Course and Examination Regulations 2020-2021

for the Master of Philosophy at EUR

Table of contents

Introduction	4
Section 1 General provisions	5
Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations	5
Article 1.2 Definitions	
Article 1.3 The Examination Board	6
Article 1.4 Evaluation of the programme	6
Section 2 Prior Education	
Article 2.1 Admission	6
Article 2.2 Language requirements	6
Section 3 Content and structure of the programme	
Article 3.1 Programme objective	
Article 3.2 Programme structure	
Article 3.3 Language in which the programme is taught	
Article 3.4 Study load	
Article 3.5 The programme	8
Article 3.6 Course selection per block	
Article 3.7 Composition of the master programme	8
Article 3.8 Approval of the master programme	
Section 4 Courses	9
Article 4.1 Enrolment	9
Article 4.2 Attendance and best efforts obligation	9
Section 5 Testing	
Article 5.1 General	10
Article 5.2 Structure of the examinations	10
Article 5.3 Examinations and resits: number and completion terms	10
Article 5.4 Examinations: times	10
Article 5.5 Notification and registration of the examination results	11
Article 5.6 Validity	11
Article 5.7 Right of inspection	11
Article 5.8 Reviews	12
Article 5.9 Period of retention	
Article 5.10 Exemption	
Article 5.11 Compensation	
Article 5.12 Additional course load	
Section 6 The Master Examination	
Article 6.1 The master examination	12
Article 6.2 The degree	
Article 6.3 The degree certificate	
Section 7 Supervision and advice	
Article 7.1 Study progress administration	
Article 7.2 Student counselling	
Article 7.3 Studying with a functional impairment	
Section 8 Transitional and final provisions	
Article 8.1 Special clause	
Article 8.2 Amendments	
Article 8.3 Publication	14

Article 8.4 Effective date	15
Appendix 1: Intended learning outcomes	16
Rules and Guidelines of the Examination Board for the Master 2020-2021	
Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations	
Article 1.2 Definitions	
Article 1.3 The Examination Board	
Section 2 Examiners and Quality assurance	17
Article 2.1 Examiners	
Article 2.2 Quality assurance of the examinations and master examin	ation
	17
Section 3 Discipline during lectures and examinations	18
Article 3.1 Discipline during lectures and other education activities	18
Article 3.2 Disciplinary rules for examinations	18
Section 4 Fraud and sanctions	
Article 4.1 Fraud	
Article 4.2 Sanctions	
Section 5 Examinations: Content and assessment	20
Article 5.1 Content of the examinations	20
Article 5.2 Assessment standards	
Article 5.3 Marks	
Section 6 The master thesis	21
Article 6.1 The master thesis	
Section 7 The exam and the distinction	22
Article 7.1 The examination day	
Article 7.2 The distinction	
7.3 Free curriculum	
Section 8 Transitional and final provisions	23
Article 8.1 Special clause	
Article 8.2 Amendments	23
Article 8.3 Publication	23
Article 8.4 Effective date	23
The appeal procedure	24

Introduction

These Programme Regulations contain the Course and Examination Regulations (CER) for the Master of Philosophy at Erasmus University Rotterdam. These Regulations were laid down by the Dean of Erasmus School of Philosophy, following the advice of the Examination Board (=Examencommissie), and have been approved by the Faculty Council (=Faculteitsraad) and the Programme Committee (=Opleidingscommissie). In addition, these Programme Regulations contain the Rules and Guidelines (=Regels en Richtlijnen) of the Examination Board, in which the rules of the Master programme are laid down in more detail. The final section of these Programme Regulations contains information on options for lodging an appeal with the Board of Appeal for Examinations.

Course and Examination Regulations for the full-time Master of Philosophy

Introduction

The Course and Examination Regulations contain the specific rights and obligations of students following the Master of Philosophy programme. The rights and obligations of all students are detailed in the university Students' Charter; please see http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/charter/.

These Regulations were adopted by the Dean of the Erasmus School of Philosophy on 30 August 2020 with the consent of the Faculty Council on 22 June 2020 and the Programme Committee on 12 June 2020 and following the recommendation of the Examination Board on 30 April 2020.

Section 1 General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations

These Regulations apply to the 2020-2021 academic year and govern the teaching, interim and final examination of the Master in Philosophy and pertain to all students that are enrolled in that programme. The programme is offered by Erasmus School of Philosophy.

Article 1.2 Definitions

- a. the Act: the Higher Education and Research Act(WHW);
- b. student: a person enrolled at the university for the purpose of taking a programme and/or sitting interim and final examinations of that programme in accordance with Section 7.34 of the Act;
- c. Faculty: the Erasmus School of Philosophy of Erasmus University Rotterdam;
- d. a credit: 28 hours of study, see the Act, Section 7.4, first subsection;
- e. programme: the programme referred to in Article 1.1 of these Regulations;
- f. course: a unit of study as referred to in Section 7.3 of the Act;
- g. block: an academic period of max. ten weeks;
- h. master year: an academic period consisting of six blocks;
- i. examination: an assessment of the student's knowledge, insight and/or skills that concludes a course;
- j. skills training: training as referred to in Section 7.13, subsection 2, of the Act, in one of the following forms: producing an assignment or paper, doing an internship, or participating in an education activity aimed at acquiring certain skills:
- k. master examination: the examination that concludes the Master in Philosophy;
- l. diploma supplement: the annex to the master degree certificate explaining the nature and content of the programme;
- m. master thesis: final thesis for the masterexamination;
- n. supervisor: a lecturer who acts as the student's first supervisor;
- o. advisor: a lecturer who acts as the student's secondsupervisor;
- p. component: a part of the programme consisting of a course or the master thesis;
- q. Course and Examination Regulations: the rules of the Master in Philosophy as referred to in Section 7.3 of the Act and adopted by the Dean of the Faculty;

- r. Rules and Guidelines: Rules and Guidelines of the Examination Board for the Master in Philosophy (as referred to in Section 7.12b., subsection 1b, of the Act) and adopted by the Examination Board;
- s. s/he: to be understood in a gender-neutralsense.

Article 1.3 The Examination Board

- 1. The Dean appoints an Examination Board for the Faculty's programmes and is responsible for ensuring that the independence and expertise of that Examination Board is sufficiently guaranteed.
- 2. The Dean appoints the chair and the members of the Examination Board on the basis of their expertise in the programmes offered by the Faculty.
- 3. Before the appointment of a new member the Dean will consult the current members of the Examination Board

Article 1.4 Evaluation of the programme

- 1. The Programme Director is responsible for ensuring the evaluation of the programme.
- 2. The Programme Director will inform the Faculty Council and the Programme Committee of the method and frequency of the evaluation of the components of the curriculum.
- 3. The Programme Director will inform the Programme Committee of the outcomes of the evaluation, the amendments made as a result of this and the effect of the actual amendments.

Section 2 Prior Education

Article 2.1 Admission

- 1. A student may be admitted to the Master of Philosophy if s/he has obtained:
- a. a degree of bachelor in Philosophy; or
- b. a degree of bachelor in Philosophy of a Specific Discipline; or a total of 60 EC (minor excluded) for courses in philosophy within the programme of a Bachelor degree obtained in another discipline than philosophy.
- 2. Because of the conditions created by the Corona crisis, exceptions to the requirements of 2.2 apply, as specified in article 2.3
- 3. The Examination Board decides on the admission as specified in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 2.2 Language requirements

In addition to the requirements of Article 2.1, the student must have a sufficient command of English to take the programme and to sit the examinations. The student will have fulfilled this requirement if s/he:

- has graduated, in English, from one of the programmes specified in Article 2.1 of these Regulations;
- or has finished 60 ec of courses in English in his bachelor programme;
- or has obtained at least 7.0/10 as a final grade for English in high school (VWO or equivalent);

- or if is a native speaker;
- or if can demonstrate your proficiency in English in a writing sample.

Article 2.3 Conditional admission related to corona measures

- 1. During the academic year 2020-2021, a student may exceptionally be admitted to the Master of Philosophy if:
- a. s/he has obtained at least 162 ec in the bachelor in Philosophy; or
- b. s/he has obtained at least 162 ec in the bachelor in Philosophy of a Specific Discipline; or
- c. s/he has obtained at least 162 ec of a bachelor degree in another discipline than philosophy including a total of 60 ec (minor excluded) for courses in philosophy belonging to the main programme itself; and:
- d. s/he has obtained and delivered to the examination board a written statement by her/his supervisor in the BA-programme that progress on the bachelor thesis or other type of graduation project for the bachelor programme has been finalised to an extent that at least 50 % of the work in research and writing has been done.
- e. If the bachelor degree is not obtained before 31 August 2021, the possibility to follow master-level courses and master-level examinations will be terminated.
- 2. The Examination Board decides on the admission as specified in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Section 3 Content and structure of the programme

Article 3.1 Programme objective

The objective of the programme is to contribute to the student's academic education by teaching him knowledge, insights and skills in the field of Philosophy that will allow him to enter the job market at master degree level and continue his subsequent academic education in the field of Philosophy. The objective of the programme is specified in the intended learning outcomes, see Appendix 1.

Article 3.2 Programme structure

The programme is offered in fulltime and as a part-time programme. The student should start the master programme (fulltime or part-time) at the beginning (September) of the academic year.

Article 3.3 Language in which the programme is taught

- 1. The programme is taught in English and the examinations will be held in that language.
- 2. When writing essays, papers and the master thesis, use of literature in Dutch and English is permitted. If any literature is used in a language other than the languages listed above, the lecturer's or supervisor's prior consent is required.
- 3. Written examinations in English may also be answered in Dutch unless the lecturer's fluency in that language is insufficient, which will be assessed by the Examination Board
- 4. If the student wants to sit the examination in a language other than Dutch or English, s/he must submit a request to the ExaminationBoard.

Article 3.4 Study load

The fulltime programme consists of one academic year and has a study load of 60 EC. The part-time programme consists of two academic years and has a study load of 30 EC per year.

Article 3.5 The programme

- 1. The components of the programme are determined by the Dean of the Faculty.
- 2. The master year(s) consist(s) of six blocks; Article 3.6 provides a list of courses and Article 3.7 explains how to make a selection from that list.

Article 3.6 Course selection per block

Block 1

- Classical Texts, Contemporary Challenges (5 EC)

Blocks 2-4

- Master thesis tutorial group (2.5 EC)
- Mentor groups From Theory to Practice (5 EC)

Cluster 1: Representation: Democracy, Science, and Culture

- Representation, The People and Contemporary Democracy (5 EC)
- Social Choice Theory and Political Representation (5 EC)
- War and Politics (5 EC)
- From Representation to Mediation (5 EC)

Cluster 2: Environment, Life, and Technology

- Life, Power and Global Technologies (5 EC)
- Industrial Epidemics (5 EC)
- Transhumanism (5 EC)
- Artificial Intelligence and Ethical Global Futures (5 EC)
- Extra option 1: Architecture and Philosophy (TU Delft, 5 EC)
- Extra option 2: New Urban Questions (TU Delft, 5 EC)

Cluster 3: Subjectivity and Response-Ability

- Descartes and the Cartesian Legacy (5 EC)
- What the Subject is Not (5 EC)
- A Brain with Hands and Legs (5 EC)
- Political Affect (5 EC)

Cluster 4: The Politics of Wealth: Inequality, Capitalism, Exploitation

- Welfare and Corporation (5 EC)
- Capitalism and Freedom (5 EC)
- Roots of Racism (5 EC)
- Justice in the Economics and Politics of Wealth (5 EC)

Block 5

- From Theory to Practice (2.5 EC)

Block 6

- Completion of the master thesis (15 EC)

Article 3.7 Composition of the master programme

- 1. The student chooses two of the four course clusters or a curriculum without a cluster.
- 2. Each cluster consists of four courses, of which two are optional.
- 3. In total, students take six courses (30 EC) within the cluster program.
- 4. Moreover, all master students follow the following courses:
- a. The course 'Master Thesis Tutorial Group'; during this course, the students start

- with the preparation and writing of the draft of the thesis; this course concludes with an oral presentation in Block 3 on the progress of the research.
- b. The course 'Classical Texts, Contemporary Challenges'
- c. The mentor group 'From Theory to Practice'
- d. The course 'From Theory to Practice'
- 5. The student joins her/his mentor group (4c in this article) on the basis of a choice of one out of the four specializations or a research-based specialization and work towards an outcome to be shared with all students in the course 'From Theory to Practice (4d in this article)
- a. Innovation in Education
- b. History, Theory, and Approaches in Public Philosophy
- c. Philosophy and Public Policy
- d. Transdisciplinarity and public issues
- 6. With the exception of the two courses at TU Delft mentioned under Article 3.6, the student may use no more than 5 EC for a (philosophical or non-philosophical) subsidiary subject at an institute of academic education, on the condition that, when choosing a subject cluster, s/he meets the requirements listed in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article.
- a. The Examination Board's prior approval is required for the inclusion of a subsidiary subject.
- 7. The Examination Board's prior approval is required for courses followed in international exchange programmes.
- 8. The student is allowed to follow courses from all four clusters, but the Examination Board's prior approval is required for deviation from the cluster programme.

Article 3.8 Approval of the master programme

- 1. The student should submit a proposal for the composition of his master programme to the Examination Board two weeks before March 1 of the relevant master year. The forms are available on Myeur.nl.
- 2. The proposal should contain the elements required for a full master programme with a study load of 60 EC listed in Article 3.7 of these Regulations, and should also mention the subject of the master thesis, the intended supervisor (first supervisor) and advisor (second supervisor).
- 3. If the Examination Board does not approve the proposal for the master programme, the student will be notified in writing and informed of the reasons.
- 4. If a student wants to change the proposal for his master programme while s/he is taking that programme, s/he requires the Examination Board's approval once again (please also see Article 6.1 of the Rules and Guidelines).

Section 4 Courses

Article 4.1 Enrolment

A student may only participate in a course if s/he or she has registered in time via OSIRIS.

Article 4.2 Attendance and best efforts obligation

- 1. Every student is expected to participate actively in the courses in which s/he is enrolled.
- 2. In addition to the general requirement that the student actively participates in

the programme, supplementary requirements are described per component in the course profile in the online study guide or OSIRIS.

Section 5 Testing

Article 5.1 General

- 1. Every component of the programme is followed by an examination, unless this component is assessed in a different way, e.g. by attendance and participation requirements.
- 2. The Examination Board appoints one or more examiners for each examination. Students, student assistants or tutors may not be appointed as examiners. The appointment of the examiners is announced in the course profiles in the Course quide.
- 3. The examiners appointed by the Examination Board are responsible for the content of the examinations and determine the results of the examinations (please also see Article 2.1 of the Rules and Guidelines).
- 4. The course description states the objectives and learning outcomes of the course in question as well as the intended methods of assessment (please also see Article 5 of the Rules and Guidelines).

Article 5.2 Structure of the examinations

- 1. The course assessment is arranged as mentioned in the course profile in the Course guide and OSIRIS.
- 2. Examinations may be held either as written or oraltests.
- 3. Only one student at a time may be examined if the examination is an oral test, unless the Examination Board has decided otherwise.
- 4. Oral examinations are public, unless the Examination Board or the examiner in question has decided otherwise, or if the studentobjects.
- 5. On request of the student or the examiner, the Examination Board may allow the examination to be taken by a method that is different from procedure stated in the provisions of the first paragraph. For the assessment of the master thesis, please also see Article 6.1 of the Rules and Guidelines for the assessment of the masterthesis.

Article 5.3 Examinations and resits: number and completion terms

- 1. All examinations can be taken at least twice per academicyear.
- 2. The student may take no more than two resits during theprogramme.
- 3. The examination for a single course may consist of several sub-examinations or assignments.
- 4. Examinations that are not administered as a central written session (e.g. written assignments) should be taken within a term of six months of completing the course. The examinations are based on the prescribed literature for the most recent lecture cycle.
- 5. A resit should be taken in the same academic year as the first examination.
- 6. The Examination Board may, in exceptional cases, permit deviation from the provisions of the paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 of this Article to the benefit of the candidate.

Article 5.4 Examinations: times

1. Examinations administered as central written tests are announced in the month

- of July prior to the academic year inquestion.
- 2. Examinations administered as oral tests are held at a time determined by the examiner, and if possible in agreement with the student.
- 3. Changes to the scheduled examination times may only be made in the event of force majeure.
- 4. If the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI) issues a weather warning (code red) for the whole country or specifically for the Rijnmond region due to extreme weather conditions, the Dean shall, after consulting the Student Administration, decide which of the written examinations planned for the relevant period should be cancelled. Any such cancellation will be announced on the homepage of the EUR, on timetables.eur.nl, on Canvas, and on the Facebook page of ESSC.
- 5. The measures described under (4) will also be taken in other exceptional circumstances, such as a pandemic.
- 6. Following such a cancellation, the Dean will set new dates for the cancelled examinations as soon as possible in consultation with the examiners concerned. The new dates should preferably be within two weeks of the original examination dates. The new examination dates will be published on timetables.eur.nl.
- 7. Similar regulations and provisions as mentioned in paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Article apply if by order of the Dutch government, of local authorities or of governmental institutes, students are kept from attending a scheduled examination for other reasons.

Article 5.5 Notification and registration of the examination results

- 1. The examiner will produce his final assessment of the examination within 15 working days of the day on which the relevant examination was held.
- 2. Immediately after an oral examination, the examiner will make an assessment of the examination and issue the student with a written statement regarding the assessment.
- 3. The registered details, with the exception of details on awarded degree certificates, will not be disclosed to parties other than the candidate, the Examination Board, the Executive Board, the Board of Appeal for Examinations and the study advisor. Deviations from this provision are only permitted with the student's consent.
- 4. The written statement regarding the assessment of an examination will inform the student of his right of inspection (please see Article 5.7 of these Regulations) and the possibilities of appealing to the Board of Appeal for Examinations (please see part III of these Programme Regulations).

Article 5.6 Validity

- 1. The validity of the examination results is indefinite.
- 2. Partial results (results for the part of an examination) remain valid only in the academic year in which they have been obtained.

Article 5.7 Right of inspection

- 1. For a period of 30 days following the publication of the result of a written examination, a student may inspect the assessed work following a request.
- 2. During the period specified in the first paragraph, the student can ask for

clarification of the criteria used for assessing the examination (please also see Article 5.3 of the Rules and Guidelines).

Article 5.8 Reviews

- 1. A review of an oral examination may be held between the student and the examiner on the student's or the examiner's initiative shortly after the announcement of the results of the examination.
- 2. The lecturer should announce the date of a collective review in good time. The student may only request an individual review if s/he attended the collective review or if s/he was hindered from attending the collective review by circumstances beyond his control.

Article 5.9 Period of retention

- 1. The questions, answers and the assessed work of the written examinations are retained (either on paper or by digital means) for a period of two years following the assessment.
- 2. The master thesis and its assessment are retained for a period of seven years following the assessment(digitally).

Article 5.10 Exemption

- 1. At a student's request and after having consulted the relevant examiner, the Examination Board can grant the student exemption from a course or other part of the programme, provided that the student has completed a component which is of equivalent content and level, as part of a university or professional higher education programme, before s/he started the masterprogramme.
- 2. An exemption can only apply to an entire course and not to a part of a course.

Article 5.11 Compensation

Examinations for the master programme resulting in an unsatisfactory mark are not eligible for compensation.

Article 5.12 Additional course load

The course lecturers may, after obtaining the approval of the Examination Board, increase the study load of their master courses from 5 to 6 EC by means of, for example, additional literature or a (more substantial) essay to tailor the elective courses to the wishes of external students, on the condition that the adapted course is not made mandatory. Students taking the Master in Philosophy at Erasmus University Rotterdam may also attend such intensified courses, on condition that the credit allocation remains unaltered for the other master courses.

Section 6 The Master Examination

Article 6.1 The master examination

1. After the student has (a) achieved a pass for all components of the programme that are concluded with an examination, (b) has completed all the components of the programme for which no examination needs to be sat, and (c) has defended his master thesis at the concluding examination, the Examination Board will announce the results of the

- examination.
- 2. The Examination Board validates the results of the examination.
- 3. To have passed the master examination and to be awarded the degree certificate, the student must have been enrolled in the programme when she/he sat the examinations.
- 4. The date of the master examination is the date on the degree certificate (please see Article 7.1 of the Rules and Guidelines for the examination day).
- 5. A student who has successfully fulfilled the programme's requirements under the first paragraph of this Article and is entitled to be awarded a certificate may request the Examination Board to delay the award of the certificate. This request to delay the award of the certificate should be submitted within two weeks of the student being notified of the results of the master examination. In his request the student should indicate when she/he wishes to receive the certificate (please see Article 7.1 of the Rules and Guidelines for information on the examinationday).

Article 6.2 The degree

- 1. A student who has passed the master examination will be conferred the degree 'Master of Arts in Philosophy' (MA in Philosophy).
- 2. The degree conferred is stated on the certificate of the master examination.

Article 6.3 The degree certificate

- 1. As proof that the student has successfully completed all the requirements of the master examination, a certificate is awarded by the Examination Board.
- 2. The Examination Board will attach the list of marks and the diploma supplement to the certificate; the diploma supplement provides information on the nature and content of the completed programme which is also geared towards persons and institutions outside the Netherlands.
- 3. Students choose whether they want their cluster specializations mentioned on their degree.
- 4. If the student has graduated from one of the two subject clusters (please see Article 3.7, paragraph 2, of these Regulations), this will be stated on the degree certificate.

Section 7 Supervision and advice

Article 7.1 Study progress administration

- 1. The examiner registers the individual study results of students and provides access to these results via OSIRIS.
- 2. The results of examinations for which results were already previously obtained will not be included in the calculation of the student's progress.
- 3. At the student's request and in agreement with the supervisor of the final research project, the Examination Board will award a number of EC to determine the progress made in the programme.
- 4. A certified student progress file can be obtained from Student Administration.

Article 7.2 Student counselling

Student counselling consists of:

- individual advice on the composition of the master programme (please see Article 3.7 of the present Course and Examination Regulations);
- individual advice about study skills, study schedules and choosing a subsequent pathway;
- offering help in the event of difficulties during the student's time on the programme and, if necessary, referring the student to other persons or authorities.

Article 7.3 Studying with a functional impairment

- 1. Students with a functional impairment are offered the opportunity to adapt their study (as far as is reasonably possible) to the restrictions determined by the specific impairment involved. These adaptations will be aligned as far as possible to the student's individual functional impairment, but should not affect the quality or level of the programme.
- 2. Students should submit a request to the Examination Board, accompanied by a statement from an authorised agency.

Section 8 Transitional and final provisions

Article 8.1 Special clause

In cases that these regulations do not provide for unambiguously, or have a manifestly unreasonable outcome, a decision will be taken by or on behalf of the Dean, after consultation of the Examination Board.

Article 8.2 Amendments

- 1. Modifications of this regulation will be determined separately by the Dean, after having taken notice of the advice of the Examination Board, the Programme Committee and the Faculty Council; and after the approval of the Programme Committee and the Faculty Council relating to the sections of the Course and Examination Regulations (CER) for which those bodies have the right of consent, all in accordance with the law.
- 2. In Article 7.13 paragraph 2 of the law it is determined which sections the CER should at least contain. Article 9.18 paragraph 1a of the law determines for which sections of the CER (as determined in Article 7.13 paragraph 2) the Programme Committee has the right of consent. Article 9.38 paragraph b determines for which sections of the CER (as determined in Article 7.13 paragraph 2) the Faculty Council has the right of consent; on account of the general regulation in Article 9.37 paragraph 2 of the law the Faculty Council is allowed to give advice about the other sections of the CER.
- 3. No amendment may disadvantage a student by influencing a decision that was already taken previously in accordance these Regulations.
- 4. The provisions of Article 8.1 also apply to questions that might arise from differences between the current Regulations and previous versions.

Article 8.3 Publication

The Dean is responsible for the publication of these Regulations and any amendments.

Article 8.4 Effective date

These Regulations will come into effect on 1 September 2020.

Appendix 1: Intended learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding:

- a. to possess a thorough knowledge of systematic philosophy, the history of philosophy, and recent developments in contemporary philosophy, that deepens and surpasses the knowledge acquired in the bachelor
- b. to have a thorough understanding of specific interrelated developments in the history of thought and in modern analytical and continental philosophy.
- c. to possess a thorough knowledge of the chosen field of specialization(track).

Putting knowledge and understanding into practice:

- a. The ability to interpret and reflect on complex philosophical problems.
- b. The ability to situate the acquired knowledge in a broader, multi-disciplinary context.
- c. The ability to communicate their philosophical approach to professionals outside the university and/or to the general public.

Skills and communication:

- a. To be able to study, analyse and assess complex philosophical texts in a critical way, and to present the result verbally (presentation) and in writing(essay).
- b. To be able to give a presentation, to defend the (preliminary) results of the master thesis before an audience of fellow-students, and to write the definite version.
- c. To be able to present the conclusions of the master thesis (as well as the underlying motives, knowledge and considerations) before an audience of specialists and non-specialists; and to be able to defend the master thesis during the examination.

Attitude and judgmental capabilities:

- a. To develop a critical academic attitude in the field of contemporary philosophy, paying attention to the highest standards of philosophical rigor and creativity.
- b. The willingness to abstain from premature 'solutions' and to ask probing and unorthodox questions.
- c. Receptive to the societal relevance of philosophical questions and prepared to interpret the studied literature from this particular perspective, with due consideration of the social and moral responsibilities involved.

Learning skills:

To be able to complete a subsequent academic study independently and/or to subsequently pursue an academic career, based on the aforementioned intended learning outcomes.

Rules and Guidelines of the Examination Board for the Master of Philosophy 2020-2021

Section 1 General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability of the Regulations

These regulations apply to the 2020-2021 academic year and govern the examinations and master examination of the master programme in Philosophy and are applicable to all students that are enrolled in this programme.

Article 1.2 Definitions

Unless stated otherwise, the definitions used in the Course and Examination Regulations for the master programme in Philosophy will also be used in the present Rules and Guidelines.

Article 1.3 The Examination Board

- 1. The duties and powers of the Examination Board are stipulated in Sections 7.10, 7.11, 7.12, 7.12b and 7.12c of the Act.
- 2. The Examination Board appoints, an executive committee consisting of at least two persons who are charged with the day-to-day business of the Board.
- 3. Requests submitted to the Examination Board should be sent by email or by post and should have the relevant documents attached. The Examination Board will give its decision within three weeks of receipt of a request and will inform the student of its decision by email.

Section 2 Examiners and Quality assurance

Article 2.1 Examiners

- 1. Prior to the start of a course the Programme Director will propose to the Examination Board the teacher(s) under whose responsibility the course will be given. The Examination Board then takes a decision about the appointment as examiner of the suggested teacher(s) for the course in question.
- 2. The Examination Board verifies that the examiners meet the set expertise requirements.
- 3. The Examination Board may set binding guidelines and assessment standards for interim and final examinations.
- 4. On request, the examiners will provide the Examination Board with information about the examinations and the corresponding results.
- 5. The Examination Board may revoke the appointment of an examiner if it has a serious reason to do so.

Article 2.2 Quality assurance of the examinations and master examination

- 1. The programme director, in consultation with the Examination Board, draws up a test plan for the programme. This plan will include a systematic description of all the tests
- 2. The Examination Board draws up a protocol for the production and supervision of examinations and for marking and administering the results.

- 3. The Examination Board is responsible for the evaluation of the examinations.
- 4. The Examination Board will inform the Programme Director of the method and frequency of the evaluation of the examinations.
- 5. The Examination Board will use the evaluation of the examinations to advise the Programme Director on measures to maintain and strengthen the quality of the examinations

Section 3 Discipline during lectures and examinations

Article 3.1 Discipline during lectures and other education activities

These provisions apply to the lectures and other education activities provided by the Erasmus School of Philosophy and to the rooms, including the computer rooms.

- 1. Entering a classroom after a lecture has started is prohibited without the consent of the person teaching.
- 2. Discipline during the lecture.
- a. The distracting use of electronic communication devices during the lecture is prohibited.
- b. The distracting consumption of food or beverages during the lecture is prohibited.
- c. Recording and distributing lectures and lecture material without the knowledge or consent of the lecturer is prohibited.
- d. The lecturer giving the lecture may have the person who is disrupting the lecture removed from the classroom.
- 3. Discipline in the buildings of the EUR.
- a. The distracting use of electronic communication devices is prohibited.
- b. The distracting consumption of food or beverages is prohibited.
- c. The person responsible for the building in question may have the person causing the disruption removed from the premises.
- 4. The Dean of the Erasmus School of Philosophy may impose measures on anyone who is repeatedly guilty of disrupting the proper course of affairs during lectures or in classrooms, pursuant to the procedure laid down in the 'Regulations relating to the maintenance of order in EUR buildings and on EUR sites and relating to the efficient or legal use of EUR facilities'.

Article 3.2 Disciplinary rules for examinations

For all rules regarding registration for exams, order during written exams, order rules about exams, see the <u>Order Rules for written exams</u>.

1. When exceptional circumstances preclude the regular organisation of written exams (e.g. because of Covid-19 restrictions), and no reliable alternatives are available, the examiner may decide to organise the exam using online proctoring, after having obtained permission from the Examination Board. This is arranged in conformity with EUR-norms concerning online proctoring.

Section 4 Fraud and sanctions

Article 4.1 Fraud

- 1. The term fraud is understood to mean any acts or omissions on the part of a student that make it impossible for the examiner and the Examination Board to form an accurate opinion of the student's acquired knowledge, insight and skills (or those of his fellow students).
- 2. The student must avoid any possible appearance of fraud in connection to

- himself during the examination and if the student is in any doubt about this he should immediately report to the invigilator.
- 3. The following shall in any event be deemed to be fraud:
- a. obtaining knowledge concerning the questions or assignments in a certain examination prior to that examination;
- b. assuming someone else's identity or being represented by someone else during an examination:
- c. consulting or having within reach information sources (e.g. books, syllabi, personal paper, notes written on skin or on fabric, calculators that can be programmed, mobile telephones and smartphones), the use of which is not explicitly permitted during an examination. Mobile telephones, smartphones, etc. should be switched off and remain off during examinations;
- d. copying from or exchanging any information whatsoever with fellow students, either inside or outside the examination room, during the examination; giving another person the opportunity to commit fraud will also be deemed fraud;
- e. exchanging or swapping the issued question papers or answer papers with other students;
- f. making any changes to previously submitted examination answers during a subsequent inspection;
- g. committing plagiarism, which shall be taken here to mean the copying of a passage containing more than a few words from his own or someone else's work, either literally or in translation, from an individual or group assignment, project, thesis or any other type of text that is part of an examination, without indicating this by quotation marks, even if a bibliographically traceable and correct source reference is included. Providing other students with the opportunity to commit plagiarism is also deemed to be fraud;
- h. taking the examination without being entitled to do so;
- i. making it partially or completely impossible, by means of misleading acts, omissions or in any other way, for the examiner and the Examination Board to form an accurate assessment of the student's knowledge, insight and skills.
- 4. Academic achievements in writing may only be evaluated in EC once. Students are not permitted to submit a previously written thesis, assignment or any other form of text written in connection with the student's present or previous programme at or outside the Erasmus School of Philosophy a second time in the same course or a different course without first consulting the examiner and obtaining his approval (with respect to the part for which the text is submitted a second time or is intended to result in EC a second time) or to use any part of a previously produced project, either in amended form or otherwise, when writing a thesis, assignment or other project for the purpose of obtaining EC for it a second time, without prior consultation with the examiner and obtaining his approval
- 5. In addition to the general obligation to give clear source references, students are under a special obligation to be completely transparent at all times with respect to re- using their own work and they can be held explicitly accountable on this point.
- 6. If a written examination is not taken under the supervision of an invigilator, such as an assignment or thesis, the examiner must carry out a plagiarism check.

Article 4.2 Sanctions

- 1. Students who act in breach of the rules specified in Articles 4.1.3, 4.1.4 and 4.1.5 of these Regulations or give reason to do so are guilty of fraud.
- 2. If fraud is established or there is a grave suspicion of fraud during an

- examination, the invigilator or examiner must inform the student without delay. The invigilator or examiner must note this down on the work to be submitted by the student, and must take possession of any documentary evidence. The student will be given the opportunity to finish the examination and to hand in his work.
- 3. The invigilator must report the suspected or established fraud to the Department for Exam Administration on a standard report form immediately after the examination has finished. Any documentary evidence must be submitted together with this report. If the student refused to hand over any such documentary evidence, the invigilator must state this on the form. The Department for Exam Registration must send the report form filled in by the invigilator, together with any documentary evidence, to the Examination Board immediately after the end of the examination period.
- 4. If plagiarism is established after an individual or group project, assignment or thesis has been submitted, or if there are grave suspicions of plagiarism (e.g. by using a plagiarism detection tool), the examiner must report this to the student immediately. The student will be given a maximum of one week to submit his response to the examiner.
- 5. The examiner must report the plagiarism, or grave suspicion of plagiarism, to the Examination Board within one week of its discovery at the latest. The report should be accompanied by the evidence and the student's response, if any.
- 6. The Examination Board will investigate the circumstances before making a decision.
- 7. Depending on the gravity of the fraud committed and taking any previous instances of fraud by the same student into account, the Examination Board may impose sanctions on the student, including the following:
- a. a reprimand;
- b. invalidation of the relevant individual or group project orassignment;
- c. invalidation of the relevant examination;
- d. invalidation of the relevant thesis:
- e. exclusion from the relevant examination for a period not exceeding oneyear;
- f. exclusion from one or more examination periods;
- g. exclusion from thesis evaluation for a period not exceeding one year;
- h. a combination of the aforementioned measures;
- i. a proposal submitted to the Executive Board to permanently terminate the student's enrolment in the master programme in Philosophy.
- j. if fraud or plagiarism is established with respect to a group project, this will be imputed equally to each member of the group. The onus of proving the contrary lies with each member of the group.

Section 5 Examinations: Content and assessment

Article 5.1 Content of the examinations

- 1. Changes to the topics of the examination during the course must be within the previously announced intended learning outcomes.
- 2. The student may lodge an appeal against changes in the topics of the examination during a course with the Examination Board.
- 3. The questions and assignments of the examination will cover the topics of the course in a balanced way, with due regard to the learning objectives of the course in question.
- 4. The questions and assignments of an examination must be clear and unambiguous, and phrased so that the student will know how extensive and

detailed the answers must be

Article 5.2 Assessment standards

- 1. Written examinations will be assessed on the basis of clear standards which are preferably incorporated into model answers.
- 2. In the event an examination is arranged by more than one examiner and the result of the examination is assessed by several examiners, those examiners must ensure that the assessment is based on the same standards. If necessary, the Examination Board will assign final responsibility for the examination assessment to a single examiner.

Article 5.3 Marks

- 1. An examination result of 5.5 or higher will qualify as a passing mark. Marks with more than one decimal will be rounded off to one decimal, as follows: 4 or lower will be rounded down, 5 or higher will be rounded up.
- 2. Alphanumerical results will be given in the following cases:
- students who are registered for an examination but who have not actually sat it will be awarded an NS (No Show);
- students who are enrolled for a course but did not take a certain examination component will be awarded an NC (Not Completed) for the relevant examination component;
- students who completed a component but did not receive a mark for it may be awarded a C (Completed);
- students who have been granted exemption by the Examination Board will be awarded an EX (Exempted);
- 3. If a student has not enrolled and thus is not eligible to take an examination, any grade given for the relevant examination will be declared null and void.

Section 6 The master thesis

Article 6.1 The master thesis

- 1. The student discusses the subject of the thesis with the intended supervisor (first assessor). After the intended supervisor has approved the subject of the thesis, the students submits his proposal for the subject of the thesis and the intended supervisor to the Examination Board. At the same time, the student, in agreement with the intended supervisor (first examiner), proposes an advisor (second assessor). If the Examination Board approves the subject of the thesis and the intended supervisors, the Examination Board will notify the student. The letter will also be sent to the supervisor and the advisor.
- 2. The student drafts the structure of his master thesis. Once this draft has been approved by the supervisor, it is submitted to the advisor for approval. The advisor sends the Application Form Advisor to the supervisor and the Examination Board. Once the draft has been approved by the advisor (who may consult other experts), the student can start work on the thesis itself.
- 3. The thesis should contain approximately 20,000 to 25,000 words.
- 4. Once the supervisor has approved the thesis, it is submitted to the advisor for advice, at least twenty working days before the final submission date fixed by the Examination Board. (Please see Article 7.1 of these Regulations for the examination day.) In the advice formal and/or material shortcomings are discussed and suggestions for remedying these shortcomings are given.

- 5. The advisor sends his advice both to the supervisor and to the Examination Board. The Examination Board will consider files without these copies as incomplete.
- 6. The supervisor can ask the advisor to provide a clarification of his advice and then sends the advice to the student. The supervisor can provide the advice with additional explanation.
- 7. After the student has incorporated the advice in his thesis, the student sends the thesis to the supervisor and the advisor.
- 8. The advisor fills in the thesis evaluation form, including his preliminary mark for the thesis and forwards the evaluation form to the supervisor. The supervisor fills in the evaluation form as well, including his preliminary mark for the thesis, and forwards the evaluation form to the Examination Board.
- 9. The total preliminary mark for the thesis consists of the average of the preliminary marks of the supervisor and the advisor, unless one of the two assessors gives an insufficient mark; in that case the insufficient mark is the final mark
- 10. If the difference between the preliminary marks of the two assessors is 1,5 or more points, the Examination Board assigns a third assessor. In addition, if one of the two assessors gives an insufficient mark for the thesis while the other gives a sufficient mark, each of the two assessors can ask the Examination Board to assign a third assessor.
- 11. If the thesis is evaluated by three assessors, the total preliminary mark consists of the average of their three marks, unless two of the three assessors have given an insufficient mark. In that case the total preliminary mark will consist of the average of the two insufficient marks.
- 12. If the thesis is given an insufficient mark, the student will be offered a second chance to obtain a sufficient mark. In that case the topic of the thesis will remain unchanged and the thesis will be improved. The supervisor and the advisor will not be changed, unless the Examination Board sees weighty grounds to assign another supervisor or advisor.

Section 7 The exam and the distinction

Article 7.1 The examination day

- 1. The Examination Board stipulates the date for the master examination. During this examination the student will defend her/his master thesis.
- 2. The master examination may only be held if the student has submitted the following items 20 working days prior to the intended date of the examination day mentioned in the previous paragraph:
- two paper copies and a PDF copy of the approved master thesis and the PDF copy of a 100-word summary, which are both to be filed with the university thesis repository;
- the letter applying for the master examination.
- 3. After the examination, the assessors will discuss the final mark for the thesis. The final mark is based on the total preliminary mark mentioned in Article 6.1 clause 9, plus or minus a maximum of 0.5 point that takes into account the student's defense of his thesis.
- 4. After the examination, the thesis supervisor will be given an opportunity to briefly address the student in question, after which the Dean of the Erasmus School of Philosophy or his deputy presents the certificate to the student. The Dean can be represented by the thesis supervisor.

5. The supervisor writes a report of the examination that includes the final mark for the thesis and forwards the report to the Examination Board.

Article 7.2 The distinction

- 1. One single distinction may be mentioned on the statement of the results of the bachelor examination: 'with honours' ('Cum Laude').
- 2. This distinction is conferred if:
- a. the weighted average of the final marks for the courses offered by the Erasmus School of Philosophy itself as part of the master programme is 8.25 or higher and the final mark for none of these courses is lower than 7.0;
- b. the mark for the master thesis is 8,25 or higher;
- c. the granted exemptions (please see Article 5.10 of the Course and Examination Regulations) do not exceed 20% of the overall course load of 60 EC;
- d. the student has not been the subject of a sanction due to fraude or plagiarism.
- 3. The Examination Board can confer the distinction to students who have not fulfilled the criteria mentioned under clause 2 on specialgrounds.

7.3 Free curriculum

A student may himself compile a research master curriculum programme leading up to a final examination. When necessary, the University Board determines which Examination Board will be charged with the authority to judge on this matter (WHW 7.3h).

Section 8 Transitional and final provisions

Article 8.1 Special clause

In cases where these regulations do not provide for, unambiguously, or that manifestly have an unreasonable outcome, a decision will be taken by the Examination Board.

Article 8.2 Amendments

- 1. Amendments to these Regulations will be laid down by the Examination Board.
- 2. Amendments to these regulations have no effect in the ongoing academic year, unless such amendments will not unreasonably prejudice the interests of students.
- 3. No amendment may disadvantage a student by influencing a decision that was already taken previously in accordance these Regulations.
- 4. The provisions of Article 8.1 also apply to questions that might arise from differences between the current Regulations and previous versions.

Article 8.3 Publication

The Examination Board is responsible for the publication of these Regulations, as well as for any amendments.

Article 8.4 Effective date

These Regulations will come into effect on 1 September 2020.

The appeal procedure

A student may lodge an appeal against any decision of an examiner (e.g. regarding assessments) or the Examination Board with the Board of Appeal for Examinations (CBE) of Erasmus University. In urgent cases, the chair of the CBE may be requested to impose a provisional measure.

The appeal may be lodged by an interested party, i.e. the person whose interests are directly involved in a decision. The appeal should be lodged within six weeks of the announcement of the contested decision. If the appeal is lodged against an overdue decision, it should be submitted within a reasonable term.

The appeal should be submitted to the CBE in writing and addressed to the secretary of that Board. The appeal may also be lodged through the EUR Facility of Protection of Rights where all notices of objection and appeals may be submitted online.

Before an appeal is handled by the CBE, a term for settlement will be put into effect, during which the Examination Board or examiner investigates whether the claimant's appeal may be settled (formal settlement attempt). During this term, parties may explain their positions in more detail, and the decision of the CBE will be carefully scrutinized.

The CBE assumes that the claimant has first been in touch with the examiner in question or the Examination Board in an attempt to reach an agreement (substantive settlement attempt). It should be noted that the term of six weeks for submitting a notice of appeal to the CBE will continue without interruption. With that in mind, a provisional notice of appeal may be submitted.

The interested party may submit an appeal to the Appeals Tribunal for Higher Education PO Box 636, 2501 CN The Hague, The Netherlands against the decision of the Board of Appeal for Examinations within six weeks. This appeal is not possible, however, if the decision of the Board of Appeal for Examinations pertains to a decision that contains:

the assessment of the student's knowledge or skills that was or were the subject of the examination in this matter or tested in any other way (Article 8.4, under e of the Dutch General Administrative Law Act (Awb));

the establishment of the questions, assessment standards or more detailed rules for that examination or test (Article 8.4, under e of the Dutch General Administrative Law Act (Awb)).

More information about appeal procedures is available on the CBE-EUR's website:

http://www.eur.nl/abd/bjz/cluster_rechtsbescherming_studenten_en_personee l/ college_van_beroep_voor_de_examens/