Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2016

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Philosophy (120 EC)

These course and examination regulations have been drawn up in accordance with Section 7.13 of the Higher Education and Research Act [*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*] (WHW) (henceforth the Act) and additional quality marks as set out in the framework document Leiden University Register of Study Programmes [*Leids universitair register opleidingen*].

Pursuant to Section 7.14 of the Act the Faculty Board regularly evaluates the course and examination regulations and assesses, for the purpose of monitoring and, if necessary, adjusting the study load, the time it takes students to comply with the regulations. In conformity with Section 9.18 of the Act, the department teaching committee is assigned the task of annually assessing how the course and examination regulations are implemented.

These course and examination regulations consist of two sections: a general section that is the same for all programmes and a section that contains information that is specific to a particular programme. This programme-specific section forms a whole with the general section, and only contains the articles with content that is specific to a particular programme.

Contents

Appendices

Article 2.1 **Objectives of the Programme**

The programme has the following objectives:

1. to enable students to acquire academic knowledge, understanding and skills, and train them in the use of scientific methods in the field of the philosophy of a discipline;

2. to enable students to develop the following academic and professional skills:

   - independent academic reasoning and conduct,

   - the ability to analyse complex problems,

   - academic reporting;

3. to prepare students for an academic career and further education;

4. to prepare students for a career outside academia.

Article 2.2 **Specialisations**

The programme has the following specialisations:

   - Philosophy of Humanities

   - Philosophy of Law

   - Philosophy of Natural Sciences

   - Philosophy of Political Science

   - Philosophy of Psychology

Article 2.3 **Achievement Levels**

Graduates of the programme have attained the following learning outcomes, listed according to the Dublin descriptors:

1. Knowledge and understanding

   a. knowledge and understanding in the field of the history, foundations, methodology and/or ethics of the discipline, based on but surpassing the level of the bachelor's degrees in philosophy and the specific discipline;

   b. possess knowledge and understanding with regard to the social and cultural meaning of philosophy in general and the philosophy of the discipline in particular;

   c. possess knowledge and understanding of the main elements of philosophy of the discipline and the problems, methods and key terms of these elements. This knowledge and understanding surpasses the level that is acquired upon completing a bachelor's programme in philosophy of a specific discipline and forms the basis of the independent development and application of original ideas, understanding and analyses;

2. Applying knowledge and understanding

   the ability, based on the acquired knowledge and understanding, to make a contribution to ongoing discussions in the field of philosophy of the discipline, and in new and complex contexts related to philosophy;

3. Judgement

   a. the ability, on the basis of the deepened knowledge of philosophy acquired during the programme, to deal with complex philosophical problems, and to formulate judgments based on information from different kinds of sources, even when this information is incomplete or uncertain;

b. a realistic view of the reliability of their own conclusions;

c. the ability to integrate different approaches to philosophical questions and/or compare them with each other.

4. Communication

a. the ability to give a clear explanation of philosophical problems, ideas, theories, interpretations and arguments, for specialist audiences as well as for a general audience;

b. the ability to write philosophical papers that show the potential to approach the level of articles in national and international academic journals in the field of philosophy.

5. Learning skills

the possession of learning skills that allow graduates to continue their study of philosophy more or less independently within a research context, and to draw up a research proposal for a PhD.

Article 2.5   **Study Load**

The programme has a study load of 120 credits.

Article 2.8   **Language of Instruction**

In compliance with the Code of Conduct regarding Language of Instruction [*Gedragscode voertaal*[1]] the language of instruction and examination of the programme is English. Students are expected to have an adequate command of the language of instruction of the programme.

Article 3.1   **Compulsory Components**

3.1.1   The programme includes compulsory components totalling a study load of 120 credits. These compulsory components include the optional courses [*keuzevakken*] from which a student is obliged to choose.

Article 4.2   **Obligatory Order**

Not applicable.

Article 4.3   **Examination Formats**

4.3.7   The final part of the completion and assessment of the MA thesis is the MA examination, consisting of an interview with the candidate by a graduation committee of three examiners, to be appointed by the Board of Examiners. The candidate's thesis supervisor will in any event be a member of the graduation committee and generally the second reviewer will also be a member of the committee. The interview relates to the subject of the MA thesis and possibly a selection of other subjects. For the determination of the final grade of the thesis the candidate's responses during the interview will be taken into account.

Article 5.2   **Admission to the academic year 2016-2017 and following years**

5.2.1   Not applicable.

5.2.2   The Board of Admissions may, on request, grant admission to the programmes to persons who do not meet the requirements specified in 5.2.1 but who can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board of Admissions that they possess an equal level of knowledge, understanding and skills as the holders of a degree specified in 5.2.1, possibly under conditions to be further determined, without prejudice to the requirements in 5.2.4.

---

[1] The Code of Conduct on the Language of Instruction and Examination [*Gedragscode voertaal*] was adopted by the Executive Board on 28 May 2013 and can be found on the following website: media.leidenuniv.nl/legacy/language of instruction.pdf.

5.2.4   Alongside the requirements specified in 5.2.1 and 5.2.2, the following qualitative admission requirements apply for the programme pursuant to Article 7.30b, second paragraph, of the Act:

- have earned the degree of Bachelor at a university, equivalent to the level of a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree, or demonstrate to meet the requirements for such a degree, including the General Academic Skills listed in Appendix C; and

- are sufficiently proficient in the language of instruction, to be assessed by the Faculty Board (English IELTS 7.0, TOEFL 100 (internet-based) or Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE)); and

- have earned a Bachelor's degree in a discipline relevant to the chosen specialisation and have completed the bridging programme in philosophy as described in article 5.4; or

- have earned a Bachelor's degree in a programme in which philosophy is combined with the chosen discipline and possess knowledge, understanding and skills comparable to those acquired upon completion of the bridging programme in philosophy as described in article 5.4; specifically, applicants should be able to formulate a clear philosophical research question, and to formulate their own critical philosophical positions and argue for these coherently.

5.2.5 If the Executive Board has determined a maximum capacity for the programme, the order of admission will be determined by the qualitative admission requirements as referred to in Article 5.2.4 and Appendix F.

Article 5.4   Bridging Programmes (Premasters)

5.4.1   The programme has established the following bridging programmes (for the following target groups) in order to remedy deficiencies:

Students with a Bachelor's degree from a university, not being a university of professional education, equivalent to the level of a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree, in a subject belonging the relevant disciplines, who do not fulfil the entry requirements regarding the knowledge, understanding and skills in the field of philosophy, as specified in article 5.3.2, can take part in a bridging programme which prepares them for the chosen specialisation. Such a bridging programme has a study load of 60 credits and comprises a selection of components from the Bachelor's programme in Philosophy (standard programme). The bridging programme consists of six compulsory introductory courses of 5 credits each, two optional courses of 5 credits and two BA3 courses of 10 credits, as specified in the table below. The choice of components depends on the chosen specialisation in the Master's programme in Philosophy (120 EC). Students who successfully complete the premaster will be admitted to the relevant specialisation of the programme.

Semester	Course unit title	Level	Credits	HUM	LAW	NATSc	POLSc	PSYCH
	Compulsory introductory courses (depending on the chosen master's specialisation):		30					
I	Antieke wijsbegeerte	100	5	X	X			
I	Logica	200	5			X	X	
I	Ethiek	100	5	X	X		X	
I	History of Modern Philosophy	200	5	X	X	X	X	

Level	Course	No.	EC	HUM	LAW	NATSc	POLSc	PSYCH
I	Metafysica	100	5	X		X		X
I	Philosophy of Culture	100	5	X		X		
I	Taalfilosofie	200	5					X
I	Wetenschapsfilosofie	200	5			X		X
I	Political Philosophy	200	5		X		X	
I	Philosophy of Mind	200	5					X
II	Epistemologie	200	5		X	X	X	X
II	Philosophical Anthropology	200	5	X				X
II	History of Modern Political Philosophy	200	5		X		X	
	Optional courses: select from the courses below and above (insofar as the student has not already followed them as a compulsory course)		10					
I	Filosofie en religie: water en vuur?	200	5					
II	Medieval Philosophy	100	5					
II	Comparative Philosophy	100	5					
II	Indian Philosophy	200	5					
	Two BA3-courses: select from the courses available for the chosen specialisation:		20	HUM	LAW	NATSc	POLSc	PSYCH
I	Plato's Timaeus: natuur, wetenschap en de mens	300	10	X				
I	Filosofie en literatuur: Derrida en Genet	300	10	X				
I	The Rise of Aesthetic Rationality	400	10	X				
I	Kritische theorie	300	10	X	X		X	
I	Moral Psychology	400	10	X	X		X	X
I	Morality, Truth and Interpretation	400	10		X	X	X	X
I	Speech Acts in logica en democratie	400	10		X	X	X	X
I	Understanding Understanding	400	10			X		X
II	Ethiek en Politieke filosofie (titel NTB)	300	10		X		X	
II	Nietzsche and Politics	400	10		X		X	
II	Merleau-Ponty's Political Thought	400	10	X	X		X	
II	Het zielsbegrip in de moderne filosofie	300	10	X				
II	Continentale ethiek van de Ander	400	10	X	X		X	
II	Reading Derrida	400	10	X				
II	Wikisofie	300	10	X				
II	Husserl en het object van denken	400	10	X		X		X
II	The Question of Representation	300	10			X		X
II	Wittgenstein's Tractatus	400	10			X		X
			60					

5.4.2   Information regarding the bridging programmes can be requested from the coordinator of studies of the programme.