

General Study Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes (GStudR)

of UniDistance Suisse

This English version is a translation and is published for informational purpose only. Solely the French and German versions have legal value.



on November 27th, 2025

The Foundation Council,

- having regard to the Federal Act on Funding and Coordination of the Swiss Higher Education Sector (HFKG) of September 30th, 2011;
- having regard to the Ordinance of the University Council on the Coordination of Teaching at Swiss Universities of November 29th, 2019;
- having regard to the Law on University Education and Research of February 2nd, 2001;
- having regard to the Regulation on the Application of the Law on University Education and Research of March 27th, 2002;
- having regard to the Ordinance on University Study Programmes of June 5th, 2002;
- having regard to Art. 21, para. 8 of the Statutes of UniDistance Suisse of September 28th, 2023;
- having regard to the Organisation Regulations of UniDistance Suisse of June 23rd, 2025

decides the following:



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I. General Provisions

Art. 1 Scope

¹ These regulations apply to Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes of UniDistance Suisse, except for dual degree programmes.

² Faculties issue additional implementing provisions. These are approved by the Rectorate.

Art. 2 Distance Learning

All study programmes at UniDistance Suisse are university distance-learning courses. They are based on a blended-learning approach combining asynchronous (Art. 13 of these regulations) and synchronous teaching and learning activities (Art. 14 of these regulations).

Art. 3 Channels

Teaching and learning activities shall in principle take place using the communication systems and applications provided by UniDistance Suisse.

Art. 4 Definitions

The following terms mean:

- a. Rectorate: The executive body responsible for the operational management of UniDistance Suisse.
- b. Rector: the person chairing the Rectorate.
- c. Vice-rector for Teaching: The person in charge of all teaching-related matters. Together with the Director of Academic Services, he/she is responsible for the quality of teaching and studies.
- d. Dean: The person heading a faculty and representing it internally and externally.
- e. Programme direction: The person responsible for the curriculum and academic quality of teaching within a degree programme.
- f. Faculty Manager: The person providing subject-specific support to the Programme Direction.
- g. Lecturers: The persons appointed by UniDistance Suisse to teach one or several modules. The lecturers are in charge of their modules both scientifically and pedagogically and conduct courses in person.
- h. Assistants: The persons supporting the lecturer in teaching their module(s).
- i. Teaching team: Lecturers and assistants of a module.
- j. Students: The persons enrolled in a degree programme.
- k. Student Services: The service providing administrative support for degree programmes and students.

II. Admission and Fees

Art. 5 Admission and Fees

¹ The application process and admission requirements for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes are set out in the Admission Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes of UniDistance Suisse (AdR).

² Additional specific admission requirements for the corresponding Master's degree programmes are set out in Section B of the Implementing provisions of the Admission Regulations (IP-AdR).



³ Fees are regulated in the Fee Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes and Doctoral programmes of UniDistance Suisse (FeR).

III. Studies

A. Study Structure

Art. 6 Start and Duration of Studies

¹ Degree programmes may be started every autumn and spring semester. The official semester start dates correspond to the academic year: 1st August for the autumn semester, 1st February for the spring semester.

² Studies at UniDistance Suisse are part-time studies.

³ The standard duration of study for Bachelor's degree programmes is nine semesters. The minimum duration of study is six semesters, the maximum duration is fifteen semesters.

⁴ The standard period of study for 90 ECTS credits Master's degree programmes (Art. 7 of these regulations) is five semesters, the minimum period three semesters, and the maximum period eight semesters.

The standard period of study for 120 ECTS credits Master's degree programmes is six semesters, the minimum period four semesters, and the maximum period ten semesters.

⁵ The duration of studies may be shortened if equivalence is granted (Art. 25 of these regulations). Duration of studies may also be shortened in accordance with Art. 10 para. 2 of these regulations.

⁶ If the maximum duration of studies is exceeded, the student shall be exmatriculated in accordance with Art. 30 para. 4 No. 2 of these regulations. The Programme Direction may deviate from the rule upon request in exceptional and justified cases.

Art. 7 ECTS Credits

Academic achievements are measured according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). One ECTS credit corresponds to a workload of 25 to 30 working hours.

Art. 8 Curriculum and Programme Structure

¹ Degree programmes are divided into modules. A module description is published for each module, which includes, among other things, contents and key concepts, intended learning outcomes and skills, assessment methods, planned teaching and learning activities, implementation schedule, prerequisites and entry requirements, as well as teaching material.

² The order in which the individual modules are to be taken is determined by point 3 of the implementing provisions of these regulations for each degree programme (standard module order). The Programme Direction may grant exceptions to this standard module order in justified individual cases.

³ In addition to single-subject degree programmes, major and minor programmes may be offered.

a. The following combinations of major and minor programmes are possible in Bachelor's degree programmes:

- a 120 ECTS credits major programme with a 60 ECTS credits minor programme;
- a 120 ECTS credits major programme with two 30 ECTS credits minor programmes;
- a 150 ECTS credits major programme with a 30 ECTS credits minor programme.



b. The following combination of major and minor programmes is possible in 120 ECTS credits Master's degree programmes:

- a 90 ECTS credits major programme with a 30 ECTS credits minor programme.

⁴ Degree programmes define the offer and details in point 5 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

Art. 8a Bachelor's Degree Programmes

¹ Bachelor's degree programmes comprise a total of 180 ECTS credits.

² The modules to be completed in each degree programme are listed in Point 2 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

³ The modules offered may be compulsory or elective. Point 2 of the implementing provisions of these regulations specifies the modules to be completed for each degree programme.

⁴ Compulsory modules must be completed by all students enrolled in the respective degree programme. In the case of elective modules, students choose from a specified set of modules. Details are set out in point 2 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

⁵ The combination of certain modules may enable students to specialise in specific areas. Details are set out in point 2 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

⁶ The programme is divided into two parts (first part and second part). Point 4 of the implementing provisions determines which modules belong to each part of the programme.

Art. 8b Master's Degree Programmes

¹ Master's degree programmes comprise either 90 or 120 ECTS credits. Point 1 of the implementing provisions of these regulations specifies the number of ECTS credits awarded for each degree programme.

² Compulsory modules as well as elective modules may be offered. The modules to be completed in each degree programme are listed in point 2 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

³ Compulsory modules must be completed by all students enrolled in the respective degree programme. In the case of elective modules, students may choose from a specified set of modules. Details are set out in point 2 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

⁴ The combination of certain modules may enable students to specialise in specific areas. Details are set out in point 2 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

Art. 9 Module Offer and Implementation

Modules of the degree programmes are offered on a regular basis. The implementation schedule for all modules of each degree programme is set out in point 6 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

Art. 10 Module Enrolment

¹ In principle, students may enrol each semester in new modules amounting to a maximum of 20 ECTS credits. New modules are those for which no overall module grade (Art 17, para. 6 of these regulations) has yet been awarded.

² In addition, students may enrol in modules that have not yet been passed because either the overall module grade was insufficient or completion is still pending due to an excused absence pursuant to Arts. 20 and 21 of these regulations.



³ In exceptional cases, the Programme Direction may approve enrolment in additional new modules up to a maximum of 10 ECTS credits per semester. When deciding, the Programme Direction shall consider whether the applicant's previous academic achievements and other relevant circumstances (e.g. available time for studying) justify being enrolled in additional modules.

Art. 11 Bilingual Studies

¹ If a degree programme is offered bilingually, a student may be admitted to the corresponding bilingual degree programme. In this case, the modules offered in two languages can be taken and completed in either one or the other language.

² Once a student has enrolled in a module in one language, they must complete the entire module, including all assessments, in that language and cannot switch module languages at a later date. Exceptions in justified individual cases are to be approved by the Programme Direction.

³ If at least one third of the ECTS credits has been obtained in the second language of study, the student shall receive a Bachelor's or Master's degree with the additional "bilingual" mention.

⁴ Point 7 of the implementing provisions of these regulations provides details and special features of bilingual studies for each degree programme.

B. Study Formats

Art. 12 Activities

¹ Studies at UniDistance Suisse include periods of self-study, interactions between students and teaching teams, as well as interactions among students. Learning activities can be either asynchronous or synchronous.

² At the beginning of the semester, the teaching teams inform students through the module description about the activities and modalities of the study in their respective module.

³ Only students enrolled in a module are admitted to the activities of the module.

Art. 13 Asynchronous Activities

Asynchronous activities are activities that students can complete at a time that suits them. They may consist of individual or group activities.

Art. 14 Synchronous Activities

¹ Synchronous activities are activities that take place simultaneously for all students enrolled in a module.

² Synchronous activities generally take place online. The guidelines for the use of video conferencing systems at UniDistance Suisse (RVideo) apply.

³ Certain synchronous activities may take place on site; the module description provides the relevant information for each module.

⁴ Classes are a special form of synchronous activity taking place several times per semester. The number and duration of classes is specified in point 8 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

C. Assessments

Art. 15 Dates, Terms and Registration



- ¹ In each module, students are required to complete assessments which are evaluated and graded.
- ² A module generally includes several assessments (partial assessments). The forms of assessment available within each degree programme are listed in point 9 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.
- ³ Assessments are generally completed during the semester and during an examination session towards the end of each semester (end-of-semester examinations).
- ⁴ Students must register for assessments taking place during the end-of-semester examination session. Registration process and deadlines are binding and are determined and communicated in advance via e-Mail by Student Services.
- ⁵ Initial registration triggers the first examination attempt of the respective module. If no registration is completed, the module cannot be validated and any partial assessments already achieved will be forfeited.
- ⁶ Assessments are generally carried out online. The guidelines for the use of video conferencing systems at UniDistance Suisse (RVideo) apply.
- ⁷ The lecturers inform the students in writing at the beginning of the semester about the content, method and weighting of the assessments as well as the authorised resources.

Art. 16 Special Academic Achievements

- ¹ Point 10 of the implementing provisions of these regulations specifies for each respective degree programme whether additional academic achievements must be completed in addition to the module assessments referred to in Art. 15, para. 1 of these regulations, and if so, which requirements apply (e.g. theses, internships).
- ² Special academic achievements are assessed like module assessments (Art. 17 of these regulations).
- ³ Point 10 of the implementing provisions of these regulations provides details on the possibility of remedies for special academic achievements.

Art. 17 Grading

- ¹ Assessments and special academic achievements are generally graded on a scale from 1 to 6, with 6 being the highest and 1 being the lowest grade. Grades of 4 and higher are considered sufficient.
- ² Sufficient assessments and sufficient special academic achievements are graded according to the following scale:

• 6.0; 5.75	Excellent
• 5.5; 5.25	Very good
• 5.0; 4.75	Good
• 4.5; 4.25	Satisfactory
• 4.0	Meets the minimum requirements
- ³ Insufficient assessments and insufficient special academic achievements count as failed attempts and are graded according to the following grading scale: 3.75; 3.5; 3.25; 3.0; 2.75; 2.5; 2.25; 2.0; 1.75; 1.5; 1.25; 1.0.
- ⁴ Some assessments may also be graded as "pass" / "fail".
- ⁵ Each grade is accompanied by the corresponding ECTS grade (A–F)
- ⁶ The overall module grade is calculated as the weighted average of all partial assessments, rounded to the nearest quarter grade.



Art. 18 Repetition of Assessments and Compensations

¹ If an insufficient overall module grade is obtained after the first examination attempt, the insufficient assessments must be repeated.

² In the second attempt, the sufficient assessments from the first attempt remain valid with their weighting and grade, provided that the assessment format and weighting have not changed in the meantime. All other assessments must be repeated by the deadline established and communicated by Student Services.

³ If the overall module grade remains insufficient after the second attempt, the entire module with all assessments must be repeated at the next iteration as part of a third attempt.

⁴ If the overall module grade is still insufficient after the third attempt, the grade becomes final. Only the result obtained in the last attempt shall be taken into account.

⁵ Compensation for a final insufficient overall module grade is possible in accordance with Art. 26a, 26b and 27 of these regulations.

⁶ Modules with a sufficient overall module grade cannot be repeated.

⁷ In the case of elective modules, it is possible to drop out after an insufficient overall module grade, provided that other elective modules can be selected in accordance with Art. 8a para. 3 and 8b para. 3 of these regulations. In such cases, the insufficient overall module grade is not taken into account.

⁸ In justified individual cases and upon request, the Programme Direction may authorise the postponement of assessments.

Art. 19 Failure to submit Assessments

¹ If a student fails to submit an assessable performance by the required deadline without being excused, the corresponding partial assessment shall be given the grade 1.0.

² Regulations on excusable absences from partial assessments are detailed in Art. 20 and 21 of these regulations.

Art. 20 Excusable Absences from Assessments during the Semester

Students who, for justified reasons, are unable to complete certain assessments during the semester must notify the teaching team within three working days, state their reasons, and provide evidence. The teaching team decides whether the reasons are justified. If this is the case, the teaching team will set a new deadline, generally set within the semester in question and ending at the latest on the date set by Student Services in accordance with Art. 18 para. 2 of these regulations.

Art. 21 Excusable Absences from End-of-Semester Examinations

¹ Students who, for justified reasons, are unable to take an end-of-semester examination must notify Student Services within three working days, state their reasons, and provide evidence. The Programme Direction decides whether the reasons are justified. If this is the case, the examination is not considered a failed attempt and must be repeated at the next examination date in accordance with Art. 18 of these regulations.

² Students who are unable to complete their end-of-semester examination for health reasons or compelling reasons must inform the invigilator and, in the case of health reasons, must immediately consult a doctor or, in the case of compelling reasons, must provide appropriate evidence and submit this to Student Services within three working days following the end-of-semester examination.



Art. 22 Academic Misconduct

- ¹ Academic misconduct shall be deemed to have occurred if the assessment has been carried out through unauthorised communication with third parties or using unauthorised resources.
- ² Academic misconduct shall also be deemed to have occurred in case of plagiarism in an assessment.
- ³ Refusal to cooperate in clarification to the invigilator shall also be considered as academic misconduct if there is cause for suspicion.
- ⁴ The Guidelines for Academic Integrity at UniDistance Suisse also apply to theses.
- ⁵ If there is reasonable suspicion of academic misconduct, the teaching team may conduct an additional oral examination.
- ⁶ An assessment completed through academic misconduct shall be awarded a grade of 1.0.
- ⁷ If academic misconduct only becomes known after the results of the assessment have been released, the unduly awarded grade shall be cancelled by the Programme Direction and replaced by the grade of 1.0. If the academic misconduct only becomes known after the diploma has been awarded, the faculty shall have the authority to cancel the diploma upon request of the Programme Direction.
- ⁸ Further disciplinary measures and legal prosecution remain reserved.

Art. 23 Procedure in the Event of Appeals against the Appraisal of Assessments

- ¹ Students who have questions about the appraisal of their assessment can contact the responsible lecturer within ten days following notification of the results and request a meeting with him/her about the assessment. On this occasion, the students shall exercise their right to consult the files in accordance with Art. 24 of these regulations.
- ² Lecturers decide on the place and arrangements for the meeting. The place and arrangements for the meeting must be reasonable. The lecturers may delegate the meeting to their assistants.
- ³ Within 30 days following notification of the results, students may submit a reasoned written objection to the appraisal of their assessment to the Programme Direction.
- ⁴ The Programme Direction shall decide on the objection and issue a decision in accordance with Art. 32 of these regulations.

Art. 24 Consultation of the Files in Relation to an Assessment

- ¹ Students who have completed an assessment have the right to inspect their files as soon as they have received the results of their assessment.
- ² File inspection shall take place during the assessment meeting referred to in Art. 23 of these regulations.
- ³ The right to consult the file includes:
 1. the consultation of the original assessment or the assessment report under the supervision of the person in charge;
 2. consultation of the instructions of the assessment;
 3. consultation of the assessment grid, which provides information on the possible scores for each task;
 4. the right of consultation shall be satisfied by the delivery of copies for which a charge is due.
- ⁴ The right to consult the files does not include in particular:



1. the right to inspect lecturers' handwritten notes made in connection with assessments;
2. consultation of internal guidelines for the correction of work (e.g. sample solutions);
3. consultation of other students' work.

D. Equivalence

Art. 25 Granting of Equivalence

¹ Anyone who has already completed academic achievements that allows for full or partial exemption from the completion of a module must submit a sufficiently documented request during the application process.

² Former academic achievements carried out as part of not completed degree programmes within UniDistance Suisse may be taken into account in the event of resumption of studies in application of Art. 28, para. 2 of these regulations, insofar as it is deemed equivalent in terms of content, scope and academic level.

³ Former academic achievements obtained at other universities or higher education institutions may be recognised provided that they are considered equivalent in terms of content, scope, and academic level, were obtained no more than five years previously, were completed with a sufficient grade and have not already been used to obtain a degree (prohibition of double use). The corresponding grade is included in the transcript of records.

⁴ At least two thirds of the ECTS credits required for the Bachelor's or Master's degree must have been obtained in a study programme at UniDistance Suisse. Achievements which must be completed as part of the study programme at UniDistance Suisse and which cannot be credited as equivalences are listed in Point 11 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

⁵ The Programme Direction decides whether equivalences can be granted or not.

E. Successful Completion of Degree Programmes

Art. 26 Bachelor's Degree

The Bachelor's degree is awarded on successful completion of both parts of the programme in accordance with Art. 8a para. 3 of these regulations.

Art. 26a Completion of the First Study Part

¹ The first part of the degree programme is successfully completed if all of the following requirements are met:

1. the student has completed all the required modules of the first part of the degree programme, and the weighted average grade of all module grades is not below 4.0;
2. there is no more than one final insufficient module grade in the first part of the degree programme, which can be compensated in accordance with Art. 18 para. 4 and 5 of these regulations;
3. no final overall module grade is below 3.0.

² Students who have successfully completed the first part will be admitted to the second part.

³ Students whose successful completion of the first part is still pending due to assessments to be repeated may be provisionally admitted to the second part. They must take the pending assessment(s) as a matter of priority at the next possible date.

Art. 26b Completion of the Second Study Part

¹ The second part of the degree programme is successfully completed if all of the following requirements are met:



1. the student has completed all required modules of the second part of the programme, and the weighted grade point average of all overall module grades is not below 4.0.
2. the grade for the Bachelor's thesis is not below 4.0;
3. there are no more than three final insufficient overall module grades in the second part of the study programme, which can be compensated in accordance with Art. 18 para. 4 and 5 of these regulations;
4. no final overall module grade is below 3.0.

² If the second part has been successfully completed, the entire degree programme has been successfully completed. The student is awarded the Bachelor's degree of the respective academic orientation and field of study and receives a corresponding diploma. In the case of a specialisation, an additional mention is made.

Art. 27 Master's Degree

¹ The Master's degree programme is successfully completed if all of the following requirements are met:

1. the student has completed all required modules, and the weighted grade point average of all overall module grades is not below 4.0;
2. the grade for the Master's thesis is not below 4.0;
3. there are no more than the maximum possible final insufficient overall module grades for the corresponding degree programme, which can be compensated in accordance with Art. 18 para. 4 and 5 of these regulations. Details for each degree programme are indicated in point 12 of the implementing provisions of these regulations;
4. no final overall module grade is below 3.0.

² The degree programmes may set further requirements in point 13 of the implementing provisions of these regulations.

³ If the Master's degree programme has been successfully completed, the student is awarded the Master's degree of the respective academic orientation and field of study and receives a corresponding diploma. In the case of a specialisation, an additional mention is made.

F. Enrolment, Leave and Exmatriculation

Art. 28 Enrolment

¹ Students entering a degree programme are enrolled. This assumes admission in accordance with the provisions of the Admission Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes at UniDistance Suisse (AdR).

² In the case of resuming a degree programme previously interrupted at UniDistance Suisse, prior academic progress shall be recognised as far as possible. This includes the number of semesters completed, the successfully completed modules and the failed attempts in incomplete modules.

³ Students wishing to benefit from the institution's study offers or other services, or to carry out academic achievements, must be enrolled.

Art. 29 Leave

¹ Students are on leave if they are enrolled and have opted for a semester of leave as part of the semester re-registration process.

² Students on leave may not be entitled to degree programmes or other services offered by the institution and may not carry out any academic achievements.

³ Students on leave must pay a leave fee, details of which are set out in the Fee Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes and Doctoral programmes of UniDistance Suisse (FeR).



Art. 30 Exmatriculation

¹ Students who terminate their studies are exmatriculated. Exmatriculation takes effect at the end of the semester.

² A student is exmatriculated if he/she requests exmatriculation during the semester re-registration process.

³ Students who successfully complete their studies are exmatriculated.

⁴ A student will be exmatriculated by Student Services in one of the following cases:

1. the student has achieved a definitively insufficient and non-compensable final overall module grade which rules out the successful completion of the degree programme (Art. 26, 26a, 26b and 27 of these regulations);
2. the student has exceeded the maximum duration of studies (Art. 6, para. 3 and 4 of these regulations);
3. the student has not re-registered for the following semester in due time;
4. the student has not paid the fees stipulated in the Fee Regulations by the due date.

⁵ In addition, a student may be exmatriculated by the Rectorate in one of the following cases:

1. the student has committed academic misconduct (Art. 22 of these regulations and Art. 9 and 11 of the Guidelines for Academic Integrity at UniDistance Suisse);
2. the student disrupts the degree programme by behaving inappropriately towards teaching teams, administrative staff or other students.

⁶ Exmatriculation in accordance with para. 4, clauses 1 and 2, and para. 5 shall result in permanent exclusion from the relevant degree programme.

IV. Legal Action

Art. 31 Bodies

¹ Student Services, the Programme Direction, the Dean, the Rectorate, and the Appeals Commission are the competent bodies for decisions relative to these regulations.

² The Appeals Commission consists of three professors, one representative of the mid-level academic staff, one student representative and one member of the Foundation Council. At least one professor must be from the Faculty of Law, he or she takes presidency of the Appeals Commission. Members shall decline to take part if the appeal concerns their faculty.

Art. 32 Objection and Appeal

¹ Decisions made by Student Services, the Programme Direction, the Dean or the Rectorate in application of these regulations may be contested within 30 days by submitting a reasoned written objection to the body that issued the decision.

² Decisions issued following an objection may be appealed to the Appeals Commission within 30 days of notification by submitting a reasoned written appeal.

³ Appeals against decisions of the Appeals Commission may be lodged with the State Council of the Canton of Valais within 30 days in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Administrative Procedure and the Administration of Administrative Justice of October 6th, 1976.



V. Final Provisions

Art. 33 Entry into Force

¹ These regulations come into force on 1st February 2026. Their entry into force supersedes all previous study regulations governing the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes.

² They must be approved by the department of the Canton of Valais in charge of higher education.

Art. 34 Transitional Provisions

The Rectorate is competent to issue transitional provisions.