



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2018

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Linguistics (research)

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 broaden and deepen the students' knowledge, understanding and skills, and train them in the use of scientific methods in the field of Linguistics;
2. to enable students to develop the following academic and professional skills:
 - the ability to solve academic problems independently, critically and creatively;
 - 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 at a university for postgraduate programmes;
4. to prepare students for a non-academic career in the public or private sector for which advanced research skills and practical research experience are a prerequisite.

Article 2.2 Specialisations

Not applicable.

Article 2.3 Learning outcomes

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

I. Knowledge and understanding

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work:

1. a thorough knowledge and understanding of the discipline of linguistics, the scientific study of human language;
2. familiarity with the basic concepts, research methods and techniques, and current developments in the field; graduates have a good overview of various approaches to linguistic diversity, the way in which variation and uniformity in languages can be identified and studied;
3. an in-depth knowledge of at least one subdiscipline of linguistics, such as descriptive, formal, experimental, or comparative linguistics; being acquainted with its specific research questions and methodology.

II. Application of knowledge and understanding

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work, the ability to:

1. define a research topic, formulate research questions, and collect data, e.g. through fieldwork, study of existing corpora or an experimental setup;
2. perform an analysis and interpretation of the object of inquiry;
3. relate the analysis to the relevant literature;
4. contribute to on-going debates in the discipline, based on independent research and theoretical reflection.

III. Making judgments

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work, the capacity to:

1. critically evaluate their sources;

2. build an argument that leads to its conclusion in a cogent, clear and verifiable manner;
3. take into account the philosophy and ethics of linguistic research in doing research;
4. be able to relate the results of their research to the existing literature.

IV. Communication

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work, the ability to:

formulate clear and well-founded research questions, hypotheses and analyses in grammatically correct English, and present this in a coherent and convincing way.

V. Learning skills

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work, the ability to:

apply learning skills that allow them to initiate and conduct a research project with a great degree of independence and autonomy, under expert national or international supervision; this means that the student:

- a) has articulated the research question or thesis independently;
- b) has independently conducted relevant bibliographical research;
- c) has drawn up a realistic research plan;
- d) has applied other relevant linguistic research skills in an independent way.
- e) has the ability to contribute to the growth of knowledge or to its applicability, the latter most likely in a team of researchers.

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 on the Language of Instruction¹ the language of instruction and examination of the programme is English. Students are expected to have an adequate command of the language(s) of instruction and examination in the programme, in accordance with the requirements stated in Article 5.2.4.

Chapter 3 Curriculum

Article 3.1 Compulsory components

3.1.1 The programme includes compulsory components worth a total study load of 120 credits. These compulsory components include the set components from which a student is obliged to choose. This includes the electives offered by the recognised national research schools, from which students choose electives totalling 10 ec.

Chapter 4 Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education

Article 4.2 Obligatory sequence

4.2.1 Not applicable.

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

Article 4.3 **Form of examination**

4.3.7 Not applicable.

Chapter 5 Admission to the Programme

Article 5.2 **Admission to the programme**

5.2.1 Not applicable.

5.2.2 Not applicable.

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; for the 'speaking' and 'writing' components a minimum score of IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 22 is required.

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 Pursuant to Article 7.30b (1) and (2) of the Act persons will be granted admission to the programme, if they can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Faculty Board that they meet the following admission 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 Bachelor's must be in in Linguistics, a language and culture programme or a comparable degree with a relevant specialisation, and
- Candidates must have affinity with and suitability for scholarly research, demonstrated by the required motivation letter (700-1500 words) in which they explain why they wish to study at the programme.
- Good grades comparable with an average mark of at least 7.5 (Dutch grading system) for their entire bachelor's programme, and a grade for the bachelor's thesis of an 8 or higher; and
- Candidates must have knowledge, understanding and skills with respect to:
 - the ability to understand basic linguistic analyses and read linguistic literature (in English) at the appropriate (handbook) level; and
 - the ability to collect linguistic data and discover patterns in those; and
 - a demonstrable interest in and talent for linguistic research.

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

5.2.5 Maximum Capacity: not applicable

Article 5.4 **Bridging programmes (Premasters)**

5.4.1 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