

## Education and Examination Regulations 2024-2025

### Degree Programme / Programme: Philosophy / Applied Ethics

#### Clause 2.1 – Requirements for admission to the programme

1. Consideration for admission to the degree programme Philosophy requires a Dutch or foreign diploma that demonstrates knowledge, understanding and skills at the level of a university Bachelor's degree and that shows its holder has the following specific knowledge, understanding, and skills:
  - knowledge, at an advanced undergraduate level, of general theories in the fields of moral and political philosophy and applied ethics. This involves successful participation in several courses in ethics and political philosophy (at least 30 EC), for example a minor;
  - awareness and understanding of contemporary public and professional ethical issues in applied settings;
  - skills pertaining to:
    - analysing philosophical and ethical texts;
    - independently writing philosophical papers;
    - collaborating with students from differing interdisciplinary backgrounds;
    - expressing oneself effectively and cogently in written and spoken English.
2. The degree programme Philosophy consists of one programme: Applied Ethics. The admission requirements for this programme are described in paragraph 1.
3. Students will be selected on the basis of an assessment of the following core competencies:
  - motivation and talent (also on the basis of GPA and student progress monitoring);
  - level of required knowledge and the mastery of methods and techniques used in the subject area;
  - general high level of professional and intellectual ability;
  - command of the language(s) used in the programme.

This information is used to consider whether the student concerned is in a position to successfully complete the Master's programme within the nominal time period.

#### Clause 3.1 – Aim of the programme

1. The programme aims to provide students with specialized knowledge, insight and skills in the field of applied ethics and practical philosophy in order to seek justifiable and feasible approaches to ethical and societal issues in a national and global context through a balanced understanding of the ethical, political and empirical aspects of these issues.

After successful participation in this study programme, Masters of Arts in Applied Ethics will have developed the analytic, reflective, and communicative competences that are necessary for starting a career as a professional confronted with ethical issues in their chosen professional domain. Excellent students will also develop the basic knowledge and skills for starting a PhD study in (applied) ethics.

2. Exit qualifications:

##### *Knowledge and insight*

The graduates:

- have profound knowledge of and insight into general theories in the field of applied ethics, and moral and political philosophy;
- have thorough knowledge of a specialism within the study programme, or thorough knowledge at the interface of the study programme and another field;
- have knowledge of methods and tools in the field of applied ethics;
- have insight in central methodological/meta-theoretical aspects of theoretical approaches in applied ethics.

*Application of knowledge and insight*

The graduates:

- are able to employ ethical theories to identify, analyse and understand ethical issues and to find justifiable approaches to these issues in ways that are feasible and meet academic standards;
- are able to utilize the methods and tools in applied ethics in order to provide ethical expertise in different contexts (e.g. facilitate moral deliberation in specific practices, develop & formulate policy recommendations, contribute to public debates etc.);
- are able to clarify ethical, societal and political dimensions of developments and debates in one or two chosen domains of specialization, such as with regard to the life sciences; business and the economy; sustainability; politics and public sector
- are capable to draft a fruitful outline for a scientific (research) project in (applied) ethics.

*Reflection*

The graduates:

- are able to develop their own position in discussions within applied ethics regarding ethical theories, methods, tools and expertise;
- are able to critically reflect on the role ethicists play in different academic, professional and public contexts.

*Communication*

The graduates:

- are able to conduct research in applied ethics and practical philosophy and to report on it in a manner that meets the general standards of the discipline;
- are able to communicate conclusions (written and orally), as well as the underlying knowledge, grounds and considerations, to an audience composed of specialists or non-specialists;
- are able to listen and identify & clarify & reformulate moral problems confronted by professionals and in this way to support and assist professionals;
- are able to organize fruitful and constructive ethical deliberation in institutional and professional contexts;
- are able to structure, evaluate and moderate public debates on ethical issues.

*Learning skills*

The graduates:

- are able to apply knowledge and insight in a way that demonstrates a professional approach and attitude to their work or profession;
- are able to maintain a socially engaged yet at the same time independent and critical perspective on ethical issues, reasoning, and possible solutions, choices and policies;
- are able to collaborate with professionals from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds in a joint project;
- are able to meet the standards of scientific and professional integrity;
- are capable to critically reflect on their competencies and expertise and are motivated to continually improve knowledge and skills in order to meet the changing demands in the field of applied ethics ('lifelong learners').

**Clause 3.2 – Attendance mode**

The programme *Applied Ethics* is taught both fulltime and part-time.

**Clause 3.3 – Language in which the programme is taught**

The programme is taught in English: 100% of the courses for the degree programme is taught in English. Appendix 3 provides the reasoning behind the programme's language policy.

**Clause 3.6.1 Components of the study programme**

Core curriculum	Courses	Required	20 EC
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Electives	Courses, Internship	Constrained choice	25 EC
Research Project	Thesis	Required	15 EC

**Clause 4.6 – Evaluation of quality of the education**

1. The Director of Education is responsible for monitoring the quality of the courses and teaching. To this end the Director of Education will ensure that quality assurance involves evaluating courses and an evaluation at curriculum level. In ensuring the quality of courses the Director of Education will draw on the advice and suggestions for improvement of the curriculum committees on promoting and safeguarding the quality of the course.
2. The courses and teaching in the degree programme will be evaluated using one or more of the following means:
  - a. course evaluation: at the end of the course, the participating students are asked to evaluate the course through the digital survey system;
  - b. evaluation at curriculum level: through curriculum dialogues (in Dutch *onderwijsgesprekken*)
  - c. by means of the National Student Survey (*Nationale Studenten Enquête – NSE*) the students will be asked for their opinion on all aspects of the courses, teaching and the facilities.
3. Students who have participated in courses offered by the Faculty of Humanities will be informed of the results of the course evaluations.

## Appendix 1 – Composition degree programme

*Curriculum Programme: Philosophy / Applied Ethics*

### Core curriculum (20 EC)

Course code	Course title	EC	Block
AEMV16001	Ethics of Institutions	5	1
AEMV16002	Ethical Theory & Moral Practice	5	1
AEMV16003	Ethics and Public Policy	5	1
AEMV16004	Methods & Tools in Practical Philosophy	5	2

### Electives (5 EC) Constrained choice

Students have to choose at least 1 of the three electives listed below.

Course code	Course title	EC	Block
AEMV16005	Medical Ethics and Philosophy of Medicine	5	2
AEMV16006	Economic Ethics	5	2
AEMV16007	Sustainable World: Humans, Animals and Nature	5	2

### Electives (20 EC)

Students can choose the other electives or from the courses listed below. Subject to prior approval by the program coordinator and the Board of Examiners, students may also select MA-level courses from a related graduate programme at Utrecht University or another university in the Netherlands or abroad.

Course code	Course title	EC	Block
FRRMV17004	Topics in Social and Political Philosophy (uneven years)	5	1
<i>FRRMV16009</i>	<i>Topics Philosophy of Human Rights (even years)</i>	5	1
FRRMV17005	Topics in Ethical Theory (uneven years)	5	2
<i>FRRMV16013</i>	<i>Topics Moral Psychology (even years)</i>	5	2
FRRMV22002	Topics in the Ethics of Technology	5	2
AEMV16005	Medical Ethics and Philosophy of Medicine	5	2
AEMV16006	Economic Ethics	5	2
AEMV16007	Sustainable World: Humans, Animals and Nature	5	2
FRRMV16017	Digital Ethics	5	3
ECRMITT	Institutions Think Tank	5	3
AEMV17001	Tutorial I	5	3
AEMV17002	Tutorial II	5	4
AEMV22001	Internship	15	1 2 3 4
AEMV19001	Literatuurmodule	5-10	1 2 3 4

### Research Project (15 EC)

Course code	Course title	EC	Block
AEMV20001	Thesis	15	1 4

## **Appendix 2 – Transitional provisions**

There are no transitional provisions for students who started before 2022-2023. These students should contact the study advisor if they have questions about their study programme.

Students who started in the academic years 2022-2023 or 2023-2024 need to complete the education programme as described in the EER-attachment for their academic year. If certain components of the programme are not offered in the current academic year 2024-2025, the following transitional provisions will apply.

It is possible to make the transition from the exam programme of an earlier cohort to the programme of the current academic year (2024-2025). If the student chooses to do so, they must comply to all regulations of the exam programme of the current academic year and must request approval from the Board of Examiners. Please contact your study advisor if you are considering this.

The new compulsory courses are equivalent to the old courses (see below), unless stated otherwise. If a student has completed the old course, the new equivalent course can't be taken as well.

The elective courses do not require transitional provisions. If you did not pass one or more electives, you can choose from the current courses. Make sure that you choose a course that does not have a major overlap with already completed courses (see below).

**Transitional provisions for students who have started in 2021-2022 (cohort 2021) or 2022-2023 (cohort 2022) or 2023-2024 (cohort 2023) [Exam Programme PH-ETHM-20]**

### Core Curriculum (20 EC)

The core curriculum has not changed.

### Electives, constrained choice (5 EC)

The electives, constrained choice have not changed.

### Electives (20 EC)

If you still need to complete one or more electives, choose from the courses offered in the current academic year (2024-2025). Make sure that you choose a course that does not have a major overlap with already completed courses or tutorials.

### Research Project (15 EC)

There are no changes.

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### Appendix 3 (art 3.3) – Language Policy

Academic research is an international playing field, and the field of Applied Ethics is no exception. Within this international context, English is the universal choice for communication about research in this field. Moreover, a substantial part of the Master's students come in with a Bachelor diploma from outside the Netherlands, so the programme has an international classroom in which English is used for all levels of communication. Our teaching staff is not only strongly internationally oriented but also internationally trained. This setting constitutes a natural preparation for the future career of our graduates in the Netherlands or abroad, whether inside or outside of academia.

**Commented [MK1]:** In de programmeeropdracht stond dat er weer aandacht zal zijn voor het taalbeleid in de OER. Dit zal vooral om deze formulering gaan. Verder heb ik nog niets van beleid gehoord. Zodra ik meer weet, informeer ik je.

**Commented [L(2R1):** Prima zo!