

Besluit **Besluit strekkende tot het verlenen van accreditatie aan de opleiding wo-master Economics van de Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen**

	Gegevens	
datum	11 april 2013	Naam instelling : Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen
onderwerp	Besluit accreditatie wo-master Economics van de Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen (001011)	Naam opleiding : wo-master Economics (60 ECTS)
uw kenmerk	mso/rg/12U.014087	Datum aanvraag : 7 november 2012
ons kenmerk	NVAO/20131091/SL	Variant opleiding : voltijd
bijlagen	3	Afstudeerrichtingen : Accounting & Control, Financial Economics, International Economics, International Economics & Business
		Locatie opleiding : Nijmegen
		Datum goedkeuren panel : 17 april 2012
		Datum locatiebezoek : 21 juni 2012
		Datum visitatierapport : 15 oktober 2012
		Instellingstoets kwaliteitszorg : Positief, 21 november 2011

Beoordelingskader

Beoordelingskader voor de beperkte opleidingsbeoordeling van de NVAO (Stcrt. 2010, nr 21523).

Bevindingen

De NVAO stelt vast dat in het visitatierapport deugdelijk en kenbaar is gemotiveerd op welke gronden het panel de kwaliteit van de opleiding voldoende heeft bevonden. Het visitatierapport geeft de bevindingen en overwegingen weer van het panel over de bachelor- en masteropleiding Economics van de Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen. Het panel heeft (beide of meer) opleidingen gezamenlijk beoordeeld.

Samenvatting bevindingen en overwegingen panel.

This report reflects the assessment committee's findings and considerations on the Master of Economics programme at Radboud University Nijmegen. The evaluations are based on interviews conducted with staff, students and graduates of the programme and on information provided in the critical reflections, selected theses, course files and additional information provided during the site visit. During its assessment, the committee observed positive aspects as well as ones which could be improved. Taking these aspects into consideration, the committee decided that the programme fulfill the requirements set by the NVAO for re-accreditation.

Standard 1: Intended learning outcomes

The overall mission of the Master of Economics programme is described with the notion of economics+. Economics+ starts from the idea that the teaching of standard economic theories and methods should be embedded in a pluralist understanding of economics as a discipline. This is translated into a programme in which practical, real-world-oriented problems are addressed from an economic point of view, without losing sight of the inherent interdisciplinary context of most everyday problems. The master's programme aims at teaching more complex and track-specific theories, thus preparing students for academic, knowledge-intensive jobs within the fields of business, research, government and government-related institutions.

The committee takes the view that the economics+ mission of the programme reflects recent developments in the economic scientific field. It especially appreciates the attention paid to ethical perspectives, behavioural economics and historical economic thinking. Furthermore, it concludes that the real-world, policy-oriented focus is constructive in the students' learning process. Nevertheless, it believes that the economics+ focus could better be described as a broad, modern, academic orientation on economics. Distinguishing aspects of economics+ beyond this modern academic viewpoint should be described more clearly. On the plus side, the real-world focus is sustained by the programme management by taking into account the expectations of the working field by means of an annual consultation with an Advisory Board consisting of alumni, professors and potential employers.

The committee studied the aims and intended learning outcomes of the programme in relation to the domain-specific requirements. It concludes that the learning outcomes are clearly related to the domain-specific framework of reference and represent the policy and problem-oriented focus in the mission of the programme. The committee generally deems the learning outcomes to be appropriate in nature and level, although the intended learning outcomes of the programme are rather general and should elaborate the learning outcomes of the different specializations in more detail.

Standard 2: Teaching-learning environment

Students enroll in one of four master's specializations, namely Financial Economics, International Economics, International Economics and Business and Accounting and Control.

Pagina 3 van 7 The committee deems the courses in the programme of sufficient academic level. It finds that the economics+ ambition of modern economics is well integrated in the programme with the course Pluralism in Economics. The specialization Accounting and Control and the policy of flexibility in the curriculum of students aspiring to continue in the field of Accountancy are regarded as positive. The committee however did establish that the specializations in the curriculum show much overlap. The master's thesis is an important factor in slowing down the students' study progress. The committee finds that the thesis trajectory should be more fixed in order to motivate students to keep on track.

The didactic principles of the department focus on teaching in small groups, active student participation and a variety of examination methods. However, increasing student numbers have put pressure on the principles of small groups and active student participation. The committee appreciates the intention of the programme management to improve this situation with extra budgets. Although the committee approves of the idea of active student participation in the courses, it feels this principle is not elaborated clearly enough and not sufficiently coordinated in the working and teaching methods of the courses.

From the information gathered during the assessment, the committee concluded that the Department of Economics is characterised by an informal, small-scale learning community of professional lecturers and researchers. Quality management is of sufficient level, and although students would like to have more consultation rooms for group work, the programme specific facilities generally are well suited to the intended learning outcomes.

Standard 3: Assessment and achieved learning outcomes

The committee established that an appropriate mix of assignments, tests and examinations is used to assess whether the intended learning outcomes are achieved. Examination questions are clearly formulated and exams focus on knowledge as well as academic and research skills.

The quality of exams is guaranteed by means of peer review and the documentation of course files. When problems arise, the Board of Examiners studies course files and may suggest improvements to the examiner. The committee is positive about the functioning of the Board of Examiners and the assessment system. It appreciates the professional way in which the Board of Examiners has implemented its new responsibility for the quality and level of examination and assessment. It is positive about the annual checks of the level of master's theses. It finds that these checks should be extended to course testing to guarantee the quality and level of examinations.

Judging by the overall level of the thesis work, the committee feels that the intended learning outcomes of the programme are achieved. This conclusion is supported by alumni and alumni surveys, illustrating that the achieved level of master's graduates is adequate for entering the labour market.

Aanbevelingen

De NVAO onderschrijft de aanbevelingen van het panel om eindkwalificaties per afstudeerrichting op te stellen. Op basis van het rapport en de verstrekte docent-studentratio vraagt de NVAO aandacht voor het bewaken van de onderwijsintensiteit.

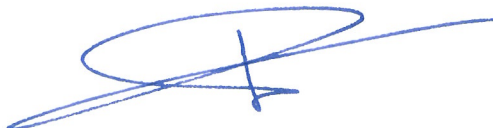
Ingevolge het bepaalde in artikel 5a.10, tweede lid, van de WHW heeft de NVAO het college van bestuur van de Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen te Nijmegen in de gelegenheid gesteld zijn zienswijze op het voornemen tot besluit van 12 februari 2013 naar voren te brengen. Van deze gelegenheid is geen gebruik gemaakt.

De NVAO besluit accreditatie te verlenen aan de wo-master Economics (60 ECTS; variant: voltijd; locatie: Nijmegen) van de Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen te Nijmegen. De opleiding kent de volgende afstudeerrichtingen: Accounting & Control, Financial Economics, International Economics, International Economics & Business. De NVAO beoordeelt de kwaliteit van de opleiding als voldoende.

Dit besluit treedt in werking op 1 januari 2014 en is van kracht tot en met 31 december 2019.

Den Haag, 11 april 2013

Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie



R.P. Zevenbergen
(bestuurder)

Onderwerp	Standaard	Beoordeling door het panel <i>voltijd</i>
1. Beoogde eindkwalificaties	De beoogde eindkwalificaties van de opleiding zijn wat betreft inhoud, niveau en oriëntatie geconcretiseerd en voldoen aan internationale eisen	V
2. Onderwijsleeromgeving	Het programma, het personeel en de opleidingsspecifieke voorzieningen maken het voor de instromende studenten mogelijk de beoogde eindkwalificaties te realiseren	V
3. Toetsing en gerealiseerde eindkwalificaties	De opleiding beschikt over een adequaat systeem van toetsing en toont aan dat de beoogde eindkwalificaties worden gerealiseerd	V
Eindoordeel		V

De standaarden krijgen het oordeel onvoldoende (O), voldoende (V), goed (G) of excellent (E). Het eindoordeel over de opleiding als geheel wordt op dezelfde schaal gegeven.

Tabel 1: Rendement binnen 2 jaar

Cohort	2009	2010	2011
Rendement	82%		

Tabel 2: Docentkwaliteit.

Graad	MA	PhD	BKO
Percentage	100%	68%	70%

Tabel 3: Docent-studentratio.

Ratio	1:37
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Tabel 4: Contacturen.

Studiejaar	1	2
Contacturen	7,16	

- Prof. P. A. (Piet) Verheyen (chairman), emeritus professor of Business Econometrics and former president of the Executive Board of Tilburg University;
- Prof. H. (Hans) van Ees, professor of Corporate Governance and Institutions at the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Groningen;
- Prof. C. (Cynthia) van Hulle, professor of Finance at the Faculty of Business and Economics, Catholic University of Leuven;
- Prof. T.C.M.J. (Theo) van de Klundert, emeritus professor of Economics, University of Tilburg and University of Groningen;
- Prof. J.G. (Hans) Kuijl RA, emeritus professor Business Economics including the fiscal compatibility, University of Leiden;
- Prof. H. (Hans) Visser, emeritus professor Economics, VU University, Amsterdam;
- M. (Minke) van Bergen, BSc, master's student in Economics at the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Groningen.

The committee was supported by A.J. (Adrienne) Wieldraaijer-Huijzer MA, who acted as secretary under the supervision of drs. L.C. (Linda) te Marvelde.