

**Colloquium Doctum Regulations
University entrance examination for enrollment in the
academic year 2024-2025**

Tilburg School of Humanities and Digital Sciences

These Regulations enter in force on
September 1, 2023

Admission test for the following programs:

**Bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS)
Bachelor's program Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence (CSAI)**

PART 1

Article 1 General

- 1.1 The *Colloquium Doctum* is an admission test that assesses the general education and eligibility for attending a university education. It is intended to determine whether, other than by means of a regular school education, the candidate has acquired sufficient general education and/or sufficient knowledge and insight that is acquired to be able to participate in university studies with a reasonable chance of success. It is an indication both to the candidate and to the School that the intended effort will not be fruitless.
- 1.2 The Colloquium Doctum Regulations apply to admission testing for the Bachelor's programs in Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) and Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence (CSAI). These programs are provided by the Tilburg University School of Humanities and Digital Sciences, hereinafter referred to as the School.
- 1.3 The admission test will be carried out by the School's Colloquium Doctum Committee, consisting of members of the academic staff, if desired in consultation with the academic counselor.
- 1.4 The *Colloquium Doctum* for the Bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences:
In principle, the *Colloquium Doctum* must be obtained before the start of the program and only gives access to the selection procedure of Liberal Arts and Sciences.¹ After successful completion of the selection procedure, the candidate will be admitted to the Bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- The *Colloquium Doctum* for the Bachelor's program in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence:
After successful completion of the *Colloquium Doctum* for the Bachelor's program in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence, the candidate will be admitted to the Bachelor's program in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence.
- 1.5 Successful completion of the *Colloquium Doctum* of the Bachelor's programs in Liberal Arts and Sciences and in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence does not include access to other programs offered by Tilburg University.
- 1.6 The Colloquium Doctum Regulations are a further elaboration of the relevant paragraph in Article 7 in the Education and Examination Regulations of the bachelor program. The Rules and Guidelines of the program apply accordingly.

¹ See the appendix to these Regulation: Selection procedure Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Article 2 Target group

The *Colloquium Doctum* is intended for persons of 21 years and older who want to start a university Bachelor's program without possessing a pre-university diploma (*VWO*), a university of applied sciences diploma (*HBO*), a university or university of applied sciences propaedeutic certificate, or an equivalent diploma obtained at a foreign institution for secondary or higher education.

Article 3 Application procedure

- 3.1 Candidates who wish to be considered for a *Colloquium Doctum* must submit a written request by e-mail with the 'Application Form for Entrance to the Examination for Colloquium Doctum'.
- 3.2 This completed and signed application form must be e-mailed to the Executive Board for the attention of the Chair of the Colloquium Doctum Committee. The following documents should be attached:
 - a copy of a valid passport or identity card. All first names should be listed, if that is not the case, an extract from the register of birth or a copy of the birth certificate should be added;
 - a current curriculum vitae or biography, in which at least the following are mentioned: the previous education/study programs; the results obtained; the positions in which the candidate works or has worked;
 - a brief statement of reasons of why the candidate is attracted to the chosen Tilburg University program.
 - copies of the diplomas or certificates obtained and of the accompanying grade lists;
 - English language proficiency test (see article 4.2).
- 3.3 The Chair of the Colloquium Doctum Committee examines whether the request complies with the (legal) provisions. The Chair of the Colloquium Doctum Committee may invite the candidate for an exploratory interview.
- 3.4 Based on the exploratory interview and possibly in consultation with the academic counselor, the Colloquium Doctum Committee may decide that, in addition to the requirements set out in PART 2, further requirements are imposed.
- 3.5 Within three weeks after the interview(s), the candidate will either be informed that no additional requirements will be imposed in order to be admitted to the Bachelor's program or receive an e-mail stating which parts the *Colloquium Doctum* will consist of. If applicable, the date(s) and place(s) of the examination(s) will also be stated.
- 3.6 The Bachelor's programs in Liberal Arts and Sciences and Cognitive Sciences and Artificial Intelligence start in September.

Candidates who wish to be considered for admission to the Bachelor's programs with a view to enrollment in September must submit their request to take the *Colloquium Doctum* no later than May 1 prior to that date.

Article 4 Form of the admission test

4.1 The *Colloquium Doctum* for the bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences:

The Colloquium Doctum Committee administers the tests for the Bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences with the exception of the English language proficiency test and mathematics. If possible, all the required tests are taken in the same week.

The *Colloquium Doctum* for the Bachelor's program in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence

The Colloquium Doctum Committee can take tests itself for the Bachelor's program in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence, with the exception of the English language proficiency test. If possible, all the required tests are taken in the same week.

4.2 Proof of proficiency in English may be by submitting a certificate of one of the following English proficiency tests:

- Academic IELTS with a minimum overall score of 6.0 and a minimum score of 5.5 for each section.
- TOEFL iBT with a minimum score of 80 for the traditional TOEFL iBT test at a test center or the TOEFL iBT Paper Edition.
- Cambridge English test results: C1 advanced (formerly CAE) or C2 proficiency (formerly CPE). For both C1 and C2, we accept a score of A, B, or C.

Please note:

- The certificates must not be older than two years at the time of application.
- All English tests must be taken at an authorized exam center, Tilburg University does not accept online versions of tests like IELTS Online.
- Tilburg University does not accept a combination of test results on different test dates, e.g., TOEFL's 'My Best Scores'.

More information about the required tests can be found in the relevant program in PART 2 of these Regulations.

4.3 The tests belonging to the *Colloquium Doctum* must be completed within one year of the notification referred to in Article 3.5.

Article 5 Success criteria

To be admitted to the Bachelor's programs, a pass grade must be obtained for all tests included in the *Colloquium Doctum* (cf. Rules and Guidelines and/or Part 2 of these Regulations).

Article 6 Results and resit options

- 6.1 Within three weeks after taking the *Colloquium Doctum*, the Committee informs the candidate of the results in writing.
- 6.2 For the tests mentioned in Article 4.1, there is a possibility of a resit if a negative result ≥ 4 has been obtained. This possibility must be used within one year after taking the test.
- 6.3 An application to make use of the resit regulation must be submitted to the chair of the Colloquium Doctum Committee at least one month prior to the end of the period referred to in Article 6.2.
- 6.4 Anyone who has not passed the resit may submit a new application in accordance with the procedure described above.

Article 7 Decision

- 7.1 The Colloquium Doctum Committee submits the decision to the Executive Board, after which the person concerned receives a negative or positive decision from the Executive Board regarding admission to the Bachelor's program.
- 7.2 The Executive Board sends the admission decision to the candidate and to the School.

Article 8 Appeal

An appeal against a negative decision or the procedure followed may be lodged with the Tilburg University Objections and Appeals Advisory Committee (CABB) in accordance with the applicable rules.

PART 2

Contents of the *Colloquium Doctum* for the Bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Components of the *Colloquium Doctum*

The admission test consists, in principle, of the following components:

- English
- Mathematics
- History
- Economics

The level of the *Colloquium Doctum* is at pre-university education level (VWO 6).

The requirements for English

See article 4.2.

In addition:

The certificate must not be older than two years at the time of application.

The candidate is responsible for planning the test with the institute in question and for paying the costs of taking the test.

The requirements for Mathematics

Mathematics A or B at VWO 6 level.

Obtainable either as:

- 'staatsexamen' (state examination via the Education Executive Agency (*DUO*)), or,
- certificates from the 'Centrale Commissie Voortentamen', or,
- certificates from the 'Boswell-Bèta' institute.

The latter two certificates can be obtained either in Dutch or in English.

The certificate must not be older than two years at the time of application.

The candidate is responsible for planning the test with the institute in question and for paying the costs of taking the test.

The requirements for History

A written test on Greek and Roman antiquity and on the history of Christianity until 1200. Literature that can be studied in preparation:

Antony Alcock: *A Short History of Europe. From the Greeks and Romans to the Present Day*, 2nd edition, Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke-New York, 2002. ISBN 9780333994078, pp. 1-50.

The test will be taken in writing.

The test is conducted in English.

The test takes 2 hours.

The use of aids is not permitted.

The requirements for Economics

A written test about the following book:

Douma, S. & H. Schreuder: *Economic Approaches to Organization*, 6th edition, Pearson, 2017. ISBN 9781292128900

The test will be taken in writing.

The test is conducted in English.

The test takes 2 hours.

The use of aids is not permitted.

Contents of the *Colloquium Doctum* for the Bachelor's program in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence

Components of the *Colloquium Doctum*

The admission test consists, in principle, of the following components:

- English
- Mathematics
- Informatics/ Computing
- Philosophy

The level of the *Colloquium Doctum* is at pre-university education level (VWO 6).

The requirements for English

See article 4.2.

In addition:

The certificate must not be older than two years at the time of application.

The candidate is responsible for planning the test with the institute in question and for paying the costs of taking the test.

The requirements for Mathematics

Mathematics A or B at VWO 6 level.

Obtainable either as:

- 'staatsexamen' (state examination via the Education Executive Agency (DUO)), or,
- certificates from the 'Centrale Commissie Voortentamen', or,
- certificates from the 'Boswell-Bèta' institute.

The latter two certificates can be obtained either in Dutch or in English.

The certificate must not be older than two years at the time of application.

The candidate is responsible for planning the test with the institute in question and for paying the costs of taking the test.

The requirements for Informatics/ Computing

Informatics/ Computing at VWO 6 level.

Obtainable either:

- as 'staatsexamen' (state examination via the Education Executive Agency (DUO); the candidate is responsible for planning the test with the institute in question and for paying the costs of taking the test), or,

- through oral examination at Tilburg University via Examination Board of TSHD. To prepare for this oral exam, take the 'massive open online course' (MOOC) for GCSE Computing at <https://cambridgegcsecomputing.org/>

All eight sections:

1. Fundamentals of computer systems
2. Computing hardware
3. Software
4. Representation of data in computer systems
5. Databases
6. Computer communications and networking
7. Programming
8. Controlled assessment

At the exam, the candidate will be orally tested on her or his understanding of the subjects covered in the MOOC.

The requirements for Philosophy

Philosophy at VWO 6 level.

Obtainable either:

- as 'staatsexamen' (state examination via the Education Executive Agency (DUO); the candidate is responsible for planning the test with the institute in question and for paying the costs of taking the test), or,
- through oral examination at Tilburg University via Examination Board of TSHD. To prepare for this oral exam, read Thomas Nagel: *What does it all mean?* Oxford University Press, 1989. Chapters 1-7:
 - o Introduction
 - o How Do We Know Anything?
 - o Other Minds
 - o The Mind-Body Problem
 - o The Meaning of Words
 - o Free Will
 - o Right and Wrong

Dutch version: Thomas Nagel: *Wat betekent het allemaal?* Bijleveld Uitgeverij (2014).

At the exam, a case relevant to CSAI will be given, about which - after reading the case - a philosophical discussion in relation to the relevant subjects covered in the book will be held between the examiner and candidate.

Appendix: Selection procedure Liberal Arts and Sciences

In addition to a suitable previous education or successful completion of the *Colloquium Doctum* of the Bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences, admission to the Bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences requires admission by the Admissions Board as of September 1, 2017.

Admissions Board

The selection is carried out by the LAS Admissions Board, which formulates a positive or negative final assessment and is the responsibility of the TSHD Admissions Board.

Admission check: criteria

In order to be admitted to the Bachelor's program in Liberal Arts and Sciences, the student must receive a positive final assessment from the Admissions Board. The Admissions Board considers the following criteria in order to form a final assessment:

- a. In the opinion of the Admissions Board, the candidate has sufficient motivation and intellectual capacities to meet the learning outcomes of the program.
- b. In the opinion of the Admissions Board, the candidate has obtained sufficiently high grades in the previous education.
- c. The candidate has a sufficient command of the English language, as referred to in Article 7.2 of the EER for the Bachelor's programs 2023-2024.
- d. In the opinion of the Admissions Board, the candidate has sufficient interest in multi- and interdisciplinarity.
- e. In the opinion of the Admissions Board, the candidate has a sufficiently international orientation.
- f. In the opinion of the Admissions Board, the candidate has carried out sufficient relevant extracurricular activities.
- g. In the opinion of the Admissions Board, the candidate possesses the attitude and communication skills to be able to function properly in an international classroom.

Admission test: procedure

1. An application to be admitted to the study program can be submitted to the Admissions Board of University College Tilburg, during a period of the academic year to be determined by the Admissions Board and to be published on time, on the understanding that the study program actually starts on or around September 1 of each calendar year.
2. The Admissions Board imposes certain requirements on the form of the application for admission and the information to be provided, which are published in a timely and easily accessible manner.
3. With a view to admission to the program, the Admissions Board will conduct an investigation into the student's knowledge, skills, and attitude on the basis of the criteria mentioned above (admission check: criteria). To this end, the student must write an essay and motivation letter and elaborate on these documents during a selection interview.
4. Admission to the study program is granted under the condition that the student has received a positive final assessment from the Admissions Board no later than the start date of the study program.
5. On the written statement containing the final assessment of the Admissions Board, the student is informed of the possibility of appeal to the Objections and Appeals Advisory Committee.