit fraud will also be rebuked as fraud;
  - g. to amend already handed in exams during the inspection afterwards;
  - h. to commit (self)plagiarism, in this context also understood to mean to copy from someone else's work an extract larger than a couple of words literally or translated for the purpose of a paper, thesis or any other form of text being part of the teaching without indicating this by means of quotation marks or another univocal typographic means, and without including bibliographically traceable and correct acknowledgements;
3. For online proctored exams or take-home exams, the following activities are also considered fraud:
  - a. use of someone else's ID or student card;
  - b. use or attempted use of unpermitted sources and resources, such as internet, mobile phone.
  - c. the student is no longer in sight of the webcam and/or has switched off the microphone, while taking the exam, insofar this takes place outside the (possible) authorized breaks.
  - d. (attempted) technical modifications that undermine the proctor system;
  - e. reaching out – through any means – to fellow students during the exam;
  - f. handing in the exam after the stipulated deadline.
4. Depending on the gravity of the committed fraud, including repeated fraud, the Examination Board can impose sanctions on the student, including in any case the following:
  - a. reprimand;
  - b. nullification of the assignment, paper or thesis concerned;
  - c. nullification of the exam concerned;
  - d. exclusion from the exam concerned for a period of one year at most;
  - e. exclusion from one or more exam rounds;
  - f. exclusion from handing in the thesis for a period of one year at most
  - g. a combination of the above measures;
  - h. proposal to the Executive Board to definitively end the registration for the program concerned.
5. If fraud or plagiarism is detected in a group assignment, all members of the group will be held accountable. Every member of the group is required to show evidence that proves their innocence.

6. Before the Examination Board decides upon a case of fraud, it will investigate the state of affairs.
7. The Examination Board is authorized to declare test results invalid in case irregularities prove to have occurred during an exam that make it impossible to consider the exam results as a valid and reliable indicator of students' skills.

## **SECTION 6 – EXAM RESULTS**

### **Article 6.1 – Establishing and announcing exam results**

1. The examiner will assign a mark immediately following an oral exam and present the student with written proof of the mark (results sheet).
2. The examiner will mark a written exam within 15 working days after the day on which the exam is administered, and will record the grade in OSIRIS, the university student administration system. In exceptional cases, the Examination Board may allow deviations from this time period.
3. The examiner will establish the results of interim exams as soon as possible but ultimately before the final examination for that course.
4. The Examination Board checks whether the terms referred to in the previous paragraphs are maintained.
5. The Student Administration Office that handles exams for the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication is responsible for recording the exam and for issuing the diploma.

### **Article 6.2 – Grading**

All exams are graded either on a scale from 0 to 10 points (with 0 being the lowest possible result, a 5.5 or higher a passing grade, and 10 as the highest possible grade), or on a Pass/Fail basis. Numerical grades may have one decimal.

### **Article 6.3 – Validity**

1. The validity period of passed examination components - including components taken elsewhere that are approved as part of the examination programme - and granted exemptions is unlimited. The Examination Board can restrict the validity period following the Programme Director's proposal if, in its opinion, the knowledge, insight and skills assessed by the exam component in question are obsolete.
2. Regarding an examination component of which the validity period has expired, the Examination Board can indicate a replacement examination component or require a student to take an additional or replacement examination before allowing the student to sit the examination.
3. If an examination component is tested using more than one test, the validity period of the interim tests for which no study points are awarded is restricted to one academic year unless otherwise determined pursuant to these regulations.

### **Article 6.4 – Right of inspection**

1. For a period of 20 working days following publication of the mark for a written or digital exam, the student will upon request be given the opportunity to inspect his/her work and discuss the results with the examiner if he/she so desires.
2. During the period specified in the first paragraph, any student can be informed of the questions and assignments of the exam in question, as well as the standards against which the assessment was conducted.
3. The Examination Board or the examiner can decide that the inspection of the exam and assessment standards or the discussion of the results must take place at a set time and place. If the person in question can demonstrate that forces beyond his/her control will keep or kept him/her from being present at the set time and place, he/she will be offered an alternative opportunity, within the period referred to in paragraph 1 if possible.
4. The Examination Board may accept deviations from the provisions in the first, second and third sections.

## **SECTION 7 – EXEMPTIONS**

### **Article 7.1 – Exemption from examination**

Upon a student's request, the Examination Board may – in consultation with the examiner in question – grant the student an exemption from part of the degree programme, if the student:

- a) has completed a university course/component that is equivalent in terms of substance and/or level.
- b) demonstrates, either by means of work or professional experience, to have sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the component involved.
- c) submits a formal request to the Examination Board at least eight weeks before the start of the relevant, via OSIRIS Student.

## **SECTION 8 – MASTER'S EXAMINATION**

### **Article 8.1 – Master's examination**

1. The Examination Board shall determine the results of the master's examination and shall award a degree certificate as referred to in Art. 8.4 once the student has met the requirements of the degree programme.
2. Prior to determining the results of the master's examination, the Examination Board may examine the knowledge of the student with regard to one or more sections or aspects of the degree programme, if and insofar as the results of the relevant tests give grounds to do so.
3. The examination date is determined as the day on which the Board determines that the student has successfully completed the final examination.
4. A condition of passing the master's examination and the issue of the certificate is that the student was registered for the degree programme in the period in which the exams were taken.

### **Article 8.2 – Judicium cum laude**

The judicium 'cum laude' is conferred to the master's examination if the weighted grade average of all the results achieved in the degree programme is 8.25 or higher.

1. The weighted average grade for the master programme is based on the results for all courses, the grade for the research traineeship and the grade for the master thesis.
2. All results are weighted according to their assigned credits.
3. The research master seminar and other courses which are assessed on a pass/fail basis do not count towards the weighted average.
4. Grades obtained abroad will be converted to a Pass/Fail on the students' diploma and do not count towards the weighted average.

### **Article 8.3 – Degree**

1. Students who have successfully completed the master's examination are granted the title Master of Science (MSc) in Media Studies (research).
2. The academic title thus conferred will be specified on the master diploma.

### **Article 8.4 – Master degree certificate**

1. The Examination Board shall award a degree certificate as proof that the final examination has been successfully completed. One degree certificate per degree programme shall be awarded, even if the student completes more specialisation programmes within a degree programme.
2. The Examination Board shall include a transcript of records and the Diploma Supplement with this certificate, to provide (international) insight into the nature and content of the degree programme completed.

## SECTION 9 - STUDY PROGRESS AND STUDENT COUNSELLING

### Article 9.1 – Study progress

1. A student can download a study progress overview via Osiris student. If a certified copy is required, it can be requested from the Study Progress and Certification (SV&D) team
2. The course is viewed as a single unit for the purposes of determining study progress.
3. The relevant credits are awarded when the student has achieved a passing mark on a course or has been granted an exemption.
4. Credits are only awarded once for each course that a student passes, on the date at which the requirements for that course are completed.

### Article 9.2 – Student counselling

1. The degree programme provides the introduction and student counselling to students registered for the programme, partly for the benefit of their orientation for potential study paths in and outside the programme.
2. The student counselling consists of:
  - An introduction in the first week of the academic year.
  - Group and individual counselling on potential study paths in and outside the programme, partly with a view to the career opportunities after the degree programme.
  - Group and individual counselling about study skills, study planning and the choice of follow-up courses.
  - The provision of referral and assistance to students experiencing difficulties during their studies.

### Article 9.3 – Studying with a functional impairment

1. Students with a disability or a chronic illness are offered the opportunity to adapt their study, as far as is reasonably possible, to the restrictions determined by the disability or chronic illness. These adaptations will be aligned as far as possible to the student's individual functional impairment, but may not affect the course or the examination programme's quality or degree of difficulty.
2. Students should consult the student advisor and then submit a request to the Examination Board, accompanied by a statement from an authorised agency or specialist. In case of dyslexia, the [EUR Dyslexia Protocol](#) applies.

## SECTION 10 – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

### Article 10.1 – Hardship clause

In exceptional individual circumstances, in which application of one or more of the provisions set out in these regulations leads to evidently unreasonable and/or unfair situations with regard to a student, the Examination Board may depart from the said provision(s) in favor of the student.

### Article 10.2 – Right of appeal

Any decision taken by the Examination Board, including a refusal to make a decision, can be appealed to with the Examination Appeals Board (CBE) on the grounds of a conflict with the written and unwritten rules. This includes appeals regarding examination results.

### Article 10.3 – Complaint procedure

In case of complaints, students are requested to follow the standing complaint procedure, which is published on the programme website.

**Article 10.4 – Amendments**

1. Amendments to these regulations will be drawn up by the Dean, in a separate resolution, after approval of the Faculty Council and Programme Committee, where the Act so requires.
2. No amendments pertaining to the current academic year will take place, unless the interests of the students remain reasonably unharmed.
3. No amendment may disadvantage a student by influencing a decision about the student taken by the examination board in accordance with these regulations.
4. On the recommendation of the Examination Board, in case of major amendments to the programme curriculum, the Dean will adopt a transitional regulation before 1st September of the related academic year. These regulations will be included in an outline in the Teaching and Examination Regulation.

**Article 10.5 – Announcement**

The Dean is responsible for an appropriate announcement of these regulations, of the Rules & Guidelines established by the Examination Board, and of amendments to these documents.

**Article 10.6 – Adoption and implementation**

These regulations are adopted by the Dean after receiving the approval of the Faculty Council and Programme Committee, where such approval is required by law, and enter into effect on 1 September 2020.

## APPENDIX 1 – Programme overview

### Research Master in the Sociology of Culture, Media and the Arts 2020-2021

The Degree programme comprises the following courses with the mentioned credits:

#### First Year

<b>Theoretical Core Courses</b>	<b>20 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CS5001 - Cultural Sociology 5 credits</li> <li>• CS5002 - Sociology of Media and the Arts 5 credits</li> <li>• CS5010 - Consumer Culture 5 credits</li> <li>• CS5009 - Globalization, Digitalization and Culture 5 credits</li> </ul>	
<b>Methodological Core Courses</b>	<b>15 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CS5003 - Research Design 5 credits</li> <li>• CS5005 - Advanced Quantitative Methods 5 credits</li> <li>• CS5007 - Advanced Qualitative Methods 5 credits</li> </ul>	
<b>Elective courses</b>	<b>10 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Workshop at EUR<sup>1</sup> <b>OR</b> 5 credits Research master course at other university</li> <li>• Elective course at relevant graduate school: 5 credits e.g.:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CS5040 - Trending Topics in Media Studies (RMeS)</li> <li>- CS5041 - Contemporary Approaches to Digital Cultures (RMeS)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>CS5015 - Research Master Seminar (also in Year 2)</b>	<b>PM</b>
<b>CS008 - Research Traineeship</b>	<b>15 credits</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60 credits</b>

<sup>1</sup>The offer of research workshops may vary between years. A current overview will be available on the programme website.



**Second Year**

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<b>CS5021 - International conference participation<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>5 credits</b>
<b>International exchange<sup>3</sup></b> <i>The student chooses relevant elective courses in sociology, media and communication, arts and culture studies or related fields at a foreign partner university</i>	<b>20 credits<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>Advanced research methods course</b>	<b>5 credits<sup>5</sup></b>
<b>CS5015 - Research Master Seminar (continued)</b>	<b>5 credits</b>
<b>CS5050 - Master Thesis project</b>	<b>25 credits</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60 credits</b>

**Second Year**

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<sup>2</sup> Students who started the programme in 2016-17 may opt to do the Academic Literature Review (5 credits) instead of the International Conference Participation.

<sup>3</sup> Students who started the programme in 2016-17 are not required to go an international exchange. Instead they may take advanced elective courses at EUR and other Dutch universities.

<sup>4</sup> Students may choose to take the advanced research methods course as part of their exchange. In that case their exchange course work equals 25 credits.

<sup>5</sup> See the previous footnote. The RMeS course "Contemporary Approaches to Digital Cultures" also qualifies as an advanced research methods course.

## APPENDIX 2 - Abridged Master Exam 2020-2021

The Abridged Degree programme comprises the following courses with the mentioned credits:

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<b>Theoretical Core Courses</b>	<b>15 credits</b>
• CS5001 - Cultural Sociology	5 credits
• CS5002 - Sociology of Media, Culture and the Arts	5 credits
• CS5010 - Consumer Culture <b>OR</b> CS5009 - Globalization, Digitalization and Culture	5 credits
<b>Methodological Core Courses</b>	<b>15 credits</b>
• CS5003 - Research Design	5 credits
• CS5005 - Advanced Quantitative Methods	5 credits
• CS5007 - Advanced Qualitative Methods	5 credits
<b>Elective Courses</b>	<b>5 credits</b>
• Research workshop offered at EUR <sup>6</sup> <b>OR</b> Advanced methods course <sup>7</sup>	5 credits
<b>CS5015 - Research Master Seminar<sup>8</sup></b>	2 credits
<b>CS5050 - Master Thesis project</b>	<b>25 credits</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>62 credits</b>

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<sup>6</sup> The offer of research workshops may vary between years. A current overview will be available on the programme website.

<sup>7</sup> The RMeS course "Contemporary Approaches to Digital Cultures" qualifies as an advanced research methods course.

<sup>8</sup> Students who take the abridged programme are required to partake in the Research Master Seminar.

### APPENDIX 3 - Soft transition Bachelor to Master 2020-2021

Students who, due to COVID-19, are delayed in the final phase of their bachelor's, pre-master's or vocational college<sup>9</sup> programme in 2019-2020, and who meet the programme-specific preconditions, may be admitted to the (pre-)master's programme as of 1 September 2020 anyway based on 'conditional admission'. They are allowed to start their EUR master's programme while concurrently working towards obtaining their final credits in the context of their bachelor's degree. This possibility is referred to as a soft transition from BA to MA (or pre-MA to MA). Whether the ESHCC can grant those with deficiencies in their previous education access to the MA programmes under the current conditions, is considered for each prospect individually. There are, however, a few general guidelines and requirements to decide to whom this exceptional arrangement may apply. These are the following:

1. There is a maximum to the amount of study delay up to which students are eligible for a soft transition. This maximum differs for students coming from different types of programs. The following rules are applied:
  - a. The amount of missing credits should not exceed 18 EC in case of a 180 EC BA-program
  - b. The amount of missing credits should not exceed 18 EC in case of a 240 EC vocational college programme (in Dutch: HBO)
  - c. The amount of missing credits should not exceed 10 EC of any pre-master programme offered by ESHCC.
2. In addition to the requirements listed under 1, the admissions committee will also take into consideration the feasibility of graduating in time from the BA (or pre-master) programme that is formally required for entering one of our MA programmes. Thus, it is taken into consideration which course elements still need to be finalized, when re-sits for failed course elements will be planned, or how well students have done in terms of GPA and related indicators of study success. This allows ESHCC to assess the probability that students will be able to successfully combine elements of two programmes and receive their BA diploma, or other required credentials, in time.
3. The BA thesis should be obtained before students start writing the MA thesis (January 1, 2021). Only planned re-sits for other courses can give students an extension of this deadline to August 31, 2021 at the latest.
4. Admission to any MA programme under these special circumstances is always conditional until a student has received the BA diploma, upon which enrolment will be changed into unconditional.
5. It is not possible to receive a MA diploma without having first obtained a BA diploma.

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<sup>9</sup> In Dutch: HBO programme.

#### **APPENDIX 4 - Adjustments in education**

EUR guarantees that students can pursue their education in 2020-2021. However, at least part of that education will take place online as long as COVID-19 safety measures are in order. Students will, however, be required to participate in online education the same as they are in on-campus education. This entails the following:

- Exams will (also) be offered online, either in online proctored mode or as take-home exam. This will be the case at least for teaching terms 1 and 2.
  - Students lacking facilities to take part in online exams from home, can request to take their exam at EUR. On campus, limited facilities are available for this purpose.
  - Students who are unable or unwilling to take online exams, either from home or from campus, will have to wait until regular examinations can be scheduled on campus again.
  - Attendance at seminars, practical, workshops, and tutorial groups is mandatory, also if they take place online. The same rules that hold for on-campus education apply, so a maximum of two online seminars or tutorials per course can be missed.
  - Students are required to adhere to the requirements, guidelines and procedures regarding attendance and participation as stipulated in the course guide of each course.
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