

*Your reference**Our reference**Direct dial**Maastricht*
22.01.2021

Dear Student,

Due to Covid-19, the Faculty Board of FPN has decided to deviate from the regulations and procedure regarding the binding study advice (BSA) in the Exam and Education Regulations (EER) (see Section 7 of the 2020-2021 EER on Askpsy.nl) governing bachelor's programmes. This decision is in line with the decisions of Maastricht University and 13 other Dutch universities for the academic year 2020-2021. The Faculty Board is aware of the stressful nature of COVID-19 and how it potentially affects students' wellbeing and study progress. Nevertheless, it is important to adhere to the BSA.

For the *present academic year* (so 2020-2021) the **BSA** is adapted for the FPN bachelor's in psychology. Specifically, this academic year, the standard of 42 credits according to art 7.6 (1) EER will be **reduced to 36 credits**. However, **the additional standard that you should pass the course Methods and Techniques (M&T) or the course Statistics I at the end of year 1 of the bachelor's in psychology will remain in effect**. If, at the end of the first year of enrollment in the propaedeutic phase of the bachelor programme (year 1), you have obtained fewer than 36 credits or if you have failed Methods and Techniques (M&T) and Statistics I, you will receive a negative BSA. This means that you will no longer be able to continue the degree programme and will not be able to re-enroll in the bachelor's programme in Psychology at Maastricht University in the next four years.

In accordance with Article 7.7(1), the Faculty Board issues a warning to all first-year bachelor's students in the months January and May to highlight the importance of achieving this BSA standard.

At this stage you could have obtained 26 credits, including M&T and Statistics 1. **Please check the Student Portal to find out how many credits you have obtained so far and whether you are on schedule with your study**. If you think that the information regarding your study results is not correct, please contact us via Ask Psychology (Askpsy.nl: About FPN > Contact?). The number of credits determines which advice is applicable to you:

- If you have currently obtained fewer than 12 credits and/or have failed M&T and Statistics I, this means that you are no longer on schedule, with regard to obtaining 36 credits. You need to pay additional attention to your study progress. You could still meet the BSA standard if you either pass the course exam or the re-sit for past and/or upcoming courses/modules or if you receive an endorsement for certain modules.
- If you have currently obtained 12 or more credits including M&T and/or Statistics I, this means that you meet the interim standard. We hope that you will also meet the next interim standard and will finally meet the BSA standard at the end of this academic year.

If there are special circumstances that might have influenced your course results and the academic advisers are not yet aware of them, please report this to one of the academic advisers as soon as possible. You can make an appointment via the Service Desk of the Education Office.

Please note that the current regulations also offer, as always, the possibility to make an exception to individual students who have experienced or are experiencing difficulties. Maastricht University will continue to make every effort to help students with the problems they are experiencing as a result of the Covid-19 measures.

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We hope to have provided the information you need. If you have any questions regarding this decision, do not hesitate to contact us. If you would like to receive a Dutch version of this letter, please contact the Board of Examiners. We wish you success in completing your first year of the bachelor's programme in Psychology.

NB: If you meet the requirement of 36 credits including M&T or Statistics I at the end of the first year, please bear in mind that admission requirements apply to certain modules in the second year, in accordance with Article 4.2(1) of the 2020–2021 EER governing bachelor's programmes. You must pass Statistics I by the reference date of 15 March of the relevant academic year in order to take Statistics II. You must pass M&T as well as Statistics I by the reference date of 15 March of the relevant academic year in order to take the Research Practical.

On behalf of the Faculty Board,



Prof Dr. Harald Merckelbach
Dean of the Faculty