

Education and Examination Regulations 2025-2026

Degree Programme / Programme: Media Studies (research) / Media, Art and Performance Studies

Clause 2.1 – Requirements for admission to the programme

1. Consideration for admission to the degree programme Media Studies (research) requires a Dutch or foreign diploma in the Humanities 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:
 - a. knowledge of basic concepts and theories in the field(s) of Media, Art and/or Performance Studies and insight into relevant methods;
 - b. understanding of theories, methods and debates in the field(s) of Media, Art and Performance Studies;
 - c. skills pertaining to academic research on, and (written and oral) communication about Media, Art and Performance;
 - d. intellectual curiosity and motivation for developing advanced research skills.
2. The degree programme Media Studies consists of one programme: Media, Art & Performance Studies. 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:
 - a. motivation and talent (also on the basis of GPA and student progress monitoring);
 - b. level of required knowledge and the mastery of research methods and techniques used in the subject area;
 - c. general academic level of knowledge and skills;
 - d. 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 specialised knowledge, insight and skills in Media, Art and Performance Studies as practiced today;
 - prepare students for a PhD programme in the field of Media, Art and Performance Studies;
 - prepare students for a career as a researcher in academic and non-academic context in the field of Media, Art and Performance Studies and related non-academic contexts.
2. The graduate:
 - has advanced knowledge of, and insight in the field of Media, Art and Performance Studies, particularly with regard to the chosen area of specialisation;
 - has thorough knowledge of a specialism within that field showing due regard for its position within the broader field of the Humanities;
 - has the academic skills to independently identify, formulate, analyse and suggest possible solutions to problems in the field of Media, Art and Performance Studies;
 - has thorough knowledge of current research methods and methodologies within Media, Art and Performance Studies, and the academic skills to critically evaluate them within their own research;
 - has the academic skills to report on their research in the field of Media, Art and Performance Studies in line with the general standards of the discipline;
 - is able to develop and apply knowledge and understanding in a way that demonstrates a knowledgeable and academically-trained approach to their work or profession;
 - is able to communicate insights and conclusions, as well as the underlying knowledge, fundamentals and considerations, to an audience composed of specialists or non-specialists.

Clause 3.2 – Attendance mode

The programme Media, Art and Performance is taught full-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.

3.6.1 Components of the study programme

Programme includes the following components, having the specified credit load:

Profile 1

Core Curriculum	Courses	Compulsory	45 EC
Research School	Courses	Compulsory	10 EC
Electives	Courses	Compulsory choice	35 EC
Research Project	Thesis	Compulsory	30 EC

Profile 2 (with internship)

Core Curriculum	Courses	Compulsory	45 EC
Research School	Courses	Compulsory	10 EC
Electives	Courses	Compulsory choice	20 EC
Practical Component	Internship	Choice	15 EC
Research Project	Thesis	Compulsory	30 EC

Profile 3 (with study abroad)

Core Curriculum	Courses	Compulsory	45 EC
Research School	Courses	Compulsory	5 EC
Electives	Courses	Compulsory choice	15 EC
Study abroad	Courses	Choice	25 EC
Research Project	Thesis	Compulsory	30 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: Media, Art and Performance Studies

Profile 1

Core curriculum (45 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16035	Humanities Today	5	1
MCRMV16036	State of the Art	5	1
MCRMV16037	Research Lab MAPS	5	1
MCRMV16041	Body, Mind, Method	5	2
MCRMV25001	AI Cultures	5	2
MCRMV16040	Play, Perform, Participate	5	2
MCRMV16038	Between Media, Art and Performance	5	3
MCRMV16042	Emerging and Transforming	5	4
MCRMV23001	Research Design MAPS	5	2 (year 2)

Research School (10 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16052	Research School I	5	1, 2, 3, 4
MCRMV16053	Research School II	5	1, 2, 3, 4

Electives (35 EC)

Electives A

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV25003	Screen Cultures	5	1
MCRMV16046	Corporeal Literacy	5	1
MCRMV16044	Ecologies of Curation	5	2
MCRMV25002	Street Media	5	3
MCRMV25004	Tool Criticism for Media Cultures	5	3
MCRMV16047	Histories, Archaeologies and Archives	5	4
MCRMV16048	Tutorial Media, Art & Performance I	5	1, 2, 3, 4

Electives B

Students may select as electives:

- non-compulsory modules offered by the RMA programme in Media, Art and Performance;
- modules offered by other RMA programmes within the Humanities at the Utrecht Faculty of Humanities. For these courses, students will have to apply for approval by the exam committee;
- modules from a related MA or RMA programme at another Humanities faculty in the Netherlands. For these courses, students will have to apply for approval by the exam committee.

Course name	EC	Period
Courses from Electives A, the pool of open electives or other courses offered by the (ICON) RMA programmes in the Faculty of Humanities at Utrecht University, or courses offered by other RMA programs in the Netherlands.	35	1, 2, 3, 4

Research Project (30 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16051	Thesis Media, Art and Performance	30	1, 2, 3, 4

Profile 2 (internship)

Core Curriculum (45 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16035	Humanities Today	5	1
MCRMV16036	State of the Art	5	1
MCRMV16037	Research Lab MAPS	5	1
MCRMV16041	Body, Mind, Method	5	2
MCRMV25001	AI Cultures	5	2
MCRMV16040	Play, Perform, Participate	5	2
MCRMV16038	Between Media, Art and Performance	5	3
MCRMV16042	Emerging and Transforming	5	4
MCRMV23001	Research Design MAPS	5	2 (year 2)

Research School (10 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16052	Research School I	5	1, 2, 3, 4
MCRMV16053	Research School II	5	1, 2, 3, 4

Electives (20 EC)

Students may select as electives:

- non-compulsory modules offered by the RMA programme in Media, Art and Performance;
- modules offered by other RMA programmes within the Humanities at the Utrecht Faculty of Humanities (for these courses, students will have to apply for approval by the exam committee);
- modules from a related MA or RMA programme at another Humanities faculty in the Netherlands (for these courses, students will have to apply for approval by the exam committee).

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV25003	Screen Cultures	5	1
MCRMV16046	Corporeal Literacy	5	1
MCRMV16044	Ecologies of Curation	5	2
MCRMV16045	Urban Interfaces	5	3
MCRMV25004	Tool Criticism for Media Cultures	5	3
MCRMV16047	Histories, Archaeologies and Archives	5	4
MCRMV16048	Tutorial Media, Art & Performance I	5	1, 2, 3, 4

Practical Component (15 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16050	Internship RMA Media, Art and Performance Studies	15	1, 2, 3, 4

Research Project (30 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16051	Thesis Media, Art and Performance	30	1, 2, 3, 4

Profile 3 (study abroad)

Core Curriculum (45 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16035	Humanities Today	5	1
MCRMV16036	State of the Art	5	1
MCRMV16037	Research Lab MAPS	5	1
MCRMV16041	Body, Mind, Method	5	2
MCRMV25001	AI Cultures	5	2
MCRMV16040	Play, Perform, Participate	5	2
MCRMV16038	Between Media, Art and Performance	5	3
MCRMV16042	Emerging and Transforming	5	4
MCRMV23001	Research Design MAPS	5	2 (year 2)

Research School (5 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16052	Research School I	5	1, 2, 3, 4

Electives (15 EC)

Students may select as electives:

- non-compulsory modules offered by the RMA programme in Media, Art and Performance;
- modules offered by other RMA programmes within the Humanities at the Utrecht Faculty of Humanities (for these courses, students will have to apply for approval by the exam committee);
- modules from a related MA or RMA programme at another Humanities faculty in the Netherlands (for these courses, students will have to apply for approval by the exam committee).

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV25003	Screen Cultures	5	1
MCRMV16046	Corporeal Literacy	5	1
MCRMV16044	Ecologies of Curation	5	2
MCRMV25002	Street Media	5	3
MCRMV25004	Tool Criticism for Media Cultures	5	3
MCRMV16047	Histories, Archaeologies and Archives	5	4
MCRMV16048	Tutorial Media, Art & Performance I	5	1, 2, 3, 4

Study abroad (25 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GWRMV23001	Study Abroad	25	1, 2, 3, 4

Research Project (30 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
MCRMV16051	Thesis Media, Art and Performance	30	1, 2, 3, 4

Appendix 2 – Transitional Provisions RMA Media Studies 2025-2026

There are no transitional provisions for students who started before 2021-2022. These students should contact the study advisor if they have questions about their study programme.

Students who started in the academic years 2021-2022, 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 2025-2026, the following transitional provisions will apply.

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.

Students who still need to complete one or more electives, should choose from the courses offered in 2025-2026. They should make sure to choose a course that does not have a major overlap with already completed courses. Courses with too much overlap are indicated in the tables below. If two courses are labelled equivalent, only one of them can count toward the student's study programme.

It is possible to make the transition from the exam programme of an earlier cohort to the programme of the current academic year (2025-2026). 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.

Transitional provisions for students who started in 2021-2022 (cohort 2021) or 2022-2023 (cohort 2022) [Exam Programme MS-MAPS-16]

There are no transitional provisions for students who started in 2021-2022 or 2022-2023

Transitional provisions for students who started in 2023-2024 (cohort 2023) [Exam Programme MS-MAPS-23]

There are no transitional provisions for students who started in 2023-2024

Transitional provisions for students who started in 2024-2025 (cohort 2023) [Exam Programme MS-MAPS-23]

Core curriculum

Old course	Equivalent course
MCRMV16039 Data Driven Research and Digital Tools for Media, Art and Performance Studies *	MCRMV25001 AI Cultures

*Students can still take this course in an updated form as an elective, provided they didn't take it as a compulsory course before. The updated course (elective) is MCRMV25004 Tool Criticism for Media Cultures.

Electives

Old course	Equivalent course
MCRMV16045 Urban Interfaces	MCRMV25002 Street Media

Appendix 3 (art 3.3) – Language Policy

English is the language of choice for this programme due to its international character and orientation. The field of Media, Art, and Performance Studies is globally focused, with English serving as its primary lingua franca. This programme equips students for international careers across diverse professional practices in media, art, and performance.

As a Research Master's programme, it also prepares students for academic careers within this global research domain. Therefore, developing exceptional communication and writing skills in English is a critical component of the curriculum.

Our teaching staff is highly internationally oriented, having been trained both locally and abroad, and maintaining collaborations and partnerships in various countries. Similarly, our student body consistently includes a significant proportion of international students, with many of them coming from outside the Netherlands. This diversity fosters a vibrant and enriching international learning environment. For these reasons, English is the preferred language for the RMA in Media, Art, and Performance Studies.