



Universiteit Leiden

# Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2018

Programme-specific section:

## Master's Programme: Philosophy (60 EC)

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 philosophy;
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**

The programme has the following specialisations:

- Ethics and Politics
- History and Philosophy of the Sciences
- Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture
- Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy

### **Article 2.3 Learning outcomes**

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. knowledge and understanding 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 on the Language of Instruction<sup>1</sup> 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**

Not applicable.

**Article 4.3 Forms of examination**

4.3.7 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, appointed by the Board of Examiners, on the subject of the thesis. For the determination of the final grade of the thesis the candidate’s performance during the interview will be taken into account.

**Chapter 5 Admission to the Programme**

**Article 5.2 Admission to the programme**

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>
Ethics and Politics	Philosophy (Leiden University)
History and Philosophy of the Sciences	Philosophy (Leiden University)

<sup>1</sup> [Code of Conduct on Language of Instruction](#)

Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Culture	Philosophy (Leiden University)
Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy	Philosophy (Leiden University) Liberal Arts and Sciences: Global Challenges with specialisation Human Interaction (Leiden University) Political Science (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
- the ability to formulate a clear philosophical research question, to develop and formulate a critical view on that question, and to support this view by means of argument and analysis, to be determined on the basis of a writing sample.

In addition, the applicant must also meet the following specific requirements per specialisation:

- History and Philosophy of the Sciences:
  - substantive knowledge of theoretical 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;
- Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy
  - substantive knowledge of contemporary ethics, political philosophy and/or political theory.

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 Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy.

For further information on the admission procedure and required application documents please see <http://www.students.leiden.edu/application-admission/master/application-admission/>

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 IELTS7.0/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 <http://www.students.leiden.edu/application-admission/master/prospective/language-requirements.html>.

5.2.4 Not applicable.

5.2.5 Not applicable.

Article 5.4 **Bridging programmes (Premasters)**

Not applicable.

## **Chapter 7 Evaluation of the programme**

Article 7.1 **Evaluation of the programme**

The programme is evaluated as follows:

- course evaluations
- programme evaluation