

**Article 5.12 Period of validity**

1. Exams which have been passed are valid for an unlimited period. Contrary to the above the Board of Examiners may require the participant to take an additional or replacement exam or examination component for an exam that was passed more than six years ago if the student's knowledge or insight that was examined is demonstrably outdated or the skills that were examined are demonstrably outdated.
2. If exceptional circumstances apply as referred to in Article 7.51 paragraph two of the Act, the period of six years in paragraph one will be extended by the duration of the financial support the student receives from the profiling fund.
3. Sub-tests and assignments that were passed within a component, which was not passed, will lose their validity after the academic year in which they were passed unless the Board of Examiners states otherwise.

**Article 5.13 Retention period for exams**

1. The exercises, answers and the evaluated work of the written exams will be retained in paper or digital form for two years after the exam/examination result is determined.
2. The bachelor thesis and its evaluation will be kept for at least seven years after the evaluation.

**Article 5.14 Exemption**

The Board of Examiners may, at a student's request and having heard the relevant examiner, grant the student an exemption from taking an exam if he/she demonstrates that he/she previously:

1. Either passed an exam for a university or higher professional education programme which was similar in terms of content and level or gained sufficient knowledge and skills relevant to the exam concerned, either through work or professional experience.
2. An exemption may only pertain to an entire component and not a part thereof.
3. At most 60 credits for the programme may be earned based on the exemptions granted.
4. The bachelor's thesis is excluded from this exemption option.
5. The Board of Examiners will not grant any exemption based on exams passed by a student outside the programme during the period in which the student was barred by the Board of Examiners from taking exams for the programme because of fraud.
6. The same period of validity applies to exemptions as to exam results.

**Article 5.15 Fraud**

1. 'Fraud', including 'plagiarism', means actions or omissions by a student which make it impossible in whole or in part to properly evaluate his/her knowledge, understanding and skills. Allowing and/or enabling other students to engage in fraud is also considered fraud under these regulations.
2. 'Plagiarism' means the presentation of ideas or words from one's own or someone else's sources without proper acknowledgement of the sources.
3. If the Board of Examiners determines that a student has engaged in fraud, the Board of Examiners can take appropriate measures.
4. In serious cases of fraud, the Board of Examiners can propose to UM's Executive Board that the student(s) concerned be permanently deregistered from the programme.
5. The Rules and Regulations include further provisions about what constitutes fraud and which disciplinary measures the Board of Examiners can impose.

**Article 5.15A Invalid exam**

If an exam involves irregularities that make it impossible to accurately assess a candidate's knowledge, insight and skills, or when the quality of the exam or assessment cannot be guaranteed, the Board of Examiners may declare the exam invalid for the examinee and/or a group of examinees.

#### **Article 5.16    Unsuitability (Iudicium Abeundi)**

1. In exceptional cases and after careful consideration of the interests involved, the Board of Examiners or the Dean/the Faculty Board may ask the Executive Board to terminate or, as the case may be, refuse the enrolment of a student in a programme, if that student, through her/his behaviour or opinions ventured, has demonstrated his/her unsuitability for the practice of one or more professions for which s/he is trained by the programme s/he follows, or, as the case may be, for the practical preparation for the practice of the profession.
2. The relevant clauses of Maastricht University's Enrolment Provisions apply.

### **Section 6        Examination**

#### **Article 6.1    Examination**

1. The Board of Examiners determines the result and date of the examination and issues the certificate as referred to in Article 6.3 as soon as the student has satisfied the requirements for the examination programme.
2. Prior to determining the result of the examination, the Board of Examiners may conduct their own investigation of the student's knowledge regarding one or more components or aspects of the programme if and insofar as the results of the relevant exams/assessments give reason to do this.
3. To pass the examination, the student must pass all components referred to in Article 3.12.
4. To pass the examination and receive the certificate, the student must also have been registered for the programme during the period that the exams were taken.
5. A certificate may only be issued after it has been shown that the student has satisfied all the obligations, including paying the tuition fees.
6. The last day of the month in which the student satisfied all the examination obligations will be considered the examination date (graduation date).
7. Students who have passed the examination and who are entitled to the issuance of a certificate may, stating reasons, ask the Board of Examiners not to do this yet. This request must be submitted at least one month before the final assignment is turned in or the final exam is taken.

The Board of Examiners in any event grants the request:

- if the student is selected by the faculty for a double degree, an extracurricular internship or an extracurricular exchange, or
- if the student holds or will hold a board position for which at least nine months of financial support is awarded from the profiling fund or holds or will hold an 'INKOM' board position.

The Board of Examiners may grant the request if refusal would result in an exceptional case of extreme unfairness because of the fact that the student concerned could not have taken the automatic graduation into account when he/she was planning his/her study.

#### **Article 6.2    Degree**

Students of the programme who have passed the examination will be awarded the degree 'Bachelor of Science in Data Science & Artificial Intelligence'.

#### **Article 6.3    Certificate and statements**

1. As proof that the examination was passed, the Board of Examiners issues a certificate, after it has been stated by or on behalf of UM's Executive Board that the procedural requirements for receiving the certificate have been met. The certificate is based on the model that UM's Executive Board has adopted. One certificate will be issued per programme, even if the student completes several programmes.
2. The certificate that the examination has been passed also indicates:
  - a. the name of the institution;
  - b. the name of the programme;
  - c. the examination components;
  - d. (if applicable) the right to practice a specific profession which is related to the certificate;
  - e. the degree awarded;
  - f. the date on which the programme was most recently accredited or was subjected to the new programme test.
3. Students who are entitled to the issuance of a certificate may, stating reasons, ask the Board of Examiners not to do this yet (pursuant to Article 6.1(7)).
4. The certificate is signed by the chair of the Board of Examiners and the dean of the faculty.
5. The certificate includes a list of the examination components.
6. The Board of Examiners includes a diploma supplement as referred to in Article 7.11(4) of the Act with the certificate. This diploma supplement is based on the model adopted by UM's Executive Board, which is in compliance with the agreed European standard format.
7. The Board of Examiners may award the 'cum laude' or 'summa cum laude' designation in accordance with the provisions in the Rules and Regulations.
8. Students who have passed more than one exam and who cannot be issued a certificate will upon request, receive a statement issued by the Board of Examiners which at least indicates the exams which they passed.

#### **Article 6.4 Grade point average (GPA)**

The diploma supplement referred to in Article 6.3(7) indicates the final grade point average (GPA) as specified in the Rules and Regulations, to provide a reflection of the student's academic performance.

#### **Article 6.5 Honours programme certificate**

1. If one of the honours programmes referred to in Articles 3.10 or 3.11 is successfully completed, a separate certificate indicating this will be issued in addition to the one referred to in Article 6.3. The separate certificate is based on the model that UM's Executive Board has adopted.
2. To receive this certificate, the student must, in addition to the requirements for the regular bachelor's examination, satisfy the condition that the student has not been engaged in fraud with respect to an exam or a part thereof or has not been suspended due to other misconduct.
3. The Board of Examiners decides whether the student has satisfied all the specific requirements of the honours programme and can impose additional conditions in the Rules and Regulations.

#### **Article 6.6 Right of appeal**

Within six weeks after the decision by the examiner and the Board of Examiners is announced, the student may appeal this decision to UM's Complaint Service Point.

The appeal must be signed, must include a date and the name and address of the party lodging the appeal, must indicate the grounds for the appeal and, if possible, must include a copy of the decision being appealed.

### **Section 7 Study Guidance and Advice**

**Article 7.1 Study progress administration**

The faculty records the students' individual study results and makes them available through the Student Portal/the digital learning environment.

**Article 7.2 Study guidance**

1. The faculty will provide for the introduction and study guidance for students registered for the programme, which also includes orientating them regarding possible study paths in and outside the study programme
2. The study guidance includes:
  - a. an introduction during the first week of the first semester of the first academic year;
  - b. assignment of a mentor for the first year in the bachelor's programme;
  - c. group and individual advice on possible study paths in and outside the programme, partly with a view to the professional options after the master's programme and opportunities for immediately entering the labour market after obtaining the bachelor's diploma;
  - d. group and individual advice on study skills, study planning and choices of continuing study paths;
  - e. offering referrals and help if the student experiences problems during the study;
  - f. offering referrals for a more appropriate study programme to students who deregister for the programme before 1 February of the year of initial registration;
  - g. giving a (negative) binding study advice (BSA) on the continuation of studies.

**Article 7.3 Study advice for the propaedeutic phase**

1. At the end of the first year of registration for the propaedeutic phase of the bachelor's programme, the (negative) binding study advice (BSA) is issued by the BSA Committee on behalf of the Dean to each student regarding continuation or not of the programme.
2. Subject to the provisions in the first paragraph, the BSA Committee on behalf of the Dean may issue the advice to the student as long as the student has not passed the exams related to the propaedeutic phase programme components.

**Article 7.4 Standards**

1. At the end of the first year of registration of the bachelor's programme, the student must have earned at least 45 credits of the first course year.
2. When determining the number of credits obtained as referred to in paragraph 7.4.1 all credits obtained in the 1st year are included, except those for exemptions and previous passed components with shared course codes.

**Article 7.5 Negative binding study advice (nBSA)**

1. If the advice referred to in Article 7.3 is negative, the advice also entails a rejection for the bachelor's programme.
2. The rejection referred to in paragraph 1 is binding and means that the student cannot register for the bachelor's programme for the next 6 academic years.
3. The nBSA is issued to a student who was registered for the full-time programme at any time during the first academic year and who obtained less than 45 credits at the end of the academic year concerned.
4. Students who apply to deregister before 1 February of the first year of registration will not be issued with a study advice as referred to in Article 7.3.1. If a student re-registers in a subsequent academic year, the advice referred to in Article 7.3.1 will be issued in the next academic year

based on the credits obtained in that academic year and in accordance with the regulations applicable to that year.

5. Before the nBSA is issued, the student will be given the opportunity to be heard by the BSA Committee.

#### **Article 7.6 Procedure**

1. No later than in the month of March of the first academic year of the programme, a student who has earned less than 24 credits at that time is given a written warning.
2. The warning indicates the period within which the study results must be improved.
3. In the month of August of the first academic year, students meriting negative binding study advice are given written notice that the BSA Committee intends to issue this advice to them.
4. Before the nBSA is issued, the student will be given the opportunity to be heard. The student will be informed of this in the notice referred to in paragraph 3. The hearings will take place in mid-August. A minimum of two members of the BSA Committee will attend the hearing.
5. The study adviser is informed which students merit negative binding study advice. The study adviser may, upon request or otherwise, make a recommendation to the BSA Committee.
6. After the student has been heard, the BSA Committee will determine whether to issue the nBSA to the student.
7. The student receives written notice of the nBSA decision by 31 August at the latest.
8. The written notice is signed by the Chair of the BSA Committee.
9. An appeal against the nBSA decision may be lodged with UM's Complaint Service Point within six weeks of the date on which the decision was announced.

#### **Article 7.7 Personal circumstances**

1. In issuing the study advice, the BSA Committee takes the personal circumstances referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article into account.
2. Personal circumstances which may be considered include:
  - a. Illness on the part of the student concerned;
  - b. physical, sensory or other impairments which the student concerned has;
  - c. pregnancy on the part of the student concerned;
  - d. special family circumstances;
  - e. administrative activities as referred to in Article 2.1(1) under (e), (f) and (g) of the Implementation Decree for the Act 2008 [Uitvoeringsbesluit WHW 2008].
  - f. participation in top-level sport;
  - g. circumstances other than those referred to in subparagraphs a. to f. which, if they were not to be honoured by the faculty board, would result in excessive unfairness.

To ensure that the student receives the best possible support, he/she must notify the study adviser of the personal circumstances as soon as possible and apply for facilities for disabilities through the disability office as soon as possible.

#### **Article 7.7b**

1. If it is impossible to issue advice on the student's suitability for the programme due to personal circumstances that occurred in the first year, contrary to Article 7.5 this advice may be postponed to a later moment during the propaedeutic phase. An adapted standard may be used for the student in question.
2. If the advice is postponed, a BSA will be issued by the end of the following year of registration in the programme. The postponed advice will be positive if the (adapted) BSA standard is met. The student will receive a negative BSA if he/she has not achieved the (adapted) BSA standard.

3. At the student's request, the BSA Committee will take personal circumstances into account when deciding to issue a BSA. This decision will also be based on the student's study behaviour, agreements and/or study plan made with the study adviser, the time at which the personal circumstances were reported and the study results achieved at the end of the first year of study.

#### **Article 7.8 Hardship clause**

In exceptional cases in which application of the study advice rules would lead to unreasonable treatment or serious unfairness, the faculty board can deviate from the stated regulations in the student's favour.

### **Section 8 Transitional and Final Provisions**

#### **Article 8.1 Amendments**

1. Amendments to these regulations may be adopted in a separate decision by the Faculty Board in consultation with the Board of Examiners, after a recommendation and consent from the Educational Programme Committee and after consent from or consultation with the Faculty Council.
2. An amendment in these regulations will not pertain to the current academic year, unless the interests of the students will not reasonably be harmed as a result.
3. In addition, amendments may not affect, to the students' detriment, a decision regarding a student which has been taken by the Board of Examiners pursuant to these regulations.

#### **Article 8.2 Notice**

1. The faculty board ensures that proper notice is given of these regulations, the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Examiners, and any changes to these documents, by, for example, placing such notice on the faculty website and/or the Student Portal/the digital learning environment.
2. Any interested party may obtain a copy of the documents referred to in the first paragraph from the Student Affairs office.

#### **Article 8.2a Evaluation**

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

#### **Article 8.3 Unforeseen cases/safety net scheme**

1. In cases not covered or not clearly covered by these regulations, decisions are taken by or on behalf of the Faculty Board, after it has consulted with the Board of Examiners.
2. In individual cases in which application of the Education and Examination Regulations, except for the study advice rules, would lead to manifestly unreasonable results, the Board of Examiners can deviate from the stated regulations in the student's favour.

#### **Article 8.4 Effective date**

This Regulation will come into force on 1 September 2022 and will apply for the academic year 2022/2023.

Adopted by the faculty board on May 31, 2022.

## **Appendix 1    Content of the programme**

1.        The programme includes the following components with the stated study load:

### Course year 1:

BLOCK 1.1	COURSE	ECTS
	Introduction to Data Science & Artificial Intelligence	4
	Introduction to Computer Science 1	4
	Discrete Mathematics	4
	Project 1-1	
BLOCK 1.2	COURSE	ECTS
	Computational and Cognitive Neuroscience	4
	Introduction to Computer Science 2	4
	Calculus	4
	Project 1-1	
BLOCK 1.3	COURSE	ECTS
	Project 1-1	6
BLOCK 1.4	COURSE	ECTS
	Linear Algebra	4
	Data Structures and Algorithms	4
	ICT and Knowledge Management	4
	Project 1-2	
BLOCK 1.5	COURSE	ECTS
	Numerical Mathematics	4
	Software Engineering	4
	Logic	4
	Project 1-2	
BLOCK 1.6	COURSE	ECTS
	Project 1-2	6

### Course year 2:

BLOCK 2.1	COURSE	ECTS
	Databases	4
	Graph Theory	4
	Probability and Statistics	4
	Project 2-1	

BLOCK 2.2	COURSE	ECTS
	Reasoning Techniques	4
	Machine Learning	4
	Simulation and Statistical Analysis	4
	Project 2-1	
BLOCK 2.3	COURSE	ECTS
	Project 2-1	6
BLOCK 2.4	COURSE	ECTS
	Human Computer Interaction and Affective Computing	4
	Theoretical Computer Science	4
	Mathematical Modelling	4
	Project 2-2	
BLOCK 2.5	COURSE	ECTS
	Natural Language Processing*	4
	Introduction to Image & Video Processing*	4
	Philosophy & Artificial Intelligence	4
	Linear Programming	4
	Project 2-2	
BLOCK 2.6	COURSE	ECTS
	Project 2-2	6

*\*Electives (Second year students choose 1 out of 2 and may not register for a second one until they are in year 3).*

### Course year 3:

BLOCK 3.1	COURSE	ECTS
	Recommender Systems*	4
	Digital Society*	4
	Game Theory*	4
	Semantic Web*	4
	Robotics and Embedded Systems *	4
	Computer Security*	4
	Project 3-1	
BLOCK 3.2	COURSE	ECTS
	Large Scale IT and Cloud Computing*	4
	Logic for Artificial Intelligence*	4



	Software & Systems Verification*	4
	Parallel Programming*	4
	Introduction to Bio-Informatics*	4
	Quantum Computing*	4
	Project 3-1	
BLOCK 3.3	COURSE	ECTS
	Project 3-1	6
BLOCK 3.4	COURSE	ECTS
	Data Analysis	4
	Operations Research Case Studies	4
	Intelligent Systems	4
BLOCK 3.4 - 3.6	COURSE	ECTS
	Bachelor Thesis	18

*\*Electives (Third year students choose 3 elective courses in each block (3.1 and 3.2)).*

*In case students have passed both electives of block 2.5, either the course Introduction to Image & Video Processing or Natural Language Processing can replace 1 of the third year electives*

- After obtaining permission from the Board of Examiners, in blocks 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3, students can also choose to (1) study abroad for a semester, (2) take elective courses at other UM bachelor programmes of at most 18 ECTS (3) take the minor Entrepreneurship or (4) take the educational minor. These options cannot be combined and cannot be taken extracurricular unless stated otherwise.

## **Appendix 2 Components with limited capacity (see Article 4.5)**

Component	Faculty	Number of participants	Offered in semester
2.1-3.6	FSE/ DACS	t.b.a. – KE@Work	Year 2 and 3
2.1-2.6	FSE/ DACS	t.b.a. – MaRBL 2.0	Year 2
2.4-2.5	FSE/ DACS	t.b.a. – Elective courses within the programme	Semester 2 of year 2
3.1-3.3	FSE/ DACS	t.b.a. – Exchange programme	Semester 1 of year 3
3.1-3.2	FSE/ DACS	t.b.a. – Elective courses within the programme	Semester 1 of year 3
3.1-3.3	SBE	t.b.a. – Minor Entrepreneurship	Semester 1 of year 3
3.1-3.6	FHML	t.b.a. – Educational Minor	Year 3

## **Appendix 3 Equivalent pre-university education**

A student that holds a non-Dutch diploma that is equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma is admissible to the bachelor programme in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence in the following cases

- Belgian diplomas: ASO.

- German diplomas: Abiturzeugnis or an equivalent pre-university high-school diploma with a sufficient amount of Math education.
- Other countries: A pre-university high-school diploma equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma with a sufficient amount of math education (see list on the programme's website).

If a student's diploma is not included in the list on the programme's website, it must be evaluated first.

#### **Appendix 4 Regulations for exchange programmes to study abroad**

1. Components attained in connection with an exchange programme adopted by the faculty board may be incorporated into the examination for the programme for which the student is registered.
2. In principle, a student pursuing part of his/her studies in a foreign country does this as part of the DACS' exchange programme at one of its exchange partners.
3. Studies in connection with the exchange programme constitute part of the studies at UM.
4. The certificate may not be issued until the exchange programme has been completed and the results in the foreign country have been incorporated. The results will be taken into account for classification on the same basis as the results attained in the faculty.
5. In connection with the requirements regarding the level and content of the examination for the programme concerned, several conditions apply to incorporation. The Board of Examiners assesses whether a component may be incorporated into the examination. Incorporation is only possible with the Board of Examiners' permission. The following conditions must be satisfied:
  - a. the component is academic in nature;
  - b. in terms of content, the component does not overlap with other examination components (Appendix 1 of the Education and Examination Regulations for Bachelor's Programmes);
  - c. the component was attained in connection with an exchange programme, except for the situation described below;
  - d. the student requested written permission for incorporation beforehand, in principle, by submitting a request with appendices to the Student Affairs Office, which forwarded the information to the Board of Examiners;
  - e. the student will submit additional information to the Board of Examiners upon request.
6. The following rules apply to incorporation by the Board of Examiners of results attained in foreign countries:
  - a. results must be provided to the Board of Examiners through clear, original written notices by the university concerned. In addition to personal information about the student and information about the university, these notices should preferably include the following information: subject code and name; subject level; subject study load; and exam date and result;
  - b. incorporation will only be possible if there has been a sufficient assessment. A mere statement that the subject was 'taken' or words to that effect will not be enough.  
A result which constitutes a pass in the country concerned will also be considered a pass here, and a fail in a foreign country will also be considered a fail here;
  - c. the study load conferred by the foreign university will be followed here without adjustment. If, for example, 5 ECTS are conferred by the university concerned for the subject, the subject will also count for 5 ECTS at the faculty, regardless of how difficult or easy the subject was for the student.
  - d. if the study load in the foreign country is not expressed in ECTS units but in other units, the Board of Examiners will convert the study load into ECTS units. The conversion will be based on the study load for a full year of study or a full programme in relation to a study load of 60 ECTS for a year at UM or 180 ECTS for a three-year bachelor's programme.
7. Study delay caused by the study abroad is the responsibility of the student.

8. Insofar as the Education and Examination Regulations and this appendix do not address matters relating to incorporation of components attained elsewhere, the Board of Examiners will decide on the matter.

## **Appendix 5    Accountability for the language of instruction**

The choice for the language of instruction of the programme is in line with the UM Code of Conduct on language in accordance with the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (WHW) art. 7.2.

Because of the specific educational nature and profile of the programme, teaching and examinations are conducted in English. This guarantees the quality of education, because:

- The content of the programme has an international orientation and focus. Language of main course materials (handbooks, papers, tools) discussing or supporting the latest advances in Data Science or Artificial Intelligence are in English.
- The academic community is internationally oriented and the staff is international. Project-Centred Learning implements the international classroom concept, which requires a common international language. Students participate in international collaboration by exchange programmes to study abroad, or conduct their thesis at companies / institutes where English is the main language. There is a staff exchange with RWTH Aachen, such that the courses on Parallel Programming, Large Scale IT, Cloud Computing, and Computer Security in the programme are coordinated by RWTH Aachen.
- The labour market demand is internationally oriented (English speaking). Alumni typically end up in jobs at companies / institutes where English is the main language.
- The student intake and current population is internationally diverse and English is the common language (27% Dutch; 73% non-Dutch in 2021-2022).