Teaching and Examination Regulations Research Masters (TER-ReMa)

2024-2025

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SECTION 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1.1 – Applicability of the regulations

This regulation is in effect for the academic year 2024 - 2025 and applies to the education, the assessments and examinations in the 120 EC master's programmes of Clinical Research, Health Sciences, Infection and Immunity, Molecular Medicine, Neuroscience, and Genomics in Society (henceforth referred to as: the programmes), with CROHO (Centraal Register Opleidingen Hoger Onderwijs) study programme codes 60312, 60120, 60375, 60279, 60278 and 60987, and for all students enrolled in these study programmes. The study programme is provided by the Erasmus MC, hereinafter referred to as: the faculty.

Article 1.2 – Definitions

- 1. In this regulation, the following terms have the following meanings:
 - a. Academic Advisor: The academic advisors of Erasmus MC inform and advise on specific questions about student's educational journey
 - b. Academic year: The period commencing on 1 September and ending on 31 August of the following year as referred to in Article 1.1(k) of the WHW.
 - c. Assessment: An assessment is an examination of the knowledge, understanding and skills of the examinee, as well as the evaluation of the results of that examination, administered orally, in writing or any other manner. This also includes assessments administered digitally. An assessment can be administered in parts, using one or more partial assessments. An assessment can also be a practical exercise as referred to in Article 7.13(2)(d) of the WHW. Practical exercises can be understood to mean:
 - producing a dissertation, project or paper;
 - performing research assignments;
 - participating in fieldwork and excursions;
 - completing an internship;
 - carrying out a research project;
 - participating in other educational activities deemed necessary, aimed at achieving the desired skills.

A practical exercise can involve the scope of a course unit or a part thereof.

- d. Canvas: Collection of faculty web pages and information channels (https://canvas.eur.nl/)
- e. Certificate: Document evidencing that the examination has been successfully completed in accordance with Article 7.11(2) of the WHW.
- f. Course description: course descriptions provide information about the contents, quantity, preconditions, end terms, and way of assessment per course. Specific course descriptions for each programme are part of this TER-ReMa and a reference to their location can be found on the website: Research Masters & Post Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl).
- g. Course unit: Part of the study programme as referred to in Article 7.3 of the WHW. Every course unit is subject to an assessment.
- h. Curriculum: An overview of all course units and the corresponding EC for each study programme published in or pursuant to the TER.
- i. Data point: data points are verification moments about the learning process. Each data point is a moment for feedback. A data point does not decide a pass or fail grade but contributes to the decision. Examples are assignments made, presentations held, feedback received

- from fellow students, contractors or supervisors, but also results of knowledge assessments or learning tasks.
- j. Diploma supplement: the appendix to the Master Certificate containing an explanation of the nature and contents of the programme.
- k. EC: European Credit. Credit point expressed in the EC unit, where one EC equals 28 hours of study.
- I. ECRM: Education Committee Research Masters.
- m. Elective: A course unit of the student's own choice within the student's own faculty or study programme, or with the approval of the examination board outside of their own programme.
- n. Examination: The set of successfully completed assessments in the components of a study programme.
- o. Examination board: The examination board that has been established for the study programme pursuant to Article 7.12 et seq. of the WHW.
- p. Examination Programme: The course units whereby the end terms (learning objectives) of the study programme are satisfied. This is 120 EC for the research master's and is included in Research Masters & Post Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl).
- q. Examiner: The person who, as a result of designation by the examination board on the basis of Article 7.12c of the WHW, is authorised to administer assessments and determine the results in the relevant course unit.
- r. Executive board: Board of directors of the Erasmus MC.
- s. Force majeure: the inability to fulfil an obligation due to circumstances beyond one's control. Consider, for example, the consequences of a natural disaster, war, pandemic, public transport strikes, quarantines or other impediments.
- t. Joint Assembly: joint meeting of the Students' Council and the Committee for Teaching and Research of the Employees' Council of the Erasmus MC. This joint meeting has the status of a Faculty Council within the university as referred to in Article 9.37 paragraph 1 of the WHW.
- u. Learning Objective: brief statement that describes what students are expected to learn by the end of the programme.
- v. OSIRIS: The education registration system.
- w. Partial assessment: A partial exam assessing knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to part of a course unit, the assessment of which counts towards the final result for the course unit.
- x. Programme: a coherent set of courses (i.e. programme units) aimed at achieving well-defined learning objectives in the areas of knowledge, understanding, and skills necessary for the graduated professional; the Research Master programmes as described under Article 1.1 of these regulations.
- y. Programmatic assessment: programmatic assessment is a testing concept that considers the entire development of the student.
- z. Special circumstance: The circumstances referred to in Article 7.51(2) of the WHW. The following are in any event considered special circumstances: disability or chronic illness, illness, pregnancy and childbirth, special family circumstances, study programme organised in such a way that completion was not feasible, students with top sport status (issued by the top sport coordinator) and membership of a participation body.
- aa. Student: The person who is enrolled at the university to follow education and/or take the assessments and examinations of the study programme in accordance with Article 7.34 of the WHW.

- bb. Study duration: The duration of the study from the student's first enrolment in the study programme until the final examination component is attained (see Article 6.1.2).
- cc. TER: Teaching and Examination Regulations Research Masters
- dd. WHW, the: Higher Education and Research Act.
- ee. Working day: Monday up to and including Friday with the exception of national holidays and collective holidays as determined by the Erasmus MC.
- 2. The other terms have the meaning assigned to them by the WHW.

SECTION 2 – PRIOR EDUCATION AND ADMISSION

Article 2.1 – Admission to the master's programme

Each programme has its own admission criteria. Each Research Master programme appoints an admission committee. This committee consists of experts affiliated to the programme. The admission committee is mandated by the dean to determine whether a student is admitted to the programme. For this the committee examines the motivation, knowledge, insight, and skills of the candidate. This includes an assessment of English proficiency. The candidate receives either a proof of admission or a motivated rejection. Within six weeks the candidate can appeal against this decision with the Examinations Appeals Board (CBE).

The specific admission criteria and admission procedures per programme are part of this TER-ReMa and are described at: Research Masters & Post Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl).

<u>Article 2.2 – Language requirement in the case of non-Dutch prior education</u>

A person who has not completed prior education in Dutch can only be admitted after:

- 1. The admission requirements as referred to in Article 2.1; and
- 2. The requirement of sufficient command of the English language. This requirement is satisfied if the student:
 - a. Holds a diploma from pre-university secondary education (VWO) and the subject English language was part of the examination to obtain that diploma; or
 - b. Holds a diploma from secondary education, obtained from an English-language institution of secondary education within or outside the Netherlands; or
 - c. Holds a final diploma from a four-year English-language higher vocational education programme; or
 - d. Holds a final diploma from a three-year English-language university degree programme; or
 - e. Has taken one of the following tests:
 - computer-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of 232 or higher with partial scores of minimally 23;
 - internet-based TOEFL with a score of 90 or higher with partial scores of minimally 22;
 - Paper-based TOEFL with a score of 575 or higher with partial scores of minimally 57;
 - International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a score of 6.5 or higher with partial scores of minimally 6.0;
 - Cambridge proficiency test with level C1 or higher.

SECTION 3 – CONTENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME

Article 3.1 – Aim of the study programme

The aim of the programmes is to provide knowledge, understanding and skills in the field of science in such a way that the graduate is able to fulfil a position on the labour market at master's level. The objective of the programme is specified in final qualifications. The final qualifications are part of this TER-ReMa and are described at: Research Masters & Post Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl)

Article 3.2 – Form of the study programmes

- 1. The study programmes are provided full-time.
- 2. The programmes start once a year in September.

Article 3.3 – Language in which the study programmes are provided

- 1. With due observance of the Code of Conduct adopted by the Executive Board of Erasmus University Rotterdam, the study programmes provide education and assessments in English.
- 2. Participation in the education and assessments of the study programme requires sufficient command of the English language as described in Article 2.2.

<u>Article 3.4 – The scope and structure of the study programmes</u>

- 1. The study programmes have a study load of 120 ECs.
- 2. An overview of the course units of the study programmes and the study load are part of this TER-ReMa and are described at: Research Masters & Post Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl).
- 3. In situations of force majeure where it is not reasonably possible to provide education in the manner referred to in Research Masters & Post Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl), a different form of education may be temporarily used. The condition in this respect is that the learning objectives set must be achieved even with the change of form.
- 4. If electives are part of the curriculum, the programme may set a limit on the maximum amount of ECs that may be obtained outside the programme.
- 5. Each student is entitled to six weeks of vacation per year, of which up to four weeks may be consecutive (if desired). These weeks can be scheduled by the student in consultation with the supervisor/programme leader, taking into account the scheduled mandatory education and ongoing (laboratory) research.

SECTION 4 – EDUCATION

Article 4.1 – Entry requirements for course units; prior knowledge

Entry requirements are described per study unit in the course description. The entry requirements are part of this TER-ReMa and a reference to their location can be found on: Research Masters & Post Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl).

<u>Article 4.2 – Evaluation of education</u>

- 1. The programme director shall ensure on behalf of the dean that the education in the particular study programme is evaluated.
- 2. The manner and frequency of the educational evaluation is laid down in an annual evaluation plan. The programme director submits this evaluation plan to the Joint Assembly, the ECRM and the examination board.
- 3. The programme director informs the Joint Assembly, the ECRM and the examination board of the evaluation results, the ensuing intended adaptations, and the effect of the actual adaptations.

Article 4.3 – Enrolment for course units

A course unit can only be participated in after the student has enrolled for the course unit via OSIRIS, unless the student has been enrolled by the programme organisation.

SECTION 5 – ASSESSMENTS IN THE STUDY PROGRAMMES

Article 5.1 – General

- 1. Every course unit is subject to an assessment.
- 2. The Rules and Regulations of the examination board of the research masters describes the course of events regarding assessments.
- 3. Preparation for the final assessments: the day before the regular written assessment is offered, the student is scheduled free from other programme-related obligations (course or research related activities). In specific events this may be different. A decision about a digression from this rule is made by the programme director.

<u>Article 5.2 – The number of assessment possibilities, the manner of enrolment and the times of assessment</u>

- For all course units of the master's examination, the opportunity to take assessments will be
 offered at least twice per academic year, including the regular opportunity and the retake.
 An exception to this rule concerns the research project that may only be redone once.
- 2. An assessment can only be retaken if an insufficient grade has been obtained.
- 3. An assessment may consist of two or more partial assessments. The results of these partial assessments together determine the result of the course unit.
- 4. The times and locations of the assessments will be announced at least 10 days prior to the assessment via the channels of the programme concerned.
- 5. In line with the Rules of Order for Assessments at EUR and in the event of force majeure, the set times may be changed.
- 6. At the request of the examiner or student, in special cases the examination board may allow an assessment to be taken at a different time than previously determined. The decision must be announced at least 2 weeks prior to the assessment.
- 7. Oral assessments will be taken at a time to be determined by the relevant examiner(s), if possible after consultation with the student.
- 8. If an exceptional situation causes or is likely to cause an undesirable study delay for one or more students, the Examination Board may, after consulting the relevant examiner, allow an additional assessment opportunity for that specific part.
- 9. Absence during an assessment is only allowed on valid grounds. The student reports their absence as soon as possible to the programme administration. The student reports the valid grounds for this absence before the assessment takes place or as soon as possible to the programme administration or the academic adviser. Valid grounds are special circumstances as referred to in Article 7.51 paragraph 2 of the WHW.
- 10. In case of unexcused absence, the assessment counts as a regular opportunity or retake. Failure to hand in an assignment on time will also count as a regular opportunity or retake.

<u>Article 5.2.1 – Programmatic Assessment within Genomics in Society</u>

The study unit of Genomics and the City uses programmatic assessment and has two fixed moments for this. During a mid-term evaluation an intermediate decision is made by an independent examiner after consultation with the mentor about the progress resulting in a 'go' or 'no go'. In case of a 'no go', remedial teaching is required that will lead to a positive assessment necessary to round off this study unit. The final decision to allocate credit points is made by an independent examiner and an examiner from the team of key lecturers in the final portfolio assessment. If the learning results are assessed as insufficient, the products gathered by the student retain their value, but the student

should gather additional data points for those aspects that have been insufficiently developed. These additional data points form the basis for a re-sit. When a certain learning result has not been positively passed, the programme offers the students the opportunity to register for a re-sit where the insufficiently assessed aspects can be improved.

Article 5.3 – Assessment form

- Assessment takes place in the manner as mentioned in the course description; it is part of
 this TER-ReMa and a reference to their location can be found on <u>Research Masters & Post</u>
 <u>Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl)</u>. If attendance, specific
 requirements, or active participation are part of the assessment, this is also stated.
- 2. In situations of force majeure where it is not reasonably possible to take the assessment in the manner described in the course description, the examination board may decide to change the manner of assessment. The condition in this respect is that the learning objectives set must be achieved even with the change of form.
- 3. In case of an obligation of attendance, a student can be absent for maximally 20% of the study unit. This 20% norm applies to all Research Master programmes except Genomics in Society. Given the small scale and recent start, for Genomics in Society the rules apply as mentioned in <u>Basic Principles Professional Behavior and Resits for Genomics in Society</u> in which a specific code of conduct is described.

Article 5.4 – Oral assessments

- 1. Oral assessments take place individually in so far as it concerns an individual assessment.
- 2. The oral assessment is public, unless it is a resit of an originally written assessment, or unless the examination board has determined otherwise in a special case.
- 3. During oral assessments there are at least 2 reviewers, of which one examiner, present. Preferably, one of the two reviewers is not involved with the research master programme.
- 4. An oral presentation during a unit of study, other than an oral assessment, is exempt from paragraphs 1., 2., and 3.

Article 5.5 – Period for evaluation

- 1. Within one working day after an oral assessment is administered, the examiner will determine the opinion and issue a written or electronic statement to the student.
- 2. The examiner will make a decision on the assessment within 20 working days after the day on which it was taken, with the exception of oral assessments as set out in paragraph 1. In the months of July and August this period may be extended for maximally 11 working days.
- 3. In the event of force majeure, the examination board may decide to deviate from the periods referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article.
- 4. The examiner will provide the faculty's administration with the necessary information to register the results in Osiris. When publishing the result in Osiris, the student is informed of the possibility of appeal to the Examination Appeals Board (CBE)

<u>Article 5.6 – Validity term of assessments</u>

 The validity term of the assessments - including components taken elsewhere that have been approved as part of the examination programme and exemptions granted - is unlimited.

- On behalf of the executive board, the dean can only limit the validity term of these
 examination components if the knowledge, understanding or skills assessed are
 demonstrably outdated.
- 3. In an individual case, the examination board may extend the validity term limited pursuant to the second paragraph. With regard to an examination component of which the validity term has expired, the examination board may designate a replacement examination component or impose an additional or replacement assessment before the student is admitted to the examination.
- 4. When limiting the validity term in accordance with the second paragraph, special circumstances will reasonably be taken into account. Special circumstances must be reported to the academic advisor in good time. 'In good time' means they have been reported four weeks after the start of the special circumstance(s). When the examination board extends the validity, account will reasonably be taken of the extent to which the special circumstances affected the limited validity term being exceeded and the duration of the financial support granted on the basis of the Profiling Fund Regulations will be taken into account.

Article 5.7 - Right of inspection

- 1. During 20 working days following the announcement of the results of a written assessment, at the request of one or more students, inspection will take place no later than 2 weeks before the resit of the assessment evaluated.
- 2. The time, manner and duration of the inspection will be announced in good time at the channel commonly used by the programme. At the time of inspection, any student who took part in the assessment may take note of questions and assignments from the relevant assessment, as well as the standards on the basis of which the assessment was evaluated.

Article 5.8 - Debriefing

- 1. After assessment of a written or digital assessment, there may be a debriefing (disclosure and discussion of the desired responses) with one or more students at the request of the student or examiner, at a time and place to be determined by the examiner.
- 2. A debriefing can take place both individually and collectively.
- 3. If possible, immediately after an oral assessment has been taken, the examiner(s) and the student will hold a debriefing. For some research master's the debriefing takes place after all regularly planned oral assessments of the students in this study unit have been conducted. There are maximally 20 working days in between the first oral assessment of the group of participants and the debriefing.

<u>Article 5.9 – Exemption</u>

- 1. The examination board may, at the students' request, grant students an exemption from an assessment, after hearing the examiner concerned, if the student:
 - either has completed a component in a university programme or higher vocational training which corresponds to the assessment in question in terms of content and level;
 - b. or demonstrates with work or professional experience that he/she has sufficient knowledge and skills with regard to the component in question.
- 2. The request for exemption was requested at least six weeks prior to the start of the course unit.

- 3. Students are granted maximum of 24 EC in exemptions for the research master programmes. For students for whom the now abolished "Exemption with Retained Grade" regulation still applies, the total EC of exemptions may exceed 24 EC (guideline 20%). Exemptions granted may affect Cum Laude eligibility.
- 4. Exemptions granted are subject to the same validity term as assessment results, and Article 5.7 applies accordingly.
- 5. The examination board may, at the students' request and after hearing the examiner concerned, grant students an exemption from participating in a practical exercise with a view to admission to the relevant assessment, possibly with the imposition of replacement requirements.

Article 5.10 – Declaration of invalidity of assessment results

The examination board is authorised to declare an assessment or partial assessment or the results thereof invalid if a correct decision could not reasonably be reached on the students' knowledge, understanding and skills with regard to that assessment or partial assessment. The examination board may lay down further rules for this purpose

SECTION 6 – EXAMINATION

Article 6.1 – Examinations

- 1. The examination board will determine the examination results and issue the certificate as referred to in Article 6.3 if the student has satisfied the requirements of the examination programme. This does not apply in case an investigation by the examination board is still pending.
- 2. The date of the examination is set as the day on which the examination board determines that the student has successfully completed the examination.
- 3. For the attainment of the examination and the issue of the certificate, the student must also have been enrolled in the study programme during the period that the examinations and practical exercises were taken.
- 4. Any student who has successfully met all examination requirements may request the Examination Board to delay granting the degree. This request for delay should be submitted within 2 weeks after the student has been informed of the results of the examination. At the time of submitting the request, the student should indicate when they want to be granted the degree.

<u>Article 6.2 – Degree</u>

- 1. The person who has successfully completed the examination is awarded the degree "Master of Science".
- 2. The degree awarded will be noted on the certificate.

Article 6.3 – Certificate, diploma supplement and statement of results achieved

- 1. As proof that the examination has been successfully completed, the examination board will issue a certificate and a diploma supplement.
- 2. Students who have successfully completed one or more assessments and to whom no certificate as referred to in Article 6.3 can be issued when leaving the university will receive a statement issued by the examination board upon request. This statement states the personal data, the course units achieved and the corresponding codes, the number of EC, the result and the date on which the result was achieved. The statement is requested from the Education Service Centre.
- 3. Further rules regarding the issue of the certificate and the statement are included in the Rules & Regulations of the examination board.

<u>Article 6.4 – Termination or refusal of enrolment (Iudicium Abeundi)</u>

- 1. In accordance with Article 7.42a of the WHW, in exceptional cases, following advice from the examination board, the dean or a body similar to the dean at the institution, and after careful consideration of the interests involved, the executive board can terminate or refuse the enrolment of a student for a study programme if, by their conduct or statements, that student has demonstrated unsuitability for the practice of one or more professions for which the programme followed trains the student, or unsuitability for the practical preparation for professional practice.
- 2. The procedure that can result in Iudicium Abeundi is part of this TER-ReMa and a reference to the location is listed on: Research Masters & Post Master | Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl).

SECTION 7 – STUDY GUIDANCE

Article 7.1 – Study progress records

- 1. The faculty records the students' individual study results and makes them available via Osiris. An apparent error in the study results can be corrected by the examination board. In deciding to correct an incorrectly reported study result that is to the student's disadvantage, the examination board takes the interests of the student into account.
- 2. A student can download a study progress overview via Osiris. If a certified copy is required, it can be requested from the Education Service Centre.

Article 7.2 – Study guidance

- 1. The faculty is responsible for the introduction and study guidance of the students enrolled in the programme for the purpose of their progress, as well as for their orientation in relation to possible study pathways in and outside the programme.
- 2. A description of the study guidance offered to students is shown on/in <u>Study Support |</u>
 <u>Erasmus MC | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl)</u>

Article 7.3 – Studying with a functional impairment

- Students with an impairment or chronic illness are given the opportunity to adapt their studies to the extent reasonably possible to the limitations associated with the impairment or chronic illness. These adaptations will be tailored to the student's individual impairment as much as possible, but may not change the quality or difficulty of a course unit or the examination programme.
- 2. Students must submit a request to this effect, if possible accompanied by a statement from a competent authority, via OSIRIS Case. The examination board is authorised to take a decision on this. In case of dyslexia, the EUR Dyslexia protocol applies. See: Functional impairment and provisions | Erasmus University Rotterdam (eur.nl).

SECTION 8 - TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 8.1 - Identification obligation

Students who participate in education and examination facilities are obliged to immediately disclose their name and address and allow inspection of their student ID card at the request of invigilators, examiners and other designated persons.

Article 8.2 – Appeal

Appeals against the following decisions can be lodged with the university's Examination Appeals Board (CBE):

decisions by the examination board or an examiner;

decisions concerning admission to a master's programme;

decisions concerning the other situations described in Article 7.61 of the WHW.

The letter of appeal must be filed with the CBE within six weeks after notification of the decision by sending an email to: cbe@eur.nl. The letter of appeal must include at least the master programme in which the student is enrolled, the student's name and address, the date, the student's signature, a copy of the decision against which the student is appealing, as well as the grounds for the appeal.

Article 8.3 – Objection to decisions that do not involve the CBE

During the period of 6 weeks after the decision has been communicated to the person concerned, an objection against decisions pursuant to Article 7.63a(2) of the WHW can be lodged with the Student Disputes Committee (GAS) by sending an email to: gas@eur.nl. The letter of objection must contain at least the student's name and address, the date, the student's signature, a copy of the decision to which the student objects, as well as the grounds for the objection. For more information, see the website of Legal Protection.

Article 8.4 - Hardship clause

In those cases not provided for in this regulation, and in cases of disproportionate prejudice or unfairness of a predominant nature, the programme director in charge of the particular study programme will take a decision on behalf of the dean, unless the matter concerns the authority of the examination board.

<u>Article 8.4 – Amendment</u>

- 1. Where the WHW so prescribes, the dean will adopt amendments to this regulation by a separate decision, after hearing the recommendations of the examination board and the ECRM, and subject to the approval of the Joint Assembly or ECRM.
- 2. An amendment to this regulation does not relate to the current academic year, unless this does not reasonably prejudice the interests of the students.
- 3. Furthermore, a change cannot affect, to the detriment of students, a decision taken by the examination board pursuant to this regulation with regard to a student.

Article 8.6 – Publication

The dean will ensure that this regulation, as well as any amendment, is published via the faculty's website.

<u>Article 8.7 – Effective date</u>

This regulation was adopted by the dean of the Erasmus MC in June 2024 with the approval or advice of the Joint Assembly and ECRM, after having heard the advice of the examination board. This regulation enters into force on August 31st, 2024, and will apply until it has been replaced or amended.

<u>Article 8.7 – Management and Title for citation</u>

- 1. This regulation is managed by the research master coordinator of the Erasmus MC Graduate School
- 2. These regulations can be cited as 'The Teaching and Examination Regulations of the Erasmus MC Research Master programmes (TER-ReMa)'.