



ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 / 2027

BACHELOR GUIDE

BSc Economics and Business Economics

Faculty of Economics and Business - University of Groningen

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FOREWORD



Marc Kramer

Program Director BSc E&BE

Dear BSc E&BE Students,

Welcome (back) to the BSc Economics and Business Economics in Groningen! I hope you had a nice summer break and are ready for another year with us, or for your first steps into our program.

This new BSc E&BE Bachelor Guide created by the EBF is a very valuable and accessible source of information. You will find details about courses, study choices, minors, internships, job opportunities, faculty procedures, and much much more. As such, it provides an indispensable tool to successfully study in our program. I am therefore very happy with this new initiative by our Faculty's study association. Please use it !

I wish you all the best for academic year 2026/27 and hope to meet you soon !

Best,
Marc Kramer
Program Director

Dear EBE student,

Firstly, welcome to the Faculty of Economics and Business in the beautiful city of Groningen! As you begin this exciting new chapter, you will have countless opportunities to discover your interests, develop new skills, and create unforgettable memories.

In this guide, you will find all the information you need for a great start to your study year, from practical tips and useful information to the events that are most relevant for you.

As President of the Economic and Business Faculty Association (EBF), I am excited to meet you all and share everything our association has to offer. Whether you are interested in getting to know your fellow students, career opportunities, developing new skills, or organizing events yourself, the EBF offers something for everyone. It is a great way to meet new people and make the most of your student years.

We are excited to meet you and are happy to help you in any form possible!



Marit Zijlstra

Chairman of the 20th EBF Board

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YEAR ONE

GETTING STARTED

Your first weeks will be full of temptations that are more fun than studying. Enjoy them – but the first exams come sooner than you expect, and your first-year grades count double: for your BSA, and for your exchange destination in year 3.

GETTING STARTED

YEAR I - WHATSAPP GROUP



INTRODUCTION DAY AND WELCOMING FESTIVAL

On Friday, 28th of August, you will have your first official day at the university. You will begin by meeting your mentor group, followed by a guided campus tour. From 12:30 to 13:00, you will attend an introductory lecture led by Programme Director Marc Kramer and 1st year Program Coordinator Anouk Schippers, where you will receive important information about the upcoming academic year. Attendance is strongly recommended.

Afterwards, you can join the Welcoming Festival in the Duisenberg Garden, featuring live music, free drinks and snacks. It is also a great opportunity to get to know your fellow students better in an informal and enjoyable setting!

The presentation slides of the introduction lecture will be uploaded on Brightspace after the event.

MENTOR GROUPS

Starting university can feel overwhelming, but you will not have to figure everything out on your own. Before Introduction Day, you will be assigned to a mentor group led by a 2nd or 3rd year BSc E&BE student. Your group number will be sent to you by email. Haven't received it? Contact the Programme Support Office at ebe@rug.nl as soon as possible.

During Semester 1, your mentor group combined with another mentor group will also be your tutorial group for all courses. This means you will attend classes together, work on assignments and quickly get to know one another. Keep in mind that the groups may change in Semester 2. In the first weeks of Semester 1a, you will have **three mandatory mentor meetings**. These meetings will help you settle in, understand what is expected of you and find your way around the programme. Next to these three meetings you will have a fourth mandatory session on the use of AI.

Your **student mentor** is also your first point of contact whenever you have questions about studying, practical matters or student life in Groningen. They have already experienced the first year themselves, so do not hesitate to ask them for advice. Each mentor group also has a faculty mentor: a member of staff who keeps an eye on your academic progress and wellbeing. Faculty mentors also organize weekly walk-in hours where you can ask any program-related questions or discuss concerns regarding your studies. Your faculty mentor will introduce themselves during one of the mentor meetings in Semester 1a and invite you for an individual conversation after the start of Semester 1b. Depending on your results, or simply if you would like to chat, one or two follow-up conversations may take place during Semesters 2a and 2b.



LECTURES, TUTORIAL AND WORKLOAD

Each course combines **lectures** with **tutorials** and (in some cases) **practical** sessions. Lectures introduce the main theories and concepts, while tutorials give you the opportunity to apply what you have learned, discuss the material and ask questions. Active participation in tutorials is expected and may also contribute to your final grade. Keep in mind that some tutorials only start in the second week of the block.

You can find the times and locations of your lectures, tutorials and practical sessions in the [RUG Rooster](#). Check your timetable regularly, as times and locations may occasionally change.

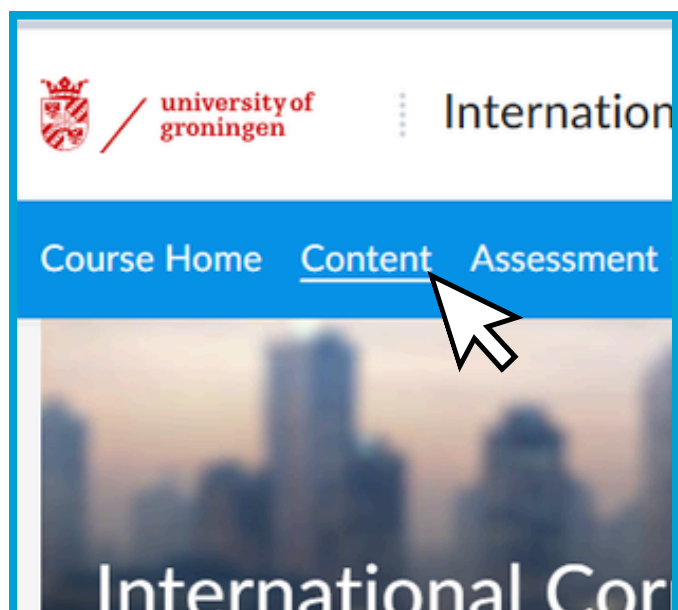
Each course is worth 5 ECTS. Since 1 ECTS represents approximately 28 hours of study, you should expect to spend around 140 hours on each course. This includes lectures, tutorials, assignments, exam preparation and independent study. It is advised to start planning your workload from the very first week.

Remember: Falling behind is much easier than catching up!

COURSE MANUALS

Every course has its own **course manual**, which you can find on the course's page under 'Content' (On Brightspace). Make sure to read it at the start of each block. It contains all the essential information you need, including the assessment structure, attendance requirements, deadlines of assignments and the rules regarding the use of AI tools.

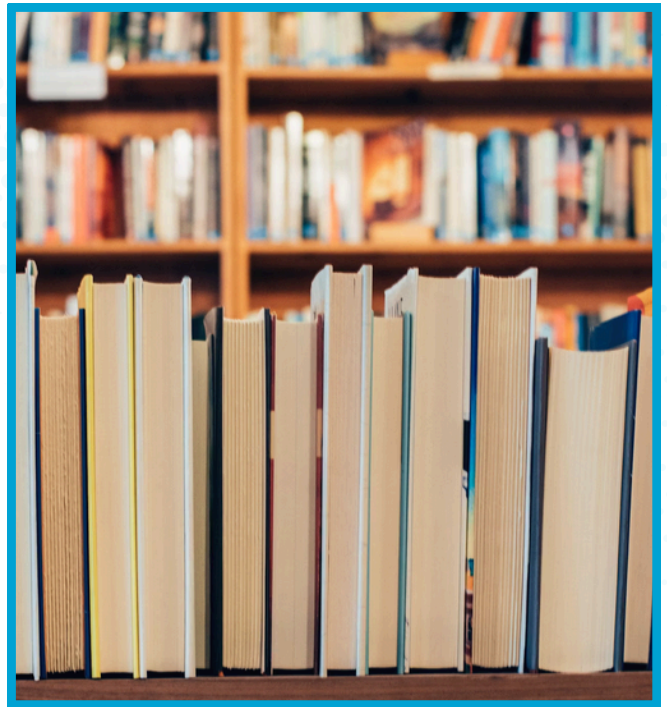
Think of the course manual as your roadmap for the course. Reading it carefully is one of the easiest ways to stay organised, prepare properly and avoid unpleasant surprises later in the semester.



BOOKS AND SUMMARIES

We recommend purchasing your books before the start of each block, so you are ready from the first week. Registered members of the Economics and Business Faculty Association (EBF) can order their study books at a discount and benefit from some of the lowest book prices on campus. You can order your books through the [EBF Book Sale](#).

Not an EBF member yet? You can [become a member here](#) to access the discount and other membership benefits. The EBF also offers affordable course summaries, with some summaries available free of charge. You can find them on the [EBF Summaries page](#).



HOW THE ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ECONOMICS PROGRAMME IS STRUCTURED

The BSc Economics and Business Economics is a three-year programme worth a total of **180 ECTS**. Each course is worth **5 ECTS**.

During Years 1 and 2, you complete twelve courses per year, adding up to 60 ECTS each year. Year 1 gives you a broad foundation across economics and business — from micro- and macroeconomics, accounting and corporate finance to data analysis, and various skills courses like writing, presenting and doing research.

After the first year, you choose one of three profiles to specialise in from Year 2 onwards: **Business Economics**, **Economics**, or **International Economics and Sustainable Development**. Year 3 offers more freedom to shape your studies. It consists of a 30 ECTS minor — the elective part of the programme — which you can fill with a faculty minor (including the Internship for E&BE), a minor at another faculty, or a semester of study abroad. Alongside the minor you take three to four obligatory profile courses of 5 ECTS each and finish the programme with a 10 ECTS bachelor's thesis in your chosen profile.

**Please note that the Double Degree track with Fudan University follows a different programme structure.*



YOUR FIRST-YEAR CURRICULUM

The first year gives you a broad foundation in economics and business. You take three courses per block, for a total of 60 ECTS.

BLOCK	COURSE CODE	COURSE	ECTS
1a	EBP044A05	Introduction to E&BE	5
1a	EBP817B05	Mathematics for E&BE	5
1a	EBP819B05	Microeconomics for E&BE: Consumers & Firms	5
1b	EBP802B05	Financial Accounting for E&BE	5
1b	EBP812B05	Macroeconomics for E&BE	5
1b	EBP822B05	Statistics for E&BE	5
2a	EBP034B05	Data Analysis for E&BE	5
2a	EBP810B05	International Economics for E&BE	5
2a	EBP837D05	Writing and Presenting for E&BE	5
2b	EBP032B05	Finance & Investments for E&BE	5
2b	EBP035B05	Research Project for E&BE	5
2b	EBP842A05	The Dutch Economy for E&BE	5

Course descriptions, literature and instructional methods for every course: [Ocasys \(ocasys.rug.nl\)](https://ocasys.rug.nl)



INFORMATION ACCESS

STUDENT PORTAL

The [Student Portal](#) is your main starting point for everything related to your studies. After logging in with your S-number and password, you can find important announcements, faculty information for FEB students and direct links to the university systems you will use throughout your degree.

Check the Student Portal regularly to stay up to date and make sure you do not miss important information!



BRIGHTSPACE

[Brightspace](#) is the university's digital learning environment and one of the platforms you will use most frequently. Every course has its own page on Brightspace, where you can find announcements, lecture slides, course manuals, assignments and more.

Lecturers may also publish preliminary grades on Brightspace. Keep in mind that these results are not yet official. Only grades published in the university's official results system count as final.

Ocasys: COURSE CATALOGUE AND REGISTRATION

Ocasys is the university's online course catalogue. For every course, you can find information about its content, learning goals, literature, assessment methods and teaching staff.

From the 2026/2027 academic year, Ocasys will also be the official system for course enrolment. All new course enrolments and any changes to your enrolments must be completed through Ocasys. Progress will no longer be used to enrol in courses, although existing enrolments will remain visible there.

Course enrolment is mandatory, so make sure you register before the applicable deadlines. Shortly after enrolling in a course, its Brightspace environment will usually appear under **My Courses** on the Today tab of the Student Portal.

Progress will remain the official system for viewing your final grades, study results and overall academic progress.

TIMETABLES

You can find the times and locations of your lectures, tutorials and examinations in the [RUG timetable](#). Select **Programme** and search for **BSc EBE-Year 1**, or look up individual courses by name. You can customise your timetable and import it into the calendar app on your phone, which makes it easier to keep track of your schedule.

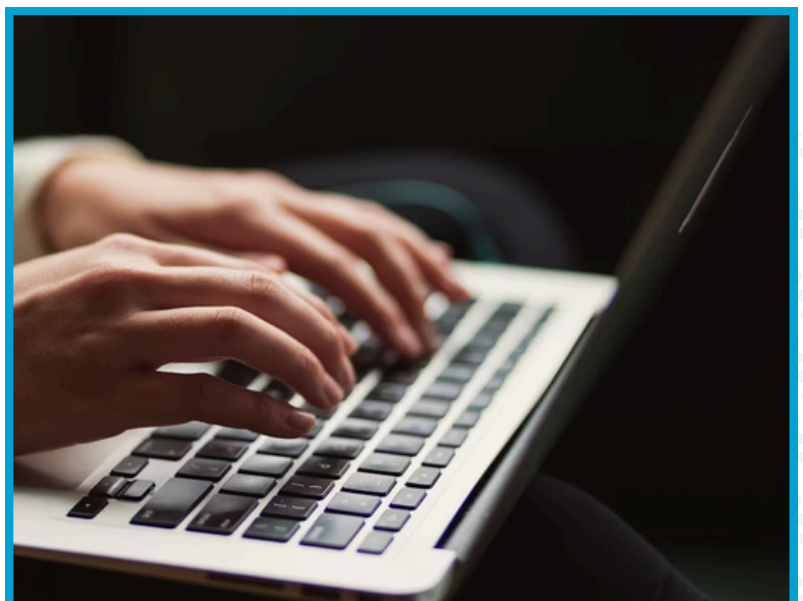
During Semester 1, your tutorial schedule is linked to your mentor group number, so be sure to select the correct group.

Check the timetable regularly, as rooms and times may occasionally change.

UNIVERSITY EMAIL

As an RUG student, you will receive a university email address. It is strongly advised to check your inbox regularly, as this is where you will receive official emails from the faculty, your programme and the Board of Examiners.

Other important messages, such as your mentor group assignment, registration deadlines and exam information, will be sent to this address as well.



WHERE YOUR CLASSES ARE

Most of your student life takes place on the Zernike campus. The **Duisenberg Building (5411)** is FEB's home base, with lecture rooms, study spots and the faculty offices; **Mercator (5416)** and **Kapteynborg (5419)** host tutorials; and the **Aletta Jacobs Hall (5263)** is the large lecture hall and exam hall. Building numbers are shown on rooster.rug.nl with each activity.



CONTACTING UNIVERSITY STAFF

When emailing university staff, keep your message clear and professional:

- Use your university email address.
- Include a clear subject line and, where relevant, the course code.
- Start with **Dear Dr./Professor [surname]**.
- Explain your question briefly and politely.
- End with your full name, student number and program.
- Check your email for mistakes before sending it.



For course-related questions, contact the lecturer, teaching assistant or course coordinator. Their contact details can be found in the course manual. For questions about enrolment, grades and examinations, contact the [Student Support Desk](mailto:studentsupport.feb@rug.nl) at studentsupport.feb@rug.nl.

For questions about study planning, progress or personal circumstances, contact the [study advisors](mailto:studentadvisor.ECO.FIN.feb@rug.nl) at studentadvisor.ECO.FIN.feb@rug.nl.

Always check the course manual, course website and Student Portal first, as the answer may already be available there.



FACILITIES

SPORTS AT ACLO

The ACLO is the student sports organisation of the University of Groningen and Hanze University, and is the largest student sports organisation in the Netherlands. For **€79.95 per academic year (2026-2027)**, you can participate in more than 100 sports, which includes group classes, courses, and facilities that you can reserve with friends through the ACLO app.

Looking for competition or a social circle outside your studies? You can also join one of the approximately 50 affiliated student sports clubs. These clubs are ran by students, affordable and a great way to meet new people.

The ACLO Sports Centre is located at Zernike Campus, being only a three-minute bike ride from the Duisenberg Building.



FOOD & COFFEE

The Zernike Campus offers a variety of places to grab lunch, enjoy a coffee, or refuel between lectures. From the FoodCourt to cozy coffee corners, you will never be far from a good bite.

Some popular options include:

- **FoodCourt:** featuring Broodje Ben, Hungry Mishka, and Taj Mahal Indian Restaurant.
- **Albert Heijn To Go:** perfect for a quick meal, snack, or drink between tutorials.
- **Equator (also known as "De Kas"):** a great place to enjoy a quality coffee, fresh sandwiches, and study with friends.
- **Coffee machines:** conveniently located throughout campus if you're looking for an affordable cup of coffee.



Are you studying in the city center? The **University Library (UB)** and the many nearby cafés are excellent alternatives for studying while enjoying a coffee or lunch.

STUDY SPOTS

You do not have to leave the Duisenberg Building to find a quiet place to study. The **University Library Zernike**, located on the second floor, offers silent study spaces where you can prepare for lectures and exams.

Regular opening hours for UB Zernike:

- Monday to Thursday: 08:30–20:00
- Friday: 09:00–17:00
- Saturday and Sunday: closed

The Duisenberg Building also has open study areas and bookable project rooms for group work. Are they full? The **Bernoulliborg** and **Zernikeborg** often still have available study spaces.



In the city centre, the **University Library** is the most popular option, with spaces for both individual and group study.

Regular opening hours for the University Library City Centre:

- Monday to Thursday: 09:00–22:00
- Friday: 09:00–20:00
- Saturday and Sunday: 10:00–20:00

During UG exam periods, the library is open from **08:30 until midnight every day**.

Remember: during UG exam periods, reserving a study place is required. Check the academic calendar as to when the exam periods take place. Study places fill up quickly, so reserve yours ASAP.

Opening hours and other important information may change during exam periods and holidays. Always check the University Library website or the **UB Groningen app** for the latest announcements before you go.

Looking for a study spot away from the university? The public library in **Forum Groningen** is a popular alternative, although it can also become very busy during examination weeks.

CULTURAL FACILITIES

Studium Generale Groningen

Studium Generale Groningen is a collaboration between the University of Groningen and Hanze University of Applied Sciences. Throughout the year, it organises lectures, debates, film screenings and other activities on topics related to science, culture and society.

The programme is open to students and the wider public and offers an accessible way to explore ideas beyond your own field of study. Check the Studium Generale Groningen website for the latest programme and subscribe to the newsletter to stay informed.

Usva: The Cultural Student Centre

Usva is the University of Groningen's cultural student centre, located in the city centre at Munnekeholm 10. It offers around 150 affordable courses each year in areas such as dance, music, theatre, visual arts, fashion, film, photography, design, writing and public speaking.

Courses are taught by professional instructors and usually run in blocks of approximately ten weeks. There are beginner, intermediate, and advanced-level classes, so no previous experience is required.

Usva also has its own theatre, with performances, improv comedy, jam sessions, pub quizzes and festivals throughout the year. Would you rather help organise activities? You can also join one of Usva's student committees.

Language Centre

The Language Centre of the University of Groningen offers courses in a wide range of languages, including Dutch, German, French, Spanish, Chinese and Japanese. Courses are available online and on campus, with several starting dates throughout the year.

UG students receive a 25% discount on most group courses. If you attend at least 75% of the sessions, you will receive a certificate of attendance and advice on a suitable follow-up course.

Free Dutch Courses for International Students

As a full-time international student at the University of Groningen, you can take Dutch courses at the Language Centre up to level B1. The university covers the course fee, meaning you only pay a €50 administration fee per course.

It is an affordable and accessible way to learn Dutch and feel more at home in Groningen.

Summer Courses

Would you like to learn Dutch but have little time during the academic year? The Language Centre also offers intensive summer courses, with starting dates in June, July and August.

The Language Centre also offers language level assessments and consultations. These can be useful when your exchange destination requires proof of language proficiency. More information can be found in the Study Abroad chapter.

Visit rug.nl/language-centre to explore the full range of courses, assessments and services.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE EBF

The **Economics and Business Faculty Association (EBF)** is the faculty association of the Faculty of Economics and Business (FEB). Founded in 2007, the EBF is one of the largest study associations in the Netherlands and connects more than 5,000 students through academic, career-oriented and social activities. This academic year is particularly special, as the EBF celebrates its **fourth lustrum**.

As an EBF member, you benefit from discounted study books, affordable summaries, career events, company visits, workshops, monthly socials and international trips. Whether you want to develop practical or career related skills or simply make the most of your student life? The EBF offers something for you!

Would you like to become more actively involved?

By joining an **EBF committee**, you can organise real events, gain practical experience and develop both socially and professionally. You will work closely with other students, build a strong network and make new friends along the way.

Committee recruitment takes place in **September and February**. Visit the [EBF committees page](#) to explore the available committees and keep an eye on the application deadlines.



PRACTICAL MATTERS

BINDING STUDY ADVICE (BSA)

All first-year bachelor students at the FEB are subject to the **Binding Study Advice (BSA)**. To continue with the programme, you must obtain at least **45 of the 60 ECTS** available in your first year.

If you earn fewer than 45 ECTS, you will receive a negative BSA. This means that you cannot re-enrol in the programme for the next two years. A negative BSA applies to all three profiles of Economics & Business Economics (which are: Business Economics, Economics and International Economics and Sustainable Development). The Economics and Business Economics is not clustered with any another FEB programme.

For non-EU/EEA students: you must obtain at least **30 ECTS** by the end of the academic year to maintain your residence permit.

You will receive an overview of your results after each of the four examination periods. After Block 1b, this overview also includes a **provisional study advice**, which shows whether you are currently on track or need to consider pulling out (1 March Rule). The definitive BSA is issued in July, after the resits for Block 2b.

STOPPING OR SWITCHING PROGRAMMES: THE 1 MARCH RULE

Have you realized that this programme isn't the right fit for you? Or do you think you won't reach the 45 ECTS, but still want to try again next year? Then the 1 March Rule is for you!

If you are officially deregistered through Studielink **before 1 March of your first year**, you will not receive a Binding Study Advice. This means that you may enrol in the same programme again, or another programme within the same cluster, in the following academic year. Any credits you have already obtained will remain valid. Since you have already passed these courses, you won't have to take them again. You can make use of this rule only once per programme. More information [here](#).

Remember: The date on which your deregistration becomes effective is what counts, not the date on which you submit your request. Therefore, make sure you have deregistered well before the deadline, preferably in February.

Remember: The 1 March deadline is separate from DUO's 1 February rule.

Students who stop their student financing before 1 February may have their student travel product and supplementary grant for that academic year converted into a gift rather than a debt.

Check [here](#) or [here](#).

Before deciding to stop or switch, always speak to a study advisor. They can explain the academic and financial consequences and help you explore other programmes.

PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND THE BSA

Are personal circumstances, such as mental health problems, illness, ADHD or a family situation, affecting your study progress? Contact your study advisor immediately, even when in doubt, and provide any required supporting documentation. The BSA Committee may lower your ECTS threshold or postpone your study advice until the second year (if reported on time). If you expect a delay of 15 ECTS or more, also contact a student counsellor through the Student Support Centre to discuss possible compensation from the Student Support Fund.

More information: the [RUG BSA page](#) and the [BSA Manual](#).

COURSE AND EXAM REGISTRATION

From 2026/2027, all course and exam enrolment runs via **Ocasys**. When you enrol for a course, you're automatically enrolled for the exam. When you fail the exam, the faculty automatically enrolls you for the resit. Your job is to enrol for your courses on time and to check that everything is correct.

Before every block: enrol for your courses via Ocasys.

The deadline is one week before the block starts, and only enrolling before the deadline guarantees your place. You can enrol for a maximum of four courses per block. Do you want to enrol for more than four courses? Ask your programme director for permission and with proof of permission, you can go to the Student Support Desk, and they will enroll you.

Missed the deadline? There are limited options which are addressed [here](#)

SEMESTER	ENROLMENT OPENS	DEADLINE	ENROLMENT CHECK WEEK
1a	1 Aug 2026	23 Aug 2026	28 Sep – 4 Oct
1b	1 Aug 2026	25 Oct 2026	30 Nov – 6 Dec
2a	4 Jan 2027	24 Jan 2027	1 – 7 Mar
2b	4 Jan 2027	4 Apr 2027	10 – 16 May

Lecture week 5: the Enrolment Check Week

The one week to circle in your agenda every block is the 5th lecture week of every semester. In this week you do an enrolment check, to make sure you're enrolled for all your courses. Ocasys reopens and you check your exam list: add anything missing, and unenrol from exams you won't take (mandatory). After this week, nothing can be changed except through a formal request to the Board of Examiners.

The hard rule: not enrolled means no grade, even if you sit the exam and pass!

Resits

Were you enrolled for the regular exam and failed? No stress! You're enrolled for the resit automatically! You only need to enrol yourself in two cases: One, if you skipped or unenrolled from the first chance. Or two, if you passed but want a higher grade. If you fall under one of these cases, enrol during the Enrolment Check Week.

Two quirks: Semester 1A has no officially scheduled resit period (resits, where offered, are arranged with the lecturer), and for Semester 2B resits: you check your enrolment from seven days before the resit date.

Before You Sit an Exam

There are two important things to remember before every exam: One, bring valid identification. Take your student card, identity card or passport with you. Without valid identification, you will not be allowed to make the exam. Two, if you are aiming for cum laude, keep in mind that taking a resit disqualifies you from graduating cum laude. Make your first shot count!

RULES: PLAGIARISM, FRAUD AND AI

The main academic rules are set out in the Student Handbook and the Teaching and Examination Regulations (TER/OER). Plagiarism and fraud are taken very seriously: all submitted work is checked, suspected cases are reported to the Board of Examiners, and all group members are responsible for work submitted under their names. The rules on generative AI differ per course, so always check the course manual, disclose how you used AI and take responsibility for your work.

Questions and formal requests can be sent to the Board of Examiners at examencie.feb@rug.nl, which normally responds within six weeks.

More information [here](#).



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YEAR TWO

CHOOSING YOUR MINOR

The course load intensifies – and you make the most important choice of your bachelor: exchange, internship, or a minor that unlocks your master. Every February, the 'Pick Your Minor' event puts all options on stage. Go.

PREPARING FOR YEAR 2

CHOOSING YOUR PROFILE

At the end of Year 1, you choose which Economics & Business Economics profile you will follow from Year 2 onwards. You do not have to make this decision when you first enter the programme. All E&BE students follow the same first-year courses, giving you the opportunity to explore both economics and business before picking a profile.

To help you make an informed choice, the programme organizes the one-hour information event “Pick Your Profile” in April.

You can choose from three profiles:

- 1. Business Economics (BE):** Business Economics focuses on what happens inside organisations. It suits students interested in finance, accounting and the decisions companies make. You will learn how firms raise and invest money, measure performance and market their product.
- 2. Economics:** Economics focuses on how markets and economies work. It suits students interested in economic theory, government policy and questions involving inflation, inequality and decision-making. The profile has a strong analytical and mathematical foundation.
- 3. International Economics and Sustainable Development (IE&SD):** IE&SD focuses on global trade, economic development, innovation and sustainability. You will examine how globalisation shapes economies and how economic growth relates to social and environmental challenges.

PROFILE	FOCUS	SIGNATURE YEAR 2 COURSES	TYPICAL MASTER'S & CAREERS
Business Economics (BE)	Inside the company: finance, accounting, operations	Management Accounting for BE, Corporate Finance, Operations & Logistics, HRM for BE	Finance, IFM, Accountancy & Controlling · corporate finance, accounting, banking, consulting
Economics	How economies, markets and policy work	Behavioural & Experimental Economics, Public Finance, Industrial Organization, Economics of Banking	MSc Economics · policy, central banking, research, regulation
IE&SD	Global trade, development and sustainability	Economics of Innovation, Economics of Sustainable Development, International Trade Policy	MSc IE&SD · international organisations, development, sustainability, policy

PASSING YEAR 2

If you passed your first year and want to advance to your second year, you have to once again register via Studielink. This is called re-enrolment.

You can arrange your re-enrolment through Studielink from June onwards. Your enrolment becomes final once you have received a positive BSA, the university has approved your registration and your tuition fees have been paid. Late payment may affect your student financing (DUO) and travel product and can temporarily block access to university systems.

With **60 ECTS**, you can fully focus on your Year 2 courses.

With at least **45 ECTS**, you may still have outstanding first-year courses. Make completing these a priority, as missing credits can later affect your eligibility for studying abroad or starting your bachelor thesis.

Remember: Your Year 1 GPA is used to rank applications for studying abroad, so every grade matters. Year 2 also brings new opportunities, such as becoming a teaching assistant, mentor or student ambassador, or joining a EBF committee.

Finally, enrol in your Year 2 courses through Ocasys before the deadline, usually one week before the start of each block.

DEALING WITH A NEGATIVE BSA

A negative BSA means that you cannot re-enrol in the Economics & Business Economics program for two years.

Economics & Business Economics is not part of a shared FEB cluster. A negative BSA therefore applies only to Economics & Business Economics and not to other FEB programmes, such as International Business or Business Administration.

This means that you may still be able to start another FEB programme in the following academic year. If you expect to receive a negative BSA and may have to drop out your current programme, contact your study advisor as soon as possible to discuss your options.

You should also speak to the study advisor of any programme you are considering and make use of the study-choice workshops offered by the Student Service Centre.

Remember: To start another RUG programme in the following academic year, you must register through Studielink by 31 July.

GETTING STARTED

Congratulations on making it to your second year! Take a moment to reflect on what worked well last year and what you may want to approach differently. New opportunities are now available, such as joining an EBF committee or working as a teaching assistant or mentor. Let's first get your affairs in order.

Unlike in Year 1, your timetable is no longer linked to a mentor group. You must enrol in all courses yourself through Ocasys before the deadline, usually one week before the start of each block. You may enrol in a maximum of four courses per block.

For tutorials and practical sessions, enrol separately through Brightspace. Check the timetable on rooster.rug.nl beforehand and register early, as popular time slots can fill up quickly. Course information can be found in Ocasys and in the course manual on Brightspace. Pay particular attention to which tutorials, assignments or participation requirements contribute to your grade.

Having trouble with your group enrolment? Contact the Student Support Desk before the block begins.

Exam registration is generally automatic once you enrol in a course. During the Enrolment Check Week, in lecture week 5 of each block, check your exam registrations in Ocasys, add any missing exams and remove those you will not take.

Remember: If you are not registered for an exam, your result cannot be recorded!



YOUR SECOND-YEAR CURRICULUM

From Year 2 onwards you follow one of three profiles: Business Economics, Economics, or International Economics and Sustainable Development (IE&SD). You have chosen your profile at the end of Year 1. All three profiles address the same courses in Semester 1a and then start to focus on their own profile in Semesters 1b–2b.

Whichever profile you've picked, Year 2 consists of twelve mandatory courses, 60 ECTS.

PROFILE: BUSINESS ECONOMICS

BLOCK	COURSE CODE	COURSE	ECTS
1a	EBB022B05	Introduction to Economic Growth and Development	5
1a	EBB066A05	Matrix Analysis and Optimization	5
1a	EBB130A05	Monetary Macroeconomics	5
1b	EBB846C05	Management Accounting for BE	5
1b	EBB067A05	Microeconomics - Industrial Organization	5
1b	EBB068A05	Operations and Logistics Management	5
2a	EBB060B05	Corporate Finance for E&BE	5
2a	EBB061B05	Econometrics for E&BE	5
2a	EBB065A05	Human Resource Management for BE	5
2b	EBB069B05	Business Ethics, Sustainability and Law	5
2b	EBB062A05	Economics of Banking	5
2b	EBB063B05	Empirical Research Paper for E&BE	5

Course descriptions, literature and instructional methods for every course: [Ocasys \(ocasys.rug.nl\)](https://ocasys.ocasys.rug.nl)

PROFILE: ECONOMICS

1a	EBB022B05	Introduction to Economic Growth and Development	5
1a	EBB066A05	Matrix Analysis and Optimization	5
1a	EBB130A05	Monetary Macroeconomics	5
1b	EBB086A05	Behavioural and Experimental Economics	5
1b	EBB067A05	Microeconomics - Industrial Organization	5
1b	EBB861A05	Public Finance	5
2a	EBB060B05	Corporate Finance for E&BE	5
2a	EBB061B05	Econometrics for E&BE	5
2a	EBB125B05	International Trade Policy and Economic Integration	5
2b	EBB933B05	Intermediate Mathematics	5
2b	EBB062A05	Economics of Banking	5
2b	EBB063B05	Empirical Research Paper for E&BE	5

PROFILE: INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1a	EBB022B05	Introduction to Economic Growth and Development	5
1a	EBB066A05	Matrix Analysis and Optimization	5
1a	EBB130A05	Monetary Macroeconomics	5
1b	EBB141B05	Economics of Innovation	5
1b	EBB067A05	Microeconomics - Industrial Organization	5
1b	EBB143B05	Economics of Sustainable Development	5
2a	EBB060B05	Corporate Finance for E&BE	5
2a	EBB061B05	Econometrics for E&BE	5
2a	EBB125B05	International Trade Policy and Economic Integration	5
2b	EBB069B05	Business Ethics, Sustainability and Law	5
2b	EBB062A05	Economics of Banking	5
2b	EBB063B05	Empirical Research Paper for E&BE	5

ORIENTATION: CHOOSING YOUR MINOR

The biggest decision of your second year is your minor: the 30 ECTS elective part of your third year. You have four routes you can take, and they lead to genuinely different years. Start exploring your options early: information on all minor routes and their application procedures is gathered on the Minor page of the Student Portal, and every deadline and information session is posted in the BSc E&BE community on Brightspace.

Let's discuss the routes you can take:

ROUTE 1: FOREIGN EXCHANGE MINOR

Spend one semester at one of the University of Groningen's partner universities and gain international experience, broaden your perspective, develop cultural awareness, and grow both academically and personally. You continue to pay your regular tuition fees in Groningen and do not pay tuition fees to the host university. Scholarships may also be available.

Your contact for everything exchange-related is Ineke van Est (i.van.est@rug.nl) at the Exchange Office. For outgoing exchange, email (exchange.out.feb@rug.nl).

What will you study?

You will take 30 ECTS in second- and third-year bachelor courses (in some cases, master's courses) which meet FEB's academic standards. Your selection may combine economic/business and non-economic/non-business courses, and may include no more than one language course in the language of the host university (maximum 10 ECTS), excluding English. Your courses cannot overlap with those in the E&BE programme, so always check Ocasys before making your selection. Your foreign minor must be approved by the profile coordinator of the BSc E&BE before departure.

If your host university uses a different credit system, use its official conversion table to convert the local credits into ECTS.

Requirements

Your first year must be completed at the moment of application. Depending on the host university, a minimum GPA and a language test may also apply.

Make sure to check the details per university in the Study Abroad pages on Brightspace.

Applying

Apply through Mobility Online by submitting your three preferred destinations and uploading your list of results (a PDF of your grade overview is sufficient). If your preferred destination requires a language test, you must upload the result and have obtained it by the time of nomination. Once you have been selected, you will receive a statement confirming that your programme is taught in English.

Selection

Places are limited, and selection runs on three criteria in order: your year of entry, your first-year GPA, and your overall study progress and GPA. In other words, the grades you earned in year 1 decide where you get to go.

Deadlines

The deadlines depend on your preferred destination:

- Outside Europe: November 2026
- Within Europe: mid-February 2027
- Remaining places: early September 2027, for second-semester exchanges within and outside Europe only

Always check Brightspace and Mobility Online for the exact dates.

Getting your courses approved, in short

Start by selecting courses from your host university's course catalogue. If you are unsure whether a course is suitable, email the course description to your E&BE profile coordinator at ebe@rug.nl for advice

Once you have made your selection:

1. Enter all courses in Mobility Online, including the ECTS awarded in Groningen and the corresponding local credits at your host university.
2. Once your file is complete, email the profile coordinator to request formal approval. Mention whether your exchange is part of Erasmus or Marco Polo.
3. Complete and sign the Before Mobility Learning Agreement. Have it signed by both Dr De Vries and your host university, then upload it to Mobility Online.

Changing courses while abroad? Follow the same procedure using the **During Mobility Learning Agreement**. After your exchange, the **After Mobility Learning Agreement** must be signed by your host university and Dr De Vries and uploaded to Mobility Online. Finally, send your host university's official transcript to the Exchange Office.

Money

Your exchange application also serves as your grant application. For exchanges within Europe, you can apply for an Erasmus+ grant; for destinations outside Europe, the Marco Polo grant applies. Both are partial grants intended to help cover additional expenses, such as travel, visa and insurance costs. They are available for a maximum of five months.

To keep your grant, you must earn at least 3 ECTS for every month spent abroad. If you do not meet this requirement, you will have to repay the grant.

One rule to remember

You must obtain at least 20 of the required 30 ECTS during your exchange:

- 20–29 ECTS: You may submit a substitution request to the profile coordinator via ebe@rug.nl. In this request, propose suitable courses from the 3rd year BSc E&BE program to replace the credits you did not obtain.
- Fewer than 20 ECTS: You will have to complete an entirely different minor.

ROUTE 2: INTERNSHIP FOR E&BE

Rather than studying at another university, you can spend part of your third year working full-time within an organisation of your choice. The Internship for E&BE is a 15 ECTS curricular option (approximately 10 weeks full-time) that you combine with 3 courses (15 ECTS) from the minor E&BE to make up the full 30 ECTS minor slot. It is the perfect opportunity to put everything you have learned during your BSc E&BE into practice, and you will graduate with valuable work experience, professional connections and a stronger CV.

For questions about this minor, contact the minor coordinator, H.J. van den Berg (h.j.van.den.berg@rug.nl).

Where?

You can complete your internship anywhere in the world, including the Netherlands. You are responsible for finding an organisation, and both the position and internship topic must meet several requirements: the work must be at an academic level, relevant to the topics, theories and methods of your programme, and less than 50% online or remote. Your company supervisor must be fluent in English as well. If no suitable existing project is available, you propose clearly defined tasks of a clear academic level instead.

Your internship must be approved as part of your internship proposal, only students with an approved proposal are admitted to the course. Start exploring organisations and opportunities well before the selection round.

Do you need advice or have questions?

FEB Career Services supports your search with workshops, individual advice sessions and vacancy listings (careerservices.feb@rug.nl)

What you do

You complete a minimum of 400 hours at the organisation, equal to around ten full-time weeks. You can work on your own project or contribute to an existing one, provided it connects to the topics, theories and methods of your BSc E&BE.

During the internship, you develop your professional competencies and explore your career interests. The university supports you with online coaching and optional peer-consultation sessions with other interns, while a company supervisor guides your daily work and progress.

*Remember that the internship is **15 ECTS** and forms only half of your minor: alongside it you also take **3 courses** (15 ECTS) from the minor E&BE to complete the full 30 ECTS!*

Requirements

To apply, you must have passed all your first-year courses. This is the same requirement that applies to studying abroad.

Applying and selection

You apply for a spot in the minor, and if there are more applicants than places, a selection procedure applies. You are first admitted provisionally; your place becomes definitive once you have obtained all your first-year credits (by 1 September) and had your internship proposal approved. The 15 ECTS internship can also be taken as a stand-alone course, but students taking it as part of the Internship for E&BE minor are given priority in any selection. The information-session slides contain all eligibility requirements and application instructions, so read them carefully on Brightspace before applying.

Deadlines

The application procedure follows roughly the same timeline as studying abroad:

- Main selection round: November of your second year
- Remaining semester 1 places: around February
- Remaining semester 2 places: around August

Apply during the main selection round whenever possible, as this gives you the best chance of securing a place.

The information session

Information sessions are organised for students preparing to choose their minor. You will receive updates through your student email. The dates of the session(s), slides and further information will be posted in the BSc E&BE community on Brightspace. Attending is strongly recommended.

Remember: You are responsible for keeping track of the selection procedure, deadlines and preparation requirements.

Money

You continue to pay your regular tuition fees during your internship. If you complete your internship abroad, you may be eligible for an Erasmus+ or Marco Polo grant.

Check the eligibility requirements with the Exchange Office before finalising your plans.

Is this route for you?

Choose the internship if you want to apply your knowledge in practice, gain professional experience or to discover what kind of work suits you.

It is especially suitable if you would rather spend part of your third year contributing to an organisation than attending only courses.

Choose study abroad if experiencing another country, culture and university matters more to you. Both routes are worth 15 ECTS and can take you abroad.



ROUTE 3: A FACULTY MINOR IN GRONINGEN

You can also stay in Groningen and deepen your knowledge within a particular field. There are six faculty minors available. What choice should you make? Consider which master's programme you may want to pursue! There are some master's programmes that require a specific minor for entry.

MINOR	GIVES ACCESS TO	COORDINATOR
Minor E&BE	<i>No specific master unlock</i> Deepening within your own programme (more economics/finance/data courses)	Marc Kramer m.m.kramer@rug.nl
Management Control & Accountancy	<i>MSc Accountancy & Controlling</i> (supplies the required A&C specialisation)	Klaus Derfuss k.g.k.w.derfuss@rug.nl
Innovation & Entrepreneurship	<i>MSc BA – Strategic Business & Entrepreneurship</i>	Simon Fokkema t.s.fokkema@rug.nl
Data Analytics in Economics & Business	<i>No specific master unlock</i> Deepening AI / data-science / analytics skills	Pim Heijnen p.heijnen@rug.nl
Business & Taxation (taught in Dutch)	<i>Allowed to enter the 1-year Pre MSc Fiscal Law</i> Tax / fiscal focus	Irene Burgers i.j.j.burgers@rug.nl
Education – Economics & Business Economics (taught in Dutch)	Leads to a limited second-degree teaching qualification (vmbo-t and havo/vwo years 1–3)	Milan van Rees m.van.rees@rug.nl Anna Verkade a.t.verkade@rug.nl

Registration

For five of the six faculty minors, no separate application is required. Simply enrol for the minor's courses through Ocasys.

The exception is **Innovation & Entrepreneurship**. As places are limited, you must apply with a motivation video and CV through the Minor page on the Student Portal.

To participate in any faculty minor, you must have completed all first-year courses. You must also follow one complete minor, as combining courses from different minors is not permitted.



ROUTE 4: A UNIVERSITY MINOR

A university minor allows you to look beyond Economics and Business Economics. You follow a coherent package of courses from another academic field, usually at a different faculty. You could explore subjects such as philosophy, religion, law or artificial intelligence. This introduces you to different theories, research methods and ways of thinking.

The complete range of university minors is normally published by the end of April on the University of Groningen's [university minors page](#). You can explore the different options and ask the coordinators questions during the [annual Minor Fair](#). For general questions about university minors, email minor@rug.nl.

Rules

- Your minor must be outside your own field and may not substantially overlap with the compulsory E&BE programme. If you are unsure whether a minor is suitable, discuss your choice with your study adviser or contact the E&BE programme via ebe@rug.nl.
- University minors are offered in the first semester and consist of packages of 15 or 30 ECTS. Because E&BE includes 30 ECTS of minor space, you may combine two complete packages of 15 ECTS. Check Ocasys to see in which block each package is offered and whether the two packages fit together.
- You cannot create a university minor by freely combining individual courses. If you want to put together your own package, it is considered a personal minor. A personal minor must be submitted to and approved by the Board of Examiners before you begin. More information is available on the personal [minors page](#).
- Did you not complete every course in your minor? First discuss the available resits with the minor coordinator and your study adviser. The credits you have already obtained remain valid, but the minor may not be offered in the same form the following year.
- If waiting for a resit would delay your graduation, you can discuss converting the university minor into a personal minor with your study adviser. You must then complete one or more replacement courses in the same academic year. The adjusted package must be approved by the Board of Examiners.
- Would you like to follow a package that is not included in the official university-minor offer? It will need to be submitted as a personal minor and approved in advance by the Board of Examiners. Follow the current application procedure on the Student Portal. For general questions, contact the Board at examencie.feb@rug.nl.

Two exceptions for E&BE students:

(1) **Entrepreneurship.**

The university minor Entrepreneurship is not open to students of the Faculty of Economics and Business. As an E&BE student, you can apply for the faculty minor Innovation & Entrepreneurship instead. The admission requirements and application procedure for this faculty minor may differ, so check the current information on the Student Portal and in Ocasys.

(2) **Energy Transition from Multidisciplinary Perspectives.**

Although FEB students are normally not allowed to take a university minor offered by their own faculty, an exception applies to Energy Transition from Multidisciplinary Perspectives. E&BE students may include this minor in their regular minor space.

This fixed 30 ECTS programme examines the energy transition from several perspectives, including economics, law, psychology, natural sciences and spatial sciences. It consists of four compulsory courses. These courses form one complete minor and cannot be taken separately.

To participate, you must have successfully completed the first year of your bachelor's programme. Places are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration for university minors takes place through Ocasys, but always check the Student Portal for the current application procedure and deadlines.

More information is available on the [Energy Transition minor page](#). For questions about the content of the minor, contact coordinator Professor Machiel Mulder at machiel.mulder@rug.nl.

The formal rules can be found in the [FEB Teaching and Examination Regulations 2026–2027](#). Additional information about incomplete minors and registration is available in the [RUG minor FAQ](#).



WHICH SEMESTER?

Studying abroad and the EBE internship can be completed in either semester 1 or semester 2. If you choose semester 2, you will take your compulsory third-year courses and write your thesis during semester 1 (and vice versa). Faculty minors are only available in semester 1.

Whichever route you choose, keep the thesis requirement in mind: you need at least **120 ECTS** before you can begin. Plan any resits carefully, as unfinished first-year courses could prevent you from starting both your minor and your thesis.

BEFORE YOU CHOOSE: THINK ABOUT YOUR MASTER

As several minors are entry requirements for specific master's programmes, you should start exploring your options in your second year.

The faculty organises the **Master Orientation** in March. You can receive advice on choosing a master's, learn about FEB entry requirements, career prospects, and hear from current master's students. You can explore the programmes further during the Master's Day, which takes place in both March and November.



** A fifth route exists for a small group of students: the double degree tracks with Universitas Indonesia and Institut Teknologi Bandung (Indonesia) and KEDGE Business School in Bordeaux (France). These have their own programme structure and application procedure, communicated separately via the programme.*

3

YEAR THREE

MINOR, THESIS & DEGREE

The year of the big experiences: your minor semester – abroad, in an internship, or deepening towards your master – your thesis, and your graduation. Also a year of deadlines. This chapter walks you through them.

PREPARING FOR YEAR 3

Once your minor is arranged, settle these six things before the summer ends:

1. **Re-enrol through Studielink by 31 August.** Your enrolment is not renewed automatically. Make sure to re-enrol through Studielink by 31 August. If you miss the deadline, you will not be able to attend courses, take exams or access Brightspace. Your payment details carry over automatically unless you want to change your payment method.
2. **Complete your resits before summer.** You need at least 120 ECTS to start the Bachelor's Thesis EBE. An unfinished first-year course may prevent you from starting both your minor and your thesis. You cannot take resits in Groningen while studying abroad, so complete them before leaving.
3. **Make a realistic budget if you are going abroad.** Before going abroad, compare your expected income with the cost of living at your destination. Housing will probably be your biggest expense. If you rent a room in Groningen, try to sublet or swap it to avoid paying rent twice.
4. **Compare the academic calendars.** There are several universities abroad, following a different academic calendar from the FEB. Your exams abroad may overlap with the start of your next block in Groningen. Check the dates before accepting your place and ask the host university whether you can take your exams earlier.
5. **Finish your courses before starting an internship.** The internship is full-time and takes place five days a week. It cannot be combined with other courses.
6. **If you plan to write your thesis in semester 1, you must first have your study programme approved by the Board of Examiners.** Submit your request at least six weeks before the thesis project begins, as the Board needs time to assess it → DO THIS BEFORE SUMMER!

Year 3 also offers plenty of opportunities to gain experience alongside your studies. At the end of year 2, you can apply for roles such as teaching assistant, mentor or student ambassador. You can also join an EBF committee!

See the chapter Student Jobs for more information.

GETTING STARTED

Congratulations for making it this far! Your final year is where everything comes together. One semester may take you abroad, into an organisation or deeper into a field that prepares you for your master's. Alongside your minor, you complete your compulsory courses and write the thesis that finishes your bachelor. There is plenty to look forward to, but also plenty to organise. This chapter takes you through each step as it comes.

Year 3 has two halves of 30 ECTS each:

- **Your minor** (30 ECTS): During the first semester, you follow one of four minor routes. These are studying abroad, completing the Economics & Business Economics Internship, following a faculty minor in Groningen, taking part in a double degree track or one of the 30 RUG minors. You choose your route during year 2.
- **Courses and thesis** (30 ECTS): During the second semester, you can complete four compulsory third-year courses (20 ECTS) and write the Bachelor's Thesis IB (10 ECTS).



YOUR THIRD-YEAR CURRICULUM

SEMESTER 1: THE MINOR SLOT (30 EC)

OPTION (30 EC)	NOTES
Minor E&BE	Faculty minor
Minor Management Control & Accountancy	Faculty minor
Minor Innovation & Entrepreneurship	Faculty minor
Minor Data Analytics in Economics & Business	Faculty minor
Minor Business & Taxation	Faculty minor (Faculty of Law)
Minor Education Economics & Business Economics	Faculty minor
Internship for E&BE	15 EC internship + 3 courses from Minor E&BE = 30 EC
Study abroad (foreign minor)	Approved by the profile coordinator before departure
University minor	Not the Entrepreneurship minor – E&BE students are excluded

SEMESTER 2: BUSINESS ECONOMICS (BE)

BLOCK	COURSE CODE	COURSE	ECTS
2	EBB926C10	Bachelor's Thesis E&BE – BE	5
2a	EBB084B05	Investments	5
2a	EBB085A05	Marketing Research for E&BE	5
2b	EBB116B05	Analysis of Corporate Reports	5
2b	EBB079C05	International Corporate Finance	5

Choose at least 3 of these 4 courses; a maximum of 1 may be replaced by a course from the E&BE-BE electives table (Check Ocasys). The thesis may also be taken in Semester 1. If you take the Management Control & Accountancy minor, Analysis of Corporate Reports is already part of it, so choose another elective here instead.

SEMESTER 2: ECONOMICS

BLOCK	COURSE CODE	COURSE	ECTS
2	EBB908B10	Bachelor's Thesis E&BE – Economics	5
2a	EBB842C05	Dynamic Macroeconomics	5
2a	EBB840A05	Labour Economics	5
2b	EBB852C05	Microeconomics – Choice & Strategy	5
2b	EBB934A05	History of Economic Thought	5

Choose at least 3 of these 4 courses; a maximum of 1 may be replaced by a course from the E&BE-Economics electives table (Check Ocasys). The thesis may also be taken in Semester 1.

SEMESTER 2: INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (IE&SD)

BLOCK	COURSE CODE	COURSE	ECTS
2	EBB879D10	Bachelor's Thesis E&BE – IE&SD	5
2a	EBB811B05	Growth and Development Economics	5
2a	EBB131A05	International Financial Markets	5
2b	EBB886B05	Political Economics	5
2b	EBB082C05	International Trade and Firms	5

Choose at least 3 of these 4 courses; a maximum of 1 may be replaced by a course from the E&BE-IE&SD electives table (Check Ocasys). The thesis may also be taken in Semester 1.

THE BACHELOR'S THESIS E&BE

The thesis is the final individual project of your bachelor. You conduct independent empirical research within one of the themes offered by your profile. This is where you bring together the knowledge and research skills you have developed throughout the programme.

You must complete the thesis within one semester. If your final paper does not receive a passing grade, you will have one opportunity to improve it during that same semester. Start planning early and treat the thesis as a serious project from day one.

Your thesis course

The thesis course you follow depends on your profile.

- **Business Economics:** The Bachelor's Thesis E&BE - BE is coordinated by Dr A. Dalò. The available research themes cover Finance, Accounting and Marketing. Contact the EE&F secretariat at secret.eef@rug.nl for your questions.
- **Economics:** The Bachelor's Thesis E&BE - Economics coordinated by Dr P. Milionis. You can contact Dr Milionis (p.milionis@rug.nl) directly with questions.
- **International Economics and Sustainable Development:** The Bachelor's Thesis E&BE - IE&SD is coordinated by J.R. de Wit. Contact the GEM secretariat at gem.feb@rug.nl, +31 (0)50 36 33458 or visit room 5411.0538 for more information.

The thesis is normally scheduled in Semester 2, although it may also be completed in Semester 1. For general questions about the programme, contact ebe@rug.nl.

Before you can start

You must meet the following requirements before the thesis course begins.

- You have earned at least 120 ECTS. These credits must be part of your approved E&BE programme and must include all 60 ECTS from the first year.
- Your study programme has been approved. Submit your complete bachelor programme to the Board of Examiners at least six weeks before the thesis project begins. More information is available in the [FEB bachelor student FAQ](#).
- You are registered for the thesis course.

It is strongly recommended that you complete Econometrics for E&BE and Empirical Research Paper for E&BE before beginning your thesis.

How it works, step by step

1. Before or at the start of the semester, the themes are announced on Brightspace.
2. After the introduction lecture, you submit your theme preferences.
3. You are assigned to a theme and supervisor based on your preferences and your previous study performance — so your grades influence which theme you get.
4. Within your theme, you identify a relevant problem, develop a research design, and conduct your research individually.
5. Your supervisor sets intermediate deadlines and runs workshops and individual meetings, where you discuss your setup, progress and results and receive feedback from your supervisor and your peers.
6. At the end of the semester, you submit and defend your thesis.

Two rules you must not overlook

- You cannot be abroad while writing your thesis. Attendance is compulsory, so plan your exchange or internship into the other semester.
- Attendance is part of your grade. Part of the meetings count as a Practical Exercise that verifies the work is genuinely yours. If you do not pass these and the authenticity of your thesis cannot be guaranteed, you receive no grade and must redo the entire course.

Practical advice

Writing a thesis rewards planning and self-discipline. Use your supervisor's meetings rather than saving everything for the end and keep to the intermediate deadlines.

THE END OF YEAR 3

APPLYING FOR A MASTER

Do you want to start a masters after completing your bachelor? Keep in mind that application deadlines may fall earlier than expected, sometimes before your final block has ended.

A few things to get right

- You can only be admitted to a master once your full bachelor is complete. This means passing all courses and completing your thesis. Finishing the thesis on time is therefore what makes or breaks a master start.
- Several FEB masters have entry requirements you had to plan for in year 2: For example, a specific minor (see the minor chapter). Check the requirements of your intended master well in advance.
- Different Application Procedure: Applying for a master's involves a separate application procedure. The requirements differ for Dutch and international students and depend on several factors. More information is available on the [FEB master's application page](#).
- If you have decided but are still weighing options, the Master Orientation (March) and Master's Day (March and November) are where you get answers.

Graduating

Graduation is not automatic. Once you have passed all programme components and obtained 180 ECTS, you must request your degree certificate through the FEB Education Office. The Board of Examiners will then conduct a final check of your course package and determine your official graduation date. This is the date that will appear on your degree certificate.

Remember: you do need to be enrolled as a student at the moment you graduate, so keep your registration active until your final result is in.

Deregistering

After graduating, request deregistration through Studielink and select deregistration upon graduation. Your enrolment ends on the first day of the month following your graduation date. For example, if your graduation date is 16 March, you will be deregistered from 1 April. You may also be entitled to a partial refund of your tuition fees.

Your degree certificate

Your degree certificate is issued only once. The FEB hands it to you in person, at a degree ceremony or at the Student Support Desk. If you truly cannot collect it yourself, you can authorise someone else with the proper form and ID, or in some cases ask for it to be posted (graduation.feb@rug.nl). You'll be notified by student email when it's ready.

Your transcript

Your official transcript and diploma supplement list all courses and grades that make up your 180 ECTS. Any judgement, or distinction, awarded to you will also be recorded.



GRADUATING WITH DISTINCTION: CUM LAUDE

Two levels of distinction exist, and the Board of Examiners awards them on your weighted average grade (G), which is not rounded. (Example: a 7.99 is not an 8.0)

- **Cum laude:** weighted average of 8.0 or higher, and a thesis grade of at least 8.0.
- **Summa cum laude:** weighted average of 9.0 or higher, and a thesis grade of at least 9.0.

Two things quietly close the door on distinction, and you need to know them from year 1, not year 3:

- **Resits.** Only your first-obtained grade counts, and having taken a resit disqualifies you from cum laude.
- **Exemptions.** A course marked as an exemption (VR) on your list also rules out cum laude.

4

ALL YEARS BACHELOR INFO

Some things matter every single year. From finding the right information and knowing where to ask for help, to taking care of your wellbeing and staying on top of practical matters. This chapter brings together the essentials you'll keep coming back to throughout your bachelor.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

EXAMINATION PERIODS

Exams take place during the exam weeks at the end of each block. You can find the dates in the academic year calendar or on rooster.rug. You will never have multiple exams per day.

Most FEB exams are held in the **Aletta Jacobs Hall**, the large central examination venue at Zernike. You will therefore take most of your exams there throughout your entire degree. Some courses may have online exams/assignments instead. This will always be stated in the course manual.

Exam registration is usually automatic, but you should always double check it! When you enrol for a course in Ocasys, the faculty registers you for the exam. If you fail the exam, you are automatically registered for the resit.

During the **Enrolment Check Week** in lecture week 5 of each block, open Ocasys and review your exam registrations. Register for any missing exams and deregister from exams you do not plan to take. You must register for a resit yourself if you did not attend the first exam or if you passed but want to improve your grade.

Remember: If you are not registered for an exam, your result cannot be recorded, even if you take the exam and pass it. See Course and Exam Registration for more information.

Bring your **student ID card** to every exam. Without it, you will not be allowed to take the exam. Also keep in mind that taking a resit makes you ineligible for cum laude, so make your first attempt count.



STUDY SPOTS

Studying on campus can help you stay focused and keep your studies separate from your free time. Zernike offers several places where you can work independently or with others. We highlight a few options below. Visit the [University Library website](#) for a complete overview.

University Library Zernike

The UB Zernike, located on the second floor of the Duisenberg Building, offers plenty of study spaces in a designated silent study area. During exam periods, you can reserve a seat through the UB app guarantee yourself a place.

Remember: If your plans change, remember to cancel your reservation so someone else can use it.

Duisenberg and other Zernike buildings

The Duisenberg Building has open study areas where you don't need a reservation. Can't seem to find a spot? The Bernoulliborg, Kapteynborg and Zernikeborg nearby usually still have space.

University Library City Centre

Prefer to study in the city centre? The University Library at the Broerstraat is the classic spot, with bookable studios for individual and group work. Mind the exam-period: four times a year the UB switches to UG-only access and seat reservations become mandatory. You can reserve through the UB app or at [here](#). Don't forget to book early, because places go fast.

Project rooms

If you have to work together on a project or want to study as a group, you can book a project room in the Duisenberg Building. It's recommended to book these in advance.



EXTRA HELP TO PASS YOUR EXAMS

Summaries and tutoring

Summaries can be a useful addition to your exam preparation. As an EBF member, you have access to free and discounted summaries for a wide range of courses. Check <https://ebfgroningen.nl/study/summaries> for the current selection.

If you need extra help with a course, the EBF tutor network can connect you with a student who has already completed it successfully and can provide one-on-one support. Follow the EBF channels or contact the EBF for information on finding a tutor.

Calculator

Some exams require a calculator, and only approved models may be used. The course manual states which calculator is permitted. You will also receive the exam instructions through your UG email before the exam. Check these requirements in advance, as you cannot use an unapproved calculator in the exam hall.

EBF's tips and tricks

1. Talk to a study advisor. Study advisors are not only there for personal circumstances. If you are struggling with several courses or unsure how to plan your studies, they can also help with study strategy and planning. See Where to Go for more information.
2. Review how you study. Sometimes the problem is your method rather than the course content. The Student Service Centre offer support with time management, exam preparation, exam stress and academic writing. This can be particularly helpful if you are working hard but not seeing the results you expected.
3. Get the basics right. Form a study group, attend your lectures and tutorials, practise with past exams and other available materials, and keep up with each course every week.

Remember: Failing to prepare, is preparing to fail.



AFTER THE EXAMS

Exam results

Exam results may appear in several places, but the grade recorded in Ocasys is always the official result. Any grade shown on Brightspace or announced in your UG email is preliminary. Results are normally published within ten working days after the exam.

Resits and the highest grade

Every course has a regular exam and a resit. If you take both, the highest grade counts. However, taking any resit makes you ineligible for cum laude. If graduating with distinction matters to you, aim to pass every course at the first attempt.

An additional resit

There is generally no extra attempt after the scheduled resit. You may only request an additional resit if it is the final course you need to complete your bachelor and you have passed all other programme components, including your thesis. Requests must be submitted to the Board of Examiners and are rarely approved.

Calculating your average

Your weighted average takes the number of ECTS awarded for each course into account. This means that a 10 ECTS course has twice as much influence on your average as a 5 ECTS course. Most FEB courses are worth 5 ECTS and therefore carry equal weight. The 10 ECTS thesis counts twice.

This weighted average is used to determine whether you qualify for cum laude. It is not rounded, so an average of 7.99 does not count as an 8.0.



STUDENT JOBS

Your studies also give you access to paid positions within the faculty. These roles allow you to earn money alongside your degree, gain practical experience and strengthen your CV. Most positions recruit only once a year, so regularly check your student email, the Student Portal for new vacancies.

Teaching Assistant (TA/Tutorial teachers)

Did you perform well in a course and enjoy the course? Consider applying to become a teaching assistant. You will lead tutorials, explain the material, guide discussions and help other students understand the course.

The role allows you to deepen your own knowledge, work closely with teaching staff and gain valuable teaching experience. The University of Groningen also offers teaching assistants a short training programme in teaching and mentoring.

Vacancies are usually shared by the course coordinator or through a faculty-wide call for applications. A strong grade in the course is generally the main requirement.

Student assistant

Beyond teaching, you can work as a student assistant and support FEB staff with research, projects or organisational tasks. The work varies by position and may include analysing data, assisting with research or helping organise faculty events.

These flexible roles give you a closer look at the academic side of the faculty and the opportunity to work alongside researchers and other FEB staff. Vacancies are shared through the Student Portal and faculty channels. Some positions require Dutch, but many are also open to international students.

Mentor

As a student mentor, you will guide a group of first-year students through their first month at the FEB and provide the same kind of support that helped you settle into university. The role suits proactive students with solid academic results who enjoy helping others find their way.

Mentor recruitment usually takes place during the second half of the academic year, ahead of the new intake. You will receive an email through your UG email when applications open.

Student ambassador

Student ambassadors represent their programme and speak with prospective students at open days, campus tours and study fairs. If you are enthusiastic about International Business and enjoy sharing your experiences, this could be a great role for you. You will be notified when applications open.

Get involved with the EBF

Personal development does not always require a paid position. By joining an EBF committee, you can organise events, work closely with other students and build a professional and social network alongside your studies.

For those looking for a greater commitment, an EBF board year offers the association's most intensive opportunity for personal and professional development. Visit ebfgroningen.nl for information about committee applications and board positions.

STUDENT WELLBEING

Studying is more than passing exams. Some periods will be intense, and it is completely normal to feel stress, doubt or homesickness at some point during your degree. This is especially true during your first year, when you may be adjusting to a new university, city or country. You are not alone, and support is available throughout Groningen. Here's what's available, from everyday tips to more personal help.

Start with a conversation

If stress, study doubts or personal circumstances are affecting you, a Study Advisor is often the best place to begin. Everything you discuss is confidential, and they can refer you to more specialised support when needed.

You do not need to wait until a problem becomes serious. Walk-in consultation hours are also available for smaller concerns or when you simply need someone to help you decide what to do next.

Workshops, courses and support groups

The Student Service Centre offers a wide range of free or low-cost workshops and training courses. Topics include effective studying, academic writing, stress management, fear of failure, self-discipline and procrastination.

The SSC also organises study and thesis support groups, where you work alongside students facing similar challenges. These accessible and practical forms of support provide techniques that you can apply immediately.



Online self-help, anytime

Prefer to start on your own? If you prefer to begin independently, you can use the NewHealth online platform anonymously and free of charge. It offers modules on subjects such as stress, anxiety, lifestyle and smartphone use.

SSC trainers have also developed a free online course on improving your study techniques. Both options are useful if you would first like to explore support privately and at your own pace.

Talking to a professional

Are you dealing with ongoing stress, gloomy thoughts, anxiety or fear of failure? You can request an intake with one of the SSC student psychologists, who offer short-term individual help.

Student counsellors are the university-wide point of contact for personal circumstances, functional impairments, financial arrangements and study-related matters that cannot be resolved within your programme. They work independently of your faculty.



Peer contact

Sometimes it helps most to talk to someone your own age. UG has peer-support initiatives and contact groups for students in similar situations, and student-run listening services where you can simply talk things through.

Remember: Knowing you're not the only one makes a real difference.

A quick word on the practical side

Make sure you're registered with a local GP (huisarts) and have Dutch health insurance. Your GP is the gateway to most mental-health care in the Netherlands, and without insurance those costs aren't reimbursed. International Students can find GPs experienced with student and expat needs.

And the EBF is here too

We're not counsellors, but we are your community. Feeling at home at FEB becomes much easier when you have people around you. Join a committee, attend our events, use the tutor network when a course is giving you trouble or simply drop by. Feeling connected is its own kind of wellbeing.

More information and all contact points: The University's [Student Well-being Portal](#) on the Student Portal brings together every resource, initiative and contact in one place.

ASKING QUESTIONS

The FEB is a big faculty, and knowing where to send a question saves you days of waiting for the wrong desk to reply. Here's who does what.

WHERE TO GO	FOR WHAT
Your mentor	Everyday questions about your new study environment, study skills and practical matters.
Teaching assistant / lecturer	Questions about the content of a course.
Student Support Desk	Almost all practical questions about your programme: registration, grades, enrolment, graduation, certificates.
Study advisors	Study planning, study progress and delay, the BSA, study doubts, and personal circumstances affecting your studies.
Student Service Centre (SSC)	Student counsellors and psychologists: personal circumstances, financial and legal matters, wellbeing, and exam facilities for dyslexia/AD(H)D.
Board of Examiners	Formal requests: exemptions, extra exam opportunities, individual arrangements.
Career Services	Career orientation, applications and internship support.
Study Abroad Office	Everything about your exchange semester.
EBF	Books, summaries, events, committees – and if we do not know the answer, we know who does.



ADDRESSES

EBF Groningen

Nettelbosje 2, 9747 AE Groningen • www.ebfgroningen.nl • Office at the Study Associations in the Duisenberg Building

Student Support Desk FEB

Plaza, Duisenberg Building • 050 363 8900 • via the Student Support Desk online form • rug.nl/feb/education/support

Study advisors FEB

Studentadvisor.IB.feb@rug.nl • walk-in hours and live calendar: rug.nl/feb/studieadviseurs

Student Service Centre (SSC)

University-wide student counselling and wellbeing • rug.nl/education/student-service-centre

Board of Examiners FEB

examencie.feb@rug.nl

EBE programme support

ebe@rug.nl

Homepage for students

Student Portal: student.portal.rug.nl

FEB Exchange Office

exchange.out.feb@rug.nl

Minor Information

minor@rug.nl

COLOPHON

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Design: Britt Stamsnieder, IT & Marketing Officer EBF. Spotted an error or typo? Please let us know via

m.goedemoed@ebfgroningen.nl.

SOCIALS

 @ebfgroningen

 EBF Groningen

 www.ebfgroningen.nl

 info@ebfgroningen.nl

MAIN PARTNERS

Deloitte.



MOORE MKW

SUB ASSOCIATIONS

 **marug**
Marketing Association University of Groningen

 **FS-G**
Financial Study Association Groningen

 **VESTING**

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