



university of
 groningen

Faculty of Law

Admission Regulation English-taught programmes Faculty of Law



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**The Teaching and Examination Regulations set out the specific rights and obligations that apply to each degree programme taught at the University of Groningen, for both the students and the degree programme.
The University-wide section of the Student Charter sets out the rights and obligations that apply to all students.**

Section 1 General provisions

Article 1.1 – Applicability

This Regulation applies to the admission to the English-taught programmes of the Faculty of Law. The definitions of the Teaching and Examination Regulations are equally applicable to this Regulation.

Article 1.2 – Admission decisions

1. The Faculty Board of the Faculty of Law decides with regard to admission to her programmes.
2. The Faculty Board has mandated the admission to the English-taught programmes to the Admissions Board for the English-taught programmes, as appointed by the Faculty Board.
3. The members of the Admissions Board are appointed for a period of two years and can be re-appointed.

Article 1.3 – Admissions Board

1. The Admissions Board for the English-taught bachelor's degree programme, as arranged for in section 2, and the English-taught master's degree programmes, as arranged for in section 3 consists of seven members of the academic staff and, the coordinator of the International Office, one of whom functions as the chairperson. Each member has one deputy. A study adviser for the degree programme (or an equivalent member of Faculty staff) will be the official secretary.
2. The Admissions Board for the English-taught research master's degree programme Legal Research, as arranged for in section 4, consists of the following members:
 - the Director of the Graduate School of Law (chair);
 - the Director of Education (member);
 - a lecturer teaching in the programme (member);
 - a lecturer of the cooperation-partners (advising member);
 - the Education Coordinator of the Research Master (advising member).The latter is also will be the official secretary.
3. The Faculty Board is responsible for appointing members.

Article 1.4 – Language requirement for foreign certificates

Students who have been admitted to a degree programme on the basis of a foreign certificate or degree may be required by the Board of Examiners – before registration – to pass an English language test to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Board.

Section 2 The bachelor's degree programme International and European Law

Article 2.1 – Admission to the programme

1. In conformity with article 2.1 Teaching and Examination Regulations bachelor's degree programme International and European Law, a VWO diploma (with any profile) grants admission to the degree programme.
2. Students without a VWO certificate are not automatically admitted to the degree programme.
3. Notwithstanding article 2.1.2, student with an HBO propaedeuse International and European Law from the 'Haagse Hogeschool' are also granted admission to the bachelor's degree programme International and European Law.
4. All students holding degrees as mentioned in article 2.1.1, 2.1.3 and students who hold degrees as mentioned in article 2.1.2 which are deemed comparable to a VWO degree by the Admissions Board are held to participate in matching activities in order to be admitted to the first year of the bachelor's degree programme. Not participating in such activities blocks registration for the first year of the bachelor's degree programme International and European Law.
5. An exception for the bachelor's degree programme International and European Law to what is determined in Article 2.1.2 is made for students who have successfully completed the full first year of a degree programme at a research university.

Article 2.2 – Language requirement for admission to the bachelor's degree programme International and European Law

The requirement of a sufficient command of English can be met by presenting one of the following:

- internet-based TOEFL score of at least 100;
- IELTS score of at least 7.0;
- Cambridge C1 Advanced ;
- Cambridge C2 Proficiency .

All components of these tests must be passed.

Article 2.3 – Matching

1. The matching activities for the bachelor's degree programme International and European Law consist of the participation in the online LLB matching class, including completion of the online matching class assessment.
2. The results of the online matching class assessment as mentioned in article 2.3.1 lead to a green (positive) or orange (reconsideration) study advice for the student.

3. Not participating in the activities mentioned in article 2.3.1 will lead to a blockade of the registration for the bachelor's degree programme International and European Law.
4. If the matching obligation has been fulfilled, the given study advice mentioned in article 2.3.2 will be valid for the next two consecutive academic years.

Article 2.4 – Criteria for admission to the second and third year

1. Students who have passed the full first year of the bachelor's degree programme are admissible to the second year of the programme.
2. In deviation of article 2.4.1 students who have passed a minimum of 45 ECTS of the first-year courses and/or who have been granted a positive study advice by the Binding Study Advice Committee are conditionally admissible.
3. Admission to the second- and third-year courses as discussed in articles 2.4.1 and 2.4.2 is granted automatically.

Article 2.5 – Intake date and application dates

1. There is one intake date per academic year, namely 1 September of each year.
2. The provisions of this article are also applicable to students who are re-registering for the same programme.
3. In addition to this intake date, there are several application dates on which registration may take place upon the approval of the Admissions Board. These application dates are: 1 November, 1 February, and 1 April. A student who applies after the intake date needs to report to the study adviser.
4. The Admissions Board only gives permission for admission as mentioned in article 2.5.2 if the following three conditions are met:
 - the student has had a previous registration in the programme the student is applying for admission to;
 - the student has, prior to the study break, discussed the student's study plan with the study adviser;
 - the moment of deregistration and re-registration should be a minimum of two blocks.
5. A request for admission after 1 September may be submitted to the Admissions Board by email: LLB@rug.nl. A decision regarding this application will be taken within 6 weeks.

Section 3 The English-taught master programmes Energy and Climate Law, European Law in a Global Context (including its track Technology Law and Innovation), Global Criminal Law, International Commercial Law and Public International Law (including its tracks Health and Technology Law and International Human Rights Law)

Article 3.1 – Entry requirements

1. Holders of a certificate from the Bachelor's degree programme in International and European Law and of the track 'Internationaal en Europees Recht' within the Bachelor's degree programme in 'Rechtsgeleerdheid' of the University of Groningen will be admitted to the degree programme. For the Technology Law and Innovation track within the LLM European Law in a Global Context, direct admission is only possible for students who have taken the Technology Law track in the English-taught Bachelor's degree programme in International and European Law.
In addition, holders of a certificate from the Bachelor's degree programme in the track 'IT-Recht' within the Bachelor's degree programme in 'Rechtsgeleerdheid' of the University of Groningen will be admitted to the degree programme tracks Technology Law and Innovation and Health and Technology Law, provided they meet the language requirement as set in 3.2.
2. Students with a Dutch or foreign certificate of higher education in Law that indicates that they have knowledge, understanding and skills at the level of a university Bachelor's degree and who can demonstrate the following specific knowledge, understanding and skills will be admitted to the degree programme:
 - a. a thorough basic knowledge of the field of law covered by the degree programme to the level of a Bachelor degree.
 - b. a GPA (Grade-point Average of Bachelor degree) of 7/10, 70/100, 3.5/5, 2.75/4 or the equivalent, in level at least the equivalent of a second-class honours degree within the British educational system.
 - c. Specific background knowledge in the field of the programme, more specifically:
 - for Energy and Climate Law: basic knowledge of European law and elementary knowledge of public international law
 - for European Law in a Global Context: basic knowledge of European law;
 - for Global Criminal Law: basic knowledge of criminal law and elementary knowledge of public international law;
 - for Health and Technology Law: basic knowledge of public international law, on a similar level as the University of Groningen bachelor course Public International Law;
 - for International Commercial Law: basic knowledge of private law and elementary knowledge of European and public international law;
 - for International Human Rights Law: knowledge of public international law, on a similar level as the University of Groningen bachelor course Public International Law, including some elementary human rights law;
 - for Public International Law: basic knowledge of public international law, on a similar level as the University of Groningen bachelor course Public International Law.
 - for Technology Law and Innovation: proven knowledge in the areas of: data protection, intellectual property law and IT in the context of law.

3. Students who satisfy the requirements listed in Articles 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 will be selected on the basis of an assessment of the following additional requirements:
 - a. motivation and talent
 - b. level of relevant knowledge of and skills in the methods and techniques used in the relevant field
 - c. general academic level of thinking and working
 - d. proficiency in the language(s) used in the programme (further arranged for in Article 3.3).
4. Holders of a non-legal Bachelor's degree programme (research university level) can, provided they successfully complete a Pre-Master's programme set by the Faculty Board, be admitted to one of the Master's degree programmes mentioned in Article 1.1 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations LLM programmes.
5. Holders of a Law Bachelor's degree from a University of Applied Science (HBO) or equivalent can, provided they successfully complete a Pre-Master's programme set by or behalf of the Faculty Board, be admitted to one of the Master's degree programmes mentioned in Article 1.1 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations LLM programmes.
6. Holders of a Bachelor's degree from the University College Groningen (UCG) can be admitted to the track Governance and Law in Digital Society within the Master's degree programme Law and Public Administration, provided they have completed the Major Social Sciences, specialisation International Relations and International, in which they have successfully completed the following courses:
 - Fundamentals of Law (5 ECTS);
 - European Law (5 ECTS);
 - Policy and Principles of Private Law (5 ECTS);
 - Criminal Law (5 ECTS);
 - Capstone PPIL: the age of human rights (5 ECTS); en
 - International Law (5 ECTS).

In addition, they also have to successfully completed the course Law and Legal Skills (including IT for Lawyers; 10 ECTS) and per programme at least one of the following courses:

- LLM in Energy and Climate Law: Law of the European Union (10 ECTS) or Public International Law (10 ECTS);
- LLM in European Law in a Global Context: Law of the European Union (10 ECTS); for its track Technology Law and Innovation: Law of the European Union (10 ECTS), Data Protection and Human Rights (10 ECTS), Competition Law in the Digital Market (5 ECTS), European and International IP Law (5 ECTS), IT in the context of Law (5 ECTS), and Regulating Cybercrime (5 ECTS);
- LLM in Global Criminal Law: Public International Law (10 ECTS), Law of the European Union (10 ECTS) or Comparative Constitutional Law (10 ECTS);
- LLM in International Commercial Law: Law of the European Union (10 ECTS);
- LLM in Public International Law, including its tracks Health and Technology Law and International Human Rights Law: Public International Law (10 ECTS), Law of the European Union (10 ECTS) or Comparative Constitutional Law (10 ECTS).

7. Bearing in mind the admissions procedure for the degree programme within the meaning of Article 3.2.8, the Admissions Board shall assess the knowledge and skills of the candidate. In addition to the written proofs of degree programme(s) already followed, the Board may ask experts from within or outside the university to test certain areas of knowledge and skills.
8. Only in highly exceptional cases the Admissions Board can decide to take additional factors into consideration for admission if one of the admission requirements is not fully met.
9. Admission under the terms of Article 3.2.1 grants, in combination with a positive result of the admissions assessment as set out in Article 3.2.2 and 3.1.3 or based on successful completion of the Pre-Master's programmes mentioned in Article 3.2.4 3.2.5 and 3.2.6, the right to register for the degree programme.

Article 3.2 – Language requirements for foreign certificates English-taught master programmes

The English language proficiency requirement can be met by passing an internet based TOEFL score of 100; or an IELTS score of at least 7.0. All separate sections of both tests must be sufficient (21 for all sections in the TOEFL test but 23 for the writing section; 6.0 for all sections in the IELTS test, but 6.5 for the writing section). A Cambridge C2 Proficiency or a Cambridge C1 Advanced is also accepted. The internet based TOEFL score should hold a 'spoken' part. The IELTS should be an academic IELTS test. The entry level for the LLM programmes is C1-level in the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

Article 3.3 – Admission to the Pre-Master's programme

1. Admission to the Pre-Master's programmes is limited to the diplomas mentioned in Article 2.1.6 and 2.1.7. The specific admission requirements per Master's degree programme are available in the Articles 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6 and 8.7 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations English-taught bachelor programme.
2. The Admissions Board has the power to take decisions on behalf of the Faculty Board in matters concerning admission to the Pre-Master's degree programmes.

Article 3.4 – Admission assessment: times

1. Assessment of admissions may take place throughout the entire year.
2. Applications for admission to one of the degree programmes and a specific track, accompanied by all relevant and required documents, must be submitted to the Admissions Board before 1 May. Candidates who wish to be considered for one of the scholarships offered by the relevant organisations must submit their application at least one month before the closing date for scholarship applications set by those organisations.

3. Only in exceptional cases will the Admissions Board consider an application submitted after the date stated in Article 3.4.2.
4. The Admissions Board will make its decision as quickly as possible, though at the very latest 6 weeks after receipt of all the documents. Admission will be on condition that the candidate has satisfied the requirements set out in Article 3.1 concerning knowledge and skills by the starting date of the degree programme at the latest, supported by certificates from the degree programmes followed.
The written admission statement will include information for the student about the possibility of an appeal to the Board of Appeal for Examinations.

Section 4 The English-taught Research Master Legal Research

Article 4.1 – Admissibility, selection and admission to the programme

1. The student who has gone through the admission and selection procedure as referred to in Articles 4.2 and 4.3 and has been deemed admissible and selected by the Admissions Board shall be admitted to the Research Master’s programme.
2. In order to be admitted to the Master’s degree programme in Legal Research, admissibility to the programme is first determined in accordance with Article 4.2. If admissibility is determined, with or without conditions, the Admissions Board shall assess, based on the selection requirements of the programme in accordance with Article 4.3, whether a student is selected for the programme. If both assessments are positive, a student is admitted to the programme.
3. The admission and selection refer to the master’s degree in Legal Research starting the academic year 2024/2025.

Article 4.2 – Admissibility to the programme

1. A student who holds a bachelor’s degree in Law from a research university is admissible to the programme.
2. A student who has the prospect of obtaining a bachelor’s degree from a research university before the actual commencement of the programme may apply to the programme. In addition to successful selection, the condition for actual admission is that this degree certificate must have been completed by the time the programme starts.
3. At the request of the Admissions Board, the Faculty Board may, under certain conditions, admit a student who does not hold a bachelor’s degree in Law from a research university to the programme. One of the conditions may be that the student has successfully completed a preparatory programme.

Article 4.3 – Selection criteria

1. A student who wishes to be admitted must, after their eligibility has been determined in accordance with Article 4.2, go through a selection procedure. The selection is made on the basis of the following criteria:
 - Demonstrable sufficient knowledge of the English language;
 - Possession of sufficient knowledge, insight and skills for the programme to be a legal researcher;
 - Talent for pursuing the programme.
2. The selection procedure and the documents to be submitted are regulated in article 4.4.

Article 4.4 – Admissions procedure

1. A student can request admission by submitting the following documents:
 - a completed application form;
 - a curriculum vitae;
 - an overview of the study results obtained up to that point in their current bachelor's degree programme and/or of any other programme at a research university;
 - a letter in which the student explains why the student wants to participate in this degree programme, based on their own expectations, interests and ambitions;
 - (when requested) written results of previously conducted research, e.g., academic articles;
 - (when requested) other documents which, according to the student, could contribute to a proper image of his/her suitability for participation in the programme.
2. The Admissions Board accepts references of experts in the field who attest in written form and provide the Admissions Board with a useful and reliable picture of the suitability of the student with regard to participation in the programme.
3. The Admissions Board determines, based on the submitted written material, if a student will be invited for an interview with the Admissions Board. If students are not invited for an interview, they will be informed by the Admissions Board including the motivation of that decision. The Admissions Board can request additional written material (thesis, paper, assignment).
4. For students living abroad, the admissions interview can be preceded by a telephone conversation with one of the members of the Admissions Board. This conversation serves as an advice to the student about the usefulness of travelling to Groningen for the admissions interview.
5. The admissions decision will be sent to students by the 1st of July at the latest.
6. Students can lodge an appeal against decisions of the Admissions Board with the Central Portal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights (CLRS).

Article 4.5 – Language requirements for foreign certificates

1. Students who have been admitted to a degree programme may be required by the Admissions Board– before registration – to pass an English language test, to be administered by an agency stipulated by the Board.
2. The English language proficiency requirement can be met by passing an internet based TOEFL score of 100; or an IELTS score of at least 7.0. All separate sections of both tests must be sufficient (a score of 21 for all sections in the TOEFL test but a score of 23 for the writing section; a score of 6.0 for all sections in the IELTS test, but a score 6.5 for the writing section). A Cambridge C2 Proficiency or a Cambridge C1 Advanced is also accepted. The internet based TOEFL score should hold a ‘spoken’ part. The IELTS should be an academic IELTS test. The entry level for the LLM programmes is C1-level in the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

Article 4.6 – Admission assessment: times

Admission to the Master’s degree programme Legal Research is subject to one intake moment per academic year: 1 September. Interested parties must apply before 1 April (English-taught track) or 1 May (Dutch-taught track) in accordance with the requirements in Article 4.4.

Section 5 Deviations and final provisions

Article 5.1 – Hardship clause

In extraordinary cases of a pressing nature, the Admissions Board can derogate, in favour of a student, from what is determined in these Admission Regulations, with the exception of article 2.2.2.

Article 5.2 – Publication

1. The Faculty Board will duly publish this Regulation and any amendments to this document.
2. Copies of this Admission Regulation are available from the Faculty Office. This document can also be found on the Faculty website via the Law Knowledgebase.

Article 5.3 – Date of commencement

This Regulation will take effect on 1 September 2024.

This Regulation was decreed by the Board of the Faculty of Law on 23 April 2024.