

## Research Qualification Tinbergen Institute Academic and Exam Regulations

August 2024

### Aim

The Research Qualification offers students who are not currently enrolled in or have not graduated from either the research master's in Business Data Science (BDS) or Tinbergen Institute (TI) the opportunity to follow a concise educational program to acquire the necessary skills for becoming an academic researcher. To obtain the Research Qualification a student completes at least 30 EC on coursework within the BDS and/or the TI program. Details on the requirements are below.

### Eligibility and enrollment

1. These regulations apply to all students who start taking courses for the Research Qualification in the calendar year 2024 or later.
2. Students who graduated from or are currently enrolled in the research master's programs in BDS or TI are not eligible to receive a Research Qualification.
3. Students do not have to enroll or register beforehand to obtain the Research Qualification, although it is advised that students inform the Director of Graduate Studies beforehand about the intention to complete a Research Qualification.
4. Students apply for each individual course. The Director of Graduate Studies decides about the actual enrollment of a student in a course, taking into account whether the prior knowledge of the student meets the prerequisites of the course.

### Course requirements

1. At least 16 EC on core courses from the TI and/or BDS research master's program; at least 12 EC on field courses from the TI and/or BDS research master's program; and at least 2 EC on skill courses.<sup>1</sup>
2. All courses are from within the TI and BDS research master's program.
3. One field course can be replaced by a TI/BDS Lecture, or a TI/BDS Summer course.<sup>2</sup>
4. One 5 for a core course can be compensated by at least a 7.5 from another core course. Insufficient grades for field courses cannot be compensated.

### Regulations

1. The regulations that apply for the courses are found in the Academic and Exam Regulations of TI and BDS.
2. The quality of the courses is monitored by the TI-BDS Examination Board.
3. In case these regulations are not conclusive, the Director of Graduate Studies decides.

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<sup>1</sup> The TI-BDS Study Guide contains the list of core and field courses. The core courses are courses in microeconomics, macroeconomics, (advanced) statistics, (advanced) econometrics, finance, (advanced) machine learning, natural language processing and deep learning that are taught in block I-V of Year 1. The field courses can change over years. The skill courses can be in Academic Writing, Presenting in Academia and/or Scientific Integrity.

<sup>2</sup> In exceptional cases a request can be made to the Director of Graduate Studies to follow one course outside the TI or BDS program. Such a request should be made in advance and motivated by the ongoing research of the student.