



Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2016

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Philosophy (60 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

1. General Provisions
2. Description of the Programme
3. Curriculum
4. Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education
5. Admission to the Programme
6. Student Counselling and Study Advice
7. Transitional Provisions
8. Final Provisions

Appendices

Appendix D – Curriculum

Appendix E – E-prospectus (see <https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl>)

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 philosophy;
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:

- History and Philosophy of the Sciences
- Ethics and Politics
- Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture
- Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

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 systematic philosophy and its history, as well as of developments in contemporary philosophy, that are based on the bachelor's programme, surpass the level of the latter, and form the basis of the independent development and application of original ideas, understanding and analyses;
 - b. awareness of recent discussions in the field of their specialisation, and the ability to make their own contribution here.
2. Applying knowledge and understanding

the ability, on the basis of the knowledge and understanding of philosophy they have acquired, to make their own contribution to current discussions within the discipline of philosophy and within 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 60 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 60 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 For the first three specialisations mentioned in art. 2.2 the final part of the completion and assessment of the MA thesis is the oral MA examination, being an interview with the candidate by a graduation committee of three examiners, to be appointed by the Board of Examiners. Included as members of the committee are the candidate's thesis supervisor and the second reviewer. For the determination of the final grade of the thesis the candidate's performance during the interview will be taken into account. For the specialisation Philosophy, Politics and Economics there is no oral examination by a graduation committee; the grade for the MA thesis is determined by the supervisor and the second reviewer. As part of their graduation ceremony, candidates in the specialisation Philosophy, Politics and Economics present the results of their thesis research during a collective meeting with staff, fellow students, and family; these presentations are not part of the assessment.

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

5.2.1 Pursuant to Article 7.30b, first paragraph, of the Act holders of one of the following degrees may be admitted to the programme and one of its specialisations:

<i>Specialisation master</i>	<i>Admission on the basis of bachelor programme, with specialisation</i>
History and Philosophy of the Sciences	Philosophy (Leiden University)
Ethics and Politics	Philosophy (Leiden University)
Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture	Philosophy (Leiden University)

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.

Philosophy, Politics and Economics	Philosophy (Leiden University) Liberal Arts and Sciences: Global Challenges with specialisation Human Interaction (Leiden University) Political Science (Leiden University)
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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.

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
- possess knowledge, understanding and skills comparable to those acquired upon graduation from the bachelor's programme in Philosophy referred to in article 5.2.1; specifically applicants should:
 - be able to formulate a clear philosophical research question;
 - be able to formulate their own critical philosophical positions and argue for these coherently.

In addition to the requirements set out above, the following additional entry requirements apply to the following specialisations:

- History and Philosophy of the Sciences:
 - substantive knowledge of systematic philosophy and its history;
- Ethics and Politics:
 - substantive knowledge of ethics and political philosophy and their history;
- Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture:
 - substantive knowledge of philosophical anthropology and philosophy of culture and their history;
- Philosophy, Politics and Economics:
 - substantive knowledge of ethics, political philosophy and/or of political science.

Applicants who are in possession of a bachelor's degree in International Studies from Leiden University or in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Global Challenges from Leiden University and who completed courses in philosophy with a total course load of at least 35 credits are considered to have fulfilled all entry requirements for this specialisation.

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)

Not applicable.