

Code of Conduct for Foreign Languages - Wageningen University

final version, January 2018

The Executive Board adopted this Code of Conduct for Foreign Languages in accordance with Article 7.2(c) of the Higher Education and Research Act. The Code of Conduct defines the language of instruction and the language in which assessments and examinations are to be conducted for all Bachelor's and Master's Programmes at Wageningen University.

1. Definitions

- a. For the purposes of this Code of Conduct, 'programmes' are defined as Wageningen University's Bachelor's and Master's programmes as registered in the Central Register of Higher Education Programmes (CROHO).
- b. 'Bachelor's programmes in English' are all Bachelor's programmes which the Executive Board has explicitly designated as programmes that are to be taught entirely in English. Furthermore, in prospectuses, course descriptions and promotional material, students will be clearly informed that these programmes are entirely taught in English.
- c. 'Language of instruction' is defined as the language used when providing education, e.g. during lectures, tutorials, practicals, field trips, or student presentations.
- d. 'Language of examination' is defined as the language used for the exam.

2. The language of instruction in the Programmes is either Dutch or English.

- a. The following applies to all Bachelor's programmes in Dutch:
 - i. Dutch is the language of instruction during the first year of the Bachelor's programme. The use of English study materials is allowed. If the Programme Committee considers it desirable to offer some programme-specific courses in English, or when courses are shared with international Bachelor's programmes, the language of instruction and examination may be English. The decision on the language of instruction and examination lies with the Programme Board, on advise of the Programme Committee.
In any case, first year students of Bachelor's Programme in Dutch will be allowed to formulate their answers to exam questions in Dutch.
 - ii. Although the language of instruction and examination in courses in the second year of the Bachelor's programme may be either English or Dutch, the use of English is encouraged.
 - iii. In principle, English is the language of instruction and examination during the third year of the Bachelor's programme.
- b. English is the language of instruction and examination for all Bachelor's programmes in English.
- c. English is the language of instruction and examination in the Master's programmes is English.
- d. If so requested by the Programme Committee, the Programme Board may take a different decision on the language to be used for parts of the programme, specific courses or exams because of the type of programme

and/or the expected large or small number of international students taking them.

3. The Study Handbook will indicate for each course whether the language of instruction is Dutch and/or English.
4. The information and recruitment materials about the Wageningen University programmes shall highlight the University's international character, also emphasizing the English proficiency requirements.
5. Wageningen University has low-cost facilities available for students who want to improve their proficiency in English.
6. All teaching staff at Wageningen University must be proficient in English. All lecturers are asked to test and, if necessary, improve their level of English language proficiency. During recruitment and selection of new lecturers, explicit attention will be paid to their language proficiency.
7. More detailed arrangements about the language of instruction or language of examination for each programme may be set out in the Wageningen University Education and Examination Regulations (EER), the Study Handbook, and the Rules and Guidelines for Examining Boards.
8. This Code of Conduct for Foreign Languages has been adopted by the Executive Board with the approval of the Student Council. This Code of Conduct replaces all previous Codes of Conduct for Foreign Languages.