



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2017

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Literary Studies (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 with them. 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 Literary Studies;
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 Literary Studies, its central research questions and problems, and its basic concepts, research methods and techniques (notably analysis and interpretation), and the developments in the specialisation;
2. an in-depth knowledge of the relevant (inter)cultural contexts of production, dissemination and reception of literature. Graduates are conversant with various approaches to narrative, the literary representation and construction of identity, space and time, and with current debates on for instance modernity, hybridisation or secularism;
3. a thorough knowledge and understanding of the interdisciplinary aspects of the program, both in relation to Arts and Culture, History, Social Sciences, and other related fields, as Literary Studies are understood here as a broad, interdisciplinary, intermedial and intercultural field of inquiry into textual cultural and artistic practices.

II. Applying knowledge and understanding

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

1. define a research topic, formulate research questions and identify an object of inquiry (a corpus of literary texts, images and texts or cultural practices) that will allow them to answer these research questions in a way that conforms with current scholarly practices in Literary Studies;
2. select an appropriate body of theory for the analysis and interpretation of the object of inquiry, so that innovative answers to the research question can be given;
3. bring analysis and theory into critical interaction, that is: the object of inquiry is clarified and problematized by the concepts and methods, and the concepts and methods applied are clarified and problematized by the object of inquiry;

4. understand the social dimensions of both the researched literary or cultural practice and the theoretical approaches to it;
5. contribute creative solutions 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 clear, cogent and verifiable manner;
3. reflect critically on the role played by the graduates' personal points of view and interests;
4. include, in addition to theoretical aspects, social and ethical aspects, in the arguments that lead to the conclusion.

IV. Communication

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

1. formulate a clear and well-founded thesis, hypothesis and research questions, and to divide these into convenient and manageable parts;
2. give a clear, systematic and well-founded oral or written report of the state of the art in their research field, the selected object of inquiry and the concepts and theories used;
3. write grammatically correct English, according to the conventions of a specific style (e.g. MLA).

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 graduates:

- have articulated the research question or thesis independently;
- have conducted relevant bibliographical research;
- have drawn up a realistic research plan.

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

¹ <http://reglementen.leidenuniv.nl/gedragcodes/gedragscode-voertaal.html>.

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.

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: IELTS 7.0, TOEFL 100 (internet-based) or Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE); for the 'writing' and 'reading' components a minimum score of IELTS 7.0 or TOEFL 25 is required.

Additionally candidates should have sufficient knowledge of the language of their specialisation in order to be able to read texts (at least Common European Framework level 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 <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 degree must be in Comparative Literature/Literary Studies or in a specific Language and Culture (Dutch, English, French, German, Italian etc.); and
- Candidates must have affinity with and suitability for scholarly research, demonstrated by the required research proposal*
- 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

*All applicants are required to submit a "Research Proposal" of approximately 1000 words, accompanied by an annotated bibliography of at least five (5) items, outlining the topic or field of research that the applicant wishes to pursue at Leiden University, and indicating the names of one or two faculty members who might guide that research.

5.2.5 Maximum Capacity: not applicable

Article 5.4 **Bridging programmes (Premasters)**

5.4.1 Not applicable.