

**Programme-specific appendix to the  
Education and Examination Regulations (EER)  
2015-2016**

for the Master of Science Programme

**Philosophy of Science, Technology and Society (PSTS)**

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# 1. Structure and content of the programme

## 1a. Composition of the programme

The tables below show the courses which make up the PSTS programme in EC (1 EC = 28 hours of study load) per unit.

The generic structure (of the September – fulltime – enrolment) of the programme is as follows:

<b>Schedule 1st Year</b>			
<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Semester 2</b>	
<b>Block 1A</b>	<b>Block 1B</b>	<b>Block 2A</b>	<b>Block 2B</b>
Philosophy of technology (201200063) 5 EC	Philosophy of science in practice (201400573) 5 EC	Technolab (201400575) 7 EC (5 EC) (2 EC)	Philolab (201400576) 3 EC
Science and technology studies (201200064) 5 EC	History of science and Technology (201400574) 5 EC	Philosophical anthropology and technology (191612550) 5 EC	Technology and social order (191622510) 5 EC
Philosophical theories and methods (201200059) 5 EC	Ethics and technology 1 (191612540) 5 EC	Society, politics and technology (191612560) 5 EC	Ethics and technology 2 (191612580) 5 EC

<b>Schedule 2nd Year</b>				
<b>Profile</b>	<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Semester 2</b>	
	<b>Block 1A</b>	<b>Block 1B</b>	<b>Block 2A</b>	<b>Block 2B</b>
<b>Profile 1</b> <b>Technology and the Human Being</b>	Philosophical Anthropology and Human-Technology Relations (191612660) 5 EC	Philosophy of Mind and Body and Technology (201300079) 5 EC	<b>Academic Profile</b> Master's Thesis 30 EC (201300088) MasterLab 2 (EC's: part of the Master's thesis - with all students)  <b>Professional profile</b> Internship 10 EC (201300090) Master's Thesis 20 EC (201300089) MasterLab 2 (EC's: part of the Master's thesis – with all students)	
	Shaping Technology and Use (191622630) 5 EC	Elective taken from another profile 5 EC		
	Elective taken from another profile 5 EC			
	MasterLab 1 201300085 (with all students) 5 EC			

Profile	Semester 1		Semester 2	
	Block 1A	Block 1B	Block 2A	Block 2B
<b>Profile 2</b> <b>Technology and Values</b>	Technology and the Quality of Life (191612670) 5 EC	Assessment of Emerging Technologies (201300081) 5 EC	<b>Academic Profile</b> Master's Thesis 30 EC (201300088) MasterLab 2 (EC's: part of the Master's thesis - with all students)  <b>Professional profile</b> Internship 10 EC (201300090) Master's Thesis 20 EC (201300089) MasterLab 2 (EC's: part of the Master's thesis - with all students)	
	Technology, Globalization and the Environment (201300080) 5 EC	Elective taken from another profile 5 EC		
	Elective taken from another profile 5 EC			
	MasterLab 1 (201300085) (with all students) 5 EC			
Profile	Semester 1		Semester 2	
	Block 1A	Block 1B	Block 2A	Block 2B
<b>Profile 3</b> <b>Dynamics of Science, Technology and Society</b>	Philosophy of Science and Technology Relations (201300082) 5 EC	Spatial and Temporal Dynamics of Science, Technology and Society (201300084) 5 EC	<b>Academic Profile</b> Master's Thesis 30 EC (201300088) MasterLab 2 (EC's: part of the Master's thesis - with all students)  <b>Professional profile</b> Internship 10 EC (201300090) Master's Thesis 20 EC (201300089) MasterLab 2 (EC's: part of the Master's thesis - with all students)	
	Dynamics and Governance of Socio-Technical Change (201300083) 5 EC	Elective taken from another profile 5 EC		
	Elective taken from another profile 5 EC			
	MasterLab 1 (201300085) (with all students) 5 EC			

**Table 1: Curriculum PSTS 2015-2016**

Note:

A 2<sup>nd</sup> year profile will only be offered upon sufficient enrolment (i.e. that at least 5 students per year opt for this profile)

**First semester of year #2**

Students take the three obligatory courses of their profile (15 EC's) and choose 2 elective courses (10 EC's) from the other profiles or (upon approval from the Board of Examiners) another programme. Students take MasterLab 1 (5 EC's) parallel to the selective courses. In MasterLab 1 students acquire insights in the relations between the different themes within a profile and learn to combine and employ various perspectives on technology. In addition, students develop additional research skills and write a

research proposal for their thesis. MasterLab 1 starts in the first quarter with a limited number of meetings. In the second quarter there are more contact hours.

### **Second semester of year #2**

In MasterLab 2 students choose a thesis supervisor and work on their final thesis. They receive additional feedback and aid from coordinators and other students on their work in progress. If students wish to orient towards a professional career, they can opt for a brief Internship and may write a shorter final thesis. MasterLab 2 is scheduled for one afternoon every two weeks.

Note:

For the PSTS student cohorts September 2015 and beyond, the PSTS 2<sup>nd</sup> year schedule will change. The current 3 profiles, including a set of 9 2<sup>nd</sup> year courses, will be replaced by a programme that consists of 2 profiles, including a set of 7 2<sup>nd</sup> year courses, and a so-called "Free Profile" where students may choose courses (both inside or outside the PSTS programme) which have to be approved by the Examination Board.

### **ETHICS AND TECHNOLOGY Track**

Students can opt for a special Ethics and Technology track, offered by 3TU.Ethics. This is a one-year track consisting of 30 EC in advanced courses in ethics and technology and a 30 EC master thesis in ethics of technology. Students taking the Ethics and Technology track graduate as regular PSTS students, but with the distinction of having taken the 3TU.Ethics-approved Ethics and Technology track. The track is also preparatory for a PhD programme in Ethics and Technology, and PSTS students who have completed the track have an increased chance of being accepted into the PhD programme. Many of the courses in the track will be taken together with PhD students in the 3TU.Ethics programme. Students take the courses in the Profile Technology and Values (profile 2) in their second year of the PSTS Master's programme, plus electives from 3TU.Ethics from UT, TU Delft and TU Eindhoven.

In detail:

- Assessment of Emerging Technologies (UT) (5 EC)
- Technology and the Quality of Life (UT) (5 EC)
- Technology, Globalization and the Environment (UT) (5 EC)
- Three elective courses from the following list:
  - Responsible Research and Innovation (TU Delft) (5 EC)
  - Philosophy of Risk (TU Eindhoven) (5 EC)
  - Close Readings of the Greatest Hits of Recent Ethical Theory (TU Delft) (5 EC)
  - Philosophical Anthropology and Human-Technology Relations (UT) (5 EC)

Students are also allowed to substitute the course Environmental Ethics (TU Eindhoven) (5 EC) for the course Technology, Globalization and the Environment (UT) (5 EC)

### **1b. Study load of the programme**

All units of study comprise of 5 EC except TechnoLab, which is a 7 EC unit and PhiloLab which is a 3 EC unit. EC designates European Credits: One year of study is 60 EC's, meaning that 1.4 EC is about one week of study. The entire study programme is 120 EC; both study programme years are 60 EC; semesters are 30 EC; quartiles are 15 EC.

The programme for the part-time variant is the same as for the fulltime programme. Part-time student will take a longer period to complete the programme.

### **1c. Honours programme**

For excellent students the University of Twente offers three (3) different extra-curricular master's honours programmes of 15 EC each. These programmes have a distinctive profile which allows students to develop themselves in one of the three roles: as an organiser, designer or researcher.

These programmes are:

- MSc Change leaders

- MSc Design Honours
- MSc Research honours

More information on these programmes and the corresponding selection procedures can be found at the UT honours programmes website (<http://www.utwente.nl/excellentie/en/>)



## 2. Goals and objectives of the programme

The aim of the programme is to equip students with knowledge and skills in the area of philosophy of technology, which is a domain that comprises not only the methodology and foundations of engineering, but also the various ways in which technology and society have become intertwined and depend on each other. The field of Science, Technology and Innovation studies (STS) is considered as part of this domain. STS provides evidence-based insights into contemporary technology for philosophical reflection and is taught as a new way to do philosophy with empirical means, i.e. as a form of 'empirical philosophy'. The aim of the programme is achieved in such a way that graduates (making use of knowledge gained through a previous Bachelor's programme in engineering sciences, (applied) natural sciences, social sciences, or philosophy) are able to conduct philosophical or philosophically informed multidisciplinary analyses pertaining to the areas of technology, technical sciences and applied physical sciences, technological developments, and the relationship between technology and society. Graduates possess sufficient knowledge and skills to participate in professional practice, for example as scientific researchers, R&D researchers, consultants, policymakers, educators, or designers. They are able to independently carry out philosophical and/or STS research and could be considered for a PhD. position.

### The PSTS programme's final qualifications.

The PSTS programme has as its domain the philosophy of technology, which is a field that is concerned with the philosophical study of technology and its implications for and interactions with society. In the PSTS programme, the philosophy of technology is understood broadly as a field that includes, next to philosophical approaches, empirical and multidisciplinary approaches from the field of science, technology and innovation studies (STS).

#### Knowledge

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| K1. | Extensive knowledge of the philosophy of technology, including its philosophical and STS approaches, and the ability to relate these approaches to each other.  |
| K2. | Good knowledge of the various philosophical subfields, including ethics of technology, social and political philosophy of technology, philosophical anthropology of technology, epistemology and metaphysics of technology, and philosophy and history of (engineering) science and technology. |
| K3. | Good knowledge of approaches and themes in STS.   |
| K4. | Good knowledge of empirical research methods in STS and philosophical research methods.   |
| K5. | A basic understanding of the relation between the philosophy of technology, including its various subfields, methods and history, to general philosophy, including its various subfields, methods and history.  |
| K6. | Specialist knowledge of a sub-domain or specialized topic within the philosophy of technology (broadly defined).  |

#### Skills

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| S1. | Writing and verbal communication skills.  |
| S2. | Skills in reasoning and arguing and in the analysis of arguments.   |
| S3. | Skills in locating, reading and analysing scientific texts from various disciplines in philosophy and STS, as well as professional and popular texts, that reflect on technology, engineering sciences, technological developments, and the relationship between technology and society.  |
| S4. | Skills in the identification and analysis of problems related to the role of technology and science in society, and the ability to formulate a position with regard to these problems from a philosophical and/or STS perspective.  |
| S5. | The ability to perform original scientific research in the field of philosophy of technology, using philosophical and/or STS methods. This includes the ability to arrive at a well-considered problem formulation, the selection and development of appropriate theories and (empirical) methodologies, and the proper execution of a research plan. |
| S6. | Skills in the comparison of differing scientific approaches or paradigms in a sub-domain or specialized topic, the application of these approaches, and the ability to critically analyse them.   |

- S7. The ability to generate philosophical and/or STS research results that are relevant for scientific, technological, and/or social practices.
- S8. The capacity to communicate research results and solutions to colleagues, as well as professionals from other subject areas, and the ability to generate learning processes from that interaction.
- S9. Reflective capacity pertaining to one's own work, selecting or altering course, and the ability to translate learning trajectories into the development of more general knowledge and methods.
- S10. Capable to endeavour a career inside or outside of academia wherein philosophical and STS knowledge and skills are required.



### 3. Examination and exams

#### 3a. Examination

The PSTS programme has one (1) examination, i.e. the master's examination after 2 years. The master's examination is deemed to have been successfully completed if all exams of the agreed units of study, including the Final project (master's thesis), have been taken successfully.

#### 3b. Exam formats

The exam formats of each of the units of study (courses) in the PSTS programme is shown table 2. Written tests are individual tests, unless specified otherwise. The weight attributed to each of the exam components is stipulated in the course's electronic learning environment, and made public before the start of the course.

#### Course list PSTS 2015-2016, year #1

<b>Semester 1</b>			
<b>Code</b>	<b>Name (+ study load)</b>	<b>Examiner(s)</b>	<b>Mode of assessment</b>
201200063	Philosophy of Technology	<b>Prof.dr.ir. P.P.C.C. Verbeek</b> , Dr. P. Vermaas	Written exam and paper
201200064	Science and Technology Studies	<b>Dr. A. Pelizza</b> Prof.dr. L.L. Roberts	Assignments
201200059	Philosophical Theories and Methods	Dr. J.H.Søraker	Written exam and assignments
201400573	Philosophy of Science in Practice	Prof.dr. M. Boon	Written exam, assignments
201400574	History of Science and Technology	Prof.dr. L.L. Roberts	Assignments
191612540	Ethics and Technology I	Dr. J.H. Søraker,	Assignment and presentation

<b>Semester 2</b>			
<b>Code</b>	<b>Name (+ study load)</b>	<b>Examiner(s)</b>	<b>Mode of assessment</b>
201400575	TechnoLab (7 EC)	Prof.dr.ir. M. Boon	Written exam and paper
191612550	Philosophical Anthropology and Technology	Prof.dr. C. Aydin	Paper and take home exam
91612560	Society, Politics and Technology	<b>Prof.dr. P.A.E. Brey</b> , Dr. D. Douglas	Paper
201400576	PhiloLab (3 EC)	Dr. E.J.C. van Oost	Paper, presentation
191622510	Technology and Social Order	Prof.dr. L.L. Roberts	Participation, Papers
191612580	Ethics and Technology II	Dr. J.H.Søraker	Paper, oral presentation

#### Course list PSTS 2015-2016, year #2

<b>Semester 1</b>			
<b>Code</b>	<b>Name (study load)</b>	<b>Examiner(s)</b>	<b>Mode of assessment</b>
191612660	Philosophical Anthropology and Human-Technology Relations	Dr. M. Nagenborg	Paper, assignments, participation
191622520	Shaping Technology and Use	Dr.ir. E.C.J. van Oost	Paper
191612670	Technology and the Quality of Life	<b>Dr. J.H. Søraker</b> ,	Paper, participation

		Dr. S. Nagel	
201300080	Technology, Globalization and the Environment	Prof.dr. P.A.E. Brey	Paper
201300082	Philosophy of Science and Technology Relations	Prof.dr.ir. M. Boon	Paper
201300083	Dynamics and Governance of Socio-Technical Change	Dr. K.E. Konrad	Paper
201300079	Philosophy of Mind, Body and Technology	<b>Prof. dr. C. Aydin</b> , Dr. M. Nagenborg	Mid-term assignment, Paper
201300081	Assessment of Emerging Technologies	<b>Dr. M. Boenink</b> Dr. K.E. Konrad	Paper, presentation, participation
201300084	Spatial and Temporal Dynamics of Science, Technology and Society	Prof.dr. L.L. Roberts	Assignment
<b>Semester 1 &amp; 2</b>			
201300085	MasterLab1	<b>Prof.dr. P.P.C.C. Verbeek</b> , Dr. A. van Wynsberghe, Dr. K.E. Konrad	Paper, participation
<b>Semester 2</b>			
<b>Code</b>	<b>Name (+ study load)</b>	<b>Examiner(s)</b>	<b>Mode of assessment</b>
	MasterLab2		
201300090	Brief Internship	Supervisor (as indicated on the final project contract)	Internship report
201300089	Master's Thesis (20 EC)	Supervisor (as indicated on the final project contract)	Thesis, presentation and oral examination
201300088	Master's Thesis (30 EC)	Supervisor (as indicated on the final project contract)	Thesis, presentation and oral examination

**Table 2: List of units and study, examiners, and exam forms (modes of assessment)**

In case more than one examiner per unit of study is mentioned, the examiner in bold has been designated as the one who holds first responsibility.

### 3c. Prerequisites and required sequence of exams

Year #1, semester 1

Code	Course name	Obligatory prior knowledge
201200063	Philosophy of Technology	Relevant completed undergraduate programme or registered student in a relevant graduate programme, to be decided by the programme's Admission Committee
201200064	Science and Technology Studies	Relevant completed undergraduate programme or registered student in a relevant graduate programme, to be decided by the programme's Admission Committee
201200059	Philosophical Theories and Methods	Relevant completed undergraduate programme or registered student in a relevant graduate

		programme, to be decided by the programme's Admission Committee
201400573	Philosophy of science in Practice	Relevant completed undergraduate programme or registered student in a relevant graduate programme, to be decided by the programme's Admission Committee
201400574	History of Science and Technology	Relevant completed undergraduate programme or registered student in a relevant graduate programme, to be decided by the programme's Admission Committee
191612540	Ethics and Technology I	Relevant completed undergraduate programme or registered student in a relevant graduate programme, to be decided by the programme's Admission Committee

Year #1, semester 2

<b>Code</b>	<b>Course name</b>	<b>Obligatory prior knowledge</b>
191612550	Philosophical Anthropology and Technology	Relevant completed undergraduate programme or registered student in a relevant graduate programme, to be decided by the programme's Admission Committee
191612560	Society, Politics and Technology	191612540
191612580	Ethics and Technology II	191612540
191622510	Technology and Social Order	191622500/201200064, 191612500/201200059, 191652500/2014000573/2014000574
201400576	PhiloLab	2014000575, 201200059, 191612540, 201200063

Year #2, PSTS

<b>Code</b>	<b>Course name</b>	<b>Obligatory prior knowledge</b>
191612660	Philosophical Anthropology and Human-Technology Relations	40 EC in particular 191622510, 191612540, 191612550, 191612580
201300079	Philosophy of Mind and Body and Technology	At least 40 EC in first year programme
201300080	Technology, Globalization and the Environment	At least 40 EC in first year programme
191612670	Technology and the Quality of Life	40 EC in particular 191622510, 191612540, 191612580

201300081	Assessment of emerging Technology	40 EC in particular 191622510, 191612560, 191612580
191622520	Shaping Technology and Use	40 EC in particular 191622510
201300083	Dynamics and Governance of Socio- Technical Change	40 EC in particular 191622510, 19161256,
201300094	Spatial and Temporal Dynamics of Science, Technology and Society	40 EC in particular 191622510, 191622520,
201300082	Philosophy of Science and Technology Relations	At least 40 EC in first year programme
201300085	MasterLab 1	At least 40 EC in first year programme
201300090	Brief Internship	Year #1 PSTS fully completed
201300088	Thesis (30 EC)	All coursework PSTS
201300089	Thesis (20EC)	All coursework PSTS, 201100130

## 4. General information

### 4a. Admission to the programme

The Admissions Committee assesses all applicants to the MSc programme PSTS on an individual basis. The assessment of the applicant's skills is based on formal as well as content-related admission criteria.

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent in:
  - (Applied) Natural Science, Engineering Science,
  - Social Science,
  - Philosophy,
  - Any other discipline, with an emphasis on (social) science or technology and a focus on the application of technology in a particular professional area or on technical interventions in social systems.
- Sufficient mastery of the English language.
- Sufficient entry-level academic skills, including skills in reading, writing, textual analysis, and library skills.

To prevent enrolment of students who are not fit for PSTS, all students have to enclose with their admission form a motivation letter and a CV in which they demonstrate that they have sufficient affinity with (reflection on) science and technology. If students do not fit in the PSTS profile, they will receive a negative advice regarding enrolment from the admission committee.

#### Explanation of concepts and criteria

##### *Bachelor's from a Dutch research university*

- Applicants with a bachelor's degree from the Dutch Universities of Technology in Delft, Eindhoven and Enschede automatically qualify for admission.
- Examples of appropriate bachelor degrees in engineering and science: Computer Science, Biomedical Science, Environmental Science, Life Sciences, Molecular Science, Industrial Engineering, Design Engineering, Biology, Chemistry, Physics.
- Examples of appropriate social sciences: Media Studies, Psychology, Public Administration, European studies, Communication Science, Educational Science, Business Administration, Sociology, Economy, Geography.
- Philosophy

Note that admission is not restricted to these examples.

##### *Bachelor's from a Dutch university of applied sciences (in Dutch: HBO)*

- Examples of appropriate bachelor degrees from Dutch universities of applied sciences (HBO) are: engineering disciplines with an 'Ir.' certificate such as Mechanical Engineering, Chemical Technology and Industrial Design.
- Applicants from a Dutch university of applied sciences (HBO) need a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least 7.0 during the final two years of their bachelor's studies.

##### *International Students*

- International applicants need good grades (CGPA – cumulative grade point average) at the Bachelor's level, e.g. at least 7.5 on a 0.0-10.0 scale, or at least 3.5 on a 0.0-4.0 scale.
- In weighing grades, the admission committee will take into consideration the quality of the institution where the applicant took his/her bachelor's programme.

### *English*

- An IELTS minimum score of 6.5 on the IELTS or an internet-based TOEFL (iBT) minimum score of 90 is required; each item (reading, writing, speaking, listening) has to be sufficient.
- [For Dutch applicants: VWO-English with a 6 or HAVO-English, with at least an 8 is considered equivalent.]
- Students from UK, Ireland, USA, Australia, New Zealand and (the English speaking part of) Canada are exempted from testing.

### *Academic Skills*

- Include skills in reading, writing, textual analysis and library skills.
- These skills are tested in the admission procedure by means of a writing assignment for applicants from Dutch universities of applied sciences (HBO) and international students.

## ADMISSION COMMITTEE

The Admission Committee has two members who are examiners in the programme and they are assisted by a clerk from the Faculty's Educational Service Centre.

### **4b. Language**

The language of communication in the MSc programme Philosophy of Science, Technology and Society is English.

Which means:

- All study materials are in English.
- All classes (lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, and others) are taught in English
- All written examinations and interim examinations are in English.
- All presentations (including the Final Presentation) are prepared in English
- Students are supposed to be aware of the aforementioned rules with regard to the use of English.

### **4c. International agreements**

Not applicable

### **4d. Elective programme**

The elective options in the programme can be found in Table 1 (Curriculum PSTS 2015-2016) and imply that students in one of the respective 3 profiles choose during block 1A one (1) elective from one of the other two (2) profiles, and during block 1B another elective from one of the other two (1) profiles. This may allow them to broaden their distinctive profile with insights from 1 or 2 of the other profiles.

In addition, students may opt for a special Ethics and Technology track, offered by 3TU.Ethics. This is a one-year track consisting of 30 EC in advanced courses in ethics and technology and a 30 EC master thesis in ethics of technology. Students taking the Ethics and Technology track graduate as regular PSTS students, but with the distinction of having taken the 3TU.Ethics-approved Ethics and Technology track. The track is also preparatory for a PhD programme in Ethics and Technology, and PSTS students who have completed the track have an increased chance of being accepted into the PhD programme. Many of the courses in the track will be taken together with PhD students in the 3TU.Ethics programme. Students take the courses in the Profile Technology and Values (profile 2) in their second year of the PSTS Master's programme, plus electives from 3TU.Ethics from UT, TU Delft and TU Eindhoven. Access to this track is bound to special admission criteria and aims at excellent students.

#### **4e. Composition Programme Committee**

The members of the PSTS programme committee are appointed by the Dean. The members are recruited from students and teaching staff of the PSTS programme on an equal basis (50% students and 50% staff). The most up-to-date composition of the committee can be found on the webpage of the [programme committee](#)

The tasks of the programme committee are:

- Advising on the Teaching and the Examination Rules (TER)
- Assessing, on a yearly basis, the way in which the TER are carried out
- Advising the programme management and the Dean on all matters related to the teaching in the PSTS programme.

#### **4f. Examination Board**

The Examination Board is the body that determines in an objective and expert way whether a student meets the conditions under the Teaching and Examination Rules (TER) concerning the knowledge, comprehension and skills required in order to obtain the Master of Science (MSc) degree. Members of the Examination Board are appointed by the Dean of the Faculty.

The Board's tasks are described in paragraph 5.1 of the generic (i.e. non programme-specific) part of the TER. More information, including the most up-to-date composition of the Board can be found on the webpage of the [Examination Boards](#).

## 5. Transitional arrangements

### A. The so-called old style PSTS programme (i.e. programme 2011)

In the old style PSTS (programme 2011) there were two specialisation tracks in the programme: a philosophical track—*Philosophy of Technology*—and a philosophically informed multidisciplinary track—*Science, Technology, and Society*. The first year of the Master's programme constituted a shared foundation for both specialisation tracks. Students in the old style programme completed their first year courses according to the 2011 curriculum. Students formally declared their choice for a specialisation track by the end of the fourth quartile. After having completed all units of study of quartile 1 to 4, students formally entered one of the two specialisation tracks. Students in the old style programme who entered the second year in September 2013, basically enrol in the second year of the current (“new style”) programme.

Students who entered the second year of ‘PSTS old style’ in September 2012 or earlier, will be given the opportunity to finish the programme in the old style as follows:

In line with the Student Charter the following applies to each of these courses:

Students who submitted at least once a course assignment(s) or who sat for an exam during the academic year 2014-2015, but who failed to complete the course successfully (i.e. implying that the course is graded as *insufficient* in the university's administrative system Osiris) are entitled to submit the course-specific assignment(s) twice (or sit twice for the exam) during the academic year 2015-2016, where it has to be taken into account that no class sessions will be scheduled.

Students who did not submit the course's assignment or who did not sit for an exam of one of the 2013-2014 version of these courses will, in close consultation with the programme's management and upon approval of the programme's Board of Examiners, select an as equivalent possible course from the PSTS 2015-2016 course list.

### B. Curricular changes 2015-2016 compared to the 2013-2014 curriculum.

In the academic year 2015-2016, the following 2014-2015 PSTS units of study will NOT be offered any longer:

201200064	Philosophy and History of Science and Technology (5 EC)
201200058	TechnoLab (10 EC)
201200062	PhiloLab (5 EC)

These courses will be replaced by, respectively:

201400573	Philosophy of Science in Practice (5 EC)
201400574	History of Science and Technology (5 EC)
201400575	TechnoLab (7 EC)
201400576	PhiloLab (3 EC)

In line with the Student Charter the following applies as well to each of these courses:

Students who submitted at least once a course assignment(s) or who sat for an exam during the academic year 2014-2015, but who failed to complete the course successfully (i.e. implying that the course is graded as *insufficient* in the university's administrative system Osiris) are entitled to submit the course-specific assignment(s) twice (or sit twice for the exam) during the academic year 2015-2016, where it has to be taken into account that no class sessions will be scheduled.

Students who did not submit the course's assignment or who did not sit for an exam of one of the 2014-2015 version of these courses will, in close consultation with the programme's management and upon



approval of the programme's Board of Examiners, select an as equivalent possible course from the PSTS 2015-2016 course list.

## **6. Study advice at the end of year #1**

Before starting year #2 courses, students need to have completed at least 40 EC (out of 60 EC) of the year #1 courses.

## 7. Additional subjects

### 7a. Colloquia

PSTS students are obliged to participate in a minimum number of colloquia in the domain of the PSTS programme. These colloquia are offered by the departments that are involved in PSTS (and that are approved by the programme's director). The objective of this obligation is that students will be introduced in the culture and community in the domain of his/her academic domain. The requisites are: being present, aware and alert. There is no formal assessment involved. Student ask the speaker to sign for their participation directly after the colloquium. A form is available at the web pages of PSTS. Participation of a minimum of four colloquia is a prerequisite for completing PhiloLab (201400576). Participation of at least another four colloquia is a prerequisite for graduation as it is integrated in MasterLab 1 (201300085)

### 7b. Graduation with distinction (Cum Laude)

If upon sitting the Master's examination, the student has shown evidence of exceptional capability, 'cum laude' (with distinction") will be recorded on the degree certificate.

A student is considered to have exceptional capability if each of the following conditions is met:

- the average mark awarded for the units of study of the Master's examination (except the Final Project (read: master's thesis) is at least an 8;
- no unit of study was graded less than a 7, and this grade needs to be obtained at each course's first attempt [Exception: a student may re-sit for an exam or re-submit an assignment once when having obtained a 6 for that course at the first attempt;
- the mark for the Final Project (read: master's thesis) is at least a 9;
- the mark for the internship (if applicable) is at least an 8;
- in the determination of this average, the units of study which were not graded with a numerical mark or units of study for which an exemption was granted are not considered;
- the number of units of study for which no numerical mark has been given or for which exemption has been granted, spans max. 30 EC [In case the number of these non-numerically marked courses and/or exemptions exceeds 30 EC's, then the Examination Board has to evaluate whether graduation with distinction is possible];
- The length of study is maximal the nominal duration plus 25%.

In special cases and despite not fulfilling these conditions, a member of the Examination Board or the student's *Graduation Committee* is entitled to propose a "Cum Laude" award to the Board of Examiners. Besides, the Board of Examiners will only award a "Cum Laude" designation in case the Final Project has been completed under the supervision of and has been assessed by a faculty's examiner. The rules applied by the Examination Board can be found in the Rules & Regulations of the Examination Board.