



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2018

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Middle Eastern Studies

These Course and Examination Regulations (henceforth OER) have been drawn up in accordance with the Higher Education and Research Act [*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*; WHW] (henceforth the Act) and the following Leiden University regulations:

- the Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document;
- the Academic Calendar;
- the Regulations for Student Registration;
- the Regulations for Admission to Master's Programmes.

Pursuant to Article 7.14 of the Act, the Faculty Board regularly evaluates the Course and Examination Regulations and considers, for the purpose of monitoring and adjusting the study load, how much time it takes students to comply. In accordance with Article 9.18 of the Act, the departmental committee is assigned the task of annually assessing the implementation of the OER.

These Course and Examination Regulations consist of two sections: a faculty section that is the same for all programmes and a section that contains information that is specific to a particular programme, what is known as the programme-specific section of the Course and Examination Regulations. In the text below the relevant articles will refer to this section.

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Chapter 2 Description of the Programme

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 Middle Eastern Studies;
2. to enable students to develop the following academic and professional skills:
 - independent academic reasoning and conduct,
 - the ability to analyse complex problems,
 - the ability to clearly report academic results, both in writing and orally;
3. to prepare students for an academic career and further education;
4. to prepare students for a career outside academia.

Article 2.2 Specialisations

In 2018-2019, the programme has the following specialisations:

- Arabic Studies
- Islamic Studies
- Modern Middle East Studies
- Persian Studies
- Turkish Studies
- Israel Studies

Per 2019-2020, the programme has no specialisations.

Article 2.3 Learning outcomes

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

Graduates will:

a1. *Knowledge and understanding*

- a) possess comprehensive knowledge of and skills in the area of history, literature, culture or religion of the Middle East;
- b) possess the ability to use the relevant primary and secondary literature;
- c) have acquired various skills including independent academic thinking and acting, analyzing complex issues; and be able to report academically sound;
- d) have acquired academic knowledge, insight, and skills in theories and methods used in various fields such as social sciences, literary studies, and anthropology, and be able to apply this knowledge to the field of Middle Eastern Studies.

a2. *Applying knowledge and understanding*

- a) have the ability to make use of knowledge acquired at different courses in their specific field in their theses, but also in their further career with tasks such as teaching, supervising, consulting, writing, translating and editing;
- b) have the ability to use the knowledge in policy making and public relations, as the majority of graduates of a non-European language and culture in their professional career deal with foreign people;

- c) have acquired knowledge and understanding, geared towards problem-solving in new or unfamiliar environments within a broader scholarly and applied context.

a3. *Judgment*

- a) be able to identify and formulate an original research question, to analyze primary and secondary sources, and to draw conclusions;
- b) have the ability to gauge scholarly publications in the field critically;
- c) be able to write and present orally clarifications and explanations of implicit issues related to the state of the art of the field of research: concepts, ideas, theses and hypotheses;
- d) be able to integrate the knowledge and understanding they have acquired during the study for handling complexity, and formulating judgments;
- e) have the ability to reflect on the academic, social and ethical responsibilities that arise from the field of Middle Eastern Studies.

a4. *Communication*

- a) be able to present the result of independent research not only in writing but also through oral presentations both for a general and professional public;
- b) be able to contribute to a public debate communicating the conclusions of their scholarly research, knowledge and understanding of the Middle East to an audience beyond traditional academia;
- c) have learned to academically contribute to the field of research.

a5. *Learning skills*

have developed abilities to follow post-master's professional training or a PhD training of a largely self-determined or autonomous nature.

In addition to the achievement levels above, the following achievement levels per specialisation apply:

Graduates will have:

b1. *Arabic Studies*

Knowledge and understanding of the history of Arab peoples and culture, contemporary developments in the Arab world, Arabic literature and rich manuscript traditions. This also includes a thorough understanding of Islam.

b2. *Islamic Studies*

Knowledge and understanding of Islamic law and anthropology of the Muslim world from the perspective of the social sciences combined with philology.

b3. *Modern Middle East Studies*

General knowledge and understanding of the cultures, literatures and religions of the strategically important Middle Eastern regions with a focus on the modern period.

In-depth knowledge and understanding of the Modern Middle East, depending on the choices of the student, either directed at the Middle East in general, or at one of the regions of the Middle East in depth.

b4. *Persian Studies*

Knowledge and understanding of the history, literature, politics, religion and Persian visual arts of the Persian cultural realm from the advent of Islam to the present day.

b5. *Turkish Studies*

Knowledge and understanding of Turkish history and culture and Turkey's relation to Europe, viewed against its transition from the multi-ethnic Ottoman state to a nation state.

b6. *Israel Studies*

Knowledge and understanding of the history, literature, politics, and religion of Israeli society from the period of political Zionism to the present day.

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 [*Gedragcode 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.

Chapter 3 Curriculum

Article 3.1 Compulsory components

3.1.1 The programme includes compulsory components worth a total study load of 60 credits. These compulsory components include the set components from which a student is obliged to choose.

Chapter 4 Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education

Article 4.2 Obligatory sequence

4.2.1 In the classes and examination of the following components can only be taken part once the examination of the preceding components specified below have been successfully completed:

<i>Component:</i>	<i>Participation in class and examination after passing:</i>
Beginner's Turkish 2	Beginner's Turkish 1
Modern Standard Arabic 2	Modern Standard Arabic 1
Language Acquisition Persian 2	Language Acquisition Persian 1
Language Acquisition Modern Hebrew 2	Language Acquisition Modern Hebrew 1
MA course(s) in Turkey	At least successful completion of 20 EC of the MA-programme

Article 4.3 Form of examination

4.3.7 Not applicable.

Chapter 5 Admission to the Programme

Article 5.2 Admission to the programme

Admission per 2018-2019

5.2.1 Pursuant to Article 7.30b (1) of the Act holders of (one of) the following degrees may be admitted to (the indicated specialisation(s) of) the programme:

¹ [Code of Conduct on Language of Instruction](#)

<i>Specialisation master</i>	<i>Admission on the basis of bachelor programme, with specialisation</i>
Arabic Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Arabic Language and Culture (Leiden University)
Islamic Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Arabic Language and Culture (Leiden University) Middle Eastern Studies: Islamic Studies (Leiden University) Middle Eastern Studies: Modern Middle East Studies (Leiden University) Middle Eastern Studies: Persian Language and Culture (Leiden University) Middle Eastern Studies: Turkish Language and Culture (Leiden University)
Modern Middle East Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: all specialisations (Leiden University)
Persian Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Persian Language and Culture (Leiden University)
Turkish Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Turkish Language and Culture (Leiden University)
Israel Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Israel Studies (Leiden University)

5.2.2 The Faculty Board may, on request, grant admission to (one or more of the specialisations of) the programme to applicants who do not meet the requirements as specified in 5.2.1 but who can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Faculty Board that they possess a level of knowledge, understanding and skills equal to that of holders of a degree specified in 5.2.1, possibly under further conditions.

To be considered as holding a degree equal to the one specified in 5.2.1, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- a bachelor's degree from a research 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 B, and

In addition, applicant must also meet the following specific requirements per specialisation (for additional language requirements, see also 5.2.3):

Specialisation Arabic Studies:

- An academic Bachelor's degree in the field of Arabic, Islamic studies, Middle Eastern Studies

Specialisation Islamic Studies:

- An academic Bachelor's degree in Islamic Studies, Islamic Law, Islamic History, Islamic Theology combined with at least 30 credits of Middle East related subjects;
- or an academic Bachelor's degree in one of the major languages current in the Muslim world, with at least 30 credits of Islam-related subjects;
- or an academic Bachelor's degree in World Religions with a specialisation in Islam or an equivalent academic Bachelor's degree with a relevant disciplinary specialisation or minor (Islamic Studies, Islamic Law, Islamic History, Islamic Theology) of at least 30 credits

Specialisation Modern Middle East Studies:

- An academic Bachelor's degree with a relevant regional or disciplinary specialisation (preferably in the Social Sciences or Humanities) or minor of at least 30 credits.

Applicants with a Bachelor's degree in International Studies from Leiden University who

- have completed all area courses for the Middle East, and
- wrote their BA Thesis and/or completed optional courses worth 10 credits on the Middle East are considered to have fulfilled all entry requirements for this specialisation.

Specialisation Persian Studies:

- An academic Bachelor's degree in the field of Persian Studies, Islamic studies or Middle Eastern Studies

Specialisation Turkish Studies:

- An academic Bachelor's degree in Turkish Studies or another relevant discipline

Specialisation Israel Studies:

- An academic Bachelor's degree in Israel Studies or another relevant discipline

For further information on the admission procedure and required application documents please see <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/education/admission-and-application/masters> .

5.2.3 As further clarification of Article 2.8 concerning the student's command of the language of instruction, the language requirement for this master's programme is English IELTS 7.0 / TOEFL (Internet based) 100 / CPE or CAE 185.

Additionally, the following language requirements per specialisation apply:

- Arabic Studies: a good working knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1).
- Islamic Studies: an adequate proficiency in reading one of the major languages current in the Muslim world (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: reading B2).
- Persian Studies: a good working knowledge of Persian (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1)
- Turkish Studies: an adequate proficiency in reading Turkish (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: reading B2).
- Israel Studies: a good working knowledge of Modern Hebrew (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1).

The Faculty Board may request that applicants demonstrate an adequate command at this level. For more information on language tests and diplomas which are sufficient with regard to the required command of English please see

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/binaries/content/assets/studentenwerving/scm/admission-and-application/english-language-proficiency-masters-programmes-def.pdf> .

5.2.4 Not applicable.

5.2.5 Maximum capacity: not applicable.

Admission per 2019-2020

5.2.1 Pursuant to Article 7.30b (1) of the Act holders of (one of) the following degrees may be admitted to the programme:

- BA Middle Eastern Studies, any specialisation (Leiden University).

5.2.2 The Faculty Board may, on request, grant admission to the programme to applicants who do not meet the requirements as specified in 5.2.1 but who can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Faculty Board that they possess a level of knowledge, understanding and skills equal to that of holders of a degree specified in 5.2.1, possibly under further conditions.

To be considered as holding a degree equal to the one specified in 5.2.1, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- a bachelor's degree from a research 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 B.
- this bachelor's degree is in Social Sciences or Humanities, with either:
 - a relevant regional specialisation (e.g. Middle Eastern Studies) or
 - a regionally relevant minor or courses with a total of at least 30 credits.

Applicants with a Bachelor's degree in International Studies from Leiden University who

- have completed all area courses for the Middle East, and either
 - wrote their BA Thesis on the Middle East or
 - completed optional courses worth 10 credits on the Middle East.

For further information on the admission procedure and required application documents please see <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/education/admission-and-application/masters>.

5.2.3 As further clarification of Article 2.8 concerning the student's command of the language of instruction, the language requirement for this master's programme is English IELTS 7.0 / TOEFL (Internet based) 100 / CPE or CAE 185.

The Faculty Board may request that applicants demonstrate an adequate command at this level. For more information on language tests and diplomas which are sufficient with regard to the required command of English please see

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/binaries/content/assets/studentenwerving/scm/admission-and-application/english-language-proficiency-masters-programmes-def.pdf>.

Additional requirements will apply for specific courses within the MA programme. The requirements per course are listed in the e-prospectus. (<https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/studies/masters/m>).

The language requirements per course may consist of one of the requirements below:

- a good working knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1, or
- an adequate proficiency in reading one of the major languages current in the Muslim world (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: reading B2, or
- a good working knowledge of Persian (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1, or
- an adequate proficiency in reading Turkish (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: reading B2), or
- a good working knowledge of Modern Hebrew (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1.

5.2.4 Not applicable.

5.2.5 Maximum capacity: not applicable.

Article 5.4 **Bridging Programmes (Premasters)**

For admission in 2018-2019

5.4.1 The programme has established the following bridging programmes:

Specialisation Modern Middle East Studies or Islamic Studies:

The bridging programme below is intended for students who have earned the degree of bachelor at a university of applied sciences in a relevant field, equivalent to the level of a Dutch HBO bachelor's degree, in order to remedy deficiencies:

Students need to finish the complete pre-master programme successfully before they can start with the MA-programme. Students are required to successfully complete a 60 EC premaster programme within 12 months, and a 30 EC premaster within 6 months.

60 EC start in FALL				
Kerncurriculum: Area Studies	50000VASH	lc	100	5
Introduction to the Study of Islam	5071VITSI	lc	100	5
History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	sem	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	sem	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	sem	300	5
Academic Skills				5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	lc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	lc	200	5
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	lc	200	5
Rituals and symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	sem	200	5
BA Thesis	5853VEW	ss	400	10
				60
60 EC start in SPRING				
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	lc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	lc	200	5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	lc	200	5
Rituals and symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	sem	200	5
Modern Thinkers and Trends in Islam	5852VTTI	lc	300	5
Academic Skills				5
History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	sem	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	sem	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	sem	300	5
History and Culture of Modern Turkey	5853IHCMT	sem	300	5
BA Thesis	5853VEW	ss	400	10
				60

The bridging programme below is intended for students who have earned the degree of bachelor at a research university in a relevant field, but who lack the minimum required ECs as defined in the entry requirements.

30 EC start in FALL				
Kerncurriculum: Area Studies	50000VASH	lc	100	5
Introduction to the Study of Islam	5071VITSI	lc	100	5
History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	sem	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	sem	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	sem	300	5
History and Culture of Modern Turkey	5853IHCMT	sem	300	5
				30
30 EC start in SPRING				
Islam in the modern World	5851VIMW	lc	200	5
Modern Thinkers and Trends in Islam	5852VTTI	lc	300	5
Rituals and Symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	sem	200	5
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	lc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	lc	200	5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	lc	200	5
				30

For admission in 2019-2020

5.4.1 The programme has established the following bridging programmes:

The bridging programme below is intended for students who have earned the degree of bachelor at a university of applied sciences in a relevant field, equivalent to the level of a Dutch HBO bachelor's degree, in order to remedy deficiencies:

Students need to finish the complete pre-master programme successfully before they can start with the MA-programme. Students are required to successfully complete a 60 EC premaster programme within 12 months, and a 30 EC premaster within 6 months.

60 EC start in FALL				
Kerncurriculum: Area Studies	50000VASH	lc	100	5
Introduction to the Study of Islam	5071VITSI	lc	100	5
History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	sem	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	sem	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	sem	300	5
Academic Skills				5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	lc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	lc	200	5
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	lc	200	5
Rituals and symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	sem	200	5
BA Thesis	5853VEW	ss	400	10
				60
60 EC start in SPRING				
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	lc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	lc	200	5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	lc	200	5
Rituals and symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	sem	200	5
Modern Thinkers and Trends in Islam	5852VTTI	lc	300	5
Academic Skills				5
History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	sem	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	sem	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	sem	300	5
History and Culture of Modern Turkey	5853IHCMT	sem	300	5
BA Thesis	5853VEW	ss	400	10
				60

The bridging programme below is intended for students who have earned the degree of bachelor at a research university in a relevant field, but who lack the minimum required ECs as defined in the entry requirements.

30 EC start in FALL				
Kerncurriculum: Area Studies	50000VASH	lc	100	5
Introduction to the Study of Islam	5071VITSI	lc	100	5
History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	sem	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	sem	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	sem	300	5
History and Culture of Modern Turkey	5853IHCMT	sem	300	5
				30

30 EC start in SPRING				
Islam in the modern World	5851VIMW	hc	200	5
Modern Thinkers and Trends in Islam	5852VTTI	lc	300	5
Rituals and Symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	sem	200	5
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	lc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	lc	200	5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	lc	200	5
				30

5.4.2 Information regarding the bridging programmes can be found in the e-prospectus (<https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/studies/show/7129/middle-eastern-studies>).

Chapter 7 Evaluation of the programme

Article 7.1 Evaluation of the programme

The programme is evaluated as follows:

- course evaluations
- programme evaluation

Appendix E - Transitional provisions

As of 1 September 2019 the MA Middle Eastern Studies will be changed.

MA Middle Eastern Studies until september 2019	MA Middle Eastern Studies starting September 2019
Specialisations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Arabic Studies- Islamic Studies- Modern Middle East Studies- Persian Studies- Turkish Studies- Israel Studies	No specialisations.

Students who will have started before 1 September 2019 will be allowed to complete their specialisation up until August 2021.